

1 KAREN MATTESON, Cal. Bar No. 102103  
MattesonK@sec.gov  
2 MARC J. BLAU, Cal. Bar No. 198162  
BlauM@sec.gov  
3

4 Attorneys for Plaintiff  
Securities and Exchange Commission  
Rosalind R. Tyson, Acting Regional Director  
5 Michele Wein Layne, Associate Regional Director  
5670 Wilshire Boulevard, 11th Floor  
6 Los Angeles, California 90036  
Telephone: (323) 965-3998  
7 Facsimile: (323) 965-3908

8  
9 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**  
10 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

11 SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE  
12 COMMISSION,

13 Plaintiff,

14 vs.

15 REAL ESTATE PARTNERS, INC.;  
16 REAL ESTATE PARTNERS INCOME  
17 FUND I, LLC; REAL ESTATE  
18 PARTNERS INCOME FUND II, BT;  
19 REAL ESTATE PARTNERS INCOME  
20 FUND III, BT; REAL ESTATE  
21 PARTNERS UNIT INVESTMENT  
22 BUSINESS TRUST I; REAL ESTATE  
23 PARTNERS UNIT INVESTMENT  
24 BUSINESS TRUST II; REAL ESTATE  
25 PARTNERS EQUITY FUND, BT;  
26 REAL ESTATE PARTNERS GROWTH  
27 FUND, BT; DAWSON DAVENPORT;  
28 MICHAEL P. OWENS; DONALD G.  
RYAN; RICHARD McGILL; WILLIAM  
L. SANDERS; MICHAEL TUCHMAN;  
and DANNY RAYBURN,

Defendants.

Case No.: **SACV07-1022 AG (RNBx)**

**COMPLAINT FOR VIOLATIONS OF THE  
FEDERAL SECURITIES LAWS**

2007 SEP -5 11:12:00  
FILED

1 Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) alleges as  
2 follows:

3 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

4 1. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Sections 20(b),  
5 20(d)(1) and 22(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 (“Securities Act”), 15 U.S.C.  
6 §§ 77t(b), 77t(d)(1) & 77v(a), and Sections 21(d)(1), 21(d)(3)(A), 21(e) and 27 of  
7 the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Exchange Act”), 15 U.S.C. §§ 78u(d)(1),  
8 78u(d)(3)(A), 78u(e) & 78aa. Defendants have, directly or indirectly, made use of  
9 the means or instrumentalities of interstate commerce, of the mails, or of the  
10 facilities of a national securities exchange, in connection with the transactions,  
11 acts, practices, and courses of business alleged in this Complaint.

12 2. Venue is proper in this district pursuant to Section 22(a) of the  
13 Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77v(a), and Section 27 of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C.  
14 § 78aa, because certain of the transactions, acts, practices, and courses of conduct  
15 constituting violations of the federal securities laws occurred within this district,  
16 each of the entity defendants is located in this district, and each of the individual  
17 defendants resides in this district.

18 **SUMMARY**

19 3. Between January 2003 and August 2006, the defendants raised  
20 approximately \$50 million, defrauding approximately 1600 investors nationwide  
21 during the course of several securities offerings. The defendants offered investors  
22 interests in a series of seven offerings (the “Offerings”), the proceeds of which  
23 were purportedly to be invested in various properties purchased and maintained by  
24 defendant Real Estate Partners, Inc. (“REP”). The interests in the Offerings were  
25 securities. The Offerings were not registered with the Commission, however, as  
26 required by Section 5 of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77e.

27 4. Operating out of two Orange County, California based boiler rooms  
28 run by defendants Michael P. Owens and Donald G. Ryan, REP’s sales force used

1 lead lists and scripts containing false representations to cold-call hundreds of  
2 potential investors each day, enticing investors with promises of lucrative returns  
3 based on the revenue generated from properties REP was purportedly purchasing  
4 and managing.

5 5. The entity defendants and defendants Davenport, Owens and Ryan  
6 caused the following misrepresentations and omissions of material fact to be made  
7 to investors in connection with the Offerings:

8 a. The prominent real estate company Coldwell Banker was  
9 falsely represented to investors to be involved in the Offerings, when in fact  
10 Coldwell Banker had nothing to do with the Offerings.

11 b. The use of proceeds from the Offerings was misrepresented.  
12 Investors were not told that over 52% of the \$50 million in funds they invested  
13 were used to pay sales commissions, including payments of \$10.9 million to two  
14 companies controlled by defendant Michael P. Owens and over \$3 million to a  
15 company controlled by defendant Donald G. Ryan, and payments of commissions  
16 ranging from over \$300,000 to just over \$1 million to defendant sales agents  
17 Richard McGill, William L. Sanders, Michael Tuchman and Danny Rayburn.

18 c. Sales materials reviewed and approved by defendants Dawson  
19 Davenport and Michael P. Owens that were disseminated to investors falsely  
20 projected yearly returns averaging approximately 54% and five-year cumulative  
21 returns averaging approximately 270%, when there was no basis for making such  
22 optimistic projections. Further, in order to lull investors into believing that their  
23 investments were in fact profitable and to encourage additional investments,  
24 investors were paid "dividends" of approximately 4% or 8% per year, depending  
25 on the Offering. In fact, the source of funds for these "dividends" was not profits,  
26 but new investor monies, and the dividend payments were being made to  
27 perpetuate the defendants' Ponzi-like scheme. Indeed, rather than being profitable,  
28 the Offerings incurred a combined net loss of \$2.78 million.



1           10.     **Real Estate Partners Income Fund III, BT (“IF III”)** is a Nevada  
2 business trust formed in April 2004 and based in Irvine, California. REP is the  
3 trustee of IF III. IF III claims to invest in real estate and real estate secured assets.  
4 Between January 2004 and December 2004, the defendants raised \$4.93 million  
5 from 192 investors in IF III nationwide. No registration statement has been filed or  
6 is in effect with respect to IF III.

7           11.     **Real Estate Partners Unit Investment Business Trust I (“UIBT I”)**  
8 is a Nevada business trust formed in June 2003 and based in Irvine, California.  
9 REP is the trustee of UIBT I. UIBT I claims to invest in real estate and real estate  
10 secured assets. Between January 2003 and June 2004, the defendants raised  
11 \$4.955 million from 175 investors in UIBT I nationwide. No registration  
12 statement has been filed or is in effect with respect to UIBT I.

13           12.     **Real Estate Partners Unit Investment Business Trust II (“UIBT**  
14 **II”)** is a Nevada business trust formed in April 2004 and based in Irvine,  
15 California. REP is the trustee of UIBT II. UIBT II claims to invest in real estate  
16 and real estate secured assets. Between January 2004 and May 2005, the  
17 defendants raised \$4.875 million from 168 investors in UIBT II nationwide. No  
18 registration statement has been filed or is in effect with respect to UIBT II.

19           13.     **Real Estate Partners Equity Fund, BT (“Equity Fund”)** is a  
20 Nevada business trust formed in December 2004 and based in Irvine, California.  
21 REP is the trustee of Equity Fund. Equity Fund claims to invest in real estate and  
22 real estate secured assets. Between January 2005 and July 2006, the defendants  
23 raised \$13.12 million from 350 investors in Equity Fund nationwide. No  
24 registration statement has been filed or is in effect with respect to Equity Fund.

25           14.     **Real Estate Partners Growth Fund, BT (“Growth Fund”)** is a  
26 Nevada business trust formed in December 2004 and based in Irvine, California.  
27 REP is the trustee of Growth Fund. Growth Fund claims to invest in real estate  
28 and real estate secured assets. Between January 2005 and July 2006, the

1 defendants raised approximately \$12.9 million from 352 investors in Growth Fund  
2 nationwide. No registration statement has been filed or is in effect with respect to  
3 Growth Fund.

4 **B. THE INDIVIDUAL DEFENDANTS**

5 15. **Dawson L. Davenport (“Davenport”)** is a resident of Lake Forest,  
6 California. Davenport is the founder and CEO of REP.

7 16. **Michael P. Owens (“Owens”)** is a resident of Newport Coast,  
8 California. Owens ran REP’s sales operation. Owens was paid by REP through  
9 REP’s payments to Pine Mountain Capital Corporation and Network Real Estate  
10 Corporation. Owens is the president of Network Real Estate Corporation. Pine  
11 Mountain Capital and Network Real Estate were consultants retained by REP to  
12 implement and oversee REP’s fundraising efforts. Between January 2003 and  
13 August 2006, REP collectively paid Pine Mountain Capital and Network Real  
14 Estate \$10.9 million -- 21% of all funds raised. Owens is not registered with the  
15 Commission as a broker or dealer.

16 17. **Donald G. Ryan (“Ryan”)** is a resident of Irvine, California. Ryan is  
17 the sole principal of Principal Management Group, a Nevada corporation formed in  
18 2001, which raised funds for REP. Between April 2003 and August 2006, REP  
19 paid Principal Management Group \$3,081,607, and Ryan an additional \$200.  
20 Ryan is not registered with the Commission as a broker or dealer.

21 18. **Richard McGill (“McGill”)** is a resident of Laguna Niguel,  
22 California. McGill has worked with Ryan selling investments since the mid-1990s.  
23 Between April 2003 and August 2006, REP paid McGill \$679,665 in sales  
24 commissions. McGill is not registered with the Commission as a broker or dealer.

25 19. **William L. Sanders (“Sanders”)** is a resident of Norco, California.  
26 Sanders has worked with Ryan selling investments since the late 1990s. Between  
27 April 2003 and August 2006, REP paid Sanders \$1,048,343 in sales commissions.  
28 Sanders is not registered with the Commission as a broker or dealer.



1 in IF I were paid 8% annually for the first two years of their investment. Investors  
2 in the subsequent Offerings were each paid 4% annually, for either one or two  
3 years depending on the Offering.

4 25. None of these securities offerings was registered with the  
5 Commission, as required by Section 5 of the Securities Act.

6 **B. THE FRAUDULENT SALES EFFORT**

7 26. The defendants offered and sold the Offerings through a massive  
8 boiler room sales operation. In late 2002, Davenport contracted with Owens to  
9 coordinate raising funds for the Offerings. Both Davenport and Owens reviewed  
10 the IF I private placement memorandum (“PPM”) before they caused it to be  
11 disseminated to investors.

12 **1. THE DEFENDANTS CONDUCT THE OFFERING FROM TWO BOILER**  
13 **ROOMS**

14 27. REP primarily relied upon Owens’ salesroom located in Santa Ana,  
15 California (the “Santa Ana office”) in order to offer and sell interests in IF I.  
16 Owens controlled the salesroom. Specifically, Owens hired, fired, and trained the  
17 sales force, and set the sales goals of the Santa Ana office. Owens approved  
18 payments to vendors. Owens and his staff were also responsible for investor  
19 relations. Although Davenport was REP’s CEO, Owens routinely handled investor  
20 inquiries and complaints. Owens also instructed the Santa Ana office salespeople  
21 what to tell investors. Owens closely monitored the sales force, including using  
22 video surveillance equipment, which he had ordered installed.

23 28. Sometime in the spring of 2003, Owens hired defendant Ryan to help  
24 in the sales effort. Ryan headed a sales force in Irvine, California (the “Irvine  
25 office”). Ryan’s top salespeople included defendants McGill, Sanders, Tuchman,  
26 and Rayburn. Beginning with Ryan’s arrival, REP began conducting two  
27 concurrent Offerings, one sold primarily by the Santa Ana office, and one sold by  
28 the Irvine office. Owen’s Santa Ana Office was primarily responsible for offering



1 and selling interests in the IF I, IF II, IF III, and Growth Fund offerings; Ryan's  
2 Irvine office was primarily responsible for offering and selling interests in the  
3 UIBT I, UIBT II, and Equity Fund offerings.

4 29. The Santa Ana and Irvine offices operated in a similar manner. Both  
5 employed "fronters" and "closers." The fronters cold-called potential investors  
6 and mailed them sales materials. The closers followed up with prospective  
7 investors and made the sales pitch. The fronters were paid an hourly wage plus  
8 approximately a 5% commission, and the closers were paid between 15% and 20%  
9 commissions, less what they paid their fronters.

10 30. Ryan and the closers in his salesroom expected the fronters to cold-  
11 call as many as 300 people a day from investor lead lists provided by REP. REP  
12 spent thousands of dollars each week purchasing these leads. Some of the fronters  
13 used sales scripts written by the closers, including scripts authored by Tuchman.  
14 The sales scripts emphasized REP's purported affiliation with Coldwell Banker,  
15 claiming that in the last eight years REP was the third-largest Coldwell Banker  
16 franchise in the country. The scripts also touted REP's purported track record of  
17 successful real estate purchases and the possibility of investors making up to ten  
18 times return on their initial investment.

19 31. Prospective investors were sent packages containing a glossy, twelve  
20 page brochure that summarized the Offering, a glossy REP quarterly newsletter  
21 featuring a "message" from Davenport, and other promotional material, a copy of  
22 the Offering PPM, a subscription agreement, a purchaser questionnaire, and, in  
23 case the investor wanted to invest in the Offering using their retirement funds, as  
24 several did, an IRA application.

25 2. DAVENPORT AND OWENS CREATE AND DISSEMINATE FALSE AND  
26 MISLEADING SALES MATERIALS

27 32. The glossy sales brochures were created by Davenport, Owens, and an  
28 outside marketing consultant. The sales brochures contained information

1 regarding REP, its management, and descriptions of properties the company  
2 purportedly owned or managed. Up until early 2006, the brochures also  
3 highlighted REP's purported affiliation with Coldwell Banker. Specifically, the  
4 Coldwell Banker Commercial logo appeared either at the top of every page (IF II,  
5 IF III, UIBT I and UBIT II offerings), or on the first and last page of the sales  
6 brochures (Equity Fund and Growth Fund offerings), alongside REP's corporate  
7 logo, or on several pages of the brochure (IF I). The IF I, IF II, IF III, UIBT I and  
8 UIBT II brochures state that the Offerings offer investors "the safety and security  
9 of investing in real estate," and that "By leveraging the proven track record of  
10 Coldwell Banker Commercial, one of the oldest names in real estate, investors can  
11 rest comfortably knowing their investment is being managed with a focus on safety  
12 and growth."

13 33. The sales brochures also contained two charts summarizing five year  
14 projected rates of return for the Offerings. Since mid-2003, virtually identical  
15 charts appeared in all of the sales brochures. One chart depicts year-by-year  
16 returns, starting with a 22.6% return in year one and ending with a 78.6% return in  
17 year five, with an average yearly return of 54% (Growth Fund and Equity Fund  
18 brochures) or 54.82% (IF II, IF III, UIBT I and UIBT II brochures), and a  
19 cumulative return of 270% (Equity Fund and Growth Fund brochures) or 274 %  
20 (IF II, IF III, UIBT I and UIBT II brochures). Also included in each of these  
21 brochures is a bar graph that shows the value of an initial investment of \$20,000  
22 growing to \$194,000 after five years. Davenport determined what "projections"  
23 would be inserted into the sales brochures.

24 34. Once potential investors received the sales package from REP, they  
25 were then contacted by a closer. Defendants McGill, Sanders, Tuchman, and  
26 Rayburn, as well as others, were closers. The closers varied in their presentations  
27 to potential investors, but emphasized REP's purported connection to Coldwell  
28 Banker, REP's purported track record of profitable real estate purchases, and the

1 possibility of making a significant return on their investment. The closers urgently  
2 warned investors that units were selling fast and that only a few units remained in  
3 the Offering. Closers also discussed the 4% annual dividend investors would  
4 receive, as well as REP's alleged "exit strategy," in which it would roll-up all of  
5 the Offerings into a publicly traded real estate investment trust, or REIT, that  
6 would be listed on a national stock exchange. The first page of each of the sales  
7 brochures, with the exception of IF I, states that "REITS command a multiple of  
8 approximately ten times revenue or greater," and some investors were told that  
9 when the REP REIT began trading, their REP stock would be worth between \$6  
10 and \$12 per share.

11 35. When a new Offering began, Owens would make a presentation to the  
12 Santa Ana office, walking the closers through the sales brochure and private  
13 placement memorandum. Questions that the Santa Ana salespeople had regarding  
14 the Offerings were routed to Owens through the room supervisors.

15 36. When the Irvine office first began selling the REP Offering,  
16 Davenport visited the office and gave a presentation to the closers, describing what  
17 REP did, and answering any questions the salespeople had. From then on, any  
18 information concerning REP or a new Offering came from either Ryan or the  
19 PPMs and sales literature. Within the Irvine office, any questions about the  
20 Offering or REP that the closers could not answer were forwarded to Ryan. In  
21 fact, on numerous occasions, Ryan acted as the "closers' closer," assisting the  
22 salespeople in obtaining an investment from potential investors.

23 37. Owens' companies received 35% of monies raised by the Santa Ana  
24 office, less whatever sales costs REP fronted. Owens' companies also received  
25 18% of the funds raised by the Irvine office. In total, Owens' companies received  
26 \$10.9 million, or 21% of the monies raised from the Offerings. The Santa Ana  
27 office frontiers were paid commissions of up to 5%, and the closers were paid at  
28 least 10%, but could make more based upon certain office volume incentives.

1 38. Ryan received 40% of whatever the Irvine office raised, a rate Ryan  
2 negotiated with Owens. Ryan used the money to pay commissions to his  
3 salespeople and himself, as well as to pay all other fundraising expenses. Ryan's  
4 company, Principal Management Group, netted a total of \$3,081,607, or  
5 approximately 10% of the \$29 million raised by the Irvine office.

6 **C. THE DEFENDANTS MAKE MATERIAL MISREPRESENTATIONS AND**  
7 **OMISSIONS**

8 **1. REPRESENTATIONS BY THE DEFENDANT ENTITIES, DAVENPORT,**  
9 **OWENS AND RYAN REGARDING COLDWELL BANKER'S PURPORTED**  
10 **INVOLVEMENT IN THE OFFERINGS WERE FALSE AND MISLEADING**

11 39. A vital feature of the Offerings was REP's purported relationship with  
12 Coldwell Banker. Fronters often began their presentation to investors by  
13 announcing that they were calling from "Coldwell Banker Commercial Real Estate  
14 Partners." The sales scripts, written by Tuchman and read by the fronters, stated  
15 that in the last eight years REP operated "the third largest Coldwell Banker  
16 franchise" in the country. The Coldwell Banker name was also prominently  
17 featured in the Offering sales brochures, appearing at the top of each page of some  
18 of the brochures(IF II, IF III, UIBT I and UIBT II offerings), or on the first and last  
19 page of the sales brochures (Equity Fund and Growth Fund offerings), alongside  
20 REP's corporate logo, or on several pages of the brochure (IF I).

21 40. In reality, Coldwell Banker had nothing to do with the Offerings.  
22 Rather, Orange Coast Commercial, Inc. ("OCC"), a real estate brokerage firm  
23 controlled by Davenport and 20% owned by REP, owned a Coldwell Banker  
24 franchise. The OCC franchise used a number of dbas, including Real Estate  
25 Partners. Coldwell Banker never approved the use of its name or logo in any of the  
26 REP Offering materials, as was required by the franchise agreement that  
27 Davenport signed on behalf of OCC. Furthermore, rather than being the third  
28 largest Coldwell Banker franchise, as the salespeople told potential investors, the

1 OCC franchise was actually among the lowest ten percent in performance among  
2 the thousands of Coldwell Banker franchises nationwide.

3 41. Undisclosed to investors, on or about September 9, 2004, Coldwell  
4 Banker had sent Notices of Intent to Terminate its franchise agreement with  
5 Coldwell Banker Commercial REP. By letter dated November 23, 2004, Coldwell  
6 Banker informed REP's counsel that REP remained "in material breach" of the  
7 franchise agreement. The letter states:

8 Your client may not utilize its Coldwell Banker Commercial franchise  
9 to generate business for and to expand Real Estate Partners, Inc.

10 Nonetheless, that is exactly what is occurring. . . . Real Estate Partners,  
11 Inc. should be maintained completely separate from the franchise but it  
12 is not.

13 [Emphasis in original] The letter further states:

14 A third example of your client's violation of the Franchise  
15 Agreement is evidences in another promotional piece it disseminated. . .  
16 . It is wholly misleading to the public and potential investors to suggest  
17 that Real Estate Partners has "access to a network of over 300 affiliate  
18 offices" or to suggest that Real Estate Partners should somehow benefit  
19 from Coldwell Banker's reputation and history in the real estate  
20 industry.

21 With regard to use of the Coldwell Banker Commercial logo, the letter warns:

22 [N]or may your client or the owners use any of the marks or any part  
23 of the Coldwell Banker System. The mere act of allowing other  
24 businesses to use an email address for "cbcrep.com" is a violation of  
25 Coldwell Banker's identity standards.

26 Davenport responded to this letter by email to the president of Coldwell Banker  
27 Commercial on November 24, 2004.

28 ///

1           **42.**     Coldwell Banker terminated OCC's franchise in late 2005.  
2 Nevertheless, and notwithstanding Coldwell Banker's instructions not to use any of  
3 its trademarks, REP continued to use the Coldwell Banker logo in offering sales  
4 materials into 2006. Specifically, versions of the Equity Fund and Growth Fund  
5 brochures, sent to investors as late as April 2006, featured the Coldwell Banker  
6 logo at the top of the first and last page of the brochures. The brochures were  
7 approved by Davenport. Furthermore, as late as January 2006, the dividends  
8 investors received were paid by checks that read "Real Estate Partners, Inc. DBA  
9 Coldwell Banker Commercial REP," thus perpetuating the misrepresentation that  
10 Coldwell Banker was associated with REP. These checks bore Davenport's  
11 signature.

12           **43.**     Notwithstanding his knowledge of the November 23, 2004,  
13 correspondence from Coldwell Banker and the termination of the Coldwell Banker  
14 franchise in late 2005, it was not until November 8, 2006, that Davenport wrote a  
15 letter to investors indicating that REP's relationship with Coldwell Banker had  
16 ended. In so notifying investors, however, Davenport falsely represented that REP  
17 itself decided to "discontinue use of the Coldwell Banker Commercial franchise  
18 name and its trademarks" because of "changes in the direction" Coldwell Banker  
19 wanted to take. Davenport assured investors, however, that "The change has  
20 resulted in numerous [unspecified] positive benefits to REP and its investors."

21           **2.       THE ENTITY DEFENDANTS AND OWENS, DAVENPORT AND RYAN**  
22                   **MISUSED INVESTOR FUNDS**

23           **44.**     The PPMs for each Offering were reviewed by Owens and Davenport  
24 prior to being disseminated to investors. The PPMs described the purported  
25 planned use of investor funds. The IF I PPM states that it is estimated that 10% of  
26 monies raised would be used for real estate acquisitions, 30% would be used to  
27 purchase on behalf of investors preferred stock in REP, and that no more than 10%  
28 would be used towards commissions and 1% towards offering expenses. The PPM

1 further represents that the investment “may be” offered and sold by brokers  
2 registered with the Commission.

3 45. The subsequent six Offerings used virtually identical PPMs. These  
4 PPMs state that it is estimated that 30% of the monies raised would be used for real  
5 estate acquisitions, 22% would be used to purchase on behalf of investors preferred  
6 stock in REP, and no more than 15% of investor funds would be expended on  
7 “syndication fees and costs.”

8 46. In fact, undisclosed to investors, over \$26 million or over 52%, of the  
9 almost \$50 million raised was paid to sales agents and others as commissions on  
10 the sales of the unregistered securities. These monies included \$16.5 million paid  
11 to defendants Owens (\$10.9 million), Ryan (\$3,081,807), McGill (\$679,665),  
12 Sanders (\$1,048,343), Tuchman (\$449,057) and Rayburn (\$336,466).  
13 Additionally, contrary to the representations in the IF I PPM, none of the  
14 defendants were registered with the Commission as brokers or dealers.

15 47. Owens was responsible for fund accounting. Owens delegated this  
16 responsibility to a bookkeeper whom he hired and who worked for him in the  
17 Santa Ana office. However, Owens never explained to the bookkeeper how to  
18 allocate any of the investor funds or how to ensure investor funds were spent in a  
19 manner consistent with what was disclosed to investors. Davenport was aware that  
20 the bookkeeper was not ensuring that investor funds were spent in a manner  
21 consistent with the representations in the PPMs, because the bookkeeper told  
22 Davenport on several occasions that he, the bookkeeper, was “in over his head.”

23 **3. THE PROJECTED RETURNS THE DEFENDANTS PROMISED INVESTORS**  
24 **WERE BASELESS**

25 48. As alleged above, with the exception of the IF I brochure, the Offering  
26 sales brochures state that the investments could return an average of 54% or  
27 54.82% per year, or a five-year cumulative return of 270 or 274%. Additionally,  
28 these brochures each contained a chart showed a year-by-year return, growing

1 from 22.6% in year one to 78.6% in year five, and a bar graph showing a \$20,000  
2 investment growing to \$194,000 in five years.

3 49. These charts, created by Owens, Davenport, and a marketing  
4 consultant, are misleading. First, the projections, provided by Davenport, are not  
5 based upon any actual performance of REP's investments. Second, the year-by-  
6 year projection chart is misleading because, as Davenport admits, investors do not  
7 receive yearly returns on their investments. Rather, investors were told that profits  
8 from the sale of the properties are re-invested into new properties. The defendants  
9 represented that the cycle of sale and reinvestment in properties is to continue for  
10 five years. However, the projection chart, broken out by year, in combination with  
11 the quarterly dividend payments, makes it seem as though there is a constant  
12 income stream to investors, when this is not the case. Finally, the charts do not  
13 account for the fact that only 26% of investor funds were actually invested in real  
14 estate. Thus, to attain the rates of return projected in the Offering sales brochures,  
15 REP would have had to have generated a 207% annual return, every year for five  
16 years, from the sales of the properties it purportedly purchased and sold.

17 50. As discussed above, the Offerings paid investors a 4% annual  
18 "dividend" (8% in the case of IF I) for up to two years after the initial date of  
19 investment. It was Owens' idea to make these dividend distributions to investors.  
20 The Offering documents state that the source of these dividend payments was  
21 "available revenue." The purported dividend payments conveyed the misleading  
22 impression that the investments were profitable. In actuality, the source of funds  
23 used to pay these "dividends" was a bank account funded almost entirely by  
24 investor monies, which were being paid to investors in a Ponzi-like scheme. In  
25 fact, the Offerings were not profitable. Thus, even though the Offerings incurred a  
26 combined net loss of \$2.78 million, investors were paid \$2.25 million in dividends.  
27 Davenport's signature is on the dividend checks, which were written on an account  
28 entitled "Real Estate Partners, Inc. DBA Coldwell Banker Commercial REP



1 Investment Account.”

2 51. Investors were also told that REP was planning on rolling-up their  
3 fund offerings into a publicly-traded REIT. With the exception of the IF I  
4 brochure, each Offering’s sales brochure represented that “REITS command a  
5 multiple of approximately ten times revenue or greater,” while some investors  
6 were orally told that rolling up their funds into a REIT would result in a return of  
7 up to twelve times the investors’ initial investment. These statements were false  
8 and misleading because REP in fact has never taken any of the steps necessary to  
9 become a publicly-traded REIT, such as filing securities offering registration  
10 documents with the Commission.

11 **FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

12 **UNREGISTERED OFFER AND SALE OF SECURITIES**

13 **Violations of Sections 5(a) and 5(c) of the Securities Act**

14 **(Against All Defendants)**

15 52. The Commission realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1  
16 through 51 above.

17 53. The defendants, and each of them, by engaging in the conduct  
18 described above, directly or indirectly, made use of means or instruments of  
19 transportation or communication in interstate commerce or of the mails, to offer to  
20 sell or to sell securities, or to carry or cause such securities to be carried through  
21 the mails or in interstate commerce for the purpose of sale or for delivery after  
22 sale.

23 54. No registration statement has been filed with the Commission or has  
24 been in effect with respect to the offerings alleged herein.

25 55. By engaging in the conduct described above, each of the defendants  
26 violated, and unless restrained and enjoined will continue to violate, Sections 5(a)  
27 and 5(c) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a) and 77e(c).

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1 SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

2 FRAUD IN THE OFFER OR SALE OF SECURITIES

3 Violations of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act

4 (Against the Entity Defendants and Defendants Davenport, Owens and Ryan)

5 56. The Commission realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1  
6 through 51 above.

7 57. The entity defendants, and defendants Davenport, Owens and Ryan,  
8 and each of them, by engaging in the conduct described above, directly or  
9 indirectly, in the offer or sale of securities by the use of means or instruments of  
10 transportation or communication in interstate commerce or by use of the mails:

- 11 a. with scienter, employed devices, schemes, or artifices to
- 12 defraud;
- 13 b. obtained money or property by means of untrue statements of a
- 14 material fact or by omitting to state a material fact necessary in
- 15 order to make the statements made, in light of the
- 16 circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; or
- 17 c. engaged in transactions, practices, or courses of business which
- 18 operated or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon the
- 19 purchaser.

20 58. By engaging in the conduct described above, each of the entity  
21 defendants, and defendants Davenport, Owens and Ryan violated, and unless  
22 restrained and enjoined will continue to violate, Section 17(a) of the Securities Act,  
23 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a).

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1 THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

2 FRAUD IN CONNECTION WITH THE PURCHASE OR SALE OF SECURITIES

3 **Violations of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5 Thereunder**  
4 **(Against the Entity Defendants and Defendants Davenport, Owens and Ryan)**

5 59. The Commission realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1  
6 through 51 above.

7 60. The entity defendants, and defendants Davenport, Owens and Ryan,  
8 and each of them, by engaging in the conduct described above, directly or  
9 indirectly, in connection with the purchase or sale of a security, by the use of  
10 means or instrumentalities of interstate commerce, of the mails, or of the facilities  
11 of a national securities exchange, with scienter:

- 12 a. employed devices, schemes, or artifices to defraud;
- 13 b. made untrue statements of a material fact or omitted to state a  
14 material fact necessary in order to make the statements made,  
15 in the light of the circumstances under which they were made,  
16 not misleading; or
- 17 c. engaged in acts, practices, or courses of business which  
18 operated or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon other  
19 persons.

20 61. By engaging in the conduct described above, each of the entity  
21 defendants, and defendants Davenport, Owens and Ryan violated, and unless  
22 restrained and enjoined will continue to violate, Section 10(b) of the Exchange  
23 Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5.

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1 **FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

2 **FAILURE TO REGISTER AS BROKER-DEALERS**

3 **Violation of Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act**

4 **(Against Defendants Owens, Ryan, McGill, Sanders, Tuchman, and Rayburn)**

5 62. The Commission realleges and incorporates by reference paragraphs 1  
6 through 51 above.

7 63. Defendants Owens, Ryan, McGill, Sanders, Tuchman, and Rayburn,  
8 and each of them, by engaging in the conduct described above, made use of the  
9 mails or means or instrumentalities of interstate commerce to effect transactions in,  
10 or to induce or attempt to induce the purchase or sale of securities, without being  
11 registered as brokers or dealers in accordance with Section 15(b) of the Exchange  
12 Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78o(b).

13 64. By engaging in the conduct described above, defendants Owens,  
14 Ryan, McGill, Sanders, Tuchman, and Rayburn each violated, and unless  
15 restrained and enjoined will continue to violate, Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act,  
16 15 U.S.C. § 78o(a).

17 **PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

18 WHEREFORE, the Commission respectfully requests that the Court:

19 **I.**

20 Issue findings of fact and conclusions of law that the defendants committed  
21 the alleged violations.

22 **II.**

23 Issue an order, appointing a receiver over each of the entity defendants.

24 **III.**

25 Issue judgments, in a form consistent with Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(d),  
26 permanently enjoining each of the defendants, and their officers, agents, servants,  
27 employees, and attorneys, and those persons in active concert or participation with  
28 any of them, who receive actual notice of the judgment by personal service or

1 otherwise, and each of them, from violating Sections 5(a) and 5(c) of the Securities  
2 Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 77e(a) and 77e(c).

3 **IV.**

4 Issue judgments, in a form consistent with Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(d),  
5 permanently enjoining the entity defendants, and defendants Davenport, Owens,  
6 and Ryan, and their officers, agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and those  
7 persons in active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual  
8 notice of the judgment by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, from  
9 violating Section 17(a) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a), and Section 10(b)  
10 of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), and Rule 10b-5 thereunder, 17 C.F.R. §  
11 240.10b-5.

12 **V.**

13 Issue judgments, in a form consistent with Fed. R. Civ. P. 65(d),  
14 permanently enjoining defendants Owens, Ryan, McGill, Sanders, Tuchman, and  
15 Rayburn, and their agents, servants, employees, and attorneys, and those persons in  
16 active concert or participation with any of them, who receive actual notice of the  
17 judgment by personal service or otherwise, and each of them, from violating  
18 Section 15(a) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b).

19 **VI.**

20 Order each defendant to disgorge all ill-gotten gains from their illegal  
21 conduct, together with prejudgment interest thereon.

22 **VII.**

23 Order each defendant to pay civil penalties under Section 20(d) of the  
24 Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77t(d), and Section 21(d)(3) of the Exchange Act, 15  
25 U.S.C. § 78u(d)(3).

26 **VIII.**

27 Retain jurisdiction of this action in accordance with the principles of equity  
28 and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure in order to implement and carry out the

1 terms of all orders and decrees that may be entered, or to entertain any suitable  
2 application or motion for additional relief within the jurisdiction of this Court.

3 IX.

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

6 DATED: September 6, 2007

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9 MARC J. BLAU  
10 Attorney for Plaintiff  
11 Securities and Exchange Commission  
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