SCO Grp v. Novell Inc Doc. 860 Att. 2

THE COURT: Counsel, as to recalling

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2 Ms. Madsen, as I understand it, you want to recall her to
 3 have her comment on Mr. Sabbath's declaration, which he
 4 has already disowned in his own testimony. The Court
 5 sees nothing to be gained by having her come and disown
 6 it as well. And, for that reason, I think we are just
7 going to release her and let her go.
            MR. JACOBS: I understand, Your Honor, but can
 9 we spend a little more time on the declaration --
            THE COURT: Yes.
10
            MR. JACOBS: -- before the next segment of
11
12 depositions? There are two ways one could look at
13 declarations. One could look at them as relatively
14 trivial, frivolous things that people sign casually, or
15 one could look at them as sworn statements under penalty
16 of perjury that are given in court and should have the
17 same weight as testimony given in court.
            In this case, this is a declaration signed by a
19 lawyer, a member of the bar, who, although he says he was
20 lazy and says in some ways it doesn't completely comport
21 with his recollection, it is still his statement under
22 penalty of perjury.
            And it is flatly inconsistent with the
24 portions -- with the evidence and with the testimony that
25 SCO introduced in their portion of his deposition.
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- 1 THE COURT: Correct.
- 2 MR. JACOBS: We're a little surprised they
- 3 brought Mr. Sabbath in any capacity here because that
- 4 declaration so rebuts the testimony they have offered,
- 5 but they have done that. To use an expression we may
- 6 grow fond of in this lawsuit, they have opened the door.
- 7 And what they have opened the door to specifically is
- 8 for the jury to hear the paragraphs of Mr. Sabbath's
- 9 declaration that he offered, under penalty of perjury,
- 10 that directly contradict the testimony that they played
- 11 in their portion of his videotape deposition.
- 12 Had he been here live, there is no question
- 13 that we could have read those segments of his declaration
- 14 to him, and we could have asked for his live testimony on
- 15 them.
- And so, when we get to that portion of the
- 17 declaration, particularly because we now can't ask
- 18 Ms. Madsen about those portions, what I would like to do
- 19 is to be able to read to the jury the portions of his
- 20 declaration, signed under penalty of perjury, that
- 21 directly contradict what he testified to in SCO's
- 22 presentation of his testimony.
- THE COURT: And the way you do it is, when you
- 24 come to those questions, you would stop, and you would
- 25 personally read those portions of the declaration and

- 1 then proceed with the question regarding it?
- 2 MR. JACOBS: I think that I would flip it
- 3 slightly. I will have him testify that -- there is a
- 4 brief segment of our designations, Your Honor, where he
- 5 says that he provided this declaration to Ron Lauderdale
- 6 in 2003. And I would stand up, and I would say:
- With Your Honor's permission, I would now like
- 8 to read portions of Mr. Sabbath's December, 2003,
- 9 declaration.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay.
- 11 MR. NORMAND: Your Honor, there are multiple
- 12 problems with this proposal, Your Honor. The first is
- 13 that the general rule is extraneous testimony, testimony
- 14 from outside court, whether it's read to a witness for
- 15 impeachment or not, does not come in as evidence. That's
- 16 the general rule.
- 17 Second. The fact that we called Mr. Sabbath as
- 18 a witness doesn't open the door to controverting that
- 19 rule. Every other witness that we've called, parties
- 20 could have addressed them by trying to get in prior
- 21 testimony. No one has tried to do that. It's improper.
- 22 Third, Your Honor, if we're going to get into a
- 23 little mini trial about what Mr. Sabbath was thinking or
- 24 doing when he signed this prior declaration, we would
- 25 need to explore his deposition testimony in the IBM case.

- 1 We did not designate that because we did not understand
- 2 there to be a prospective fight about the circumstances
- 3 under which that declaration was signed. That would be
- 4 incredibly collateral, confusing to the jury, and
- 5 prejudicial.
- And, for all those reasons, Your Honor, we
- 7 don't see any reason to change the general rule that,
- 8 one, when you have a witness by deposition designation,
- 9 you don't make special rules for the witness just because
- 10 they haven't shown up in person; and, two, the general
- 11 rule, which Mr. Jacobs' proposal would controvert, that
- 12 impeachment evidence somehow comes in and should be given
- 13 special consideration by the jury.
- 14 THE COURT: Mr. Jacobs?
- 15 MR. JACOBS: I think we're mixing apples and
- 16 oranges a little bit. The witness has the declaration in
- 17 front of him when he is testifying in the deposition.
- 18 THE COURT: And I did not get all the way
- 19 through that which you gave me at the beginning of that
- 20 break, which are your designated portions, which it is
- 21 clear you did examine him on it, correct?
- 22 MR. JACOBS: That is true, Your Honor.
- 23 THE COURT: So, I'm not inclined to supplement
- 24 what has been designated by you, by an actual reading. I
- 25 wish I had been able to get through it all, but I simply

- 1 did not have the time, but I have to assume that you
- 2 effectively brought out the contradictions between the
- 3 testimony as heard by the plaintiff's designations and
- 4 that which you cross examined him on, showing the
- 5 inconsistencies. And I think that we better just leave
- 6 it at that.
- 7 MR. JACOBS: So the other alternative, Your
- 8 Honor, is, rather than reading it to the jury, we should
- 9 be able to put on the screen the portion of the
- 10 declaration, and they should be able to look at it as the
- 11 witness is looking at it. He had it in front of him at
- 12 the time. They need to know what he's talking about when
- 13 he's talking about that declaration. Otherwise --
- 14 THE COURT: Don't you ask him to read those
- 15 parts of it that you then cross examine him on?
- 16 MR. JACOBS: Candidly, Your Honor, not all of
- 17 them. There are some portions of his declaration that go
- 18 specifically to the logic and structure of the
- 19 transaction, that go to Amendment Number 2. We did not
- 20 want to waste valuable deposition time just reading
- 21 portions of a deposition $\operatorname{--}$ of a declaration into the
- 22 record.
- THE COURT: I'm sorry, Mr. Jacobs, but I don't
- 24 believe I ought to make up for your unwillingness to take
- 25 the time during the deposition to have him read it,

- 1 recognizing that you would be possibly using that
- 2 deposition testimony in this fashion, by now allowing you
- 3 to bring undue attention to that declaration. So, again,
- 4 the Court will not allow that to happen either.
- 5 MR. JACOBS: And the last point, Your Honor, to
- 6 make in this connection is that there is really not that
- 7 much difference between this declaration and the other
- 8 out-of-court statements that, for example, SCO has used
- 9 to question witnesses and say:
- 10 Is this consistent with your understanding or
- 11 not?
- 12 They are all out-oF-court statements. This
- 13 happens to be under penalty of perjury.
- 14 THE COURT: But you have -- you're going to be
- 15 cross examining him on it in the designated portions of
- 16 the deposition, so you have in fact been allowed to use
- 17 it in that fashion in the deposition, but what you're
- 18 asking for is something well beyond that now, and the
- 19 Court believes that the appropriate way to deal with this
- 20 is just to rely on what you did at the deposition with
- 21 those designated portions that the jury will now hear
- 22 MR. JAOCBS: So, just so we don't have to do
- 23 this in front of the jury, Your Honor, we would move to
- 24 strike Mr. Sabbath's testimony that SCO has offered in
- 25 their portion of Mr. Sabbath's testimony on the grounds

- 1 that it's flatly contradicted by a sworn declaration he
- 2 gave under penalty of perjury that we now cannot
- 3 effectively impeach him on because he is not here live.
- 4 THE COURT: But you were able to cross examine
- 5 him in the deposition, and you will now show those
- 6 designated portions of that deposition; is that correct?
- 7 MR. JACOBS: We will be doing that, Your Honor,
- 8 absent a grant of the motion to strike.
- 9 THE COURT: The Court will deny the motion to
- 10 strike.
- 11 MR. JACOBS: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 12 THE COURT: Do you have anything also before we
- 13 bring the jury in?
- MR. NORMAND: No, Your Honor.
- 15 THE COURT: All right.
- 16 MR. JACOBS: I'm sorry, Your Honor, one quick
- 17 question.
- 18 THE COURT: Yes.
- 19 MR. JACOBS: There are portions that we're
- 20 asking him about during the deposition testimony. Can we
- 21 put those portions on the screen as we're doing so?
- MR. NORMAND: Your Honor, I thought that was
- 23 the third of Mr. Jacobs' four proposals.
- THE COURT: That was my understanding as well.
- 25 You may not show anything that does not occur in the

- 1 actual deposition. If you have the running words below
- 2 it, as you have in the banner, then you may certainly
- 3 focus their attention -- or the jury will focus their
- 4 attention as they read that, but nothing supplemental to
- 5 that which will appear in the designated portions of the
- 6 deposition of Mr. Sabbath.
- 7 MR. JACOBS: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 8 MS. MALLEY: All rise for the jury, please.
- 9 (Jury brought into the courtroom.)
- 10 THE COURT: Mr. Norman, let me clarify. Have
- 11 you now shown everything of Mr. Sabbath that you
- 12 intended?
- MR. NORMAND: We have, Your Honor. Thank
- 14 you.
- THE COURT: Mr. Jacobs.
- MR. JACOBS: We would offer testimony of
- 17 Mr. Sabbath as well, Your Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 19 Designated portions of the deposition
- 20 testimony of Mr. Sabbath were read as
- 21 follows:
- 22 O. Did Santa Cruz have occasion to retain outside
- 23 counsel in connection with the potential transaction?
- A. Yes. We retained the Brobeck law firm, Brobeck
- 25 Phleger and Harrison, I believe it was. It doesn't exist

- 1 anymore, but at the time they were one of the large
- 2 Silicon Valley San Francisco law firms.
- Q. And who were the attorneys at Brobeck with whom
- 4 you dealt with respect to this potential transaction?
- 5 A. Sure. Ed Leonard was the lead attorney, the
- 6 most senior of the Brobeck attorneys. I believe he was
- 7 even the managing partner at that time; if not of the
- 8 entire firm, at least of the Palo Alto office, very
- 9 experienced in M&A work. Scott Lester was either a
- 10 senior associate or more junior partner on the team. And
- 11 then there were, I don't know, three or four others,
- 12 maybe a Jeff Higgins, I seem to kind of recall, but I may
- 13 be confusing law firms at this point.
- But, anyway, it was Ed Leonard and Scott
- 15 Lester, the leads, and they had several attorneys, maybe
- 16 some paralegals as backup.
- 17 Q. Paragraph A of Amendment Number 2 --
- 18 A. Yeah, paragraph A I didn't recall being here in
- 19 this Amendment A, but it looks to me like a clarification
- 20 of some sort to the APA.
- 21 Q. Is paragraph A a part of Amendment Number 2
- 22 that you recall negotiating to any extent?
- 23 A. I don't recall that, but I don't know.
- Q. And, to the best of your recollection, who, at
- 25 Santa Cruz, would have been involved in negotiating the

- 1 language of paragraph A of Amendment Number 2?
- 2 A. I don't know.
- 3 Q. Can you recall, prior to signing Amendment
- 4 Number 2, focusing on paragraph A to any extent?
- 5 A. I don't.
- Q. You have the APA among the documents in front
- 7 of you?
- 8 A. Uh-huh.
- 9 Q. And I wanted to direct your attention to one
- 10 section in particular, Section 1.2(b), which begins on
- 11 the page with the Bates number ending 901. In the
- 12 language I read into the record, there's a reference to
- 13 equitable interest within the meaning of Section 541(d)
- 14 of the Bankruptcy Code. Do you see that language?
- 15 A. Yes. Yes.
- 16 Q. Do you recall having an understanding of that
- 17 provision at the time the APA was executed?
- 18 A. Well, when we were writing this paragraph, we
- 19 being the business guys, the Wilson Sonsini guys, the
- 20 Brobeck guys; Tor Braham, the Wilson lead outside counsel
- 21 felt that he wanted to run this issue by his bankruptcy
- 22 specialist, secure transaction specialist.
- The fear of Novell was that Santa Cruz would go
- 24 bankrupt and then what would happen to this revenue
- 25 stream that could become the property of the bank or bank

- 1 or lenders, some sort of creditor? And they would lose
- 2 the right to collect that 95 percent.
- 3 So, his bankruptcy secure transaction
- 4 specialist came back with this kind of language, which
- 5 doesn't make a lot of sense to me and I suspect to
- 6 everybody else in the room that was handed the language,
- 7 but that's what we plugged in there to make those people
- 8 happy.
- 9 Q. I want to ask you, Mr. Sabbath, about the
- 10 declaration you've previously signed. And I'm handing
- 11 you that declaration marked Exhibit 1049. It's a
- 12 declaration dated December 22, 2003, in the SCO Group vs.
- 13 IBM case.
- 14 And if you want to take a minute to review the
- 15 document. Let me know if you recognize it.
- 16 A. Okay. Yes.
- 17 Q. Do you recall executing this declaration?
- 18 A. I do, yes.
- 19 Q. Would you say that you reviewed this
- 20 declaration very carefully before you signed it?
- 21 A. Well, I mean I read it through. I have to say
- 22 I didn't really read the documents it refers to.
- 23 Q. Why not?
- A. It's just -- I mean, you know, this is just the
- $25\ {\rm Asset}\ {\rm Purchase}\ {\rm Agreement}\text{,}$ and there were other documents

- 1 I believe here that were referred to, and, you know, I
- 2 don't have any skin in the game. I wasn't that
- 3 interested. Okay? I was being lazy.
- 4 Q. You say in paragraph 11 of the declaration.
- 5 "Under the Asset Purchase Agreement novell
- 6 retained significant UNIX-related assets following the
- 7 sale. For example, Schedule 1.1(b) of the Asset Purchase
- 8 Agreement provided that much of the UNIX System V
- 9 intellectual property would not be transferred to Santa
- 10 Cruz by listing the following items as excluded assets."
- 11 And then the paragraph 11 quotes from the
- 12 Schedule 1.1(b) of the APA. Do you see that language?
- 13 A. I do.
- 14 Q. How does the content of that paragraph 11
- 15 comport what your understanding today regarding any UNIX
- 16 System V intellectual property that was not transferred
- 17 to Santa Cruz?
- 18 A. Well, you mean -- the easy answer is this
- 19 language would be correct if it said -- instead of UNIX
- 20 System V it said Netware, which is really what the
- 21 language below refers to.
- 22 Q. But, in your declaration, it doesn't refer to
- 23 Netware, does it?
- A. No. No. I just -- I missed that. They missed
- 25 it or I missed it or both.

- 1 Q. If you look at paragraph 29 of your
- 2 declaration, you say:
- It is my understanding, based upon my review
- 4 of plaintiff's Amended Complaint that plaintiff claims to
- 5 have acquired all right, title and interest in and to
- 6 UNIX System V operating system source code, software and
- 7 sublicensing agreements together with copyrights,
- 8 additional licensing rights in and to UNIX System V and
- 9 claims again all parties breaching such agreements. I
- 10 understand that plaintiff also claims to control the
- 11 right of all UNIX vendors to use and distribute UNIX
- 12 System V. I believe that these claims are incorrect. As
- 13 described above in relation to the related agreements and
- 14 Amendment Number 2, Novell retained certain rights under
- 15 the UNIX System V licensing agreements as well as certain
- 16 UNIX System V intellectual property, as described above."
- 17 Do you see that language?
- 18 A. I do.
- 19 Q. As you sit here today, are you satisfied that
- 20 this declaration accurately reflects your views regarding
- 21 the issues we've discussed?
- 22 A. Well, I mean, this declaration was a quick and
- 23 dirty, you know, done before the holidays, over the
- 24 phone, with an associate in -- somewhere in the East
- 25 Coast and me. And, I mean, it's, you know, close enough

- 1 for government work, if you want to use that phrase, but
- 2 it's a hundred percent accurate? No. Not at all.
- 3 Q. The work you did on the Asset Purchase
- 4 Agreement occurred over -- between Novell and Santa Cruz
- 5 occurred about 11 -- about 11 and a half years ago, now,
- 6 didn't it?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And it's hard to remember the specifics of
- 9 negotiations that occurred that many years ago, isn't it?
- 10 A. It sure is.
- 11 Q. It's hard, in part, because it's a long time?
- 12 A. Yeah.
- 13 Q. It's hard, in part, because a lot of
- 14 negotiations occurred after that negotiation in which you
- 15 were closely involved?
- 16 A. Right.
- 17 Q. We know that you had considerable experience
- 18 dealing with transactions in the software industry?
- 19 A. That's true.
- 20 Q. We know that you retained highly skilled
- 21 outside counsel to assist you in the negotiation of the
- 22 Asset Purchase Agreement?
- 23 A. That's true.
- Q. We know that you considered an agreement like
- 25 the Asset Purchase Agreement to be an agreement that

- 1 would have a major impact on SCO's business?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Specifically, that the Asset Purchase Agreement
- 4 would have a major impact on SCO's business?
- 5 A. Sure.
- 6 Q. And that it was, therefore, an important
- 7 document?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. You knew, as a skilled attorney, that while you
- 10 might have an understanding going into the negotiations
- 11 of the parties' intent, ultimately, if a dispute arose,
- 12 the first thing people would do is pick up the contract
- 13 itself?
- 14 A. Sure.
- 15 Q. You do recall, you do acknowledge that there
- 16 was a three-month period or so during which the Asset
- 17 Purchase Agreement was subject to further review by the
- 18 parties and an amendment was prepared?
- 19 A. Sure.
- 20 Q. Now, we also know that, as of 1995, you
- 21 understood software licensing?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And that you held yourself out to your
- 24 colleagues as somebody who could handle the legal
- 25 intricacies of software licensing?

- 1 A. For the most part, yes.
- 2 Q. You understood that -- what role copyrights
- 3 played in computer software?
- 4 A. Sure.
- 5 Q. And you understood what role patents were
- 6 evolving to play in computer software?
- 7 A. Sure.
- 8 Q. Now take a look at Section 1.1(a) of the Asset
- 9 Purchase Agreement, please.
- 10 A. 1.1(a)? Purchase and Sale of Assets?
- 11 Q. Yes.
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- 13 Q. You understood that the -- really the meat of
- 14 the agreement, in a way, in Schedule 1.1(a), the list of
- 15 included assets, and Schedule 1.1(b), the list of
- 16 excluded assets when you reviewed this agreement,
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. As a skilled attorney, you understood that an
- 20 an agreement like this, as a layperson might say, the
- 21 devil is in the details?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And, even though, in your answer to your
- 24 question to Mr. Normand, you said that the UNIX business
- 25 was being sold lock, stock and barrel. In fact, exactly

- 1 what was being sold by Novell was shown in Schedule
- 2 1.1(a) and what was not being sold was shown in shown in
- 3 Schedule 1.1(b), correct?
- 4 A. I can't really agree with you. It is what is
- 5 here and in the clean up amendments.
- 6 Q. Fair enough. So in here and in the clean up
- 7 amendments is -- documents what is included in the assets
- 8 that were transferred to SCO?
- 9 A. That's right.
- 10 Q. Now, let's turn to Section 1.6.
- 11 A. License Back?
- 12 Q. That's the provision that anticipated the
- 13 technology license agreement, correct?
- 14 A. Yes. That's right.
- 15 Q. And let me -- let's just break this down a
- 16 little bit. It states:
- 17 "License Back of Assets. Concurrent with the
- 18 closing, buyer shall execute a license agreement under
- 19 which it shall grant to seller a royalty-free, perpetual
- 20 worldwide license to, small little i, all of the
- 21 technology included in the, capital A, Assets and, two
- 22 little i, all derivatives of the technology included in
- 23 the Assets, including Eiger product release, such
- 24 licensed-back technology to be referred to collectively
- 25 as, capital L, license, capital T, Technology."

- 1 Do you see that, sir?
- 2 A. I do.
- 3 Q. And SCO, as the employer of the coders, under
- 4 your understanding of the way law worked with respect to
- 5 software, SCO would own the copyrights and the code that
- 6 it wrote?
- 7 A. That's true.
- 8 O. And so the license back of derivatives of the
- 9 technology included in the assets would grant Novell a
- 10 right to license back SCO-developed code in which SCO
- 11 owned the copyrights, correct?
- 12 A. That's correct.
- 13 Q. So, did you tell Allison Lisbonne, later
- 14 Allison Amadia --
- 15 A. Uh-huh.
- 16 Q. -- that the copyrights were specifically
- 17 excluded from the Asset Purchase Agreement?
- 18 A. I don't recall that, no.
- 19 Q. Would you -- if she testified that you said
- 20 that to her, would you be able to contradict her?
- 21 A. No. I just don't recall that discussion.
- 22 Q. You understood one of the deal points of the
- 23 Asset Purchase Agreement was that SCO, generally, was not
- 24 going to be in the SVRX licensing, new licensing
- 25 business, correct?

- 1 A. That is absolutely correct.
- 2 Q. You described how you came to provide a
- 3 declaration at the request of the Ron Lauderdale?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And that declaration was provided in 2003?
- 6 A. I think so.
- 7 Q. It was -- at the time you looked at it, it was
- 8 your best recollection of the topics it covered?
- 9 A. In general, yes. Overall, yes. You know, keep
- 10 in mind, I thought what I was really doing is helping
- 11 them understand the history and the overall facts of the
- 12 transaction.
- 13 Q. You understood that you were providing it under
- 14 penalty of perjury?
- 15 A. Sure.
- 16 Q. And you could explain to the jury what penalty
- 17 of perjury means?
- 18 A. I think so, yeah.
- 19 Q. Could you do that, please?
- 20 A. Well, I think it means that under oath you're
- 21 bound to tell the truth and, if you don't, you're
- 22 committing a crime, either a serious misdemeanor or a
- 23 felony.
- Q. Well, in your response to Mr. Normand earlier,
- 25 you said you were being lazy about it?

- 1 A. Yeah. I was being lazy.
- 2 Q. Do you really think that's what happened, that
- 3 you were lazy on an important legal document you were
- 4 signing under penalty of perjury?
- 5 A. At that point in time, I wasn't concerned with
- 6 min -- what I thought was minutia. You know, I didn't
- 7 realize that a case -- that your case could turn on one
- 8 word being different from what I think that -- you know,
- 9 a better word would be.
- 10 Q. When you prepared the declaration at the
- 11 request of Mr. Lauderdale, you did have the Asset
- 12 Purchase Agreement in front of you?
- 13 A. I'm sorry. I did not prepare it. I was sent a
- 14 bunch of documents from Lauderdale's outside law firm
- 15 that must have been several inches thick. I looked at
- 16 them, scanned them just to see what they were. I did not
- 17 read all the documents.
- 18 Q. IBM didn't compensate you for your work on that
- 19 declaration, did they?
- 20 A. Absolutely not.
- 21 Q. The Asset Purchase Agreement limits SCO's
- 22 rights to license SVRX code, doesn't it?
- 23 A. Yes, it does.
- Q. And SVRX is part of UNIX, isn't it?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. The Asset Purchase Agreement, even under your
- 2 interpretation, allows Novell to direct SCO to take
- 3 certain actions with respect to SVRX licenses, correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- Q. By the way, that section, that Section 4.16(b),
- 6 it doesn't say anything about limiting Novell's right to
- 7 direct SCO to take action to the CPU's or the number of
- 8 CPU's on which the source code is residing, does it?
- 9 A. It is not that specific.
- 10 Q. In fact, it says "any," in several places,
- 11 doesn't it?
- 12 A. I think.
- 13 Q. And it says "in Novell's sole discretion,"
- 14 doesn't it?
- 15 A. I don't know.
- 16 Q. Take a look.
- 17 A. Where is it? 416?
- 18 Q. Right?
- 19 A. 416 where?
- 20 Q. B.
- 21 A. B? Yes. At seller's sole discretion and
- 22 direct.
- Q. And by sole discretion, you understand that to
- 24 mean that Novell can really do it for any reason it
- 25 wants, correct?

- 1 A. That's correct.
- Q. And it is correct, is it not, that Novell had
- 3 the right to veto new source code SVRX licenses that SCO
- 4 wished to enter into pursuant to the terms of Amendment
- 5 Number 1?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. And so Novell did have a right with respect to
- 8 Santa Cruz's future source code interests in UNIX, as
- 9 particularly with respect to SVRX, didn't it?
- 10 A. Novell had that limited right, yes.
- 11 Q. So the parties intended to give Novell at least
- 12 a limited right with respect to Santa Cruz's future
- 13 source code interests in UNIX as it pertained to SVRX?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And when you have said -- so when you were
- 16 using the expression "the UNIX copyrights," you meant all
- 17 UNIX copyrights?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And the UNIX copyrights or all UNIX copyrights
- 20 is a simple way of saying all the copyrights relating to
- 21 UNIX that Novell had at the time, correct?
- 22 A. That's correct.
- Q. It's not hard to say "all" or "the" to mean
- 24 that -- to get -- to convey that intent, right?
- 25 A. I suppose so.

- 1 Q. And if you look at Amendment Number 2, it
- 2 doesn't say that, does it?
- 3 A. If you are saying the word "all" isn't there,
- 4 you're absolutely right.
- 5 Q. And a simple expression like "the UNIX
- 6 copyrights" isn't there either?
- 7 A. The UNIX copyrights?
- 8 Q. I'm sorry. I'm looking at Amendment Number 2,
- 9 sir.
- 10 A. Oh, with respect -- well, it says, "all
- 11 copyrights and trademarks."
- 12 Q. That's the exclusionary part.
- 13 A. Oh. Let me read it. Oh. Except for the
- 14 copyrights and trademarks covered by Novell. Yeah. It
- 15 doesn't say, "except for all the copyrights and
- 16 trademarks," true.
- 17 Q. And when it says, "the copyrights necessary to
- 18 carry on the business," you want to read that expression
- 19 again?
- 20 A. Okay. "Except for the copyrights and
- 21 trademarks owned by Novell as of the date of the
- 22 agreement required for SCO to exercise its rights with
- 23 respect to the acquisition of UNIX and UnixWare
- 24 technologies," period.
- 25 Q. So it refers to the exercise of rights,

- 1 correct?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. And with respect to the code that you developed
- 4 at UnixWare, we established that the UnixWare code that
- 5 Santa Cruz developed, we established earlier that you
- 6 would own that by virtue of the operation of copyright
- 7 law, correct?
- 8 A. Yeah. It may not be that simple, but if what
- 9 You're getting at is anything we developed we would hold
- 10 the copyright in, true, but there might be some other
- 11 UNIX, older UNIX code in it, okay, which could be a
- 12 problem if you don't own the copyright to it.
- 13 Q. But the specific right you need in order to
- 14 effectuate that, based upon your knowledge and experience
- 15 in the software industry, is the right to create a
- 16 derivative work, correct?
- 17 A. You definitely need that, but you could do that
- 18 as a licensee.
- 19 Q. After Amendment Number 2 was executed, did you
- 20 write any memos or create any communications internally
- 21 in which you said something to the effect that now that
- 22 we have the rights we need, we can go for it, guys.
- 23 A. I have no idea.
- 24 (Whereupon the reading of the designated
- 25 portions of the deposition were concluded.)

- 1 MR. JACOBS: That concludes the portions of the
- 2 testimony we wished to present to the Court, Your Honor.
- 3 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Jacobs.
- 4 Mr. Singer, your next witness.
- 5 MR. SINGER: Our next witness is Darl McBride.
- 6 DARL MC BRIDE,
- 7 the witness hereinbefore named, being first duly
- 8 cautioned and sworn or affirmed to tell the truth, the
- 9 whole truth, and nothing but the truth, was examined and
- 10 testified as follows:
- 11 THE CLERK: Would you please state and spell
- 12 your name for the Court.
- 13 THE WITNESS: My name is Darl McBride. That's
- 14 D-a-r-l. M-c, capital B-r-i-d-e,
- 15 THE CLERK: Thank you.
- 16 THE WITNESS: There's a Charles in the middle,
- 17 if you want that.
- 18 THE CLERK: Thank you.
- 19 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 20 BY MR. SINGER:
- Q. Good afternoon, Mr. McBride. Can you begin by
- 22 telling us a little bit about your background.
- 23 A. Okay. I grew up in Ephraim, Utah, a couple
- 24 hours south of here, graduated from Manti High School,
- 25 went to Snow College, eventually graduated from Brigham

- 1 Young University and then, after that, went to graduate
- 2 school at University of Illinois, back in
- 3 Urbana-Champaign.
- 4 Q. Can you tell the jury a little bit about your
- 5 employment before you joined SCO Group?
- 6 A. Sure. After graduating from University of
- 7 Illinois, I was recruited to go work at Texas Instruments
- 8 down in Dallas. I went down there for a couple of years,
- 9 later moved back to Utah, worked at Novell from 1988 to
- 10 1996 and kind of grew up the ranks from manager level.
- 11 Eventually, in '96, I was vice-president of one of their
- 12 operating divisions.
- 13 From there I was recruited out of Novell, went
- 14 and worked for a company back east, helped them build a
- 15 network systems integration business, about a
- 16 half-billion-dollar business over a couple-year period
- 17 and then, from there, did a couple of startups where I
- 18 was chief executive and president of a couple of startup
- 19 operations during the internet boom years.
- 20 And, eventually, from there, went and worked
- 21 for Franklin Covey as the president of one of their
- 22 online planner operations, worked there a couple years
- 23 and was there when I was recruited to go work at SCO as
- 24 their president and CEO. That was in, I believe, June of
- 25 2002 when I went to SCO.

- 1 Q. June of 2002 is when you joined SCO?
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. And did you join as chief executive officer?
- 4 A. Yes, I did.
- 5 Q. Were you the chief executive officer of SCO in
- 6 May of 2003?
- 7 A. Yes, I was.
- 8 Q. Do you recall, Mr. McBride, how SCO's business
- 9 did in the quarter ending April of 2003?
- 10 A. It was a good quarter. It was a record quarter
- 11 for the company in terms of both revenues and in terms of $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) \left(1\right)$
- 12 profits.
- 13 Q. I'd like to hand you a book of exhibits that
- 14 we're going to be using in connection with your
- 15 examination.
- 16 A. Okay. Are we going to use these two?
- 17 Q. You can put those on the side. We won't be
- 18 using those.
- 19 A. Okay.
- 20 Q. I'd like to ask you to take a look at what is
- 21 SCO Exhibit 94, which is in evidence.
- 22 A. Right.
- Q. Did you receive this letter from Jack Messman,
- 24 the CEO of Novell, on May 28, 2003?
- 25 A. Yes, I did.

- 1 Q. This was sent in the case by fax and certified ${\bf C}$
- 2 mail?
- 3 A. Yes. That's correct.
- 4 Q. And if you turn to page 2 --
- 5 A. Right.
- 6 Q. -- did you see his statement in the last
- 7 paragraph, that SCO is not the owner of the UNIX
- 8 copyrights?
- 9 A. Yes. I see that.
- 10 Q. What was your reaction to that?
- 11 A. I was shocked, quite frankly.
- 12 Q. Why were you shocked?
- 13 A. I had been trying to get clarification around a
- 14 problem in an Asset Purchase Agreement from an early
- 15 agreement with Novell over the previous six months, and,
- 16 ultimately, what the word had come down to me from Novell
- 17 management was that upper management at Novell didn't
- 18 want to get involved with that old UNIX stuff, and they
- 19 were not involved. Then, to have them come out in this
- 20 letter and say not only were they not going to be
- 21 involved, but to step up and say that they were the owner
- 22 of the UNIX copyrights was really surprising.
- Q. Did you learn that Novell issued this letter as
- 24 a press release to the general public?
- 25 A. Yes, I did. I think they had a press release,

- 1 and this was attached to the release as -- the letter was
- 2 part of the content of the release as I recall.
- Q. Could you turn to SCO Exhibit 525, which is in
- 4 evidence, and it's the next document in your binder.
- 5 A. Okay.
- 6 Q. And was this the press release that you're
- 7 referring to?
- 8 A. That's the one.
- 9 Q. Before they reproduced your letter, do you see
- 10 in the second paragraph of the press release, it says
- 11 first, Novell challenged SCO's assertion that it owns the
- 12 copyrights and the patents in the UNIX System V, pointing
- 13 out that the Asset Purchase Agreement entered into
- 14 between Novell and SCO in 1995 did not transfer these
- 15 rights to SCO? Do you see that?
- 16 A. Yes. I see that.
- 17 Q. Do you see, in the second paragraph -- not the
- 18 second, it's the third paragraph.
- 19 A. Okay.
- 20 Q. Where it says:
- 21 "To Novell's knowledge, the 1995 agreement
- 22 concerning SCO's purchase of UNIX from Novell does not
- 23 convey to SCO the associated copyrights," as has been
- 24 said in the letter.
- Do you see that?

- 1 A. Yes. I see that.
- 2 Q. And then, if we turn to the next page of the
- 3 press release, is this now a copy of the letter that
- 4 Mr. Messman sent to you?
- 5 A. Yes, it is.
- 6 Q. And do you see that in the third paragraph from
- 7 the bottom, it says:
- 8 "Importantly, and contrary to SCO's assertions,
- 9 SCO is not the owner of the UNIX copyrights."
- 10 A. Yes. I see that.
- 11 Q. So, in this press release, Novell said three
- 12 times that SCO didn't own the UNIX copyrights?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And Novell did?
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. What was the effect of Novell having sent this
- 17 out as a press release, claiming that SCO did not own the
- 18 copyrights?
- 19 A. It had a very damaging effect on SCO that very
- 20 day.
- Q. Did it get a lot of play in the press?
- 22 A. Yes. It got a lot of play.
- Q. Did it have an effect on SCO's stock?
- A. Yes. SCO's stock dropped, I want to say
- 25 somewhere on the order of 25 to 30 percent in that single

- 1 day.
- Q. Was it particularly important to you that it
- 3 was Novell, as opposed to some other company, that was
- 4 making this claim?
- 5 A. Yeah. It was a big deal that it was Novell.
- 6 Q. Why is that?
- 7 A. Well, we had bought the property from Novell.
- 8 It would be like somebody -- you buy a house from
- 9 somebody and then that owner of the house comes out later
- 10 and tries to say, "I never sold you the house."
- 11 It was stunning.
- 12 Q. Now, after Mr. Messman's letter was received,
- 13 what did you do?
- 14 A. Well, after we picked ourselves up and tried to
- 15 figure out what was going on here, the first thing I had
- 16 to do, as the CEO of a publicly traded company, is I had
- 17 to go meet with our large shareholders, many of whom were
- 18 in New York, on Wall Street, and I had to go settle them
- 19 down and try and explain to them that, in fact, SCO did
- 20 own UNIX and we did own the copyrights.
- 21 So, I got on a plane soon after this, went back
- 22 to New York and spent a few days back there with them.
- 23 That was the first thing that I did.
- Q. Did there come a time when you called Jack
- 25 Messman directly about this?

- 1 A. Yes, I did.
- 2 Q. When was that?
- 3 A. That happened on -- so, May 28 was the date of
- 4 this. It would have been June 5, the following week.
- 5 Q. Would you please tell the jury about that
- 6 conversation?
- 7 A. Sure. So, after I had gone to Wall Street and
- 8 I tried to settle these guys down, explaining to them
- 9 that we actually did own the copyrights, I received a
- 10 call from my secretary indicating she had something that
- 11 I probably wanted to see.
- 12 O. And what was that?
- 13 A. It was something called Amendment Number 2.
- 14 Q. And was this before your conversation with
- 15 Mr. Messman?
- 16 A. Yes, it was.
- Q. Did you then call Mr. Messman?
- 18 A. Yes. So, I -- come to find out what Amendment
- 19 Number 2 was, I read it. It cleared up the problems that
- 20 I had been struggling with before around some odd
- 21 language in the Asset Purchase Agreement. This made it
- 22 clear that we did own the UNIX copyrights and so, at that
- 23 point in time, I picked up the phone and called Jack.
- Q. Tell us about that conversation, please.
- 25 A. So, on the afternoon of June 5, then, I called

- 1 Jack. He got on the phone, and we talked for a few
- 2 moments. And then he said:
- 3 "What's up?"
- 4 And I said: "Well, Jack, I've got a real
- 5 problem with this letter that you sent not only me but
- 6 broadcast around the world saying that you still owned
- 7 UNIX and the copyrights."
- 8 And he said: "Well, Darl, we do."
- 9 And I said: "Well, Jack, that's a point of
- 10 contention. I totally disagree with that, but if there
- 11 was ever any doubt before, it's certainly cleared up when
- 12 you read Amendment Number 2 to the purchase agreement."
- 13 Q. What did he say to that?
- 14 A. He got pretty excited and said: "Amendment
- 15 Number 2? What are you talking about? What's Amendment
- 16 Number 2?"
- 17 Q. And what did you tell him?
- 18 A. I explained to him that this clarifies that SCO
- 19 in fact does own the UNIX copyrights.
- Q. What happened next?
- 21 A. He said: "Darl, is this a trick? Are you
- 22 trying to trick me?"
- Q. And I said: "Trick you into what? What are
- 24 you talking about?"
- 25 "Did you trick me into sending out the letter

- 1 and now you're coming out afterwards? You had this all
- 2 the time, didn't you? You knew?"
- 4 sending a letter. That was a shock to me. There's no
- 5 trick here. My secretary just found this letter. A few
- 6 hours after finding it, I came back. I came and looked
- 7 at it. I verified it, and the first thing I did is I
- 8 called you."
- 9 Q. What did he say then?
- 10 A. "Well, I don't know what you're talking about,
- 11 but send it over to me."
- 12 Q. Did you do that?
- 13 A. I said: "Okay. I'll get it over to you. And
- 14 then maybe we can talk tomorrow."
- 15 He said: "I want you to send it right now.
- 16 Fax it to me."
- 17 So I faxed it to him.
- 18 Q. What happened next?
- 19 A. About ten minutes later, Jack called me back.
- Q. What did he say?
- 21 A. He said: "Okay, Darl, you got the copyrights.
- 22 What do you want?"
- 23 Q. Did you -- what did you say in response to
- 24 that?
- 25 A. I said: "Jack, there are three things that we

- 1 want."
- Q. What were the three things?
- 3 A. "The first thing is we want you to send out a
- 4 retraction letter with respect to the letter you just
- 5 sent out saying you own UNIX. You need to retract that."
- 6 Q. What did he say to that?
- 7 A. He said: "Okay. What else?"
- 8 I said: "The second thing is, I want you to
- 9 disclose to me, right now, whether IBM was involved in
- 10 your communications in sending this letter out."
- 11 Q. How did he respond to that?
- 12 A. He was evasive. He didn't say yes. He didn't
- 13 say no. So I pressed him on it further. I pressed him
- 14 two or three times on the issue about whether he had
- 15 coordinated with IBM, and then finally he said: "I don't
- 16 want to talk about this topic anymore until I have an $\,$
- 17 attorney with me."
- 18 Q. What else occurred in the conversation?
- 19 A. So then we went to number three. And I said:
- 20 "Jack, we need to talk about damages."
- Q. What was his reaction to you raising that
- 22 subject?
- 23 A. "Damages? What damages? What are you talking
- 24 about? There hasn't been any damages."
- 25 And I explained to him that the day that their

- 1 letter went out, on a day that our stock should have been
- 2 going up because we had record revenue and record
- 3 profits, in fact, instead of our stock going up that day,
- 4 our stock sank significantly and that we had been damaged
- 5 as a result of their letters that had gone out, his press
- 6 release that had gone out.
- Q. Was there any further conversation?
- 8 A. Jack was upset about the discussion of damages,
- 9 and, effectively, that was the end of the call.
- 10 Q. I'd like you to take a look at Exhibit 95. Is
- 11 this a letter which you sent Mr. Messman on June 6, 2003?
- 12 A. Yes, it is.
- 13 MR. SINGER: I move the admission of Exhibit
- 14 95.
- MR. ACKER: No objection.
- 16 MR. SINGER: I'm sorry?
- 17 MR. ACKER: No objection.
- 18 THE COURT: It will be admitted.
- 19 (SCO Exhibit 95 received in evidence.)
- 20 Q. BY MR. SINGER: Mr. McBride, is this a letter
- 21 which you caused to be sent to Mr. Messman by fax and
- 22 certified mail on June 6, 2003?
- 23 A. Yes, it is.
- Q. This was -- was this the day following the
- 25 conversation on the phone that you have just been telling

- 1 the jury about?
- 2 A. That's correct.
- 3 Q. Can we walk through the letter?
- 4 A. Sure.
- 5 Q. In the first paragraph, you state: "In a well
- 6 orchestrated press release on May 28, 2003, entitled
- 7 Novell Challenges SCO's Position, Reiterates Support For
- 8 Linux, you stated: 'Importantly and contrary to SCO's
- 9 assertions, SCO is not the owner of the UNIX
- 10 copyrights.'"
- Did you then say: "As you know, your
- 12 accusation that SCO does not own the UNIX copyrights was
- 13 false and without a good faith basis for belief."
- 14 A. Yes. That's correct.
- 15 Q. Did you then proceed to say: "The documents
- 16 clarifying this issue have been in your possession for
- 17 nearly seven years."
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Was that referring to Amendment Number 2 as
- 20 well as the APA?
- 21 A. Yes. All of the documents, including Amendment
- 22 Number 2.
- 23 Q. "Any question of whether the UNIX copyrights
- 24 transferred to SCO under the September, 1995 -- 19, 1995,
- 25 Asset Purchase Agreement was clarified in Amendment

- 1 Number 2 to the Asset Purchase Agreement dated October
- 2 16, 1996, you either knew or should have known of
- 3 Amendment Number 2 prior to issuing your press release
- 4 attack against SCO's ownership rights of the UNIX
- 5 copyrights on May 28, 2003."
- 6 "Therefore your conduct in this matter was
- 7 either maliciously or recklessly intended to harm SCO's
- 8 share value and customer relations."
- 9 Did you believe that when you wrote it on June
- 10 6, 2003?
- 11 A. Yes. Absolutely.
- 12 Q. It then says: "As to the question of whether
- 13 your conduct was malicious or reckless, we have a direct
- 14 statement that Chris Stone, an executive employee working
- 15 closely with you on this matter, stated that the timing
- 16 of your May 28, 2003, press release was intended to
- 17 coincide with our earnings announcement that occurred
- 18 later that day."
- 19 Did you have information that led you to say
- 20 that Mr. Stone had timed the press release to coincide
- 21 with the release of your earnings?
- 22 A. Yes, we did.
- 23 MR. ACKER: Objection, Your Honor. Calls for
- 24 hearsay.
- 25 THE COURT: I'll sustain the objection.

- 1 Q. BY MR. SINGER: Did this part of the letter
- 2 reflect your belief at the time?
- 3 MR. ACKER: Same objection, Your Honor.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- 5 MR. ACKER: Just a back door to the last
- 6 question.
- 7 THE COURT: I'll overrule the objection. You
- 8 may answer.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes. This was my belief at that
- 10 point in time.
- 11 Q. Did the next sentence also reflect your belief
- 12 when you stated: "I am also concerned that IBM may have
- 13 possibly been involved in your decision to issue this
- 14 groundless press release based upon statements that you
- 15 made in our telephone conversation on June 5."
- 16 A. Yes, based on the previous statement he had
- 17 made to me when we were on the phone.
- 18 Q. And are those the statements that you relayed
- 19 earlier in your testimony today?
- 20 A. Yes. Point number 2, the phone call I had with
- 21 Jack.
- 22 Q. If you go back -- if you go down the letter a
- 23 little bit further to the next paragraph where it says:
- 24 "SCO will hold a press call at 11 a.m., eastern standard
- 25 time, to clear up this matter so that our shareholders

- 1 and customers are fully aware of SCO's rights with
- 2 respect to the UNIX copyrights. You have time before
- 3 that call to take the following corrective action in
- 4 order to possibly mitigate any liability on the part of
- 5 you, Jack Messman, and Novell, to SCO and to your own
- 6 shareholders for your false and groundless accusations."
- 7 And did you then set forth in the letter what
- 8 you had asked Mr. Messman to do on the phone call?
- 9 A. Yes, I did.
- 10 Q. And, following this letter, did you learn that
- 11 Mr. Messman authorized a press release to be issued by
- 12 Novell with respect to these claims?
- 13 A. Yes, I did.
- Q. I'd like to turn to SCO Exhibit 96, which I
- 15 believe is already in evidence. This was a letter to you
- 16 on the same day, June 6, by fax; is that right?
- 17 A. That's correct.
- 18 Q. Was Mr. LaSala an executive of Novell?
- 19 A. Yes. He was their general counsel.
- 20 Q. Did you understand that this was a response to
- 21 the letter we have just been looking at?
- 22 A. Yes. That was my understanding.
- 23 Q. And you see where, in the second paragraph of
- 24 the letter, it says: "For your information, Novell has
- 25 to date issued a press release with respect to Amendment

- 1 Number 2, and a copy is attached."
- 2 A. Yes. Correct.
- 3 Q. And was there a copy attached to this?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And if we turn to SCO Exhibit 97, which I
- 6 believe is also in evidence, is this, in fact, a press
- 7 release that Novell issued on June 6, 2003?
- 8 A. Yes. That's right.
- 9 Q. Did you read it when it was issued?
- 10 A. Yes, I did.
- 11 Q. Did you see that it stated that in a May 28
- 12 letter to SCO, Novell challenged SCO's claims to UNIX
- 13 patent and copyright ownership and demanded that SCO
- 14 substantiate its allegations that Linux infringes SCO's
- 15 intellectual property rights. "Amendment Number 2 to the
- 16 1995 SCO/Novell Asset Purchase Agreement was sent to
- 17 Novell last night by SCO."
- 18 Did you understand that to refer to what you
- 19 had sent to Mr. Messman?
- 20 A. Yes. That's right.
- 21 Q. "To Novell's knowledge, this Amendment is not
- 22 present in Novell's files."
- Did you have any way of knowing, at that time,
- 24 whether that was true or not?
- 25 A. I didn't know what was in their files.

- 1 Q. "The Amendment appears to support SCO's claim
- 2 that ownership of certain copyrights for UNIX did
- 3 transfer to SCO in 1996."
- 4 A. Right.
- 5 Q. Then it says: "The Amendment does not address
- 6 ownership of patents, however, which clearly remain with
- 7 Novell."
- 8 What was your reaction, Mr. McBride, to
- 9 Novell's press release of June 6?
- 10 A. I was very pleased that Jack not only gave us a
- 11 retraction letter as I had requested of him, but he did
- 12 it inside of the 24-hour window.
- 13 Q. Now, is it -- had SCO brought a lawsuit against
- 14 IBM for breach of contract in March of 2003?
- 15 A. Yes, we had.
- 16 Q. And during this time, in June, were you in
- 17 discussions with IBM regarding whether their license
- 18 rights should be terminated?
- 19 A. Yes, we were.
- 20 Q. Can you tell us whether those had started in
- 21 March?
- 22 A. We had started discussions with them in March.
- 23 Per our contract with IBM, we had a hundred-day cure
- 24 period where we needed to work through and try and
- 25 resolve the issues. In June, we were getting towards the

- 1 latter end of that hundred-day period. I believe the
- 2 period expired the middle of June in order for them to
- 3 get square with us so we wouldn't be terminating their
- 4 AIX license
- 5 Q. Three days after the June 6 letter and press
- 6 release from Novell, did you receive SCO Exhibit 672,
- 7 which is another letter from Jack Messman, this one dated
- 8 June 9, 2003?
- 9 A. Yes, I did.
- 10 MR. SINGER: I move the admission of Exhibit
- 11 672.
- 12 MR. ACKER: No objection.
- 13 THE COURT: It will be admitted.
- 14 (SCO Exhibit 672 received in evidence.)
- 15 Q. BY MR. SINGER: Did you understand that this
- 16 letter had to do with the discussions that you were
- 17 having with IBM and the issue of terminating IBM's
- 18 license rights?
- 19 A. Yes. I did understand that.
- 20 Q. Why were you engaged in a discussion about
- 21 terminating IBM's license rights?
- 22 A. Well, that was part of the contract
- 23 requirement, that we would sit down and try and work
- 24 through that and try and come to a resolution to the
- 25 problem.

- 1 Q. Was there a particular concern that you had had
- 2 with what IBM had done that would give you reason to
- 3 terminate those license rights?
- 4 A. Yes. There was a big concern we had.
- 5 Q. Can you briefly summarize what that concern
- 6 was?
- 7 A. The concern was, IBM had taken their version of
- 8 UNIX, called AIX. They had taken significant portions of
- 9 that, and they had moved that technology over to this
- 10 upstart operating system called Linux to help Linux grow
- 11 up to be a business-worthy, business-qualified operating
- 12 system, and that was against the rights that they had
- 13 with respect to their AIX contract and license
- 14 Q. Had you provided, in March, 2003, a notice of
- 15 intent to terminate your license because of that?
- 16 A. Yes, we did.
- 17 Q. And did that begin a period of discussion
- 18 between SCO Group and IBM?
- 19 A. Yes, it did.
- 20 Q. Can you look at the last paragraph of
- 21 Mr. Messman's letter of June 9, 2003.
- 22 A. Okay.
- 23 Q. Where it says: "Accordingly, pursuant to
- 24 Section 4.16(b) of the Asset Purchase Agreement, Novell
- 25 hereby directs SCO to waive any purported right SCO may

- 1 claim to terminate IBM's SVRX licenses enumerated in
- 2 Amendment X or to revoke any rights thereunder, including
- 3 any purported rights to terminate asserted in SCO's
- 4 letter of March 6, 2003, to IBM. Novell directs SCO to
- 5 take this action by noon, mountain daylight time, June
- 6 12, 2003, and to notify Novell it has done so by that
- 7 time."
- 8 Did you understand this to be basically a
- 9 three-month -- three-day ultimatum to waive your rights?
- 10 A. Yes. That's right.
- 11 Q. Did you do so?
- 12 A. No, we did not.
- 13 Q. I'd like to turn to Exhibit 675. Is this
- 14 another letter from Mr. Messman, dated June 12, 2003 that
- 15 was sent to you?
- 16 A. Okay.
- 17 MR. SINGER: I move the admission of Exhibit
- 18 675.
- 19 MR. ACKER: No objection, Your Honor.
- 20 THE COURT: It will be admitted.
- 21 (SCO Exhibit 675 received in evidence.)
- 22 Q. BY MR. SINGER: Mr. McBride, can you read
- 23 for the jury, after it refers to the various agreements,
- 24 what Mr. Messman told you in his letter of June 12, 2003?
- 25 A. Do you want me to read that?

- 1 Q. Please.
- 2 A. "In its June 9 letter to the SCO Group, Novell
- 3 directed SCO to waive any purported right SCO may claim
- 4 to terminate IBM's SVRX licenses enumerated in Amendment
- 5 X or to revoke any rights thereunder, including any
- 6 purported rights to terminate asserted in SCO's letter of
- 7 March 6, 2003, to IBM. Novell directed SCO to take this
- 8 action by noon, mountain daylight time, June 12, 2003."
- 9 Q. Can you read the next paragraph. I think
- 10 there's a paragraph at the bottom of the page, Mr. Calvin
- 11 (sic). Please continue, Mr. Messman -- or, Mr. McBride,
- 12 with Mr. Messman's letter.
- 13 A. Okay.
- 14 Q. The last --
- 15 A. Oh, okay: "SCO has failed to take the action
- 16 directed by Novell."
- 17 Q. And then, can you read the paragraph on page 2?
- 18 A. Okay: "Accordingly, pursuant to Section
- 19 4.16(b) of the Asset Purchase Agreement, Novell, on
- 20 behalf of the SCO Group, hereby waives any purported
- 21 right SCO may claim to terminate IBM's SVRX licenses
- 22 enumerated in Amendment X or to revoke any rights
- 23 thereunder, including any purported rights to terminate
- 24 asserted in SCO's letter of March 6, 2003, to IBM."
- 25 Q. Did you understand this to be Novell seeking to

- 1 act to force SCO to waive its rights?
- 2 A. Yes. That's exactly the way I viewed it.
- 3 THE COURT: Mr. Singer, Mr. Acker has not
- 4 objected, but I've got to instruct you to not ask leading
- 5 questions.
- 6 MR. SINGER: Yes, Your Honor.
- 7 Q. BY MR. SINGER: Did Novell change its position
- 8 with respect to the UNIX copyright ownership after June
- 9 6?
- 10 A. Yes, it did.
- 11 Q. And I'd like you to look at Mr. LaSala's letter
- 12 of June 26, SCO Exhibit 678. I move the admission -- is
- 13 this a letter from Mr. LaSala to you dated June 26, 2003?
- 14 A. Yes, it is.
- MR. SINGER: I move the admission of Exhibit
- 16 678.
- MR. ACKER: No objection, Your Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: It will be admitted.
- 19 (SCO Exhibit 678 received in evidence.)
- 20 Q. BY MR. SINGER: Do you -- would you go down to
- 21 the second paragraph of this letter?
- 22 A. Okay.
- Q. Do you see where it says: "SCO's statements
- 24 are simply wrong."
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And can you read the balance of that paragraph
- 2 for the jury, please.
- A. "SCO's statements are simply wrong. We
- 4 acknowledge, as noted in our June 6 public statement,
- 5 that Amendment Number 2 to the Asset Purchase Agreement
- 6 appears to support a claim that the Santa Cruz Operation
- 7 had the right to acquire some copyrights from Novell."
- 8 Q. Can you stop there, Mr. McBride?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Is that what your view of the June 6 public
- 11 statement by Novell said?
- 12 A. No. That's not what it said at all.
- 13 Q. Can you explain the difference?
- 14 A. Well, if you look at the word "acquire" in
- 15 here, that's not what Jack said in the statement that
- 16 went out. He said "transfer." He didn't use the word
- 17 "acquire." He said "transfer."
- 18 Q. What was the significance of that, to you?
- 19 A. He admitted, when he saw the thing come
- 20 through, and the first statement he came out with was
- 21 that, in fact, copyrights had transferred to SCO.
- 22 Q. Can we look back at the June 6 press release
- 23 for a moment. That would be Exhibit Number 97.
- 24 A. Okay.
- 25 Q. Are you referring to the statement that appears

- 1 in the first paragraph -- can you show what you're
- 2 referring to in this paragraph?
- A. Let me find it here. Let's see. Yes. So if
- 4 you go down to the second-to-the-last sentence, it says
- 5 very clearly: "The Amendment appears to support SCO's
- 6 claim that ownership of certain copyrights for UNIX did
- 7 transfer to SCO in 1996".
- 8 Q. Can we turn back, now, to SCO Exhibit 678. And
- 9 can you pick up with your reading of the second paragraph
- 10 of Mr. LaSala's letter of June 26?
- 11 A. Yes. So we got down to the part where they did
- 12 some wordsmithing to change what was actually in the
- 13 letter. Then we go to the next part. Then he says:
- 14 "Upon closer scrutiny, however, Amendment Number 2 raises
- 15 as many questions about copyright transfers as it
- 16 answers. Indeed, what is most certainly not the case is
- 17 that any question whether UNIX copyrights were
- 18 transferred to SCO as part of the Asset Purchase
- 19 Agreement was clarified in Amendment Number 2 as SCO
- 20 stated in its June 6 press release, and there is no
- 21 indication whatsoever that SCO owns all the patents
- 22 associated with UNIX or UnixWare."
- 23 Q. How did you regard Mr. LaSala's letter of June
- 24 26?
- 25 A. Well, it was flipflopping, to use the term from

- 1 the political world. They had gone out publicly and said
- 2 we own UNIX. We had come back and produced Amendment
- 3 Number 2, and right on the phone, Jack said to me:
- 4 "Okay. You got the copyrights. What do you want?"
- 5 And the first thing I said is: "We want a
- 6 retraction letter."
- 7 And within 24 hours they sent a retraction
- 8 letter. Now, several weeks later, they were reversing
- 9 their position again. It was getting dizzying to figure
- 10 out which direction they were. Did they own them or did
- 11 they not own them?
- 12 Q. Can you turn to Exhibit 105, which I believe
- 13 has already been admitted into evidence. This is a
- 14 letter from Mr. LaSala, now, August 4, 2003. Did you
- 15 receive this letter?
- 16 A. Yes, I did.
- 17 Q. And did you regard this -- in your judgment,
- 18 was this a change in Novell's position?
- 19 MR. ACKER: Objection. Leading, Your Honor.
- 20 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 21 Q. BY MR. SINGER: Can you explain how you viewed
- 22 this letter of August 14, 2003?
- 23 A. Yeah. And it's not coming up on my screen.
- 24 Which Exhibit Number is it?
- 25 Q. It's Exhibit 105.

- 1 A. 105?
- THE COURT: It has been admitted, so it should
- 3 be on the screen.
- 4 THE WITNESS: It stops at "Dear Mr. McBride."
- 5 There. Thank you. If you blow it up so I can read it.
- 6 There. Thank you.
- 7 Q. BY MR. SINGER: Can you turn to the second
- 8 paragraph.
- 9 A. Okay.
- 10 Q. Do you see where it says: "We dispute SCO's
- 11 claim to ownership of these copyrights."
- 12 A. Yes, I do.
- 13 Q. And can you turn to the third paragraph.
- 14 A. Okay.
- 15 Q. What was your reaction to the letter of August
- 16 4, 2003?
- 17 A. Well, it was -- again, this -- the flipflopping
- 18 mentality comes to mind, that Jack had clearly told me:
- 19 "You got the copyrights." They had sent out the
- 20 retraction letter. Then, the end of June, they send a
- 21 letter trying to modify what we had said. Now, in
- 22 August, they are coming out with another story. It just
- 23 appeared they were trying to make up stories to create a
- 24 claim for ownership, when in fact they had told me -- he
- 25 had told me over the phone: "You've got the copyrights.

- 1 What do you want?"
- 2 Q. Could you turn to the last paragraph of the
- 3 letter and read that to the jury, please.
- 4 A. Okay: "Unless and until SCO is able to
- 5 establish that some particular copyright right is
- 6 required for SCO to exercise its rights under the APA,
- 7 SCO's claim to ownership of any copyrights in its UNIX
- 8 technologies must be rejected and ownership of such
- 9 rights, instead, remains with Novell."
- 10 Q. We will talk about this in more detail later,
- 11 but, in general, what effect did Novell's statements
- 12 claiming that it owned the copyrights, that SCO did not
- 13 own the UNIX copyrights have on SCO's business?
- 14 MR. ACKER: Objection. Compound. Which
- 15 statement?
- 16 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 17 Q. BY MR. SINGER: Let's start with, what effect
- 18 did the statement that SCO did not own the UNIX and
- 19 UnixWare copyrights have on SCO's business?
- MR. ACKER: Same objection. Statements. He's
- 21 got to identify which statements, Your Honor.
- 22 MR. SINGER: I think that this is --
- 23 MR. ACKER: Some are public and some are
- 24 private, and he's talking -- he's glumping them all
- 25 together. He needs to break it out. It's a compound

- 1 question.
- THE COURT: Why don't you reask the question,
- 3 Mr. Singer.
- 4 Q. BY MR. SINGER: At this point in time, you were
- 5 aware of -- were you aware of statements that we had
- 6 looked at in June of 2003 --
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. -- including a press release which had
- 9 retracted the May 28 press release?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. This letter of August 4, 2003, do you know if
- 12 this was published at this time?
- 13 A. At this time, to my knowledge, it was not
- 14 published publicly.
- 15 Q. Do you know whether it was published at a later
- 16 time?
- 17 A. Yes, it was, eventually.
- 18 Q. Do you know approximately when that was?
- 19 A. Yes. It was later published on our earnings
- 20 call, two quarters later, on December 22, 2003.
- Q. And can you tell me, Mr. McBride, whether this
- 22 assertion by Novell in December, 2003, had an effect on
- 23 your business?
- 24 A. It had a devastating effect on our business.
- Q. Can you elaborate a bit?

- 1 A. On December 22, 2003, we had just finished up
- 2 our fiscal year, so we had a full year, now, of
- 3 reporting, and it was the first full year of having
- 4 SCOsource licensing within one year. And the results
- 5 that we announced were record breaking revenues of nearly
- 6 80 million dollars for the year and record breaking
- 7 profits. I believe they were over 5 million dollars. On
- 8 the day that we announced, once again, SCO was facing
- 9 another attack from Novell about the question of UNIX
- 10 copyright ownership.
- 11 Novell came out and announced that it had filed
- 12 copyright registrations with the copyright office, it
- 13 reasserted its ownership claims of UNIX, and, once again,
- 14 on a day that our stock would be expected to go up -- I
- 15 mean, when you have record breaking revenues, usually, as
- 16 a publicly traded company, your stock goes up. Instead
- 17 of our stock going up on what should have been the best
- 18 day of our company's life with our record breaking
- 19 earnings and revenue, our stock went down on the
- 20 heaviness of yet another Novell statement that they owned
- 21 UNIX.
- Q. Would you look at Exhibit 134, which I believe
- 23 is later in your book. I'm sorry. It's A-24.
- 24 A. A-24?
- Q. Yes. It should be near the end of the book.

- 1 A. Got it.
- Q. Was this SCO's announcement at the end of 2003,
- 3 specifically on December 22, 2003, regarding financial
- 4 results?
- 5 A. Yes. That's right. This is the one we were
- 6 just talking about.
- 7 MR. SINGER: I move the admission of A-24.
- 8 MR. ACKER: No objection.
- 9 THE COURT: It will be admitted.
- 10 (Defendant's Exhibit A-24 received in evidence.)
- 11 Q. BY MR. SINGER: And can you read out loud the
- 12 first paragraph of the report.
- A. Sure: "The SCO Group, owner of the UNIX
- 14 operating system and the leading provider of UNIX based
- 15 solutions today reported revenue of 24.3 million for the
- 16 fourth quarter of its fiscal year ended October 31, 2003,
- 17 a 57 percent increase of revenue over 15.5 million
- 18 for the comparable quarter a year ago."
- 19 Q. And this press release was issued, you said, on
- 20 December 22?
- 21 A. Correct.
- 22 Q. Could you turn to the exhibit that's right
- 23 before this in your book, Exhibit 517. Is this a press
- 24 release by Novell dated December 22, 2003?
- 25 A. Yes. Correct.

- 1 Q. I believe this is already in evidence. Can you
- 2 read out loud the one paragraph of this press release.
- A. Sure: "Novell believes it owns the copyrights
- 4 in UNIX and has applied for and received copyright
- 5 registrations pertaining to UNIX consistent with that
- 6 position. Novell detailed the basis for its ownership
- 7 position in correspondence with SCO. Copies of our
- 8 correspondence and SCO's reply are available here.
- 9 Contrary to SCO's public statements, as demonstrated by
- 10 this correspondence, SCO has been well aware that Novell
- 11 continues to assert ownership of the UNIX copyrights."
- 12 Q. Do you know what correspondence -- whether the
- 13 correspondence being referred to in its press release
- 14 included the letters we've been looking at in August and
- 15 June?
- 16 A. That was my assumption.
- 17 Q. The letter of June 26 from Mr. LaSala, was that
- 18 published, at the time, as a press release?
- 19 A. No, it was --
- 20 MR. ACKER: Objection. Vague as to which time.
- 21 September 22 or in December?
- Q. BY MR. SINGER: At the time it was written, in
- 23 June, 2003, was that published as a press release?
- 24 A. It was not published in June, no.
- 25 Q. Was the -- did you come to learn that Novell

- 1 had registered copyrights in its name in 2003 for UNIX
- 2 and UnixWare?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. Was that publicly made known at that time by
- 5 Novell?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 MR. ACKER: The question misstates facts.
- 8 There is no copyright registrations for UnixWare.
- 9 Q. BY MR. SINGER: We're talking about UNIX and
- 10 UnixWare. Are you aware of whether or not any of the
- 11 copyrights registered by Novell were for UNIX
- 12 technology?
- MR. ACKER: Calls for speculation -- oh, for
- 14 UNIX technology? I have no objection to that.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Yes. I was aware that they had
- 16 registered copyright notices on UNIX back in the October
- 17 time frame.
- 18 Q. BY MR. SINGER: Are you aware of whether or not
- 19 those copyrights covered the same technology which you
- 20 had obtained copyrights on from AT&T through Novell?
- 21 A. Yes, they did.
- 22 Q. Did -- was that publicly announced by Novell
- 23 prior to December 22, 2003?
- 24 A. No, it was not.
- 25 Q. Can you summarize what the effect of the press

- 1 release on December 22, 2003 had on your SCOsource
- 2 business?
- 3 MR. ACKER: Objection. Asked and answered,
- 4 Your Honor.
- 5 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 6 THE WITNESS: It had the effect of killing off
- 7 our SCOsource business over the period of time from when
- 8 that was announced, going forward. Eventually, because
- 9 of the statements that Novell had made, we were unable to
- 10 complete anymore SCOsource licensing deals. "Anymore" is
- 11 not the right word. Eventually it got to the point we
- 12 could not complete SCOsource transactions because people
- 13 kept pointing to the Novell public statements that were
- 14 out there that they still owned UNIX.
- 15 MR. SINGER: Your Honor, I am at a breaking
- 16 point before going on to a different topic. I can start
- 17 that or --
- 18 THE COURT: No. I think it's best that we just
- 19 go ahead and recess for the afternoon. That is what
- 20 you're asking me, correct?
- 21 MR. SINGER: Yes, Your Honor.
- 22 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, I will not
- 23 repeat what you have been told to do. Because I don't
- 24 repeat it doesn't mean it doesn't still apply to you.
- 25 All right. We will be in recess until 8:30 in the

- 1 morning.
- 2 Ms. Malley.
- 3 MS. MALLEY: All rise for the jury.
- 4 (Jury leaves the courtroom.)
- 5 THE COURT: Mr. McBride, I do need to caution
- 6 you not to discuss your testimony with any other
- 7 witnesses in this case.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Understood.
- 9 THE COURT: Or in the presence of any other
- 10 witnesses.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 12 THE COURT: And we will have you back on at
- 13 8:30 in the morning.
- Do you have anything, counsel, before we
- 15 recess?
- MR. SINGER: Your Honor, is Mr. McBride able
- 17 to discuss the case with counsel, since he is still under
- 18 direct examination?
- 19 THE COURT: Mr. Acker?
- MR. ACKER: That's fine.
- 21 THE COURT: I know of no reason why he
- 22 couldn't.
- MR. ACKER: No objection. He can continue to
- 24 get down.
- 25 THE COURT: Counsel, we do have hearings this

- 1 afternoon, so if you would not mind clearing off the 2 desks.
- 3 MR. JACOBS: Your Honor, because the colloquy
- 4 among us about Ms. Madsen and her recall and what's in
- 5 the declaration refers to documents such as some
- 6 deposition testimony and the declaration itself, and
- 7 because I think we need to make a record on this, we
- 8 would propose to submit a proffer or offer of proof,
- 9 maybe tomorrow, that contains the declaration, the
- 10 deposition testimony, etc., so that there's a clear
- 11 record.
- 12 THE COURT: So that you have a record. I see.
- 13 That will be appropriate, certainly.
- 14 MR. JACOBS: Thank you.
- 15 THE COURT: If there's nothing else --
- MR. NORMAND: Your Honor, there is one other
- 17 issue.
- 18 THE COURT: Mr. Normand.
- 19 MR. NORMAND: There are, respectively, three
- 20 sets of deposition designations that relate to
- 21 depositions that were taken in the IBM case, and SCO is
- 22 still contemplating using them. My understanding is that
- 23 Novell objects to them, among other reasons, on the
- 24 grounds that they were taken in the IBM case and not this
- 25 case. If that objection stands, we would propose to put

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1 in a resubmission to the Court on that issue.
            THE COURT: All right.
 3
            MR. JACOBS: The objection stands, Your Honor.
            THE COURT: All right. You better put in a
 5 submission, then.
 6
            MR. NORMAND: Thank you, Your Honor.
            MR. SINGER: Thank you, Your Honor.
            THE COURT: We will be in recess until 8:30.
 9
          (Whereupon the proceedings were concluded
10
                        for the day.)
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