

## Stacey Sutay

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Letter of Comment No: 473  
File Reference: 1102-100

**From:** Chris Wessels [cwessels@cisco.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 20, 2004 5:18 AM  
**To:** Director - FASB  
**Subject:** File Reference No. 1102-100 Stock Options

**Importance:** High

Chairman Robert H. Herz  
I'm a average Joe born and raised right here in the Bay Area. I write to you today to give you an glimpse as what it takes to survive in this neck of the world that I used to call my home. I wont try and sound like I have all the answers to the financial issues that my Government has gotten me into.

Employee Stock Options have been like a dream come true for me and my family. I can not begin to tell you how it has helped my family and I survive the Silicon Valley as we know it today. Yes it is true I make a decent wage and sure I can get bye on what I bring home every other week but I wish you could see the smile on my face when I can cash a few stocks in to buy my Boys a new bike or the XBOX game they seem to enjoy so much.

For me Employee Stock Options give me a oppportunity to maybe afford that Home I so desperately desire for my Wife and Kids. And maybe the ability to take us all on a family vacation to Disney Land with out having to park at the Family camp grounds cause I cant afford the admission in the park as well as a Motel Six room.

I will never understand why a Naitive California such as myself cant even afford to buy a home where I was born and raised. Most the Managment and Engineers and Corporate Exececutive's I've had the pleasure of or in some occasions displeasure of meeting seem to have a Key or know some secret code only a chosen few are privy too.

I often here the conversations of the Thousands of Stock Option's they were given or get every year and how with one simple phone call to Smith and Barney they have Hundreds of Thousand's of dollars just plunked into there already fat bank accounts. There biggest decision in buying a home is how much more money they can make once they sit on it for a couple years and put it back on the market.

Sir my point is this, I just would like to have half a chance to get a head in my life and not worry about how I will make the rent this month.

Stock Options are a way to achieve my families dreams and it just seems a shame that a simple guy like me who may get 500 shares a year if I'm lucky, too loose them just like that. I just don't understand why the GRUNT'S of the world always seem to get squeezed the hardest. While the corporate Smuck that has no roots here No Family here and really does not care about California takes his Bank Role and

Flies to the Bahamas.

Like I stated Sir I don't pretend to have all the answers and I don't want to give you the perception I'm just belly ache but can somewhere up the food chain there let me keep what little piece of the dream I can achieve???

Thanks For reading my attempt to sound somewhat educated and to try and save what little window I have to get a head in this Valley.

Chris Wessels