

1 his testimony and talk to him.

2 MS. SPETH: There was no question pending.

3 MR. BIRKEN: Once he's sworn in you lose that.

4 MS. SPETH: Show me a rule that says that.

5 MR. LIPPMAN: That's fine.

6 MS. SPETH: Once he's sworn in, you show me a
7 rule that says that.

8 MR. LIPPMAN: Doesn't matter. That's fine.

9 MS. SPETH: Are you saying during the breaks I
10 was not allowed to talk to my client?

11 MR. LIPPMAN: Absolutely not.

12 MS. SPETH: Okay. So, during the breaks when
13 I depose your client you will not be talking to them
14 during the breaks?

15 MR. LIPPMAN: Of course not.

16 MS. SPETH: You show me a rule that says that,
17 because I've never heard of such a thing.

18 MR. LIPPMAN: You spoke to Mr. Magedson during
19 the breaks about his testimony?

20 THE WITNESS: I made phone calls.

21 MR. LIPPMAN: You're telling me that you spoke
22 to --

23 MS. SPETH: I am not going to speak to you
24 about attorney/client privilege. It is outrageous for
25 you to ask me to.

1 MR. LIPPMAN: You're telling me that you spoke
2 to the witness --

3 MS. SPETH: I'm telling you --

4 MR. LIPPMAN: -- during the breaks about --
5 about his testimony? I don't care what you -- you don't
6 have to tell me what you said.

7 MS. SPETH: I'm telling you I'm not answering
8 your questions --

9 MR. LIPPMAN: Okay.

10 MS. SPETH: -- because you're asking about
11 attorney/client privilege.

12 MR. LIPPMAN: Fine.

13 MS. SPETH: I will not speak to a witness when
14 there is a question pending, and I will not coach a
15 witness on how to answer your question, of course.

16 MR. LIPPMAN: And you think it's appropriate
17 to talk to a witness during the breaks even though
18 there's no question pending?

19 MS. SPETH: My client?

20 MR. LIPPMAN: Yes, your client.

21 MS. SPETH: Do I think that's appropriate?

22 MR. LIPPMAN: Yes.

23 MS. SPETH: Of course.

24 MR. LIPPMAN: And have you done that in this
25 instance?

1 MS. SPETH: Attorney/client privilege. I have
2 no intent of --

3 MR. LIPPMAN: Don't tell me -- no, I don't
4 want to know what the substance -- what you talked to
5 him -- I just want to know --

6 MS. SPETH: I have no intention of answering
7 your question.

8 MR. LIPPMAN: -- did you talk to him?

9 MS. SPETH: I have no intention of answering
10 your question.

11 MR. LIPPMAN: Fine. We'll raise it with the
12 judge.

13 I'm asking you for the third time now, I would
14 like you to put what's on that piece of paper that you
15 handed to Mr. Magedson and asked him to read just a few
16 minutes ago while this deposition was going in an
17 envelope, seal it so that I can't see it, so that it can
18 be presented to the judge.

19 MS. SPETH: It's attorney/client privilege.

20 MR. LIPPMAN: You're refusing to do that?

21 MS. SPETH: I don't know if I'm refusing to do
22 that. I have to think about it.

23 MR. LIPPMAN: Okay.

24 MS. SPETH: I'm certainly not reading it to
25 you. It's attorney/client privilege.

1 MR. LIPPMAN: Okay.

2 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Mr. Magedson, if -- if --
3 if --

4 MS. SPETH: "Magedson."

5 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: -- if my company is of the
6 belief that we review consumer complaints, if we think
7 the consumer is proper, we give them what -- we give
8 them what they ask for. If we think what the consumer
9 is asking for is inappropriate, we don't do that. I
10 then couldn't be a member of the CAP, right, because I'm
11 not making the unconditional commitment to make the
12 consumer happy whether his request is legitimate or
13 illegitimate, correct?

14 A. I don't understand the question.

15 Q. Sure.

16 If my corporate policy is that we don't do
17 what a consumer wants when they make a -- render a
18 complaint with us, whether -- regardless of whether we
19 believe it's a legitimate complaint or an illegitimate
20 complaint, but we investigate each complaint. If we
21 think it's legitimate, we do what the consumer wants.
22 If we don't -- think it's illegitimate, we don't do what
23 the consumer wants.

24 If that's my company's philosophy in dealing
25 with consumer complaints, I could not be a member of the

1 CAP because I couldn't make the commitment to you that I
2 will make the consumer happy regardless of what their
3 complaint is, right?

4 A. Depends on the type of business and what --
5 each case is different.

6 Q. But I thought you told me that in order to be
7 a member of CAP you have to make a commitment to make
8 the consumer happy no matter what their complaint is,
9 even if we would look at it and think it's --

10 A. Sometimes it depends on the extent of -- some
11 things might be more involved than others, so -- but,
12 umm -- give me the question again.

13 Q. Well, let me ask you this: Let me ask you a
14 different question. In deciding whether a CAP member's
15 response to a consumer complaint in a Rip-Off --
16 proposed Rip-Off Report is acceptable or unacceptable,
17 Xcentric makes that determination, right?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Okay. Let me direct your attention back to
20 Exhibit 9 again. You'll see on the bottom of the
21 page --

22 A. Which page?

23 Q. The bottom of the first page, I apologize.

24 A. Um-hum.

25 Q. Just above the first paragraph, you see where

1 it -- the last paragraph. You see it says "By Ed
2 Magedson, founder Rip-Off Report"?

3 A. Um-hum.

4 Q. You see that?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. And I'm just trying to understand. Is it the
7 portion above that that you wrote or the portion below
8 that that is by you?

9 A. Both was by me.

10 Q. Both, okay. And so you say there in the
11 bottom paragraph, "As a matter of policy, when Rip-Off
12 Report is retained by a company to investigate
13 independently and to publish our findings, we use every
14 bit of information at our disposal to determine the
15 truthfulness of the complaints against the company or
16 individual." Do you see that?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. That's part of the CAP program?

19 A. Yes.

20 (Deposition Exhibit No. 10 was marked for
21 identification.)

22 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: I'll trade you again. I'm
23 going to hand you Exhibit 10, if you'll give me back
24 Exhibit 9. Thanks. Here you go.

25 What I've marked as Exhibit 10, this is

1 another portion of the Rip-Off Report website, right?

2 A. Okay.

3 Q. Is that correct?

4 A. Correct.

5 Q. Okay. And this portion of the Rip-Off Report
6 website that's marked as Exhibit 10 sets forth the
7 parameters for posting rebuttals, right?

8 A. Okay.

9 Q. Correct?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. Okay. And a rebuttal is response by the
12 person who is being complained about in the Rip-Off
13 Report?

14 A. It can be.

15 Q. Okay. Or it could be somebody else out there
16 who sees a Rip-Off Report and says, "Hey, wait, you're
17 crazy. I had a good experience with these guys. What
18 you're saying is not right"?

19 A. Correct.

20 Q. Okay. But, generally, do rebuttals come from
21 the people who were complained about?

22 A. I don't know. We -- I can't -- I don't know
23 what percentage, but there's a lot. I mean, owners --
24 owners come in all the time, or an employee and...

25 Q. If you can't say so, that's fine, but -- I

1 mean, do you find that most of the rebuttals come from
2 the people who have complained or you just can't tell
3 one way or the other?

4 A. I -- you know, it's maybe 50/50.

5 Q. Okay. Fair enough. Now, when I post a
6 Rip-Off Report -- I'm somebody posting a Rip-Off Report.
7 With the qualifiers you told us earlier about, putting
8 social security numbers or bank accounts or profanity or
9 pornography on it, things of that nature, but I can put
10 whatever I want in my Rip-Off Report, right? I mean, I
11 can say whatever I want and say it the way I want to say
12 it?

13 A. Correct.

14 Q. Okay.

15 A. That's the internet.

16 Q. That's the internet.

17 Now, in this Exhibit 10 on the guidelines for
18 rebuttals, it says, "No trivial comments will be
19 accepted." What does that mean?

20 A. Well, we're just trying to stay a room --
21 around -- away from chat room type conversation. But
22 sometimes it just -- it gets out of control, and you --
23 it's -- it happens. It leads on. People start back and
24 forth and we can't stop the flow.

25 It happens with newspapers, as well. But they

1 have a blog after the -- an article that's written. And
2 you see the constant blogs that come afterwards.

3 And sometimes, you know, the -- sometimes you
4 get -- well, once it's posted, we don't take it away.
5 But things will be posted on blogs, and they end up just
6 taking them away because they're so trivial.

7 Q. Well -- but if I put a trivial comment in my
8 rebuttal, whatever that means, does that mean it won't
9 get posted?

10 A. Umm --

11 Q. Or somebody's going to look at it and make
12 that determination?

13 A. Somebody will look at it and make that
14 determination. It's just --

15 Q. And that somebody is somebody at Xcentric?

16 A. That's somebody who monitors the website.

17 Q. Somebody who works for Xcentric?

18 A. Right.

19 (Deposition Exhibit No. 11 was marked for
20 identification.)

21 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: I'm going to hand you now
22 what I've marked as Exhibit 11. Again, this is another
23 portion of the Rip-Off Report website, right?

24 A. What about it?

25 Q. This is another portion of the Rip-Off Report?

1 A. Correct, yes.

2 Q. And this, again, talks about what is and is
3 not acceptable in a rebuttal?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Okay. We even see the title of some rebuttal
6 notes from the editor, right?

7 A. Okay.

8 Q. Correct?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And you're the editor, right?

11 A. Yeah.

12 Q. Okay. And you see -- and the top portion
13 there's an example of a rebuttal submitted by Ocwen Bank
14 with over 200 Rip-Off Reports, right --

15 A. Okay.

16 Q. -- where the, in essence, say, if you have a
17 concern about this, call us at this number, right?
18 Correct?

19 A. What's the question?

20 Q. You see there's an example here where you show
21 a rebuttal?

22 A. I see the example, yes.

23 Q. Okay. All right. And you make the statement
24 that the above is not a rebuttal, right?

25 A. I make that statement.

1 Q. Okay. And you say, as well, "Because these
2 types of rebuttals are so time consuming, and are a form
3 of spamming because they provide no substantive
4 information. Therefore, we have initiated the following
5 procedure" -- excuse me, "policy, slash, procedures and
6 fees to submitting (sic) multiple rebuttals." Do you
7 see that?

8 A. Fees?

9 Q. Yes, sir, fees.

10 A. There's no fees.

11 Q. Well, let's look at the -- it's the last --
12 you know what, I'll point it out to you. I think that's
13 probably the easiest way to do it. I'm reading from
14 right -- right here. Do you see that, "Because of these
15 types of," all caps, "rebuttals." Do you see that?

16 A. When is this from, 2006? There's never been a
17 fee ever collected on a rebuttal, so I don't know where
18 that came from.

19 Q. Okay. So even though this says there's fees
20 to submit multiple rebuttals, there never was such a
21 fee?

22 A. There was never such a fee.

23 Q. That was a mistake?

24 A. Not only that but, in actuality -- I think
25 this copy -- this copy here does exist, but we allow

1 companies to put, all the time, their customer service
2 information.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. So, I -- this is from 2006, but there was
5 never ever a fee that was ever, ever collected.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. Never once for a rebuttal.

8 Q. Not a problem.

9 And you see where it says further down, it
10 says, "Rebuttals not acceptable" in all caps? Do you
11 see that?

12 A. Oh, yeah, down towards the bottom, yes.

13 Q. Do you see that, sir?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. "We will not allow companies or individuals to
16 simply state what a wonderful company they are," and it
17 keeps on going on. Do you see that?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Says "This is not a rebuttal," right?

20 A. Right.

21 Q. And, again, somebody at Xcentric is going to
22 review the proposed rebuttal, decide whether or not it
23 fits within this category of rebuttals not acceptable,
24 and if it does fit in that category, not allow it to be
25 posted, correct?

1 A. Again, the policy basically -- even when this
2 policy was written, we actually did allow it. We just
3 wanted companies to address when they have a number of
4 complaints, not like one, two, even five, or something.

5 But when the company has pages of complaints,
6 we want 'em really to -- it's okay to give your customer
7 service information, but we want them really to address
8 it, just don't use the space to advertise, oh, you know,
9 our customer service number is.

10 Well, obviously, the consumers have already
11 tried to call the customer service. What are you
12 offering or saying that's going to change? You know,
13 what's -- you know, we're not going to do this anymore,
14 or that, you know, this problem doesn't exist. You
15 know, we're going to answer our phone. We're going to
16 respond to your e-mails. We're going to not say you --
17 you know, we shipped you something when we didn't. You
18 know, we're going to check -- we've checked with our
19 shipping department and fixed things.

20 I don't know. They need to respond to some
21 degree and just not get on there and say, oh, we're
22 great and....

23 **Q. My question to you is a little bit different.**
24 **I apologize if I didn't ask it well.**

25 A. Okay.

1 Q. My question to you is: When somebody submits
2 a proposed rebuttal, someone at Xcentric is reviewing it
3 to find out whether it fits within the acceptable or the
4 unexceptable category, and if it's unacceptable they
5 won't allow it to be posted, correct?

6 A. Right.

7 (Deposition Exhibit No. 12 was marked for
8 identification.)

9 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: I'm handing you now what I've
10 marked as Exhibit 12, which is a string of e-mails
11 between Jeff LeJune, L-e, capital J-u-n-e, and
12 EDitor@ripoffreport.com.

13 You -- the e-mail address EDitor, E-d in
14 capitals, i-t-o-r, small case, at ripoffreport.com,
15 that's your e-mail address, right?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. I like the way you did that. The "EDitor."

18 A. Okay.

19 Q. Very cute. Do you recall these e-mails?

20 A. From 2003, no.

21 Q. Okay. Do you know who Jeff LeJune is?

22 A. No clue.

23 Q. Okay. And you see here in -- if you go on
24 Page 2 of Exhibit 12, you will see the first e-mail on
25 May 29th, 2003 at 11:41 a.m. Mr. LeJune e-mails to you

1 and reports about this employee of Energy Automation
2 Systems, Inc., and how his employer bans him from
3 posting things on the Rip-Off Report, right?

4 MS. SPETH: Objection, misstates the e-mail.

5 THE WITNESS: I don't understand. What's the
6 question?

7 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Mr. LeJune in May sends you
8 an e-mail where he tells you about Energy Automation
9 Systems, Inc., banning its employees from reading
10 Rip-Off Report, right?

11 A. Okay.

12 Q. All right. And then you respond to
13 Mr. LeJune, "This is great. Can you post something or
14 part of this e-mail below. This would be great and
15 would definitely piss them off." Do you see that?

16 A. I see it, but I don't think I wrote that.

17 Q. Well, that's your e-mail address, right?

18 A. Well, I get spoofed e-mail all the time.
19 People send out e-mails as editor of Rip-Off Report all
20 the time.

21 Q. You think somebody else is using your e-mail
22 address?

23 A. Do I think? I know people are using my e-mail
24 address and sending it out spoof.

25 Q. You're saying even though that's your e-mail

1 address you didn't send this e-mail?

2 A. People --

3 Q. That's all I'm asking you, sir. Does your --

4 A. I didn't write this e-mail.

5 Q. You didn't write this e-mail?

6 A. No, I didn't write that e-mail.

7 Q. How do you know you didn't write this? You
8 don't -- you recall this from May --

9 A. I wouldn't write something like that.

10 MS. SPETH: Ed --

11 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Okay.

12 MS. SPETH: -- let him finish the question,
13 please.

14 THE WITNESS: Okay. So your question was?

15 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Well, you see the top one
16 where it says, "Can you file your own detailed Rip-Off
17 Report? Your info will not be revealed. Your source of
18 info" -- "You are a source of info for you." Do you see
19 that? You didn't write that?

20 A. Well, it's from 2003. It's not something that
21 I would write.

22 Q. Well, I'm just trying to understand. Are you
23 telling me you don't know whether or not you wrote this
24 or are you telling me that absolutely you did not write
25 this?

1 A. I wouldn't write something like that. And I'm
2 telling you that my -- more than likely, this is spoofed
3 e-mail.

4 Q. And "spoofed e-mail" means it's something that
5 didn't come from you --

6 A. Correct.

7 Q. -- it came from somebody else --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- using your e-mail address?

10 A. Yes. People can send out e-mail look --
11 making it look like it's your e-mail.

12 Q. I confess --

13 A. You said you weren't --

14 Q. I confessed earlier I'm not a computer genius.

15 A. -- you said you weren't --

16 Q. So I've never --

17 A. Ask anybody about spoofing e-mails.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. And that -- that's not something I would write
20 to somebody.

21 Q. Okay. By the way, just so you know, do you
22 see on the bottom of Exhibit 12 where it says "Case" --

23 A. Can I get a copy of this? I want to
24 investigate this. Can I get a copy?

25 MS. SPETH: I have a copy.

1 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Do you see the bottom of that
2 where it says "Case 3:06"?

3 A. Where are you?

4 Q. On the bottom.

5 MS. SPETH: Bottom of the page.

6 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Bottom of the page, see where
7 it says, "Case 3:06-cv-010079"?

8 A. Yeah, um-hum.

9 Q. All right. I don't know whether this helps
10 you or not, but this document was filed in a federal
11 court proceeding.

12 MS. SPETH: Is that a question?

13 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: No, no, I'm just telling you.
14 Does that help you know --

15 MS. SPETH: Is that a question?

16 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: -- whether you sent this or
17 not?

18 A. I'm -- I wouldn't send something like that.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. Could I be wrong? I don't think so.

21 Q. Okay.

22 A. And I think -- I don't think so.

23 (Deposition Exhibit No. 13 was marked for
24 identification.)

25 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Let me hand you what I've

1 marked as Exhibit 13. This is another series of e-mails
2 between EDitor@ripoffreport.com and a Joseph Merlo,
3 M-e-r-l-o. Have you seen these e-mails before?

4 A. Yeah, I can almost vaguely remember this lying
5 lawyer.

6 Q. I'm sorry?

7 A. I --

8 MS. SPETH: Ed, the question was have you seen
9 the e-mail before.

10 THE WITNESS: I -- I -- no, I don't remember
11 the -- I sort of remember the situation, but --

12 MS. SPETH: No, the question is if you've seen
13 it before.

14 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Your comment to me earlier
15 was you almost remember this lying lawyer?

16 A. Yes, I said that.

17 Q. The document marked as Exhibit 13, this is a
18 true and correct copy of your e-mails back and forth
19 with Mr. Merlo?

20 A. Okay.

21 Q. Correct?

22 MS. SPETH: Is that a question?

23 THE WITNESS: I don't know. Ask me questions.
24 I don't know. I don't know.

25 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Okay. Do you believe so? Do

1 you have any reason to believe this is not --

2 A. I'm not sure. I don't know.

3 Q. -- a true and correct copy of the e-mails?

4 A. I don't know. I don't know.

5 Q. Well, what causes you -- what gives you any
6 doubts to believe that this is not a true and correct
7 copy of your e-mails with Mr. Merlo?

8 A. Umm --

9 MS. SPETH: I'm sorry, could you repeat the
10 question because I missed it?

11 MR. LIPPMAN: Sure.

12 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: What, if anything, causes you
13 to believe that this is not a true and correct copy of
14 your e-mails with Mr. Merlo?

15 A. Because, umm -- I have to read it, verify it.

16 Q. Go ahead and read it.

17 A. You going to ask me questions to it?

18 Q. I am. Then I want to know --

19 A. I'm too tired to read this whole document, so
20 just -- if you want to point out different things to me,
21 I suggest you do it.

22 Q. No, I want to know --

23 A. I don't know.

24 Q. -- whether this is true and correct or not.

25 A. I don't know.

1 **Q. Wait a second.**

2 A. My eyes are hurting me too bad, and I have a
3 headache, that if I start reading this I will be unable
4 to sit here in this room with the lights on pounding at
5 my head right now.

6 So, you want me to sit here and read this,
7 it's going to take a long time. But I don't want to
8 read it because then I'm going to be in pain. So, if
9 you have a specific question you have to for me, ask it.

10 **Q. Take as long as you want, sir. I just want to**
11 **know if this is a true and correct copy of your e-mails**
12 **with Mr. Merlo.**

13 A. I wouldn't even know even if I read it.

14 MS. SPETH: Ed, please wait until the question
15 is finished before you begin your answer.

16 THE WITNESS: Okay.

17 **Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: You're telling me if you read**
18 **this, you couldn't -- you wouldn't even know?**

19 A. I wouldn't even know.

20 **Q. But that is your e-mail address, right,**
21 **EDitor@ripoffreport.com?**

22 A. It's my e-mail address.

23 **Q. Okay.**

24 A. But that doesn't mean it's -- it came from me
25 and they were corresponding with me.

1 Q. Okay. You don't know one way or the other,
2 yes or no?

3 A. No, I don't.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. It's getting hot in here.

6 MS. SPETH: I'll see what I can do.

7 (Recess taken from 4:34 p.m. until 4:35 p.m.)

8 THE WITNESS: Actually, look, what I'm telling
9 you --

10 MS. SPETH: There's no question pending, Ed.
11 Just wait for the question.

12 MR. LIPPMAN: You guys ready?

13 (Deposition Exhibit No. 14 was marked for
14 identification.)

15 THE WITNESS: I need you to bring this to my
16 attention later.

17 MS. SPETH: Okay.

18 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Can I have that back? Thank
19 you.

20 I'm handing you now what I've marked as
21 Exhibit 14, which is an e-mail between yourself and Russ
22 Whitney. Have you ever seen this document before?

23 And just so you know, if you can see again in
24 the lower right-hand corner the Bates No. XCN WHT-00044,
25 I can represent to you that this document came to us

1 **from your counsel in its production in this case.**

2 A. This document looks like it's been doctored or
3 something.

4 **Q. Okay.**

5 A. Why is it -- there's this line here. I don't
6 understand what this -- why this is like that.

7 **Q. I don't know. Is this --**

8 MS. SPETH: Was that a question?

9 **Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: -- a true and correct copy of**
10 **your e-mail between yourself and Mr. Whitney?**

11 MS. SPETH: Object to the form.

12 MR. LIPPMAN: Humor me with the basis of that
13 form objection.

14 MS. SPETH: What was the basis?

15 MR. LIPPMAN: Yes.

16 MS. SPETH: Yeah, because this -- it doesn't
17 purport to be from Mr. Whitney at all. You said from
18 you and Mr. Whitney. You assumed that it was, when it
19 actually says it isn't.

20 MR. LIPPMAN: Well, it says from Russ Whitney.
21 That's --

22 MS. SPETH: Yeah, but look --

23 MR. LIPPMAN: -- seems like a dead giveaway to
24 me.

25 MS. SPETH: Look at the address. Talk about

1 spoofing e-mails, Steve. Look at the address. That's
2 not your Russ Whitney.

3 THE WITNESS: Oh, I see why I'm questioning
4 it.

5 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Um-hum.

6 A. Because why wouldn't Russ Whitney -- you're
7 saying it's from Russ Whitney?

8 Q. I don't know. It says --

9 MS. SPETH: That's what he says.

10 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: That's what -- I'm just
11 reading what it says on the e-mail. From Russ Whitney
12 to Russ Whitney.

13 A. Right. And, apparently, because we cannot
14 place it, Steve, it's -- it shows from a different
15 e-mail address or something. Plus, it's a Yahoo
16 address. If this is Russ Whitney, they'd be using,
17 like, Russ Whitney at Russ Whitney, dot, com or
18 something, some official e-mail address.

19 So I don't know I understand what you're
20 asking here. I don't under- --

21 Q. All I know is --

22 A. I'm not comprehending the e-mail even.

23 Q. Okay. All I'm asking you is, this was
24 produced to us by your counsel in this lawsuit. I
25 just want to know, is this a true and correct copy of

1 the e-mail between EDitor@ripoffreport.com and what
2 it says is Russ Whitney mail to
3 russwhitneylawsuit@yahoo.com.

4 A. I can't say.

5 Q. Okay. And you don't know whether this was
6 actually --

7 A. If I handed this to my attorneys --

8 Q. Yeah.

9 A. -- then it must have -- must be.

10 Q. Okay. And when it says from -- on the bottom,
11 from Russ Whitney, you don't know whether this is
12 actually coming from the Russell Whitney who's the
13 chairman of Whitney Education Group or not, right?

14 A. Right. I think that's reflected in his
15 e-mail.

16 Q. Okay.

17 (Deposition Exhibit No. 15 was marked for
18 identification.)

19 MR. LIPPMAN: Can I have that one back? I'll
20 keep all the originals together.

21 MS. SPETH: I think he's worried you're going
22 to take his exhibits.

23 MR. LIPPMAN: What's that?

24 MS. SPETH: I said, "I think he's worried
25 you're going to take his exhibits."

1 MR. LIPPMAN: He is?

2 MS. SPETH: No, you're worried he's going to
3 take your exhibits.

4 MR. LIPPMAN: Oh, no. You know what, I just
5 find that if I keep them together, I don't -- they don't
6 get lost that way.

7 MS. SPETH: I know. I know.

8 MR. LIPPMAN: It's those depositions where
9 they're all over the table that they end up walking
10 away.

11 MS. SPETH: Been there. Been there. You
12 guys use white exhibit tabs. We use yellow for that
13 reason --

14 MR. LIPPMAN: Yellow's good.

15 MS. SPETH: -- because it's --

16 MR. LIPPMAN: Yep. We have some pink ones or
17 -- pink ones or --

18 MS. SPETH: We use bright yellow.

19 MR. LIPPMAN: I had a guy a couple weeks ago
20 chase somebody out to his car.

21 MS. SPETH: I've seen that happen.

22 MR. LIPPMAN: Saying the whole way, "I don't
23 have it. I don't have it."

24 I'm just, "Please, just open your bag." It
25 was in the middle of things. I mean, he honestly didn't

1 take it, but he just --

2 MS. SPETH: He didn't think he had it.

3 THE WITNESS: Okay.

4 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: You ready, sir?

5 A. Go ahead.

6 Q. This document marked as Exhibit 15, have you
7 seen this before?

8 A. I think this -- if I remember correctly, this
9 was something, I think, that was faxed to me, if I'm not
10 mistaken. It's -- let me just read here closely. Hang
11 on one second.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. I -- I forget if -- I don't know if -- if this
14 off a Rip-Off Report or -- I think I remember getting
15 something that was some long document that looked like
16 some kind of case that was going on that was filed with,
17 I want to say with some agency, but I could be wrong.

18 MS. SPETH: The question was have you seen
19 ever seen it before.

20 THE WITNESS: I think so.

21 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Okay.

22 A. I think so. I must have.

23 Did I give this to you?

24 MS. SPETH: It indicates at the bottom,
25 according to the Bates number, that you did.

1 THE WITNESS: So, yeah, that's why. I mean,
2 it looks familiar but I can't remember that -- yes, I've
3 seen it before.

4 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: You didn't prepare this,
5 right? You personally did not prepare this?

6 A. No.

7 Q. Okay. Did anybody at Xcentric prepare this?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Okay. You don't know who prepared it?

10 A. No. I'm really not even sure what it is, so
11 -- but we don't prepare documents.

12 MR. LIPPMAN: Why don't we just take a break,
13 like five minutes.

14 MS. SPETH: Sure.

15 VIDEOGRAPHER: Off the record. The time is
16 4:42 p.m.

17 (Recess taken from 4:42 p.m. until 4:54 p.m.)

18 VIDEOGRAPHER: On the record. The time is
19 4:54 p.m.

20 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: I want to go back for a
21 second. There's a couple of things I thought about with
22 regard to the CAP program.

23 If I'm a CAP member, somebody files a -- makes
24 a Rip-Off Report and submits it, it hasn't been posted
25 yet on the website, but submits it. You send them the

1 e-mail that it's going to be investigated. You send it
2 to me. And I look at it and I determine that the
3 person's just wrong.

4 Is the consumer, the person who posted the
5 Rip-Off Report, then free to say, you know, "I still
6 want to post my Rip-Off Report," or would you, under
7 those circumstances, say, "Hey, look, I see you
8 investigated it. I see you checked it out. What the
9 person is asking for is wrong. You acted appropriately,
10 you don't need to do anymore"?

11 A. It won't get posted if -- and we tell the
12 consumer to fly a kite if there's no account, if they
13 had no e-mails to prove -- because I had to think about
14 this. I'm glad you're asking me again.

15 Like -- let's say a consumer -- we post, you
16 know, this depositive report with the commitment from
17 the business. Remember, the business gives us that
18 commitment, we post it.

19 And two weeks later a consumer, you know,
20 sends us an e-mail and sends it to the business and
21 said, "Hey, listen a year ago, you know, I did your
22 program or something and I never made any money and you
23 guys lied and you misrepresented," all the usual kinds
24 of things like that.

25 So, if it was that long ago, especially, you

1 know, some time back, we would request -- the first
2 question we ask is, "Well, do you have any e-mails to
3 show that you had a problem back then?" so we know that
4 they really did have a problem with them and they did
5 try to have some sort of an issue, or they did have some
6 sort of an issue.

7 But -- so -- so -- and if somebody was filing
8 -- nobody's going to contact us and say something that's
9 an ex-employee. That ain't happening anymore. Because
10 if somebody just tries to say, oh, you know, they
11 weren't ripped off, but they're saying, "Oh, I just know
12 they're a bunch of dirty bastards and, you know, they're
13 this and that," if they're not a customer, the report's
14 not getting posted. And there's nothing to refund or to
15 take care of.

16 So I -- I knew you were asking, but I had
17 other things on my mind. And I am getting extremely
18 tired. I didn't -- I didn't get much sleep. I -- you
19 know, I work 20 hours a day.

20 So, there are many reasons why, A, the report
21 wouldn't even be -- there may be some reasons why the
22 report wouldn't be addressed. And, the way we write
23 what we write it really deters anybody from any
24 erroneous stuff coming in.

25 Like, if there was erroneous stuff coming in,

1 somebody's not going to contact us and say, "Hey, I was
2 a customer and I got ripped off."

3 "Okay. What's your phone number so we can
4 send it to the company and they can verify who you are?"
5 Because most companies go by, like, you know, seven --
6 whatever -- you know, the phone number.

7 I don't think I answered your question, did I?

8 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Let me -- let me -- let me go
9 off on a tangent for one second.

10 A. I do that.

11 MS. SPETH: That seems to be the theme.

12 THE WITNESS: That's my job.

13 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: I know we've been going for a
14 while today.

15 A. That's all right. Okay.

16 Q. Okay. We started a little bit late today, in
17 part dealing with the issue --

18 A. It's not your fault. I'm not saying --

19 Q. -- of your arriving a little bit late.

20 I'm trying to get this done today. And, you
21 know, obviously, we're going to go beyond 5:00 o'clock.
22 I don't think we have much longer to go, but we do have
23 a little bit longer to go.

24 So, on the one hand, I would like to get this
25 done today because I've made that commitment to get it

1 done today. And, quite frankly, we changed our flights
2 to go home tonight to get it done today.

3 A. I want to take a break, like, for an hour.

4 MS. SPETH: Stop.

5 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: But on the -- but on the flip
6 side, I don't want to take your deposition and have a
7 problem later with you telling me, you know, "I'm unable
8 to concentrate and I can't answer your questions."

9 A. I'm trying the best I can.

10 Q. I appreciate that. And so I'm willing to take
11 a two-minute break if you wish to speak to your counsel,
12 or not, that's fine. But if we're at a point where
13 somebody's going to complain about his ability to answer
14 questions because of the time that we've gone, I don't
15 want to waste my time taking this deposition and have
16 somebody complain about that.

17 A. I'll let you know when there's a problem.

18 Q. Okay. I appreciate that.

19 A. I'll just ask you the question again --

20 Q. That's fine.

21 A. -- until I understand.

22 Q. If we hit a point where you can't go anymore
23 and we have to stop --

24 A. Okay.

25 Q. -- I'm not saying I'd be happy, but we'll deal

1 with it.

2 A. Okay.

3 Q. Now, actually during the break I think your
4 counsel pointed out to me -- I'm going to hand you back
5 Exhibit 14. And your counsel's suggested to me that she
6 believes Exhibit 15 is the --

7 A. This is 14.

8 Q. Yes. That Exhibit 15 is the posting that the
9 person who identifies himself as Russ Whitney in Exhibit
10 14 wanted to have posted on the Rip-Off Report.

11 MS. SPETH: Or at least part of it.

12 THE WITNESS: I -- I don't know.

13 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: You don't know whether that's
14 true or not?

15 A. No, I wouldn't. It could be.

16 Q. Okay. And you'll see, as your counsel pointed
17 out on Exhibit 14, where it says on the top "Page 1 of
18 192," do you see that?

19 A. Say that again.

20 MS. SPETH: At the top.

21 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: At the top of Exhibit 14
22 where it says "Page 1 of 192."

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And on the bottom it shows a date of July 2nd,
25 2007?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And then you see on Exhibit 15 on the top it
3 says Page -- it starts with Page 10 of 192? Upper
4 right-hand corner.

5 A. Okay.

6 Q. You see the same date in the lower left-hand
7 corner?

8 A. I see that.

9 Q. And that's why your counsel was suggesting
10 that perhaps what is marked as Exhibit 15 was the
11 posting that was asked to be placed on the Rip-Off
12 Report in the e-mail marked as Exhibit 14. Does that
13 perhaps refresh your recollection as to what this is?

14 A. Yes, um-hum, right. I -- I -- I -- no, I
15 don't -- well, I wouldn't know. It's a good theory, but
16 I also do want to say for the record --

17 Q. If you don't recall, you don't recall.

18 A. -- something looks funny here. I'm not saying
19 that this is not my e-mail or it is my e-mail, because I
20 can't -- there's no way I could remember.

21 Q. Um-hum.

22 A. But something looks kind of weird.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. Did we send this to --

25 MS. SPETH: You said that earlier, Ed.

1 THE WITNESS: Okay. All right.

2 MR. LIPPMAN: I'll take them back. Good try.
3 I bought it.

4 THE WITNESS: I'm gonna -- that -- that
5 document -- I want to say that that document, I'm almost
6 positive, because I remember all the -- whatever you
7 call those side V things, that's just -- I remember that
8 sticks in my mind. I'm almost positive I got that as a
9 fax.

10 (Deposition Exhibit No. 16 was marked for
11 identification.)

12 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: I'm handing you what I've
13 marked as Exhibit 16. It's e-mails between yourself and
14 a gentleman named Robert Paisola.

15 A. Okay.

16 Q. Have you seen this document before?

17 A. I submitted it.

18 Q. It did come from your counsel, yes, as you can
19 see in the lower right-hand corner from the Bates stamp.
20 Do you recall this e-mail between yourself and
21 Mr. Paisola?

22 A. The truthful answer is, I don't remember it
23 but I'm sure that it's a document that I sent.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. So, if I gave it to my attorney, this is part

1 of what I was ordered to do to come up with stuff that
2 -- everything that was related to you guys. So...

3 Q. Okay. If you will look on the first page of
4 Exhibit 16, the last paragraph, that starts with the big
5 font, see where it says "But"? Do you see that, the
6 last paragraph there?

7 A. Okay, um-hum.

8 Q. Okay. And if you go four lines down, all the
9 way to the right-hand side, it starts a sentence, "I
10 have not shared this." Do you see that? Sir, do you
11 see that?

12 A. I see that. I'm reading that sentence.

13 Q. Okay. I'm going to read it out loud. "I have
14 not shared this yet" -- excuse me. "I have not shared
15 this with anyone yet, not even my attorney, but I am
16 looking over all this and looking for my notes of more
17 than a dozen employees and serious clients that want to
18 join forces to show what they are doing wrong to both
19 consumers and employees like yourself." Do you see
20 that?

21 A. Okay.

22 Q. Do you see that, sir?

23 A. Yeah, I see that.

24 Q. And this is referring to notes that you have
25 of employees or clients of a Whitney business?

1 MS. SPETH: Objection.

2 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Is that what you're referring
3 to here?

4 MS. SPETH: Misstates the --

5 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I'm not sure I know what
6 you mean.

7 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Well, I'm asking you, when
8 you talk about your -- looking for your notes of more
9 than a dozen employees and serious clients that want to
10 join forces to show what they're doing wrong to both
11 consumers and employees like yourself, the -- the one
12 that you're talking that's doing wrong is Whitney
13 Information, correct?

14 A. Well, it's what I'm being told that they're
15 doing wrong. I wouldn't have -- I wouldn't know. I've
16 never -- I don't even know what Whitney does.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. So, now I see what --

19 MS. SPETH: Is there a question pending?

20 THE WITNESS: No. That's all right. Okay.
21 Aren't you glad you brought him along?

22 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Turn to the second page of
23 Exhibit 16.

24 A. Okay.

25 Q. And the first full sentence on this page, it

1 says, "I told lawyers you will not be able to help with
2 that, three question marks, but can I give your contact
3 information to a TV news magazine that did contact us
4 about doing a story on Whitney and several other
5 companies like them. If they were to keep your identity
6 confidential, slash, disguise you, would you be willing
7 to cooperate." Do you see that?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Okay. So you're attempting here to put
10 Mr. Paisola together with members of the media who are
11 looking on doing a story?

12 A. Probably an investigative reporter called.

13 Q. Okay. And Mr. Paisola has not posted any
14 Rip-Off reports, right?

15 A. I wouldn't know that he did or he didn't.

16 Q. You're not aware of him posting any Rip-Off
17 reports?

18 A. No.

19 (Deposition Exhibit No. 17 was marked for
20 identification.)

21 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: I hand you what I've marked
22 as Exhibit 17. I presume you've seen this document
23 before, right?

24 A. I had to have.

25 Q. Exhibit 17 is another e-mail between yourself

1 and Mr. Paisola?

2 A. Yes. My memory is documented, too.

3 Q. I'm sorry?

4 A. My bad memory is being documented.

5 Q. Why is that?

6 A. Nothing.

7 Q. Oh, oh, your memory.

8 And, again, here you're trying to put
9 Mr. Paisola together with members of the media who are
10 at least telling you they're doing some investigation or
11 potentially a story about Whitney?

12 A. Right.

13 (Deposition Exhibit No. 18 was marked for
14 identification.)

15 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: I'm going to hand you what
16 I've marked as Exhibit 18.

17 MS. SPETH: Is that you there?

18 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: This is an e-mail to
19 info@ripoffreport.com. I guess that's somebody else at
20 Xcentric Ventures?

21 A. No.

22 Q. This is just a general e-mail?

23 A. Yeah, um-hum.

24 Q. Okay. In other words, that's not directed
25 personally to you, right?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Like when we saw EDitor@ripoffreport.com,
3 that's directly to you, right?

4 A. Yes -- no, this all -- it all goes to the same
5 box.

6 Q. Okay. But this is like a general e-mail box?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Okay. And if somebody sends an e-mail like
9 this saying -- like they say, "I saw reports about Russ
10 Whitney, I want to get in touch with some of the people
11 who wrote the reports," do you provide the contact
12 information?

13 A. Not unless a bona fide lawyer is really doing
14 a lawsuit.

15 Q. How do you know if they're a bona fide lawyer
16 doing a lawsuit?

17 A. Do a Martin Dale Hubbell, or whatever you call
18 it -- no, they would contact us, send information. We'd
19 ask them some questions. And if they were a bona fine
20 lawyer doing a lawsuit --

21 Q. I don't mean to be facetious, but --

22 A. That's all right.

23 Q. -- what does a bona fide lawyer mean?

24 A. Maybe I'm using the wrong word. If they're a
25 lawyer that's really doing an action.

1 Q. Okay.

2 A. And we might even check into -- which we have.
3 I'll try and get somebody to, like, check on the lawyer
4 and see if, you know, if they've won cases before. If
5 they just settle for -- you know, when they do a class
6 action, if they settle for coupons, or whatever you call
7 it, and then just -- it really just never goes anywhere,
8 if they have, like, a bad reputation or not.

9 Q. And if you think they're, for lack of a better
10 term, a good lawyer, you would provide them with the
11 information?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And if you think they're a bad lawyer, you
14 won't provide them with the information?

15 A. Yeah. I haven't run into any bad lawyers. Is
16 that find -- hard to find?

17 Q. I'm not saying anything.

18 A. I never had the case where it's -- you know,
19 it had to really be a lawyer really looking, because
20 there's always people that always say, "Oh, you know, I
21 want to just get people together," but --

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. -- that's not a good thing.

24 Q. But you do some checking to decide whether
25 this is somebody you want to release the information to

1 or not?

2 A. Right.

3 Q. I mean, "you" being -- "you" meaning, not
4 necessarily you personally, but Xcentric Ventures does
5 that?

6 A. Right.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. I can't handle those long documents.

9 (Deposition Exhibit No. 19 was marked for
10 identification.)

11 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Let me hand you what I've
12 marked as Exhibit 19, which is, again, another
13 document that was produced to us by your counsel.
14 And this is a series of e-mails between yourself,
15 EEditor@ripoffreport.com and a -- I believe her -- it
16 says M.A. Yates, but she keeps referring to herself as
17 Madeline, so I refer -- assume that's Madeline Yates.

18 A. Okay.

19 Q. Do you recall this document?

20 A. I don't rem- -- I -- let me start here from
21 the beginning.

22 Q. Okay. If you don't recall it, that's fine.

23 A. I just -- I mean, it's -- it's a document that
24 went through my -- that went through my hands. So, I
25 mean --

1 Q. All right.

2 A. -- I just -- I can't -- there's no way I can
3 remember these things. I mean --

4 Q. That's fine.

5 A. It's just -- yeah, I just don't --

6 Q. But this is a copy of your e-mails with
7 Ms. Yates?

8 A. Right.

9 Q. Okay. And I don't know if you see the
10 beginning, Ms. Yates asked you some questions about her
11 initial e-mail on January 18, 2007.

12 A. Are you on Page 1?

13 Q. On Page 6, actually.

14 MS. SPETH: Page 6.

15 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: It kind of goes -- these go
16 backwards in reverse chronological order.

17 A. Oh, okay. All right.

18 Q. So the first e-mail is at the end.

19 A. All right. Okay.

20 Q. And she asks some questions about --

21 I apologize. My wife.

22 He asks some -- she asks some questions about
23 Whitney Education, right?

24 A. Um-hum. Okay. What's your question?

25 Q. All right. You see that -- that's the first

1 -- she asked you some questions about it, and then you
2 respond to her on January 19th, 2007.

3 A. Right, which my response starts on --

4 Q. Looks like Page -- Page 4.

5 A. No -- okay. Yeah, two pages back.

6 Q. Yes.

7 A. And I -- okay. No, we don't give...

8 Q. You tell her, "No, we do not give access to
9 that info. We do not give out your info. We heard most
10 of their key people are in jail. Is that true? Thank
11 you for your info. Please send me anything else you
12 find out. You know, they have been suing us for a long,
13 long time." Right?

14 A. Okay.

15 Q. That's your response to Ms. Yates' --

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. -- initial inquiry, right?

18 A. Um-hum.

19 Q. And then she sends you back, later that day,
20 an e-mail, "Thanks for the quick response." And she
21 asks some more questions about the folks at Whitney,
22 right? Do you see that in the middle of Page 4?

23 A. Of Page 4?

24 Q. Yeah.

25 A. Okay. Yeah, I see that, um-hum.

1 Q. Okay. And then you respond back to her on the
2 top of Page 4?

3 A. Wait, wait, wait. Can I just -- I want to
4 read this for a second.

5 Q. Sure, go ahead. Take your time.

6 A. I'm reading her response. Okay. Now, you
7 want me to look --

8 Q. On the top of Page 4 as you respond back to
9 her again. "Class" -- you see where it says "Class" --

10 A. On page -- top of Page 4?

11 Q. Yeah. See, it starts on the bottom of Page 3.

12 A. Oh, okay. Yeah.

13 Q. You responded --

14 A. Okay. "Class actions are not the best."

15 Q. "Better off with a mass action. We always
16 have lawyers looking at cases. It would be great if you
17 can send back this entire e-mail along with any links to
18 newspaper articles, et cetera." Do you see that?

19 A. Right.

20 Q. And then Ms. Yates responds again on
21 February 4th, 2007. "Hello again." Found the link to
22 the newspaper article.

23 A. Okay.

24 Q. And she provides you with a link, right?

25 A. Um-hum.

1 Q. And then you write back to her, "Thanks,"
2 right?

3 A. I don't see the "Thanks." Where are you?

4 Q. Page 3, middle of the page.
5 EDitor@ripoffreport.

6 A. Oh, "Thanks." Yeah, okay.

7 Q. And then she writes back again later in the
8 day on February 4th, "Any suggestions from me since I
9 can't hire attorney?" Do you see that?

10 A. Okay.

11 Q. Right?

12 And then if you go back to Page 2, on the
13 bottom, a little later that day on February 4th, you
14 write back to her, "There was an attorney that had
15 contacted us about three weeks ago that wanted Whitney
16 Information victims info. They called by phone."

17 A. What -- what page are you on? I'm sorry.

18 Q. The bottom of Page 2.

19 A. Okay. Okay. I see.

20 Q. Right? It says, "They called by phone. I
21 will look to see if they e-mailed us. I remember it was
22 a woman and she was contacting me back in about two or
23 three weeks. If you filed a Rip-Off Report you would be
24 included, as you would be contacted." Do you see that?

25 A. Um-hum.

1 Q. That was your response to Mrs. Yates saying,
2 "Any suggestions for me since I can't hire an attorney?"
3 right?

4 A. Um-hum.

5 Q. And then a couple of months later, Mrs. Yates
6 replies back to you on May 21st, 2007, right?

7 A. Um-hum.

8 Q. Says, "Hello. Perhaps you recall me from a
9 few months ago"? You see that --

10 A. I see it, um-hum.

11 Q. -- on Page 2?

12 A. Okay.

13 Q. And then if we flip over to Page 1 --

14 A. Wait, wait. Okay.

15 Q. And you see Ms. Yates follows -- sends you
16 again on May 30th another -- another follow-up. "Hello,
17 Ed. Just a follow up to my e-mail below. As stated I
18 will be happy to join forces legally if there's any type
19 of suit that may be developing."

20 A. Right.

21 Q. She's talking about a lawsuit against one or
22 more of the Whitney entities, right?

23 A. I assume, yep.

24 Q. And then further on -- and then you reply back
25 to her. Among other things, you ask her, "Do you have a

1 phone number I can call you at?" Do you see that?

2 A. What page are you on?

3 Q. First page.

4 A. And where is "Do you have a phone number I can
5 call you?"

6 Q. In the middle. See "EDitor"?

7 A. Does she write that or I'm writing that?

8 Q. I think this is you writing it, right?

9 EDitor@ripoffreport.com wrote "Madeline," da, da, da,
10 da, da, da. Do you have phone number I can call you at,
11 da, da, da, da, da, Ed.

12 A. Oh, okay. Okay. Yeah, I see.

13 Q. Right? And then you see she responds back and
14 gives you her phone number, her cell number?

15 A. Um-hum.

16 Q. Did you talk to her? You don't recall?

17 A. I don't remember. I can't -- can't remember.

18 Q. It's not that long ago. It's only May of this
19 year.

20 MS. SPETH: Ask him what he did yesterday.

21 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: You don't recall whether you
22 talked to her or not?

23 A. No. I -- it -- probably did.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. I just don't remember it. I would assume if

1 we went all this way and she gave me the number.

2 Q. Do you know if you talked to her about
3 potential legal action against Whitney that she wanted
4 to pursue?

5 A. I wouldn't know. I know as much then as I
6 know now.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. And nothing -- there's nothing -- nothing.

9 Q. Well, you did know something. I mean, you --

10 A. I --

11 Q. You did tell her back in January of '07, "We
12 heard most of their key people are in jail. Is that
13 true?"

14 A. Well, I don't know.

15 Q. "Send me anything you find out."

16 A. Is it true?

17 Q. You heard something?

18 A. I did hear something. She sent me an article.

19 Q. All right.

20 A. People call with all kinds of information. I
21 don't know what to believe or not believe.

22 MR. LIPPMAN: You need to change the tape?

23 VIDEOGRAPHER: This is the conclusion of Tape
24 No. 2 of the continuing videotaped deposition of Ed
25 Magedson.

1 Off the record. The time is 5:20 p.m.

2 (Recess taken from 5:20 p.m. until 5:27 p.m.)

3 VIDEOGRAPHER: This is the beginning of Tape
4 No. 3 of the continuing videotaped deposition of Ed
5 Magedson.

6 On the record. The time is 5:27 p.m.

7 (Deposition Exhibit No. 20 was marked for
8 identification.)

9 Q. BY MR. LIPPMAN: Mr. Magedson, I've handed you
10 what I've marked as Exhibit 20. Have you seen this
11 document before?

12 A. I had to have. I must have.

13 Q. Okay. And Exhibit 20 is a copy of a series of
14 e-mails between yourself and somebody whose e-mail
15 address is cream, underscore, bar@hotmail.com?

16 A. I guess, yeah, um-hum.

17 Q. Okay. Now, this person, that cream bar, it
18 says at the end of it, it's a John in Atlanta, Georgia.
19 I don't know if his name is John or not, but we'll refer
20 to him as John. Okay? John, it looks like --

21 A. Wait. Okay. You're going to the last page
22 first?

23 Q. Yeah.

24 A. Okay.

25 Q. See at the end where it says "John, Atlanta,