

**IN THE COURT OF CHANCERY IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE
IN AND FOR NEW CASTLE COUNTY**

DAVID PORTNOY,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
)	
v.)	C.A. No. _____
)	
CRYO-CELL INTERNATIONAL, INC., a)	
Delaware corporation, MERCEDES)	
WALTON, GABY W. GOUBRAN, JAGDISH)	
SHETH, Ph.D., ANTHONY P. FINCH and)	
SCOTT CHRISTIAN,)	
)	
Defendants.)	

VERIFIED COMPLAINT

Plaintiff David Portnoy (“Plaintiff”) for his Verified Complaint against defendants Cryo-Cell International, Inc. (“Cryo-Cell” or the “Company”) and Mercedes Walton (“Walton”), Gaby W. Goubran (“Goubran”), Jagdish Sheth, Ph.D. (“Sheth”), Anthony P. Finch (“Finch”) and Scott Christian (“Christian,” and together with Walton, Goubran, Sheth and Finch, the “Director Defendants” or the “Current Board”) by the undersigned attorneys allege as follows:

NATURE OF THE ACTION

1. This is an action for declaratory and injunctive relief, pursuant to Section 225 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, 8 *Del. C.* § 225 (“Section 225”), to level the playing field in an election (the “Election”) for control of the Company’s Board of Directors (the “Board”), in which the Director Defendants breached their fiduciary duties to Plaintiff and the Company’s other stockholders (collectively, the “Stockholders”) by, among other things, engaging in an illegal vote buying scheme and improperly adjourning the annual meeting of the Stockholders (the “Annual Meeting”) to ensure that the Director Defendants’ incumbent slate of directors defeated the Plaintiff and his dissident slate of nominees.

2. Pursuant to Section 225, Plaintiff requests this Court remedy Director Defendants' self-interested, inequitable, and discriminatory conduct, and determine the outcome of the Election of the Board at the Annual Meeting.

THE PARTIES

3. Plaintiff David I. Portnoy is a natural person residing in the State of Florida. Portnoy is the beneficial owner of approximately 828,834 shares of Cryo-Cell. On June 8, 2007, Plaintiff, along with non-party Stockholders Visual Investment Corp., Partner Community, Inc., Jamie H. Zidell, Mayim Investment Limited Partnership, David W. Ruttenberg, Lynn Portnoy, Gilbert Portnoy, Mark L. Portnoy, Capital Asset Fund Limited Partnership, George Gaines, Scott D. Martin, and Steven Berkowitz (collectively, the "Portnoy Group"), filed a Proxy Statement (the "Portnoy Proxy Statement") with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), whereby the Portnoy Group solicited proxies to, among other things, elect Plaintiff, Mark L. Portnoy, Craig E. Fleishman, M.D., Harold D. Berger, Scott D. Martin and John Z. Yin, Ph.D. (collectively, the "Portnoy Slate") to the Board. On that date, the Portnoy Group held a beneficial interest in approximately 1,537,869 shares of common stock of Cryo-Cell, which represents approximately 13% of the Company's outstanding shares.

4. Defendant Cryo-Cell is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 700 Brooker Creek Boulevard, Suite 1800, Oldsmar, Florida. Cryo-Cell was established in 1989 with its primary business being the cryopreservation of umbilical cord stem cells for family use. As of May 23, 2007, the record date for the determination of stockholders entitled to vote at the Company's Annual Meeting (the "record date"), there were 11,669,629 shares of Cryo-Cell common stock outstanding.

5. Defendant Mercedes Walton is Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) of Cryo-Cell. Defendant Walton has served as a director of Cryo-Cell since October 2000, as Chairman of the Board since June 2002 and as Interim Chief Executive Officer between April 2003 and September 2005. Defendant Walton is operating under a three-year employment agreement, effective September 1, 2005, to serve as Cryo-Cell’s CEO.

6. Defendant Gaby W. Goubran is a member of the Current Board and has served as a director of the Company since June 2002.

7. Defendant Jagdish Sheth, Ph.D. is a member of the Current Board and has served as a director of the Company since October 2002.

8. Defendant Anthony P. Finch is a member of the Current Board and has served as a director of the Company since March 2003.

9. Defendant Scott Christian is a member of the Current Board and has served as a director of the Company since April 2003.

JURISDICTION

10. This Court has jurisdiction over this action pursuant to Section 225 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, 8 *Del. C.* § 225.

FACTS RELEVANT TO ALL COUNTS

A. Cryo-Cell’s Underperformance and Mismanagement Under the Leadership of the Director Defendants

11. In their June 2005 Proxy Statement, the Director Defendants set certain goals and benchmarks for the Company, including: (i) realizing annual net profits of \$10 million; (ii) increasing the market price for the Company’s common stock to \$10.00 per share; (iii) listing the Company for trading on the Nasdaq National Market; and (iv) reaching \$50 million in shareholder equity. None of these goals were achieved.

12. Since June 2005, the Company has dramatically underperformed. To begin with, the Company's operating income plunged from \$3.2 million in 2004 to a loss of \$3.0 million in 2006 - a negative swing of \$6.2 million. As a result, the Company realized a \$2.8 million net loss in the 2006 fiscal year. Additionally, under Defendant Walton's tenure as CEO, the market price of the Company's common stock decreased by over 50%, from \$3.05 on August 15, 2005 to \$1.48 as of July 30, 2007, without the payment of any dividends or the repurchase of any shares. Moreover, more than two years after the establishment of these corporate goals, Cryo-Cell's stock cannot be publicly traded on Nasdaq, and the Company's current market capitalization is less than \$27 million, a far cry from the Director Defendant's \$50 million benchmark.

13. To make matters worse, during this period of increasing losses and dismal stock performance, the Current Board increased marketing, general, and administrative expenses by approximately 106% and approved compensation increases for themselves and each year for Defendant Walton, the Chairman of the Board and the Company's CEO. Furthermore, despite Defendant Walton's failure to achieve any of the stated goals, the Director Defendants awarded her more than 400,000 options and granted her a lucrative severance package, which could provide, under certain circumstances, among other things, a cash payment of nearly 10% of the Company's annual revenues.

B. The Director Defendants Attempt to Entrench the Current Board by Unilaterally Amending the Company's Bylaws

14. In the wake of the Company's underperformance and mismanagement, and faced with mounting stockholder discontent, the Director Defendants set forth on a campaign to entrench the Current Board at the Stockholders' expense.

15. The Director Defendants' entrenchment campaign commenced on December 18, 2006 when the Current Board announced that it had, unilaterally and without the Stockholders' approval, amended the Bylaws of the Company (the "Amendments"). The Amendments limit the Stockholders' ability to hold directors accountable by placing significant substantive and procedural barriers to stockholder participation. Specifically, the Amendments (i) impose additional requirements on a stockholder seeking to bring business before the Board or nominate directors, (ii) restrict a stockholder's ability to call special meetings of Stockholders, (iii) limit the ability of a stockholder to act by written consent, and (iv) impair a stockholder's ability to amend portions of the Company's Bylaws. The Company's Amended and Restated Bylaws (the "Bylaws"), which incorporate these Amendments, are attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

C. The Stockholders Question the Sincerity and Ability of the Director Defendants

16. As news of the Director Defendants' entrenchment campaign spread, certain Stockholders began to voice their dissatisfaction with the Current Board.

17. For instance, on January 9, 2007, Andrew J. Filipowski and Matthew G. Roszak (together with the Andrew Filipowski Revocable Trust, the "Filipowski Group") wrote a letter to the Director Defendants (the "January 9th Letter"), voicing the Filipowski Group's "dismay[] by the recent actions of the Board of Directors in amending the bylaws ... without stockholder approval." The Filipowski Group characterized the Amendments as "nothing more than a way for existing management to entrench itself and to perpetuate its role with the Company and the economic benefits that go along with that." In the January 9th Letter, the Filipowski Group also "question[ed] the sincerity and ability of the current directors to provide leadership and support the stockholders' interests" and concluded that "the current Board appears determined to insulate

existing management from any meaningful accountability to stockholders.” The January 9th Letter is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.

18. Thereafter, on January 31, 2007, Plaintiff David Portnoy wrote a letter to the Director Defendants (the “January 31st Letter”), advising the Current Board that the Portnoy Group was “not only dissatisfied with the performance of the Company over the last several years, but also concerned about the manner in which the [Board] has appeared to ignore the Company’s and shareholders’ best interests in order to satisfy the personal interests of management.” Specifically, the Portnoy Group commented that the Amendments appear to have been enacted “for the sole purpose of placing substantive and procedural barrier to shareholders’ action” and “serve no purpose other than to entrench the Board and make the Company less receptive to shareholders’ interests.” The Portnoy Group concluded the January 31st Letter by reminding the Director Defendants to “keep in mind their fiduciary responsibilities to the Company’s shareholders rather than their and management’s self-interest.” The January 31st Letter is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.

19. Remarkably, the Director Defendants failed to address or even respond to any of the shareholder concerns raised in the January 31st Letter.

20. Thereafter, on February 20, 2007, Plaintiff wrote to Defendants Goubran, Sheth, Finch, and Christian (the “February 20th Letter”), informing these non-management members of the Current Board that certain members of the Portnoy Group had received unsolicited, unsubstantiated, but nevertheless troubling information from individuals purporting to be prior employees of the Company. The February 20th Letter explained that, while the recipients of the information had no way of verifying whether this reported information was true, these

individuals felt duty-bound to pass such information along to the non-management members of the Current Board.

21. Notwithstanding Plaintiff's repeated attempts to meet with the non-management members of the Current Board to advise them of the nature, severity, and scope of the reportedly troubling information, none of the Director Defendants responded to the February 20th Letter.

D. The Portnoy Slate Forms to Oppose the Current Board

22. Spurned by the Company's increasing losses and dismal stock performance and the Director Defendants' lack of accountability and responsiveness to the Stockholders, Plaintiff and the rest of the Portnoy Group decided it was time for a change.

23. On March 26, 2007, the Portnoy Group filed the Portnoy Proxy Statement with the SEC and notified the Company of, among other things, its intention to nominate the Portnoy Slate of directors for election at the Annual Meeting.

24. In the Portnoy Proxy Statement, the Portnoy Slate pledged to, among other things, eliminate any and all unnecessary expenses, reduce the annual cash compensation of directors by 50%, and examine the level of compensation of the Company's senior management.

25. Over the next several weeks, the Portnoy Group secured significant support among the Company's Stockholders for the election of the Portnoy Slate at the Annual Meeting.

E. The Director Defendants' Delay the Annual Meeting in Violation of the Company's Bylaws

26. Faced with the threat of losing their directorships to the Portnoy Slate, the Director Defendants delayed scheduling the Annual Meeting, in violation of the Article II, Section 2 of the Bylaws, which required the Annual Meeting to be held within six months after the close of the Company's fiscal year ending November 30, 2006.

27. Pursuant to the Bylaws that the Current Board approved only months before, the Director Defendants were required to hold the Annual Meeting on or before May 30, 2007.

28. On or about May 18, 2007, the Director Defendants announced that the Company's Annual Meeting would not be held until June 28, 2007.

29. On May 25, 2007, Plaintiff David Portnoy sent a letter to the Director Defendants inquiring why the Current Board had violated the Bylaws by not holding the Annual Meeting within the six month time frame required under the Bylaws. The Director Defendants again failed to respond.

F. The Director Defendants Engage in an Illegal Vote Buying Scheme to Secure Votes in Favor of the Management Slate

30. The Director Defendants failure to schedule the Annual Meeting within the time frame required under the Bylaws allowed the Current Board to engage in a vote buying scheme to secure additional votes in support of the Current Board's proposed slate of directors (the "Management Slate").

31. The Director Defendants' vote buying efforts concentrated initially on Andrew J. Filipowski, a wealthy entrepreneur, and the Filipowski Group; the same Group that had only a few months before "question[ed] the sincerity and ability of the current directors to provide leadership and support the stockholders' interests." On or about this time, the Filipowski Group held a beneficial interest in approximately 731,250 shares of Cryo-Cell's common stock (the "Filipowski Shares"), which represented approximately 6.27% of the Company's outstanding shares.

32. On May 25, 2007, the Director Defendants announced that they had, unilaterally and without shareholder approval, increased the size of the Board from five to six directors as of the date of the Annual Meeting. The expansion of the Board was conditioned upon the Current

Board reaching a final agreement with the Filipowski Group, whereby the Director Defendants agreed to nominate Filipowski to fill the newly-created directorship, and, in return, the Filipowski Group agreed to vote its shares in favor of the Management Slate.

33. On June 4, 2007, the Defendant Walton, acting with the approval of the other Director Defendants, and purportedly on behalf of the Company, entered into an Agreement between the Company's and the Andrew J. Filipowski Revocable Trust (the "Voting Agreement"). The Voting Agreement is attached hereto as Exhibit 4.

34. The Voting Agreement provided that the Director Defendants would nominate Mr. Filipowski to fill the newly-created directorship, and, in exchange, the Filipowski Group agreed to vote its shares in favor of the Management Slate at the Annual Meeting.

35. Assuming the Management Slate was reelected, the Voting Agreement also provided that, through the date of the 2008 annual meeting, the Filipowski Group could not, without prior written consent of the Director Defendants:

(A) engage in any solicitation of proxies or consents to vote any voting securities of the Company in opposition to the recommendations of the [Current] Board or become a participant in any election contest with respect to the Company;

(B) otherwise take any action to obtain representation on the Board, except for actions permitted expressly by this Agreement;

(C) take any action that is designed to require the Company to make a public announcement regarding its strategic alternatives;

(D) enter into any agreements with any third party with respect to any of the foregoing; or

(E) make any public announcement with respect to any of the foregoing, except as advised by counsel to comply with applicable law and regulations.

