- 1 And I don't remember if somebody before
- 2 Tom, but Dave Rosenthal was the section chief. And
- 3 the deputy, who was Gene Ervine, left, from my
- 4 recollection.
- And when he left, because he was head --
- 6 deputy for the criminal division is what it was
- 7 called at the time from my recollection -- they
- 8 bumped Dave up in an acting capacity. And then they
- 9 had a bunch of acting -- or they had acting section
- 10 chiefs. And I believe it was Tom Gillice.
- 11 Then it was real clear that the heir
- 12 apparent was going to be Rubenstein. Again, none of
- 13 these positions were advertised. No one was allowed
- 14 to have them. They put whoever they wanted in these
- 15 positions.
- And I started complaining. I said, "This
- 17 is not fair."
- By then, we'd gotten a union, or the union
- 19 was coming into being. And the union said, "We've
- 20 got to stop them doing it."
- 21 And that's when Rubenstein got really
- 22 angry. And Dave Rosenthal had made him the de facto

- 1 A Yes. There were -- I mean, this goes back
- 2 to '97. And then things would settle down.
- 3 After I filed my complaint against
- 4 Alper -- I actually was doing well. I had actually
- 5 been made a Saturday supervisor. I was getting
- 6 outstanding evaluations. And then when I filed my
- 7 complaint against Alper, all of a sudden my
- 8 evaluation went down to a satisfactory.
- 9 And Alper said that right out.
- I said, "What is this about?"
- He said, "Well, you know, it's that little
- 12 thing you did."
- I said, "Absolutely not" -- and I had
- 14 not -- I was trying to resolve it. I had not
- 15 actually filed a complaint. I filed an EEO
- 16 complaint but I had not filed suit.
- He said, "Next year it will be fine."
- I said, "Absolutely not."
- 19 He told me right out that that was what it
- 20 was.
- 21 Because I had filed this complaint about
- 22 his vulgar conduct with the interns and so forth,

- 1 19-year-old college kids. Many of mine were from
- 2 Brigham Young and they were very religious and they
- 3 were particularly offended by his conduct.
- But then, you know, as I said, when Paul
- 5 told me right out he knocked me down in my
- 6 evaluation and it would go -- from outstanding to
- 7 satisfactory and said right out it was because of my
- 8 complaint against him, I -- that was ...
- 9 Q Were there any other acts of retaliation?
- 10 A It was an ongoing pattern. It was -- it
- 11 was -- I never got any more promotions. Well,
- 12 correct that. John Ferren got me promoted.
- I was getting promotions about every 18
- 14 months or so. After that, I don't think I got any
- 15 more -- I didn't get any supervisory
- 16 responsibilities. I trained Rubenstein and Gillice
- 17 and the various new lawyers coming on. They, couple
- 18 years down the road, became my supervisor.
- 19 Even though, as I said, I was the most
- 20 senior attorney in the office.
- 21 Q Any other incidents of retaliation?
- 22 A One thing that comes to mind, when my

- 1 agencies, which would have been DMH, CFSA, YSA,
- 2 Court Social Services, and that was this new
- 3 position, executive level position, 15/16. I was
- 4 only a 14, had not received a promotion since John
- 5 Ferren had given me one.
- 6 So they stripped me of any involvement
- 7 with the Department of Mental Health. I'd been the
- 8 agency representative. I helped establish the MAPT,
- 9 which is Multi-Agency Planning Team.
- I had been there from the outset. I was
- 11 our representative. There was a representative
- 12 from -- there was a representative from PDS, Public
- 13 Defender Service. I was there -- there was somebody
- 14 from DCPS, CFSA. All the agencies had a
- 15 representative.
- I was our representative. I was our
- 17 representative to the MAPT thing, process.
- Dave Rosenthal, that July, had tried to
- 19 block me from that. And Sharon Anderson, Sharon
- 20 Styles Anderson, overruled Dave's decision and said,
- 21 "No, Mary is the agency representative and Mary will
- 22 attend all of the meetings at DMH, " which is the

- 1 Judge S-U-D-A. There were just certain judges. And
- 2 it used to really make them angry. But they knew --
- 3 the judges knew I would drop whatever I was doing
- 4 and come over.
- 5 And the more I looked good in the judges'
- 6 eyes, particularly in this last six-month,
- 7 nine-month period, the more they tried to take it
- 8 away from me.
- 9 And it really culminated that day when
- 10 Judge Shuker said how great I was. And three hours
- 11 later I was getting hit with a letter kicking me out
- 12 the door.
- 13 Q Before I leave this area, David
- 14 Rubenstein, what was your relationship with him
- 15 before he became supervisor?
- 16 A I trained him. I was senior to him. When
- 17 he started, I had been there for five years. So he
- 18 was a rooky, and I participated in his training.
- But he never -- I never really had much to
- 20 do with him after a little while on. He was one of
- 21 those who didn't think it was a good thing that
- 22 Alper was gone.

How soon after him being named, speaking 1 0 of David Rubenstein, being named to a supervisory 2 position, did your relationship deteriorate? 3 It deteriorated even before he got named Α 4 because what happened was -- it really deteriorated 5 6 when I challenged that he was being -- when he 7 started giving me orders. And I challenged it because he was a trial 8 supervisor, and I was not a trial attorney any 9 10 longer. And I had never been supervised by a trial attorney. And -- I mean, by a trial supervisor 11 12 because I hadn't been a trial attorney for five 13 years. 14 And when he started trying to get into my cases, he had nothing to do with them. I never once 15 had a show cause issued against me -- against the 16 17 agency on any case I worked on the entire five years 18 that I did that. 19 And that was the whole reason that they 20 hired me, was because the agency was always in 21 trouble and having show cause orders issued against 22 them.

- 1 Rubenstein was officially given the position.
- 2 Q And do you believe you were more qualified
- 3 than David Rubenstein?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q Why?
- 6 A Because I had more than double the
- 7 experience he had. I have a master's degree and I
- 8 clerked for two judges. I had been working in the
- 9 office and had outstanding and exceeds --
- 10 substantially exceeds expectations evaluations.
- And I had, for the number of trials I did,
- 12 that I -- cases I tried when I was a trial attorney,
- 13 I had probably the best record by far of any
- 14 attorney in the office. I tried 45 cases in nine
- months and won 42 of them.
- 16 O You said you had the best record by far.
- 17 What was your record other than what you just
- 18 stated?
- 19 A When I tried cases, I had the -- every
- 20 rating period, I had a very, very, very high win
- 21 rate. I don't agree with that. I don't think we
- 22 should be judged on that. I think it's

- 1 agencies collaboratively.
- That was just before she left. That's why
- 3 I'm referring to this. That was one of the things I
- 4 talked to Eugene Adams about when I met with him in
- 5 one of those four, five, six meetings I had with him
- 6 between August 26 and October or November 1st.
- 7 I guess it's then when he sent me the
- 8 e-mail that it became clear, after I filed my
- 9 complaint and after things got -- after Arabella
- 10 gave David Rubenstein the job, that none of this was
- 11 happening, my evaluations had not been changed, I
- 12 didn't get the promotion I had been promised that
- 13 Gene told me Arabella had approved.
- Gene sat right here in this building in
- 15 the food court downstairs and said to me, "I met
- 16 with her. She has approved it. The only hangup is
- 17 we have to wait until after October 1st because we
- 18 are in a budget crunch. As soon as the new fiscal
- 19 year kicks in, it will be taken care of."
- That was about two or three weeks away at
- 21 the time so that must have been early to
- 22 mid-September. So he was leading me to believe

- I gave my opinions and so forth. I
- 2 supported the hiring of Andy, and we hired Andy.
- 3 That was when Mike Cobb was there. Even though Mike
- 4 was Paul's friend, and was upset about it, Mike took
- 5 the high road.
- And Mike hired me for the position. I
- 7 don't think he wanted to. He was pretty upset; but,
- 8 YSA had specifically created the position and asked
- 9 for me, and said -- they wrote a letter asking me to
- 10 be their lawyer, and said they had designed the
- 11 position with me in mind, kind of like what happened
- 12 a few years later with this other position, but they
- 13 wrote a letter.
- So Mike was kind of stuck. He had to give
- 15 me the position, or it would be more evidence of
- 16 more retaliation, I would think.
- 17 At any rate, I was given the position.
- 18 Mike took the high road. I felt that he tried to
- 19 curb some of the hostility. But he left -- I don't
- 20 remember when he left, but it wasn't that much
- 21 later.
- He -- however, when Andy moved into

- 1 him because he's a smiling face, he comes across as
- 2 Mr. Nice Guy and very laid back and very mellow, and
- 3 underneath that is somebody with a dagger.
- But as long as Sharon was there, it was
- 5 okay.
- 6 O Did you and Sharon ever have any
- 7 discussions as to the root of the treatment that you
- 8 were getting from David Rubenstein or David
- 9 Rosenthal?
- 10 A I don't know about the -- she knew -- she
- 11 knew they were out to get me. She said to me before
- 12 she left, I am trying to recollect when it was,
- 13 shortly before she left, and I can't remember if it
- 14 was before or after she called me in for that
- 15 conversation about the position that Arabella had
- 16 created, maybe it was before but it was right around
- 17 the time she was leaving.
- And I was in her office. I don't know if
- 19 she called me in or why I was talking to her. And
- 20 she said, "You got to get out of here. They're
- 21 gunning for you. They are out to get you."
- 22 And basically, in so many words, they are

- 1 need to get the kid out. I think Valerie Boykin had
- 2 called me, too, from YSA -- long story short,
- 3 whatever it was -- I don't if the kid was being
- 4 illegally held, but there was some issue.
- 5 And so I tried to work on it. And it
- 6 was -- must have been a pre-commitment case. But it
- 7 also involved YSA, who was my client. Anyway they
- 8 called me at nighttime.
- 9 The next morning -- and I followed up and
- 10 did whatever.
- 11 The next morning, I came in. I got in
- 12 trouble from Dave Rosenthal and I was told -- there
- 13 must have been a defense attorney who called me,
- 14 too, because I don't know who that was.
- He said, "You're not allowed to take calls
- 16 from defense attorneys, and you are not allowed to
- 17 take calls at nighttime."
- I said, "This is crazy. And, you know,
- 19 I'm getting these calls. And people come to me
- 20 because they know I'm available. And if a kid's
- 21 illegally held or whatever I'm going to..."
- So I went into Sharon. That's what's in

- 1 here. Sharon -- and he got furious because Sharon
- 2 said to him, "You can't tell her not to do this."
- 3 She said, "Mary's been around this town
- 4 for ten years or more." I remember something about
- 5 ten years. She said, "The judges, the lawyers, and
- 6 the advocates, everybody knows Mary. Everybody
- 7 knows her phone number, and everybody calls Mary to
- 8 get things done. You cannot tell her not to take
- 9 phone calls."
- 10 And he was furious.
- So even though it was upsetting to me, I
- 12 knew that ultimately the boss had my back and I was
- 13 doing the right thing and I was safe.
- 14 They could have discriminated all day
- 15 long, as long as the ultimate decision-maker wasn't
- 16 allowing it to happen, I could handle the barbs. I
- 17 could ward them off as long as I could keep doing my
- 18 job and keep doing what I had to as long as I knew
- 19 they couldn't destroy me professionally, as much as
- 20 they would have liked to, it was when she left that
- 21 they tried their darndest.
- 22 Q Did you and Sharon ever discuss any EEO

- 1 But I'm also not afraid of it.
- 2 Q Hopefully, just two more questions.
- 3 Did you raise EEO implications based on
- 4 how you'd been treated with Gene when you spoke to
- 5 him?
- A Yes. Gene's the one who raised it with
- 7 me.
- 8 Q Sorry?
- 9 A Gene's the one -- Gene's the one who
- 10 brought it up. Gene is the one -- that's what upset
- 11 me because Gene is also the one who went to Sid
- 12 Bixler and told him. And of all people to have gone
- 13 to was the guy Dave has lunch with every day. Gene
- 14 is the one.
- 15 And furthermore, Gene knows -- when I
- 16 talked to Gene, Gene told me, gave me his sister's
- 17 phone number, because I saw him over here one night,
- 18 I was crying because something else they had done, I
- 19 don't remember what had happened.
- I went up to find Steve Anderson, the
- 21 union representative, maybe about 7:30 at night.
- 22 And we were in this building because Gene didn't at

- 1 agree because of his digs at me and saying that I
- 2 shy away from it, and if you look, it looks like
- 3 he just lifted the same language from year to
- 4 year to year in my evaluation, and I just was
- 5 very, very angry, and as he says right on the
- 6 front of this, "Notwithstanding that Miss
- 7 Phillips received an overall rating of
- 8 substantially exceeds expectations, she refused
- 9 to sign the evaluation."
- 10 I was not into a whole lot of -- I
- 11 didn't challenge it. I guess it didn't make a
- 12 difference in my finances, but I was very angry.
- 13 Because I maintained the top rating, I didn't get
- 14 a pay cut, and I guess that's probably what
- 15 pushed me over the edge when I finally did appeal
- 16 it when the review panel knocked me down, but I
- 17 was very angry about this.
- 18 Even though it looks like he's trying
- 19 to pretend like he thinks great things about me,
- 20 I know Dave Rosenthal didn't like me and Dave
- 21 Rosenthal didn't hesitate to try to make digs at
- 22 me and cover himself at the same time so I

- 1 couldn't challenge it.
- Q. Did you file more pleadings after
- 3 receiving -- let me ask it this way:
- 4 Did you address the statement that
- 5 Miss Phillips shies away from filing pleadings
- 6 and she prefers to argue her cases orally? As a
- 7 result of that seeing that in the evaluation for
- 8 the period April 1998 through September 1999, did
- 9 you do anything different?
- 10 A. I continued to file what was
- 11 necessary. I refused to file frivolous
- 12 pleadings, and I worked with the defense
- 13 attorneys and I continue to work with them and to
- 14 represent my agency and to make sure that no show
- 15 cause or no findings of contempt were issued.
- I never had an order to show cause
- 17 issued where I didn't reply, where I didn't file
- 18 a written pleading. I never failed -- I never
- 19 failed to file something appropriate, and that's
- 20 why I would get so angry with Dave, and I would
- 21 say to him every time show me where I should have
- 22 filed something, give me one case, one instance

- 1 performance appraisals and I guess prior to the
- one that was appealed, it would be two, and I'm
- 3 referring to Exhibit 6 and Exhibit 7. As a
- 4 result of receiving these, did you do anything
- 5 different?
- A. I made it a point -- actually, yes. I
- 7 made it a point of showing him every time I filed
- 8 anything.
- I also, if I remember correctly, went
- 10 to him and showed him prior evaluations I had had
- 11 where I had gotten evaluations from Paul Alper
- 12 and Mike Cobb talking about where I got
- 13 outstanding for the written pleadings to show him
- 14 that I did not shy away from anything and that
- 15 other supervisors had found it.
- I challenged him, and I said, "Dave,
- 17 you're just doing this time after time," and I
- 18 would show him. I made it a point of showing
- 19 him -- in fact, Dave had to sign off on my
- 20 pleadings -- showing him and going to him --
- 21 sometimes he wouldn't talk to me, sometimes he
- 22 would -- what I was doing just to make sure, just

- 1 A. It was not.
- Q. What about the section chief?
- A. It was not.
- 4 Q. Were there any positions to which you
- 5 applied?
- 6 A. Not during that time because none of
- 7 them were advertised. That's when all the
- 8 trouble started, when it was very clear that
- 9 Rubenstein was -- the pattern was continuing,
- 10 that Rubenstein was the de facto chief, and I
- 11 sent e-mails saying that, and by then we were
- 12 getting a union, and finally they pretended like
- 13 they were advertising it, and then they sent out
- 14 bogus criteria, and David and I were the only
- 15 two, and that's when David got so angry and when
- 16 his hostility to me just went over the top.
- Q. Did you apply for it?
- A. Eventually I did when I was allowed,
- 19 and there were only two of us, and I was not even
- 20 interviewed.
- Q. Do you know if David Rubenstein was
- 22 interviewed?

- 1 A. Yes, he was, and we were the only two
- 2 applicants.
- 3 Q. How do you know he was interviewed?
- 4 A. Because I was told.
- 5 Q. By?
- 6 A. Maybe Rosenthal. I just remember it.
- 7 I know that Arabella gave him the job. He had
- 8 the job before I ever -- I mean, he was acting in
- 9 that capacity. In fact, he got put in that
- 10 capacity when Tom went out on paternity leave and
- 11 Dave Rosenthal went on, got promoted up to
- 12 another acting position higher up, Eugene Irvin's
- 13 position.
- 14 Q. In paragraph 10 in the complaint, you
- 15 say that you were temporarily reassigned as a
- 16 result of your EEO-based allegations.
- 17 A. Uh-huh.
- 18 Q. Is it your contention that that
- 19 reassignment was discriminatory in nature?
- A. I'm sorry?
- Q. Was that reassignment discriminatory
- 22 in nature?

- 1 about two to three weeks before I had any
- 2 access. So when he would e-mail me, I couldn't
- 3 open any of my e-mails.
- 4 Q. But the question is, do you know
- 5 whether or not anybody attempted to get you
- 6 access through the Department of Mental Health?
- 7 A. And the answer is yes, Dave Norman
- 8 did, and David Rubenstein had blocked it so we
- 9 couldn't get it. Yes, he did. He got me a
- 10 computer, and he contacted Rubenstein, and I
- 11 believe he contacted OCTO, and I contacted OCTO,
- 12 they're the people that provide it, and they were
- 13 told that Rubenstein had to clear it up. He's
- 14 the one who had put the block on it. I think
- 15 there was a guy name Lewis or Mr. Lewis or Luis
- 16 or something like that.
- 17 Q. In paragraph 16 you say defendants
- 18 attempted to further demote plaintiff.
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. What do you mean when you say there
- 21 was an attempt to further demote you?
- 22 A. By money. David Rubenstein insisted

- on doing an evaluation of me even though I had
- 2 left the office, and Dave Norman told him that he
- 3 could give an advisory opinion but that it was
- 4 Dave Norman's responsibility to do an evaluation,
- 5 and Rubenstein was determined that he was going
- 6 to do it, and, in fact, he did do it and gave me
- 7 a reduced pay and sent me a letter -- in fact, it
- 8 may be the letter you've already shown, I don't
- 9 remember -- through Spagnoletti saying that my
- 10 evaluation had been changed, and, therefore, I
- 11 would lose pay. So that's how, yes.
- 12 Q. You said he gave you a reduced pay?
- 13 A. Well, he gave me a reduced evaluation,
- 14 which automatically reduced my pay. I think he
- 15 tried to knock it down to needs improvement, and
- 16 this was well after I had gone, many months after
- 17 it was due and well after I had left the office
- 18 and was working under Dave Norman's supervision,
- 19 and he clearly did not want Dave Norman to write
- 20 my evaluation.
- Q. Did you have any discussions with Dave
- 22 Norman during this period as to who should write

- 1 your evaluation?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. And did he tell you why he believed --
- 4 this is Dave Norman. Did Dave Norman tell you
- 5 why he believed that he was the appropriate
- 6 person to write the evaluation?
- 7 A. Yes. He pulled out the personnel
- 8 regs. Dave is a very, very, very bright lawyer,
- 9 very bright person. He pulled out the -- and he
- 10 even told Rubenstein what they were chapter and
- 11 verse and said, "This is why I believe you are
- not supposed to be doing this, I'm supposed to be
- 13 doing it, " and, in fact, he then went to a
- 14 meeting, I believe he said it was over in 441,
- 15 where he ran into Rubenstein and brought it up
- 16 again with him and came back and told me that.
- 17 Q. In paragraph 17, what did you mean
- 18 when you entered that into the complaint?
- 19 A. That's exactly what I meant, what I
- 20 just described. Rubenstein challenged Dave
- 21 Norman when Dave told him, "I'm responsible for
- 22 doing the evaluation. If you want to give me