

**Award**  
**NASD Dispute Resolution**

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In the Matter of the Arbitration Between:

Jila Ahdot, Claimant v. Salomon Smith Barney Inc. n/k/a Citigroup Global Markets Inc.,  
Respondent

Case Number: 04-06808

Hearing Site: Los Angeles, California

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Nature of the Dispute: Customer v. Member

**REPRESENTATION OF PARTIES**

For Claimant:

Jila Ahdot  
In propria persona  
Encino, California

For Respondent:

Raúl Sánchez, Esq.  
Citigroup Global Markets Inc.  
New York, New York

**CASE INFORMATION**

Statement of Claim filed: September 27, 2004

Claimant's Uniform Submission Agreement signed: August 25, 2004

Statement of Answer filed by Respondent: November 26, 2004

Respondent's Uniform Submission Agreement signed: November 26, 2004

**CASE SUMMARY**

Claimant alleged unsuitability, misrepresentations, omission of facts, negligence, and unethical behavior, involving transactions in shares of QQQ, Spy, and other unspecified technology stock.

Respondent denied the allegations of wrongdoing set forth in the Claimant's Statement of Claim and asserted various affirmative defenses.

**RELIEF REQUESTED**

Claimant requested \$98,000.00 in compensatory damages and \$50,000.00 in punitive damages.

Respondent requested dismissal of the Claimant's Statement of Claim in its entirety and costs.

**OTHER ISSUES CONSIDERED AND DECIDED**

On November 10, 2004, Claimant signed a Waiver Agreement expressly waiving any and all rights and benefits under California Civil Code Section 1542 and the California Ethical Standards for Neutral Arbitrators.

Pursuant to the Code of Arbitration Procedure IM-10100, the waiver of the Claimant shall constitute and operate as a waiver for all member firms and associated persons (including terminated or otherwise inactive member firms or associated persons) against whom the Claim has been filed.

The parties agreed that the Award in this matter may be executed in counterpart copies or that a handwritten, signed Award may be entered.

**AWARD**

After considering the pleadings, testimony, and evidence presented at the hearing, the Panel decided in full and final resolution of the issues submitted for determination as follows:

- 1) Respondent Salomon Smith Barney Inc. n/k/a Citigroup Global Markets Inc. is liable to and shall pay Claimant Jila Ahdot the sum of \$41,086.00 in compensatory damages.
- 2) Respondent Salomon Smith Barney Inc. n/k/a Citigroup Global Markets Inc. is liable to and shall pay Claimant Jila Ahdot interest in the amount of 5% per annum on \$41,086.00 from September 16, 2004, until payment of this Award is made in full.
- 3) The parties shall bear their respective costs, including attorney's fees.
- 4) Any and all other relief not specifically addressed herein, including punitive damages, is denied.

### **FEES**

Pursuant to the *NASD Code of Arbitration Procedure* ("Code"), the following fees are assessed:

#### **Filing Fees**

NASD Dispute Resolution received or will collect the non-refundable filing fees for each claim as follows:

Initial claim filing fee = waived

#### **Member Fees**

Member fees are assessed to each member firm that is either a party in the matter or an employer of a respondent associated person at the time of the events that gave rise to the dispute, claim, or controversy. Accordingly, the member firm Salomon Smith Barney Inc. n/k/a Citigroup Global Markets Inc. is a party and the following fees are assessed:

Member Surcharge	= \$ 1,700.00
Pre-Hearing Process Fee	= \$ 750.00
<u>Hearing Process Fee</u>	<u>= \$ 2,750.00</u>
<b>Total Member Fees</b>	<b>= \$ 5,200.00</b>

#### **Forum Fees and Assessments**

The Panel assessed a forum fee for each pre-hearing conference or hearing session conducted. A pre-hearing conference and hearing session is any meeting between the parties and the Chair or the parties and the Panel. The following fees are assessed:

One (1) Pre-hearing conference session with a single arbitrator @ \$450.00/session = \$ 450.00

Pre-hearing conference: April 22, 2005 1 session

One (1) Pre-hearing conference session with the Panel @ \$1,125.00/session = \$ 1,125.00

Pre-hearing conference: February 1, 2005 1 session

Four (4) Hearing sessions @ \$1,125.00/session = \$ 4,500.00

Hearings: May 25, 2005 2 sessions

May 26, 2005 2 sessions

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**Total Forum Fees = \$ 6,075.00**

1. The Panel assessed \$3,037.50 of the forum fees to Claimant Jila Ahdot.
2. The Panel assessed \$3,037.50 of the forum fees to Respondent Salomon Smith Barney Inc. n/k/a Citigroup Global Markets Inc.

**Fee Summary**

1. Claimant Jila Ahdot is charged with the following fees and costs:

<u>Forum Fees</u>	= \$ 3,037.50
Total Fees	= \$ 3,037.50
<u>Less payments</u>	= \$ (0.00)
<b>Balance Due NASD Dispute Resolution</b>	<b>= \$ 3,037.50</b>

2. Respondent Salomon Smith Barney Inc. n/k/a Citigroup Global Markets Inc. is charged with the following fees and costs:

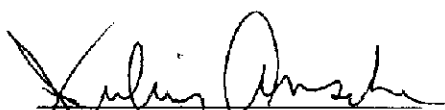
Member Fees	= \$ 5,200.00
<u>Forum Fees</u>	= \$ 3,037.50
Total Fees	= \$ 8,237.50
<u>Less payments</u>	= \$(7,650.00)
<b>Balance Due NASD Dispute Resolution</b>	<b>= \$ 587.50</b>

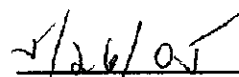
All balances are payable to NASD Dispute Resolution and are due upon the receipt of the Award pursuant to Rule 10330(g) of the Code.

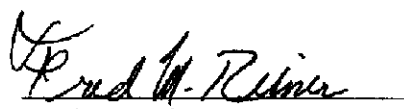
**ARBITRATION PANEL**

<b>Julius Anscher</b>	-	<b>Public Arbitrator, Presiding Chair</b>
<b>Fred M. Reiner</b>	-	<b>Public Arbitrator</b>
<b>Robert P. Clifford</b>	-	<b>Non-Public Arbitrator</b>

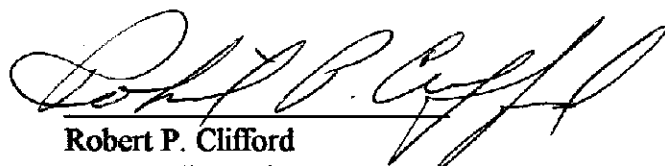
**Concurring Arbitrators' Signatures**

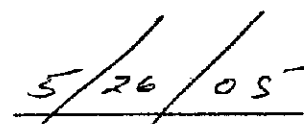
  
Julius Anscher  
Chair, Public Arbitrator

  
Signature Date

  
Fred M. Reiner  
Public Arbitrator

  
Signature Date

  
Robert P. Clifford  
Non-Public Arbitrator

  
Signature Date

  
Date of Service