



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

VITO J. FOSSELLA

October 31, 2001

Mr. Clay S. Johnson
Assistant to the President for Personnel
153 Eisenhower Executive Office Building
17th Street & Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Mr. Johnson,

I would like to write to you today on behalf of Leopold Korins who is seeking an appointment as a commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

I have known and worked closely with Lee for several years. I believe with his extensive background in the securities industry he would make an outstanding Commissioner of the Securities Exchange Commission. Lee has been the President and CEO of the Security Traders Association and the STA Foundation since February 8, 1999. He was also extremely instrumental in shaping and advocating proposals to lower the Section 31 fees and reform the markets. Lee also has a unique perspective of the financial markets from his thirty-two years with Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Inc. which included time serving as a Merrill Lynch floor broker at the New York Stock Exchange, that would aid him in public service.

Courtesy George W Bush Presidential Library

Lee is hard working and a capable leader and if appointed will be a highly effective public servant. I am more than confident that he would be an asset to the Bush Administration and strongly encourage you to consider utilizing him for this appointment. Lee's knowledge and experience will help him to fulfil the SEC's mission to protect the security and integrity of investors and our markets. I would ask that you review this recommendation consistent with all your relevant rules and regulations.

Sincerely,

Vito J. Fossella
Member of Congress

CC: Mr. Andrew Card, White House Chief of Staff
Mr. Harvey Pitt, Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission