Office of General Counsel

World Financial Center South Tower New York, New York 10080-6106 FAX 212 236 3746



Merrill Lynch

October 1, 2003

To Whom It May Concern:

Don Frangipani has been our document examiner for the past several years. He has examined numerous questionable documents for fingerprint and handwriting analysis. Don is noted in the industry for his professionalism and attention to detail.

When the occasion arises, I do not hesitate to recommend Don's services. I do so with the confidence that he will provide the same professional service that he has provided to Merrill Lynch.

Sincerely,

Elliott Donchek

Assistant Vice President

Security Coordinator Corporate Security

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ED:ed