

Matthew H. Adler (MA-4720)
Jeffrey A. Carr (JC-1103)
Pepper Hamilton LLP
300 Alexander Park
CN 5276
Princeton, NJ 08543-5276
Tel: (609) 452-0808

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY**

**COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING)
COMMISSION,)**

Plaintiff,)

vs.)

**EQUITY FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC,)
TECH TRADERS, INC., TECH)
TRADERS, LTD., MAGNUM)
INVESTMENTS, LTD., VINCENT J.)
FIRTH, ROBERT W. SHIMER, COYT)
E. MURRAY, and J. VERNON)
ABERNETHY)**

Defendants.)

Civil Action No.: 04CV 1512

Honorable Robert B. Kugler

**AFFIDAVIT OF STEPHEN T. BOBO IN SUPPORT OF UNOPPOSED
MOTION FOR AUTHORITY TO SELL EQUIPMENT**

Stephen T. Bobo first being duly sworn, states as follows:

1. I have personal knowledge of the contents of this affidavit and I am competent to testify as to them.

2. I am serving as Equity Receiver for Defendants Equity Financial Group, LLC, Tech Traders, Inc., Tech Traders, Ltd., Magnum Investments, Ltd., Magnum Capital Investments, Ltd., Robert W. Shimer, and Vincent J. Firth, pursuant to the provisions of the initial restraining

order entered on April 1, 2004 and the several consent preliminary injunction orders entered in this case.

3. On April 1, 2004, this case was commenced by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”). On that same day, this Court entered a restraining order against the Defendants and appointed me to take control over their customer affairs.

4. On August 24, 2004, the Court entered a Consent Preliminary Injunction against Defendants Coyt E. Murray and his companies Tech Traders, Inc., Tech Traders, Ltd., Magnum Investments, Ltd., and Magnum Capital Investments, Ltd. (collectively “Tech Traders”). The August 24, 2004 order enlarged my role with respect to Tech Traders and directed and authorized me to “take all steps necessary to wind up the affairs of Tech Traders and to liquidate the assets of Tech Traders.” I have attempted to find a way of carrying out this directive.

5. The assets in Tech Traders’ four-room office suite in Gastonia, North Carolina consist of 25 computers, 49 monitors, various related computer network equipment, printers, switches, fax machines, televisions, telephones and other equipment, furniture and supplies (collectively the “Equipment”).

6. I have recently been contacted by Marshall LaFar, the landlord of Tech Traders, who desires to purchase my right, title and interest in and to the Equipment.

7. I have established a price of \$22,000 for the Equipment, which is based primarily on the estimates of the market value for comparable used equipment provided to me by the computer-consulting firm of Netrix, LLC (“Netrix”). Netrix personnel have worked with the Equipment on my behalf and are familiar with the value of used computer and other electronic equipment. I also have experience liquidating used computer components, office furniture and equipment.

8. I am satisfied that the proposed price for the Equipment without representation or warranty and on an “as is, where is” basis represents fair value for the receivership estate. The costs of this transaction would be minimal compared to paying a brokers’ commissions, advertising or a seller’s premium if the Equipment were sold at auction. Also, only a small amount of my time has been required to negotiate this sale. If a more public form of sale were utilized, the additional costs and time involved seem likely to offset any higher gross price that might be realized. It is unknown whether such a higher price could be realized or how long a public sale process would take.

9. I will take steps to ensure that confidential or personal information is deleted or removed from the Equipment before the sale is closed. I already have a complete image of the information in the Tech Traders’ computer system, including deleted information that was recovered through the use of forensic software.

10. The basis for the proposed sale price, the minimal transaction costs and the likelihood of a successful transaction all serve to cause me to recommend approval of the proposed sale to Marshall LaFar. In addition, the Equipment can remain in place in the premises, and the sale would allow the receivership estate to cease occupying the premises and continuing to pay rent.

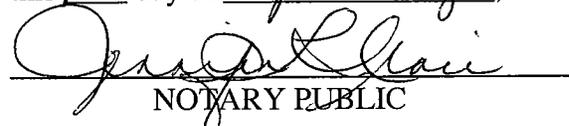
11. A copy of the offer from Mr. LaFar is attached hereto.

12. I have circulated a draft of this document to the other parties in the case. All parties have informed me that they have no objection to the relief sought.

13. I request that this Court enter an order authorizing me to sell my right, title and interest in and to the Equipment to Marshall LaFar for the amount of \$22,000 on the terms as set forth above.

AFFIANT says nothing further.


STEPHEN T. BOBO

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED before me
this 18th day of January, 2005

NOTARY PUBLIC



W. MARSHALL LAFAR
ATTORNEY AT LAW
1331-B EAST GARRISON BLVD.
~~P.O. BOX 1542~~
GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA 28053

TELEPHONE
(704) 861-8585
FAX
(704) 865-3415

November 26, 2004

Mr. Stephen T. Bobo
Sachnoff & Weaver, Ltd.
30 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Il 60606-7484

Dear Mr. Bobo:

As you know, I have looked at the computer equipment at 1331-C Garrison Boulevard in Gastonia, North Carolina which you have mentioned to me. This is the equipment that belonged to Tech Traders, Inc.

After careful consideration, I have decided to tender an offer of Twenty-Two Thousand (\$22,000) Dollars for the computers, monitors, printers and all other equipment, fixtures and furnishings which they owned and had located in that building. I do understand that this equipment is being sold on an "as is," "where is" basis, and I would certainly accept this condition.

I would presume that the transaction would be made by a lump sum payment.

I also understand that you would like to have time to erase or "clean up" the hard drives or any other device which may hold personal or confidential material.

Thank you for considering me in this matter, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,



W. Marshall LaFar