



*United States Attorney  
Southern District of New York*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**FORMER LAW FIRM ASSOCIATE PLEADS GUILTY  
TO INSIDER TRADING SCHEME**

LEV L. DASSIN, the Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced that ERIC A. HOLZER pleaded guilty today to insider trading charges before United States Magistrate Judge DEBORAH C. FREEMAN in Manhattan federal court. According to the Information and criminal Complaint filed in this case and statements made during the guilty plea proceeding:

HOLZER was an associate in the New York City office of an international law firm. HOLZER obtained material nonpublic information about at least two mergers and acquisitions from a co-conspirator, who in turn obtained the information from his spouse, who worked at an international communications firm. The spouse expected her husband to keep such information confidential. Instead, her husband passed the information on to HOLZER and HOLZER used that inside information to trade in the securities of companies involved in two different deals. Specifically, from March 2004 through December 2005, HOLZER traded on inside information regarding mergers and acquisitions involving Eon Labs and Abgenix Inc. HOLZER and other participants in the conspiracy earned over \$100,000 from this trading, and HOLZER provided his co-conspirator a cash payment on at least one occasion for the information he provided.

At today's proceeding, HOLZER pleaded guilty to one count of conspiring to commit insider trading and one count of insider trading. He also agreed to forfeiture of proceeds of the scheme, including over \$119,000 in profits from the insider trading.

HOLZER, 34, of New York, New York, is scheduled to be sentenced by Judge MARRERO on August 17, 2009 at 4:30. HOLZER faces a maximum sentence of 5 years in prison on the conspiracy charge and 20 years in prison on the insider trading charge.

Mr. DASSIN praised the work of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and thanked the United States Securities and Exchange Commission for its assistance. He added that the investigation is continuing.

Assistant United States Attorneys JOAN M. LOUGHNANE and REED M. BRODSKY are in charge of the prosecution.

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