

**From:** Bernard J. Stankay <bernardjstankay@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Thursday, March 4, 2010 2:22 AM  
**To:** secretary <secretary@CFTC.gov>  
**Subject:** Regulation of Retail Forex

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Dear Sir:

I am in favor of retaining a 100:1 leverage ratio. I am not sure why a 10:1 leverage cap is even being considered when it is already an option that anyone is free to choose. Furthermore, I do not find risk an issue. A 10:1 leverage would require much larger investments to make it worthwhile even participating and thus subjecting novice traders to risking larger amounts of money. The many small balance investors are better served risking smaller amounts of money at the larger 100:1 leverage thus reducing potential loss and encouraging learning. For small balance investors, ten cents on the PIP is hardly worth trading small amounts of money for. It would be so time consuming to make any appreciable money that it would be pointless. It is a full time commitment making \$1 per PIP. Imposing a 10:1 leverage would eliminate many serious small balance investors and it would diminish participation and interest in the trading profession.

If there is any issue, I would say dealers should provide more accessible training at no cost for trading novices regardless of account balances. Also, I would recommend providing more opportunities for traders to have access to higher end trading software such as MetaStock at no extra cost and regardless of account balances. This would enhance training appreciably and serve to substantially reduce risk by providing better tools to ease the learning process and the day-to-day trading process, and to encourage participation.

I recommend enhancing opportunity through training and tools and not suppressing opportunity by limiting income with caps especially when the 10:1 leverage is and always has been an option. I would add that being a novice trader with about 6 months of foreign exchange experience, I would concur that leverage ratios higher than 100:1 should be limited to more experienced traders. I believe the 100:1 is the perfectly reasonable balance that is in the best interest of the most traders. 100:1 provides sufficient incentive to smaller investors while at the same time reasonably limiting risk.

Very sincerely,

Bernard J. Stankay