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10	and Exchange Commission	
11	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT	
12	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA	
13	SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE	Case No. ED CV 05-351 AG(MANx)
14	COMMISSION,	
15	Plaintiff,	
16	vs.	
17	TRI ENERGY, INC., H & J ENERGY COMPANY, INC., MARINA INVESTORS GROUP, INC., LOWELL DECKER, ROBERT JENNINGS, HENRY JONES,	
18	GROUP, INC., LÓWELL DECKER, ROBERT JENNINGS, HENRY JONES,	AMENDED COMPLAINT
19	ARTHUR SIMBURG, MILDRED STULTZ, DJM, LLC, FINANCIAL MD, INC., FINANCIAL MD ASSOCIATES, INC., DANIEL J. MERRIMAN, GLOBAL VILLAGE RECORDS, and LA VIE	
20	FINÁNCIÁL MD AND ASSÓCIATES, INC., DANIEL J. MERRIMAN, GLOBAL	
21	VILLAGE RECORDS, and LA VIE D'ARGENT,	
22	Defendants.	
23	and	
24	R.P.J. INVESTMENT GROUP, INC.,	
25	R.P.J. INVESTMENT GROUP, INC., T.M.A. INVESTMENT ENTERPRISES, THOMAS AVERY, and WING NGA	
26	LAU, A/K/A ADRIÉNNE LAU,	
27	Relief Defendants.	
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Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") for its Complaint alleges as follows:

## **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

- 1. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Sections 20(d)(1) and 22(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 (the "Securities Act") [15 U.S.C. §§ 77t(d)(1) and 77v(a)] and Sections 21(d)(3), 21(e) and 27 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") [15 U.S.C. §§ 78u(d)(3), 78u(e) and 78aa]. Defendants, directly or indirectly, have made use of the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce or of the mails in connection with the acts, transactions, practices and courses of business alleged in this Complaint.
- 2. Venue in this District is proper pursuant to Section 22(a) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. §77v(a)] and Section 27 of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. §78aa] because multiple defendants are located in the Central District of California and acts or transactions constituting federal securities law violations occurred within the Central District of California.

## **SUMMARY OF THE ACTION**

- 3. Defendants have perpetrated a massive affinity fraud and Ponzi scheme, which has resulted in tens of millions of dollars of losses by over 500 victims. Posing as a group of religious entrepreneurs who hope to earn phenomenal returns through "deistically inspired" and "divinely guided" transactions, Defendants recruited potential victims through claims that their investments were aimed, at least in part, at raising money for humanitarian efforts such as alleviating poverty in Africa and the Appalachians. Defendants promised their victims outlandish returns on their investments of 100 1000% in as little as sixty days with no disclosure of any real risks.
- 4. From at least July 2002 through March of 2006, Defendants solicited investments in H & J Energy, Tri Energy, Marina Investors Group, or Global Village Records for a purported coal mine venture and for a scheme to help close a supposed

international "gold deal." In conference calls with the investors, Defendants represented that the investments would be used to facilitate Tri Energy's successful "clean burning coal" mine and a "Middle East gold investment" organized by Defendants Marina Investors and Henry Jones. Defendants told investors that hundreds of tons of gold was stored in Israel and would be sent to the United Arab Emirates, that the deal would be finalized in Luxembourg, and that it was politically sensitive because the countries involved in the transaction would not want the public to know they were conducting business with one another (and thus the investor-victims must keep the "gold transaction" confidential).

- 5. According to Defendants, investments in the "gold transaction" were used to pay costs, including "miscellaneous expenses," "storage fees" (\$50,000 \$150,000 per month) and payoffs to unnamed lawyers in Zurich and Dubai who were supposedly preparing documents and helping move the gold around Europe and the Middle East. Once Defendant Jones completed this alleged "gold transaction," Defendants falsely represented that they would be able to fund Tri Energy's coal mines with \$200 million and all of the investor-victims who had paid to make this "gold transaction" happen would become rich.
- 6. There is no gold, and the "gold transaction" story is a complete fabrication, and, on their face, Defendants' claims and the promised returns they offered potential investors are plainly outrageous. Indeed, contrary to their express representations, the evidence indicates that Defendants primarily used the investment proceeds obtained from investors for improper and undisclosed purposes. During the course of this fraud, Defendants raised over \$50 million from hundreds of investors (or groups of investors). Certain of the Defendants continued to raise money from investors after the Court entered an injunction against them last year, and they have successfully raised at least \$1.2 million since May of 2005 alone.
- 7. As part of the fraud, Defendants paid several million dollars out to a small number of investors using funds deposited by other investors. Thus, in typical

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Ponzi scheme fashion, Defendants' payments to existing investors were funded completely by money received from other investors in the scheme. Moreover, Defendants diverted millions of dollars of investor funds into nominee accounts they control and used the funds largely for personal expenses such as the funding of unrelated businesses, travel, hotel stays, jewelry and other retail purchases and personal services. Some of the nominees receiving these ill gotten gains are named as Relief Defendants herein.

- 8. On May 2, 2005, the Court entered a Temporary Restraining Order ("TRO") against Defendants Tri Energy, H&J Energy, Marina Investors Group, Lowell Decker, Robert Jennings, Henry Jones, and Arthur Simburg, which, among other things, enjoined them from committing violations of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and SEC Rule 10b-5.
- 9. On May 23, 2005, the Court entered a stipulated Preliminary Injunction ("PI") against the Defendants Tri Energy, H&J Energy, Marina Investors Group, Lowell Decker, Robert Jennings, Henry Jones, and Arthur Simburg, which, among other things, enjoined them from committing violations of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, Section 10(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and SEC Rule 10b-5.
- 10. Even after many of the Defendants were enjoined from continuing to violate the federal securities laws, they continued their fraud by soliciting additional money into this scam.
- 11. Defendants' blatant fraud violates the registration and antifraud provisions of the federal securities laws. Unless restrained and enjoined by this Court, Defendants will continue to engage in conduct that violates these securities laws as demonstrated by certain Defendants' continued perpetration of this fraud even while subject to the TRO and PI. Accordingly, the Commission seeks an order

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enjoining Defendants, requiring disgorgement of ill-gotten gains, civil money penalties, and granting other equitable relief.

**DEFENDANTS** 

- Defendant Tri Energy, Inc. ("Tri Energy"), a private Nevada 12. corporation with corporate offices of 2533 N. Carson Street Box T-305, Carson City, Nevada 89706, and 9622 Norton Coeburn Road, Norton, Virginia 24273, represents that it is in the business of coal mining. Defendants Robert Jennings and Arthur Simburg and Relief Defendant Thomas Avery are officers of Tri Energy. Tri Energy's principals solicited investors and made the majority of the misrepresentations at issue in this case. Investor-victims sent their money to a Tri Energy bank account. The Court issued a TRO, asset freeze, and PI against Tri Energy in May of 2005, and Tri Energy is now controlled by a court-appointed receiver.
- 13. Defendant Marina Investors Group, Inc. ("Marina Investors Group" or "Marina"), a private California corporation with corporate offices of 1801 Lincoln Blvd. Suite 113, Venice, California 90291, and 3017 Washington Blvd., Suite 115, Marina Del Rey, California 90292, represents that it is in the business of movie and music production. Defendant Jones is the owner of Marina Investors Group. Marina Investors Group has substantial business with Tri Energy, and potential investors are told that Marina is central to the scheme that will generate the allegedly fantastic returns for Tri Energy. Millions of dollars of investor funds were transferred from Tri Energy bank accounts to Marina Investors bank accounts, and Marina also received substantial investor funds directly. The Court issued a TRO, asset freeze, and PI against Marina in May of 2005, and Marina is now controlled by a courtappointed receiver.
- 14. Defendant H & J Energy Company, Inc. ("H & J Energy"), a Nevada corporation, with corporate offices at 350 S Center Street, Suite 500, Reno, Nevada 89501, purports to be in the coal mining business. Defendant Jennings is the

President and Treasurer of H&J Energy. H & J solicited and received investor funds as part of this scheme. The Court issued a TRO, asset freeze, and PI against H & J Energy in May of 2005, and H & J Energy is now controlled by a court-appointed receiver.

- 15. Defendant Lowell Decker ("Decker") is a resident of Placerville, California. Decker set up nightly investor conference calls for the purpose of soliciting and lulling investors and participated in them as well. The Court issued a TRO, asset freeze, and PI against Decker in May of 2005.
- 16. Defendant Robert Jennings ("Jennings") of Perris, California is the President and Chairman of Tri Energy. Jennings is the President and Treasurer of Defendant H & J Energy. Jennings signed written offering materials used to solicit investor funds and received investor funds from the Tri Energy bank account. The Court issued a TRO, asset freeze, and PI against Jennings in May of 2005. Since that time, Jennings has communicated with investor-victims to falsely assure them that the gold transaction is real.
- 17. Defendant Henry Jones ("Jones") of Culver City, California is the owner of Marina Investors Group. Jones is the mastermind behind the fraudulent gold transaction used to solicit investors and signed documents connecting his company to Tri Energy. Jones also participated in certain nightly conference calls. The Court issued a TRO, asset freeze, and PI against Jones in May of 2005. Since that time, Jones has continued to unlawfully solicit funds from the investor-victims. As a means to circumvent the Court orders, Jones created Defendant Global Village Records, which he has used to continue the fraud.
- 18. Defendant Arthur Simburg ("Simburg") of Los Angeles, California is the Senior Vice President of Tri Energy. Simburg led nightly investor conference calls in which he solicited investors and lulled them with fraudulent statements. He received investor money from funds sent to the Tri Energy bank account. The Court issued a TRO, asset freeze, and PI against Simburg in May of 2005. Since that time,

Simburg has continued to falsely assure victims that the gold transaction is real, and has continued to unlawfully solicit funds from them.

- 19. Defendant La Vie D'Argent ("La Vie D'Argent"), a Nevada corporation, has a registered agent at Corporate Services Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 723 So. Casino Center Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89101. Defendant Simburg is President, Secretary and Treasurer of La Vie D'Argent and used La Vie D'Argent to solicit and receive some of the fraudulently obtained funds.
- 20. Defendant Global Village Records ("Global Village"), a private California corporation with corporate offices of 830 Harbor Crossing, Marina Del Rey, California 90292, represents that it is in the business of movie and music production. Defendant Jones is the owner of Global Village. Over a million dollars of investor funds were transferred to Global Village bank accounts after the Court entered its injunction against Defendants Jones and Marina.
- 21. Defendant Mildred Stultz, ("Stultz") of Bothell, Washington, was one of Tri Energy's biggest recruiters. Also known as "Miracle Millie," Stultz brought more than \$2 million in victim money into the scam. She also solicited hundreds of thousands of dollars from a Tri Energy investor who invested money into the "gold transaction" after the Commission filed its complaint and enjoined Defendants. Stultz also received a cease and desist order from the State of Washington for her role in this fraud, which did nothing to curb her fundraising activities.
- 22. Daniel J. Merriman ("Merriman") of Highland, Utah, is a Tri Energy investor who solicited investments from others and who continued to forward money from investors, including Tri Energy's victims, to Global Village after the staff obtained its TRO and PI against the Defendants. At one time, he was a registered representative with Series 6, 26 and 63 licenses.
- 23. DJM, LLC ("DJM") is one of Merriman's companies. Merriman used DJM bank accounts to forward money from Tri Energy's investors to Henry Jones' companies and to Adrienne Lau.

- 24. Financial M. D. and Financial M.D. and Associates (collectively "Financial M.D.") are both Merriman's companies. Merriman used their bank accounts to forward money from Tri Energy's investors to Henry Jones' companies. This company purports to offer a wide variety of financial advice services.
- 25. The "New Defendants" are Global Village, La Vie D'Argent, Stultz, Merriman, DJM and Financial MD. The "Old Defendants" are Tri Energy, H & J Energy, Marina Investors Group, Decker, Jennings, Jones and Simburg. All Old Defendants and New Defendants may be collectively referred to as "Defendants."

## **RELIEF DEFENDANTS**

- 26. Relief Defendant Thomas Avery ("Avery") of Moreno Valley, California is the Senior Vice President and Vice Chairman of Tri Energy. Avery is also the Secretary of H & J Energy. Defendant Avery has received investor funds through Tri Energy and H & J and was responsible for opening the primary Tri Energy account used in this fraud.
- 27. Relief Defendant RPJ Investment Group, Inc. ("RPJ") is located in Perris California. Its Registered Agent is Robert Jennings who is the owner of RPJ Investment Group.
- 28. Relief Defendant TMA Investment Enterprises, Inc. ("TMA") is located in Carson City, Nevada, and is owned by Relief Defendant Avery.
- 29. Relief Defendant Adrienne Lau ("Lau") of Chino, California, is one of the performers featured on the Marina Investors Group and Global Village Records websites. In May 2005, Merriman wired \$525,000 to her bank account out of funds he received from investors in the "gold deal." Lau was described as a lawyer connected to the gold transaction.

## REGULATORY BACKGROUND

30. On February 28, 2005, the Securities Division of the State of Washington Department of Financial Institutions ("DFI") issued a Summary Order

("Order") for each of the Old Defendants and Defendant Stultz to cease and desist raising money for a "Middle East gold investment."

- 31. According to the DFI, many of Tri Energy's investors learned about the "gold program" through the networking portion of Millionaire Mind seminars, which are run by Peak Potentials Training, Inc. and designed to help people "develop a millionaire mind" and "reach their financial potential." At these seminars, Defendants or their agents solicited investors to dial into a nightly conference call coordinated by Decker. When the investors dialed in to this call, they were introduced to Simburg and Jennings who explained to them the investment opportunity in Tri Energy and directed them to the company's website, <a href="https://www.trienergy.net">www.trienergy.net</a>, for additional information.
- 32. Defendants told early investors that their money was going toward the development of Tri Energy's coal mines, and later investors were told the money would be used for the gold transaction. The scheme investigated by the DFI is the same as the instant fraud alleged herein.
- 33. The Order issued by the Washington DFI did nothing to stop the Defendants. In discussions with investors, Simburg was dismissive about the seriousness of the charges. For example, during an investor conference call on December 3, 2004, Simburg described the Washington state securities investigation and Order as "a slap on the wrist." Stultz continued to attend conferences and solicit investors into the fraudulent gold transaction.
- 34. Simburg also advised investor-victims not to say too much to state securities investigators and encouraged non-compliance with the state investigation, describing how one investor avoided service of a state investigative subpoena. During this conference call, he also encouraged people to invite Washington state investors to participate in conference calls.

#### THE NATURE OF THE FRAUDULENT OFFERING

## A. The Securities Offered By Defendants

- 35. The Commission hereby incorporates paragraphs 1 through 34 by reference.
- 36. Beginning no later than July 2002, Defendants offered and sold securities in the form of investments in a coal venture and/or a purported international "gold transaction" in the name of H & J Energy, Tri Energy, Marina Investors Group and/or Global Village Records.
- 37. These investments constitute unregistered securities in the form of investment contracts or notes offered and sold to the general public. Defendants offered and sold these securities through the use of the telephone, the mails, and other means and instruments of interstate commerce.
- 38. Each investment contract or note offered and sold by Defendants constitutes a "security" pursuant to Section 2(1) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. §77b(1)] and Section 3(a)(10) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78c(a)(10)]. The money provided to the Defendants was consideration for a contract, transaction or scheme whereby the investors make an investment of money in a common enterprise offered, sold and/or promoted by the Defendants with the expectation of profits through the efforts of others.
- 39. No registration statement was filed with the Commission or was in effect with respect to the securities that the Defendants offered and sold.
- 40. Old Defendants asked some investors to execute a "Tri Energy, Inc. Loan Agreement" (the "Agreement"), which Defendant Jennings executed on behalf of Tri Energy and which contains multiple false statements. The Agreement, which took on different forms over time, generally set forth the rate of return promised to the investor for the initial investment period, and claims that "[Tri Energy] will pay a 100% return in 60 days for monies loaned." Sometimes the percentage promised was higher than 100%.

- 41. The Agreement states that Tri Energy "has a present loan need of up to \$100,000 to handle general administrative costs and needs, business & travel expenses occurring now through August 18, 2004. Some of the corporate expenses which will equal \$100,000.00, are various accessory equipment, operational, and administrative working capital." According to the Agreement, Tri Energy "will be in the position to carry out this return commitment due to the net profit projections stated above, and finalizing an international transaction." Various Old Defendants and Relief Defendants facilitated the signing of these promissory notes and Agreements over time.
- 42. Old Defendants also provided some investors with a Promissory Note signed by Defendant Jennings on behalf of Tri Energy. This note falsely states that "[t]he principal and interest amount of 100% return will be paid in sixty days." Tri Energy agrees to pay this 100% return "in the event Marina Investors Group's project (which is due to pay a 200% return on loan totaling \$\_\_\_\_\_\_ principal and interest on lender's loan amount) has not funded prior to the date stated above." Upon information and belief, the "Marina Investors Group's project" is the purported international "gold transaction." Sometimes the rate of return was higher.
- 43. In some instances, Simburg would execute similar promissory notes on La Vie D'Argent letterhead promising returns of 2x, 3x, or 5x the investor's money.
- 44. Defendants also directed investors to wire their investments to bank accounts in the name of Tri Energy, Marina Investors Group, Global Village Records, Daniel Merriman, H&J Energy, La Vie D'Argent, or others.
- 45. Defendants Simburg, Jennings and Jones also relied on numerous promoters to solicit investors to purchase these securities. Defendants Stultz and Merriman were significant promoters who brought many victims into the fraud.

## B. The "Gold Transaction."

46. Defendants Simburg and Jones allegedly were introduced by a mutual friend; both men thought their relationship would be mutually beneficial. Defendant

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Simburg was looking for investors into his coal operation, and Defendant Jones needed financial support in order to bring his "gold transaction" to completion. Defendant Simburg also brought Jennings into these discussions.

- 47. Defendant Marina Investors Group and Tri Energy thus signed a "Capital Infusion Proposal" on February 4, 2002, under which Marina Investors Group proposed to infuse Tri Energy with \$200 million in capital. This "Proposal" was signed by Jennings, Simburg, and Jones, among others. The proposal claims that, with this funding, Tri Energy allegedly would be able to develop processes that would create 100% emissions-free coal and pay back its investors. Tri Energy neither had nor developed processes that would create emissions-free coal.
- 48. On or around January 17, 2004, Simburg informed an investor that the "gold transaction" already had cost \$15 million over three years.
- 49. Some early investors gave money for this transaction to H & J Energy and believed that Tri Energy may have bought H & J in 2003 or 2004.
- 50. Defendants Jones and Simburg lulled investors by telling them that the "gold transaction" is, by nature of that business, very secretive, and thus its existence cannot be proven. It is for this reason, among others, that Defendants told investors they must maintain the confidentiality of this transaction.
- 51. On nightly conference calls, Defendants would tell investors and prospective investors supposed details about the "gold transaction." Various Defendants kept investors on the hook by dispensing ridiculous "details" about the progress of this bogus transaction.
- 52. Defendants have asserted that Israel is the seller of the gold, and the buyers are the "Duvet people" of the United Arab Emirates. The advisors to the transaction are the "Gunna people" of Amsterdam. Five thousand metric tons of gold are supposedly involved in this transaction.
- 53. As of January 2004, the money involved in the "gold transaction" was in Luxembourg awaiting some original paperwork needed for the Duvet people.

Jones allegedly went to Zurich to coordinate the paperwork for the transaction. Simburg was to go to Luxembourg later in the month of January 2004 to receive the \$200 million proceeds from this transaction. As of late July 2006, notwithstanding Defendants' continued insistence to investor-victims that it will pay off, Defendants purported "gold transaction" does not appear to have closed.

- 54. After entry of the TRO and PI, Defendants told investors that the gold transaction would still close but that the gold deal did not close as expected because the Commission interfered with the transaction by causing a freeze of their assets.
- 55. Each of the foregoing statements by Defendants were knowingly false when made.
  - C. Examples of Defendants' False Statements About the Gold
    Transaction And the Coal Mines And Their Participation In The
    Scheme To Defraud
- 56. The Commission hereby incorporates paragraphs 1 through 55 by reference.
- 57. Defendants Simburg, Jennings, Decker and Jones have described the international "gold transaction," the coal mines and other schemes to Tri Energy investors in some detail. Many Tri Energy investors dialed into a nightly conference call which, until May 2005, was hosted in large part by Simburg. Decker would make a recording of each night's investor conference call available on a public telephone mailbox for 24 hours following each call, and he introduced the recording of each night's telephone call with a short recorded statement.
- 58. Defendants Stultz and Merriman also have described the gold deal to investors in order to promote the scheme.
- 59. Defendant Merriman used his status as a financial advisor to assure investors that he had done "due diligence" on the deal and that it was a sound investment.

60. On the telephone conference calls, or separate smaller calls, Simburg would update the Tri Energy investors – or would-be investors – on the progress of the "gold transaction," and he would sometimes explain to them that more funds were needed for a variety of expenses relating to the transaction itself. These efforts continued after the entry of the TRO and PI.

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- 61. Although Simburg did most of the talking on these investor conference calls, Defendants Jones, Decker, Merriman, Stultz, and Jennings also have vouched for the authenticity of this transaction to investor-victims. In addition, Jones, Simburg, Merriman and Stultz met with some of the investor-victims about the gold transaction in person or conducted private conference calls to provide details of the transaction.
- 62. In or around February 2004, Simburg described the transaction in one telephone call to a few investors as follows:

Our funds are sitting in Luxemburg right now. And we just simply have what's going to be some paperwork protocol to access it. Never before were we ever able to say that our funds have been wired from the middle east to Luxembourg. Everything was always an anticipation whether it would be wired. This time the first truant um meaning that uh this is a transaction that goes into the billions, and something that is greatly in excess of a hundred million has already been wired to us in Luxemburg. And what, and what we have to do at this point is there's a protocol that you have to go through, it's about 10 days or so before being able to access the funds and that's why we've been out most of last three nights with a 10-hours time difference. Doing every thing we can to reduce that thing to 6 or 7 days as opposed to 17 days. But uh, it, it's because of those kind of things that we actually have had the funds wired as Israel the buyer has dedicated 27 humanitarian projects uh for the funds from the transaction. This is their largest source of revenue. This is a transaction between two countries that had never had a diplomatic relations before uh to buy in Israel. ... And this is not an easy thing to do, it goes into the billions, it's, it's you know when you're sitting there uh and you're advancing funds, wiring funds from the middle east, it goes into the billions and it's gold.

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63. In the nightly investor telephone call on December 7, 2004, Decker explained the need for a "safe passage" letter to the Tri Energy investors. This letter was allegedly important because it would satisfy some attorneys in Dubai that the funds from the gold transaction would be able to travel safely from Dubai to Jordan to Luxembourg, and then to the United States. When Decker was asked to explain the "safe passage" letter, the response was:

These safe passageway is, there's a form that is necessary to update that will, that will include, a safe passageway from the Middle East to, countries, to Luxembourg, and Luxembourg to the U.S. and because of the fact that there's been several changes, in that in [Dubai] was not included previously in having their funds going to Luxemburg, ah, they, the attorneys for both the, the [Dubai] as well as our attorney from, they looked over the pay order um, which they did receive today, they found out that that it needs to be updated and more specific and so they're, so Henry is in the process of contacting the three, D.C. guys who are going to update it and, and make it so that they won't run into any problems as far as safe passageway, so that's what's, what they are in the process of doing right now.

Jones also joined the call on this night to reassure the investors about the need for the "safe passage" letter.

- 64. Regarding the investments generally, Simburg repeatedly lied to the investors about the supposed need for investments in Tri Energy. Day after day, he described in detail the steps in the "gold transaction" in which he and Jones supposedly were participating, all the while asking the investors for more money and assuring them that the big payoff was just around the corner.
- 65. For instance, in the Tri Energy investor conference call that took place on December 3, 2004, Simburg informed the investors that Tri Energy needed \$250,000 "to meet the requirements of the managers" who supposedly were going to meet with Jones and Simburg. He claimed this money would be used to release the "actual pay order" and pay for a "lawyer fee" relating to the transaction.

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66. During the December 6, 2004, call, Simburg asked the group for \$200,000 for "storage" (for the gold) and "expenses needed for the travelling" (presumably to the Middle East to close the deal). On this call, Simburg explained that over the weekend Jones traveled with "4 or 5 burly bodyguards" to a place where he could exchange money for a pay order from Dubai, and that a group of Zurich attorneys was supposed to meet with a group of Dubai attorneys to give them a pay order sometime over the next week and complete the "gold transaction." Simburg said he wanted to "keep the flow of fund raising going," and that soon he would have to "get on an airplane and go to Zurich," presumably to help close the transaction.

67. On December 7, 2004, Simburg informed the investors on the call that the pay order had been sent to Dubai from Jordan, but that they now needed to get a "safe passage letter" in order to safeguard the transport of funds from Jordan and Luxembourg, and then from Luxembourg to the United States. According to Simburg:

In conjunction with the pay order, ah, when that was brought yesterday, the [Dubai] attorneys contacted the Zurich people, looked at the letter in conjunction with the Zurich attorneys and they concluded that they really need to have another letter that talks about, his letter talks about safe passage originating from that country, to Jordan and on to Luxembourg and it doesn't really clearly specify the Luxemburg U.S. portion which we need and they need to do that, have all three people sign, make sure it's not in conjunction, not in any way, in conflict with the original letter . . . .

Thus, Simburg allegedly did not leave for Zurich because the "safe passage letter" had not been finalized. Simburg explained that this letter was important because it would satisfy the Dubai attorneys by handling the passage of the funds from "the particular country to Jordan to, um, Luxemburg. And now they want it very, very clearly specified, ah, Luxemburg, U.S."

- 68. On December 8, 2004, Simburg informed the investors that his tentative plans were still to leave for Zurich in a few days, and that "spirited discussions" were taking place about when to meet.
- 69. On December 9, 2004, Simburg explained that there were a "significant amount of complications" concerning the "safe passage letter," and that the transaction would be completed in a couple of days. He emphasized how important it was to continue raising funds, because "that's why we're saying that some of the 5,000, 10,000 kind of things just right now are, are more helpful than you would, you would imagine."
- 70. The transaction did not get completed. On December 10, 2004, Simburg explained that "well it did not happen today and uh we really thought it was." He explained how difficult it was to complete the "gold transaction," but that "you know to be able to let them know that the funds uh it have been verified us these are, this is ammunition."
- 71. On December 14, 2004, Simburg explained that the transaction probably would be postponed until January 15, 2005. He attributed these delays to the way the European banking system worked and to the fact that some of the Dubai attorneys had to go on a pilgrimage to Mecca.
- 72. On December 15, 2004, Simburg explained that the deal was going to close in a few days. He also explained that when the "gold transaction" was complete, "the one lump sum that's being sent to Tri Energy there'll be a number of 10 million dollar amounts that will be going out to, to a number of individuals in the team . . .." He also explained in detail how the proceeds from the "gold transaction" would be wired into the United States, and reemphasized the importance of even investments of the "minimum amounts" of \$5,000.
- 73. Finally, on December 16, 2004, Simburg explained again that the transaction was almost closed, and solicited more funds from the Tri Energy investors to pay for some mine equipment:

- We um, we have some um, an opportunity uh at the mine uh for to um, some things that are very highly discounted equipment. And we have to make the uh, payment on it tomorrow. We have the commitments for it, but some funds for that however, it may not make it uh by wire cut off time tomorrow. Uh, so if any of you have a situation where the [are] some funds available where we, we literally can turn uh this is a commitment. We, we would literally uh turn it around and uh if the funds were expected for a wire uh cut off, we could turn around and get it back to you the same day.
- 74. On or around April 25, 2005, Simburg informed the investors on the nightly phone call that a "pre-advice" letter had been sent from one bank to another as a test case for the "pre-advice" letters that would later be sent finalizing the "gold transaction." Simburg also explained on this call that the investors might be required to pay for "storage" for the gold. He informed them that the "gold transaction" probably would successfully close in the next week or so, once the "pre-advice" process had been properly adjusted and the "pre-advice" letters had properly been sent on their test runs between the institutions involved in this transaction.
- 75. During the months of March and April 2005, Simburg also solicited money from investors to pay for "lawyers' fees" associated with closing the "gold transaction." He continued to seek money for these fees after the Court entered the TRO and PI against him.
- 76. Jones also has assured at least some investors directly that the "gold transaction" is a real transaction. Simburg described a visit by approximately ten angry investors to Jones' house one day in early 2004 as follows:

Now we went into visit with Henry and it was a surprise visit and these people came and accused him of lying and where's the documents, if there's a real deal you'd have the documents here. And what uh, what happened is, is that they said we have people and are you going to produce the documents? And he said no, I'm not, it would be a violation of the confidentiality that was set from the beginning. Well we have people that could come here and hurt you, and we might just bring them. ... He said but the fact is your people if I provide the

documents might kill me, my people that ... guys if I provide, if I don't provide the documents your people might kill me. If I do provide the documents I can assure you that, that ... people will kill me. The last time I checked you can only get killed once. He said so the fact is I will go with that I know which is them and I know we have a real transaction here. And if it ever came down to it, if there's any legal thing I would produce all the documents which would show we've had a real thing the whole time but it would kill the deal. Because it's a violation of the confidentiality.

On the day referenced above, Jones met in person with at least two of the angry investors.

- 77. In or around February 2004, around the time of the visit to his house by the aforementioned investors, Jones discussed the "Dubai deal" (or gold transaction) in some detail with a group of skeptical investors. According to Jones, "the Dubai deal has my signature on it" and he would soon be able to provide them with paperwork from the "gold transaction," although he had to be careful not to disclose "information that would technically kill the deal." He also explained that he was looking elsewhere for the final funds needed to "conclude the deal," since the investors' skepticism had made it impossible for him to expect continued funding from them.
- 78. On or about March 29, 2004, Jones participated in an investor call in which he instructed Simburg to have a bank manager advance the funds for the gold storage.
- 79. On or about June 4, 2004, Jones participated in an investor call in which he explained in detail the supposed status of the "gold transaction" and the international banking and paperwork issues.
- 80. On or about July 8, 2004, Jones participated in an investor call in order to answer investor questions. He also updated the group on his efforts to secure a visa for the principals involved so they can come to the states in order to complete the sale. He also updated the group on the "Uranium sale."

- 81. On or about July 19, 2004, Jones participated in an investor call in order to answer questions from investors. He discussed issues related to wire transfers and the timing of aspects of the gold transaction.
- 82. Jones participated in another investor call on or about August 5, 2004. On that call, investors were told more nonsensical details about the alleged transaction. Defendants explained that a new clearing bank was needed because the Jordan bank they were using was under investigation. Although the wire was supposedly ready to close the next day, they decided to use a new bank. Investors were also told that paperwork was being delivered by diplomatic pouch the next day, so the signing of the sale closing could take place then. Because Jones was supposedly going to Jordan, the "Congolese people" would have to be attended to by Art or Demetrius until Jones could return to complete the transaction.
- 83. On or about January 24, 2005, Jones participated in an investor call in which he explained details regarding what the attorneys were trying to accomplish in Luxembourg and lulled investors with false time frames for the transaction to be completed.
- 84. Jennings helped maintain Tri Energy's investor records and helped keep track of the millions of dollars of investments into Tri Energy.
- 85. Jennings also made a number of false representations about the "gold transaction." For instance, in one letter to two investors, Jennings wrote that the closing of the "deal" had been delayed by "European banking protocol" and the "Patriot Act."
- 86. In one August 11, 2004, facsimile, Jennings wrote to an investor that "we believe you will be paid out within 30 days from the concluding overseas transaction, so show 3x as expected return and principal combined." In a March 2004 letter to some other investors, Jennings wrote that:

manager who verifies the funds are in the account in Europe. The banking authorities are finalizing the disbursement process at this time.

... All the delays up to now have been due to the scrutiny of the European banking system since 911, and the enforcement of the Patriot Act.

- 87. Jennings frequently forwarded false written information about Tri Energy's coal mines to potential investors, and he communicated false information about these mines to dozens of potential investors.
- 88. For instance, in one June 2004 letter to an investor, Jennings claimed that Tri Energy was "currently mining compliance coal in the eastern Kentucky coal fields" and that "[t]his type of coal is some of the best low sulfur coal in the nation." Jennings further informed the investor that "[o]ur company is seeking to increase its production to meet the coal demand. We have mining & associated equipment needs in the amount of \$100,000.00, as well as working capital needs in the amount of \$150,000.00."
- 89. A Loan Agreement Jennings signed with another investor falsely states that the value of Tri Energy's "coal leases, reserves etc., equates to \$22,746,600.00."
  - 90. Jennings also participated in most of the nightly conference calls.
- 91. On at least one occasion in or around late March 2005, Jennings also updated the Tri Energy investors listening on the nightly conference call as to the status of a "currency washing" transaction he is involved with. According to Jennings, special chemicals (or "activating powder") are needed to "wash" currency in one country so that it may be successfully transported to another country, and presumably finally to a place where it may be distributed to the Tri Energy investors. Jennings has informed Tri Energy's investors on at least one phone call that questions of "diplomatic immunity" and highly placed government officials are involved in this transaction. On at least one occasion on the nightly conference call, Jennings has solicited investors for funds to help pay for the costs of this "currency washing" transaction.

92. Defendant Stultz raised more than \$2 million from dozens of victims for the "gold transaction." She met many of her recruits at the "Millionaire Minds" investing seminars she liked to attend.

- 93. Stultz was one of the "gold transaction's" most successful recruiters in terms of the number of participants she persuaded to invest in the bogus deal. Defendant Stultz pitched the gold transaction to would-be investors assuring them that they would make as much as 3:1 return on their investment when the gold transaction closed.
- 94. Stultz participated in many of the nightly investor conference calls over the years, however, and knew or had to have known that the investors she recruited never received the fantastic returns she was promising them.
- 95. Often, after making her initial pitch, Stultz would put investors in touch with Simburg and participate in conference calls where she and Simburg would convince investors to put money into the gold deal.
- 96. In May 2005, after she had received an order from the State of Washington identifying the "gold transaction" as a fraud and after the Commission sued the other Defendants, Stultz convinced one victim to invest approximately \$500,000 in the gold transaction. Stultz told this investor she would receive a 3 to 1 return on her money, which was needed to close the gold deal because the Commission had frozen the Tri Energy bank accounts.
- 97. Defendant Merriman also described the gold deal to investors, and he trumpeted the merits of the deal to solicit investors into the transaction while using his credentials as a financial advisor to lend credibility to his statements.
- 98. For example, in one investor conference call Merriman informed investors that he had investigated both the gold deal and the coal mine, and had satisfied himself that both investments were legitimate and that there really was gold stored overseas.

- 99. Defendants knew that their statements were false when they were made. Defendants made these false statements in order to induce investments in H&J, Tri Energy, Marina Investors Group, and/or Global Village Records.
- 100. Defendants have continued to provide investors with false information about the "gold transaction" after the Court issued the TRO and PI. Investors are still updated by Simburg, Jones and others about the "status" of the gold deal, and this information is used to lull investors and to solicit additional funds.

# D. Defendants' Misrepresentations Regarding Use of Investor Money

- 101. The Commission hereby incorporates paragraphs 1 through 100 by reference.
- 102. Investor-victims in Defendants' schemes did not receive the promised rates of returns on their investments nor did Defendants use investor funds as represented by them.
- 103. According to Tri Energy and Marina's bank accounts, and other records of bank accounts belonging to Defendants, Defendants collectively solicited between \$42 million and \$57 million from January 2003 through April 2005.
- 104. Defendants Simburg, Merriman, Jones, Stultz and Global Village Records solicited in excess of \$1.2 million after the Court issued the TRO and PI.
- 105. Many of the deposits made into the Tri Energy, Marina, Global Village and La Vie D'Argent bank accounts were received via wire transfer or check from bank accounts in the names of individuals, often in round dollar figures such as \$5,000 and \$10,000. At least 500, and as many as 1000, individuals made deposits into Defendants' bank accounts during the time period January 2003 through April 2005. Account statements and bank records show that hundreds of these individuals made more than one deposit.
- 106. In addition, after the Court froze the assets of Defendants Simburg, Jennings, Jones, Tri Energy, and Marina, investors began sending their funds to

Merriman and others, who then forwarded the majority of these funds to Jones, Relief Defendant Adrienne Lau, Simburg, or people designated by Simburg and Jones.

- 107. December 2004 illustrates, in part, how Defendants perpetrated this scheme. On several different days in December 2004, Simburg informed the Tri Energy investors that at least \$250,000 was needed to "meet the requirements of the managers" involved in the Middle Eastern gold transaction. Tri Energy's bank records indicate that its "primary Corporate Account" received \$1,806,446.00 from at least sixty-six deposits in December 2004. Many of those deposits were made by individuals in increments of \$5,000 and \$10,000, which is the minimum investment amount allowed in Tri Energy according to its offering documents.
- 108. During the month of December, Tri Energy wired at least \$1,030,000 from this account to a bank account in the name of Marina Investors Group, which is controlled by Jones. Tri Energy wired additional funds to La Vie D'Argent (whose president is Simburg), TMA (which is controlled by Avery), RPJ (which is controlled by Jennings) and to another bank account in the name of Tri Energy. The bank records do not support the use of investor funds consistent with the representations made to investors on these conference calls.
- 109. On several different days on and around March 21, 2005, Simburg informed investors on conference calls that \$150,000 was needed for "pay orders" relating to the Middle Eastern gold transaction. Several investors communicated to Simburg that they were sending him money in increments of \$1,000, and one investor told Simburg that he would attempt to cash a blank check a credit card company had sent him in order to send the Defendants up to \$3,000. Many such deposits of \$1,000 and \$5,000 were made on or around March 21 and March 22, 2005.
- 110. Tri Energy's bank records indicate that its "primary Corporate Account" received \$3,024,722.87 from at least 111 deposits during this month.

Many of those deposits were made by individuals in increments of \$5,000 and \$10,000, which is the minimum investment amount supposedly allowed in Tri Energy, according to its offering documents.

- 111. None of the money was sent to any of the countries (Luxembourg, Switzerland, etc.) supposedly involved in the "gold deal."
- 112. During the month of March 2005, Tri Energy wired at least \$1,077,000 from this account to a bank account in the name of Marina Investors Group, which is controlled by Jones. Tri Energy wired smaller amounts to accounts controlled by Simburg (La Vie), Avery (TMA) and Jennings (H & J Energy). Marina Investors Group did not make overseas payments during this month to countries allegedly connected to the gold transaction with the money it received from Tri Energy. Nor do the bank records otherwise support the use of investor funds consistent with the representations made to investors on these conference calls.
- 113. In addition, investor-victims have told securities regulators in multiple states that they did not receive the promised returns or, in some instances, any interest or return on their investment.
- 114. On several different days in April 2005, Simburg informed the Tri Energy investors that \$50,000 was needed for some law firms doing work for the Middle Eastern gold transaction.
- 115. On or around April 18, 2005, Simburg informed the Tri Energy investors that he would need \$550,000 instead of \$50,000 because the \$500,000 that was supposed to come in from another deal had not materialized.
- 116. On or around April 19, 2005, Simburg informed the Tri Energy investors that the group had successfully raised \$550,000. At that time, Simburg also introduced a new investor to the group on the nightly telephone call and explained that this investor had forwarded to Tri Energy a substantial portion of the funds that had to be raised.

- 117. During one investor conference call in late 2004, Merriman told investors that if they were contacted by state securities regulators, they should say that their investments in Tri Energy were loans and ask to see any questions about their investments in writing.
- 118. Even after learning in late 2004 that various state regulators were investigating Tri Energy, and in May 2005 that the Commission had filed its complaint, Merriman continued to play a key role in raising money from victims by allowing his companies' bank accounts to serve as one of the main conduits between Jones and Tri Energy's old victims.
- 119. After the Commission filed suit in May 2005, Merriman, DJM and Financial MD continued to forward hundreds of thousands of dollars in investor money to Global Village's bank account. Merriman and his companies also had wired hundreds of thousands of dollars to Jones and his companies prior to May 2005.
- 120. Through participating in the nightly conference calls, each of the Defendants knew that investors were not receiving their returns as promised, yet they continued to solicit funds with the same outlandish promises.
- 121. Defendants knew that each of the foregoing statements was false when they were made. Defendants made these false statements in order to induce investments in H&J, Tri Energy, Marina Investors Group, or Global Village Records.
- 122. Defendants converted significant portions of these funds for their own use rather than using them as represented to investors.
- 123. During the time period April 2003 through May 2004, at least \$300,000 was transferred from the Tri Energy Account to another account at Bank of America in the name of Tri Energy, Inc.

- 124. During the time period September 2003 through March 2005, at least \$100,000 was transferred from the Tri Energy Account to at least one account in the name of H&J Energy Company.
- 125. During the time period February 2003 through March 2005, at least \$350,000 was transferred from the Tri Energy Account to at least one account in the name of La Vie D'Argent.
- 126. During the time period February 2003 through March 2005, at least \$100,000 was transferred from the Tri Energy Account to at least one account in the name of RPJ Investment Group, Inc.
- 127. During the time period February 2003 through March 2005, at least \$70,000 was transferred from the Tri Energy Account to at least one account in the name of TMA Investment Enterprises.
- 128. During the time period January 2003 through April 2005, approximately \$8 million was transferred to at least one account in the name of Marina Investors Group, Inc.
- 129. On May 9, 2005, shortly after the Court issued the TRO, an investor wired \$500,000 to Defendant Merriman in order to invest in what she believed to be the gold transaction. Merriman then transferred \$430,000 of that money to Relief Defendant Adrienne Lau who was held out as a lawyer for the gold transaction. He simultaneously wired \$60,000 of these funds to others involved in the Tri Energy scheme. Defendant Merriman kept the remaining \$10,000 for himself.
- 130. During the time period from May 2005 to the present, at least \$1 million in investor funds has been sent to the bank account of Global Village Records.
- 131. Marina and Global Village Records commingled solicited funds with their other assets in their bank accounts and used Tri Energy funds to pay for business and operating expenses and the personal expenses of Defendant Jones and others associated with him. A majority of the funds received in the Marina Investors Group and Global Village Records accounts came from Tri Energy or its investors.

- 132. During the time period January 2003 through April 2005, at least \$5 million was transferred from Tri Energy to bank accounts in the names of individuals often in round dollar figures such as \$2,000 and \$5,000. At least 130 individuals, received transfers from Tri Energy during the time period October 2003 through March 2005. These investor-victims were paid with money from new investor-victims recruited into the scheme. Although some investors received their principal often after complaining vocally they received no return on their investment as promised.
- 133. During the time period January 2003 through April 2005, some of the Tri Energy investors transferred money directly to Marina Investors Group accounts in excess of \$8 million. This money was converted by Jones to his personal use.
- 134. Some of the investor money was used to pay back Defendant Stultz. Unlike other investors, Stultz received almost her entire principal back in return for her substantial promotion. Few other investors received such returns.
- 135. Defendants continued to solicit funds through at least March 2006. Throughout the summer and fall of 2005, Merriman was the primary contact for investors sending money to support the fraud. The bank records of Merriman and his corporations DJM and Financial MD demonstrate that Merriman kept some of the victim money for his own use, although investors believed it was going to support the gold transaction.
- 136. Defendants misrepresented the return promised to investors and, in fact, did not produce those returns to investors.
- 137. There is reason to believe the fraud is ongoing. After the TRO and PI, Defendants continued to hold conference calls and inform investors that the gold deal would still close, sharing the same kinds of false statements about the supposed transaction. As a result, investors would send funds to Merriman and others designated by Simburg and Jones, or sometimes directly to Simburg or Jones.

138. According to investor-victims, Defendants continue to disseminate information about the supposed gold transaction and often caution their victims to keep information about the transaction from the government.

#### FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

## (Violations of Section 17(a)(1) of the Securities Act)

- 139. The Commission hereby incorporates paragraphs 1 through 138 by reference.
- 140. Defendants, with *scienter*, in the offer or sale of securities, by the use of means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce, or by the use of the mails, directly or indirectly employed devices, schemes or artifices to defraud.
- 141. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have directly or indirectly violated Section 17(a)(1) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)(1)] and unless enjoined will continue to violate Section 17(a)(1) of the Securities Act.

## SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

## (Violations of Sections 17(a)(2) and (3) of the Securities Act)

- 142. The Commission hereby incorporates paragraphs 1 through 141 by reference.
- 143. Defendants have knowingly, recklessly or negligently, by engaging in the conduct set forth above, directly or indirectly, in the offer or sale of securities, by the use of means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce, or of the mails: (a) obtained money or property by means of untrue statements of material fact or by omitting to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in the light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or (b) engaged in transactions, practices or courses of business which operated or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon the purchasers of such securities.

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144. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have directly or indirectly violated Sections 17(a)(2) and (3) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 77q(a)(2) and (3)] and unless enjoined will continue to violate Sections 17(a)(2) and (3) of the Securities Act.

## THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

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

- The Commission hereby incorporates Paragraphs 1 through 144 by reference.
- 146. Defendants have, by engaging in the conduct set forth above, directly or indirectly, by use of means or instrumentalities of interstate commerce, or of the mails, or of a facility of a national security exchange, with scienter: (a) employed devices, schemes or artifices to defraud; (b) made untrue statements of material fact or 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; or (c) engaged in acts, practices or courses of business which operated or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon other persons, in connection with the purchase or sale of securities.
- 147. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have directly or indirectly violated Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5 [17 C.F.R. §§ 240.10b-5] and unless enjoined will continue to violate Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5.

## **FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

# (Violations of Section 5(a) and 5(c) of the Securities Act)

- 148. The Commission hereby incorporates Paragraphs 1 through 147 by reference.
- 149. Defendants have, by engaging in the conduct set forth above, directly or indirectly, through use of the means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or of the mails, offered to sell or sold

securities or carried or caused such securities to be carried through the mails or in interstate commerce, for the purpose of sale or delivery after sale.

- 150. No registration statement was filed with the Commission or was in effect with respect to the securities offered by Defendants prior to the offer or sale of these securities.
- 151. By reason of the foregoing, Defendants have directly or indirectly violated Sections 5(a) and 5(c) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a) and 77e(c)], and unless restrained and enjoined will continue to violate these provisions.

## FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

## Aiding and Abetting Violations of 10(b)

- 152. The Commission hereby incorporates Paragraphs 1 through 151 by reference.
- 153. Each Defendant, directly or indirectly, has, by engaging in the conduct set forth above, directly or indirectly violated Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5 [17 C.F.R. §§ 240.10b-5] thereunder.
- 154. Each Defendant knew, or was reckless in not knowing, that the other Defendants' conduct was improper and each Defendant knowingly and substantially assisted the other Defendants in directly or indirectly violating Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5 [17 C.F.R. §§ 240.10b-5] thereunder.
- 155. As a result of their conduct described above, pursuant to Section 20(e) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78t(e)], the Defendants aided and abetted the violations of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5 [17 C.F.R. §§ 240.10b-5] thereunder.

## SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

# (Against the Relief Defendants)

156. The Commission hereby incorporates Paragraphs 1 through 155 by reference.

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157. In the manner described above, each Relief Defendant received illgotten gains for which they gave no consideration and to which they have no legitimate claim.

#### PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, the Commission respectfully requests that the Court issue findings of fact and conclusions of law that the Defendants committed the violations charged and alleged herein and issue orders as follows:

Ι

Permanently restraining and enjoining Defendants from, directly or indirectly, engaging in conduct in violation of Sections 5(a), and 5(c) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a), and 77e(c)], Section 17(a) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)] and 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], and from aiding and abetting violations of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, and enjoining Defendants from accepting, taking control of, or depositing in any financial institution additional funds from actual or potential investors in Tri Energy, H&J Energy, Marina Investors Group, or GVR, and from any involvement in, or conduct facilitating or relating in any way to, investing or soliciting investment in any program purporting to involve coal or a coal mine operation, an international gold transaction, or an international banking transaction, with or from any participant, officer, director, or investor in Tri Energy Inc., H&J Energy Inc., La Vie D'Argent, Global Village Records, or Marina Investors Group, Inc.

II.

Issue an Order continuing the asset freeze and appointment of a receiver for Tri Energy and Marina Investors Group to (1) preserve the status quo, (2) ascertain the financial condition of Tri Energy and Marina Investors Group, (3) prevent further dissipation of Tri Energy's and Marina Investor Group's property and assets to

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prevent loss, damage, and injry to investors, (4) preserve Tri Energy's and Marina's books, records and documents, and (5) be available to respond to investor inquiries.

III.

Issue an Order directing all of the Defendants and Relief Defendants jointly and severally, to prepare and present to the Court and the Commission within thirty (30) days from the entry of said order, or within such extension of time as the Commission staff agrees, a written accounting signed under penalty of perjury, setting forth all funds, assets and liabilities including: all real and personal property exceeding \$5,000 in value, located both within and outside of the United States, which are held by such Defendant or Relief Defendant, on their behalf, or under their direct or indirect control, whether jointly or singly, or in which they have an interest; all funds and assets that each Defendant and Relief Defendant received from its investors and the ultimate use or current location of those funds or assets. The accountings shall include a description of the source(s) of all such assets; and all bank, securities, futures and other accounts controlled by Defendant or Relief Defendant, directly or indirectly, identified by institution, branch address and account number.

IV.

Order Defendants and Relief Defendants to disgorge their ill-gotten gains in an amount according to proof, plus prejudgment interest thereon, and to repatriate any and all funds received from any Defendant transferred to any location outside the United States, and Order Defendants to pay civil money penalties pursuant to Section 20(d)(1) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. §77t(d)(1)] and Section 21A of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. §78u-1].

V.

Issue an Order temporarily enjoining Defendant Global Village Records from, directly or indirectly, engaging in conduct in violation of Sections 5(a), and 5(c) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a), and 77e(c)], Section 17(a) of the Securities Act [15 U.S.C. § 77q(a)] and 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], and from aiding and abetting violations of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act [15 U.S.C. § 78j(b)] and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, and from accepting, taking control of, or depositing in any financial institution additional funds from actual or potential investors in Tri Energy, H&J Energy, Marina Investors Group, or GVR, and from any involvement in, or conduct facilitating or relating in any way to, investing or soliciting investment in any program purporting to involve coal or a coal mine operation, an international gold transaction, or an international banking transaction, with or from any participant, officer, director, or investor in Tri Energy Inc., H&J Energy Inc., La Vie D'Argent, Global Village Records, or Marina Investors Group, Inc.

VII.

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.

VIII.

Grant such other and further relief as this Court may deem just, equitable, and necessary.

Dated: August 9, 2006

Respectfully submitted:

By:

Stephen L. Cohen

John B. Bulgozdy (Cal. Bar No. 219897)

Attorneys for Plaintiff

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE

COMMISSION