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For immediate release
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Minnesota Company Returns 9/11 Funds

MENDOTA HEIGHTS, MN—A Minnesota-based freight forwarder today announced the return to the Federal Treasury of the funds it received from the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act in compensation for business lost during the week following the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon. Manna Freight Systems, Inc., President Alan J. Meehan said today that a check in the amount of \$13,669.43 was being issued to the Federal government and included \$3609.13 in interest accrued since the company accepted the funds in 2002.

Meehan made the announcement on April 15, the day on which America's tax-paying minority is reminded of the amounts of money they no longer enjoy because of the burden of Federal and State taxation.

"The Federal government's actions following the 9/11 terrorist attacks shut down our business and thousands of others just like us for a week," Meehan said. "The amount we accepted in compensation was a fraction of what we lost that week. We viewed the shutdown of our business as a 'government taking' which requires compensation under the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution." While I stand by that original interpretation I recognize that it may be seen as taking a government handout, which I am philosophically opposed to. So today, I am paying that money back with interest.

"We have sent the check today to our Congressional representative and requested him to ensure that the money is returned and credited properly," Meehan said.

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“The Federal government’s recent unprecedented actions taken against the head of General Motors, its forced marriage of Chrysler and Fiat and Congress’s public flogging of AIG’s executives ought to put every private businessman and woman on notice that no corner office has a bulwark against an intrusive and nihilistic administration if it has accepted money from the government,” Meehan said. “I would never have imagined that I would see the day when a President of the United States would take control of two of the largest companies in the country and dictate his will upon them in the manner of a tyrant. In the past, we could safely rely on legal precedent to protect the rights of America’s businessmen and women. I’m sorry to say that this is no longer the case and the current administration has amply demonstrated its willingness to ignore the rule of law with the full advice and consent of Congress.”

“I am returning the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act funds,” Meehan said, ‘to be clear that my business either succeeds or fails on its own merits and I will never willingly tolerate the insidious creep of governmental control into private enterprise - especially mine.”

Meehan said he was contacting the other companies known to have accepted the funds to urge them to protect their interests and return the money to the Federal government.

Manna Freight Systems, Inc., is based in Mendota Heights, MN, in the Minneapolis/St. Paul metro area. The company has been in business since 1991.

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