

Boyd H. Ratchye
Attorney

612.376.1604

boydr@bassford.com

BASSFORD REMELE
A Professional Association
33 South Sixth Street, Suite 3800
Minneapolis, MN 55402-3707

612.333.3000
612.333.8829 fax
www.bassford.com

October 10, 2006

Mr. Mark R. Lipis
Lipis Consulting, Inc.
1355 Westwood Boulevard, Suite 208
Los Angeles, CA 90024-4944

Re: *Closure of Assignment Re: Calculation of Range of CEO Compensation*

Dear Mark:

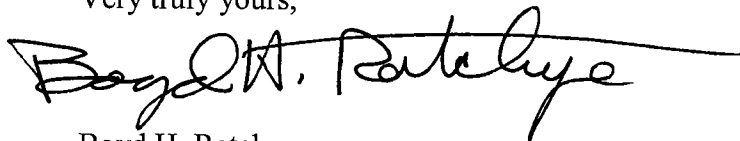
Last week I advised you of a jury verdict in excess of \$30 million in favor of our client, a CEO who had been wrongfully terminated and denied any severance. We think this signal accomplishment was attributable to your accurate and clear presentation of the compensation stream denied him and also your careful and clear comparison to other CEOs in his industry. Obviously his own excellent presentation did play a role in the matter. This jury verdict was rendered in the face of years of hostile media coverage of compensation and criminal conduct of other CEOs in other industries.

Your detailed and focused presentation reflected your careful and thorough evaluation and understanding of the labyrinthine programs created to compensate this highly paid and effective CEO. What I really liked was your grasp on the whole universe of executive compensation and your ability to distill that for our lawyers to understand and ultimately for the jury and the judge.

All this and then you never exaggerated or put any unusual rhetorical flourish in your testimony. It was what we needed; thankfully it assisted our client to get the verdict.

Mark, thank you for your high and efficient efforts and we wish you the best. When the next CEO case comes by our office, we will surely be in touch with you.

Very truly yours,



Boyd H. Ratchye

BHR/550522/rmp