EXHIBIT B

1	CONFIDENTIAL
2	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
3	SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK 11-CV-03605(JSR)(HBP)
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6	IRVING H. PICARD, Trustee for
7	the Liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC, Videotaped
8	Deposition of: Plaintiff,
9	PETER STAMOS vs.
10	VS.
	SAUL B. KATZ, et al.,
11	Defendants.
12	x
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14	
15	Transcript of testimony as taken by and before
16	LESLIE ROCKWOOD, Certified Shorthand Reporter, RPR and
17	Notary Public of the State of California, at the offices
18	of Shearman & Sterling, Four Embarcadero, Suite 3800,
19	San Francisco, California, on Thursday, January 5, 2012,
20	commencing at 9:48 a.m.
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That when -- if and when the ruling was made, we would have a time frame to get registered, which is, you know, 6 to 12 months.

So that would suggest that, you know, in the next two months, we should decide. I don't know where I got the two-months time frame from.

- Q. And when you say "the ruling was made," what ruling were you referring to?
- A. Well, I believe that the Securities & Exchange Commission -- this is what the article is referring to -- was divided and hadn't decided yet, but that they were going to decide. And I should also say that that was our intention anyway.
- Q. All right. Just to speed things along, when you're saying "the ruling," was it a proposed regulation by the SEC that was going to require a registration of hedge funds?

MS. SESHENS: Objection to the form.

- Q. BY MS. GRIFFIN: If you know.
- A. My understanding, both from this article as well as from other things that I recall reading from Schulte, Roth, for example, was that this was something that was being considered by the SEC, that we should be prepared for that. It may be required. Whether it was required or not, we intended to register.

Q. You also wrote in this email that, "I have a call with Davis Polk tomorrow."

You testified previously that Schulte, Roth was your primary counsel -- outside counsel, I believe; is that correct?

- A. That's correct.
- Q. Was Davis Polk also Sterling Stamos' legal counsel?
- A. I believe we used Davis Polk -- I recall using Davis Polk for certain select items of our legal process.
- Q. Can you tell me for what certain select items of legal process you would use Davis Polk?
- A. The only one that I can specifically recall was we used Davis Polk to help us with the separation agreement we had with Noreen Harrington.
- Q. Okay. Do you recall -- and I'm not trying to get into the substance of your conversations with counsel. But do you recall speaking with anyone at Davis Polk about the SEC proposed investment regulations -- investment advisor?
- A. I don't personally recall having that conversation myself. I have a vague recollection of us having conversations with -- "us", meaning our firm -- having conversations with both Schulte, which was our

outside counsel for the firm, and with Davis Polk about what the implications would be for registration both for our firm, as well as for the Wilpon and Katz family and their partners.

Q. And you say, "with regard to what the implications would be for registration for both our firm and as well as for the Wilpon and Katz families and their partners." What did you mean by that?

MS. SESHENS: I want to ask counsel to at least either instruct or ask the witness to exclude from his answer any communications that may have been with counsel.

MR. GOUDISS: Yeah. I join the objection.

If you can answer the question without reference to specific legal advice that you received, please do so.

THE WITNESS: The only thing I recall is -well, with regard to the firm, it was straightforward.
Registration would be the responsibility of working with
our outside counsel, Schulte, Roth & Zabel. And I don't
recall if at this time we had -- I believe Derek Daley
might have been operating as our -- it's July 14th, 2004.
We might have had Derek Daley as our internal general
counsel working with them. So Schulte would be the
conversation with regard to registering for the firm.

I believe in regard to Davis Polk, the issue was something that I believe I testified to 18 months ago. And that is that Saul had -- Saul Katz had raised the issue of confidentiality and privacy with regard to his family and the affiliated partners and that that was going to be an issue that we wanted to have -- that Saul wanted to have addressed by -- I believe that was by Davis Polk. So what would -- what the implications of registration would be for what would have to be revealed about their personal assets, for example.

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- Q. BY MS. GRIFFIN: And you refer to that Saul Katz had raised the issue of confidential and privacy with regard to his family and affiliated partners and that was going to be an issue. Did that have any connection to Madoff?
- A. I think in -- there was two aspects of it.

 One is that in general, wealthy families like to keep their personal investments private and their personal capital levels private, and that they were a very private family, that's the Wilpons and the Katzs. At the time, I recall that, you know, they weren't listed, for example, with Forbes 500. So privacy for the family.

But I also recall a specific question about -- that I recall Saul referring to me regarding Mr. Madoff's concerns for disclosure, vis-à-vis their

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relationship with Saul and Fred, and whether that would in any way, shape or form, hurt their relationship with Mr. Madoff. Because he, too, was very private, very confidential.

Q. And were you involved in -- I'm not asking, again, for the substance of the conversations. But were you involved in any calls with Davis Polk concerning registration, Saul Katz and/or Sterling Equities and Madoff?

MS. SESHENS: Objection to the form.

MR. GOUDISS: You can answer that "yes" or

"no", if you understand.

MS. SESHENS: I think that -- yeah.

THE WITNESS: Was I involved?

MR. GOUDISS: In conversations with

Davis Polk on the subject.

THE WITNESS: I don't recall specifically having conversations myself. I do recall having conversations internally with my staff that I believe may have been transmitted to Davis Polk. I may have been on that call, but I don't recall it.

Q. BY MS. GRIFFIN: Okay. Do you know who from your staff would have had those calls with Davis Polk?

MS. SESHENS: Objection to the form.

THE WITNESS: "Would have" suggests

conversation.

- Q. And do you recall any part of the conversation?
 - A. No.
- Q. Did you have other family members who were also invested with Madoff?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And can you tell me who they -- which of your family members were invested with Madoff?
- A. Yes. My father, Spiro, my two brothers, Basil and Chris, and my father-in-law, Mr. Chong Hon Char. That's C-H-O-N-G, H-O-N, C-H-A-R.
- Q. How did they come to be investors with Madoff?
- A. In the case of my father, it was around -- on or around the same time that I became an investor, either at the same time or soon thereafter. If I saw documents I would know -- or it might actually indicate that. And it was also at the invitation of Mr. Katz and facilitated by Mr. Friedman and Ms. Maucher. That's for my father and I.

For my brother -- I apologize. I think I misspoke. I think I said that my brother Chris was an investor. He was actually -- I don't believe he was an investor.

today.

- Q. But it wasn't an issue for you at Sterling Stamos?
- A. We didn't make any investments with Bernie Madoff. If we did, we would have asked those questions.
- Q. I believe you testified earlier that you didn't have any problems with the disclosure requirements required by investment legislation; is that right?
 - A. We didn't have any problems, no.
- Q. But you had an understanding that Madoff had concerns with that?
- A. That he might have concerns for that, as other managers did. I think, you know, that the articles referred to this as about 50/50. About half of the hedge funds wanted to register and half didn't.

And so, for example, in the conversation we had with Mr. Merkin, he hadn't decided, but he ultimately decided not to register. We decided to register.

Q. Okay. But at this time period, in August of 2004, you did not understand what Madoff's concerns were?

MS. SESHENS: Objection to form.

THE WITNESS: I don't believe I testified to that. If I did, what I meant to say was I believe I understood that his concerns were confidentiality. And I

believe from -- that those concerns were allayed to the satisfaction of Mr. Madoff and Mr. Katz, because Mr. Katz continued to maintain investments with Mr. Madoff.

I should say that I know it's vague, what I remember, because it's many years ago, but what I have conviction on is that if I had any inkling of there being a problem there, I would have gone immediately to Mr. Katz for two reasons, 1, as a fiduciary to him, I'd be worried.

Number 2 is I was in competition with Mr. Madoff, and I would have loved to have had several hundred million dollars of assets from the Katz and Wilpon family with me. What I have deep conviction around is that I had no understanding that there were issues there.

On the extreme large size, several hundred million dollars of assets going into my firm would have been a remarkable increase in our assets under management.

But on the personal side, I have friends who invested with us, one in particular that I recall,

Jack Gallagher, who I considered as close to a family

member as I could imagine. He was the CEO of North Shore

Long Island Jewish. If it weren't for him, I don't think

I'd meet my wife. He had invested with our friends and

family fund.

And in 2005, comparing our pre-tax returns to Mr. Madoff's, he said, "Peter, I want to redeem from you and put my money all back with Madoff. I'm sorry I have to do this, Peter. His returns are better than yours."

If I had any knowledge -- or if Mr. Katz or Mr. Wilpon had any knowledge at that time, we would have done everything we could to persuade Mr. Gallagher to keep his money with us. But I know as of 2004, 2005, we had no inkling.

(Exhibit Trustee 300 was marked for identification.)

Q. BY MS. GRIFFIN: I'm sorry, Mr. Stamos. I'm going to give you what's been marked as Trustee's 300.

And just for the record, we're going to give you a copy of it. It's a privilege log that was provided to us by Ms. Bieber. And we're going to give copies to everybody.

And you don't need to read the whole thing.

I mean, you're welcome to, feel free, but there are two
entries that I'm going to be directing your attention to,
and they're entries 431 and 489.

MR. DITCHFIELD: 431 and?

MS. GRIFFIN: 489.

THE WITNESS: Can I mark this?

MR. GOUDISS: Do you want him to mark the

year, it was in February, that in some point in the coming months that I'd like to have a follow-up meeting with Ashok Chachra and Ms. Harrington who had joined us, to have them have a follow-up meeting because we were -- for the reasons I just described. It was requested that we have that meeting, I didn't set the time until later.

- Q. Did the meeting, the February '03 meeting happen?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Were you present at that meeting?
- A. I don't believe I was present. I think that was a meeting that Ms. Harrington and Mr. Chachra had just themselves.
- Q. Okay. And did you come to hear about what happened at that February 3rd meeting with Mr. Merkin and Ms. Harrington and Mr. Chachra?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. And what did you come to hear had happened?
- A. So while it was several years ago, the reason why I remember or at least I believe that I wasn't in the meeting, because I remember getting briefed on the meeting by Ms. Harrington, and I remember how she expressed to me that she had felt that Mr. Merkin had not been respectful to her, that she may have even said disrespectful to her, that she felt that, she felt

slighted, she felt that the firm was slighted, and I remember trying to calm her down and try to explain to her that this is Mr. Merkin's style, he's very professorial, he tends to be paternalistic and the like. And so I remember that conversation very distinctly.

MR. GOUDISS: Could I stop there? If you go to the question before, I think you said or at least it was taken down as "February 3rd meeting," and I thought you had meant to say February 2002 as opposed to putting a specific date on it. Sorry.

THE WITNESS: I don't believe the meeting occurred until May or June.

- O. BY MS. GRIFFIN: Ah. Thank you.
- A. So I requested a meeting in February, I believe the meeting occurred in May or June. The reason I believe that is because I think on July the 1st we were launching the levered vehicle and I remember a series of meetings. The levered fund.
- Q. And did Ms. Harrington, aside from telling you how she felt after that meeting, tell you about the substance of her discussions with Mr. Merkin?
- A. I don't know whether she told me at that time when we first had the debrief or if it wasn't until later when we had an investment committee meeting of the substantive concerns that she had. But at some point she

expressed her substantive concerns.

- Q. And can you tell me what substantive concerns she expressed to you concerning Mr. Merkin?
- A. Yes. What I recall is that she felt that Mr. Merkin was not providing the firm with adequate transparency, a point I disagreed with.
- Q. Is that all she expressed to you about her concerns?
- A. No. She at one point during the discussion, which became somewhat of a heated argument, she expressed her concern that she didn't think that Mr. Merkin was trustworthy and that she thought that there was a possibility that he was actually just a feeder to Bernie Madoff.
- Q. When she said -- what was your understanding of what she meant by she didn't think Mr. Merkin was trustworthy?
- A. I couldn't separate out what portion of that emotion she was expressing was her feelings of being treated disrespectfully, which as she interpreted it, her frustration at his opaqueness in the first meeting, her sense of, you know, industry knowledge. I couldn't get the source of it. It was very different than my own interpretation.
 - Q. And when you say -- when you indicated that

she -- that one of her concerns is that Merkin might possibly be a feeder fund to Bernie Madoff, what did you mean by that?

- A. She expressed, and I believe it was sort of in a passing, kind of end of the argument, you can't trust this person type of thing, you know, he might even be not the manager himself, for example, he might be just a feeder fund, a fund that channels money to Madoff and isn't actually doing what it is he says he's doing, which would be a -- something I would remember because it would be such a dramatic contradiction to everything we knew about Ezra Merkin, had come to know about him in the prior year of being an investor with him, and everything that we had learned based upon all of his references and all of his reputation in the industry.
- Q. You indicated that Ms. Harrington suggested Mr. Merkin had opaqueness at this first meeting. What did you mean by that?
- A. So Mr. Merkin's style in meetings typically in the first meeting, especially, I should say in the first meeting, and especially with members of the staff as opposed to the principal, tends to be very professorial and he tends to be somewhat condescending. And she described things that sounded to me fall into that category. And in that context it was hard for her

to get, I think, as she would put it, a straight answer to some of the questions she was trying to have answered.

- Q. Did she indicate what types of questions she asked that she wasn't getting answered by Mr. Merkin?
- A. I don't remember specifics about it, I just remember the general non-responsiveness of Mr. Merkin to the questions she was trying to get answers to.

Again, in sharp contrast to my own experience with him where he seemed to be very upfront and very direct with me about what it was he did, how he did it, with absolute clarity.

- Q. Was there anybody else present for this what you described as a heated debate between you and Ms. Harrington?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Who else was present?
- A. I'm not sure of who else was present in the room versus on the phone, but, to the best of my recollection, in the room, I believe Derek Daley was present, I believe Ashok Chachra was present, I believe Ellen Horing was present, I'm fairly sure that Saul Katz was, at least for part of the meeting, on a conference call, meaning he dialed into our conference room. And, you know, it's so many years ago now, I don't even remember whether I was physically in the room myself or

171 whether I was calling in from California. 1 2 O. Was David Katz at this meeting or --3 A. I don't recall. Q. Okay. Did Ms. Harrington mention anything 4 5 about Madoff at this meeting? 6 A. I don't recall her mentioning anything about 7 Madoff at the meeting other than the passing comment that Mr. Merkin might have been a feeder to Mr. Madoff. 8 9 MR. GOUDISS: It doesn't have to be now, but 10 when you hit a breaking point. 11 MS. GRIFFIN: That's fine. Can we go off the 12 record, please. THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're off the record at 13 3:25. 14 15 (Recess.) (Exhibit Trustee 304 was marked 16 17 for identification.) THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're back on the record 18 19 at 3:42. 20 BY MS. GRIFFIN: Mr. Stamos, I'm showing you Ο. what's been marked as Trustee's 304. It's an email from 21 22 Derek S. Daley, sent Wednesday, June 18, 2003 at 7:27 p.m. to Peter Stamos. Forward: Levered fund. 23 24 Bates range SSMT02406069. 25 Do you want to take a minute and go ahead and

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recommendation she was making to us when she was very enthusiastic about this investment.

- Q. Okay. You were giving some testimony earlier today about Ezra Merkin.
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Do you remember that generally?

And you testified in sum and substance that prior to December 11th, 2008, you viewed Mr. Merkin as one of the top five most trusted managers in the business.

- A. Yes.
- Q. Do you recall that generally?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And where in that realm of top managers of trustworthiness, if anywhere, did you put
- 16 Bernard L. Madoff prior to December 11th, 2008?
 - A. Prior to December 11th, 2008, I put him in that same pantheon of managers. Not necessarily a manager who would go into our portfolio, because he wouldn't meet the requirements that we had, but I have a number of managers that are in that pantheon. Maybe it goes out to ten.

So for example, the ones that I invited to be on the investment advisory board for me with Major League Baseball, they all had not only that level of reputation,

but they specifically added to what it is we did for Major League Baseball, which is portfolio construction and manger selection and so on.

But in that pantheon, I would include people like Seth Klarman of Baupost, who I've mentioned several times, who also would not make it through our due diligence process because of the level of opaqueness in his portfolio.

But, you know, Bernard Madoff was held by me and by virtually everyone else I know in the industry in that pantheon of top ten, let's call it.

- Q. Now, you, just a short while ago, gave some testimony about Mr. Katz's suggestion in 2008 of a fund to funds that consisted of black boxes.
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Do you recall that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And do you recall that that suggestion was made at a Sterling Stamos board meeting?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And do you also recall during that board meeting, that ${\tt Mr.}$ --
- Well, let me ask it this way: Do you recall who was at that board meeting?
- A. Yes.

your experience at Sterling Stamos, were there times when managers would not pass Sterling Stamos' diligence process?

- A. Yes.
- Q. And in your view was a manager's failure or inability to pass Sterling Stamos' due diligence process an indication that that manager was engaged in fraud?
- A. I can't recall of an indication of that ever occurring. What I can recall is why we made redemptions and the specific lists of rationale for why we made redemptions never includes suspicion of fraud because they didn't meet a due diligence requirement.
- Q. And in terms of the transparency reports that you spoke of earlier, did -- there were managers, were there not, who either were unwilling or unable to fill out transparency reports; is that correct?
- A. That's correct. And so, to be clear, if someone wouldn't fill out a transparency report, it could be for any number of reasons, and if they didn't fill out the transparency report, would that increase the possibility of them committing fraud? Yes. And that might be one of the reasons that we would want to be concerned about. But I don't recall ever having that concern for any of the managers that we invested with. In the first case, we invested with managers who were

highly reputable with impeccable track records, long track records, and who had met reference checks.

So the one that strikes me as the most obvious is David Shaw. D.E. Shaw is spectacular, but he didn't pass our due diligence requirements. Quite frankly, I wish I had him in my portfolio this last year, from a performance standpoint. He's performed really well for 25 years. So, no, it's more that when you become a fiduciary, you have to live by a set of rules that are consistent, and those rules over time we believe result in a better portfolio. But you walk away from sometimes some very good investments as a result of that.

- Q. Okay. If I could ask you to turn your attention just briefly to Exhibit 308, switch from 303 to 308.
- A. And I apologize, I forgot to mention Jeff Wilpon. Jeff Wilpon made a number of referrals for us as well.
- Q. In terms of introducing you to potential managers?
 - A. Managers, yes.
- Q. And other than Mr. Jeff Wilpon's introduction to managers, do you recall him having any involvement in the due diligence process at Sterling Stamos?
 - A. Actually, again, quite the opposite. He'd

infective, but what David did have is -- and does have, I believe, to this day, some of Saul's judgment and instincts about people. And so David would regularly, you know, counsel me in the same way, in this case not like a father but more like brother, and ask me questions about the managers. And that's why I think in the early days he even came on some manager interviews with us, gave us some of his judgment. But, again, like Saul, he deferred the investment decisions to us.

Q. Now, you also testified in response to questions to Ms. Griffin that you -- not you personally, but Sterling Stamos was marketing Mr. Katz, Mr. Wilpon and David Katz to potential investors.

Do you recall that?

- A. Yes.
- Q. And can you tell me why it is that Sterling Stamos, or what was SP Capital at the time, was marketing those individuals to potential investors?
- A. Because they had a, if you'll pardon the phrase, sterling reputation in the New York area in general -- I mean, in the investment world in general, because of their remarkable track record in real state, remarkable track record with American Securities and private equity, and that gave us credibility. In addition to the fact that they owned the New York Mets,

were at the time highly respected owners. A portion of the Mets, I believe, at the time. I don't know whether they owned 50 percent or more at this point in time. And that opened doors both on the manager's side, the people that we invested with. Specifically they would, you know, use the cachet of the New York Mets and the ability to have access to the owners' box and to throw out the first pitch or to have a charitable event at Shea Stadium as an incentive for hedge fund managers to consider us. I think I got an allocation to Michael Lowenstein when he asked for a charitable event that they could throw out the first pitch or have a couple seats. Then the next day I got access to him. That's on the one hand.

On the other hand, they had the reputation of being savvy businessmen, very thoughtful, very credible. And so a number of other limited partners who chose to invest with us would do it under the halo of the fact that Saul and Fred had chosen us as their investment manager for a significant portion of their assets.

Q. Okay. Last set of questions. Mr. Stamos, at any point prior to December 11th, 2008, did you believe that there was a high probability that Bernie Madoff was engaged in fraud?

MS. GRIFFIN: Objection.

THE WITNESS: No. If I had any inkling

whatsoever, I think as I testified before, that that were occurring -- first of all, on behalf of my business partners, but also a number of our limited partners still had a significant amount of investments with -- with Mr. Madoff, I would have let them know that I had those concerns. I was specifically asked those questions by a number of investors, I think I testified to that 18 months ago, by name, the kinds of questions they asked me. And I could not come up with any rationale for why that would be occurring. That's the right reason for doing it.

In addition, it would be an incredible boon for us if that were the case, because then I could have all that capital come and invested with me, and I'd been trying for years to get them to move 90 percent of their assets to me and to keep 10 percent with Bernie Madoff as a side account for their personal investments. So at no time did I have any inkling of that.

Q. BY MS. SESHENS: And is your answer the same if the question is at any point prior to December 11th, 2008, did you believe that there was a high probability that Bernie Madoff was engaged in a Ponzi scheme?

MS. GRIFFIN: Objection.

THE WITNESS: Same answer.

Q. BY MS. SESHENS: And at any point prior to

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- substance, but over time that deferral became even more and more in form and in substance.
- Q. BY MS. GRIFFIN: Are you saying -- strike that. Okay.
- MS. SESHENS: I just have one question to clarify.

FURTHER EXAMINATION

BY MS. SESHENS:

- Q. Mr. Stamos, if you could look at page 10 of the document.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. And in the description of your role at the top.
 - A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. Does that -- where it says "Mr. Stamos is the chief executive officer of Sterling Stamos and is ultimately responsible for all investment decisions," do you see that?
 - A. That answers the question.
 - Q. Does that refresh your recollection that this document --
 - A. That refreshes my recollection of this document and I believe if you would review all of our documents, that is consistent throughout all of our documents that I remain ultimately responsible for all

investment decisions of the firm.

MS. SESHENS: Thank you. I have nothing

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MR. GOUDISS: I want to thank the witness, but before we go off the record, I want to make a short statement about a letter that Fernando sent us.

THE WITNESS: May I --

MR. GOUDISS: The witness is excused. This only relates to a discovery letter we got earlier in the week.

MS. GRIFFIN: Okay.

MR. GOUDISS: Thank you again, sir.

MS. SESHENS: Thank you for your time.

MR. GOUDISS: This won't take long, but --

MS. SESHENS: That's fine.

MR. GOUDISS: For the record, Ms. Bieber received a letter on January 2nd from one of your partners, Mr. Bohorquez, identifying certain alleged gaps or deficiencies in our document production. Because of the press of these depositions and travel, we have not responded in writing, but I wanted to lay out very briefly responses to certain of the issues and an invitation to continue to work with you on other of the issues.

With respect to the categories identified in