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**GIA**  
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February 2, 2010

L. Ma  
President  
Hong Kong Diamond Bourse Limited  
Suite 5B Hong Kong Diamond Exchange Building  
8-10 Duddell Street  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr. Ma:

It has come to GIA's attention that a counterfeit GIA report that resembles an authentic version was recently discovered in Hong Kong and has been traced back to Antwerp. This report has been taken out of circulation and is in GIA's possession.

As you know, GIA takes violations such as these very seriously and is actively engaged with law enforcement agencies worldwide to help prevent, detect and prosecute them. We are anxious to learn everything we can about the origin of this document, which was apparently used to deceive the would-be buyer(s). We are working diligently behind the scenes to obtain more information concerning this report.

GIA maintains the highest standards of precision and accuracy in producing its reports, including a number of important security features and safeguards, some apparent and others more subtle. Scrutiny of the document in question proved it was a counterfeit when it was compared to an authentic GIA report. It was evident that the font, color, and background used in the blue shaded area did not match, among other discrepancies.

Our preliminary investigation has uncovered information that shows the diamond's provenance may track back to a Mr. Eli Zarion (exact spelling unknown), at the last known address of Pelikaanstraat #34, Antwerpen, who purportedly sold the diamond to a retail store in Antwerp. After making initial contact with Mr. Zarion, we were unable to reach him again and his associates had no further information on his whereabouts. We are continuing in our attempts to reach him. This is not to suggest that Mr. Zarion (sp) was aware of the counterfeit nature of the GIA report or that he was somehow responsible for the counterfeit activity, but that this is where our tracking has lead and come to an abrupt halt. If you have any more information about him, please contact Mr. Larry Wright, Director of GIA's global security, at 760-603-4417, [larry.wright@gia.edu](mailto:larry.wright@gia.edu).

We highly recommend you check on the authenticity of a GIA Diamond Grading Report, and the validity of the report's information, when purchasing a diamond from an unknown source.

Report Check, described below, is the most effective way for the industry or public to identify counterfeit reports. In this case, the report number did not correspond to the stone that accompanied it (although it is an actual report number for a different stone).

GIA Report Check is a free online service that lets you check the information contained in a GIA Diamond Grading Report and GIA Diamond Dossier®. The report number and carat weight are entered and all of the grading information that was issued for that diamond, including a cut grade when available, is provided to you. Report Check can track only those diamonds graded from Jan. 1, 2000 to the present. To access Report Check, go to <http://www.gia.edu/reportcheck/>

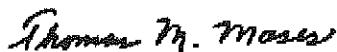
The GIA Report Verification Service can also be used to confirm the authenticity of a GIA Diamond Grading Report and Diamond Dossier<sup>®</sup>, or the information it contains, by simply requesting a Verification Service from GIA. You can submit your diamond, along with its original report, and the diamond will be re-assessed and the results of the new analysis, along with the diamond and its original report, returned to you. Alternatively, the original grading report can also be updated for a reduced fee, meaning that the diamond is submitted to the laboratory and is fully graded again, including all of the screening steps for treatments and a new report is issued (the original report is retained by GIA).

GIA heavily invests in and conducts its own investigations to seek out and prevent fraudulent activities. Our information has led to the successful prosecution of individuals who have violated the integrity of GIA reports. I can assure you that we are committed to protecting the industry's and the public's confidence.

GIA intends to turn this incident over to law enforcement and retain a private investigator to rigorously pursue this case. We ask for your assistance to help us with any information you may have or subsequently learn about this matter and to inform your members accordingly.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Thomas M. Moses  
Sr. Vice President, Laboratory and Research