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2	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT							
3	CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA							
4	WESTERN DIVISION							
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6	ASIA ECONOMIC INSTITUTE, ET AL.,	· ) )						
7		) )						
8	PLAINTIFFS,	)						
9	VS.	) CASE NO. CV 10-1360-SVW(PJWX)						
10	XCENTRIC VENTURES, LLC,	)						
11	ET AL.,	) LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA ) JUNE 24, 2010						
12	DEFENDANTS.	) (11:06 A.M. TO 11:45 A.M.) )						
14 15 16 17		HEARING NORABLE PATRICK J. WALSH TES MAGISTRATE JUDGE						
18	APPEARANCES:	SEE NEXT PAGE						
19	COURT REPORTER:	RECORDED; COURT SMART						
20	COURTROOM DEPUTY:	CELIA ANGLON-REED						
21	TRANSCRIBER:	DOROTHY BABYKIN COURTHOUSE SERVICES						
22		1218 VALEBROOK PLACE						
23		GLENDORA, CALIFORNIA 91740 (626) 963-0566						
24								
25	PROCEEDINGS RECORDED BY ELECTRONIC SOUND RECORDING; TRANSCRIPT PRODUCED BY TRANSCRIPTION SERVICE.							

1	APPEARANCES: (CONTINUED				
2	FOR THE PLAINTIFFS:	ASIA ECONOMIC INSTITUTE LLC BY: LISA J. BORODKIN DANIEL F. BLACKERT			
3		ATTORNEYS AT LAW 11766 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD			
4		SUITE 260 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90025			
5					
6	FOR THE DEFENDANTS:				
7		BY: DAVID SCOTT GINGRAS ATTORNEY AT LAW			
8		4072 EAST MOUNTAIN VISTA DRIVE PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85048			
9		JABURG & WILK PC BY: MARIA CRIMI SPETH			
10		ATTORNEY AT LAW			
11		3200 NORTH CENTRAL AVENUE SUITE 2000			
12		PHOENIX, ARIZONA 85012 (APPEARING TELEPHONICALLY)			
13		EDWARD MAGEDSON, DEFENDANT (APPEARING TELEPHONICALLY)			
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2	CASE NO. (	CV 10	)-1360-SVW(H	PJWX)			JUNE 24,	2010
3	PROCEEDING	GS:	PLAINTIFF'S CETERA	S MOTION	ТО	BIFURCATE	DISCOVERY,	ΕT
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1 MS. BORODKIN: WE DON'T DISAGREE. THANK YOU. 2 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. 3 MR. BLACKERT, DID YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU WANTED TO 4 ADD? 5 MR. BLACKERT: NO, YOUR HONOR. I THINK EVERYTHING 6 WAS COVERED. 7 THE COURT: OKAY. MR. BLACKERT: THANK YOU. 8 9 THE COURT: MS. SPETH, ANYTHING YOU WANTED TO ADD? 10 MS. SPETH: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR. JUST THAT MR. MAGEDSON'S DEPOSITION WAS, IN FACT, 11 TAKEN AFTER THIS WAS FILED. AND, SO, I JUST WANT TO CLARIFY 12 13 THAT WHEN YOU SAID YOU CAN TAKE HIS DEPOSITION, YOU DON'T 14 MEAN THAT THEY CAN TAKE IT A SECOND TIME. YOU JUST DIDN'T 15 KNOW THAT IT WAS ALREADY TAKEN. 16 THE COURT: WELL, WE'RE IN FIGHT NUMBER TWO NOW. 17 BECAUSE MS. BORODKIN I THINK --18 COME ON UP HERE, MS. BORODKIN. 19 -- WANTS TO TAKE THE DEPOSITION AGAIN. 20 AM I RIGHT? 21 MS. BORODKIN: CORRECT, YOUR HONOR. WE SUSPENDED 22 IT BASED ON THE FACT THAT WE HAD AN UNRESOLVABLE DISAGREEMENT 23 BASED ON WHETHER MR. MAGEDSON SHOULD ANSWER QUESTIONS BASED 24 ON THE PENDING MOTION FOR A PROTECTIVE ORDER. 25 THE COURT: HOW LONG WAS THE DEPOSITION?

MS. BORODKIN: I BELIEVE WE CONSUMED ABOUT FIVE
 HOURS.

3 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. WELL, THAT SOUNDS LIKE IT'S 4 MORE THAN JUST HIM SAYING I'M NOT GOING TO ANSWER THE 5 QUESTIONS WITH A PROTECTIVE ORDER.

HOW MUCH MORE TIME DO YOU WANT?

6

MS. BORODKIN: WE COULD DO IT IN AN HOUR ORDEFINITELY WITHIN THE SEVEN-HOUR LIMITATION OF RULE 30.

9 THE COURT: WHAT TYPES OF QUESTIONS DID HE REFUSE 10 TO ANSWER?

11 MS. BORODKIN: HE REFUSED TO ANSWER QUESTIONS, AND 12 HE REFUSED TO BRING DOCUMENTS UNDER A SUBPOENA TO THE 13 DEPOSITION REGARDING THE CONTRACT THAT PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS OF 14 THE CAP APPLICATION ARE OFFERED AND QUESTIONS REGARDING THE 15 EXACT STEPS THAT APPLICANTS OR POTENTIAL APPLICANTS OF THE 16 CAP APPLICATION GO THROUGH WHEN THEY ARE ASKED TO JOIN THE 17 CAP.

18 THE COURT: OKAY.

19 MS. BORODKIN: WE HAVE THE --

MS. SPETH: WE DISAGREE -- WE DISAGREE, YOUR HONOR.
MS. BORODKIN: WE HAVE THE PORTIONS OF THE
DEPOSITION TRANSCRIPTS TABBED AND HIGHLIGHTED FOR YOUR HONOR
IF YOU'D LIKE TO TAKE A LOOK AT IT AFTER THIS HEARING -- ON
WHICH HE WAS INSTRUCTED NOT TO ANSWER BASED ON THE LACK OF
PROTECTIVE ORDER.

THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. MS. SPETH. 1 MS. SPETH: YES. HE EXTENSIVELY ANSWERED QUESTIONS 2 ABOUT THE PROGRAM AND THE WAY THE PROGRAM WORKS, YOUR HONOR. 3 4 SO, I WOULD ENCOURAGE YOU TO LOOK AT THE ITEMS THAT 5 WE DID -- OR DAVID DID INSTRUCT THE WITNESS NOT TO ANSWER 6 CERTAIN ITEMS BECAUSE THERE WAS NO PROTECTIVE ORDER IN PLACE. 7 BUT THE ONES THAT MS. BORODKIN JUST DESCRIBED, FOR THE MOST PART WERE ANSWERED. 8 9 ALSO, I THINK THE SUBPOENA IS A WHOLE OTHER ISSUE 10 THAT MR. GINGRAS CAN ADDRESS. BUT THAT SUBPOENA WAS DEFECTIVE IN MANY, MANY WAYS. AND IT WAS ISSUED LIKE THE 11 12 NIGHT BEFORE -- A COUPLE OF DAYS BEFORE, SOMETHING LIKE THAT. 13 YOUR HONOR, MR. MAGEDSON'S DEPOSITION WAS 14 EXTENSIVE. IT WENT ON FOR FIVE HOURS. PLUS, THEY TOOK A 15 30(B)(6) DEPOSITION FOR -- I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW MANY HOURS, 16 BUT IT WAS CLOSE TO THE LIMIT. 17 SO, THEY'VE HAD HIM IN DEPOSITION FOR FAR, FAR MORE 18 THAN TEN HOURS. AND --19 THE COURT: I UNDERSTAND. 20 AND I'LL LET YOU HAVE A CHANCE, MR. GINGRAS. AND I SAW -- I'LL PRONOUNCE YOUR NAME -- THERE'S ONLY ONE "S" IN 21 22 YOUR NAME THOUGH, RIGHT? 23 MR. GINGRAS: CORRECT. 24 THE COURT: BECAUSE I READ THE TRANSCRIPT FROM 25 JUDGE WILSON'S HEARING WHERE YOU TOLD HIM HOW TO PRONOUNCE

1 IT.

2 (LAUGHTER.)

3 MR. GINGRAS: THANK YOU.

4 THE COURT: SO, I'M FOLLOWING ALONG HERE.

5 MS. SPETH, I UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE SAYING. FIVE 6 HOURS OF ONE DEPOSITION AND ANOTHER FIVE AND A 30(B)(6) IS A 7 LONG TIME.

8 BUT MS. BORODKIN IS MAKING A POINT HERE. IF SOME 9 OF THESE QUESTIONS WERE NOT ANSWERED BASED ON THE FACT THAT 10 THERE WAS NO PROTECTIVE ORDER -- IN OTHER WORDS, THE DEPOSITION COULD HAVE GONE 20 HOURS. IF THE OUESTIONS THAT 11 12 THEY NEEDED ANSWERED TO GO FORWARD ON THESE EXTORTION CLAIMS 13 AND/OR OPPOSE THE SUMMARY JUDGMENT MOTION WERE NOT ANSWERED 14 BASED ON THAT OBJECTION, THEN, I THINK SHE SHOULD BE ALLOWED 15 TO ASK THOSE QUESTIONS.

16 TELL ME WHY I'M WRONG.

MS. SPETH: WELL, I THINK WHAT -- I DON'T THINK NOU'RE WRONG. I THINK THE PROBLEM IS THAT SHE'S POINTING OUT AREAS THAT SHE DID, IN FACT, COVER AND HE DID, IN FACT, ANSWER.

AND ONE OF THE PROBLEMS THAT WE HAVE IS THERE WERE CERTAIN PLACES IN THE DEPOSITION WHERE MR. MAGEDSON ORIGINALLY REFUSED TO ANSWER AND THEN SHE CIRCLED BACK AROUND, AND HE ULTIMATELY ANSWERED THEM.

25 WHAT I'D LIKE TO SEE IS I'D LIKE TO SEE IS THERE

ANY REAL ISSUE THAT SHE TRULY NEVER GOT AN ANSWER TO THAT SHE
 STILL NEEDS. AND IF THAT'S THE CASE, WE CAN PROBABLY WORK
 THAT OUT.

BUT I DON'T THINK THAT THERE'S THESE BROAD
CATEGORIES. IN FACT, I'M SURE THAT HE ANSWERED SOME OF THE
EXACT QUESTIONS THAT MS. BORODKIN JUST TOLD YOU HE DIDN'T
ANSWER.

8 THE COURT: OKAY.

9 MS. SPETH: MR. GINGRAS WAS THERE FOR THE WHOLE 10 TIME. HE'S PROBABLY BETTER EQUIPPED TO ADDRESS ANY 11 PARTICULAR ISSUE.

12 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT.

MR. GINGRAS.

MR. GINGRAS: YOUR HONOR, I THINK MS. SPETH IS RIGHT. I THINK -- FIRST OF ALL, SHE'S RIGHT ABOUT THE FACT THAT THERE WERE TWO DEPOSITIONS. THEY COVERED TWO ALMOST FULL DAYS. THERE WAS A LOT COVERED. WHAT I THINK --

18 THE COURT: I GUESS WHAT I WANT EVERYBODY TO FOCUS 19 ON IS WHAT WASN'T COVERED. THAT'S ALL I CARE ABOUT.

20 MR. GINGRAS: RIGHT. AND, YOUR HONOR, MY ONLY --21 MY MAIN COMMENT -- AS I WAS SITTING HERE LISTENING TO YOU 22 TALKING TO MS. SPETH, MY MAIN COMMENT IS I'M NOT SURE HOW TO 23 SQUARE THE ORDER THAT YOU JUST ENTERED STAYING DISCOVERY AS 24 TO NON-RICO MATTERS. I'M NOT SURE HOW TO SQUARE THAT WITH 25 THE EXPLORATION THAT MS. BORODKIN WANTS TO DO ON OTHER ISSUES. BECAUSE I'M QUITE SURE THAT THE QUESTIONS THAT SHE
 ASKED, SOME OF THEM RELATED TO EXTORTION AND SOME DID NOT.
 SOME RELATED TO DAMAGES. YOU'VE ALREADY STAYED THAT.
 THEY'RE NOT ENTITLED -- THEY'RE NOT ALLOWED -- WE'RE NOT
 ALLOWED TO SEEK DISCOVERY FROM THEM ON THOSE ISSUES. I THINK
 THAT SHOULD BE A TWO-WAY STREET.

7 THE COURT: RIGHT. YOU KNOW, THERE'S ABOUT 15 8 ISSUES HERE. THERE'S NO BRIEFING ON IT. AND THERE'S FIVE 9 HOURS OF DEPOSITION OR MAYBE 10 HOURS. I DON'T KNOW HOW I 10 RESOLVE THIS.

11 GO AHEAD.

24

12 MR. GINGRAS: MY COMMENT, YOUR HONOR, WOULD BE THAT 13 THE WAY I THINK WE SHOULD HANDLE THIS, RATHER THAN SITTING 14 HERE AND GUESSING AS TO WHAT THE ISSUES ARE, I THINK THAT IF 15 PLAINTIFFS WANT TO MOVE TO COMPEL A SECOND DEPOSITION AS TO 16 SPECIFIC QUESTIONS, THEY OUGHT TO FILE A MOTION ON THAT. LET 17 US RESPOND TO IT. I DON'T THINK IT'S URGENT -- I DON'T THINK 18 -- LIKE I'VE SAID, WE'VE ALLOWED THEM TO HAVE A LOT OF 19 LEEWAY IN DEPOSING OUR CLIENT.

20 MS. BORODKIN: YOUR HONOR, WE HAVE THE DEPOSITION 21 TRANSCRIPTS RIGHT HERE. THERE'S ONE-PAGE SUMMARIES OF THE 22 TOPICS THAT MR. MAGEDSON AND ALSO AS THE XCENTRIC 23 30(B)(6) WITNESS WAS INSTRUCTED NOT TO ANSWER. SOME OF THEM

25 WE JUST NEED TO SEE HOW THE CONTRACT IS PRESENTED

GO DIRECTLY TO THE HEART OF THE EXTORTION CLAIM.

1 TO PEOPLE.

2 THE COURT: OKAY. BUT NOW MS. SPETH SAYS THAT YOU 3 CIRCLED BACK ON SOME OF THOSE, WHERE THEY SAID DON'T ANSWER 4 AND THAT HE, IN FACT, ANSWERED.

5 MS. BORODKIN: I WOULD DISAGREE WITH THAT.

6 THE COURT: OKAY. SO, WE NEED TO RESOLVE THAT. 7 THAT'S A FACTUAL DISPUTE, AND WE NEED TO RESOLVE IT.

8 AND HANDING ME TWO FIVE-HOUR DEPOSITIONS AND HAVING 9 ME READ THEM AND FIGURE OUT WHAT YOU GUYS WERE THINKING AND 10 WHAT EVERYBODY DID, THAT'S NOT THE WAY TO RESOLVE IT.

11 HERE'S HOW WE'RE GOING TO RESOLVE THIS. YOU ARE 12 GOING TO MAKE A LIST OF THOSE QUESTIONS THAT YOU WANT TO ASK 13 IN THIS CONTINUED DEPOSITION. AND YOU PUT PAGE AND LINE 14 NUMBER WHERE YOU BELIEVE THAT THEY OBJECTED AND DID NOT 15 ANSWER BASED ON THE PROTECTIVE ORDER ISSUE. OKAY.

16 SEND IT TO THE OTHER SIDE. LETTER FORMAT. I DON'T 17 NEED ANOTHER JOINT STIPULATION. I DON'T NEED TO KNOW WHAT 18 THE LAW IS ON TAKING DEPOSITIONS. OKAY.

YOU TELL THEM WHAT YOU WANT TO ASK AND WHY YOU
THINK THEY DIDN'T ANSWER IT. THEY'RE GOING TO RESPOND TO
YOU. I'LL SET SOME DEADLINES. THEN, YOU CAN FILE WHATEVER
IS LEFT IN DISPUTE. YOU SEND IT TO ME, AND I'LL MAKE A
RULING. I'LL GET YOU ON THE PHONE IF I NEED TO.
MS. SPETH: YOUR HONOR, CAN I SUGGEST MAYBE PERHAPS

25 A GOOD RESOLUTION TO THIS. IF MS. BORODKIN WANTS TO SEND US

1 THAT LIST, AND IF IT HASN'T REALLY BEEN ANSWERED, THE OTHER 2 THING WE WOULD BE WILLING TO DO IS WE'D BE WILLING TO HAVE 3 MR. MAGEDSON, YOU KNOW, WITHIN A COUPLE OF DAYS OF HER 4 REQUEST PROVIDE A DECLARATION OR AN AFFIDAVIT UNDER OATH OF 5 EXACTLY THE ANSWERS TO THOSE QUESTIONS. THAT MIGHT BE A 6 LITTLE BIT MORE EFFICIENT.

7 THE COURT: IT MIGHT BE MORE EFFICIENT, BUT YOU 8 KNOW BETTER THAN I DO THAT YOU DON'T WANT -- YOU DIDN'T WANT 9 A DECLARATION FROM THE OTHER SIDE. IN FACT, YOU GOT 10 DECLARATIONS FROM THE OTHER SIDE THAT YOU BELIEVE WERE 11 INACCURATE.

12 SO, I'LL CONSIDER THAT. AND IF MS. BORODKIN WANTS 13 TO GO ALONG WITH THAT, THAT'S FINE. BUT THE VALUE OF HAVING 14 THE LAWYERS IN THIS CASE IS THEY CAN FOLLOW UP ON THESE 15 ANSWERS AND THEY CAN PROBE FURTHER.

16 BUT HERE'S WHAT WE'RE GOING TO DO.

HOW LONG, MS. BORODKIN, DO YOU NEED TO GET YOURLETTER OVER TO MS. SPETH AND MR. GINGRAS?

MS. BORODKIN: I CAN DO IT BY THE END OF TODAY. IHAVE EVERYTHING RIGHT HERE THAT YOU JUST ARTICULATED.

21 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. LET'S DO IT BY TOMORROW22 NIGHT, BY, LET'S SAY, FIVE O'CLOCK TOMORROW NIGHT LOS ANGELES23 TIME.

AND, MS. SPETH AND MR. GINGRAS, I WANT YOU TO RESPOND -- TODAY IS THE 24TH OF JUNE. I'M GOING TO GIVE YOU A WEEK UNTIL JULY 1ST. BY JULY 1ST, PLEASE, YOU RESPOND AND
 TELL THEM WHY THOSE QUESTIONS WERE ANSWERED OR WHY THEY'RE
 NOT RELEVANT -- BECAUSE I'M ONLY HAVING DISCOVERY ON THE
 EXTORTION PORTION OF THIS CLAIM.

5 LET HER RESPOND. AND IF YOU CANNOT RESOLVE IT, 6 YOU CAN SEND ME THE LETTERS FROM BOTH SIDES, AND I'LL GET 7 YOU ON THE PHONE AND LET YOU ARGUE, AND THEN I'LL MAKE A 8 RULING.

9 MS. BORODKIN: YOUR HONOR, THERE IS ONE COLLATERAL 10 ISSUE THAT IS TECHNICALLY OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF YOUR ORDER 11 BIFURCATING DISCOVERY, AND THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THE 12 TELEPHONE RECORDINGS THAT WERE MADE.

13 DEFENDANTS ARE THE ONES WHO HAVE RAISED THAT IN 14 THEIR MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT. THEY CONTINUE TO RAISE IT 15 IN EVERY SINGLE PROCEEDING BEFORE THE COURT.

16 WE'VE ASKED THEM CERTAIN QUESTIONS ABOUT THE 17 ACCURACY AND COMPLETENESS OF THEIR PRACTICES OF RECORDING 18 TELEPHONE CALLS. AND I WOULD JUST REQUEST THAT THE COURT 19 ALSO INCLUDE IN THE LIST OF QUESTIONS WE COULD FOLLOW UP ON 20 WITH MR. MAGEDSON ASPECTS THAT GO TO THE SUFFICIENCY OF THE 21 EVIDENCE REGARDING THE TELEPHONE RECORDINGS.

THE COURT: ALL RIGHT. I'M GOING TO TALK TO THEM ABOUT THAT. BUT YOU'VE HAD A SIT-DOWN WITH YOUR CLIENT --RIGHT? -- AND YOU SAID, IS THIS YOUR VOICE, IS THIS WHAT YOU SAID, IS THAT WHAT THEY SAID, IS THIS WHAT YOU SAID, IS THAT WHAT THEY SAID. YOU KNOW, THIS ISN'T BRAIN SCIENCE, RIGHT.
 YOUR CLIENT RECOGNIZES HIS OR HER OWN VOICE AND SAYS, YEAH,
 THAT'S WHAT I SAID. THEY RECOGNIZE THE OTHER GUY'S VOICE,
 AND THEY SAY, YEAH, THAT'S WHAT HE SAID.

5 ARE YOU SUGGESTING THAT MAYBE THEY'VE DOCTORED THE 6 TAPES OR SOMETHING?

7 MS. BORODKIN: WE SIMPLY DON'T KNOW. THERE'S A 8 FACTUAL DISPUTE ABOUT WHETHER THE RECORDINGS THAT ARE IN 9 EVIDENCE OR IN THE RECORD AT THIS TIME ARE ALL OF THE 10 RECORDINGS THAT WERE EVER MADE.

11 THERE'S ALSO A DISPUTE ABOUT --

12 THE COURT: I HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH YOU PROBING 13 ABOUT THAT.

14 MS. BORODKIN: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR.

15 THE COURT: ABSOLUTELY. THAT'S ONE OF THE CORE 16 ISSUES THAT THEY HAVE, AND THEY'RE GOING TO RIDE THAT HORSE 17 IN THROUGH TRIAL IN AUGUST, AND YOU'RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO 18 ASK THEM ABOUT THAT IN DISCOVERY. NO PROBLEM. WHETHER IT'S 19 DONE BY A DECLARATION OR WHATEVER TO GET YOU THAT

20 INFORMATION.

21 BUT, ULTIMATELY, IF YOUR CLIENT RECOGNIZES HIS 22 VOICE, AND HIS WIFE RECOGNIZES HER VOICE ON THAT TELEPHONE, 23 AND THOSE ARE THE CONVERSATIONS, AND THEY KIND OF TIE INTO 24 THE PHONE RECORDS THAT THEY'VE BEEN ABLE TO DIG UP, YOU KNOW, 25 YOU GOT A PROBLEM. THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.

1 MS. BORODKIN: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR. 2 THE COURT: DON'T THANK ME FOR YOUR PROBLEM. MS. BORODKIN: IT'S NOT -- JUST TO BE CLEAR FOR THE 3 4 RECORD. IT'S NOT A DISPUTE OVER WHAT'S THERE. 5 THE COURT: OKAY. 6 MS. BORODKIN: IT'S A DISPUTE OVER WHAT ELSE THERE 7 MAY BE. THE COURT: I UNDERSTAND. SO, MAYBE THE 8 9 CONVERSATIONS WERE EXCERPTED, OR MAYBE THERE WERE OTHER 10 CONVERSATIONS THAT WERE ALSO RECORDED THAT THEY HAVEN'T 11 SHARED WITH YOU. 12 IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE SAYING? 13 MS. BORODKIN: AMONG OTHER THINGS. BECAUSE WE'VE 14 ASKED HIM QUESTIONS ABOUT HIS CELL PHONES. HE REFUSED TO 15 ANSWER. 16 THE COURT: OKAY. WHAT DID YOU ASK HIM ABOUT HIS 17 CELL PHONE? 18 MS. BORODKIN: HOW MANY CELL PHONES DOES HE 19 MAINTAIN. 20 THE COURT: OKAY. BECAUSE THERE WERE SOME CELL 21 PHONE CALLS BETWEEN YOUR CLIENT AND MR. MAGEDSON, RIGHT? 22 MS. BORODKIN: YES. 23 AND HE HAS ARTICULATED A CONCERN ABOUT NOT WANTING 24 TO BE TRACKED, AND WE ARE SENSITIVE TO THAT CONCERN. 25 THE COURT: ALL RIGHT.