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**Charles L. Thibaut**  
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2004 MAR 30 A 9 13

March 26, 2004

VIA A FAX(202) 208-3333

Ms. Mary Dove, Commission Secretary  
Federal Election Commission  
999E Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20463

RE: Draft Advisor Opinion 2004-08: American Sugar Cane League

Dear Ms. Dove:

I have served on the Board of Directors of the American Sugar Cane League since 1991. I am familiar with the tenure of Charles Melancon. I recall that in 2001 when Charles had considered leaving the League to pursue other opportunities I participated in discussions with him and other Board members regarding a severance package which consisted of no less than one year's compensation. It was a unanimous vote by the Board to offer the severance package now in question.

The current decision to award a severance package is simply a continuation of these discussions and is no way related to what he might or might not do after he resigned his position as President and General Manager.

Sincerely,



Charles L. Thibaut  
Board of Directors  
American Sugar Cane League

cc: Office of General counsel Via A FAX (202) 219-3923  
Charles Melancon