



DIVISION OF
CORPORATION FINANCE

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

September 7, 2012

Via Email

Raymond S. Jackson
Chief Financial Officer
JMP Group, Inc.
600 Montgomery Street, Suite 1100
San Francisco, California 94111

**Re: JMP Group, Inc.
Registration Statement on Form S-3
Filed August 29, 2012
File No. 333-183619**

Dear Mr. Jackson:

We have limited our review of your registration statement to the issue we have addressed in our comment below. Please respond to this letter by providing the requested information. Where you do not believe our comment applies to your facts and circumstances, please tell us why in your response.

After reviewing the information you provide in response to this comment, we may have additional comments.

Exhibit 5.1: Legal Opinion

1. We note that your legal opinion provides a number of qualifications and exceptions. Please confirm that you will file a clean legal opinion at the time of each take down and that the clean legal opinion will not include the qualifications and exceptions numbered (iii) – (ix), listed on page 3 of the opinion.

We urge all persons who are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosure in the filing to be certain that the filing includes the information the Securities Act of 1933 and all applicable Securities Act rules require. Since the company and its management are in possession of all facts relating to a company's disclosure, they are responsible for the accuracy and adequacy of the disclosures they have made.

Notwithstanding our comment, in the event you request acceleration of the effective date of the pending registration statement please provide a written statement from the company acknowledging that:

Raymond S. Jackson
Chief Financial Officer
JMP Group, Inc.
September 7, 2012
Page 2

- should the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, declare the filing effective, it does not foreclose the Commission from taking any action with respect to the filing;
- the action of the Commission or the staff, acting pursuant to delegated authority, in declaring the filing effective, does not relieve the company from its full responsibility for the adequacy and accuracy of the disclosure in the filing; and
- the company may not assert staff comments and the declaration of effectiveness as a defense in any proceeding initiated by the Commission or any person under the federal securities laws of the United States.

Please refer to Rules 460 and 461 regarding requests for acceleration. We will consider a written request for acceleration of the effective date of the registration statement as confirmation of the fact that those requesting acceleration are aware of their respective responsibilities under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as they relate to the proposed public offering of the securities specified in the above registration statement. Please allow adequate time for us to review any amendment prior to the requested effective date of the registration statement.

Please contact Laura Crotty at (202) 551-3563 or me at (202) 551-3675 with any questions.

Sincerely,

/s/ Suzanne Hayes
Suzanne Hayes
Assistant Director