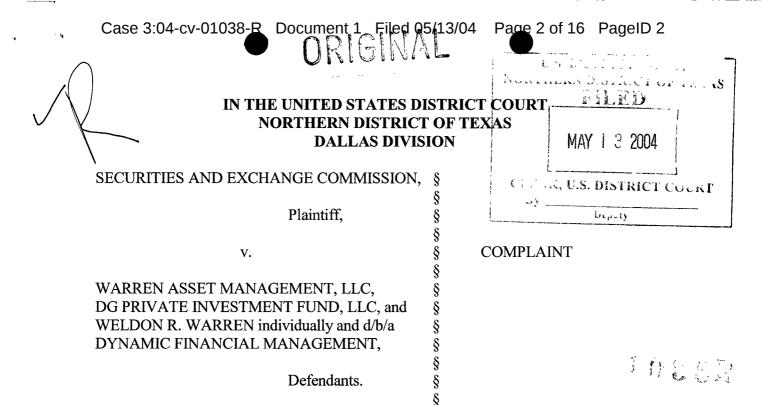
JS 44(Rev. 3/99)

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# **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS-44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

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801 Cherry Street, Suite 1 Fort Worth, TX 76102 (8						for an amount men arrange	STRICT OF TEXAS								
J. Kevin Edmundson U.S. Securities & Exchange Commission					-HA U.S. DISTRICT COURT										
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UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  (b) COUNTY OF RESIDENCE OF FIRST LISTED PLAINTIFF					WARREN ASSET MANAGEMENT, LLC, DG PRIVATE INVESTMENT FUND, LLC, and WELDON R. WARREN individually and d/b/a DYNAMIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT County of Residence of First Listen Defendant, Palles										
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Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission alleges as follows:

# **SUMMARY**

- 1. This matter involves violations by Warren Asset Management, LLC ("WAM"), a Commission-registered investment adviser, and Weldon R. Warren ("Warren"), WAM's owner, of the antifraud, books and records, and registration provisions of the federal securities laws.
- 2. Since at least November 2001, WAM, Warren and DG Private Investment Fund, LLC ("DGPIF"), a pooled investment fund managed by WAM, have misrepresented and failed to disclose to clients material facts about their investments. These misrepresentations and omissions of fact include information relating to the management fee charged by WAM as adviser to DGPIF; the risks associated with investments placed by WAM on behalf of its clients; WAM's performance record; the rate of return earned by WAM on client account statements; Warren's prior bankruptcy; and the fact that WAM and DGPIF are no longer in good standing as limited liability companies with the State of Texas.

- 3. In addition, WAM has failed to maintain books and records required by law, such as general ledgers, bank statements, cash reconciliations and records of securities transaction. In fact, WAM does not maintain even the most basic records in managing its investment advisory business, such as new account forms and questionnaires describing client investment objectives.
- 4. By reason of the activities alleged in the Complaint, Defendants have engaged, are engaged, and will continue to engage in acts and practices which constitute and will constitute violations of, or aiding and abetting violations of, Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"); Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act") and Rule 10b-5 thereunder; and Sections 203A, 204, 206(1), 206(2) and 206(4) of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 ("Advisers Act") and Rules 204-2(a)(1)-(7), 204-2(a)(10)-(12), 204-2(a)(14), 204-2(a)(16), 204-2(b), 204-2(e)(3), 204-3, 206(4)-1(a)(5), 206(4)-2, 206(4)-4(a)(1) and (2) and 206(4)-4(c) thereunder.

### **VENUE AND JURISDICTION**

- 5. The Commission is an agency of the United States of America established by Section 4(a) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78d(a)]. The Commission brings this action pursuant to the authority conferred upon it by Section 20(b) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77t(b)], Section 21(d) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78u(d)], and Section 209(d) of the Advisers Act [15 U.S.C. § 80b-9].
- 6. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Section 22(a) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77v(a)], Section 27 of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78aa], and Section 214 of the Advisers Act [15 U.S.C. § 80b-14].

7. Certain of the acts, practices, courses of business, and transactions constituting violations of the Securities Act, the Exchange Act, and the Advisers Act, as alleged in this Complaint occurred within the Northern District of Texas.

# **DEFENDANTS**

- 8. Weldon R. Warren, age 48 and a resident of Highland Village, Texas, owns and operates WAM from his home. Warren, through WAM, also manages the investment activities of DGPIF and frequently conducts business under the name Dynamic Financial Management. Warren does not receive a salary from WAM but typically withdraws management fees directly from client accounts on a quarterly basis.
- 9. Warren Asset Management, LLC, a Texas limited liability company, is an investment adviser registered with the Commission. At Warren's direction, WAM provides discretionary investment advisory services primarily to individual investors. Effective October 10, 2003, the State of Texas revoked WAM's charter for failure to pay its franchise taxes.
- 10. DG Private Investment Fund, LLC, is a Texas limited liability company formed by Warren. According to DGPIF's operating agreement, clients who contribute to DGPIF receive a membership interest in return for their contribution. WAM, as manager of DGPIF, is responsible for investing client contributions. Effective October 10, 2003, the State of Texas revoked DGPIF's charter for failure to pay its franchise taxes.

# **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

# **Background**

- 11. In early 2000, Warren formed an investment advisory business under the name Dynamic Financial Management and registered with the Texas State Securities Board as an investment adviser. Warren purportedly provided financial planning and investment advisory services to individual clients.
- 12. In November 2001, Warren created a mutual fund called the "DG Opportunity Fund." WAM, as the investment adviser to DG Opportunity Fund, was responsible for the day-to-day management of the portfolio.
- 13. According to the DG Opportunity Fund's prospectus, the fund invested primarily in other mutual funds that, in turn, invested in common stocks of growth-oriented technology companies. By March 2002, the DG Opportunity Fund no longer pursued new investors and liquidated its portfolio in September 2002.
- 14. Also in November 2001, Warren registered WAM with the Commission as an investment adviser. WAM provides advisory services to its clients pursuant to an Investment Management Agreement (the "Advisory Agreement"), which gives WAM (a) the discretionary authority to buy, sell, exchange or otherwise trade securities or other investments in its clients' accounts; (b) authorizes WAM to make investment decisions according to the investment objectives and financial circumstances described in the Client's Financial Questionnaire; and (c) requires WAM to provide the client a quarterly account statement, including a summary of transactions and an inventory of holdings.
- 15. WAM directs all client transactions through brokerage accounts maintained by each client at TD Waterhouse.

- 16. WAM charges clients an annual advisory fee of 1% to 1.5% depending on the amount of a client's assets under management.
- 17. In approximately January 2002, Warren formed DGPIF, a pooled investment fund managed by WAM. Warren uses a document titled "Regulations of DG Private Investment Fund" as the operating agreement for DGPIF advisory clients (the "DGPIF Agreement").
- 18. Among other things, the DGPIF Agreement requires WAM to establish books of account, records, and payment procedures; provide bookkeeping and other related services; provide overall management, financial and business planning services; and make all reports to the members or to appropriate officials or agencies administering federal or state securities laws as required.
- 19. The DGPIF Agreement further requires WAM to prepare, maintain and transmit to members of the fund DGPIF's financial statements, including a year-end balance sheet and statement of profits and losses.
- 20. The DGPIF Agreement also states that WAM will be supervised by a board of trustees, and that WAM will be paid a management fee of 1% based on the month-end net asset value of the fund.
- 21. Initially, DGPIF followed a two-tiered investment strategy: strategic asset allocation and tactical asset allocation. In September 2002, however, WAM changed its investment strategy in an attempt to recoup earlier losses.
- 22. DGPIF's revised investment strategy uses Rydex funds, which invest in leveraged instruments, such as equity index swaps, futures contracts and options on

securities, futures contracts, and stock indices rather than in any individual securities in the NASDAQ index.

- 23. Specifically, Warren utilizes at least three different Rydex funds, the Rydex Velocity 100 ("Velocity"), Rydex Venture 100 ("Venture"), and Rydex Titan 500 ("Titan") funds. Velocity's objective is to match 200% of the performance of the NASDAQ 100 Index; Venture's objective is to match 200% of the performance of the inverse of the NASDAQ 100 Index; and Titan's objective is to match 200% of the performance of the S&P 500 Index.
- 24. By December 2003, Warren had placed nearly all of WAM's clients, including those invested in DGPIF, in the Rydex funds.

# **Misrepresentations and Omissions**

- 25. During the relevant period, WAM and Warren have used misleading information to advertise and market DGPIF, including hypothetical performance results. A performance graph compared DGPIF's fourth quarter 2002 rate of return of 100% to 14% for NASDAQ and 8% for S&P, and DGPIF's first quarter 2003 rate of return of 17% compared to 5% for NASDAQ and -2% for S&P.
- 26. An undated client letter stated that, in different market scenarios, "DGPIF should earn you 50-75%" and "DGPIF should earn you 150-200%" referring to a graph comparing the Rydex funds.
- 27. Another undated client letter proclaimed "The Time to Buy Growth Stocks and Funds is Now" and that Warren is "earning a higher return than 90% of all public fund managers." It further stated:

Utilizing my proprietary Growth Models I have beaten both the S&P 500 and Nasdaq Composite indices for the last five years. My investment strategy is a more consistently profitable method of managing money and through its Risk Management strategy, it exposes investors to less risk over an investment time horizon of 5-7 years.

- 28. Warren distributed the performance data to clients and potential clients.
- 29. The performance data described above consitutes nothing more than general "research." Warren failed to maintain any documents to support the representations made in the advertising and marketing material.
- 30. Warren falsely represented to clients that DGPIF outperformed the NASDAQ and S&P indices, that Warren earned a higher rate than 90% of all public fund managers and that he had developed a "proprietary growth model."
- 31. WAM's promotional literature described above (a) failed to disclose any information to clients or prospective clients about the models, the strategies, or assumptions used to calculate the performance figures; (b) failed to disclose the amplification of risk by using margin to buy and hold Rydex mutual funds that were already leveraged by 200%; and (c) failed to disclose that the Rydex Funds worked only in certain markets and have not worked in the declining markets since early 2000.
- 32. In addition to misrepresentations and omissions by WAM in its promotional material, WAM misrepresented DGPIF's performance for the last three quarters of 2002 in its year-end account statements sent to clients. For example, one account statement reflected a 72% loss in the second guarter of 2002 as "(.72);" a 92% loss in the third quarter of 2002 as "(.92);" and a 85% loss in the fourth quarter of 2002 as "(.85)."

- 33. According to the DGPIF Agreement, WAM is authorized to charge a 1% management fee based on the fund's month-end net asset value. Around September 2002, however, Warren began charging a management fee of 2% without providing adequate notice to his clients.
- 34. Warren did not advise WAM's clients about significant legal events, including: (1) that WAM and DGPIF were not in good standing with the State of Texas as of October 2003 due to their failure to pay franchise taxes, and (2) that Warren filed a petition for Chapter 7 bankruptcy, which resulted in a discharge of debts in April 2003.
- 35. Warren falsely stated in the DGPIF Agreement that DGPIF would establish a board of trustees to oversee its activities and furnish investors a balance sheet and statement of profits and losses. Warren, however, never formed a board of trustees to supervise the investment in DGPIF and did not maintain or prepare a balance sheet and statement of profits and losses to its clients.

## Failure to Maintain Books and Records

- 36. WAM failed to maintain required books and records relating to its investment advisory business such as general ledgers, financial statements, cash disbursement journals, cash receipt journals, and copies of written agreements between WAM and its clients. Furthermore, WAM never created, and therefore failed to provide to its clients, a copy of Part II of Form ADV.
- 37. In fact, the Advisory Agreement that Warren required his clients to sign contains an acknowledgment that the clients had been provided a copy of Part II of the Form ADV; in fact, WAM had never created this disclosure document.

# **Improper Registration with the Commission**

38. Since at least 2002, when the DG Opportunity Fund ceased operations, WAM has been ineligible to register as an investment adviser with the Commission because its assets under management were less than \$25 million, and WAM no longer met any exemption. WAM failed to withdraw its registration by filing a Form ADV-W.

# FIRST CLAIM Violations of Section 17(a) the Securities Act

- 39. The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 38 of this Complaint are realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
- 40. WAM, DGPIF and Warren, singly, in concert and with others, directly and indirectly, by use of the means and instruments of transportation and communication in interstate commerce and by use of the mails, have in the offer or sale of securities (a) employed devices, schemes or artifices to defraud; (b) obtained money or property by means of untrue statements of material fact or omissions to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; and (c) engaged in transactions, practices or courses of business which operate or would operate as a fraud and deceit upon purchasers and prospective purchasers.
- 41. The Defendants have intentionally, knowingly and/or recklessly engaged in the acts and practices described in this claim.
- 42. By reason of the foregoing, WAM, DGPIF and Warren have violated, and unless enjoined, will continue to violate Section 17(a) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)].

# SECOND CLAIM Violations of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act And Rule 10b-5 Thereunder

- 43. The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 38 of this Complaint are realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
- 44. WAM, DGPIF and Warren, singly, in concert and with others, directly and indirectly, by use of the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce and by use of the mails, have in connection with the purchase or sale of securities (a) employed devices, schemes and artifices to defraud; (b) made untrue statements of material facts and omitted to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; and (c) engaged in acts, practices and courses of business which operate as a fraud and deceit upon purchasers, prospective purchasers and other persons.
- 45. The Defendants have intentionally, knowingly, and/or recklessly engaged in the acts and practices described in this claim.
- 46. By reason of the foregoing, WAM, DGPIF and Warren have violated, and unless enjoined, will continue to violate Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5 thereunder [17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5].

# THIRD CLAIM Violations of Sections 206(1), (2) and (4) of the Advisers Act and Rules 206(4)-1(a)(5), 206(4)-2, 206(4)-4(a)(1), 206(4)-4(a)(2) and 206(4)-4(c)

- 47. The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 38 of this Complaint, are realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
- 48. WAM is an investment adviser as defined by Section 202(a)(11) of the Adviser's Act [15 U.S.C. §80b-2(a)(11)].

- 49. WAM, singly, in concert and with others, directly and indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of securities, by use of the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce and by use of the mails (a) employed devices, schemes and artifices to defraud clients and prospective clients; (b) engaged in transactions, practices, and courses of business which operated as a fraud or deceit upon clients and prospective clients; and (c) engaged in acts, practices, or courses of business which are fraudulent, deceptive, or manipulative.
- 50. WAM, singly, in concert and with others, directly and indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of securities, by use of the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce and by use of the mails (a) failed to disclose to any client or prospective client all material facts with respect to a legal or disciplinary event that is material to an evaluation of the adviser's integrity or ability to meet contractual commitments to clients, (b) failed to disclose information as required pursuant to Rule 204(4)-4(a) to clients promptly, and (c) failed to adequately safeguard and account for client assets by implementing specific procedures required by Rule 206(4)-2.
- 51. WAM has intentionally, knowingly and/or recklessly engaged in the acts and practices described in this claim.
- 52. By reason of the foregoing, WAM has violated, and unless enjoined, will continue to violate Sections 206(1), (2) and (4) of the Advisers Act [15 U.S.C. § 80b-6(2)] and Rules 206(4)-1(a)(5), 206(4)-2, 206(4)-4(a)(1), 206(4)-4(a)(2) and 206(4)-4(c) thereunder [17 C.F.R. §§ 275.206(4)-1(a)(5), 206(4)-2, 206(4)-4(a)(1), 206(4)-4(a)(2) and 206(4)-4(c)].

### FOURTH CLAIM

Violations of Section 204 of the Advisers Act and Rules 204-2(a)(1)-(7), 204-2(a)(10)-(12), 204-2(a)(14), 204-2(a)(16), 204-2(b), 204-2(e)(3), 204-3

- 53. The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 38 of this Complaint are realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
- 54. WAM, singly, in concert and with others, directly and indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of securities, by use of the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce and by use of the mails, failed to make and keep for prescribed periods certain records, furnish copies thereof to clients, and make and disseminate such reports as the Commission by rule may prescribe as necessary or appropriate in the public interest or for the protection of investors.
- 55. By reason of the foregoing, WAM has violated, and unless enjoined, will continue to violate Section 204 of the Advisers Act [15 U.S.C. § 80b-4] and Rules 204-2(a)(1)-(7), 204-2(a)(10)-(12), 204-2(a)(14), 204-2(a)(16), 204-2(b), 204-2(e)(3), 204-3 thereunder [17 C.F.R. §§ 275.204-2(a)(1)-(7), 204-2(a)(10), 204-2(a)(11), 204-2(a)(12), 204-2(a)(14), 204-2(a)(16), 204-2(b), 204-2(e)(3), 204-3].

# FIFTH CLAIM <u>Violation of Section 203A of the Advisers Act</u>

- 56. The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 38 of this Complaint are realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
- 57. WAM has made use of the means or instrumentalities of interstate commerce, or of the mails or of any facility of a national security exchange, directly or indirectly, by registering with the Commission as an investment adviser without meeting the requirements or exemptions of Section 203A of the Advisers Act.

58. By reason of the foregoing, WAM has violated, and unless enjoined, will continue to violate Section 203A of the Advisers Act [15 U.S.C. § 80b-3a].

# SIXTH CLAIM Warren's Aiding and Abetting Violations

- 59. The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 38 of this Complaint are realleged and incorporated herein by reference.
- 60. Warren knowingly or recklessly provided substantial assistance to WAM in connection with its misrepresentations and omissions of material facts to investors, its failure to maintain books and records for its advisory business as required by law, and its registration with the Commission as an investment adviser.
- 61. By reason of the foregoing, Warren aided and abetted and unless enjoined, will continue to aid and abet WAM's violations of Section 203A, 204 and 206(1), (2) and (4) of the Advisers Act and Rules 204-2(a)(1)-(7), 204-2(a)(10), 204-2(a)(11), 204-2(a)(12), 204-2(a)(14), 204-2(a)(16), 204-2(b), 204-2(e)(3), 204-3, 206(4)-1(a)(5), 206(4)-2, 206(4)-4(a)(1), 206(4)-4(a)(2), and 206(4)-4(c) thereunder.

### **RELIEF REQUESTED**

I.

Permanently enjoin all Defendants, their agents, servants, employees attorneys and all persons in active concert or participation with them who receive actual notice of the injunction by personal service or otherwise, from violations of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act, Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 thereunder.

II.

Permanently enjoin WAM, its agents, servants, employees attorneys and all persons in active concert or participation with it who receive actual notice of the injunction by

personal service or otherwise, from violations of Sections 203A, 204, 206(1), 206(2) and 206(4) of the Advisers Act, and Rules 204-2(a)(1)-(7), 204-2(a)(10)-(12), 204-2(a)(14), 204-2(a)(16), 204-2(b), 204-2(e)(3), 204-3, 206(4)-1(a)(5), 206(4)-2, 206(4)-4(a)(1) and (2), and 206(4)-4(c) thereunder.

# III.

Permanently enjoin Warren, his agents, servants, employees attorneys and all persons in active concert or participation with him who receive actual notice of the injunction by personal service or otherwise, from aiding and abetting violations of Sections 203A, 204, 206(1), 206(2) and 206(4) of the Advisers Act, and Rules 204-2(a)(1)-(7), 204-2(a)(10)-(12), 204-2(a)(14), 204-2(a)(16), 204-2(b), 204-2(e)(3), 204-3, 206(4)-1(a)(5), 206(4)-2, 206(4)-4(a)(1) and (2), and 206(4)-4(c) thereunder.

# IV.

Order Defendants to disgorge an amount equal to the funds and benefits they obtained illegally as a result of the violations alleged, plus prejudgment interest on that amount.

### V.

Order Defendants to pay civil penalties pursuant to Section 20(d) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77t(d)], Section 21(d) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 79u(d)] and Section 209(e) [15 U.S.C. § 80b-9] of the Advisers Act, for the violations alleged herein.

# VI.

Order the appointment of a Special Master *instanter* to take exclusive control of the assets of WAM and DGPIF for the benefit of its members.

# VII.

Order such further relief, both equitable and legal, including interim relief, as this

Court may deem just and proper.

May 13, , 2004

Respectfully submitted,

J. KEVIN EDMUNDSON

District of Columbia Bar No. 430746

R. JOANN HARRIS

Texas Bar No. 24013332

SECURITIES and EXCHANGE COMMISSION

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