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OPPOSITION TO CROSS-DEFENDANTS' MOTIONS FOR STAY: JCCP 4306



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I. INTRODUCTION

Cross-Defendants Andrew S. Fastow and Michael J. Kopper ask this Court to stay their obligations to respond to the cross-complaint and to respond to discovery. Kopper requests that such stay remain in place until October 15, 2004, and his request at least implicitly encompasses jurisdictional discovery. See Memorandum of Points and Authorities filed by Cross-Defendant Michael J. Kopper on April 23, 2004 ("Kopper Br.") Fastow's request is indefinite in duration, and does not specify whether it encompasses jurisdictional discovery. See Memorandum of Points and Authorities filed by Cross-Defendant Andrew S. Fastow on April 30, 2004 ("Fastow Br.") at 6.

Fastow's and Kopper's motions are based primarily on two California cases that suggest stays should be granted upon request by parties in criminal jeopardy, if and only if such stays will impose no prejudice on other parties or the judicial system. The cases require a careful balancing of interests, and both make clear that any stay must be fashioned so as to avoid any prejudice to other parties. Cross-Complainants¹ do not oppose the limited stays requested by Fastow and Kopper, provided that they are so fashioned. This means that (1) neither Fastow nor Kopper should be excused from participating in discovery directed to others; and (2) this Court should not proceed to determine its personal jurisdiction over Fastow or Kopper without affording Cross-Complainants an opportunity to take jurisdictional discovery from them. In addition, because Fastow and Kopper will need to give evidence (or invoke the Fifth Amendment) at some point in order for these cases to be brought to trial, this Court should re-evaluate the propriety of any limited stays, at a minimum, at each quarterly status conference called for in the Case Management Order.

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Cross-Complainants in the OCM action are Citigroup, Inc., Citicorp, Citibank, N.A., Citicorp North America, Inc., Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Credit Suisse First Boston LLC, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., JPMorgan Chase Bank, J.P. Morgan Securities Inc., Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc., Lehman Brothers Inc., Bear Stearns Companies Inc., Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc., and UBS Securities LLC. Cross-Complainants in the PIMCO action are Citigroup, Inc., Citicorp, Citibank, N.A., Citicorp North America, Inc., Citigroup Global Markets Inc., Credit Suisse First Boston LLC, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., Bear Stearns Companies Inc., and Bear, Stearns & Co. Inc.

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Neither Fastow Nor Kopper Should Be Excused From Participating In II. **Discovery Directed To Others**

Both Fastow and Kopper represent to this Court that they seek stays like those previously ordered by Judge Melinda Harmon in the MDL proceeding in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas, In re Enron Corp. Securities Litigation (MDL 1446). See Fastow Br. at 1; Kopper Br. at 2. Importantly, while the stays ordered by Judge Harmon recognize Fastow's and Kopper's Fifth Amendment interests by shielding them from having to respond to discovery, they do not excuse Fastow or Kopper from participating in discovery directed to others. For obvious reasons of judicial economy and efficiency, neither Fastow nor Kopper will be permitted, at some later stage in the litigation, to retake or reopen other witnesses' depositions on the ground that they did not have an opportunity to participate.

It is critical to the efficient management of these cases – and of the MDL proceeding, because depositions are being coordinated - that the same rule apply here. Complainants do not understand Fastow or Kopper to be asking this Court to excuse them However, to avoid any possible confusion, Crossfrom participating in discovery. Complainants respectfully request that this Court specify in any stay order that Fastow and Kopper are not excused from participating in discovery directed to others during such time as they may be excused from responding to some or all discovery directed to them.

This Court Should Not Decide Motions To Quash By Fastow Or Kopper III. Without Allowing Cross-Complainants To Take Jurisdictional Discovery

Along with his motion for stay, Fastow filed a motion to quash service of summons on the cross-complaint for lack of personal jurisdiction. Kopper has not filed such a motion, but the brief in support of his motion for stay suggests that he may intend to do so in the future. See Kopper Br. at 1 n.1.

For the reasons set forth in their accompanying brief opposing Cross-Defendants' motions to quash, Cross-Complainants are entitled to take jurisdictional discovery before this Court decides any such motions. The Court indicated at the status conference

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conducted on April 29, 2004 that it does not want to defer ruling on motions to quash until Fastow and Kopper are no longer in criminal jeopardy. If this remains the Court's view, the Court should carve out jurisdictional discovery from the requested stays. See Forbes v. Eagleson, No. CIV. A. 95-7021, 1996 WL 420829, *7 (E.D. Pa. July 23, 1996) (staying action pending disposition of criminal indictment but excepting jurisdictional discovery).

Fastow and Kopper may argue that they cannot respond even to jurisdictional discovery without touching on issues relevant to the criminal proceedings against them, and might therefore be "forced" to invoke the Fifth Amendment. So be it. A litigant's interest in avoiding what Fastow and Kopper describe as a "Hobson's choice" between selfincrimination and the purely civil consequences that flow from "taking the Fifth" is not of constitutional dimension. See, e.g., United States v. Kordel, 397 U.S. 1, 11 (1970); SEC v. First Fin. Group, Inc., 659 F.2d 660, 666-67 (5th Cir. 1981); SEC v. Dresser Indus., 628 F.2d 1368, 1375 (D.C. Cir. 1980). The California cases on which Fastow and Kopper base their stay motions, Pacers, Inc. v. Superior Court, 162 Cal. App. 3d 686 (1984) and Avant! Corp. v. Superior Court, 79 Cal. App. 4th 876 (2000), expressly require a movant's interest to be balanced against all interests of other litigants and all interests of the Court. Pacers, 162 Cal. App. 3d at 690; Avant!, 79 Cal. App. 4th at 510. It would be extremely prejudicial for this Court to allow Fastow and/or Kopper to use their Fifth Amendment rights as swords, filing motions to quash and at the same time barring Cross-Complainants from taking the jurisdictional discovery they need to defeat such motions. In this situation, the balancing of interests required by Pacers and Avant! will require Fastow (and Kopper, if and when he files a motion to quash) to respond to jurisdictional discovery - by giving evidence, by invoking the Fifth Amendment, or by doing some of each, as they see fit.

IV. **CONCLUSION**

For the foregoing reasons, if this Court determines that a balancing of all relevant interests warrants an order staying Fastow's and/or Kopper's obligations to respond to the cross-complaint and to discovery, such order should (1) specify that neither Fastow nor Kopper is excused from participating in discovery directed to others; and (2) provide in

[By permission and on behalf of all Cross-Complainants]

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