

News Release

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Willis Group Statement

New York, NY, March 8, 2005 – The filing from Minnesota Attorney General Michael Hatch came as a complete surprise to us earlier today. Since mid-December 2004, when we received the request for information and documents from his office, we have attempted to cooperate fully and have provided materials on an on-going basis.

We made several attempts to discuss the scope of the Attorney General's request, which seek extremely voluminous information on a global basis within a short timeframe. Mr. Hatch's office has consistently refused to engage in such a discussion. In every other state that has made similar requests for information, the regulatory or governmental agencies have been willing to discuss the terms of their requests. This is the first time any authority has ignored our requests for a dialogue or expressed dissatisfaction with Willis' cooperation.

We had no notice of this filing and therefore have not had an opportunity to review the nearly 400 pages that the Attorney General has filed with the court today. We would have appreciated the opportunity to discuss these concerns with Mr. Hatch directly in an effort to resolve them in a constructive and professional manner. Instead, Mr. Hatch chose to call the press and simultaneously file this motion, which contains a number of inflammatory and inaccurate statements of fact relating to our company. We are frankly appalled and offended.

We have no interest whatsoever in picking a fight with Mr. Hatch. We will continue to seek a dialogue with his office to resolve any concerns they may have with our document production. If necessary, we will address this matter in the courts.

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