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JOHN HANCOCK PREFERRED INCOME FUND III  
Form NSAR-B  
September 29, 2008

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001 A000000 JOHN HANCOCK PREFERRED INCOME FUND III  
001 B000000 811-21287  
001 C000000 6176634362  
002 A000000 601 CONGRESS STREET  
002 B000000 BOSTON  
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008 A000001 JOHN HANCOCK ADVISORS, LLC  
008 B000001 A  
008 C000001 801-8124  
008 D010001 BOSTON  
008 D020001 MA  
008 D030001 02210  
008 D040001 2805  
008 A000002 MFC GLOBAL INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT (U.S.), LLC  
008 B000002 S  
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008 D010002 BOSTON  
008 D020002 MA  
008 D030002 02199  
010 A000001 JOHN HANCOCK ADVISERS, LLC  
010 B000001 801-8124  
010 C010001 BOSTON  
010 C020001 MA  
010 C030001 02210  
010 C040001 2805  
012 A000001 MELLON INVESTOR SERVICES  
012 B000001 84-5579  
012 C010001 JERSEY CITY  
012 C020001 NJ  
012 C030001 07310  
013 A000001 PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP  
013 B010001 BOSTON  
013 B020001 MA  
PAGE 2  
013 B030001 02110  
014 A000001 SIGNATOR INVESTORS, INC.  
014 B000001 8-13995  
014 A000002 JOHN HANCOCK FUNDS, LLC  
014 B000002 8-43582  
015 A000001 THE BANK OF NEW YORK

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015 B000001 C  
015 C010001 NEW YORK  
015 C020001 NY  
015 C030001 10286  
015 E010001 X  
015 A000002 BANCO RIO DE LA PLATA  
015 B000002 S  
015 C010002 BUENOS AIRES  
015 D010002 ARGENTINA  
015 E040002 X  
015 A000003 NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK LTD  
015 B000003 S  
015 C010003 MELBOURNE  
015 D010003 AUSTRALIA  
015 E040003 X  
015 A000004 BANK AUSTRIA AG  
015 B000004 S  
015 C010004 VIENNA  
015 D010004 AUSTRIA  
015 E040004 X  
015 A000005 STANDARD CHARTERED BANK  
015 B000005 S  
015 C010005 DHAKA  
015 D010005 BANGLADESH  
015 E040005 X  
015 A000006 BANQUE BRUXELLES LAMBERT  
015 B000006 S  
015 C010006 BRUSSELS  
015 D010006 BELGIUM  
015 E040006 X  
015 A000007 BARCLAYS BANK OF BOTSWANA LIMITED  
015 B000007 S  
015 C010007 GARBORONE  
015 D010007 BOTSWANA  
015 E040007 X  
015 A000008 BANKBOSTON N.A.  
015 B000008 S  
015 C010008 BRASILIA  
015 D010008 BRAZIL  
015 E040008 X  
015 A000009 ROYAL BANK OF CANADA  
015 B000009 S  
015 C010009 TORONTO  
015 D010009 CANADA  
015 E040009 X  
PAGE 3  
015 A000010 BANKBOSTON N.A.  
015 B000010 S  
015 C010010 SANTIAGO  
015 D010010 CHILE  
015 E040010 X  
015 A000011 STANDARD CHARTERED BANK  
015 B000011 S  
015 C010011 SHANGHAI  
015 D010011 CHINA  
015 E040011 X  
015 A000012 CITITRUST COLOMBIA S.A. SOCIEDAD FIDUCIARIA  
015 B000012 S  
015 C010012 BOGOTA  
015 D010012 COLOMBIA  
015 E040012 X  
015 A000013 BANK OF CYPRUS

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015 B000013 S  
015 C010013 NICOSIA  
015 D010013 CYPRUS  
015 E040013 X  
015 A000014 CESKOSLOVENSKA OBCHODNI BANKA, A.S.  
015 B000014 S  
015 C010014 PRAGUE  
015 D010014 CZECH REPUBLIC  
015 E040014 X  
015 A000015 DANSKE BANK  
015 B000015 S  
015 C010015 COPENHAGEN  
015 D010015 DENMARK  
015 E040015 X  
015 A000016 CITIBANK N.A.  
015 B000016 S  
015 C010016 CAIRO  
015 D010016 EGYPT  
015 E040016 X  
015 A000017 MERITA BANK PLC  
015 B000017 S  
015 C010017 HELSINKI  
015 D010017 FINLAND  
015 E040017 X  
015 A000018 BNP PARIBAS  
015 B000018 S  
015 C010018 PARIS  
015 D010018 FRANCE  
015 E040018 X  
015 A000019 DRESDNER BANK AG  
015 B000019 S  
015 C010019 FRANKFURT  
015 D010019 GERMANY  
015 E040019 X  
015 A000020 BARCLAYS BANK OF GHANA LIMITED

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015 B000020 S  
015 C010020 ACCRA  
015 D010020 GHANA  
015 E040020 X  
015 A000021 BNP PARIBAS SECURITIES SERVICES  
015 B000021 S  
015 C010021 ATHENS  
015 D010021 GREECE  
015 E040021 X  
015 A000022 HSBC  
015 B000022 S  
015 C010022 HONG KONG  
015 D010022 HONG KONG  
015 E040022 X  
015 A000023 CITIBANK RT.  
015 B000023 S  
015 C010023 BUDAPEST  
015 D010023 HUNGARY  
015 E040023 X  
015 A000024 DEUTSCHE BANK AG  
015 B000024 S  
015 C010024 NEW DELHI  
015 D010024 INDIA  
015 E040024 X  
015 A000025 HSBC  
015 B000025 S

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015 C010025 DJAKARTA  
015 D010025 INDONESIA  
015 E040025 X  
015 A000026 ALLIED IRISH BANKS, PLC  
015 B000026 S  
015 C010026 DUBLIN  
015 D010026 IRELAND  
015 E040026 X  
015 A000027 BANK LEUMI LE - ISRAEL B.M.  
015 B000027 S  
015 C010027 JERUSALEM  
015 D010027 ISRAEL  
015 E040027 X  
015 A000028 BNP PARIBAS  
015 B000028 S  
015 C010028 ROME  
015 D010028 ITALY  
015 E040028 X  
015 A000029 THE FUJI BANK, LIMITED  
015 B000029 S  
015 C010029 TOKYO  
015 D010029 JAPAN  
015 E040029 X  
015 A000030 THE BANK OF TOKYO-MITSUBISHI LIMITED  
015 B000030 S

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015 C010030 TOKYO  
015 D010030 JAPAN  
015 E040030 X  
015 A000031 HSBC BANK OF THE MIDDLE EAST  
015 B000031 S  
015 C010031 AMMAN  
015 D010031 JORDAN  
015 E040031 X  
015 A000032 BARCLAYS BANK OF KENYA LIMITED  
015 B000032 S  
015 C010032 NAIROBI  
015 D010032 KENYA  
015 E040032 X  
015 A000033 STANDARD CHARTERED BANK  
015 B000033 S  
015 C010033 SEOUL  
015 D010033 KOREA  
015 E040033 X  
015 A000034 HONGKONG BANK MALAYSIA BERHAD  
015 B000034 S  
015 C010034 KUALA LUMPER  
015 D010034 MALAYSIA  
015 E040034 X  
015 A000035 HSBC  
015 B000035 S  
015 C010035 PORT LOUIS  
015 D010035 MAURITIUS  
015 E040035 X  
015 A000036 BANCO NACIONAL DE MEXICO  
015 B000036 S  
015 C010036 MEXICO CITY  
015 D010036 MEXICO  
015 E040036 X  
015 A000037 BANQUE COMMERCIALE DU MAROC  
015 B000037 S  
015 C010037 RABAT

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015 D010037 MOROCCO  
015 E040037 X  
015 A000038 FORTIS BANK, N.V.  
015 B000038 S  
015 C010038 AMSTERDAM  
015 D010038 THE NETHERLANDS  
015 E040038 X  
015 A000039 NATIONAL AUSTRALIA BANK LTD.  
015 B000039 S  
015 C010039 WELLINGTON  
015 D010039 NEW ZEALAND  
015 E040039 X  
015 A000040 DEN NORSKE BANK ASA  
015 B000040 S  
015 C010040 OSLO  
015 D010040 NORWAY  
015 E040040 X  
015 A000041 DEUTSCHE BANK AG  
015 B000041 S  
015 C010041 ISLAMABAD  
015 D010041 PAKISTAN  
015 E040041 X  
015 A000042 CITIBANK, N.A.  
015 B000042 S  
015 C010042 LIMA  
015 D010042 PERU  
015 E040042 X  
015 A000043 HSBC  
015 B000043 S  
015 C010043 MANILA  
015 D010043 THE PHILIPPINES  
015 E040043 X  
015 A000044 BANK HANDLOWY W WARSZAWIE S.A.  
015 B000044 S  
015 C010044 WARSAW  
015 D010044 POLAND  
015 E040044 X  
015 A000045 BANCO COMERCIAL PORTUGUES  
015 B000045 S  
015 C010045 LISBON  
015 D010045 PORTUGAL  
015 E040045 X  
015 A000046 THE DEVELOPMENT BANK OF SINGAPORE LTD  
015 B000046 S  
015 C010046 SINGAPORE  
015 D010046 SINGAPORE  
015 E040046 X  
015 A000047 CESKOSLOVENSKA OBCHODNA BANKA A.S.  
015 B000047 S  
015 C010047 BRATISLAVA  
015 D010047 SLOVAK REPUBLIC  
015 E040047 X  
015 A000048 BANCO SANTANDER CENTRAL HISPANO, S.A  
015 B000048 S  
015 C010048 MADRID  
015 D010048 SPAIN  
015 E040048 X  
015 A000049 STANDARD CHARTERED BANK  
015 B000049 S  
015 C010049 COLOMBO  
015 D010049 SRI LANKA

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015 E040049 X  
015 A000050 STANDARD BANK SWAZILAND LIMITED  
015 B000050 S  
015 C010050 MBABANE  
015 D010050 SWAZILAND  
PAGE 7  
015 E040050 X  
015 A000051 SKANDINAVISKA ENSKILDA BANKEN  
015 B000051 S  
015 C010051 STOCKHOLM  
015 D010051 SWEDEN  
015 E040051 X  
015 A000052 CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON  
015 B000052 S  
015 C010052 ZURICH  
015 D010052 SWITZERLAND  
015 E040052 X  
015 A000053 HSBC  
015 B000053 S  
015 C010053 TAI PEI  
015 D010053 TAIWAN  
015 E040053 X  
015 A000054 STANDARD CHARTERED BANK  
015 B000054 S  
015 C010054 BANGKOK  
015 D010054 THAILAND  
015 E040054 X  
015 A000055 OTTOMAN BANK  
015 B000055 S  
015 C010055 ISTANBUL  
015 D010055 TURKEY  
015 E040055 X  
015 A000056 THE BANK OF NEW YORK  
015 B000056 S  
015 C010056 LONDON  
015 D010056 UNITED KINGDOM  
015 E040056 X  
015 A000057 BANKBOSTON N.A.  
015 B000057 S  
015 C010057 MONTEVIDEO  
015 D010057 URUGUAY  
015 E040057 X  
015 A000058 CITIBANK, N.A.  
015 B000058 S  
015 C010058 CARACAS  
015 D010058 VENEZUELA  
015 E040058 X  
015 A000059 BARCLAYS BANK OF ZAMBIA LIMITED  
015 B000059 S  
015 C010059 LUSAKA  
015 D010059 ZAMBIA  
015 E040059 X  
015 A000060 BARCLAYS BANK OF ZIMBABWE LIMITED  
015 B000060 S  
015 C010060 HARARE  
015 D010060 ZIMBABWE  
015 E040060 X  
PAGE 8  
015 A000061 STANDARD BANK OF SOUTH AFRICA LIMITED  
015 B000061 S  
015 C010061 CAPETOWN  
015 D010061 SOUTH AFRICA

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015 E040061 X  
015 A000062 CREDIT AGRICOLE INDOSUEZ  
015 B000062 S  
015 C010062 PARIS  
015 D010062 FRANCE  
015 E040062 X  
015 A000063 CITIBANK, N.A.  
015 B000063 S  
015 C010063 QUITO  
015 D010063 ECUADOR  
015 E040063 X  
015 A000064 BANCO BCT, S.A.  
015 B000064 S  
015 C010064 SAN JOSE  
015 D010064 COSTA RICA  
015 E040064 X  
015 A000065 CREDIT SUISSE FIRST BOSTON, ZURICH VIA CREDIT  
015 B000065 S  
015 C010065 MOSCOW  
015 D010065 RUSSIA  
015 E040065 X  
015 A000066 INTESABCI S.P.A.  
015 B000066 S  
015 C010066 ROME  
015 D010066 ITALY  
015 E040066 X  
015 A000067 HSBC BANK OF THE MIDDLE EAST  
015 B000067 S  
015 C010067 BEIRUT  
015 D010067 LEBANON  
015 E040067 X  
015 A000068 THE BANK OF BERMUDA LIMITED  
015 B000068 S  
015 C010068 HAMILTON  
015 D010068 BERMUDA  
015 E040068 X  
015 A000069 HSBC BANK OF THE MIDDLE EAST  
015 B000069 S  
015 C010069 MANAMA  
015 D010069 BAHRAIN  
015 E040069 X  
015 A000070 SOCIETE GENERALE DE BANQUES EN COTE D IVOIRE  
015 B000070 S  
015 C010070 ABIDJAN  
015 D010070 IVORY COAST  
015 E040070 X  
015 A000071 HSBC  
PAGE 9  
015 B000071 S  
015 C010071 DELHI  
015 D010071 INDIA  
015 E040071 X  
015 A000072 HSBC BANK OF THE MIDDLE EAST  
015 B000072 S  
015 C010072 MUSCAT  
015 D010072 OMAN  
015 E040072 X  
015 A000073 CITIBANK, N.A.  
015 B000073 S  
015 C010073 LA PAZ  
015 D010073 BOLIVIA  
015 E040073 X

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015 A000074 ING BANK N.V.  
015 B000074 S  
015 C010074 SOFIA  
015 D010074 BULGARIA  
015 E040074 X  
015 A000075 PRIVREDNA BANKA ZAGREB D.D.  
015 B000075 S  
015 C010075 ZAGREB  
015 D010075 CROATIA  
015 E040075 X  
015 A000076 HANSABANK  
015 B000076 S  
015 C010076 TALLIN  
015 D010076 ESTONIA  
015 E040076 X  
015 A000077 LANDSBANKI ISLANDS  
015 B000077 S  
015 C010077 REYKJAVIK  
015 D010077 ICELAND  
015 E040077 X  
015 A000078 CIBC TRUST & MERCHANT BANK  
015 B000078 S  
015 C010078 KINGSTON  
015 D010078 JAMAICA  
015 E040078 X  
015 A000079 A/S HANSABANK  
015 B000079 S  
015 C010079 RIGA  
015 D010079 LATVIA  
015 E040079 X  
015 A000080 VILNIAUS BANKAS AB  
015 B000080 S  
015 C010080 VILNIUS  
015 D010080 LITHUANIA  
015 E040080 X  
015 A000081 STANBIC BANK NAMIBIA LIMITED  
015 B000081 S  
PAGE 10  
015 C010081 WINDHOEK  
015 D010081 NAMIBIA  
015 E040081 X  
015 A000082 ING BANK N.V.  
015 B000082 S  
015 C010082 BUCHAREST  
015 D010082 ROMANIA  
015 E040082 X  
015 A000083 BANK AUSTRIA CREDITANSTALT D.D. LJUBLJANA  
015 B000083 S  
015 C010083 LJUBLJANA  
015 D010083 SLOVENIA  
015 E040083 X  
015 A000084 REPUBLIC BANK LIMITED  
015 B000084 S  
015 C010084 PORT OF SPAIN  
015 D010084 TRINIDAD & TOBAGO  
015 E040084 X  
015 A000085 BANQUE INTERNATIONALE ARABE DE TUNISIE  
015 B000085 S  
015 C010085 TUNIS  
015 D010085 TUNISIA  
015 E040085 X  
015 A000086 ING BANK, UKRAINE

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015 B000086 S  
015 C010086 KIEV  
015 D010086 UKRAINE  
015 E040086 X  
015 A000087 HSBC BANK OF MIDDLE EAST  
015 B000087 S  
015 C010087 PALESTINE  
015 D010087 PALESTINE  
015 E040087 X  
015 A000088 HSBC BANK MIDDLE EAST  
015 B000088 S  
015 C010088 DOHA  
015 D010088 QATAR  
015 E040088 X  
015 A000089 UNITED OVERSEAS BANK LTD.  
015 B000089 S  
015 C010089 SINGAPORE  
015 D010089 SINGAPORE  
015 E040089 X  
015 A000090 HSBC - HO CHI MINH CITY  
015 B000090 S  
015 C010090 SAIGON  
015 D010090 VIETNAM  
015 E040090 X  
015 A000091 BANK BOSTON, N.A.  
015 B000091 S  
015 C010091 PANAMA  
PAGE 11  
015 D010091 REP. OF PANAMA  
015 E040091 X  
015 A000092 SOCIETE GENERALE JOHANNESBURG  
015 B000092 S  
015 C010092 CAPETOWN, PRETORIA  
015 D010092 SOUTH AFRICA  
015 E040092 X  
015 A000093 BBVA  
015 B000093 S  
015 C010093 MADRID  
015 D010093 SPAIN  
015 E040093 X  
015 A000094 BANGKOK BANK PUBLIC COMPANY LTD.  
015 B000094 S  
015 C010094 BANGKOK  
015 D010094 THAILAND  
015 E040094 X  
015 A000095 THE DEPOSITORY & CLEARING CENTRE  
015 B000095 S  
015 C010095 LONDON  
015 D010095 UNITED KINGDOM  
015 E040095 X  
015 A000096 SOCIETE GENERALE DE BANQUES EN COTE D'IVOIRE  
015 B000096 S  
015 C010096 PORTO-NOVO  
015 D010096 BENIN  
015 E040096 X  
015 A000097 SOCIETE GENERALE DE BANQUES EN COTE D'IVOIRE  
015 B000097 S  
015 C010097 MALABO  
015 D010097 GUINEA BISSAU  
015 E040097 X  
015 A000098 ABN\AMRO  
015 B000098 S

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015 C010098 ASTANA  
015 D010098 KAZAKHSTAN  
015 E040098 X  
015 A000099 BANQUE ET CAISSE DEPARAGNE DE L'TAT  
015 B000099 S  
015 C010099 LUXEMBOURG  
015 D010099 LUXEMBOURG  
015 E040099 X  
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019 A000000 Y  
019 B000000 227  
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020 A000001 Miller, Tabak, Hirsch & Co.  
020 B000001 13-3086847  
020 C000001 5  
020 A000002 MC Leod Young Weir Ltd.  
020 C000002 4  
PAGE 12  
020 A000003 JEFFRIES & CO.  
020 B000003 95-2622900  
020 C000003 3  
020 A000004 MTB Sweep  
020 C000004 2  
020 A000005 William Blair & Co  
020 B000005 36-2214610  
020 C000005 1  
020 A000006 MORGAN STANLEY & CO., INC  
020 B000006 13-2655998  
020 C000006 1  
020 A000007 SMF TRADING, INC.  
020 C000007 1  
021 000000 18  
022 A000001 MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC.  
022 B000001 13-5674085  
022 C000001 132091  
022 D000001 1411  
022 A000002 JP MORGAN CHASE  
022 B000002 13-3224016  
022 C000002 18698  
022 D000002 8949  
022 A000003 Bank of America Corp.  
022 B000003 54-2058405  
022 C000003 25776  
022 D000003 0  
022 A000004 BOA Montgomery Securities  
022 B000004 94-1701676  
022 C000004 44097  
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022 A000005 STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST  
022 B000005 04-1867445  
022 C000005 29798  
022 D000005 0  
022 A000006 BARCLAYS BANK PLC  
022 B000006 13-3551367  
022 C000006 12399  
022 D000006 0  
022 A000007 DB Clearing Corp.  
022 C000007 0  
022 D000007 7865  
022 A000008 Lanston (Aubrey) & Co.  
022 C000008 0  
022 D000008 14735

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022 A000009 LEHMAN BROTHERS  
022 B000009 13-2518466  
022 C000009 32198  
022 D000009 0  
022 A000010 CITIGROUP, INC.  
022 B000010 52-1568099  
022 C000010 0  
PAGE 13  
022 D000010 6693  
023 C000000 308450  
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025 A000001 BANC OF AMERICA SECURITIES LLC  
025 B000001 56-2058405  
025 C000001 E  
025 D000001 10367  
025 A000002 MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC.  
025 B000002 13-5674085  
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025 D000002 26862  
025 A000003 JP MORGAN CHASE  
025 B000003 13-3224016  
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025 D000003 20321  
025 A000004 BARCLAYS BANK PLC  
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025 D000004 1305  
025 A000005 BANK OF AMERICA - MONGOMERY SEC.  
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025 D000005 25776  
025 A000006 LEHMAN BROTHERS  
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025 D000006 14727  
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025 A000008 MORGAN STANLEY & CO., INC  
025 B000008 13-2655998  
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025 D000008 23076  
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066	C000000	N	
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066 F000000 N  
 066 G000000 N  
 067 000000 N  
 068 A000000 N  
 068 B000000 N  
 069 000000 N  
 070 A010000 Y  
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 070 G020000 N  
 070 H010000 Y  
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 070 I010000 N  
 070 I020000 N  
 070 J010000 Y  
 070 J020000 Y  
 070 K010000 Y  
 070 K020000 N  
 070 L010000 Y

PAGE 17

070 L020000 Y  
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 070 M020000 N  
 070 N010000 Y  
 070 N020000 N  
 070 O010000 Y  
 070 O020000 Y  
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072 P000000	1612
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073 A010000	0.0000
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073 A020000	0.0000
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074 A000000	692
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077 Q020000	N
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078 000000	N

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080 A000000 GULF INSURANCE  
080 B000000 ICI MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY  
080 C000000 45000  
081 A000000 Y  
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086 A010000 0  
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087 A020000 41021P103  
087 A030000 HPS  
088 A000000 Y  
088 B000000 N  
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088 D000000 Y  
SIGNATURE ALFRED P. OULLETTE  
TITLE SENIOR ATTORNEY