EXHIBIT 104

Nelson, et al. v. Cuban, et al. United States District Court, Northern District of California Case No. 3:09-CV-682 PJH

Oral Deposition of **Floyd Jahner**

Date: May 20, 2009 **Volume:**

Case: Richard Roe, et al. v. John Doe, Mark Cuban, et al.

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Page 1

ANSWERS AND DEPOSITION of FLOYD JAHNER, taken at the instance of the Plaintiffs, on the 20th day of May, A.D., 2009, between the hours of 2:54 p.m. and 4:22 p.m., in the above styled and numbered cause at the offices of Jackson Walker, L.L.P., 901 Main Street, Suite 6000, in Dallas, Dallas County, Texas, before Jerry L. Callaway, RDR, a Certified Shorthand Reporter in and for the State of Texas, pursuant to the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the provisions stated on the record.

2 (Pages 2 to 5)

2	(Pages 2 to 5)		
	Page 2		Page 4
1		1	haven't you?
2		2	A. A few.
3 4		3	Q. A few preliminary matters, Mr. Jahner. Today
5	·	4	are you the CFO of Dallas Basketball?
6	APPEARANCES	5	A. Yes.
7		6	Q. And were you the CFO back in June of 2006?
ľ	APPEARING FOR THE PLAINTIFFS:	7	A. Yes.
9	M. LL. D. Old	8	Q. Also the CFO in March of 2005?
10	Mr. John D. O'Connor O'CONNOR AND ASSOCIATES	9	A. Yes.
	One Embarcadero Center	10	Q. Was one of your job duties keeping track for
11	Tenth Floor, Suite 1020	11	financial purposes of contractual obligations?
12	San Francisco, California 94111	12	A. Yes.
13		13	Q. You needed to know when you - when and how
1.4	APPEARING FOR THE DEFENDANTS:	14	much you should pay on a particular contract?
14	Ms. Amanda L. Bush	15	A. Yes.
15	JACKSON WALKER, L.L.P.	16	Q. You also would like to know if a contract's
16	100 Congress Avenue	17	been terminated so you won't make payments that you
16	Suite 1100 Austin, Texas 78701	18	shouldn't make, true?
17		19	A. Yes.
18	Also Present:	20	Q. All right. Generally, regarding Mr. Nelson,
19 20	Mr. Robert Hart	21	you had had various discussions both with Mr. Cuban and
21		22	Mr. Nelson stemming from a time period in June, July,
22		23	and August 2006, correct?
24		24	A. Yes, various conversations with Mr. Nelson and
25		25	at least possibly some e-mails conversations with
	Page 3		Page 5
1	FLOYD JAHNER,	1	Mr. Cuban.
2	having been first duly sworn, testified as follows:	2	Q. Okay. Is it fair to say that all of your
3	EXAMINATION	3	communications on this subject about what to do, what
4	BY MR. O'CONNOR:	4	not to do, and why with Mr. Cuban were conducted by
5	Q. State your full name, please.	5	e-mail?
6	A. Floyd Jahner.	6	A. Generally most would be done by e-mail. I
7	Q. Who is your present employer?	7	can't say exactly all of them were.
8	A. Dallas Basketball, Ltd.	8	Q. Okay. Let me refer to page 739, line 17 to
9 1 1 0	Q. Also known as the Dallas Mavericks?	9	to page 740, line 9 of your arbitration testimony. Let
10	A. Correct.	10	me read it.
11 12	Q. And do you report in part to Mark Cuban?	11 12	MS. BUSH: Are you referring to the
13	A. Indirectly, yes.Q. You sometimes have direct e-mail communication	13	transcript, John?
14	with him and sometimes get instruction or direction	14	MR. O'CONNOR: Yes, I am. I am sorry. Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Transcript of the
15	directly from Mr. Cuban?	15	arbitration. First of all, Mr. Jahner, do you recall
16	A. Yes.	16	testifying in the arbitration before Judge Ashworth in
17	Q. Okay. You are familiar, Mr. Jahner, with the	17	the contractual dispute between Don Nelson and Dallas
18	circumstances surrounding the contractual dispute	18	Basketball?
19	between former Mavericks coach Don Nelson and the	19	A. Yes.
20	Mavericks?	20	Q. Okay. Let me read to you and maybe you can
21	A. Generally, yes.	21	read along with me starting at page 739, line 17.
22	Q. Okay. You have been deposed in this case, and	22	"Question: Okay. I want to talk just a
23	you have also testified at arbitration, correct?	23	little bit about the failure to pay the consulting
24	A. Correct.	24	salary that you discussed at some length with
25	Q. You have seen a lot of lawyers in this case,	25	Mr. Harper. First is it fair to say that all of your

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communications on this subject about what to do, what not to do, and why with Mr. Cuban were -- was conducted by e-mail?

"Answer: Yes.

"Question: Okay. If we want to know precisely what was said by each party, we've got a written record of it, right?

"Answer: All of my -- all of my conversations with Mr. Cuban generally were all via

10 e-mail, ves. 11 "Question: Okay. And so in terms of 12 Mr. Harper asking you about what Mr. Cuban might have 13 intended or might have been thinking about when he told

14 you to do this or that, all you know is the same thing

15 the rest of us know, what's in these e-mails, right? 16 "Answer: Correct."

17 Those were true answers under oath at the 18 time you gave them, weren't they, Mr. Jahner?

19 A. Yes.

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20 O. Okay. And, generally speaking, that's the way 21 Mark Cuban did business; he sent e-mails back and forth 22 to employees?

23 MS. BUSH: Objection, form. Go ahead and 24 answer.

A. Generally, he communicated via e-mail, yes.

directly involved in conversations with Mr. Nelson about the consultant's issue during that time frame? 3 MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

A. That I don't know if he was or not.

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) You don't have any knowledge that he was, true?

A. I don't have any knowledge that he communicated with anyone else regarding it.

in that time frame, now let's stick with June, July, and early August of '06, up to August 15th just to make it simple, from July 1 to August -- from June 1 to 13 August 15th of '06, you never saw any e-mails between the two of them, did you?

Q. You never saw an e-mail from Cuban to Nelson

A. I can't recall any specific that I can 16 remember.

17 O. Okay. And you were never told by Mr. Cuban of 18 any conversations he had with Nelson, true?

19 A. Not that -- not that I can recall.

O. Okay. And in your conversations with Coach 21 Nelson, he never referred to any conversations that he 22 purportedly had with Mark, true?

A. I can't specifically recall anything that 24 where he stated he was talking with Mark.

Q. Now, did there come a time in June of '06,

Page 7

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) By the way, there may be -MS. BUSH: I may say objections.

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) There may be - from time to time your lawyer may object to a question I ask on the basis of form, and she needs to preserve these objections for the record. But unless she instructs you not to answer, you should go ahead and answer them, all right?

A. All right.

MS. BUSH: If I instruct you not to answer, that's different.

12 THE WITNESS: Okay.

13 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) All right. You had various 14 discussions with Mr. Nelson in July and early August of 15 2006 about his consultant's salary, correct?

16 A. Yes, I believe it was July/August time frame, 17 ves.

18 Q. Certainly in July you had those conversations, 19 right?

20 A. (Witness nods head.)

21 Q. And at some point, perhaps sometime in early 22 August, you also had conversations with Nelson's lawyer

who I will refer to as O'Connor, right?

24 A. Correct.

25 Q. Okay. But am I correct that Mr. Cuban was not

Mr. Jahner, when the subject came up of what Mr. Nelson 2 would be owed once his coaching term had ended on June

3 30th of 2006?

A. Yes, I believe that was in June.

Q. Okay. And you have some exhibits in front of you, I think, that your lawyer has. Again, if I could turn your attention to Exhibit 7. You sent an e-mail on page 2 of Exhibit 7, did you not, at 1:56 in the afternoon on June 26th? Can you look at the last 10 e-mail of this string?

A. Yes.

13 all of the Nellie's benefits effective 6/30/06. He 14 will get the consultant's salary and no benefits." 15 Then you ask him some things about tickets, whether or 16 not you need to change tickets and so forth. But let's 17 stick to the statement, "he will get the consultant's salary and no benefits."

Q. Okay. You state to Mr. Cuban, "We are cutting

19 Upon what did you base that statement, 20 Mr. Jahner?

21 A. That was just my interpretation of the deal at 22 the time.

23 Q. Okay. You had access to the various contracts 24 in the Mavericks' files, correct?

A. Correct.

A. Correct.

roughly correct?

A. Correct.

benefits?

Nelson that summer, true?

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Q. And in addition to the current coaching salary that was due him, from time to time there were deferred 3 compensation payments made as well.

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4 A. I'm trying to recall if a piece of that was 5 deferred or if it was all current. I'm not certain right now.

7 Q. Somewhere, and I don't -- it's not important 8 for purposes of my discussion today, but there was some payment of deferred compensation somewhere before Coach 10 Nelson left the organization, true?

A. Honestly, I can't recall with certainty today.

Q. Fair enough. Fair enough. It's not 1,2 13 important. Not important.

14 All right. Now, if you look at the 15 e-mail you got from Mr. Cuban in response to yours of 16 June 26th --

17 A. Okay.

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18 Q. -- where he says, "He no longer gets the 19 consultant's salary, if I remember correctly, that was 20 part of the termination deal."

Did you understand that the conversation 22 that Coach Nelson and Mr. Cuban had in March of '05 was 23 a deal in which they discussed the terms of Nelson's ₂2 4 termination?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

when, to your understanding, Coach Nelson and Mr. Cuban

Q. Okay. Now, you knew that Mark had had a

25 personal meeting with Coach Nelson in March of '05

O. Okay. You hadn't seen an amendment at that

O. Under the contract at issue, at least in terms

of the schedules in writing, Nelson was scheduled to

start receiving consultant's salary at the end of his

coaching term of June 30, 2006, and was to receive

Q. Okay. Had you reviewed the written contract

\$200,000 a year for the next five years. Was that

13 when you say he will get the consultant's salary and no

A. I can't recall if I actually went back to the

Q. Okay. Now, Mark replies to you, quote,

"Actually, I think he can keep the ticks if he pays

us - if he pays for them, and he no long" - it's "no

salary, if I remember correctly, that was part of the

contract or just my general understanding.

20 longer," "and he no longer gets the consultant's

termination deal." Do you see that?

time in writing cutting out the obligation to pay

2 agreed that Nelson would step down as coach; is that

roughly correct? 3

A. Yes.

4 A. I'm not sure if they actually met personally 5 or who or how that came about, but in March of '05, roughly, that is the time frame that he agreed -

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. - to step down.

Q. And you knew at least that after this

10 conversation with -- between Nelson and Cuban in March

11 of '05, that Nelson quit coaching the Mavericks,

12 correct?

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13 A. Yes, as effective March '05.

14 Q. Okay. Did you actually go to the press

15 conference where the two of them announced what they

16 were doing?

17 A. I don't believe so.

Q. Okay. But in any case, somewhere after that

meeting, you came to the understanding that Coach

20 Nelson would continue to be paid his coaching salary

21 through June 30th of '06.

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And, in fact, you as the CFO saw to it that he

24 was paid his coaching salary through June 30th, '06.

A. Correct.

A. One, again, I am not certain they meant to 2 discuss that; and I guess I wouldn't consider it a 3 termination, I guess as, you know, he was continued to

4 be paid under the deal. It was a - if I remember 5 correctly, you know, more of a - I think the words

were like change of duty or something.

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Exactly. Exactly. Now, you've been involved in cases with employees where an employee will cut a deal with the company, and the company will agree that the employee can stay on for so

11 long and get so much salary for so long, true? 12 MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

13 A. I'm familiar with deals like that.

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Yeah. In other words, you 15 are familiar with deals in which a company might say to the employee, we agree that we are going to keep paying

17 your salary for six years - for six months, rather,

and you can stay on, and at the end of six months 19

you've got to go, that sort of thing? Okay. 20

A. Correct.

21 Q. Okay. And what exactly their termination deal was as it related to oral conversations you may have 22

23 had some questions about, correct?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

A. I guess I -- the only questions I had would be

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just to get an understanding of what the deal was going 2 forward.

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. Okay. You -- just to say now, Mark tells you that was part of the termination deal, that is to say not to pay the consultant's salary; that's what he told you, wasn't it? That's the way you took it, right?

A. Yes. That he -- he basically didn't remember that as being part of the deal, so ...

10 O. Okay. Okay. You went into your file, and you 11 looked at an e-mail from Mr. Cuban back in March of 12 1985 -- March of 2005, correct?

13 Well, let me go to -- let me go to 14 Exhibit 7, Mr. Jahner.

15 A. Right.

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16 Q. And an e-mail from you June 27th at 7:36 a.m.

17 A. Right, based on that e-mail, that would be 18 correct, I went to the file to check that.

Q. Okay. What you say is, "On the consultant's 20 salary I waited to check my file this morning, but I 21 have an e-mail from you back in March of 2005 which

22 states his dollars stay the same and no changes to the

23 contract. This would have us pay him \$2,000 (sic) per

24 year for the next five years as a consultant." 25

That's the way you interpreted

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. So Mr. Cuban says, 2 "Let's not pay it."

3 As a result of what Mr. Cuban told you, vou took the \$200,000 consultant's pay from the 5 schedules for the next five years, correct?

A. Yes.

7 Q. Okay. You anticipated then that maybe Nellie 8 would disagree with this, true?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

10 A. Didn't necessarily anticipate it. I just said if he doesn't, I guess, if he doesn't agree.

12 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. You say, "If Nellie 13 doesn't remember this, can I have him e-mail/discuss

14 with you," correct?

A. Yes.

16 Q. Okay. And Mr. Cuban says, "Just see what he 17 comes back with. If he questions, we can go from

there." That was -- these e-mails really reflect your 18

19 state of knowledge of Mr. -- this is all you knew about

20 Mr. Cuban's state of mind about that meeting are the e-mails we have in front of us. That's all you knew at

22 least as of June 27th, '06, correct? 23

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

24 A. I can't reply to his state of mind regarding, 25 you know, his comments, I guess.

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Mr. Cuban's e-mail back in 2005, where he says "no changes to the contract, dollars stay the same," right?

A. Correct, except 200,000.

Q. Yeah, what did I say?

A. 2,000.

Q. Yeah, 200,000. I'm sorry. I misspoke.

Then Mr. Cuban replies, "I might have left it out of the e-mail, but we didn't agree that we would pay the \$200,000, so let's not pay it."

After you saw this, did you think there 11 might be some discrepancy between Mr. Cuban's 12 remembrance of the oral conversation and agreement with 13 Nelson and what was reflected in the e-mail?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

15 A. I don't say a discrepancy of his remembrance, 16 I will just say my understanding that Mr. Cuban stated 17 they agreed not to pay it, so...

18 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. You knew that it was 19 possible that they could have talked in vague terms 20 something to the effect of what I'll pay you is the coaching salary, and perhaps there is room for

22 interpretation to imply that maybe there wasn't a 23

consultant's salary agreed to, correct? 24 MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

A. Correct.

1 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Right. Exactly. I really should ask it another way. 3

Other than is contained in these e-mails, you didn't get any other information from Mr. Cuban about his conversations with Mr. Nelson?

A. Not that I am aware of.

Q. Okay. So the first time that Mr. Nelson would be due any consultant's pay, if at all, would have been on July 15th of '06, that would be the first two-week pay period of the June 30 calendar year.

A. Yes, correct.

12 Q. Okay. Did Mr. Nelson call you up?

13 A. Yes, later in July, I believe it was.

14 Q. Okay. And he told you that the consultant's 15 salary was not included in his compensation, right?

16 A. Correct.

> O. Okay. Let's go to Exhibit 8, and I think it's the second-to-the-last page, an e-mail from Mark - or

from you to Mark Cuban, July 26 at 3:56. Do you see an

20 e-mail starting with "I got a call from Nellie"? I

21 think it should be --

A. Looks like on page -22 23

Q. Third page of the exhibit, of the e-mail

24 chain.

25 A. Okay.

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Q. Okay. "I got a call from Nellie regarding his check and the 200,000 that we did not include in his compensation."

You had told him your understanding that Mark said that you didn't agree that he would be paid this money, true?

- A. I told Mr. Nelson that it was Mark's understanding that it wasn't agreed to be paid.
- Q. Okay. Nellie disagreed with that, correct?
- 10 A. Correct.

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- 11 Q. Okay. You then went back to Mr. Cuban, right?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. Okay. The first thing he told you was have
- his attorney call and state his case, correct? 14
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Okay. In your mind, Mr. Cuban was still 17 contending that there hadn't been an agreement to pay 18 consultant's salary, true? Was that your 19 interpretation of this?
- 20 A. I guess -- it would be my interpretation that 21 in their agreement, I guess, that it was his
- 22 interpretation not to pay that consultant's salary
- 23 still at that point.
- 24 Q. Okay. You discern from this that there was 25 some gray area in their conversations around March of

- A. I don't recall, but I could have.
- Q. Okay. But at some point here Mr. Cuban says,
- 3 "you ask him, do you still want me to push it," and you
- say -- and Mr. Cuban replies, "no, pay him the blood
- money. Damn." Do you know why Mr. Cuban said "damn" 6 there or why he called this "blood money"?

MS. BUSH: Object to form.

- A. I have no idea.
- Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) To your knowledge, was
- 10 there any bad blood between them?
 - A. I am not aware.
- 12 Q. Okay. Let's go to the next exhibit, if we
- 13 can. Let's go to Exhibit 10, skip Exhibit 9. Okav.

14 It says in Exhibit 10, this is an e-mail 15 of July 27th, 2:17 p.m., you say, "I called him back and took one shot at negotiating something less than

17 \$200,000 per year."

"Calling him back," that's Nellie, right?

- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 Q. Okay. And if I understand your testimony in
- 21 other places, you felt that there was enough of a -- a
- 22 discrepancy or enough room for different versions that
- 23 you thought that maybe the matter should be settled?
- 24 MS. BUSH: Objection, form.
 - Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Correct?

Page 19

2005, correct? MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

- A. Yes. Yes, at that point.
- Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. Then you ended up
- 5 forwarding him the e-mail from March of '05 saying that
 - there was -- there were no changes, just a job
- 7 reassignment, correct?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. Let's go to the first e-mail. You say, "We
- 10 did not amend contract. Per e-mails in March 2005
- 11 copied below we left the contract as is."
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Do you see that?
- 14 A. Uh-huh.
- 15 Q. The second page of this e-mail string has a
- 16 redacted stamp, and does that redacted stamp refresh, I
- 17 don't want to get into the substance, that you would
- have conferred with Robert Hart around this time to -
- 19 to talk about this issue?
 - MS. BUSH: Object as to form.
- 21 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Well, not - let me
- 22 rephrase it, because I asked that improperly. Does
- 23 this refresh you that you would have conferred with
- 24 Robert Hart around this time? Don't tell me what you
- 25 conferred about.

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

- A. I just felt that there was obviously a discrepancy in the interpretation of what they were talking about --
 - Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Yeah.
- 6 A. -- so feel maybe there is room to settle it 7 and keep everybody happy.
- 8 Q. Because one of the things you learned from 9 both parties, from your limited talks with each, 10 e-mails with Cuban, talks with Nellie, was that the 11 consultant's salary wasn't talked about at all, right?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

- 13 A. Just say that it appears it wasn't discussed 14 or resolved.
 - Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Right.
 - A. To my knowledge.
- 17 Q. Okay. You saw that at least there was some
- 18 room to say this was an open issue, but the obligations 19 were regarding the consultant's salary?
- 20 A. Right, my understanding that, you know, that
- 21 they hadn't resolved it, --
- 22 O. Right.
 - A. -- you know, in complete form.
- 24 Q. One of the possibilities that you envisioned
- 25 was that the termination deal was supposed to end on

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June 30 of 2006; that is to say, when Mr. Cuban quit paying Nelson the coaching salary, then the contract was at an end.

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

- A. My understanding was I didn't know what they agreed to, whether it was --
 - Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Right.

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- A. -- not necessarily a termination of the deal, whether it was extended on with different terms or 10 what, so I was just asking.
- 11 Q. I didn't mean to suggest there was only one 12 interpretation. There were several possibilities that 13 existed. For instance, the deal could have ended June 14 30th of 2006, or Nelson could have still been 15 contractually bound but just not paid, or Nelson could 16 be bound and due to be paid. I mean, there are all 17 those possibilities existed based upon what you saw, 18 correct?

MS. BUSH: Object to form.

- 20 A. Yes. I mean, there are various possibilities of how they -- however it was structured. I'm not 22 aware of that, yes.
- 23 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) The obligations of each party, that is to say the Mavericks on one side and 25 Nelson on the other, those obligations were somewhat

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

- A. To me that e-mail just put me on notice that there is still some things that - that may have been or may not have been agreed to.
- Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Yeah. Because Mr. Cuban could have meant in that e-mail when he says "the dollars stay the same," he could have just meant coaching dollars and not consulting dollars, right? MS. BUSH: Objection, form.
- 1.0 A. He could have.
- 11 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Right. You understood 12 Mr. Cuban's position that he didn't agree to pay the 13 \$200,000, and he was going to have you not pay it, 14 right?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. Okay. So what you did because there was some discrepancy in the various versions and possibilities 17 18 here, you thought there was a basis for negotiating 19 something less than \$200,000 a year, correct?
- A. Yes, because of the discrepancies that I 21 heard, I felt there might be a possibility of settling 22 in between for something.
- 23 Q. Okay. You first tried to get Nellie to agree 24 to less than \$200,000 per year, and he wouldn't agree 25 to that, correct?

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fuzzy or vague if you take into account the oral conversations between Nelson and Cuban?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

- A. I would say yes.
- Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) You didn't think it was -just because Mr. Cuban sent you that one little e-mail saying "money stays the same," you didn't think that was black and white and resolved the matter of a finality, true?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

- 11 A. At that time that was probably just the best 12 of my knowledge.
 - O. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Sure.
- 14 A. That was it. 15 Q. Sure. Because he had told you that he had 16 left something out of the e-mail, that is to say he had 17 left the consultant's part out of the e-mail, right? 18 If you go to Exhibit 9, after you tell him that you had 19 an e-mail from March of 2005 saying the dollars stay 20 the same, he responds, "I might have left it out of the e-mail, but we didn't agree that we would pay the 21 22 200,000, so let's not pay it."

23 That's one of the reasons that you 24 thought there was some discrepancy or vagueness in the positions here regarding consultant's salary, correct?

- A. Correct.
- Q. You started talking about a lump sum settlement, and you wanted him to throw out the first number to see if he would -- if there was something he would agree to, right?
- A. No. He noted that he wouldn't agree to take anything less, but he would be open to a lump sum settlement.
- 9 Q. Then you wanted him to say the first number, 10 correct?
- 11 A. Correct. He asked -- I said, "What's fair to 12 vou?"
- 13 Q. Right. And he threw out \$500,000, correct?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. Okay. Now, you made the assumption -- well, 16 strike that.

17 You then send Cuban an e-mail and say "I 18 think he will agree to a \$5,000 (sic) lump sum 19 settlement," correct?

- 20 A. It says "I think he'll agree to a \$500,000 21 lump sum."
- 22 Q. Did I say -- I keep misstating. I am getting 23 tired. Let me say it again. Strike the last 24 unintelligible question.

You wrote to Mr. Cuban after talking to

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- 1 Coach Nelson, and you said, "I think he will agree to a
- \$500,000 lump sum settlement and then the \$200,000 per
- 3 year goes away." That's what you discussed with
- Nelson, right?
- 5 A. Correct.
 - Q. Okay. And you used the term "settlement."
- 7 Was this a settlement in your mind that would be a
- resolution of these conflicting views about what was 8
- agreed to back in March of 2005?
 - MS. BUSH: Objection, form.
- 11 A. To me that was a resolution of obviously the
- 12 disagreement to pay and to not pay the \$200,000 per
- 13 year for those next five years.
- 14 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. You can't remember
- 15 today whether Nelson used the term "settlement" or
- 16 "buyout" when he talked about the \$500,000; do I have
- 17 that correct?
- 18 A. In the conversation, I don't recall what words
- 19 he used.

10

- 20 Q. Okay. Let me see if this refreshes you. You
- 21 had -- I know it's been a while since you have been to
- 22 arbitration. First of all, let me go to 744 of the
- 23 arbitration, lines 2 to 8. You are being
- 24 cross-examined here, and Nelson's Nelson's lawyer
- 25 asked you, "So there really wasn't a discrepancy

- am not aware of that, but this was what was still in 2 writing at the time.
- 3 Q. So you saw there might be a discrepancy between what was orally agreed to and what was in 4 5 writing; fair enough?
- A. Correct.
- 7 Q. Okay. Now, let's go to page 746 of your
- 8 arbitration testimony when you are discussing your
- conversations with Coach Nelson on this lump sum
- 10 settlement. Line 19, "And you can't remember the exact
- 11 term he used, it may well have been, quote, settlement
- 12 unquote, or quote, buyout, unquote, right? 13
 - " Answer: It may have."
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 O. Okav.

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- A. I see that. Correct.
- 17 Q. Okay. And then let me go to the next
- 18 statement.
- 19 "Question: Certainly as soon as you
- 20 send" - let me stop there.
- 21 After you had this conversation with
- 22 Nelson, you went ahead and you drafted up yourself a
- 23 draft of a some sort of a settlement agreement or
- 24 contractual amendment reflecting this lump sum
- 25 settlement, true?

anymore? Mr. Cuban had ultimately become convinced

that you were right all along and said exactly what you told him he said in the e-mail he sent you in March of

2005." 4

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"Answer: Unless Mark agreed to pay it versus obviously pursuing the discrepancy, you know, with the oral agreement that, you know, he perceived of not paying."

This correctly reflects your state of mind that there still may be a discrepancy between the oral agreement and what you saw in writing, correct?

- 12 A. Do you mind if I read back just to get
- 13 context?
- 14 Q. Sure. Sure.
- 15 A. I am just trying to see what...
- 16 (Pause.)
- 17 A. Okay. I'm sorry, now that -- maybe the
- 18 question again?
- 19 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Yeah. Does this question
- 20 and answer I just read accurately reflect what in your 21 mind was a possible discrepancy between the oral
- agreement Mr. Cuban perceived of not paying and what 22
- 23 was in writing?
- 24 A. Right. I pointed out to Mark that if they 25 orally agreed to something different, they may have, I

- MS. BUSH: Objection -- objection, form.
- A. After approval from Mark and then
- myself/general counsel put together an amendment.
- Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. The way this worked, didn't you originally put together a draft and then
- send it to Robert Hart, the general counsel?
- 7 A. I believe - my recollection that is correct.
- 8 that I believe I did a draft for him to comment on.
- 9 Q. And I believe you've testified that then you
- 10 could tell Mr. -- Mr. Hart made some changes before you
- 11 got to the final draft?
- 12 A. I believe that is correct, yes.
- 13 Q. Okay. I know this is sort of old news,
- 14 Mr. Jahner, but at the time of the arbitration we
- 15 didn't have your initial draft. Do you know if that
- 16 thing still exists or not?
- 17 A. I am not certain.
- 18 Q. All right. Okay. In any case, let me read to
- 19 you from page 746 and 747, starting at the bottom of
- 20 746, line three, and ask if this correctly reflects the
- 21 state of things. You went ahead and sent the agreement
- 22 after Mr. Hart reviewed and revised, and you sent that
- 23 on to Nellie, right?
- 24 A. Yes, via e-mail.
- 25 O. Okav. And just for the record, let me try to

Page 29

Page 32

Page 30

1 O'Connor, right?

acquaint you as to dates here. You had e-mailed him per Exhibit 11, if you can look at Exhibit 11, on

Friday afternoon July 28th, you e-mailed him, Nellie,

- and said that Robert had family functions. He would review the draft and hopefully - which would hopefully
- be tomorrow, and we'll get it to you. Do you see that?
- 7 A. Yes.

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- O. Okay. So your agreement with Nellie, at least your tentative agreement on the lump sum settlement 10 would have been on the afternoon July 27th. You e-mail
- 11 him back July 28th, tell him it's going to come later.
- 12 And if we go to Exhibit 12, it's now Monday, July 31st, 13 and that's when you attach the file with the proposed
- 14 amendment to the contract, correct?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. Okay. Now, you made the assumption that this 17 agreement was not a buyout or a termination, but that 18 it was just an acceleration of payments, correct?
- 19 A. Correct.
- 20 O. Okay. But that was based on your assumption 21 as opposed to Nellie specifically telling you that, 22 true?
- 23 A. That was my recollection of the conversation
- 24 that we had, yes. 25 Q. Okay. Let me see if this helps you out here.
 - Okay. Let's go to the top of page 703. And this is
- your lawyer Mr. Harper asking you questions at 703. Do 3 you have that in front of you?
 - A. Yes.

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- O. Okay. Mr. Harper says:
- "Question: All right. Now I know you haven't been here for any testimony, but you know Mr. Nelson seems to feel that the discussions that you had with him in July of 2006 involved you actually
- 10 terminating his contract and buying him out.
- 11 "Answer: And I had -- I always had been 12 on the, you know, assumption that this deal was 13 strictly a, you know, cash versus — now versus 14payments later change just assuming he saw, had a need,
- 15 wanted cash and would take cash now versus waiting to 16 payments, you know, to settle it."
- 17 Essentially when Nellie said he would 18 take a lump sum settlement or buyout, you assume that 19 it was a cash now deal versus an actual termination, 20 fair enough?
- 21 A. Right. I assumed he just wanted - was 22 willing to take cash now versus a payment stream over 23 five years.
- 24 Q. Okay. But shortly after you sent Nellie this 25 draft, you got a call from his lawyer, this fellow

- 2 A. Yes. I believe within a few days, if I remember, in early August.
- Q. Right. And I think you stated several times that it could have been August 1, 2, or 3; is that 6 fair?
- 7 A. Approximate time frame.
- 8 Q. Okay. He got the thing on July 31st, and it was within a day or two of that that -- that this
- 10 fellow O'Connor called you?
 - A. Correct.
- 12 Q. Okay. Now, 746, let's go to 746. Okay. Now, 13 if you go to the bottom of that page, line 23, the 14 question is as follows:
- "Question: And certainly as soon as you 16 send the agreement to Mr. Nelson and gets in Mr. O'Connor's hand and it's not a buyout or settlement, it's a restructuring of a payment for one payment instead of five years' worth of payments, you find out that wasn't what Mr. Nelson was talking about.
 - "Answer: Correct.
- 22 "Question: Okay.
 - "Answer: Excuse me, at least not what
- 24 Mr. O'Connor wanted him to agree to.
 - "Question: All your conversations after

25 Page 31

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that point were with Mr. O'Connor as his representative, not Mr. Nelson, right?

"Answer: Yes."

Then let's go to the next question.

5 "And in fairness you could certainly see 6 that based on the conversation and your recollection of 7.: it you had with Mr. Nelson, Mr. Nelson may very well 8 have been talking about a settlement or a buyout right 9 from the get-go?

"Answer: He could have been. My interpretation was it was a restructure of the payment schedule."

So again, looking at this testimony, Mr. Jahner, is it fair that certainly Mr. Nelson's 15 representative informed you that Nellie wanted a 16 termination of the contract; whereas, you knew that the 17 Mavericks wanted to do this by way of an acceleration?

- A. I knew on our side of the fence our 19 interpretation was it was an acceleration of payment; 20 and then based on the conversations with Mr. O'Connor, my understanding now is that they wanted a, you know, 22 complete buyout and termination of the contract.
- Q. So, again, we have sort of discrepant views of 24 what was meant by the \$500,000 lump sum settlement, correct?

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Page 36 Page 34

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

A. Correct.

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- Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. And but you and Nellie, when you talked about the lump sum settlement before you talked to O'Connor, you didn't get into the level of detail about acceleration versus this versus that, did you?
 - A. Not that I recall, no.
- 9 Q. Okay. At any time that you are talking to 10 Nelson in July on this issue -- on these issues, did he 11 ever tell you that he wanted to work for five years and 12 follow the noncompete?
- 13 A. I don't believe he stated that.
- 14 Q. As a matter of fact, when you talked to 15 O'Connor, one of the issues you discussed was what 16 would happen if he got another job and whether the 17 offset provisions would apply such that he gets a new 18 job that can be offset against deferred compensation?
- A. After discussion about the differences between 20 buyout terms versus accelerations of payments, yes, 21 those discussions did come up.
- 22 O. O'Connor clearly didn't want Nelson to be 23 continually bound to a consultant's agreement and expressed that to you?

25 MS. BUSH: Objection, form. Mavericks is the Mavericks might be able to prevent him from going to another team; I mean, that's at least in your lay understanding --

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) - that you might be able to prevent him from going to another team or get compensation for him going to another team?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

- A. Yes. I mean, I guess there is circumstances where the Mavericks maybe could have prevented that with him not competing, that's correct.
- Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) In your time with the Mavericks you've have heard of cases in which in order to release a coach from a contract, a draft choice or a player might be given to another team.

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

- A. I am not certain on that. I know there were negotiations, I believe, just reading in the paper, of situations where somebody would have to agree to release them to talk and slash negotiate.
- Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Right. My point is, these 22 contractual provisions, keeping the contract alive and continuing, had some value for the Mavericks, true?
- 24 A. Yes.
 - Q. You and O'Connor argued as to exactly what

Page 35

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) He expressed that Nelson wanted a termination, not a - just merely an acceleration, correct?

A. Correct. His offers included termination of the -- termination and/or I believe the term buyout of the agreement.

Q. And you expressed to him that you doubted that a termination would be accepted.

- A. Correct.
- 10 O. Okay.
- 11 A. Or words to that effect, yes.
- 12 Q. Yeah. You didn't want to lose the noncompete 13 because that might lose the offset provisions, right? 14

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

- 15 A. There were various provisions of the contract that we would have wanted to keep in place. 16
 - O. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. And one of the effects of those provisions would have been at least a possible offset against compensation earned from any new team?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

- A. Yes. There is a right of offset in the 22 contract. 23
- 24 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) And one of the other 25 consequences for the Mavericks that would help the

- those provisions were, but you considered them to be of 2 value to you, didn't you?
 - A. Correct.
 - O. Okay. And O'Connor on behalf of Nelson, we will call him Nelson's lawyer, let you know they wanted a termination of the contract, right?
 - A. Correct, a termination or a buyout, correct.
 - Q. Or a buyout. And one of the consequences of a termination or a buyout would be that Nelson would be freed to go to another team without consequence, true?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

- 12 A. Depending on the structure of it, but, yes, 13 most - if it was a complete termination of the 1,4 contract, yes, that would potentially be available, 15 yes.
- **1**•6 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. Now, at some point 17 did Nelson's lawyer send you -- after you discussed 18 this with him, did you receive a breach letter?
- 19 A. Yes, I believe that was a few days after one 20 of our conversations, if I'm correct.
- 21 Q. Okay. And I think you reviewed it along with 22 others who may have received it, yes, you've got a 23 copy. If you can go to Exhibit 15, you - you

understood that Mr. Nelson was claiming breach of the

2.5 contract by this letter, correct?

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A. Yes, effective as of receipt of this letter.

Q. Okay. Now, at this point to you it was very clear that there was a -- that the gulf between the parties was between settling this matter in a way that

Nelson would terminate the contract versus keeping

Nelson under contract, correct?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) In other words, that's one of the issues that was involved. The Mavericks wanted 10 to keep the contractual provisions in place except for, 11 perhaps, the financial provisions. Nelson didn't want 12 the contractual provisions in place.

A. Correct.

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14 Q. At the same time, the Mavericks wanted to save 15 money, if possible; fair enough?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

17 A. Right. I offered throwing something out there 18 that may basically settle it in between, obviously.

19 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Right. You thought there 20 was enough discrepancy in the situation that the matter 21 could be settled somewhere between zero dollars and the 22 full contractual amount, fair enough?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

24 A. Correct.

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. But because of this

per paragraph 2; am I right on that?

2 A. Correct.

> O. But, otherwise, the effect of this, as you understood it, was to keep Nelson contractually bound for the next five years, true?

> > MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

A. Correct, he would continue under the other terms of that consultant agreement in that contract.

9 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) So what you were told was 10 that Nelson didn't want \$500,000 if he had to sign 11 this, right?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

A. Basically the -- the offer was rejected by Mr. O'Connor and, you know, counteroffers.

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Right. They wanted some sort of a deal in which he would be able to walk away and wouldn't be contractually bound?

A. Correct. I believe both of those offers had 19 that.

Q. Right. Right. As opposed to this agreement in which the club would have paid Nelson \$500,000, but 22 he would have remained contractually bound. Fair 23 enough?

A. Correct.

Q. Okay. And that would have - that would

Page 39

difference of opinion, there was never a situation in

which you were ready to pay \$500,000 on behalf of the

Mavericks to settle this matter.

A. We were prepared, I mean, as we sent out that letter to do it as a change in payment schedule and 6 settle the matter.

going to pay the \$500,000 unless Nelson agreed that it would be bound by all the contractual agreements as per 10 the contract, correct, as per the contractual amendment

Q. Right. Right. In other words, you weren't

11 that Mr. Hart drew up, correct?

12 A. Correct, he proposed an amendment of the 13 change in payment terms, correct. Yes.

14 Q. Right.

15 A. And the contract would still be in existence.

16 Q. Okay. Let's go to Exhibit 13. Is Exhibit 13

17 the amendment to the employment agreement that Mr. Hart

18 gave to you to give to Nelson?

19 A. I need to look at it here.

20 O. Take your time. 21

(Pause.)

22 A. Yes, I believe this is it.

23 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Yeah. And this calls, in

essence, for the contract to remain in place except

25 that the club would make a one-time payment of \$500,000

have - this Sixth Amendment would, in your 2 understanding, have continued to bind him to competition covenants, offset provisions, and the like, 4 those sorts of provisions that are in the agreement, 5 right?

MS. BUSH: Objection, form.

A. Correct.

Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. So what you knew certainly after talking to Nelson's lawyer was that Nelson did not want to be contractually bound to 11 provisions like the noncompete and so forth? 12

A. Correct.

Q. Okay. Nelson or his representatives never represented to you that they would take \$500,000 and adhere to the noncompete clause; that was never stated, 16 true?

A. On the second -- on the second option, his **1**8. representatives stated they would agree to our form as 19 long as there was an added form to it of a \$250,000 20 buyout clause.

21 Q. In other words, they might agree to this, but 22 only if they could get released from the - from the 23 contractual provisions?

A. Well, my understanding of that second 24 25 counteroffer would have been - the contractual

Page 42 Page 44 provisions would have been in place with a separate A. Not as -- not as I had negotiated all that, I 2 buyout clause. don't believe there was, you know, you know, any 3 O. Right, which would have then released them deceit. I was assuming it was just negotiation of cash 4 from the contractual provisions? versus longer term payout. 5 A. If they had went ahead and paid the additional Q. Okay. And as far as you know, the club never 6 payments, correct. made a claim that Nelson had defrauded the club in 7 Q. But one of things that Nelson and his these negotiations, correct? representatives never said was you pay us \$500,000, and 8 A. Not that I am aware of. •9 9 we will adhere to the noncompete for five years, true? Q. The only thing you can say is that between the 10 A. No one said that directly to me, correct. time you talked to Nelson about a lump sum settlement 11 Q. Okay. When you heard -- you heard Nelson got and the time you talked to his lawyer a few days later, 12 a job later on, right, with the Warriors? you may have had a different assumption about what he 13 A. Correct. 13 wanted versus what you wanted, correct? 14 14 Q. Okay. And right before it was announced, you A. Correct. had been told to at least bring the consultant's salary 15 Q. Okay. You didn't consider that fraud on your 16 current so that perhaps you wouldn't be in breach? 16 part, and you didn't consider it fraud on Nelson's 17 MS. BUSH: Objection, form. 17 part, did you? 18 18 A. Once we heard the rumors I believe and A. No. 19 confirmed, we had discussed and said at that point we Τ9 O. Okav. 20 20 should -- we offered to pay and make it current. MR. O'CONNOR: Let's take a break. I 21 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) Okay. 21 really feel bad, Floyd, when I actually might end 22 A. And cover the breach there. 22 early. But this is what happens sometimes, and I 23 23 O. Yes. Because you were behind on the apologize if I actually inconvenience you. 24 consultant's payments, right? 24 (Recess for 16 minutes.) 25 25 A. We hadn't been making them as we had been MR. O'CONNOR: This deposition will be Page 43 negotiating the settlement. adjourned with the reservation that this has been a 2 Q. If this - if, in fact, you-all were bound to 2 deposition pursuant to the court's recent order and 3 3 make consultant's payments, they weren't -- they reserve the right should this litigation continue to weren't -- hadn't been made, right? 4 talk to Mr. Jahner if need be; but, for present 5 5 A. Yes, they had not been made. purposes, this deposition's concluded. 6 6 Q. They hadn't. Okay. Now, whether that's a MS. BUSH: We have no questions. 7 ₹ breach or not is another matter, but you knew you hadn't been making them, right? 8 9 A. Correct. 9 10 Q. Okay. You wanted to avoid a claim of breach :10 11 anyway; that was the motive. 11 12 MS. BUSH: Objection, form. .12 13 Q. (BY MR. O'CONNOR) That was your thinking. 13 14 A. At the point of going back to offering and 14 15 making the payment understanding we obviously were at a 15 16 disagreement in terms of the 500,000 or the cash, you 16 17 know, settlement, yes. 17 18 Q. You never claimed to Nelson or his 18 representatives that by wanting a termination of the 19 20 contract that they were defrauding you or deceiving 20 21 you, true? 21 22 A. I never claimed that, I don't believe. 22 23 23 Q. Okay. Did you think that Nelson or his representatives had defrauded you or deceived you 24

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regarding this negotiation over the consultant's pay?

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. 1	CHANGES AND SIGNATURE	1	COUNTY OF DALLAS)
Ι.		2	STATE OF TEXAS)
2	WITNESS: FLOYD JAHNER DATE OF DEPO: 5/20/2009	3	
3	PAGE LINE CHANGE REASON	Ĭ.,	I, Jerry L. Callaway, RDR, certified
4		4	shorthand reporter in and for the State of Texas, do
5		5	hereby certify that the facts as stated by me in the
6		6	caption hereto are true; that there came before me the
7		′	aforementioned named person, who was by me duly sworn
,		8	to testify the truth concerning the matters in
В		9	controversy in this cause; and that the examination was
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20			Jerry L. Callaway, RDR, CSR 948
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		23	Firm Registration No. 209
22		24	
23			1201 Elm Street
24		25	
25			(214) 855-5300
1	Page 47		
	rage 47		Page 49
1	I, FLOYD JAHNER, have read the foregoing	1	INDEX
2	deposition and hereby affix my signature that same is	2	1. Appearances 2
3	true and correct, except as noted above.	3 4	2. The Witness: FLOYD JAHNER Examination by MR. O'CONNOR 3
4	,	5	3. Signature Page 46
5		6	4. Reporter's Certificate 48
6	FLOYD JAHNER	7	-
7			EXHIBITS
\ <u>'</u>	THE STATE OF)	8	F- # Description P- Y-
8	COUNTY OF)	9	Ex # Description Pg Ln
9	Before me,, on this	10	8 E-mail string most recent dated 17 17
10	(or		7/26/2006 to Jahner and Hart from
11	proved to me under oath or through)	11	Cuban, Re Nellie
12	(description of identity card or other document) to be	12	10 E mail atalan months and 14 3 20 42
13	the person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing	13	10 E-mail string most recent dated 20 13 7/27/2006 to Jahner from Cuban, Re
14	instrument and acknowledged to me that they executed	13	Nellie
15	the same for the purposes and consideration therein	14	
	expressed.	15	11 E-mail dated 7/28/2006 to mavs19 30 2
16	<u> </u>		from Jahner, Subject update
17	Given under my hand and seal of office	16	12 E mail dated 7/21/2006 to Marris 20 12
18	this, 2009.	Ι/	12 E-mail dated 7/31/2006 to Mavs19 30 12 from Jahner, Re update
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	1 2 2 1 4	l 44.10	1	1
A	Amanda 2:14	44:12	bottom 29:19 32:13	cash 31:13,15,15,19
able 36:1,5 40:16	amend 19:10	attach 30:13	bound 22:15,16	31:22 43:16 44:3
acceleration 30:18	amendment 10:1	attention 9:7	34:23 39:9 40:4	cause 1:18 48:9
33:17,19 34:6	28:24 29:3 30:14	attorney 18:14	40:17,22 41:10	Center 2:10
35:3	39:10,12,17 41:1	48:14,17	43:2	certain 12:5 13:1
accelerations 34:20	49:18	August 4:23 7:14	breach 37:18,24	29:17 36:17
accepted 35:8	amount 38:22	7:22 8:11,11,12	42:16,22 43:7,10	certainly 7:18
access 9:23	and/or 35:5	8:13 32:3,5	break 44:20	28:19 32:15 33:5
account 23:1	announced 11:15	Austin 2:16	bring 42:15	33:14 41:9
accurately 27:20	42:14	available 37:14	Bush 2:14 5:11	certainty 12:11
acknowledged	answer 6:4,8,16,24	Avenue 2:15	6:23 7:2,10 8:3	Certificate 49:6
47:14	7:7,7,11 27:5,20	avoid 43:10	12:25 13:12,24	certified 1:21 48:3
acquaint 30:1	28:13 31:11 32:21	aware 17:6 20:11	15:14,24 16:9,23	certify 48:5,13
action 48:15,19	32:23 33:3,10	22:22 28:1 44:8	19:2,20 20:7,24	CFO 4:4,6,8 11:23
actual 31:19	answers 1:15 6:17	A.D 1:17 48:21	21:1,12 22:4,19	chain 17:24
added 41:19	anticipate 16:10	a.m 14:16	23:3,10 24:1,9	change 9:16 13:6
addition 12:1	anticipated 16:7	B	26:10 29:1 34:1	31:14 39:5,13
additional 42:5	anymore 27:1	B 49:7	34:25 35:14,21	46:3
adhere 41:15 42:9	anyway 43:11	back 4:6 6:21 10:15	36:4,8,16 37:11	changes 14:22 15:2
adjourned 45:1	apologize 44:23	14:11,21 15:1	38:7,16,23 40:6	19:6 29:10 46:1
affix 47:2	Appearances 49:2	16:17 18:11 20:15	40:12 41:6 42:17	check 14:18,20
aforementioned	appeared 47:10	20:18 26:9 27:12	43:12 45:6	18:2
48:7	APPEARING 2:8 2:13	30:11 43:14	business 6:21	choice 36:14
afternoon 9:9 30:3	appears 21:13	bad 20:10 44:21	buying 31:10	circumstances 3:18 36:9
30:10	appears 21:13 apply 34:17	base 9:19	buyout 26:16 28:12 30:17 31:18 32:17	Civil 1:23
agree 13:10,16 15:8	approval 29:2	based 14:17 22:17	,	claim 43:10 44:6
16:11 18:5 23:21	Approximate 32:7	30:20 33:6,20	33:8,22 34:20 35:5 37:7,8,9	claim 43:10 44:6 claimed 43:18,22
24:12,23,24 25:5	arbitration 3:23	basically 14:8	41:20 42:2	claimed 45:18,22 claiming 37:24
25:6,18,20 26:1	5:9,15,16 26:22	38:18 40:13	41.20 42.2	clause 41:15,20
32:24 36:19 41:18	26:23 28:8 29:14	basis 7:5 24:18		42:2
41:21	area 18:25	Basketball 1:7 3:8	C 2:6	clear 38:3
agreed 11:2,6	argued 36:25	4:4 5:18	calendar 17:10	clearly 34:22
15:17,23 18:8	Ashworth 5:16	behalf 37:4 39:2	California 1:2 2:11	club 39:25 40:21
22:6 24:4 26:9	asked 19:22 25:11	believe 7:16 9:4	call 17:12,20 18:1	44:5,6
27:5,25 28:4 39:8	26:25	11:17 17:13 29:7	18:14 31:25 37:5	coach 3:19 8:20
agreement 15:12	asking 6:12 22:10	29:8,9,12 32:2	Callaway 1:21 48:3	10:25 11:1,2,19
18:17,21 27:7,11	31:2	34:13 35:5 36:18	48:22	12:9,22 26:1 28:9
27:22 28:23 29:21	ASSOCIATES	37:19 39:22 40:18	called 20:6,15	36:14
30:8,9,17 32:16	2:10	42:18 43:22 44:2	32:10	coaching 9:2 10:8
34:23 35:6 39:17	assume 31:18	benefits 9:13,14,18	Calling 20:18	11:11,20,24 12:1
40:8,20 41:4	assumed 31:21	10:14	calls 39:23	15:21 22:2 24:8
49:19	assumed 31:21	best 23:11	caption 48:6	come 8:25 30:11
agreements 39:9	44:3	bind 41:2	card 47:12	34:21
ahead 6:23 7:7	assumption 25:15	bit 5:23	case 1:5 3:22,25	comes 16:17
28:22 29:21 42:5	30:16,20 31:12	black 23:8	11:18 18:14 29:18	comment 29:8
alive 36:22	50.10,20 51.12	blood 20:4,6,10	cases 13:8 36:13	- Common (2).0
BERNALD STATE OF THE STATE OF T	anna an airte an air	Control of the Contro		

comments 16:25	contained 17:3	14:12,18 15:3,23	49:11,13	detail 34:6
communicated	contending 18:17	15:25 16:5,14,22	Cuban's 15:1,11	difference 39:1
6:25 8:8	context 27:13	17:11,16 18:9,10	16:20 24:12	differences 34:19
communication	continually 34:23	18:12,14 19:1,7,8	current 12:1,5	different 7:11
3:13	continue 11:20	20:19,25 22:18	42:16,20	20:22 22:9 27:25
communications	40:7 45:3	23:25 24:15,19,25	cut 13:9	44:12
5:3 6:1	continued 13:3	25:1,10,11,13,14	cutting 9:12 10:2	direct 3:13
company 13:9,10	41:2	25:19 26:5,17		direction 3:14
13:15	continuing 36:23	27:11 28:6,14,16	D	directly 3:15 8:1
compensation 12:3	contract 4:14 10:5	29:7,12 30:14,15	D 2:9 49:1	42:10
12:9 17:15 18:3	10:12,16 14:23	30:18,19 32:11,21	Dallas 1:7,20,20	disagree 16:8
34:18 35:19 36:7	15:2 19:10,11	33:25 34:2 35:3,4	3:8,9 4:4 5:17	disagreed 18:9
competing 36:11	22:2 30:14 31:10	35:9 36:11 37:3,7	48:1,25	disagreement
competition 41:3	33:16,22 35:15,23	37:7,20,25 38:6	damn 20:5,5	26:12 43:16
complete 21:23	36:14,22 37:6,14	38:13,24 39:10,11	Date 46:2 48:23	discern 18:24
33:22 37:13	37:25 38:5,6	39:12,13 40:2,7	dated 49:10,12,15	discrepancies
computer 48:10	39:10,15,24 40:8	40:18,24 41:7,12	49:17	24:20
concerning 48:8	43:20	42:6,10,13 43:9	dates 30:1	discrepancy 15:11
concluded 45:5	contracts 9:23	44:7,13,14 47:3	day 1:17 32:9 47:10	15:15 20:22 21:3
conducted 5:4 6:2	contractual 3:18	correctly 10:21	47:18 48:21	23:24 24:17 26:25
conference 11:15	4:11 5:17 28:24	12:19 13:5 27:9	days 32:2 37:19	27:6,10,21 28:3
conferred 19:18,23	36:22 38:10,12,22	29:20	44:11	38:20
19:25	39:9,10 41:23,25	counsel 29:3,6	deal 9:21 10:22	discrepant 33:23
confirmed 42:19	42:4	48:14,17	12:20,23 13:4,9	discuss 13:2
conflicting 26:8	contractually	counteroffer 41:25	13:21 14:1,5,9	discussed 5:24
Congress 2:15	22:15 40:4,17,22	counteroffers	21:25 22:8,13	12:23 21:13 26:3
consequence 37:10	41:10	40:14	31:12,19 40:16	34:15 37:17 42:19
consequences	contract's 4:16	County 1:20 47:8	deals 13:13,15	discussing 28:8
35:25 37:8	controversy 48:9	48:1	deceit 44:3	discussion 12:8
consider 13:2 44:15	conversation 11:10	COURT 1:1	deceived 43:24	34:19
44:16	12:21 15:12 26:18	court's 45:2	deceiving 43:20	discussions 4:21
consideration	28:21 30:23 33:6	covenants 41:3	Defendants 1:9	7:14 31:8 34:21
47:15	conversations 4:24	cover 42:22	2:13	dispute 3:18 5:17
considered 37:1	4:25 6:9 7:18,22	cross-examined	deferred 12:2,5,9	DISTRICT 1:1
consultant 14:24	8:1,18,20,21	26:24	34:18	document 47:12
40:8	13:22 17:5 18:25	CSR 48:22	defrauded 43:24	DOE 1:6
consultant's 7:15	23:2 28:9 32:25	Cuban 1:6 3:11,15	44:6	doing 11:16
8:2 9:14,17 10:7	33:20 37:20	4:21 5:1,4 6:2,9	defrauding 43:20	dollars 14:22 15:2
10:13,20 12:19	convinced 27:1	6:12,21 7:25 8:9	Depending 37:12	23:19 24:7,8,8
14:6,19 15:23	copied 19:11	8:17 9:12 11:1,10	DEPO 46:2	38:21
16:4 17:8,14	copy 37:23	12:15,22 14:11	deposed 3:22	Don 1:3 3:19 5:17
18:18,22 21:11,19	correct 3:10,23,24	15:7,16 16:1,3,16	deposition 1:11,15	doubted 35:7
23:17,25 34:23	4:23 6:16 7:15,24	17:4,19 18:11,16	44:25 45:2 47:2	draft 28:23 29:5,8
42:15,24 43:3,25	7:25 9:24,25 10:4	20:2,4,5 21:10	48:11,16	29:11,15 30:5
consulting 5:23	10:10,11 11:3,12	22:1 23:2,6 24:5	deposition's 45:5	31:25 36:14
24:8	11:25 13:20,23	25:17,25 27:1,22	description 47:12	drafted 28:22
			49:8	

drew 39:11	existed 22:13,17	30:13	front 9:5 16:21	heard 24:21 36:13
due 12:2 17:8 22:16	existence 39:15	files 9:24	31:3	42:11,11,18
duly 3:2 48:7	exists 29:16	final 29:11	full 3:5 38:22	help 35:25
duties 4:10	Expiration 48:23	finality 23:9	functions 30:4	helps 30:25
duty 13:6	expressed 34:24	financial 4:11	further 48:13,16	hereto 48:6,18
	35:1,7 47:16	38:11	fuzzy 23:1	he'll 25:20
E	extended 22:9	financially 48:18		Honestly 12:11
E 2:6,6 49:1,7	e-mail 3:13 5:5,6	find 32:20	G	hopefully 30:5,5
early 7:14,21 8:11	6:3,10,25 8:9 9:7	Firm 48:23	general 10:16 29:6	hours 1:17
32:3 44:22	9:10 12:15 14:11	first 3:2 5:15,25	generally 3:21 4:20	
earned 35:19	14:16,17,21 15:1	17:7,9 18:13 19:9	5:6 6:9,20,25	1
effect 15:20 35:11	15:8,13 17:18,20	24:23 25:3,9	getting 25:22	idea 20:8
40:3	17:23 19:5,9,15	26:22	get-go 33:9	identity 47:12
effective 9:13 11:13	20:14 23:6,16,17	five 10:9 14:24 16:5	give 39:18	II 1:3
38:1	23:19,21 24:2,6	26:13 31:23 32:19	given 36:15 47:17	imply 15:22
effects 35:18	25:17 27:3 29:24	34:11 40:5 42:9	48:12,20	important 12:7,13
Elm 48:24	30:10 49:10,12,15	Floor 2:11	go 6:23 7:7 11:14	12:13
Embarcadero 2:10	49:17	Floyd 1:12,15 3:1,6	13:19 14:13,13	improperly 19:22
employed 48:14,18	e-mailed 30:1,3	44:21 46:2 47:1,6	16:17 17:17 19:9	include 18:2
employee 13:9,10	e-mails 4:25 6:15	47:10 49:3	20:12,13 23:18	included 17:15
13:16 48:17	6:21 8:13 16:18	follow 34:12	26:22 28:7,17	35:4
employees 6:22	16:21 17:3 19:10	follows 3:2 32:14	30:12 31:1 32:12	inconvenience
13:8	21:10	foregoing 47:1,13	32:13 33:4 37:10	44:23
employer 3:7	e-mail/discuss	form 6:23 7:5 8:3	37:23 39:16	Indirectly 3:12 individual 1:7
employment 39:17 49:19	16:13	12:25 13:12,24	goes 26:3 going 13:16 14:1	Individuals 1:3
ended 9:2 19:4		15:14,24 16:9,23	24:13 30:11 36:2	information 17:4
22:13	fact 11:23 34:14	19:2,20 20:7,24	36:6,7 39:8 43:14	informed 33:15
envisioned 21:24	43:2	21:1,12,23 22:4 22:19 23:3,10	gray 18:25	initial 29:15
essence 39:24	facts 48:5	24:1,9 26:10 29:1	guess 13:2,3,25	instance 1:16 22:13
Essentially 31:17	failure 5:23	34:1,25 35:14,21	16:11,25 18:20,21	instruct 7:10
everybody 21:7	fair 5:2,25 12:12,12	36:4,8,16 37:11	36:9	instruction 3:14
Ex 49:8	25:11 28:5 31:20	38:7,16,23 40:6	gulf 38:3	instructs 7:6
exact 28:10	32:6 33:14 38:15	40:12 41:6,18,19		instrument 47:14
exactly 5:7 13:7,7	38:22 40:22	42:17 43:12	<u>H</u>	intended 6:13
13:21 17:1 27:2	fairness 33:5	former 3:19	H 49:7	interested 48:19
36:25	familiar 3:17 13:13	forth 6:21 9:16	hand 32:17 47:17	interpretation 9:21
examination 3:3	13:15	41:11	48:20	15:22 18:19,20,22
48:9 49:4	family 30:4	forward 14:2	happen 34:16	21:3 22:12 33:11
Excuse 32:23	far 44:5	forwarding 19:5	happens 44:22	33:19
executed 47:14	Federal 1:23	frame 7:16 8:2,10	happy 21:7	interpreted 14:25
exhibit 9:7,8 14:14	feel 21:6 31:8 44:21	11:6 32:7	Harper 5:25 6:12	involved 8:1 13:8
17:17,23 20:12,13	fellow 31:25 32:10	Francisco 2:11	31:2,5	31:9 38:9
20:13,14 23:18	felt 20:21 21:2	fraud 44:15,16	Hart 2:19 19:18,24	issue 8:2 10:5 19:19
30:2,2,12 37:23	24:21	freed 37:10	29:6,10,22 39:11	21:18 34:10
39:16,16	fence 33:18	Friday 30:3	39:17 49:10	issues 34:10,15
exhibits 9:5	file 14:10,18,20		head 7:20	38:9

	1 22.12		l——	1 44.16
J	23:12	M	N	44:16
Jackson 1:19 2:15	known 3:9 47:10	Main 1:19	N 2:6 49:1	never 8:9,13,17,21
Jahner 1:12,15 3:1		making 42:25 43:8	name 3:5 47:13	39:1 41:13,15
3:6,17 4:3 5:15	L 1:21 2:14 48:3,22	43:15	named 48:7	42:8 43:18,22
6:18 9:1,20 14:14	-	March 4:8 10:25	necessarily 16:10	44:5
29:14 33:14 45:4	lawyer 7:4,22 9:6	11:5,10,13 12:22	22:8	new 34:17 35:20
46:2 47:1,6,10	26:24 31:2,25	14:11,12,21 18:25	need 9:16 31:14	news 29:13
49:3,10,13,15,17	37:5,17 41:9 44:11	19:5,10 23:19	39:19 45:4	nods 7:20
Jerry 1:21 48:3,22		26:9 27:3	needed 4:13	noncompete 34:12
job 4:10 19:6 34:16	lawyers 3:25	Mark 1:6 3:11 6:21	needs 7:5	35:12 41:11,15
34:18 42:12	lay 36:3	8:22,24 10:17,24	negotiate 36:20	42:9
John 1:6 2:9 5:12	learned 21:8	14:4 17:18,19	negotiated 44:1	NORTHERN 1:2
Judge 5:16	left 12:10 15:8	18:5 27:5,24 29:2	negotiating 20:16	NOTARY 47:22
July 4:22 7:14,18	19:11 23:16,17,20	Mark's 18:7	24:18 43:1	noted 25:6 47:3
8:10,12 17:9,13	length 5:24	matter 20:23 23:8	negotiation 43:25	notice 24:2
17:19 20:15 30:3	letter 37:18,25 38:1	34:14 38:4,20	44:3	number 25:4,9
30:10,11,12 31:9	39:5	39:3,6 43:7	negotiations 36:18	numbered 1:18
32:8 34:10	let's 8:10 9:16 15:9	matters 4:3 48:8	44:7	0
July/August 7:16	16:2 17:17 19:9	Mavericks 3:9,19	neither 48:13	
June 4:6,22 8:10,12	20:12,13 23:22	3:20 9:24 11:11	Nellie 16:7,12	oath 6:17 47:11
8:25 9:2,4,9 10:8	28:7 31:1 32:12	22:24 33:17 35:25	17:20 18:1,9	object 7:4 19:20
11:21,24 12:16	33:4 39:16 44:20	36:1,1,10,13,23	20:18 21:10 24:23	20:7 22:19
14:16 16:22 17:10	level 34:6 limited 21:9	38:9,14 39:3	29:23 30:3,8,21	objection 6:23 8:3
22:1,13		mavs19 49:15,17	31:17,24 33:15	12:25 13:12,24
	line 5:8,9,21 28:10 29:20 32:13 46:3	mean 22:11,16,20	34:4 49:11,13	15:14,24 16:9,23
<u>K</u>	lines 26:23	36:2,9 39:4	Nellie's 9:13	19:2 20:24 21:1 21:12 22:4 23:3
keep 10:18 13:16	litigation 45:3	meant 13:1 24:6,7	Nelson 1:3 3:19	23:10 24:1,9
21:7 25:22 35:16	little 5:23 23:6	33:24	4:20,22,24 5:17	26:10 29:1,1 34:1
38:10 40:4	Ln 49:8	meeting 10:25	7:14 8:1,9,18,21	34:25 35:14,21
keeping 4:10 36:22	long 10:19 13:11,11	11:19 16:20	9:1 10:3,6,25 11:1	36:4,8,16 37:11
38:5	41:19	merely 35:2	11:2,10,11,20	38:7,16,23 40:6
knew 10:24 11:9	longer 10:20,20	met 11:4	12:10,22 15:13	40:12 41:6 42:17
15:18 16:19,21	12:18 44:4	mind 16:20,24	17:5,7,12 18:7	43:12
33:16,18 41:8	look 9:9 12:14 30:2	18:16 26:7 27:10	22:2,14,15,25	objections 7:2,6
43:7	39:19	27:12,21	23:2 26:1,4,15	obligation 10:2
know 4:13,16 6:5	looked 14:11	minutes 44:24	28:9,22 31:8	obligations 4:11
6:14,15 8:4 13:3,5	looking 33:13	misspoke 15:6	32:16,20 33:2,7,7	21:18 22:23,25
16:25 20:5 21:20	Looks 17:22	misstating 25:22	34:10,22 35:1	obviously 21:2
21:23 22:5 26:21	lose 35:12,13	Monday 30:12	37:4,9,24 38:5,6	26:11 27:6 38:18
27:6,7 29:13,15	lot 3:25	money 18:6 20:5,6	38:11 39:8,18	43:15
31:6,7,12,13,16 33:21 36:17 37:5	lump 25:2,7,18,21	23:7 38:15	40:4,10,21 41:10	offer 40:13
40:14 43:17 44:2	26:2 28:9,24 30:9	months 13:17,18	41:13 42:7,11	offered 38:17 42:20
40:14 43:17 44:2	31:18 33:24 34:4	morning 14:20	43:18,23 44:6,10	offering 43:14
knowledge 8:6,7	44:10	motive 43:11	Nelson's 7:22 12:23	offers 35:4 40:18
16:19 20:9 21:16	L.L.P 1:19 2:15	myself/general	26:24,24 33:14	office 47:17 48:20
10.19 20.9 21.10		29:3	37:5,17 41:9	offices 1:19

. CC - 4 2 4 1 7 1 0	7 12 22 0 5 12 7	1 27 2 22		1
offset 34:17,18	7:13,23 8:5 13:7	27:8,22	preserve 7:5	reasons 23:23
35:13,19,22 41:3	13:14 14:3 15:18	payment 12:9	press 11:14	reassignment 19:7
Okay 3:17,22 5:2,8	16:1,12 17:1 19:4	31:22 32:18,19	prevent 36:1,6	recall 5:15 8:15,19
5:20,22 6:5,11,20	19:21 20:9,25	33:11,19 39:5,13	prevented 36:10	8:23 10:15 12:4
7:12,25 8:17,20	21:5,15 22:7,23	39:25 43:15	probably 23:11	12:11 20:1 26:18
9:5,12,23 10:1,12	23:5,13 24:5,11	payments 4:17 12:3	Procedure 1:23	34:8
10:17,24 11:7,14	26:14 27:19 29:4	30:18 31:14,16	proposed 30:13	receipt 38:1
11:18 12:17 13:19	32:1,10,24 33:1	32:19 34:20 42:6	39:12 49:18	receive 10:8 37:18
13:21 14:3,3,10	33:20 34:3,5,15	42:24 43:3	proved 47:11	received 37:22
14:10,19 15:18	34:22 35:1,17,24	payout 44:4	provisions 1:23	receiving 10:7
16:1,7,12,16 17:7	36:5,12,21,25	pays 10:18,19	34:17 35:13,15,18	Recess 44:24
17:12,14,17,25	37:4,16 38:8,19	perceived 27:7,22	36:22 37:1 38:10	recollection 29:7
18:1,9,11,13,16	38:25 39:23 40:9	period 4:22 17:10	38:11,12 41:3,4	30:23 33:6
18:24 19:4 20:2	40:14,15 41:8	person 47:13 48:7	41:11,23 42:1,4	record 1:24 6:7 7:6
20:12,13,20 21:17	42:21 43:13 44:20	personal 10:25	PUBLIC 47:22	29:25 48:11
24:16,23 25:15	44:25 49:4	personally 11:4	purportedly 8:22	redacted 19:16,16
26:6,14,20 27:17	O'Connor's 32:17	47:10	purposes 4:11 12:8	reduced 48:10
28:7,15,17 29:4		Pg 49:8	45:5 47:15	refer 5:8 7:23
29:13,18,25 30:8	<u>P</u>	piece 12:4	pursuant 1:22 45:2	referred 8:21
30:16,20,25 31:1	P 2:6,6	PJH 1:6	pursuing 27:6	referring 5:11
31:5,24 32:8,12	page 5:8,9,21 9:8	place 35:16 38:10	push 20:3	reflect 16:18 27:20
32:12,22 34:3,9	17:18,22,23 19:15	38:12 39:24 42:1	put 24:2 29:3,5	reflected 15:13
35:10,17 37:4,16	28:7 29:19 31:1	places 20:21	p.m 1:17,18 20:15	reflecting 28:24
37:21 38:2,25	32:13 46:3 49:5	Plaintiffs 1:4,16		reflects 27:9 29:20
39:16 40:25 41:8	paid 11:20,24 13:4	2:8	Q	refresh 19:16,23
41:13 42:11,14,21	18:5,8 22:15,16	player 36:15	question 5:22 6:5	refreshes 26:20
43:6,10,23 44:5	40:21 42:5	please 3:5	6:11 7:4 25:24	regarding 4:20 8:8
44:15,19	paper 36:18	point 7:21 18:23	27:18,19 28:19	16:24 18:1 21:19
old 29:13	paragraph 40:1	19:3 20:2 33:1	31:6 32:14,15,22	23:25 43:25
once 9:2 42:18	part 3:11 10:21	36:21 37:16 38:2	32:25 33:4	Registration 48:23
one-time 39:25	12:20 14:4,9	42:19 43:14	questions 13:23,25	rejected 40:13
open 21:18 25:7	23:17 44:16,17	pointed 27:24	16:17 31:2 45:6	related 13:22 48:14
opinion 39:1	particular 4:14	position 24:12	quit 11:11 22:1	relative 48:17
opposed 30:21	parties 21:9 38:4	positions 23:25	quote 10:17 28:11	release 36:14,20
40:20	48:15,18	possibilities 21:24	28:12	released 41:22 42:3
option 41:17	partnership 1:7	22:12,17,20 24:17		remain 39:24
oral 1:11 13:22	party 6:6 22:24	possibility 24:21	R	remained 40:22
15:12 23:1 27:7	Pause 27:16 39:21	possible 15:19	R 2:6	remember 8:16
27:11,21	pay 4:14 5:23 10:2	27:21 35:19 38:15	RDR 1:21 48:3,22	10:21 12:19 13:4
orally 27:25 28:4	14:5,23 15:9,9,17	possibly 4:25	read 5:10,20,21	14:8 16:13 26:14
order 36:13 45:2	15:20 16:2,4 17:8	potentially 37:14	27:12,20 29:18	28:10 32:3
organization 12:10	17:10 18:17,22	precisely 6:6	47:1	remembrance
originally 29:5	20:4 23:21,22	preliminary 4:3	reading 36:18	15:12,15
owed 9:2	24:12,13 26:12,12	prepared 39:4	ready 39:2	Renaissance 48:24
O'Connor 2:9,10	27:5 39:2,8 42:8	present 2:18 3:7	really 16:18 17:1	rephrase 19:22
3:4 5:13,14 7:1,3	42:20 43:25	45:4	26:25 44:21	replies 10:17 15:7
1 1	paying 13:16 22:2		REASON 46:3	1

· <u> </u>	1		<u> </u>	1
20:4	19:24 29:6 30:4	separate 42:1	16:19,20,24 18:14	41:14 44:20
reply 16:24	ROE 1:3,3	settle 21:6 31:16	27:9 29:21 47:7	taken 1:16 48:16
report 3:11	room 15:21 20:22	38:18 39:3,6	47:23 48:2,4	talk 5:22 19:19
reporter 1:22 48:4	21:6,18	settled 20:23 38:21	stated 1:24 8:24	36:20 45:4
Reporter's 49:6	roughly 10:10 11:3	settlement 25:3,8	15:16 32:4 34:13	talked 15:19 21:11
representative 33:2	11:6	25:19 26:2,6,7,15	41:15,18 48:5	26:16 34:4,5,14
33:15	Rules 1:23	28:10,11,23,25	statement 9:17,19	44:10,11
representatives	rumors 42:18	30:9 31:18 32:18	28:18	talking 8:24 21:4
41:13,18 42:8		33:8,24 34:4 43:1	states 1:1 14:22	25:2,25 32:20
43:19,24	<u>S</u>	43:17 44:10	stay 13:10,18 14:22	33:8 34:9 41:9
represented 41:14	S 2:6 49:7	settling 24:21 38:4	15:2 23:19 24:7	talks 21:9,10
reservation 45:1	salary 5:24 7:15	shorthand 1:21	stays 23:7	team 35:20 36:2,6,7
reserve 45:3	9:14,18 10:7,13	48:4	stemming 4:22	36:15 37:10
resolution 26:8,11	10:21 11:20,24	shortly 31:24	step 11:2,8	tell 19:24 23:18
resolved 21:14,21	12:1,19 13:11,17	shot 20:16	stick 8:10 9:17	29:10 30:11 34:11
23:8	14:6,20 15:21,23	sic 14:23 25:18	stop 28:20	telling 30:21
responds 23:20	17:15 18:18,22	side 22:24 33:18	stream 31:22	tells 14:4
response 12:15	21:11,19 22:2	sign 40:10	Street 1:20 48:24	tentative 30:9
rest 6:15	23:25 42:15	signature 46:1 47:2	strictly 31:13	Tenth 2:11
restructure 33:11	San 2:11	49:5	strike 25:16,23	term 9:2 10:8 26:6
restructuring	save 38:14	simple 8:12	string 9:10 19:15	26:15 28:11 35:5
32:18	saw 8:9,13 11:23	situation 38:20	49:10,12	44:4
result 16:3	15:10 21:17 22:17	39:1	structure 37:12	terminate 38:5
review 30:5	27:11 28:3 31:14	situations 36:19	structured 22:21	terminated 4:17
reviewed 10:12	saying 19:5 23:7,19	six 13:17,17,18	styled 1:18	terminating 31:10
29:22 37:21	says 12:18 15:1	Sixth 41:1 49:18	subject 5:3 6:1 9:1	termination 10:22
revised 29:22	16:1,16 20:2,14 24:6 25:20 31:5	skip 20:13	49:15	12:20,24 13:3,21
RICHARD 1:3,3		slash 36:20	subscribed 47:13	14:5 21:25 22:8
right 4:20 6:7,15	schedule 33:12	somebody 36:19	substance 19:17	30:17 31:19 33:16
7:8,9,13,19,23	39:5	somewhat 22:25	suggest 22:11	33:22 35:2,4,5,8
12:6,14 14:7,15	scheduled 10:6	soon 28:19 32:15	Suite 1:20 2:11,16	37:6,7,9,13 43:19
14:17 15:2 17:1	schedules 10:6 16:5 seal 47:17 48:20	sorry 5:13-15:6	sum 25:2,7,18,21	terms 6:11 10:5
17:15 18:11 20:18	second 19:15 41:17	27:17	26:2 28:9,24 30:9	12:23 15:19 22:9
21:11,15,20,22	41:17,24	sort 13:19 28:23	31:18 33:24 34:4	34:20 39:13 40:8
22:7 23:17 24:8	second-to-the-last	29:13 33:23 40:16	44:10	43:16
24:11,14 25:5,13	17:18	sorts 41:4	summer 10:3	testified 3:2,23
26:4 27:2,24	see 10:22 16:16	speaking 6:20	supervision 48:11	29:9
28:12 29:18,23	17:19 19:13 25:4	specific 8:15	supposed 21:25	testify 48:8
31:6,21 32:1,4	26:20 27:15 28:16	specifically 8:23	sure 11:4 23:13,15	testifying 5:16
33:2,8 35:13,22 36:21 37:6 38:17	30:6,25 33:5	30:21	27:14,14	testimony 5:9
	seen 3:25 10:1	stamp 19:16,16 start 10:7	surrounding 3:18 sworn 3:2 48:7	20:20 28:8 31:7
38:19 39:7,7,14	send 25:17 28:20		SWOFH 5:2 48:7	33:13 48:12
40:1,11,15,20,20	29:6 32:16 37:17	started 25:2	T	Texas 1:20,22 2:16
41:5 42:3,12,14 42:24 43:4,8 45:3	sent 6:21 9:7 23:6	starting 5:21 17:20 29:19	T 49:7	48:2,4,25
Robert 2:19 19:18	27:3 29:21,22	state 1:22 3:5 9:12	take 23:1 25:6	thing 6:14 13:19 18:13 29:16 32:8
13000112.17 17.10	31:24 39:4	State 1.22 3.3 7.12	31:15,18,22 39:20	10.13 49.10 32.8

[√] 44:9	28:25 30:22 36:23	waiting 31:15		12 30:12 49:17,17
things 9:15 21:8	37:10 40:5 41:16	walk 40:16	$\frac{\mathbf{X}}{\mathbf{X}}$ 49:1,7	12/31/2010 48:23
24:3 29:21 42:7	42:9 43:21 47:3	Walker 1:19 2:15	A 79.1,7	1201 48:24
think 9:6 10:18	48:6,11	want 5:22 6:5	Y	13 39:16,16 49:12
13:5 15:10 17:17	truth 48:8	19:17 20:3 34:22	Yeah 13:14 15:4,6	49:18
17:21 23:5,7	try 29:25	35:12 38:11 40:10	21:5 24:5 27:19	15 37:23
25:18,20 26:1	trying 12:4 27:15	41:10	35:12 39:23	15th 8:11,13 17:9
32:4 37:21 43:23	turn 9:7	wanted 25:3,9	year 10:9 14:24	16 44:24 49:18
thinking 6:13	two 8:14 11:15 32:9	31:15,21 32:24	17:10 20:17 24:19	17 5:8,21 49:10,10
43:13	two-week 17:9	33:15,17,21 34:11	24:24 26:3,13	19 28:10
Third 17:23		35:2,16 37:5 38:9	years 10:9 13:17	1985 14:12
thought 20:23	U	38:14 40:15 43:10	14:24 16:5 26:13	
23:24 24:18 38:19	Uh-huh 19:14	44:13,13	31:23 32:19 34:11	2
three 29:20	ultimately 27:1	wanting 43:19	40:5 42:9	2 9:8 26:23 32:5
threw 25:13	understand 12:21	Warriors 42:12	you-all 43:2	40:1 49:2,3,15
throw 25:3	20:20	wasn't 14:6 15:22		2,000 15:5
throwing 38:17	understanding	18:8 21:11,13	Z	2:17 20:15
tickets 9:15,16	10:16 11:1,19	26:25 32:20	zero 38:21	2:54 1:17
ticks 10:18	14:1 15:16 18:4,8 21:20 22:5 33:21	way 6:20 7:1 14:7	\$	20 49:12
time 4:22 6:18 7:3	36:3 41:2,24	14:25 17:2 29:4	\$2,000 14:23	20th 1:13,16
7:4,16 8:2,10,25	43:15	33:17 38:4	\$200,000 10:9 15:9	200,000 15:3,6 18:2 23:22
9:22 10:2 11:6	understood 24:11	went 10:15 14:10	16:4 20:17 24:13	2005 4:8 14:12,21
12:2,2 17:7 19:18	37:24 40:4	14:18 18:11 28:22	24:19,24 26:2,12	15:1 19:1,10
19:24 23:11 28:2 29:14 32:7 34:9	unintelligible 25:24	29:21 42:5	\$250,000 41:19	23:19 26:9 27:4
36:12 38:14 39:20	UNITED 1:1	weren't 6:18 39:7	\$5,000 25:18	2006 4:6,23 7:15
44:10,11	unquote 28:12,12	43:3,4 we'll 30:6	\$500,000 25:13,20	9:3 10:8 22:1,14
times 32:4	update 49:15,17	we've 6:6	26:2,16 33:24	31:9
tired 25:23		white 23:8	39:2,8,25 40:10	2009 1:13,17 47:18
today 4:3 12:8,11	V	willing 31:22	40:21 41:14 42:8	48:21
26:15	vague 15:19 23:1	witness 7:12,20		209 48:23
told 6:13 8:17 14:6	vagueness 23:24	46:2 48:12 49:3	0	214 48:25
16:3 17:14 18:4,7	value 36:23 37:2	words 13:5,14	05 10:25 11:5,11,13	23 32:13
18:13 23:15 27:3	various 4:21,24	26:18 35:11 38:8	12:22 19:5	26 17:19
40:9 42:15	7:13 9:23 22:20	39:7 41:21	06 8:11,13,25 11:21	26th 9:9 12:16
tomorrow 30:6	24:17 35:15	work 34:11	11:24 16:22 17:9	27th 14:16 16:22
top 31:1	versions 20:22	worked 29:4	1	20:15 30:10 48:21
Tower 48:24	24:17	worth 32:19		28th 30:3,11
track 4:10	versus 27:6 31:13	wouldn't 13:2	1 1:8 8:12,12 32:5 49:2	
transcript 5:12,14	31:13,15,19,22	24:24 25:6 40:17	1:56 9:8	3
transcription 48:10	34:6,6,20 38:5	42:16	10 1:8 20:13,14	3 32:5 49:4,5
tried 24:23	44:4,13	writing 10:2,6	49:12	3:09-CV-682 1:6
true 4:18 6:17 8:6	views 26:8 33:23	27:11,23 28:2,5	100 2:15	3:56 17:19
8:18,22 10:3	vs 1:5	48:10	1020 2:11	30 10:8 17:10 22:1
12:10 13:11 16:8	$\overline{\mathbf{w}}$	written 6:7 10:12	11 30:2,2 49:15	49:15,17
18:6,18 23:9	waited 14:20	wrote 25:25	1100 2:16	30th 9:3 11:21,24
1	THE ITAL			22:14

31st 30:12 32:8 39 49:18		
		1
4		
449:6		
4:22 1:18		
46 49:5		ii.
48 49:6		
	·	
5		
5/20/2009 46:2		
500,000 43:16		
5220 48:24		
6		
6/30/06 9:13		
6000 1:20		
7		
79:7,8 14:14		
7/26/2006 49:10		
7/27/2006 49:13		
7/28/2006 49:15		
7/31/2006 49:17		
7:36 14:16		
703 31:1,2		
739 5:8,21		
740 5:9		
744 26:22		
746 28:7 29:19,20		
32:12,12		
747 29:19		
75270 48:25		
78701 2:16		
8		
8 17:17 26:23 49:10		
855-5300 48:25		
9		
9 5:9 20:13 23:18		
901 1:19		
94111 2:11		
948 48:22		
770 70.44		
		,
		į.