


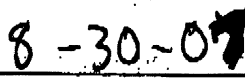
# EXHIBIT 31

**STATEMENT MADE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY**

Now comes Joseph Gowan, being of legal age, signing below, and voluntarily makes the following statement under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States:

- 1.) At all times relevant to this statement, I was an employee of Level Propane Gases, Inc. in New Mexico;
- 2.) That within several days of the involuntary bankruptcy's filing on June 6, 2002 as to Level Propane Gases, Inc., John Verbos, then acting as President of Level Propane Gases, Inc., initiated a national conference call to all of the employees of Level Propane Gases, Inc.;
- 3.) Employees were instructed to call into a specific telephone number to participate in this national conference call;
- 4.) I called the telephone call as instructed and participated in the above-referenced national conference call;
- 5.) In the course of that call, John Verbos, speaking as President of Level Propane Gases, Inc., instructed all employees that they were not to speak to William H. Maloof, the former CEO of Level Propane Gases, Inc., or any member of his family. Mr. Verbos further advised the employee participants that in the event that they converse with William H. Maloof, they would be subject to immediate dismissal;
- 6.) On a later occasion, several weeks later, a similar national conference call was conducted, in which this instruction regarding William H. Maloof was made again.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Joseph Gowan

  
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Date