*PHONE: (202) 616-0295 FAX: (202) 514-874*  **U.S. Department of Justice** 

Consumer Protection Branch

450 Fifth Street, NW Suite 6400 South Washington D.C. 20001

April 3, 2019

**Distributed via Internet** 

## Re: <u>United States v. Defendant(s) Blackstone Labs, LLC, Phillip Braun, Aaron Singerman,</u> <u>Anthony Ventrella, Robert DiMaggio, James Boccuzzi, David Winsauer, and Ventech</u> <u>Labs, LLC</u> Court Docket Number 19-CR-80030-CR-WPD

Dear Sir/Madam:

Charges have been filed against defendants Blackstone Labs, LLC, Phillip Braun, Aaron Singerman, Anthony Ventrella, Robert DiMaggio, James Boccuzzi, David Winsauer, and Ventech Labs, LLC. The lead prosecutors for this case are Alistair F. Reader and David A. Frank. The main charges is categorized as Consumer Fraud.

Victims of all crimes under federal investigation are entitled to services under the Victims' Rights and Restitution Act, including notification of court events. For further details, please refer to Title 42 United States Code section 10607.

Now that charges have been filed in federal court, victims of the charges filed are, in addition, entitled to the following rights, according to the Crime Victims' Rights Act, Title 18 United States Code section 3771:

(1) The right to be reasonably protected from the accused; (2) The right to reasonable, accurate, and timely notice of any public court proceeding, or any parole proceeding, involving the crime or of any release or escape of the accused; (3) The right not to be excluded from any such public court proceeding, unless the court, after receiving clear and convincing evidence, determines that testimony by the victim would be materially altered if the victim heard other testimony at that proceeding; (4) The right to be reasonably heard at any public proceeding in the district court involving release, plea, sentencing, or any parole proceeding; (5) The reasonable right to confer with the attorney for the Government in the case; (6) The right to full and timely restitution as provided in law; (7) The right to proceedings free from unreasonable delay; and (8) The right to be treated with fairness and with respect for the victim's dignity and privacy.

Please understand that these rights apply only to victims of the counts charged in federal court, and thus you may not be able to exercise all of these rights if the crime of which you are a victim was not charged. In any event, we will continue to provide you with notifications and services unless you tell us not to. We will make our best efforts to ensure you are provided the rights and services to which you are entitled. It is important to keep in mind that the defendants are presumed innocent until

proven guilty and that presumption requires both the Court and our office to take certain steps to ensure that justice is served. While our office cannot act as your attorney or provide you with legal advice, you can seek the advice of an attorney with respect to the rights above or other related legal matters.

Additionally, please be aware that most criminal cases are resolved by a plea agreement between the Department of Justice and the defendant. You should also know that it is not unusual for a defendant to seek to negotiate a plea agreement shortly before a trial is scheduled to begin. Plea agreements can be made at any time and as late as the morning of trial, leaving little or no opportunity to provide notice to you of the date and time of the plea hearing. I f the court schedules a plea hearing in this case, we will use our best efforts to notify you of available information as soon as practicable. If you want to inform the prosecutor of your views regarding potential plea agreements, or any other aspect of the case, please contact the prosecutor assigned to this case.

A status hearing is scheduled before Judge William Dimitrouleas for May 3, 2019, 09:00 AM at Fort Lauderdale Division, United States District Court, 299 East Broward Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301 for defendants Aaron Singerman, Anthony Ventrella, Robert DiMaggio, James Boccuzzi, David Winsauer. The purpose of this hearing is to determine if there are issues that the Court needs to address in advance of trial. A trial is scheduled for these defendants on May 6, 2019, 09:00 AM before Judge William P. Dimitrouleas at the same location.

Because of the Court's schedule, hearing dates could change on very short notice. If you plan on attending, you may want to call the prosecutor assigned to this case.

Very truly yours,

Alistair Reader David Frank Trial Attorneys U.S. Department of Justice Consumer Protection Branch