John F. Kurtz, Jr., ISB No. 2396 Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley LLP 877 Main Street, Suite 1000 P.O. Box 1617 Boise, ID 83701-1617 Telephone: 208.344.6000 Facsimile: 208.954.5232 Email: jkurtz@hawleytroxell.com

Attorneys for Receiver, R. Wayne Klein

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

#### DISTRICT OF IDAHO

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,	) Case No.: CV 09-075-E-EJL
Plaintiff,	) )
and	)
COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING	) Case No.: CV 09-076-E-EJL
COMMISSION,	) The Honorable Edward J. Lodge
Plaintiff,	)
vs.	RECEIVER'S FIFTH APPLICATION SEEKING COURT APPROVAL OF
DAREN L. PALMER and TRIGON GROUP, INC., a Nevada Corporation,	) FEES AND EXPENSES )
Defendants.	) )

R. Wayne Klein, the Court-Appointed Receiver (the "Receiver") of Trigon Group, Inc.

("Trigon") and all the assets of Daren L. Palmer ("Palmer") (collectively the "Receivership

Entities"), hereby submits his Fifth Application Seeking Court Approval of Fees and Expenses

RECEIVER'S FIFTH APPLICATION SEEKING COURT APPROVAL OF FEES AND EXPENSES - 1

for (a) himself, (b) his firm, Klein & Associates, PLLC, and (c) Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley LLP, for the period October 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011 (the Fee Application Period).

#### **BACKGROUND**

- 1. This action commenced on February 26, 2009 with the filing of companion enforcement actions by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) alleging fraud by Trigon and Palmer in violation of federal securities and commodities laws.
- 2. The same day, the Court entered an "Order Freezing Assets and Prohibiting Destruction of Documents" [Document No. 9 in Case No. 09-075] and orders appointing a receiver [Document No. 8 in Case No. 09-075 and Document No. 5 in Case No. 09-076].
- 3. The Receiver has filed nine Status Reports with the Court, one for each quarter since March 31, 2009. The most recent report covered the period up through March 31, 2011. Those status reports describe the work performed by the Receiver and the progress made to date in recovering assets. Copies of these reports are also available on the Receiver's website, www.kleinutah.com.

#### SERVICES PERFORMED

- 4. The most significant accomplishment during the Fee Application Period was paying \$3,018,252.33 in distributions to investors. This involved:
  - a. Analyzing and responding to objections that were filed by investors
     opposed to the distribution plan proposed by the SEC;
  - b. Preparation for and participation in a November court hearing to hear arguments on the objections;

- c. Participation in a successful mediation session with the attorney for the group of investors that objected to the distribution plan and negotiating the terms of a settlement agreement;
- d. Negotiating settlements with two additional investors, resulting in the waiver of their claims against any future funds recovered by the Receiver; and
- e. Paying \$2,000,000.00 to the investors who were the targets of the SEC's proposed distribution plan, \$1,000,000.00 to the objectors, and \$18,252.33 to investors Hal Wright and Lucille Duke.
- 5. Pursuant to the orders appointing a Receiver, the Receiver, the Receiver's professionals, and counsel for the Receiver have performed the following services during the Fee Application Period:
  - a. <u>Lawsuits Filed</u>: The Receiver has filed three additional lawsuits since April 1, 2010. These lawsuits seek funds paid by Trigon to three credit card companies for expenses incurred by Palmer and his wife on their personal credit cards.
  - b. Real Estate: Counsel for the Receiver succeeded in getting a \$169,000.00 lien removed from two four-plex apartment buildings in Rigby that were under the control of the Receiver. The apartments were sold in December, 2010 for \$225,000.00 each, less commissions and closing costs. Over \$20,000.00 in rental income was received following the sale. After consultation with officials from the SEC, the Receiver determined not to use receivership monies to pay off a \$380,000.00 lien on 19 building lots in the Timberline subdivision.

- c. <u>Settlements</u>: During the reporting period, the Receiver received the final \$1,036,041.10 from the Bank of Commerce pursuant to a settlement agreement with the bank. An additional \$35,050.00 was recovered as a result of other settlement agreements.
- d. <u>Analysis of Financial Transactions</u>: The Receiver has prepared and refined analyses showing i) the extent to which Trigon operated as a Ponzi scheme and was insolvent since at least 2002 and ii) showing the extent to which persons associated with Trigon lacked good faith in their dealings with Trigon.
- e. <u>Ongoing Litigation</u>: Substantial efforts were undertaken during the Fee Application Period to move litigation forward. Significant volumes of documents were provided in discovery. The Receiver responded to numerous motions to dismiss and for summary judgment.
- f. <u>Settlement Negotiations, Mediation</u>: In addition to the mediation and settlement agreements with investors and objectors, the Receiver has participated in mediation efforts involving multiple defendants in lawsuits that have been filed by the Receiver. A court-ordered mediation involving the Piano Gallery was not successful, but other negotiations are expected to result in settlement agreements in the near future.
- g. <u>Assisting Government Agencies</u>: The Receiver has provided information and assistance to the FBI, U.S. Department of Labor, federal prosecutors, and state government agencies conducting investigations into the activities of Trigon, Palmer, and others affiliated with them. Information has been gathered, analysis has been performed, and documents have been created for those agencies.
- h. <u>Financial Activities of the Receivership</u>: As described in detail in the reports to the Court, the Receiver has managed the financial affairs of the Receivership.

including receiving funds and paying expenses related to identifying, preserving, and managing assets of the Receivership.

i. <u>Communications With Investors</u>: The Receiver has responded to inquiries by investors regarding the role of the Receiver, their individual circumstances, and what assistance they can provide to the Receiver and government investigators.

# REQUEST FOR COURT APPROVAL OF FEES AND EXPENSES

6. The Order Appointing a Receiver in the SEC action [Document 8, Case No. 09-075] provides:

The costs, fees and expenses of the Receiver incurred in connection with the performance of his duties described herein, including the costs and expenses of those persons who may be engaged or employed by the Receiver to assist him in carrying out his duties and obligations hereunder shall be paid out of the proceeds or other assets of the Companies, or any and all assets under the control of the Receiver pursuant to this Order. All applications for costs, fees and expenses for services rendered in connection with the Receiver shall be made by application setting forth in reasonable detail the nature of the services and shall be heard by the Court. The court-appointed receiver shall submit his fee application to counsel for the Commission for review at least ten (10) days prior to filing the application with this Court.

Appointment Order at p. 5, ¶ h.

7. The Order Appointing a Receiver in the CFTC action [Document 8, Case No. 09-076] provides:

The Receiver and all personnel hired by the Receiver as herein authorized, including counsel to the Receiver, are entitled to reasonable compensation for the performance of duties pursuant to this Order and for the cost of actual out-of-pocket expenses incurred by them, from the assets now held by, or in the possession or control of, or which may be received by the Defendants. The Receiver shall file with the Court and serve on the parties, including Plaintiff Commission, periodic requests for the payment of such reasonable compensation, with the first such request filed no more than sixty (60) days after the date of this Order. Plaintiff

Commission may object to any part of a request within 30 calendar days of service of a request. The Receiver shall not increase the hourly rates used as the bases for such fee applications without prior approval of the Court.

Order Granting Motion for Statutory Restraining Order, ¶ IV.G.

8. This Application is being submitted pursuant to these provisions.

### Review by SEC and CFTC:

- 9. On April 18, 2011, the Receiver submitted detailed invoices for the fees and expenses underlying this Application to the SEC and to the CFTC for review in compliance with ¶h of the Court's Order Appointing Receiver in the SEC action.
- 10. The SEC advised the Receiver that it had no objections to the fees and expenses contained in this request. The CFTC had the receiver's request and did not express any objections within this time period.

# Approval of Prior Applications for Fees and Expenses:

11. The Court approved payment of the Receiver's prior applications for fees and expenses on September 1, 2009 (Document #36), December 3, 2009 (Document #49), May 5, 2010 (Document #68), and December 28, 2010 (Document #118). These fees and expenses have been paid to the Receiver and his counsel.

## Application Summary and Billing Methodology:

12. Through this Application, the Receiver, on behalf of himself, Klein & Associates, PLLC, and Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley LLP, the Receiver's legal counsel, is requesting approval of compensation for services provided to and reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Receivership Estate between October 1, 2010 and March 31, 2011 in the amounts described below.

- Associates, PLLC and expenses incurred are attached as Exhibit A. Summary invoices reflecting the services rendered by Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley LLP, counsel for the Receiver, and expenses incurred are attached as Exhibit B. Detailed invoices describing the work performed by the Receiver, Klein & Associates, and Hawley Troxell on a daily basis, as well as detailed lists of expenses incurred, have been provided to the SEC and CFTC and are being filed with the Court under seal. The detailed invoices are not being made public because they include investment and personal information about investors, describe negotiating stances and legal theories being pursued by the Receiver, identify persons providing assistance to the Receiver, and reference investigative information of governmental agencies.
  - 14. The Applicants' services are billed on an hourly-rate basis.
  - a. Although the Receiver's standard hourly rate is \$350, by agreement with the SEC and CFTC, the Receiver's hourly rate has been capped in this case at \$250.
  - b. The standard hourly rates of analysts and other employees of Klein & Associates, PLLC range from \$75 to \$120. The professionals and paraprofessionals who have billed time to this case, and their rates are:

Name	Profession	Hourly Rate Billed
P. Jake Hennessy	Analyst	\$120
James Shupe	СРА	\$120
Keith J. Williams	Analyst	\$75

c. Hawley Troxell has also agreed to discount their standard rates for time spent working on this case. The following Hawley Troxell professionals who have billed

time to this case, and the hourly rates they are billing for this case are summarized as follows:

Name	Position	Hourly Rate Billed
John F. Kurtz	Partner	\$270
Matthew Gordon	Associate	\$1501
Jack McGrady	Associate	\$145
Theresa Howe	Paralegal	\$120
Kyle Millard	Paralegal	\$95
Christian Wamhoff	Paralegal	\$90
Teri French	Paraprofessional	\$80

d. In rendering services and incurring expenses, the Applicants have endeavored to use the most economical means and methods that are available and appropriate under the circumstances.

# Specific Requests:

### The Receiver:

15. From October 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011, the Receiver, who himself is an attorney, rendered 234.8 hours of administrative, investigative, and legal services to the Receivership Estate, for total fees of \$58,700.00.<sup>2</sup> The services rendered by the Receiver are described in his invoices with regard to the tasks accomplished. The services rendered are

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Gordon's work before 2011 and some of his work in 2011 is being billed at \$140 per hour.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This does not include an additional 20.1 hours of time that were not billed, valued at \$5,025.00.

summarized above and in Exhibit A, and are fully detailed in the invoices provided to the SEC and CFTC, and to the Court under seal.

# Klein & Associates, PLLC:

16. During this Reporting Period, three employees of Klein & Associates, PLLC have assisted with the case, spending 83.3 billable hours assisting the Receiver. Additional time was spent that was not billed to the Receivership.<sup>3</sup> The Receiver seeks compensation of \$7,651.50 for this billable time – time billed at an average rate of \$91.85 per hour. The services rendered by Klein & Associates are summarized above and in Exhibit A, and are fully detailed in the invoices submitted to the Court and government plaintiffs.

## Hawley Troxell Ennis & Hawley LLP:

17. During this Reporting Period, three attorneys and four paralegals and paraprofessionals at Hawley Troxell have provided legal services on the case, spending 393.2 billable hours providing legal services for the Receiver and the Receivership Entities. Hawley Troxell seeks compensation of \$72,543.50 for this time. The services rendered by Hawley Troxell are among those summarized above and in Exhibit B, and are fully detailed in the invoices submitted to the Court and government plaintiffs.

### Expenses:

18. Hawley Troxell has advanced expenses related to litigation in the amount of \$4,317.25. The Receiver has advanced expenses of \$677.75 related to the work of the

<sup>3</sup> Another 5.9 hours of work were performed by these employees, but not billed. This work is valued at \$266.50.

receivership.<sup>4</sup> Exhibits A and B show the details of the expenses for which reimbursement is sought.

#### Summary:

19. Total fees and expenses requested are as follows:

		Fees	Expenses	Total	
a.	Receiver and Klein & Associates	\$66,351.50	\$677.75	\$67,029.25	
b.	Hawley Troxell	\$72,543.50	<b>\$4,317.26</b>	<u>\$76,860.76</u>	
c.	Total	\$138,895.00	\$4,995.01	\$143,890.01	

#### CONCLUSION

The Receiver respectfully submits this Application Seeking Court Approval of Fees and Expenses related to Trigon Group and Daren Palmer. Based on the description of work performed in this Application and the nine reports to the Court filed to date, the Receiver requests that the Court enter the proposed Order attached hereto as Exhibit C, approving the fees and expenses incurred by the Receiver and his professionals as set forth herein, and authorizing the Receiver to pay such amounts as a cost of administering the Receivership Estate.

> By Mayne Clein R. Wayne Klein, Receiver

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The expenses for which reimbursement is requested do not include expenses paid by the Receiver from funds in the Receivership bank account. The expenses paid by the Receiver from funds collected are described in the Eighth and Ninth Reports of the Receiver (for the periods ending December 31, 2010 and March 31, 2010).

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2011, I electronically filed the foregoing RECEIVER'S FIFTH APPLICATION SEEKING COURT APPROVAL OF FEES AND EXPENSES with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/ECF system which sent a Notice of Electronic Filing to the following persons:

Alison B. Wilson Karen L. Martinez John W. Dunfee Thomas M. Melton Division of Enforcement Tanya Beard Securities and Exchange Commission Commodity Futures Trading Commission 15 West South Temple, Suite 1800 1155 21st Street, N.W. Salt Lake City, UT 84101 Washington, D.C. 20581 martinezk@sec.gov jdunfee@cftc.gov awilson@cftc.gov himesm@sec.gov Counsel for Plaintiff Commodity Futures Counsel for Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Trading Commission Commission

AND, I HEREBY CERTIFY that I have served the foregoing document to the following non-CM/ECF Registered Participants (list names and addresses):

Alan Conilogue	U.S. Mail, Postage Prepaid
Deputy Attorney General	Hand Delivered
State of Idaho	Overnight Mail
PO Box 83720	E-mail
Boise, ID 83720-0031	Telecopy
Local Counsel for Plaintiffs	
Daren L. Palmer 949 N. 12 <sup>th</sup> W. Rexburg, ID 83440 208-716-3737	U.S. Mail, Postage Prepaid Hand Delivered Overnight Mail E-mail Telecopy
	/s/ John F. Kurtz, Jr.
	John F. Kurtz, Jr.

RECEIVER'S FIFTH APPLICATION SEEKING COURT APPROVAL OF FEES AND EXPENSES - 11

		EXHIBIT	A - INVOICE	SUMMARY
		Receiv	er/Klein & A	Associates
DATE:	March 31			
CLIENT:	TRIGON R	ECEIVERSHIP		
Summary of Sei	vices:			
Professional	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Wayne Klein	234.80	250.00	58,700.0	0
ake Hennessy	26.70	120.00	3,204.0	0
ames Shupe	4.50	120.00	540.0	0
Keith Williams	52.10	75.00	3,907.50	0
<b>Total</b>	318.10		66,351.50	
Amount Waived			5,291.50	0
otal Fees Requ	ested		66,351.50	
xpenses			677.75	
otal Fees and E	xpenses		67,029.25	
/alue of Non-Bil	led Time a	nd Waived Fees	5,291.50	
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EARIBII B - F	EXHIBIT B - HAWLEY TRO	XELL EN	<b>ROXELL ENNIS &amp; HAWLEY</b>	<b>WLEY</b>	:			
	October 1, 2010 -	10 - March 31,	2011					
regal rees	ees			*******				
Employee	Position	Rate	Hours	Amount		The same of the sa		
John Kurtz	Partner	270.00	132.1	<b>-</b>	(			
Matthew Gordon	Associate*	150.00	228.4					
Jack McGrady	Associate	145.00	3.1	L				
Theresa Howe	Paralegal	120.00						
Kyle Millard	Paralegal	95.00	20.6	٦				
Christian Wamhoff	Paralegal	90.00	0.5				man and the state of the state	
Teri French	Paraprofessional	80.00	1.2					
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General	143.82	11.25	345.75	40.05	39	Aborto reference for mans deligentems recognis	Transpiration of the state of t	579.87
Dean Palmer	12.42			Andread Street, and a street,		85		CV 10
Stoddard	0.54				14.	3		71.76
Piano Gallery	24.48	5.54	125.63			320	120	#C.U
Mike Beauchamp	8.28					7		0.00
Brad Beauchamp	16.56		Professional Company and State of Company and Company					07.0
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American Express	4.5				350	730		#3.0.44 EPA EO
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Total	404.64	16.79	1,605.58	40.05	1,089.00	1,041.20	120.00	4,317.26
SALO TOTAL								
GRAND IOIAL	76,860.76	man Arman a gar						And the state of t

Exhibit B

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

#### DISTRICT OF IDAHO

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,	) Case No.: CV 09-075-E-EJL
Plaintiff,	<i>)</i> )
and	) )
COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING	) Case No.: CV 09-076-E-EJL
COMMISSION,	The Honorable Edward J. Lodge
Plaintiff,	) )
vs.	ORDER APPROVING RECEIVER'S FIFTH APPLICATION SEEKING COURT APPROVAL OF FEES AND
DAREN L. PALMER and TRIGON GROUP, INC., a Nevada Corporation,	EXPENSES
Defendants.	) )
	,

The matter before the Court is the Receiver's Application Seeking Court Approval of Fees and Expenses (Application) [Docket No. \_\_\_\_] filed by R. Wayne Klein, the Court-Appointed Receiver of Trigon Group, Inc. and the assets of Daren L. Palmer. The Court has reviewed the Application and the applicable law, and based thereon and for good cause shown, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that:

- 1. The Application is APPROVED.
- 2. The fees and expenses incurred by the Receiver and his professionals, as set forth in the Application, are reasonable and necessary, and may be paid as an expense of administering the receivership estate.

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The Receiver is authorized to pay the Receiver, Klein & Associates, PLLC, and Hawley 3. Troxell Ennis & Hawley LLP \$138,895.00 in fees for services rendered for the benefit of the Receivership Estate from October 1, 2010 through March 31, 2011, and \$4,995.01 as reimbursement of expenses paid on behalf of the receivership estate in the manner requested in the application.

//end of text//

Submitted by:

<u>/s</u>/

John F. Kurtz, Jr., ISB No. 2396 HAWLEY TROXELL ENNIS & HAWLEY LLP

Attorneys for the Receiver R. Wayne Klein