Cal. Bar No. 116037
(1007
64007
05
No. 192784
on
gional Director
or
֡

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

WESTERN DIVISION

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,	Case No.CV	07	2655	
Plaintiff,	COMPLAIN OF THE FEI LAWS	T FOR DERAI	R VIOLATI L SECURI	ONS TIES
vs.	LAWS			
GARY K. MELTON,				
Defendant.				

20 Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") alleges as follows:

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Sections 21(d)(1), 21(e), 21A(a)(1), and 27 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), 15 U.S.C. §§ 78u(d)(1), 78u(e), 78u-1(a)(1) & 78aa. Defendant has, directly or indirectly, made use of the means or instrumentalities of interstate commerce, of the mails, or of the facilities of a national securities exchange in connection with the acts, practices, and courses of business alleged in this complaint.

28 ||///

2. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to Section 27 of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78aa, because certain of the acts, practices, and courses of business constituting violations of the federal securities laws occurred within this district.

SUMMARY

- 3. This matter involves unlawful insider trading in the securities of Abgenix, Inc. ("Abgenix") by defendant Gary K. Melton ("Melton"). In December 2005, Melton realized a profit of \$15,282 by trading in Abgenix stock after misappropriating from his wife, the vice president of strategic sourcing and procurement at Amgen Inc. ("Amgen"), material nonpublic information regarding Amgen's business relationship with Abgenix. Between December 8 and 13, 2005, Melton purchased 2,050 shares of Abgenix common stock based on the nonpublic information he misappropriated from his wife. Melton sold all 2,050 Abgenix shares on December 15, the day after Amgen and Abgenix jointly announced that they had entered into a definitive merger agreement whereby Amgen would acquire Abgenix.
- 4. By engaging in the conduct described in this complaint, Melton, directly and indirectly, engaged in acts, practices, and courses of business in violation of 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.
- 5. The Commission brings this action for an order permanently restraining and enjoining Melton against future violations of the federal securities laws, ordering disgorgement of unlawful profits and prejudgment interest thereon, and imposing a civil penalty.

THE DEFENDANT

6. Melton, age 54, resides in Newbury Park, California. He is currently employed as a marketing manager by a privately owned company.

///

RELATED ENTITIES

- 7. Amgen is a Delaware corporation with its principal offices in Thousand Oaks, California. Amgen is a biotechnology company that develops, manufactures, and markets human therapeutics. Amgen's common stock trades on the NASDAQ Stock Market under the symbol "AMGN."
- 8. Abgenix was a Delaware corporation with its principal offices in Fremont, California. Abgenix was a biopharmaceutical company that developed and manufactured human therapeutic antibodies. Abgenix's common stock traded on the NASDAQ Stock Market under the symbol "ABGX" until Amgen's acquisition of Abgenix closed in April 2006.

FACTS

Background

- 9. Melton's wife became the vice president of strategic sourcing and procurement at Amgen on August 1, 2005. As an Amgen vice president, Melton's wife reported directly to Amgen's chief financial officer and attended meetings where mergers and acquisitions were discussed. Melton had a relationship of trust and confidence with his wife.
- 10. On November 3, 2005, Amgen and Abgenix issued a joint press release announcing favorable results of the Phase 3 clinical trial of their codeveloped antibody, panitumumab, in patients with metastatic colorectal cancer. On the day of the announcement, Abgenix's stock price rose to \$12.90 per share, an increase of 38% from the previous day's closing price of \$9.37. Both Melton and his wife read the November 3 press release and discussed its significance for cancer patients. Melton commented to his wife that he might purchase some Abgenix stock, to which his wife said nothing.

Melton Misappropriated Material Nonpublic

Information from His Wife

- 11. Through her employment at Amgen in early December 2005, Melton's wife learned that the public announcement of Amgen's acquisition of Abgenix was imminent. Recalling her earlier conversation with Melton, Melton's wife asked him if he had purchased any Abgenix stock. Melton responded that he had not purchased any Abgenix stock. Melton's wife told Melton not to purchase any Abgenix stock. Melton understood his wife's unexplained instruction not to purchase Abgenix stock to mean that more favorable news about Abgenix was forthcoming.
- 12. Melton knew, or was reckless in not knowing, that his wife's instruction not to purchase Abgenix stock was based on his wife's knowledge of material nonpublic information and that his wife owed a duty of trust and confidence to Amgen and its shareholders.
- 13. Melton knew, or was reckless in not knowing, that his wife should have kept any information about Abgenix acquired through the course of her employment at Amgen confidential and that he could not use or take advantage of such information.

Melton Traded on the Basis of Nonpublic Information

14. On December 8, 2006, the same day or the day after Melton and his wife discussed Abgenix stock, Melton liquidated the existing holdings of securities in two brokerage accounts (the "Brokerage Accounts") he held jointly with his wife and his daughter, respectively. In addition to the proceeds from liquidating the Brokerage Accounts' portfolios, Melton used margin loans to maximize the Brokerage Accounts' positions in Abgenix stock. Specifically, between December 8 and 13, 2006, Melton placed orders in the Brokerage Accounts to purchase a total of 2,050 shares of Abgenix on margin at a total cost of \$29,152. Melton purchased Abgenix stock in breach of his duty of trust and confidence to his wife.

By purchasing Abgenix stock for his personal benefit while aware that positive information about Abgenix was forthcoming, Melton violated 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.

- Abgenix issued a joint press release announcing Amgen's acquisition of Abgenix for \$22.50 per share, which represented a 54% premium on Abgenix's closing price of \$14.65. On December 15, 2005, Abgenix shares closed at \$21.68, a 55% increase from the previous day's close of \$14.65. Trading volume that day was 61.7 million shares, a 1,435% increase from the previous day's volume of four million shares.
- 16. On December 15, 2005, after seeing the public announcement of the Abgenix acquisition, Melton placed orders to sell all 2,050 of the Abgenix shares in the Brokerage Accounts at \$21.69 per share. As a result, Melton realized a profit of \$15,282 from his trading in Abgenix stock. Melton used these profits to restore the Brokerage Accounts' positions in two of the three securities that were liquidated to fund the purchases of Abgenix stock.

CLAIM FOR RELIEF

FRAUD IN CONNECTION WITH THE PURCHASE OR SALE OF SECURITIES

Violations of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 Thereunder

- 17. The Commission realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1 through 16 above.
- 18. Defendant Melton, by engaging in the conduct described above, directly or indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of a security, by the use of means or instrumentalities of interstate commerce, of the mails, or of the facilities of a national securities exchange, with scienter:

_		
1	۱	İ
. 2	l	l
2	l	I
3	l	I
	١	İ
4	l	ŀ
5		I
6		I
7		
8		
_		į
9		1
9 10		
10		Ì
11		I
12		I
		I
13		I
14		I
15		
		i
16		I
17		
1 /		1
17 18		1
19		I
20		I
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		
	١	۱

- a. employed devices, schemes, or artifices to defraud;
- b. made untrue statements of a material fact or omitted to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or
- c. engaged in acts, practices or courses of business which operated or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon other persons.
- 19. By engaging in the conduct described above, defendant Melton violated, and unless restrained and 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.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Commission respectfully requests that the Court:

I.

Issue a final judgment, in a form consistent with Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(d), permanently enjoining defendant Melton and his officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and those persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of the final judgment by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, from violating 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.

II.

Order defendant Melton to disgorge all ill-gotten gains from his illegal conduct, together with prejudgment interest thereon.

III.

Order defendant Melton to pay a civil penalty under Section 21A(a) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78u-1(a).

1///

26

27

28

IV.

Retain jurisdiction of this action in accordance with the principles of equity and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in order to implement and carry out the terms of all orders and decrees that may be entered, or to entertain any suitable application or motion for additional relief within the jurisdiction of this Court.

V.

Grant such other and further relief as this Court may determine to be just and necessary.

DATED: April 23, 2007

Nicholas S. Chung

Attorney for Plaintiff

Securities and Exchange Commission