



CATHAY GENERAL
BANCORP

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CHAIRMAN'S
CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

Perry Oei
Senior Vice President
and General Counsel

August 12, 2008

Via UPS Next Day Mail

Chairman Christopher Cox
United States Securities and Exchange Commission
100 F Street, NE
Washington, DC 20549

Dear Sir:

We are writing to join others in support of the Commission's July 15, 2008, Emergency Order Pursuant to Section 12(k)(2) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Emergency Order") and the extension thereof on July 29, 2008.

We also join those who seek the Commission to further extend the Emergency Order and to expand the list of financial institutions covered by Appendix "A" of the Emergency Order to include all publicly traded banks and bank holding companies. The practice of "naked" short selling has had the effect of causing disruption of markets in the securities of financial institutions beyond those identified in Appendix "A." We believe that it is in the public interest and necessary to maintain fair and orderly securities markets and for the protection of investors for the Commission to extend and expand the Emergency Order.

In addition, we ask the Commission to review the recent persistence of Cathay General Bancorp and other financial institutions on the Nasdaq Regulation SHO threshold list for possible abusive naked short selling activity.

We appreciate the Commission's efforts and thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Perry P. Oei
Senior Vice President and General Counsel

cc: Erik R. Sirri - Director of the Division of Market Regulation
Linda Chatman Thomsen - Director of the Division of Enforcement