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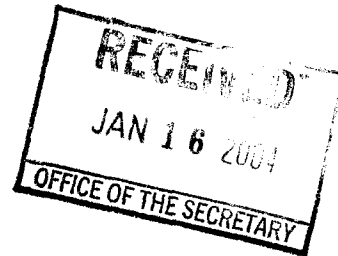
ROBERT L. BERNARD, ESQ.

4505 WESTERDALE DRIVE
FULSHEAR, TEXAS 7741

TEL.-281.533.0222
FAX.-281.533.0444

January 6, 2004

Hon. Tom Delay
Majority Leader
House of Representatives
Washington, DC



Dear Mr. DeLay:

You are my representative so I seek your advice and assistance by advising the mutual fund industry to strengthen protections and to promote transparency for fund investors.

We know the mutual funds' legal and ethical problems of after-hours trading and short-term purchases and sales. We know that a few fund managers have greedily traded for personal benefit.

Nevertheless, I suggest that in order for the mutual funds to be fully transparent for its fund investors that the following should be promptly implemented:

1. Presently funds credit dividend income and capital gains/losses once a year, only in December.

This is unfair for fund investors because they do not receive the increased value benefit if they redeem shares before December. It is unreasonable for funds to withhold this data and promptly credit the fund because it presently has the

dividend/interest income and has accounted for it on its computers. Why is it fair and honest for the companies to sit on its accumulated income for 11 months and credit fund investors only in the 12th month? Why do the companies do this? What is its burden to promptly credit it to the fund?

2. Presently funds report only the name of the company, the total shares owned and its value.

The fund should disclose the shares' costs, income, gain/loss, and value in its quarterly reports. Simply the funds' quarterly report should state simply and clearly as follows:

<u>Shares</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Gain/Loss %</u>	<u>Present Value</u>
1000	XYZ	\$10,000.	+\$1000.	+10%	\$12,000.

3. Presently, funds never disclose its sales, and the capital gains/losses.

Funds should, in its quarterly reports, disclose all sales, capital gains/losses and percentage gain/loss. Further, funds should, in its quarterly report, disclose all purchases and costs.

The funds presently have this data on its computers but do not disclose it to its fund investors. Why?

4. Funds should, annually, disclose the salary, bonus and benefits of all its officers, fund managers, and board of directors/trustees in a plain, simple and concise manner and language, e.g.

President John Doe - Annual Salary - \$1,500,000. Bonus - \$245,000. Benefits Value - \$135,000. Total Compensation - \$1,680,000.

Fund investors are the funds' paying customers, who should be provided with all the data that the funds maintain on its

portfolio and on their salary, bonus and benefits. Corporations are required to annually disclose this data.

These are fundamentally fair and proper requests that will not be an onerous burden nor additional expense for the funds to disclose all this data to fund investors.

What valid objections could the funds present?

I am sending a copy of this letter to the Investment Institute of America, the mutual fund trade association, to American Century Funds, Blue Chip Value Fund, Evergreen Funds, Columbia Funds, Janus Funds, Progressive Return Fund, Royce Funds, Strong Funds, and Vanguard Funds, all which I own personally or as a trustee.

Thanking you in advance for your time, cooperation and courtesy, I remain,

Very truly yours,



Robert L. Bernard