From: Kirk Stem <kirk.forex@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, January 24, 2010 1:20 PM
To: secretary@CFTC.gov>

Subject: Leverage Change

As an individual Forex trader I urge you please **DO NOT** change the leverage from 100:1 to 10:1. It would totally ruin and eliminate the individual trader in the United States. Yet the rest of the world would be able to continue to trade the purest of all markets, the Spot Forex. The Forex market has been very successful in policing itself and no one is in danger of losing more than their account and typically gets the trade(s) closed by the broker when the traders margin is hit versus other Future instruments where you can lose more than the account balance. A blanket type of ruling would be short sided. Again please **DO NOT** change the leverage from 100:1 to 10:1, it would eliminate the individual trader and kill a lot of dreams. Please contact me if you would like to discuss this from a newly successful trader that this would eliminate. We did not cause the financial crisis and should not be lumped in with it. Thank you for listening.

Take care, Kirk H Stem

5743 Sentinel Drive Raleigh, NC 27609

kirk.forex@gmail.com 919.302.1590