



February 4, 2004

Dear Bank or Broker Representative:

It has come to our attention that you may have received incorrect tax information for reporting on Form 1099 DIV regarding the tax treatment of our dividends paid during 2003. The correct tax treatment of our dividends is as follows:

Preferred A
15.34% Ordinary Income
84.66% Return of Capital

Preferred B
15.34% Ordinary Income
84.66% Return of Capital

Common
100% Return of Capital

If you have any questions please contact me or Tom Peterson at 410-427-1700.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Robert O. Stephenson'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

Robert O. Stephenson
Chief Financial Officer