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March 14, 2005

Ms. Kathleen Maguire
Division of Market Regulation
450 5th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20549

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
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Ms. Maguire:

My name is Barbara Strickland, and I have a customer controversy which has been filed, or will be filed with NASD Dispute Resolution.

I have been extremely concerned with the inconsistent results that other investors, who share my complaints, have had in related hearings.

It is impossible to understand these variable awards, as those who decide these outcomes are allowed to remain silent as to their rationale. I am aware that the new proposed Rule would require mediators to explain their reasoning for awarding a sum of money, if asked to do so by the claimant. Indeed the claimant has every right to know the details of this decision.

I believe this is a very important step toward making things uniform and impartial in NASD arbitration, and I would strongly urge the SEC to approve the new Rule.

It just seems to make good sense and certainly save time.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Respectfully,



Barbara C. Strickland

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