UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF LOUISIANA

CASE NO.:

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION,

Plaintiff,

v.

ALLEN W. MOSS,

Defendant.

COMPLAINT

Plaintiff Securities and Exchange Commission alleges:

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1. This case involves insider trading in the securities of Callon Petroleum Company ("Callon").
- 2. Callon is a Mississippi-based oil and gas drilling company whose shares trade on the New York Stock Exchange. On November 26, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., Callon announced in a press release that it was suspending development of its Entrada Field project, a drilling venture in which Callon had invested significant capital. The press release stated that because of current economic conditions, Callon did not anticipate returning to the project. On the next trading day, November 28, 2008, Callon stock closed at \$2.45 a share, down \$4.78, or 66%, from its November 26, 2008 closing price of \$7.23.
- 3. Allen W. Moss, a business owner residing in Ferriday, Louisiana, learned of potential negative news concerning Callon's Entrada Field project on November 26, 2008 and during the several weeks beforehand. On November 26, Moss' long-time live-in girlfriend, a

Callon employee, called him and told him Callon was having meetings and planned an announcement later that day. In the several weeks prior to November 26, Moss' girlfriend had told him she was worried about her job security because of Callon's significant investment in the Entrada Field project, closed-door meetings within the company, and other events. Moss understood the information was confidential because his girlfriend was a Callon employee. Nonetheless, he sold short 19,000 Callon shares minutes before the market close on November 26, 2008, while in possession of that material, nonpublic information. Moss covered his short sale the next trading day, profiting by \$75,400.

4. By engaging in the conduct described above, and described more fully below, Moss violated Section 17(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 ("Securities Act"), 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a); and Section 10(b) and Rule 10b-5 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Exchange Act"), 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b) and 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5. Unless enjoined, Moss is reasonably likely to continue to violate the securities laws.

II. DEFENDANT AND RELEVANT ENTITY

- 5. Moss, 44, resides in Ferriday, Louisiana. He owns a lumber and supply company in Louisiana. During the relevant period, his live-in girlfriend was employed at Callon in the company's accounting department.
- 6. Callon is a Delaware corporation headquartered in Natchez, Mississippi. Its securities trade on the New York Stock Exchange.

III. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

7. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Sections 20(b), 20(d), and 22(a) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 77t(b), 77t(d), and 77v(a); and Sections 21(d), 21(e), 21A and 27 of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. §§ 78u(d), 78u(e), 78u-1 and 78aa.

- 8. This Court has personal jurisdiction over Moss and venue is proper in the Western District of Louisiana because Moss' acts, transactions, practices, and courses of conduct giving rise to the violations alleged in this Complaint occurred in the Western District of Louisiana. Specifically, Moss resides in the Western District of Louisiana and conducted his illegal trading in the Western District of Louisiana.
- 9. Moss, directly and indirectly, made use of the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce, the means and instruments of transportation and communication in interstate commerce, and the mails, in connection with the acts, transactions, practices, and courses of conduct set forth in this Complaint.

IV. FACTS

- 10. From 1994 to at least April 2009, Moss' girlfriend worked in Callon's accounting department. Moss and his girlfriend have lived together for approximately ten years. During that period, the couple communicated regularly, sharing confidences about their lives and work.
- 11. In September 2008, Callon's drilling activity at the Entrada Field project was active. By mid-November, drilling activity to determine the production level of a specific well was near completion. As a result, Callon internally announced that the project was on a "tight hole" status, meaning access to daily drilling reports and any information related to the drilling was restricted to key personnel.
- 12. In November 2008, Moss' girlfriend learned material, nonpublic information concerning the Entrada Field project through her employment at Callon. In the two to three weeks leading up to the company's November 26 press release, Moss' girlfriend was concerned about her job security because signs at the company pointed towards the Entrada Field project being unsuccessful. During that time, Callon employees were concerned about their jobs

because few people in the company were talking about the Entrada Field project. Moss' girlfriend and other Callon employees felt the limited information about the project meant news about it would be negative. She and other Callon employees had been blocked from accessing certain information maintained on the company's computer system about the Entrada Field project. Moss' girlfriend told Moss about her concerns.

- 13. On November 26, Moss' girlfriend and other Callon employees were told the company's chief financial officer was going to make an announcement to the employees at about 3 p.m. Central Standard Time that day. Moss' girlfriend called him mid-afternoon and told him the company was having meetings and was going to make an announcement later that day.
- 14. Acting on this material, nonpublic information, Moss sold short 19,000 Callon shares within an hour of the telephone call from his girlfriend. A short sale is a technique by which investors may benefit from an anticipated decline in the price of a stock.
- 15. At 7 p.m. on November 26, Callon announced in a press release it was suspending development of its Entrada Field project and did not anticipate returning to the project. The release stated that drilling on one of the project's wells had been unsuccessful. On the next trading day, November 28, 2008, Callon stock closed at \$2.45 a share, down \$4.78, or 66%, from its November 26, 2008 closing price of \$7.23. On November 28, 2008, Moss covered his short sale for a profit of \$75,400.

COUNT I

Fraud in Violation of Section 17(a) of the Securities Act

16. The Commission repeats and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 15 of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

- 17. During the relevant time period, Moss, directly or indirectly, by use of the means or instruments of transportation or communication in interstate commerce or by use of the mails, in the offer or sale of securities, as described in this Complaint, knowingly, willfully or recklessly: (a) employed devices, schemes, or artifices to defraud; (b) to make untrue statements of material fact or omit to state material facts necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; and/or (3) engaged in acts, practices and courses of business which operated as a fraud or deceit upon purchasers of Callon securities.
- 18. By reason of the foregoing, Moss has directly or indirectly violated and, unless enjoined, is reasonably likely to continue to violate, Section 17(a) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77q(a).

COUNT II

Fraud in Violation of Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act and Rule 10b-5

- 19. The Commission repeats and realleges Paragraphs 1 through 15 of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 20. During the relevant time period, Moss, directly or indirectly, by use of the means and instrumentality of interstate commerce or of the mails in connection with the purchase or sale of the securities, as described in this Complaint, knowingly, willfully or recklessly: (a) employed devices, schemes or artifices to defraud: (b) made untrue statements of material fact and omitted to state material facts necessary in order to make statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; and/or (c) engaged in acts, practices and courses of business which operated as a fraud or deceit upon purchasers of such securities.

21. By reason of the foregoing, Moss has directly or indirectly violated and, unless enjoined, is reasonably likely to continue to violate, Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), and Rule 10b-5, 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5.

RELIEF REQUESTED

WHEREFORE, the Commission respectfully requests that the Court:

Permanent Injunctive Relief

Issue a Permanent Injunction, restraining and enjoining Moss from violating Section 17(a) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. §77q(a), and Section 10(b) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78j(b), and Rule 10b-5, 17 C.F.R. § 240.10b-5.

Disgorgement and Prejudgment Interest

Issue an Order directing Moss to disgorge all ill-gotten gains, including prejudgment interest, he received as a result of the acts or courses of conduct alleged in this Complaint.

Civil Money Penalty

Issue an Order directing Moss to pay a civil money penalty pursuant to Section 20(d) of the Securities Act, 15 U.S.C. § 77t(d), and Section 21(d) of the Exchange Act, 15 U.S.C. § 78u(d).

Further Relief

Grant such other and further relief as may be necessary and appropriate.

Retention of Jurisdiction

Further, the Commission respectfully requests the Court retain jurisdiction over this

action in order to implement and carry out the terms of all orders and decrees that may hereby be entered, or to entertain any suitable application or motion by the Commission for additional relief within the jurisdiction of this Court.

Dated: September 14, 2009 Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/Robert K. Levenson

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CIVIL COVER SHEET

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE REVERSE OF THE FORM.)

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