FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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STATEMENT BY SEC CHAIRMAN HARVEY L. PITT

Washington, D.C. September 11, 2001 - Today Chairman Harvey L. Pitt issued the following statement:

The Commission has been, and is, in constant communication with each of our organized securities markets and exchanges. As a safety precaution while the tragic events of today are sorted out, the securities markets have decided not to open for trading today. We strongly support that decision; it is a responsible course of action in light of the current situation. We are continuing to monitor the situation, along with the securities markets, and investors should be assured that the disruption to normal trading patterns is a temporary phenomenon; trading will resume as soon as it is practicable to do so. We will keep the public advised.

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