

EXHIBIT 8

To Affidavit of Amanda L. Bush



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Broadcast News (BN)

June 29, 2007 Friday

SECTION: GENERAL SPORTS

LENGTH: 234 words

HEADLINE: NBA-Mavs-Cuban-Nelson

BYLINE: CP

BODY:

DALLAS - Mavericks owner Mark Cuban claims in an ongoing dispute with his former coach that Don Nelson used "confidential information" to help the Golden State Warriors pull off a stunning first-round playoff victory.

That accusation is part of Cuban's response to an arbitration claim Nelson has filed against Cuban to get \$6US.5 million of deferred compensation, which Nelson said he is owed for his time with the Mavericks from 1997-2005.

"Don may know that (Dirk) Nowitzki likes to turn toward his left shoulder not his right shoulder, but we don't think that's a trade secret or confidential information," Nelson's lawyer, John O'Connor, said by phone Friday from his San Francisco office. "Cuban apparently does."

Cuban didn't respond to e-mail Friday, when he had left hip replacement surgery. A team spokeswoman said the Mavericks had no comment about the arbitration case.

The Warriors became the first No. 8 seed to win a best-of-seven playoff series to knock out the top-seeded team, winning in six games. The stunning end to the Mavericks' season came a year after they made it to the NBA Finals, then lost in six games against Miami after taking a 2-0 series lead.

The counterclaim by Cuban, in which he also contends that Nelson violated a noncompete clause in his Dallas contract when he became Golden State's coach last summer, was first reported by the Fort Worth Star-Telegram on Friday.

(AP)

LOAD-DATE: June 30, 2007

