

STATEMENT OF JULIUS A. BAZAN, M.D.

My name is Julius Bazan, and I live in Lynbrook, New York. I am a medical doctor and have been actively practicing neurology for thirty years. In the fall of 2009, I had an IRA account with approximately \$140,000. I saw the advertisements for Goldline as a seller of gold for personal investment purposes. Since I was concerned about having a secure retirement in spite of whatever economic troubles might come to our country, I decided to look into the purchase of gold with the funds I had in my IRA account.

I called the number for Goldline and was connected with a representative. The representative repeated many of the things that I had heard on television and radio. He indicated that these were dangerous times and that I should purchase Gold to protect myself. The representative steered me toward the purchase of gold coins because he said the price of bullion could be fixed by the government, but the price of coins cannot. The representative also indicated that gold would be a good investment because it would likely reach \$3,000.00 per ounce within the next year. I was never told what the actual value of the coins was on the day that I purchased them compared to a corresponding amount of gold bullion. Nor was I told on the day of purchase that I was paying significantly higher than market value for the coins.

Thinking that I was doing something wise and safe for my retirement, on December 23, 2009, I purchased approximately \$140,000.00 worth of gold coins. It was not until several days later that I received a letter from the company representative with some paperwork enclosed.

After several months, I became concerned when the price of gold did not move significantly upwards as I had been advised it likely would. I decided to call the representative to sell the coins back to Goldline and put the money back into my IRA account. When I attempted to process that transaction with Goldline in late July 2010, I learned for the first time that the coins were actually only worth about \$85,000.00. Since the price of gold had not moved significantly, and had even increased slightly, I was astounded to learn the market price of these coins was about the same \$85,000.00 on the very day that I had paid \$140,000.00 for their purchase.

I believe that I was deceived by not being provided the very basic information about the market value of the coins at the time of purchase. I believe that I was manipulated into purchasing coins as opposed to gold bullion when I had originally intended to buy bullion. I am embarrassed and ashamed that I was tricked in this way. Overnight, I lost almost 40% of the value of my retirement account. I would hope that you gentlemen will do whatever is necessary to make sure that no other citizen of this country is ever treated this way again. Thank you.