
From: Robert Segal [stravon@prodigy.net]
Sent: Tuesday, January 18, 2005 3:09 PM
To: Comments
Subject: Docket No. 017: End conflicts of interest!

Jan 18, 2005

Public Company Accounting Oversight Board

Dear Accounting Oversight Board,

I am writing to support your proposal to promote the ethics and independence of public accounting firms that audit and review financial statements of U.S. public companies. The auditing profession must reinforce its own ethical standards by helping ensure that auditor and audit client remain independent of each other. Auditors compromise this independence when they sell tax shelters and tax advice to clients and when they provide tax services to the company officials who oversee the financial reporting process. I agree with the SEC that the independence requirement serves two related, but distinct public policy goals. One is to foster high quality audits by minimizing potential conflicts of interest, the other is to promote investor confidence in the financial statements of public companies. I support PCAOB's efforts and the overall proposal.

Sincerely,

Mr. Robert Segal
4465 Douglas Ave
Bronx, NY 10471-3513