- 7.17 Expenses. An Independent Trustee may determine how expenses of administration and receipts are to be apportioned between principal and income.
- 7.18 Terminate Small Trusts. To exercise its discretion to refrain from funding or to terminate any trust whenever the value of the principal of that trust would be or is too small to administer economically, and to distribute the remaining principal and all accumulated income of the trust as provided in Section 7.9 to the income beneficiary of that trust. The Trustee shall exercise this power to terminate in its discretion as it deems prudent for the best interest of the beneficiaries at that time. This power cannot be exercised by the Settlor or any beneficiary, either alone or in conjunction with any other Trustee, but must be exercised solely by the other Trustee, or if none, by a special Trustee appointed for that purpose by a court having jurisdiction.
- 7.19 Allocations to Income and Principal. To treat premiums and discounts on bonds and other obligations for the payment of money in accordance with either generally accepted accounting principles or tax accounting principles and, except as otherwise provided to the contrary, to hold nonproductive assets without allocating any principal to income, despite any laws or rules to the contrary. The Trustee in its discretion may exercise the power described in Section 738.104 of the Florida Statutes to adjust between principal and income, as appropriate, and, in addition, may convert any income interest into a unitrust interest, or a unitrust interest to an income interest, as it sees fit, all as provided in Section 738.1041 of the Florida Statutes, despite any provision of those sections to the contrary.
- 7.20 Use of Income. Except as otherwise provided in this Trust Agreement, and in addition to all other available sources, to exercise its discretion in the use of income from the assets of the Trust to satisfy the liabilities described in this Trust Agreement, without accountability to any beneficiary.
- 7.21 Valuations. In making distributions or allocations under the terms of this Trust Agreement to be valued as of a particular date, the Trustee may use asset valuations obtained for a date reasonably close to that particular date (such as a quarterly closing date before or after that date) if, in the Trustee's judgment, obtaining appraisals or other determinations of value on that date would result in unnecessary expense, and if in the Trustee's judgment, the fair market value as determined is substantially the same as on that actual date. This paragraph will not apply if valuation on a specific date is required to preserve a qualification for a tax benefit, including any deduction, credit, or most favorable allocation of an exemption.
- **7.22** Incorporation. To incorporate any business or venture, and to continue any unincorporated business that the Trustee determines to be not advisable to incorporate.
- **7.23 Delegation**. To delegate periodically among themselves the authority to perform any act of administration of any trust.

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- 7.24 Advances. To make cash advances or loans to beneficiaries, with or without security.
- 7.25 Investment Manager. To employ any investment management service, financial institution, or similar organization to advise the Trustee and to handle all investments of the Trust and to render all accountings of funds held on its behalf under custodial, agency, or other agreements. If the Trustee is an individual, these costs may be paid as an expense of administration in addition to fees and commissions.
- **7.26 Depreciation**. To deduct from all receipts attributable to depreciable property a reasonable allowance for depreciation, computed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles consistently applied.
- 7.27 Disclaim Assets or Powers. To disclaim any assets otherwise passing or any fiduciary powers pertaining to any trust created hereunder, by execution of an instrument of disclaimer meeting the requirements of applicable law generally imposed upon individuals executing disclaimers. No notice to or consent of any beneficiary, other interested person, or any court is required for any such disclaimer, and the Trustee is to be held harmless for any decision to make or not make such a disclaimer.
- 7.28 Transfer Situs. To transfer the situs of any trust or any trust property to any other jurisdiction as often as the Trustee deems advisable, and if necessary to appoint a substitute or ancillary Trustee to act with respect to that property. The Trustee may delegate to the substitute Trustee any or all of the powers given to the Trustee; may elect to act as advisor to the substitute Trustee and receive reasonable compensation for that service; and may remove any acting or substitute Trustee and appoint another, or reappoint itself, at will.
- 7.29 Related Parties. To enter into any transaction on behalf of the Trust despite the fact that another party to that transaction may be: (i) a business or trust controlled by the Trustee, or of which the Trustee, or any director, officer, or employee of the Corporate Trustee, is also a director, officer, or employee; (ii) an affiliate or business associate of any beneficiary or the Trustee; or (iii) a beneficiary or Trustee under this Trust Agreement acting individually, or any relative of such a party.
- 7.30 Additional Powers for Income-Producing Real Estate. In addition to the other powers set forth above or otherwise conferred by law, the Trustee has the following powers with respect to any income-producing real property which is or may become a part of the Trust Estate:
  - To retain and operate the property for as long as it deems advisable;
  - To control, direct, and manage the property, determining the manner and extent of its active participation in these operations, and to delegate all or any part of its supervisory power to other persons that it selects;

- To hire and discharge employees, fix their compensation, and define their duties;
- To invest funds in other land holdings and to use those funds for all improvements, operations, or other similar purposes;
- Except as otherwise provided with respect to mandatory income distributions, to retain any amount of the net earnings for working capital and other purposes that it deems advisable in conformity with sound and efficient management; and
- To purchase and sell machinery, equipment, and supplies of all kinds as needed for the operation and maintenance of the land holdings.

# ARTICLE 8 SUBCHAPTER S STOCK

Despite any other provisions of this Trust Agreement, if a trust created in this instrument is to become the owner of, or already owns, stock in a corporation that has an election in effect (or one that proposes to make an election) under Section 1362 of the Internal Revenue Code (an "S Corporation"), and that trust would not otherwise be permitted to be an S Corporation shareholder, the following provisions will apply:

- **8.1** Electing Small Business Trust. The Trustee in its discretion may elect for the trust to become an Electing Small Business Trust ("ESBT") as defined in the Internal Revenue Code.
- 8.2 Qualified Subchapter S Trust. If the Trustee does not cause the trust to become an ESBT, the Trustee shall set aside the S Corporation stock in a separate trust for the current income beneficiary of such trust, so that a Qualified Subchapter S Trust ("QSST") election under Section 1361 of the Internal Revenue Code can be filed with respect to that trust. The Trustee shall hold each share as a separate QSST for the persons described above, and each such person will be the sole beneficiary of his or her QSST. To the greatest extent possible, the Trustee shall administer each QSST under the terms of the trust from which it was derived, but subject to the following overriding provisions:
- (a) Consent. The Trustee shall notify the beneficiary of each separate trust promptly that a QSST election must be filed with the Internal Revenue Service. Thereafter, each beneficiary shall file a timely and proper QSST election with the Internal Revenue Service. If a beneficiary fails or refuses to make the QSST election, the Trustee shall make an ESBT election for that trust. If the beneficiary does make the QSST election, then his or her separate trust will be administered as set forth below.
- (b) Income Payments. During the beneficiary's life, the Trustee shall pay all net income of the trust to the beneficiary (and only to that beneficiary) in quarterly or more frequent installments. The beneficiary's income interest in the trust

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will terminate on the earlier of his or her death or the termination of the trust under its terms.

- (c) Principal Invasions. If the beneficiary is otherwise entitled to receive principal distributions, the Trustee may distribute principal from that separate trust during the beneficiary's life only to or for the benefit of that beneficiary (and no one else).
- (d) Final Distribution. If the QSST is terminated during the beneficiary's life, the Trustee shall distribute all remaining assets of that separate trust to that beneficiary. If the beneficiary dies before that trust's termination, all remaining assets of the QSST are to be distributed as provided in the original trust, but subject to this article.
- (e) Termination of QSST Status. If a separate trust would cease to qualify as an S Corporation shareholder, the Trustee in its discretion may: (i) make an ESBT election for that separate trust, or (ii) distribute all S Corporation stock to the beneficiary. The Trustee in its discretion also may convert a QSST to an ESBT, whether or not the beneficiary has consented to QSST treatment and, if the beneficiary consents, may convert an ESBT into a QSST.

# ARTICLE 9 PERPETUITIES PROVISION

Despite any contrary provisions of this Trust Agreement, from the creation of this Trust and for up to 21 years after the death of the last of the Settlor's grandparents' descendants who are living at the creation of this Trust, a trust beneficiary (which includes persons succeeding to the interest of a deceased beneficiary) will be entitled to terminating distributions only at the ages specified in this Trust Agreement. In all events, however, the share of each beneficiary will vest (in the beneficiary or his or her estate) immediately prior to the expiration of the 21 year period described above.

# ARTICLE 10 Administration and Construction

- 10.1 Rules for Distributions. In making distributions to beneficiaries under this Trust Agreement, the Trustee must use the following criteria.
- (a) Other Resources. Whenever the Trustee has the authority to decide how much to distribute to or for the benefit of a beneficiary, the Trustee can make decisions without taking into account any information about the beneficiary's other available income and resources. The Trustee can make payments directly to a beneficiary or to other persons for the beneficiary's benefit, but it does not have to make payments to a court appointed guardian.
- **(b)** Trustee's Decision. Absent clear and convincing evidence of bad faith, the Trustee's decisions as to amounts to be distributed will be final.

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- (c) Standard of Living. Distributions to a beneficiary for health, education, support, or maintenance are to be based on his or her standard of living, determined as of the date of the distribution.
- 10.2 Funding Gifts. The following rules will apply to funding gifts under this Trust Agreement.
- (a) Pecuniary Gifts. All pecuniary gifts under this Trust Agreement that are paid by an in-kind distribution of assets must use values having an aggregate fair market value at the date or dates of distribution equal to the amount of this gift as finally determined for federal estate tax purposes.
- (b) Adjustments. The Trustee shall select one or more dates of allocation or distribution for purposes of satisfying gifts and funding shares or trusts. The Trustee may make allocations before the final determination of federal estate tax, with those allocations being based upon the information then available to the Trustee, and may thereafter adjust properties among the shares or trusts if it is determined that the allocation should have been made differently.
- 10.3 Accumulated Income. Any income not distributed to the beneficiaries pursuant to either a mandatory direction or a discretionary power is to be incorporated into principal, at such intervals as the Trustee deems convenient.
- 10.4 Estate Tax on Included Property. If assets of any trust created under this Trust Agreement are included in a beneficiary's estate for federal estate tax purposes, the following will apply.
- (a) Appointed Assets. If the beneficiary exercises a power of appointment over those assets, the Trustee is authorized to withhold from those assets the amount of estate taxes apportioned to them by applicable law, if the beneficiary does not make provisions for the payment of those taxes from other sources.
- (b) Other Assets. If the beneficiary does not have or does not exercise a power of appointment over those assets, the Trustee will pay the estate taxes attributable to those assets. The estate taxes attributable to those assets will be the amount that the beneficiary's estate taxes are increased over the amount those taxes would have been if those assets had not been included in the beneficiary's gross estate.
- certification by the beneficiary's personal representative of the amount of the estate taxes, and may pay those taxes directly or to the personal representative of the beneficiary's estate. The Trustee will not be held liable for making payments as directed by the beneficiary's personal representative.
- 10.5 Transactions With Other Entities. The Trustee may buy assets from other estates or trusts, or make loans to them, so that funds will be available to pay claims, taxes, and expenses. The Trustee can make those purchases or loans even if it

serves as the fiduciary of that estate or trust, and on whatever terms and conditions the Trustee thinks are appropriate, except that the terms of any transaction must be commercially reasonable.

## ARTICLE 11 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

11.1 **Definitions**. As used in this Trust Agreement, the following terms have the meanings set forth below:

#### (a) Trustees.

- (1)**Independent Trustee** means a trustee of a particular trust, either individual or corporate, who is not the Settlor or a beneficiary, and who is not a Related Person as to the Settlor or a beneficiary (if the Settlor or the beneficiary, respectively, is living and participated in that person's appointment). For purposes of this definition a beneficiary is a person who is a permissible distributee of income or principal, or someone with an interest in the trust in excess of five percent (5%) of its value, assuming a maximum exercise of discretion in his or her favor. Whenever this Trust Agreement requires an action be taken by, or in the discretion of, an Independent Trustee but no such Trustee is then serving, a court may appoint an Independent Trustee to serve as an additional Trustee whose sole function and duty will be to exercise the specified power.
- (2) Corporate Trustee means a trustee that is a bank, trust company, or other entity authorized to serve as a trustee under the laws of the United States or any state thereof that is not a Related Person to the Settlor. A bank or trust company that does not meet this requirement cannot serve as Trustee.

#### (b) Internal Revenue Code Terms.

- (1) Internal Revenue Code means the federal Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended from time to time, or successor provisions of future federal internal revenue laws.
- (2) The terms health, education, support, and maintenance are intended to set forth an "ascertainable standard," as described in the Internal Revenue Code and its associated Regulations. To the extent not inconsistent with the foregoing, "health" means a beneficiary's physical and

mental health, including but not limited to payments for examinations, surgical, dental, or other treatment, medication, counseling, hospitalization, and health insurance premiums; "education" means elementary, secondary, post-secondary, graduate, or professional schooling in an accredited institution, public or private, or attendance at other formal programs in furtherance of the beneficiary's spiritual, athletic, or artistic education, including but not limited to payments for tuition, books, fees, assessments, equipment, tutoring, transportation, and reasonable living expenses.

(3) Related Person as to a particular individual is someone who is deemed to be "related or subordinate" to that individual under Section 672(c) of the Internal Revenue Code (as though that individual was a grantor).

#### (c) Other Terms.

- (1) Distributions that are to be made to a person's **descendants**, **per stirpes**, will be divided into equal shares, so that there will be one share for each living child (if any) of that person and one share for each deceased child who has then living descendants. The share of each deceased child will be further divided among his or her descendants on a per stirpes basis, by reapplying the preceding rule to that deceased child and his or her descendants as many times as necessary.
- (2) **Disabled** or **under a disability** means (i) being under the legal age of majority, (ii) having been adjudicated to be incapacitated, or (iii) being unable to manage properly personal or financial affairs because of a mental or physical impairment (whether temporary or permanent in nature). A written certificate executed by an individual's attending physician confirming that person's impairment will be sufficient evidence of disability under item (iii) above, and all persons may rely conclusively on such a certificate.
- (3) Removal of a Trustee for cause includes, without limitation, the following: the willful or negligent mismanagement of the trust assets by that individual Trustee; the abuse or abandonment of, or inattention to, the trust by that individual Trustee; a federal or state charge against that individual Trustee involving the commission of a felony or serious misdemeanor; an act of theft,

- dishonesty, fraud, embezzlement, or moral turpitude by that individual Trustee; or the use of narcotics or excessive use of alcohol by that individual Trustee.
- (4) The words will and shall are used interchangeably in this Trust Agreement and mean, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise, that the Trustee must take the action indicated; as used in this Trust Agreement, the word may means that the Trustee has the discretionary authority to take the action but is not automatically required to do so.
- 11.2 Powers of Appointment. The following provisions relate to all powers of appointment under this Trust Agreement.
  - (a) A general power of appointment granted to a person is one that can be exercised in favor of that person or his or her estate, his or her creditors, or the creditors of his or her estate.
  - (b) A special power of appointment is any power that is not a general power.
  - (c) A testamentary power of appointment (either general or special) is exercisable upon the powerholder's death by his or her Last Will or by a revocable trust agreement established by that person, but only by specific reference to the instrument creating the power. A "testamentary power of appointment" may not be exercised in favor of the person possessing the power.
  - (d) In determining whether a person has exercised a testamentary power of appointment, the Trustee may rely upon an instrument admitted to probate in any jurisdiction as that person's Last Will, or upon any trust agreement certified to be valid and authentic by sworn statement of the trustee who is serving under that trust agreement. If the Trustee has not received written notice of such an instrument within six months after the powerholder's death, the Trustee may presume that the powerholder failed to exercise that power and will not be liable for acting in accordance with that presumption.
- 11.3 Notices. Any person entitled or required to give notice under this Trust Agreement shall exercise that power by a written instrument clearly setting forth the effective date of the action for which notice is being given. The instrument may be executed in counterparts.

#### 11.4 Certifications.

(a) Facts. A certificate signed and acknowledged by the Trustee stating any fact affecting the Trust Estate or the Trust Agreement will be conclusive

evidence of such fact in favor of any transfer agent and any other person dealing in good faith with the Trustee. The Trustee may rely on a certificate signed and acknowledged by any beneficiary stating any fact concerning the Trust beneficiaries, including dates of birth, relationships, or marital status, unless an individual serving as Trustee has actual knowledge that the stated fact is false.

- **(b)** Copy. Any person may rely on a copy of this instrument (in whole or in part) certified to be a true copy by the Settlor; by any person specifically named as a Trustee (or successor Trustee); by any Corporate Trustee whether or not specifically named; or, if there are none of the above, by any then serving Trustee.
- 11.5 Applicable Law. All matters involving the validity and interpretation of this Trust Agreement are to be governed by Florida law. Subject to the provisions of this Trust Agreement, all matters involving the administration of a trust are to be governed by the laws of the jurisdiction in which the trust has its principal place of administration.
- 11.6 Gender and Number. Reference in this Trust Agreement to any gender includes either masculine or feminine, as appropriate, and reference to any number includes both singular and plural where the context permits or requires. Use of descriptive titles for articles and paragraphs is for the purpose of convenience only and is not intended to restrict the application of those provisions.
- 11.7 Further Instruments. The Settlor agrees to execute such further instruments as may be necessary to vest the Trustee with full legal title to the property transferred to this Trust.
- 11.8 Binding Effect. This Trust Agreement extends to and is binding upon the Settlor's Personal Representative, successors, and assigns, and upon the Trustee.



Executed as of the date first written above.

Signed in the presence of:

SETTLOR

Simon Bernstein

Two witnesses as to Simon Bernstein

Signed in the presence of:

TRUSTEE

Traci Kratish, P.A.

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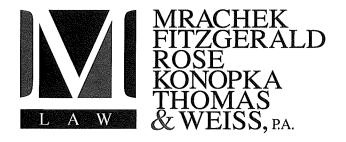
Kini & AS PRESIDENT

Traci Kratish, 🛌, President

Two witnesses as to Traci Kratish

## Schedule A Initial Transfers to Trust

Transfer of 6 shares of LIC Holdings, Inc.



WRITER'S DIRECT DIAL NUMBER: (561) 355-6991 WRITER'S E-MAIL ADDRESS: ar'ose@mrachek-law.com

November 28, 2016

The Honorable Rosemarie Scher North County Courthouse 3188 PGA Boulevard Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410

Re: Estate of Simon L. Bernstein

Case No.: 502012CP004391XXXXNBIH

Estate of Shirley Bernstein

Case No.: 502011CP000653XXXXNBIH

Shirley Trust Construction: Ted Bernstein, etc., et al. v. Alexandra Bernstein, et al.,

Case No.: 502014CP003698XXXXNB-IH

### Dear Judge Scher:

As discussed at the UMC hearing last Tuesday, this is intended to be a short summary of the status of Bernstein matters, filed by the Trustee of the two relevant trusts: Simon L. Bernstein Amended and Restated Trust dtd 7-25-2012 ("Simon Trust") and Shirley Bernstein Trust Agreement dtd 5-20-2008 ("Shirley Trust"). This summary is as short as possible, but it it takes two pages just to explain the names of the parties and interested persons.

Although there have been four prior judges, only Judge Colin and Judge Phillips conducted substantive hearings. When the case was before Judge Colin, it seemed like an unmanageable circus, in large part due to uncertainty as to who were proper beneficiaries and repeated attacks on fiduciaries and counsel. Judge Phillips brought order to chaos; determined after a trial who are the rightful beneficiaries of these estates and trusts; appointed a Guardian ad Litem to protect the interests of three children whose father was acting in an adverse and destructive manner; and shepherded the case much closer to the finish line. The most important thing now, regardless of how any issue gets resolved or the outcome of any hearing or trial, is to continue moving forward and not revert to the past.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This is explained in a 14-page Omnibus Status Report submitted to Judge Phillips at an initial Status Conference. [Case 502012CP004391 DE 393] Among other things, Eliot Bernstein harassed, defamed and later sued the Trustee, professionals, the beneficiaries, and even hinted at suing Judge Colin.

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November 28, 2016

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Judge Phillips first set a trial to determine the validity of the Wills and Trusts, which determined the proper beneficiaries. A one-day trial was held on December 15, 2016, at which time Judge Phillips heard evidence and entered a Final Judgment upholding the validity of Simon's and Shirley's Wills and Trusts, and finding that Ted Bernstein had done nothing wrong.<sup>2</sup> [Case 502014CO003698 DE 113]

Based upon the Final Judgment, we have made great progress. At a mediation in July, everyone but two parties (Stansbury and Eliot, as described below) were able to resolve all of their disagreements. There is a signed Mediation Settlement Agreement subject to Court approval. As a result, we are near the finish line on the Shirley side. However, Stansbury and Eliot continue to disrupt and delay the orderly administration of Simon's Estate; are trying to influence the Simon Trust even though neither has standing on those issues; and are causing unnecessary expense.

Briefly, let us introduce you to the players:

Our law firm represents Ted S. Bernstein, the Trustee of both trusts and the PR of Shirley's Estate. Ted is the oldest child of Shirley (died 12-8-2010) and Simon (died 9-13-2012). Their deaths have led to four cases: Shirley's Estate (Case 502011CP000653); Shirley's Trust (Case 502014CP003698); Simon's Estate (Case 502012CP004391); and Simon's Trust.<sup>3</sup>

Simon and Shirley had five children and ten grandchildren; all of these are aligned and in agreement except for Eliot Ivan Bernstein ("Eliot").

Eliot lives in a world filled with conspiracy and fraud, where everyone is a thief, forger or murderer, and where he was car-bombed to cover up the theft of his trillion dollar invention. (<a href="http://iviewit.tv/">http://iviewit.tv/</a>) Faced with certain poverty after his parents' deaths, Eliot lashed out against his parent's surrogate — his older brother Ted — and others in vicious and cruel ways. (<a href="http://tedbernsteinreport.blogspot.com/">http://tedbernsteinreport.blogspot.com/</a>)<sup>4</sup>

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  "Based on the evidence presented, the Court finds that Plaintiff, Ted S. Bernstein, Trustee, was not involved in . . . any other improper act, contrary to the allegations of Eliot Bernstein made in the pleadings in this case or in various blogs and websites in which Eliot Bernstein has attacked the actions of Ted Bernstein." *Id.* ¶5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> There currently is no pending case directly involving Simon's Trust. Eliot's Petition to remove Ted as Trustee was dismissed by Judge Phillips on April 8, 2016. [Case 502015CP001162 DE # 39]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Eliot's cyber-terrorism, which no court is equipped to stop, was not limited to Ted, and included the undersigned and most of the other professional and fiduciaries, including the judges. One post was entitled "Judge David French, Judge Martin Colin and the Corrupt Overreaching Florida Probate Courts

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The root of Eliot's anger is understandable. One minute he was living the Life of Riley, based upon his parents' agreement to provide him a house and pay all of his living expenses and private school for his three sons (\$80,000 per year), providing total support of more than \$200,000/year. Once Simon died, Eliot's support ended immediately. In an instant Eliot was flat broke – disinherited, and cut-off from all means of support. Eliot does not work, and claims to be indigent.

Moreover, Eliot expected to be rich once his parents died. According to Eliot's court filings and testimony, he believed his parents' net worth was more than \$100 million, and he would inherit \$30 million more. Instead, he gets nothing. His children are beneficiaries, and do get 10% each, but Eliot has done all he can to destroy what little (perhaps \$3 million total) his parents left behind.

The other disgruntled person Simon left behind is William Elwood "Bill" Stansbury ("Stansbury"), now represented by Peter Feaman, Esq. Stansbury claims that Simon cheated him out of millions of dollars in a business venture. (Simon, Ted and Stansbury had each been involved in the insurance business, but never worked together except for a few years [2006-2012] when they all were involved in a Florida life insurance business started by Simon and Ted.)

Stansbury sued Simon shortly before his death; has timely filed an independent action against Simon's Estate; and should be focused on litigating that claim rather than trying to control the strings of these probate court proceedings. Stansbury succeeded in stirring things up and installing a neutral PR after the initial PRs resigned (opposing Ted's Petition to be appointed as Simon's PR), but otherwise has been thwarted by adverse judicial rulings. Now, with a new judge, he seeks to revisit prior rulings of Judges Colin and Phillips.

The only other players who need specific mention are Simon's prior counsel. Those lawyers took some improper actions after Simon's death, but have been replaced and have suffered severe consequences. Indeed, there is a pending settlement between those lawyers and everyone else – Mr. O'Connell, as Simon's PR; Ted as Shirley's PR and Trustee of both trusts; the GAL and all beneficiaries (other than Eliot of course). Eliot has tried to leverage the conduct of these lawyers to fuel his conspiracy theories, but their actions caused limited harm to the estates and trusts, and no harm to Eliot.

Against that backdrop, and with Judge Phillips' retirement, this has landed before Your Honor. We have made great progress, but need to keep moving these cases forward before the professional fees eat the rest of the money. To date, the replacement curator and PR have incurred more than \$300,000 in professional fees, and made little progress toward getting the Simon Estate closer to the finish line. That needs to start changing on the Simon side.

<sup>...&</sup>quot; (http://tedbernsteinreport.blogspot.com/2016/02/judge-david-french-judge-martin-colin.html).

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On the Shirley side, we are essentially at the finish line. The Final Judgment (on appeal) resolved that the beneficiaries are ten grandchildren and that Eliot has no standing. Once a GAL was appointed to represent the interests of Eliot's children, the parties attended mediation in July with Retired Judge Ronald Alvarez, and entered into a confidential Mediation Settlement Agreement. (A copy is provided to the Court for *in camera* review.) The settlement resolves everything, and includes resolution of the claim against the former attorneys; the closure of the Estate; and the distribution of assets as soon as Eliot's appeals are rejected. All we need is (i) an order approving the settlement; (ii) appointment of a trustee for the three Eliot Children Trusts; and discharging the GAL's compensation, to be paid from Eliot's Children's share, and discharging the GAL.

On the Simon side, there are more loose ends, but the most important thing to do is handle the 800-pound gorilla, Stansbury's \$2.5 million claim. Nothing can happen until that claim has been settled or tried, and settlement efforts have been exhausted. When Stansbury did not settle at the July mediation, the beneficiaries agreed to get the case tried quickly and by the Mrachek Firm, which has extensive prior knowledge and involvement in that case. Stansbury did not object to Mrachek's retention, and an Order was entered. [DE 496] But once the Stansbury independent action actually began moving forward, Stansbury tried to put the brakes on by moving to vacate the Order retaining Mrachek. [DE 497] That Motion threatens to hold up the critical issue of moving Stansbury's case forward, so we can decide if he has no claim (in which case we can get rid of him once and for all) or he has a valid claim against the assets of the Estate.

There are a number of other matters to resolve on the Simon side, as set forth on the List of Pending Matters being submitted in advance of the Status Conference, but what cannot be allowed to happen is the slow bleed of money that soon will render the Estate penniless.

On behalf of the Trustee, who now speaks with a singular and clear voice on behalf of all of beneficiaries, the Court should not allow Stansbury or Eliot to cause further disruption. Stansbury is just a potential claimant to whom no money is now due, and he cannot be allowed to continue disrupting the interests of the fiduciaries and beneficiaries. Making matters worse, Stansbury has done little to prosecute his claim against the Estate, and now is trying to put on the brakes.

The Court also cannot allow Eliot to continue his involvement unchecked. Eliot has been barred from participation in the Shirley matters, but may have some limited rights in Simon's estate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The appeal has little chance of success. Eliot presented no witnesses or evidence to establish any challenge to the Wills and Trusts. The appeal is fully briefed.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Simon's Trust names Eliot to that role, but he has refused to serve.

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because he filed a personal claim against Simon's Estate. He cannot be allowed to bootstrap those limited rights to continue an all-out assault as he has been doing for years, and cannot be allowed to cause the Estate and Trust to "burn all the money" so no one gets any. For example, the Final Judgment ruling that Eliot lacked standing would have ended the nonsense in a normal case, but this one is not normal. In addition to filing numerous appeals (Eliot has filed nine appeals to the Fourth DCA since his father's death<sup>7</sup> and one to the Supreme Court), Eliot continued to disrupt the probate proceedings. On motion in each case and after evidentiary hearings, Judge Phillips entered Orders Appointing a Guardian Ad Litem. [Case 50214CP3698 DEs 154, 161, 175; and Case 502012CP004391 DE 443] In those orders, Judge Phillips expressly found that Eliot was acting adverse and destructive to the interests of his children, and appointed former probate judge Diana Lewis as GAL.

Both Stansbury and Eliot already have tried to remove Ted as Successor Trustee, but both failed.<sup>8</sup> Eliot continues to pursue his agenda, but for the most part is no longer relevant to these proceedings. However, Stansbury continues to persist in trying to control the course of these proceedings. If Stansbury has a legitimate and valid claim, his primary goal should be trying that case. Anything else makes no sense, and certainly cannot be of any help to the Estate and Trust beneficiaries.

We appreciate Your Honor's time and attention to these matters, and look forward to working with Your Honor to bring about an orderly, just and fair outcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan B. Rose

Enclosure (for *in camera* review)

cc: All parties on attached service list, w/o enclosure

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Eliot filed at the 4th DCA a Motion for Rehearing En Banc on December 15, 2015, after the denial of a writ petition in Case No. 4D15-3849, stating: "The case is thus of not only exceptional importance but statewide importance as not only implicating related ongoing frauds upon the United States but the fundamental Due Process issue of whether the Florida Courts themselves can be an appropriate forum for the Petitioner given the current Florida Supreme Court Judge Jorge Labarga's involvement in the underlying frauds . . . in a case where possible murder has been alleged."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Stansbury's petition to remove Ted was dismissed by Judge Phillips for lack of standing under § 736.0706(1), Fla. Stat. [Case 5012CP004391 DE # 240] Eliot's petition also was dismissed. (see fn. 1)

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#### SERVICE LIST - CASE NO. 502012CP004391XXXXNBIH

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Case Number: 502012CP004391XXXXNBIH

November 28, 2016

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA.

CASE NO. 502012CP004391XXXXNB-IH Probate – Judge John L. Phillips

IN RE:

ESTATE OF SIMON L. BERNSTEIN.

\_\_\_\_\_

# TRUSTEE'S OMNIBUS STATUS REPORT AND REQUEST FOR CASE MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

Ted S. Bernstein, as Successor Personal Representative of the Estate of Shirley Bernstein, as Successor Trustee of the Shirley Bernstein Trust, and as Successor Trustee of the Simon Bernstein Trust which is the residuary beneficiary of the Estate, files this Omnibus Case Status Report and Requests a Case Management Conference in all pending matters, in advance of the one-hour Status Conference set for Tuesday, September 15, 2015, at 9:30a.m.

#### Introduction

The overarching issue in these cases is Eliot Bernstein. He is not named as a beneficiary of anything; yet he alone has derailed these proceedings for more than two years and has harassed and attacked the prior judges, fiduciaries and their counsel. (See, by way of example only, Exhibit A) His demands have caused the former curator and now the PR to incur far in excess of \$100,000 in unnecessary fees, pursuing his agenda not their own. With regard to Judge Colin's final action before recusing himself, Eliot's delay of the Trust's sale of real estate is going on six months, and already his objections and "appeal" to the Florida Supreme Court have cost the Trust more than \$125,000. These sums are not insignificant in this case – these are relatively small trusts and estates which likely will have between \$1 million to \$2 million left to distribute in the end. Even less with every billable hour incurred, especially if things continue on their current path.

For reasons which will become apparent to the Court, although these matters should be fully concluded by now – Shirley died first, nearly five years ago, and Simon followed nearly three years ago – it feels like we still are closer to the starting line than the finish line. The sole reason for the lack of progress is their disinherited son, Eliot Bernstein.

If the Court were to appoint a guardian ad litem ("Guardian") for Eliot's three kids, who are beneficiaries of both trusts, everything else could be resolved quickly and easily between the remaining parties. Instead, while Eliot continues to turn the courtroom into his private circus and continues his online attacks, the limited assets in these estates and trusts continue to dwindle. This has been going on far too long, and now that this Court is overseeing these matters, Eliot must be stopped before it is too late to salvage anything for the beneficiaries.

By way of brief background, in 2008, Simon and Shirley created their estate plan and executed mirror image documents. Their plan was simple and typical of a long-term marriage – the surviving spouse would receive everything for life, and the limited right to decide who to benefit when he or she died. The residuary of each Estate passed to a Revocable Trust. The surviving spouse was the sole successor trustee and beneficiary for life, and was granted a limited power of appointment. Simon, as the survivor, had the sole and absolute right to do whatever he pleased with his own assets, and also possessed a limited power to appoint the assets remaining in the Shirley Trust to any of Shirley's lineal descendant or their spouse.

Case #502015CP001162XXXXNB;

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Case #502014CP003698XXXXNB;

Oppenheimer Trust Co. v. Eliot Bernstein, et al., Case #502014CP002815XXXXNB.

In Re: Estate of Simon L. Bernstein, Case #502012CP004391XXXXNB;

In Re: Estate of Shirley Bernstein, Case #502011CP000653XXXXNB;

Eliot Bernstein, etc., et al. v. Theodore Stuart Bernstein, etc., et al.,

Ted Bernstein, etc., et al. v. Alexandra Bernstein, et al.,

When Shirley died, Simon was PR, successor Trustee, and sole beneficiary of her estate and trust. He apparently did as he pleased with her estate and her assets, and shared virtually no information about Shirley's assets or finances with any of his children. The Shirley Estate was opened in early 2011, and by early 2012 Simon wanted to close it. He had taken all of her assets, as was his right, and he requested that each of his children sign a waiver of accounting etc. to close the estate. It is undisputed that each child signed a Waiver – Eliot was the first to sign. Shirley's estate would have been closed long ago except Judge Colin required Waivers to be notarized and the six Waivers in this case (one by Simon and one by each of the five children) were not notarized. So the Waivers were rejected by the Court, and Simon had died before the last Waiver was signed. Rather than move the Court to overlook the notary requirement, someone in the office of Simon's counsel falsely traced the original signatures onto a new Waiver document and falsely put a notary stamp. The irony here is that while the Court had rejected all six of the original, *authentic* Waivers; the Court accepted the false ones and closed the Estate.<sup>2</sup>

Shirley had appointed her eldest child, Ted, to succeed Simon after his death. Soon thereafter, Eliot learned that his parents left behind only a small fortune – then estimated at less than \$4 million, to be split among ten grandchildren. Eliot had been expecting for himself a sizeable share of what he believed would be \$100 million; instead he got nothing and his children stood to inherit a tiny fraction of what Eliot expected and hoped for. After learning of his poor fortune, Eliot embarked on a mission to destroy everyone involved with this, starting with his father's lawyers and his older brother Ted, acting as a fiduciary appointed by his mother, and anyone else who stands in his way.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The only persons to benefit from closing Shirley's estate were the beneficiaries. The lawyers whose employee falsely notarized the document stood to *gain nothing*, and stood only to lose legal fees to be earned administering and closing the estate. But they clearly and inexcusably erred.

The starting point for Eliot, beyond simply complaining that someone must have stolen the rest of his parents' \$100 million, was the notary of the Waiver form. Although Eliot signed the Waiver, he knew it had not been notarized, so he complained about this issue. The Shirley Estate was reopened; the Will specified that Ted Bernstein<sup>3</sup> be the successor PR; and Ted has been trying to re-close the estate ever since; so far with no luck.

Eliot now is the self-proclaimed detector of fraud and fabricated documents, and is crusading against what he perceives to be corruption in the court system. His circus will continue until either (i) the money runs out and all the professionals go home; or (ii) the Court stops him by appointing a guardian ad litem and requiring him to cease, desist, and remove the harassing internet nonsense about judges, PRs, Trustees and their lawyers.

Ted has tried to sell the Trust's real estate and distribute monies to the intended beneficiaries. He has been thwarted at every turn, and viciously attacked on the internet as well, solely by Eliot. Every aspect of this case is on display at <a href="http://tedbernsteinreport.blogspot.com/">http://tedbernsteinreport.blogspot.com/</a> or <a href="http://tedbernsteininsurance.blogspot.com/">http://tedbernsteininsurance.blogspot.com/</a>, with Ted being accused of "massive fraud, forgery and alleged murder." Eliot leaves no one out of his trashing internet harassment, including Judge Colin. It is difficult to find any professional (lawyer or accountant) willing to submit to such abuse by agreeing to work on these matters. That appears to be Eliot's plan, which must be stopped.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ted is the oldest of Simon's and Shirley's five children; lives in Palm Beach County; worked essentially as equal partner with Simon in businesses from the early 2000s through Simon's death. The other family members are three daughters who live in Chicago. Since the death of his father in September, 2012, Ted has faithfully carried out his duties as Trustee. Ted is not a beneficiary of any of these trusts and estates, and stands to gain nothing personally. Indeed, none of the five children are beneficiaries, as all of their parents' wealth was left to ten grandchildren.

The Court may be wondering "Who is Eliot Bernstein?" and "Why is he doing this?" It is an important question, as Eliot is the proverbial elephant in this room. Eliot appears to be disillusioned and disappointed due to his apparent belief that he would inherit tens of millions when his parent's died, but in the end their fortune was modest and they left none of it to him: "[Eliot] . . . shall be deemed to have predeceased me as I have adequately provided for [him] during my lifetime." Eliot now apparently is without income or assets, or at least claims to be in numerous indigency filings he makes with courts to avoid paying filing fees. But while his parents were alive he lived the life of Riley — he lived and continues to live expense free in a home his parents bought and renovated for him; his parents paid him over \$100,000 annually in health insurance and living expenses ; and his parents while alive apparently paid more than \$75,000 per year to send Eliot's three boys to a Boca Raton private school.

Eliot, now flat-broke with no visible means of supporting himself, has decided to avenge the loss of his inheritance by punishing everyone associated with these trusts and estates, even suing his father's estate for Eliot's living expenses after his father died. He has been prolific in filing motions, complaints, responses and objections in these proceedings. The net result of his legal filings has

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Simon L. Bernstein Amended and Restated Trust Agreement dated 7/25/2012 at 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "The expression, 'Living the life of Riley' suggests an ideal contented life, possibly living on someone else's money, time or work. Rather than a negative freeloading or golddigging aspect, it implies that someone is kept or advantaged." <a href="mailto:en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Life\_of\_Riley">en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\_Life\_of\_Riley</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Pursuant to a written contract entered on or about August 15, 2007, Simon and Shirley agreed to make advances to Eliot of a portion of his inheritance, in the amount of \$100,000 per year. As preconditions for this arrangement, Eliot could not "harass or threaten to sue or initiate litigation with anyone in the family at any time" and had to allow his parents the opportunity to visit their grandchildren at least four times a year. In June 2008, the parents also purchased a home for him in Boca Raton, titled in the name of an LLC, and encumbered by a \$365,000 second mortgage which is one of the largest assets in the estate.

been nothing but a loss for the grandchildren - after three years of him searching, there are no

additional assets to be found. All of his considerable efforts simply have delayed the progress of the

case and *dramatically* increased the expense in these modest trusts and estates.

For the past three years, Eliot has questioned and viciously challenged virtually every action

taken by the fiduciaries, has continued to harass and threaten (including repeatedly threatening

persons involved in this estate or end up in prison), and when none of that worked, has taken to the

internet blogosphere to trash and tarnish the reputations of everyone involved. This is a tragedy of

significant proportion to the ten grandchildren of Simon and Shirley Bernstein, the sole beneficiaries

of their wealth. The fiduciaries and beneficiaries of Simon and Shirley Bernstein are trapped in

Eliot's game, being played at no cost to him but at a very high price to the beneficiaries. Three of

these ten grandchildren are Eliot's kids, but he acts as if he rather burn all of the remaining money

than let his kids settle for 30% of what remains.

**Status of Significant Current and Pending Motions:** 

SHIRLEY ESTATE:

Motion to Re-Close Estate

Eliot's Objections to Estate Inventory and Accounting

SHIRLEY TRUST

Count II of Complaint to Determine Validity/Authenticity of Trusts and Wills

Count I of Complaint for Construction of Trust

Petition to Remove Ted S. Bernstein as Trustee

Eliot's Counterclaim against numerous lawyers and others (currently stayed)

Professional/Fiduciary Fees and Potential Claims vs. Former Counsel

Distribute Assets to Beneficiaries of Trust

Motion to Compel Trust Accounting

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BATES NO. EIB 001248

02/27/2017

#### SIMON ESTATE

Resolve claim of claimant, William Stansbury
Resolve claim of claimant, Eliot Bernstein
Resolve interpleader litigation in Illinois relating to Life Insurance
Objections to Accounting and Potential Claims vs. Former PR/Counsel
Discharge PR and Distribute Assets to Trust

#### SIMON TRUST

Petition to Remove Ted S. Bernstein as Trustee Professional/Fiduciary Fees Distribute Assets to 10 Grandchildren as Beneficiaries of Trust

#### Matters to be Filed if Needed

The above is a short list of items that could be accomplished quickly and easily if Eliot were not involved. Now is the time to appoint a Guardian. And, once there is a Guardian in place and up to speed, the Court can decide what else needs to be done to close the administration, while some funds still remain available. Left to Eliot's devices, the pursuit of his agenda and conspiracy theories will end only when the money runs out. The choice is very clear: Is Eliot or the court-appointed fiduciaries going to run this estate? If there is a Guardian appointed, almost all of the above-listed "pending issues" can be avoided because a Guardian likely would be willing to mediate and likely settle the controversies given the amounts in dispute. Eliot has no interest in letting anything go or in negotiating, advising on several occasions that he does not negotiate with "terrorists."

Importantly, in addition to considering whether to appoint a Guardian as a suitable representative for Eliot's children, the Trustee believes the Court immediately should impose a

In a related case, Oppenheimer moved for appointment of a Guardian. It is a compelling Motion. Judge Colin deferred. It is anticipated that some of the beneficiaries here will be filing a similar motion, as will the Trustee. Now, or at some point in near future, this Court needs to consider such an appointment, before it is too late.

confidentiality order on these proceedings to prevent further internet bombardment and harassment of professionals, fiduciaries, and this Court. This case involves minor grandchildren and young adult grandchildren who are the sole beneficiaries of Simon and Shirley Bernstein – there should be nothing on the internet about this private civil matter. And, if it is not stopped, a Guardian no doubt will become the next victim, as might this Court in the event it should ever rule against Eliot on a significant matter. Also, the beneficiaries believe that Eliot's threats are causing the successor PR, Brian O'Connell, to take steps which cause unnecessary expense, solely to appease Eliot.

For example, Eliot, who claims he cannot afford a lawyer, has engaged a systematic effort to make it difficult for Ted to retain professionals. Eliot somehow got the Clerk of the Court to add onto the docket sheet the word "Respondent" after the names of all lawyers in these cases. After doing that, Eliot advised that the undersigned is a party to the case and should hire his own lawyer and withdraw due to the conflict of interest. When the harassment did not work, he moved to disqualify counsel, which was heard and denied at an evidentiary hearing on July 11, 2014. Next, he filed a Counterclaim against the undersigned personally and professionally, and against my law firm for legal malpractice, even though he is not our client and has no standing to do so.<sup>8</sup> This was done not to assert a legitimate claim, but solely in an attempt to force our withdrawal. It seems that when a lawyer appears to take adverse positions to Eliot, Eliot demands that the lawyer cease representing the party and withdraw due to serious conflicts of interest:

[I] "remind you again that you and your client Ted are defendants who have been formally served process in related matters to these and your continued representation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Judge Colin stayed Eliot's counterclaims and, eventually, entered an Order prohibiting Eliot from filing any paper without first sending it to the Court for review. For the sake of apparent fairness, the Court imposed the same requirement on all parties, that no new motions or claims be filed without first being submitted to Judge Colin for review.

without counsel appears to be conflicted and more"; "in your capacity as defendant . . . do you have counsel yet that I may contact"; "will you be representing yourself pro se"; "I have you served formally already as a partner in your firm and wondered as the firm is also sued if you have their counsel's name and yet will the partners, et al. be representing themselves or have individual counsel"; "please take a lesson from all of Ted's former counsel . . . and resign as his counsel in these continued frauds and frauds on the Courts (state and federal) for irreconcilable differences as they did, as it appears you are only compounding problems for yourself, the beneficiaries, the Courts and others."

In an e-mail Mr. Bernstein further advised the undersigned: "you were involved ground floor in the schemes and advancing me taking fraudulent distributions and more since . . . I will notify the Florida Bar in your ongoing complaint with their offices . . . and other state and federal authorities."

The attacks are most vicious against Ted Bernstein, who was left behind in charge of the business he and Simon started together, and who became the fiduciary under the terms of Shirley's will and trust. Anyone who "googles" Ted Bernstein hits blogs run by Eliot and his colleague. Insurance is a trust business; many of Ted's clients are law firms representing clients in estate and wealth planning. All one need do is Google the name Ted Bernstein and on the front page is the Ted Bernstein report (<a href="http://tedbernsteinreport.blogspot.com/">http://tedbernsteinreport.blogspot.com/</a>), accusing Ted of "massive fraud and forgery."

Ted has tried to ignore the onslaught of Eliot's cyber attacks. Judge Colin was aware of them, but did not fully appreciate the magnitude or effectiveness of this information in harming Ted. Although Judge Colin too was a target of the attacks, as a sitting jurist not running a business built on trust relationships, he may not have appreciated the severity of these issues. Indeed, at a recent hearing, Judge Colin wondered who in the world would see any of this nonsense on the internet. What this Court needs to understand as we move forward is that, in this day and age, everyone about

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to engage in a significant transaction "googles" the other side, and regardless of the fact that no one might randomly stumble on this false information, everyone who googles Ted Bernstein finds this nonsense almost instantly. It is having a very harmful and negative effect on Ted Bernstein's ability to conduct his business affairs, and destroyed any chance of trying to sustain the companies Ted and Simon started.

Before agreeing to serve in this case, there was no negative press on Ted or internet "blogs" tarnishing his reputation. No one who agrees to serve as a fiduciary should be forced to put up with any such attacks, nor to be pressured to deviate from the decedent's wishes by either giving in to Eliot's demands or resigning from this important duty. And, the only family member who opposes Ted serving is Eliot – the others simply want this administration process to conclude.

These attacks branch out to each new person who steps in Eliot's way, and are expected to shortly include Brian O'Connell, PR, once he too is forced to take action adverse to Eliot. Ted has had difficulty retaining an accountant to help in these estates, because no amount of fee is worth being attacked online or sued simply for performing professional services. Ted already has attempted to curtail these attacks, but now will be filing formal motions to appoint a guardian ad litem and to stop the internet harassment of professionals. The Court needs to be aware of this critical issue as the case moves forward, and we believe should address these issues first.

As a final point on the Shirley Bernstein Trust, this Court needs to be aware of what is occurring right now. When Ted became successor trustee after his father's death, there were two primary assets in the Trusts: (i) an oceanfront condo; and (ii) a single family residence which was his parents' homestead. The condo was sold in an arm's length sale, through a highly-reputable real estate broker. Eliot continues to threaten some litigation to clawback the property, and refused to

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accept for his children the partial interim distribution the Trustee elected to make to each of the ten beneficiaries. In mid-March 2015, the Trustee finally obtained a contract to sell the remaining property, a single family home in a country club community. The house was on the market for over 1,000 days. The offer accepted was the first in excess of a million dollars and was by far the highest and best offer ever received for the property. The buyer wanted to pay \$1.1 million, all cash, and close quickly, because the country club equity membership fee was increasing by \$30,000. Because it is a large home in a country club, the monthly carrying costs are very high. Eliot objected to the sale, and Judge Colin agreed to delay the sale so Eliot could obtain an independent appraisal or provide competent evidence to support his claim that the house was being sold in a fire sale fashion. At the evidentiary hearing in May, Eliot produced no witnesses and no admissible evidence. Judge Colin entered a final order approving the sale on May 6, 2015, and the closing was set for June 10th. The delay between March 31st and June 10th cost the Trust at least \$75,000.

Eliot did not timely appeal the sale order, but on June 10, 2015, the date of the projected closing, filed a Petition for All Writs with the Florida Supreme Court. The transaction still cannot close until that Petition is resolved. To date, and despite the fact that he produced no evidence to support his assertion that the property was being sold too cheaply, and despite the fact that he is not a beneficiary of the trust, Eliot's obstinance and disregard has cost the Trust far more than \$125,000 and counting in actual cash lost due to extra sale expenses, carrying costs, repair costs, and the legal fees incurred solely to get a simple real estate transaction closed. And there remains no end in sight.

Despite the best efforts of the Trustee and counsel, the need to react to Eliot has been driving this case, dictating its pace and dictating which issues get heard, to the exclusion of all of the other beneficiaries and their best interests. There are two simple but significant issues which must be

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addressed before we can make any progress in the Shirley Bernstein side of the equation. First, the Court must consider how to re-close Shirley's Estate which has no assets. (There are prior Waivers signed by all potential beneficiaries, including Eliot Bernstein, and in the past five-plus years, nothing new has been found.) In particular, because Simon outlived Shirley and was thus alive at the time of her bequests to him, Eliot is not a beneficiary of Shirley's estate. The belts and suspenders of getting a waiver from him, which he admittedly signed, should not overshadow the

fact that the empty estate simply should be closed.

Second, because Eliot alone contests Simon's exercise of his power of appointment over the funds in the Shirley Bernstein Trust, and unless the matter can be resolved with a rational Guardian for Eliot's kids, some Trust Construction Action is needed. That action has been filed, as a one-count Complaint, and names as defendants all 14 potential beneficiaries. Eliot Bernstein is named solely because he is a potential beneficiary and is the parent and natural guardian of three of the other potential beneficiaries. This is not a personal attack on him; it simply is a legal issue which needs to be resolved by the Court through a trial. The trial affects everyone, not simply Eliot Bernstein. Those two issues must be resolved, and once they are, the Shirley Bernstein Trust can begin the process of final wind down and distribution once the remaining assets are liquidated. Those two things must happen and without them we will go nowhere, other than continuing to burn money fulfilling the visions, delusions and fantasies of Eliot Bernstein.

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#### Conclusion

There is not enough room in this filing nor would one expect this Court to have the patience to learn the entire tragedy. The purpose of this summary is to focus the Court on where we started, and where we have been for the past three years. The Court must decide where we need to go to from here to close the administration of these estates and trusts, and distribute what little wealth will remain to Simon and Shirley's grandchildren. There is documentary evidence and testimony of witnesses with competent and relevant evidence to support the assertions set forth herein. In stark contrast, almost four years after Simon's death there are no documents, evidence or credible testimony to support the assertions of Eliot Bernstein. Eliot might be smart and clever, and skilled in maneuvering through the court systems. One would have to at least have some experience litigating to file papers as lengthy and often as he does. It is unclear if this is real or a game to him,<sup>9</sup> but what is absolutely clear is: Eliot will not inherit any money, and his kids will not inherit enough to sustain his lifestyle.

Although very sad, what is important here is that the Court put an end to Eliot's involvement in this case and order him to remove all of the blogs he and Crystal Cox have created that refer to these matters or the judiciary, fiduciaries or professionals involved. Eliot lacks standing because he is not a beneficiary of either Simon's or Shirley's trusts. He has demonstrated no desire to serve the best interest of his children. Now is the time for the Court to take back control from Eliot.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Through nearly three years of litigation here, Eliot has been given the benefit of the doubt many times, and it remains unclear how much of what he files he actually believes. For example, Eliot has asserted in recent court filings: his minivan was car bombed; his father was murdered; and he needs to be placed into the federal witness protection program as a whistle blower who has been exposing judicial corruption throughout the land. He has demanded emergency loans, despite the fact that he has turned down several distributions the Trustee tried to make for his kids' benefit.

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I CERTIFY that a copy of the fore	egoing has been furnished to parties listed on attached
Service List by: ☐ Facsimile <b>and</b> U.S. Ma	ail; □ U.S. Mail; ■ E-mail Electronic Transmission; □
FedEx; ☐ Hand Delivery this 14th day of S	September, 2015.
	MRACHEK, FITZGERALD, ROSE, KONOPKA, THOMAS & WEISS, P.A. 505 South Flagler Drive, Suite 600 West Palm Beach, FL 33401 (561) 655-2250 Telephone/(561) 655-5537 Facsimile Email: <a href="mailto:arose@mrachek-law.com">arose@mrachek-law.com</a> Secondary: <a href="mailto:mchandler@mrachek-law.com">mchandler@mrachek-law.com</a> Attorneys for Ted S. Bernstein, as Successor Personal Representative
By:	/s/ Alan B. Rose Alan B. Rose (Fla. Bar No. 961825)

#### SERVICE LIST - Case No. 502011CP000653XXXXNBIJ

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## Exhibit A

# Florida Probate Fraud, Forgery and Corruption; Simon Berns Estate Case

Florida Estate and Probate Case, Forgery, and Alleged Murder, blog written upon information, knowledge and belief of Crystal L. Cox Blogger.

Alan Rose	7020 Lions Head L	ane Boca Raton Docket Northern Illinois Case		Simon Bernstein Trust Heritage Jackson National District Court			Court	
Shirley Bern	stein Estate Docket	Simon Bernste	ein Estate Docket	7020 Lions	Head Lane Boca Raton	Shirley Bernstein	Simon Bernst	tein
Tescher, Sp	allina, Ted Bernstein	, Proskauer Rose	MAJOR Technology	Theft Case	Judge David E. French	Robert Spallina	Mark Mancer	Donald Tesch
Tescher and	I Spallina Law Firm	Mark Manceri	Petition to Free:	ze Estate Asse	ts Estate Fraud Docke	et Insurance Prod	ceed Scheme	Donald Tescher
Robert Spal	lina Ted and Deb	orah Bernstein	Life Insurance Co	ncepts Boca	Ted Bernstein Fraud			

Sunday, August 2, 2015

# Why is Judge Martin Colin Still on the Bench with as much as the Department of Justice and the FBI clearly knows about him?

YEARS and YEARS of Corruption and Judge Martin Colin continues to Dish it out, WHY?

"Anonymous said...

The JQC does nothing! We have a corrupt sick Judge in Palm Beach County MARTIN COLIN. He abused his step son, had attys rep his now Betsy savitt and did NOT disclose any conflicts. ROOT, HANDLER, KARTAGENA appaer before him. READ THE BAEZ DECISION 4th DCA. JQC WAKE UP!!

August 3, 2008 at 11:26 AM

Anonymous said...

I agree Judge Martin Colin must be REMOVED. He is corrupt! Colin is a case fixer! Ignores the 4th DCA in BAEZ....

THE JQC SHOULD REMOVE COLIN NOW!!!
October 7, 2008 at 6:40 PM

Anonymous said...

CORRUPTION IS RAMPANT IN PALM BEACH COUNTY.... WINNET AND COLIN ARE SICK EVIL CORRUPT JUDGES AND SHOULD BE JAILED.. MARTIN COLIN IS A CRIMINAL....

THE FEDS ARE HOT ON THE ROBES OF COLIN..... AND HIS BOCA RATON BUDDIE HENRY HANDLER AND THE BOYS.. SCHUTZ, ROOT, JETTE...

CMON FEDS -- DO YOUR JOB!!! October 16, 2008 at 8:54 AM

Anonymous said...

THE JQC is a "JOKE" The protect these corrupt Judges... Brooke Kennerly should be removed... Gov. Crist does NOT a clue and looks the other way.... Just Look at Palm Beach County judge Martin Colin, a corrupt judge.....

October 25, 2008 at 10:32 AM

Anonymous said...

Serial CORRUPT JUDGE MARTIN COLIN has be sent to the CIVIL Court - Judge Kroll removed Colin from the FAMILY COURT.

JUST THE START - HENRY HANDLER & CAROL A. KARTAGENER soon to be charged by the Florida Bar for many ETHICAL VIOLATIONS and other crimes.

Its about time, KARTAGENER was CAUGHT making perjurious statements to Judges Burton, Colin & Crow. One lie after another. KARTAGENER IS A HABITUAL & PATHOLICIAL LIAR!!!!! A sick a demented evil lady ---- Lacking Skills....

December 30, 2008 at 1:46 PM

To Read this WHOLE BLOC posts on the bottom right page. Don't let this Florida Insurance FRAUD and Forg YOU.

Posts

Alan B. Rose of Page Mr. Fitzgerald & Rose Ll...

Eliot Bernstein Iviewit I Interview Dick Wo...

Alexandra aka Monica in Bernstein

Alan B. Rose is MADD as he ain't goin...

Hey Lindsay, you may w the of digital...

Alan B. Rose of Page Mr. Fitzgerald & Rose Ge...

UNITED STATES DISRICT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF You know that Mark Two

"Truth is stranger...

John Pankauski, Pankau

Alan B. Rose, ... Who does Alan B. Rose (

Mrachek, Fitzgerald ...

Don Sanders, Jackson N

seems to have m... Oh and you Spineless, C

Lawless, Free Spee...

Burke, Warren, Mackay i Taking a Look

Alan B. Rose of Page Mr. Fitzgerald & Rose se...

Folks, Alan Rose is a MA Hypocrite. ...

Alan B. Rose, Esq. seem suppressing speech...

Eliot Bernstein and iVie

Isn't Armonk, New York Lamont's neck of th...

Don Sanders, assistant \
National Life ...

Life Reassurance Corp. -Bankers Life Insu...

Judge Amy J. St. Eve is Dayls Polk & W... BATES NO. EIB 001259

02/27/2017

Anonymous said...
THE "FEDS" WERE AT THE OFFICES OF WEISS & HANDLER....

JUSTICE SOON!!!"

Source

http://fraudonthecourt.blogspot.com/2008/07/july-11-2008-certified-mail-return.html

More on Judge Martin Colin's Reign of Corruptin http://judgemartincolin.blogspot.com/

Posted by Crystal L. Cox at 11:31 AM No comments:

G+1 Recommend this on Google

Judge Martin Colin Gets CAUGHT over and over protecting Florida Corruption and Florida Probate Attorneys. Why are those attorneys still licensed and why is Judge Martin Colin still on the Bench BREAKING THE LAW and Violating Constitutional Rights?

SERIOUS Abuse of Power, Violations of Ethics, Aiding and Abetting Corruption, Protecting Attorneys and Violating the rights of Florida Citizens.

Judge Martin Colin has been CAUGHT and yet is still ruining lives with BOGUS, Lawless, Fraud on the Court Rulings.

Hey remember when Judge Martin Colin wanted the Millions in Heritage Life / Jackson National insurance money moved from Illinois Courts to his tiny lawless court. MILLIONS in life insurance in regard to a man that the Palm County Sheriff Office is SUPPOSED to be investigating the Murder of???

Corruption in FLORIDA is very Bad. And Judge Martin Colin seems to be in charge of protecting the most lawless schemes in Florida and aiding HUGE RICH law firms such as Tescher and Spallina and Alan Rose / Alan B. Rose of Mrachek, Fitzgerald, Rose, Konopka, Thomas & Weiss, P.A. in West Palm Beach, Fla.

Judge Martin Colin has no issue with the deceased signing documents, nor attorneys forging documents, and has no respect for the law, rights or children, judicial cannons or well, anyone that is not possibly bribing him or giving him some other motive to BREAK THE LAW and Ruin Lives.

So why is the Palm County Sheriff NOT looking into murder allegations, forgery, fraud and more in the Simon Bernstein Estate Case? Well I suppose its because they are seriously CORRUPT. And Judge Colin seems to be their buddy.

The PBSO has NO Respect for CIVIL Rights or the Law PERIOD.

Check this Out:

"FBI Raid on PBSO: Deputies Routinely Violate Civil Rights of Minorities!

WEST PALM BEACH — This week's FBI activity at the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office came after a push by Guatemalan-Maya Center lawyer Jack Scarola for the U. S. Department of Justice to investigate what he claims is the unfair treatment of minorities by sheriff's deputies.

Jack Scarola

Guatemalan-Maya Center lawyer Jack Scarola (via Facebook)

It's another Gossip Extra exclusive: Last month, Scarola wrote a lengthy letter to U. S. Attorney General Eric Holder that outlined a series of PBSO shootings and incidents of brutality against minorities, mostly Hispanics.

The letter also blasted Sheriff Ric Bradshaw's handling of such incidents, including the agency's "growing militarization" and the sheriff's message in television appearances that minority neighborhoods are akin to "war zones."

And to make sure that Holder got the message that PBSO's handling of such incidents didn't pass muster, Scarola forwarded his missive to members of the local delegation to the U.S. Congress, including U.S. Reps. Patrick Murphy, Alcee Hastings and Lois Frankel.

When asked if his effort caused Monday's arrival of the feds at PBSO headquarters on Gun Club Road, Scarola said: "There have been stranger coincidences."

"I'm not surprised," the high-profile lawyer said. "And I am pleased they're acting as requested. I contacted various government officials about this problem and I'm just pleased someone's taking action."

Cedarhurst, New York

WOW, a full days wages National Empl...

Pam and Ted CUT out of they seem to be...

Whatch all worried aboutines, Judgement...

Not Getting Much Work ya? I sure ho...

303 East Wacker Drive S Chicago Illinois

STP Enterprises, Inc. ~ I

Jackson National Life Di Registere...

So Where Does Christop Ex Proskauer...

Carol Ann Kindred at He Life Insurance...

Heritage Union Life Insuis well awar...

So, who at Jackson Nati

So is Pamela Simon the I

Jackson National Life In Company has HUGE L...

oh and Don't Forget the CONDO and how...

More on Michael A. Well National Life Co...

Looks to me like Jackson Little SPOO...

So Funny, that Heritage Insurance Compa...

Heritage Union Life Insuis well awar...

#### Ted Bernstein



Life Insurance Concepts

#### Blog Posts

Is Google Really the Best Conduct a Fraud, ...

Welcome Back, How is t Investigation Goi...

Order for Discharge and Counsel Tesc...

Morgan Stanley Group N Tescher & Spalli...

Judge Martin Colin seen the Right Thi...

Why is Ted Bernstein N( to this Story? ...

Motion to Halt Hat Trick Believe this is ...

Hmmm.. Friend or Foe? BATES NO. EIB 001260

02/27/2017

Scarola said the riots in Ferguson, Missouri, that followed the shooting death of a black man by a white police officer have placed a renewed emphasis on the use of lethal force by police on minorities.

But, Scarola says, the FBI's apparent investigation into PBSO is independent of what's happening near St. Louis.

"I believe that I wrote a persuasive letter," Scarola said.

Gossip Extra broke the story last night: FBI agents were spotted at PBSO Monday to seize files pertaining to deputy-involved shootings and complaints.

Among the documents taken by the G Men were files about the public's complaints against Lake Worth deputy Russell Brinson.

Minority leaders in Lake Worth have been asking that Brinson be fired after they found out he had a long string of use-offorce incidents, and most of them involving minorities.

Instead, the 40-year-old Brinson was re-assinged to Palm Beach International Airport security.

In his letter, Scarola mentioned one Brinson incident in which a Hispanic immigrant who tried to report a crime to Brinson was allegedly beaten down.

Scarola also reminded Holder of the principles of modern policing, including that the cooperation of the public with police is inversely proportional to police's use of physical force.

There is, Scarola's letter reads, a growing perception in Palm Beach County that (deputies) "are too quick to resort to the use of force — even deadly force — particularly when confronting members of the civilian population whose racial and ethnic appearance differs from their own."

#### Source

http://www.gossipextra.com/2014/11/26/fbi-raid-palm-beach-county-sheriff-civil-rights-violations-4196/

The Florida / Palm Beach County Sheriff DOES NOTHING to help solve murder cases, jewelry and real estate theft, massive attorney fraud, corruption and collusion in the Simon Bernstein Case. And Judge Martin Colin seems to be assisted by Palm County to violate the rights or the poor, minorities or anyone that Judge Colin does not WANT to be on top of the PILE. Maybe it's about who pays him the most. As I allege that Judge Martin Colin has taken bribes from Tescher and Spallina and possible Ted Bernstein's legal team including Alan B. Rose of Mrachek, Fitzgerald, Rose, Konopka, Thomas & Weiss, P.A. in West Palm Beach, Florida.

"What will the FEDS do — They should start with SA Dave Aronberg & Alan Johnson — i.e., there relationship with the crooks at Weiss Handler & Cornwell, P.A. Fraud case fixing fraudulent documents Civil theft and legal Malpractice.

Legal Assistants sleeping with certain wealthy clients and be billed as well... Handler is operating a brothel for his clients.

Handler creates fraudulent and back dates legal DOCS. Does Handler BILL his client for his legal assistant to sleep with clients.... Mostly, yes, before Judge Martin Colin in South County.

Colin is on the handler "PAYROLL" FBI SAC Piro you have your work cut out for you. Henry Handler and Howard Weiss should be indicted and jailed.... BTW Jack Scarola is well aware of Weiss Handler... Jack, perhaps you should write a letter to DOJ regarding WEISS HANDLER. This is CORRUPTION COUNTY!!!! As Judge Kastranakes!!!! He indicted most of em..."

#### Source

http://www.gossipextra.com/2014/11/26/fbi-raid-palm-beach-county-sheriff-civil-rights-violations-4196/

Posted by Crystal L. Cox at 11:23 AM No comments:

G+1 Recommend this on Google

Saturday, August 1, 2015

# WOW Judge Martin Colin protecting Corruption?? no say it ain't so... - and WOW the Palm County Sheriff Office involved?? Hmmm

"November 27, 2014 at 9:24 am

What will the FEDS do — They should start with SA Dave Aronberg & Alan Johnson — i.e., there relationship with the crooks at Weiss Handler & Cornwell, P.A. Fraud case fixing fraudulent documents Civil theft and legal Malpractice. Legal Assistants sleeping with certain wealthy clients and be billed as well... Handler is operating a brothel for his clients.

Alan B. Rose, Mrachek, I Rose, Konopka &...

Hello Marc Randazza, W₁ PARTY, Hope yo...

Alan Rose Wants the Fir to Be Set Asid...

Hey Liars, Thugs, Thieve Murdering, Gre...

Hey Alan B. Rose, Mrach Rose, Konop...

Judge Martin Colin has a protecting the...

I keep waiting for Judge punish, o...

Whatch hiding FROM Bo

Hey Flushing New York . Raymond or possib...

Objection to Motion to Personal Repres...

Objection to Motion to Personal Repres...

I am getting me some "b that somethin...

Why is Heritage Union L Company Filin...

"Criminal Action through Simulated Legal Pr...

Letter to Judge Martin (Opposition to Ted...
What is Going on with J

Motion for Appointment Administrator...

Ted Petition for Appoin Successor Personal...

Alan Rose Esq., John J. Pankauski Law F...

Chicago Insurance and C Litigation Law Fi...

Morgan Stanley Group, 7 and Tescher & ...

Wow, the Fraud Sure Se Piling Up. Is Ted ...

Full Docket Of Heritage Insurance Case ...

Heritage Lawsuit Illinois Response Regar...

Reported as a Murder, y checked is medic...

"The Document in Ques the Inheritance ...

Looks like the Tescher &

Ted Bernstein, Tescher and Spa

 Florida Estate Forgery, F DOCKET

Donald Tescher on Left



Handler creates fraudulent and back dates legal DOCS. Does Handler BILL his client for his legal assistant to sleep with clients.... Mostly, yes, before Judge Martin Colin in South County.

Colin is on the handler "PAYROLL" FBI SAC Piro you have your work cut out for you. Henry Handler and Howard Weiss should be indicted and jailed.... BTW Jack Scarola is well aware of Weiss Handler... Jack, perhaps you should write a letter to DOJ regarding WEISS HANDLER. This is CORRUPTION COUNTY!!!! As Judge Kastranakes!!!!! He indicted most of em..."

Source

http://www.gossipextra.com/2014/11/26/fbi-raid-palm-beach-county-sheriff-civil-rights-violations-4196/

Posted by Crystal L. Cox at 8:04 PM No comments:

G+1 Recommend this on Google

Monday, July 20, 2015

## Is Detective Andrew Panzer Investigating this fraud, forgery, theft and possible murder case or NOT?

Detective Andrew Panzer Letter from Eliot Bernstein January 2015 https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bzn2NurXrSkiMHNpa29Zc2VmbEU/view

Why has Detect Andrew Panzer not arrested anyone? The FACTS sure look pretty clear. Why are these lawyers still creating victims and even still in business? The Palm County Sheriff has known for years and yet all these same players / attorneys are still in business and harming more people.

Below is lot's of details, in this Florida Supreme Court Filing https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bzn2NurXrSkiZFdpU3F3WjZQWnM/view?usp=sharing

Posted by Crystal L. Cox at 5:09 PM No comments:

G+1 Recommend this on Google

Monday, June 29, 2015

Why has the Palm County Sheriff office NOT arrested Robert Spallina and Donald Tescher? Why is Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office protecting Robert Spallina and Donald Tescher even in the face of admitted crimes. Has the PBSO Office been paid off or threatened? Has Andrew Panzer personally been paid off or threatened? Are these admitted crimes legal in Palm Beach County? With detectives like Andrew Panzer it is easy to see where there is so much probate crime in Palm Beach County Florida.

The Simon Bernstein Estate Case and the Shirley Bernstein Estate Case out of Boca Raton Florida is still going on, three years later. Judges are not ruling per law, Detectives are looking the other way and high finance crimes are RAMPANT.

Below is an email yet AGAIN from Eliot Bernstein to Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, Detective Andrew Panzer, who seems to have no interest in protecting the victims of crimes in Palm Beach county Florida.

"From: Eliot Ivan Bernstein [mailto:iviewit@gmail.com]

Sent: Monday, June 29, 2015 5:58 AM

To: Detective Andrew Panzer @ Palm Beach County Sheriff (PanzerA@pbso.org); Captain Carol Gregg @ Palm Beach County Sheriff (greggc@pbso.org)

Subject: Bernstein Cases - RE: CASES NO: 13097087 MORAN FORGERY AND FRAUDULENT NOTARIZATION; 13159967 JEWELRY THEFT, 14029489 TESCHER AND SPALLINA ET AL. SUPPLEMENTAL, 12121312 ALLEGED MURDER OF SIMON BERNSTEIN

Detective Panzer,

After our last several calls it is apparent that the PBSO investigations into the Bernstein case matters has been derailed, stymied and delayed and that instead of investigating these ongoing crimes you have begun doing research on my federal RICO filed and who I copy on emails to you as if this were more important than the crimes reported to your agency.

I am not sure why it matters to you at all why I copied Judge Scheindlin on these matters, especially where there are growing correlations between these new crimes committed to my prior RICO filed and those defendants.

 Florida Estate Forgery, F DOCKET

#### Blog Archive

- ▼ 2015 (116)
  - ▼ August (3)

Why is Judge Martin the Bench with ...

Judge Martin Colin Go over and over prot

WOW Judge Martin C Corruption?? no ...

- ► July (1)
- ▶ June (4)
- ► May (22)
- ► April (63)
- ► March (8)
- ► February (7)
- ► January (8)
- 2014 (248)
- ▶ 2013 (31)

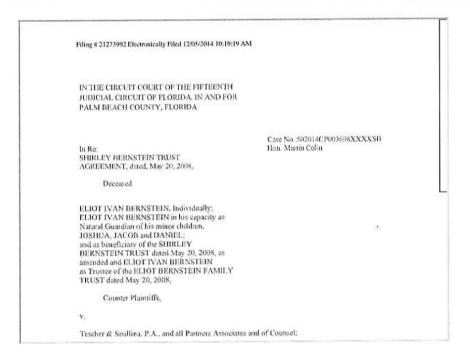
BATES NO. EIB 001262 02/27/2017

### Ted Bernstein Insurance

written upon knowledge and belief of Crystal L. Cox

Friday, December 5, 2014

Petition to Remove Ted Bernstein and attorney Alan Rose along with him in Florida Estate Case riddled with fraud, alleged murder, forgery, bullying, abuse of court documents, dead guys signing legal documents and more.



Click Below to Read the Petition to Remove Ted Bernstein https://docs.google.com/file/d/0Bzn2NurXrSkiSEd2OGVqRmRxeUU/edit

More documents and information at http://tedbernsteinreport.blogspot.com/

Posted by Crystal L. Cox at 12:13 PM No comments:

G+1 Recommend this on Google

Friday, May 23, 2014

Ted Bernstein, Alan B. Rose of Mrachek, Fitzgerald & Rose and John Pankauski and the case of Florida estate fraud, forgery and fraudulent documents. Ted Bernstein is HOPPING mad and wants access to EVERYTHING, Everywhere or ELSE you all are FIRED. See, if you will not aid and abet Ted Bernstein of Life Insurance Concepts, well then what's the use in him paying ya???

Ted Bernstein, Alan B. Rose of Mrachek, Fitzgerald & Rose and John Pankauski – John J. Pankauski - Pankauski Law Firm PLLC sure seem to be up to NO GOOD.

Ted Bernstein, Life Insurance Concepts, Alan B. Rose of Mrachek, Fitzgerald & Rose and John Pankauski – John J. Pankauski - Pankauski Law Firm PLLC sure seem to be up to NO GOOD.

Ted Bernstein, Alan B. Rose of Mrachek, Fitzgerald & Rose and John Pankauski like to operate in the dark. The thing is God / Goddess, the Great Spirit has a way of bringing the dark to the light, in support of the "good guy" and of doing the reaction. EIB 001263 02/27/2017

**Blog Archive** 

▼ 2014 (4)

▼ December (1)

Petition to Remove Ted Bernste attorney Alan...

► May (2)

▶ January (1)

≥ 2013 (5)

Poor Baby TEDDY does not want to spend another dime on attorneys who will not cover up his corruption, aid and abet him or defend his rights to break the law.

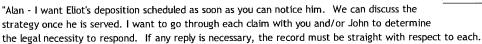
Below is an eMails that seems to suggest "Foul Play" and lawless, over the top aggressive, you be the judge. And also read this entire blog, and I would say that FLORIDA is not the best place to actually have your wishes carried out when you die. Especially not with this gang of seemingly corrupt THUGS.

oH and Ted Bernstein accusing Crystal Cox, me, of Extortion, but no BALLS to file a police report, what? If I have extorted your whiny, corrupt ASS then file a police report, ya spineless coward.

God / Goddess works in mysterious ways and this eMail is one of those ways in which the LIGHT is coming in and God is working for the Greater Good.

Thank You God <takes a bow> <hands firmly pressed>

\*



This is a rambling, filled with contradictions that need to be exposed for what they are. If John does not want to tangle with Eliot, remove John immediately. I am sorry to be this blunt, but I do not want to address the John issue again.

If he is not 100% in support of me as trustee, including how I have protected myself with trust assets and will continue doing so as necessary, and being aggressive and forceful, if need be, with eliot, remove him as counsel.

I do not want to spend another unnecessary dollar with counsel that is not going to zealously defend me as trustee and protect trust assets.

I cannot be more decisive re this and I say this with no animosity - simply for efficiency sake and my best interest.

Eliot is in default of production. Let's serve notice on him that he is in default.

I want Eliot to produce everything he has with respect to these cases, including:

Documents he refers to having that provide trusts for him and/or his children.

Agreements he has signed with my father and mother, together or separately.

All correspondence between him and my parents, together or separately concerning anything he has referenced in his ramblings through this one.

Anything and everything pertaining to iviewit, including his harassment of Jerry Lewin, Al Gortz of Proskauer and their firms.

I want court proceedings, lawsuits, all correspondence to him and from him including paper and electronic, including video tapes and electronic interviews.

History of incidents at st. Andrews school.

All correspondence with bill Stansbury. Everything related to Feaman / Stansbury  $\,$ 

All bank accounts, credit cards, sources of income, loans and gifts.

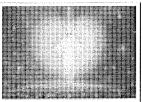
All correspondence with anyone he has shared estate details.

All correspondence of every type with: walker, puzzio, SAHM, Diana banks, Scott banks, NACLERIO, Dietz, Gefen and every person on his email distribution list. If he doesn't comply, I want all of them deposed.

Everything in which he has mentioned my name including emails, phone calls, letters, complaints to whatever agencies he has made complaints including police, federal, state, regulatory.

Everything and anything he is doing that we are not yet aware of such as online web site attacks.







## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

**Probate Division** 

Case No.: 502014CP003698XXXXSB

TED BERNSTEIN, as Trustee of the Shirley Bernstein Trust Agreement dated May 20, 2008, as amended,

•

ELIOT I. BERNSTEIN'S OPPOSITION TO IMPROPER HEARING CALLED UP BY TRUSTEE TED BERNSTEIN AND COUNSEL ALAN ROSE

Plaintiff,

v.

ALEXANDRA BERNSTEIN; et al.,

Defendants.

COMES NOW Eliot I. Bernstein, being duly sworn who hereby deposes and says under oath and penalties of perjury in filing this Opposition to an improper hearing called up by Trustee Ted Bernstein and Alan Rose and says as follows:

- 1. I file this opposition to the improperly noticed Hearing filed by Florida licensed attorney
  Alan Rose on behalf of the alleged Trustee Ted Bernstein and move to Strike the Hearing
  from the Calendar and move that attorney Rose be sanctioned accordingly.
- 2. Attorney Alan Rose and alleged Trustee Ted Bernstein had actual knowledge of my filing of a Notice of Unavailability throughout the month of January and have now called up their second Motion for a Hearing disregarding said Notice and in this instance not even providing 2 days Notice while failing to call the motion or Notice an Emergency. See,

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151223%20Notice%20of%20Unavailability%20Eliot%20Bernstein%2036989%20case%20ECF%20STAMPED%20COPY.pdf

3. The motion should be struck from the Calendar or at minimum rescheduled.

- 4. These actions are even more egregious as the Notice for the Hearing on Jan. 7, 2016 was not even filed by Alan Rose until after regular business hours on Jan. 5th, 2016 being filed after 5 pm despite the fact that Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein were both on a phone Conference Call / Meeting earlier in the day which included my attorney Candice Schwager of Texas who is seeking Pro Hac Vice admission and previously sought a continuance of the alleged validity Trial of Dec. 15, 2015, yet Alan Rose at no time mentioned any issue of emergency nature involving minor children to attorney Schwager either before, during or after this phone Meeting just yesterday.
- 5. Attorney Alan Rose not only never contacted my attorney Candice Schwager who he was on the phone with just yesterday, Jan. 5, 2016, but he also never contacted me in the scheduling of this matter.
- 6. I have already had to reschedule medical/dental related appointments due to Alan Rose's actions this New Year, I am currently on prescription medication since January 02, 2016, including painkillers and muscle relaxers and am not fit to attend hearings, which is part of the reason for my unavailability this month. This scheduling and notice is improper and further harassment and this is not the first time Alan Rose has deployed these tactics as the record for the cases reflects.
- 7. This is nothing but more of the same "sharp practices" and legal process abuses that Alan Rose and Trustee Ted Bernstein have perpetuated throughout the litigation.
- 8. Florida Licensed attorney (presently) Alan Rose and his client Ted Bernstein fail to point out to this Court their continuing Conflicts of Interest since both Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein have actively worked Against the Interests of the "grandchildren" to Shirley and

Simon Bernstein by trying to block \$1.7 in Life Insurance proceeds from coming into the Estate.

9. Both attorney Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein have been involved in actions which directly were contrary to the best interests of minor children by refusing to agree to a Continuance of the validity trial in Dec. 2015 even for 30 days so my minor children could have Counsel by Candice Schwager, Esq. and yet now try to claim to come to this court for the welfare of minor children. See,

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151212%20Candice%20Schwager%20Pro%20Hac%20Vice%20ECF%20Filing%20Stamped%20Copy.pdf

and

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151215%20ESIGNED%20Phillips%20Trial%20Stay%20ECF%20STAMPED%20COPY.pdf

- 10. Ted Bernstein and Alan Rose have articulated no adequate basis to impose a Gag order.
- 11. In fact according to the Email Letter sent by attorney Schwager today to Alan Rose (see <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20160106%20Schwager%20Letter%20">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20160106%20Schwager%20Letter%20</a> to%20Alan%20Rose%20to%20Cancel%20Hearings.pdf) to seek his voluntary withdrawal of this Hearing, even one of the cases cited by Alan Rose actually has the District Court of Appeals reversing a Trial Court's Order closing a Trial from the public: "The orders of the trial court sealing the file and closing the proceedings are REVERSED. The public shall be permitted access to the court file and the transcript or reporter's notes of any proceedings in the trial court. ERVIN, J., concurs. NIMMONS, J., concurs, with written opinion." <a href="https://casetext.com/case/florida-freedom-newspapers-v-sirmons">https://casetext.com/case/florida-freedom-newspapers-v-sirmons</a>

BATES NO. EIB 001267 02/27/2017

- 12. There was minimal if virtually any naming of the "grandchildren" and/or "minor children" in the Trial in any event and I should have every right to inspect and have my own copy of the Transcript and this appears to be nothing more than the bully sharp practices of Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein in trying to deny due process and access to the courts and the ability to seek proper appeal, collateral attack and other motions concerning the trial.
- 13. As attorney Schwager pointed out in her letter, "Thus, it truly appears that your motion is more of a "smoke-screen" and "sharp practices" which are more designed to further delay, obstruct and hinder the due process rights of Eliot Bernstein and his minor children and perhaps others in the truth seeking processes by this motion which must be withdrawn."
- 14. In one breathe, Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein rush to push a validity Trial through that had been requested years before by Plaintiff Eliot and do so in a manner to Deny Counsel to Minor Children but now that the hour of Truth is at hand where Ted Bernstein's business partner / former business partner Robert Spallina's testimony Admitting to mail fraud, fraudulently creating an Invalid Trust and Fraud Upon the Court in these matters and related Testimony is about to be available as it should be, Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein are now suddenly ( and frantically ) the big heroes for minor children and rushing in by an improperly Noticed Hearing to gag truth without providing any specific justification that this will benefit any minor children.
- 15. Yet, as stated by the very case Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein have cited for this Court, "

  Preserving the independence and integrity of the judicial process through open and publicly scrutinized judicial proceedings is the issue."

- 16. "A strong and independent judiciary is the bulwark of a free society. If there were no public access to proceedings before the trial judge, there would be no safeguard for judicial independence nor any assurance of judicial integrity."
- 17. "It is the existence of the right of access that is critical to the court's autonomy, not the public's exercise of that right. Knowing the public can attend these proceedings and review judicial records helps guarantee that those matters will be conducted with due regard for the public's interest in a fair and impartial judiciary." See, <a href="https://casetext.com/case/florida-freedom-newspapers-v-sirmons">https://casetext.com/case/florida-freedom-newspapers-v-sirmons</a>.
- 18. Minor children ultimately have to grow up and learn the laws of civil societies.
- 19. There is nothing in the Transcripts that relates to the actions and behaviors of the minor children and thus Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein have shown <u>nothing specific of a</u> <u>compelling nature</u> with respect to the minor children and this motion should be struck from the Calendar and denied.
- 20. Instead the Trial consisted of testimony and actions by Ted Bernstein's business partners and his former counsel to him as fiduciary Robert Spallina and Donald Tescher who admitted to (i) illegally using the Mails to mail a fraudulently created invalid trust to the three minor children's prior counsel Christine Yates, (ii) that his law firm deposited fraudulent documents in the Court record in the cases, (iii) that he fraudulently used a deceased Personal Representative to Fraudulently close the Estate of Shirley Bernstein in these matters leading to the reopening of the Estate of Shirley and three years of litigation costs and expenses and (iv) that he was under an SEC Consent order for Felony Insider Trading charges and other matters.

- 21. The SEC Consent Orders<sup>1</sup> for Spallina and Tescher are already of Public Record by the Washington, DC Office of the US SEC itself naming Robert Spallina and Donald Tescher, Ted Bernstein's business partners and former disgraced counsel to him as fiduciary in these matters, who he and Alan Rose allowed to "hold onto" Original records even after Spallina's admitting to fraud that benefited his client Ted directly and also having the firm's paralegal notary public Kimberly Moran admit to criminal charges in this matter of forging documents, fraudulently notarizing them, including Post Mortem for Simon Bernstein and committing multiple frauds on the Court and beneficiaries in these matters.
- 22. See, "FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 2015-213 Washington D.C., Sept. 28, 2015 The Securities and Exchange Commission today charged five Florida residents including two lawyers and an accountant with insider trading in advance of the acquisition of Pharmasset Inc. by Gilead Sciences Inc. In a complaint filed in federal court in Newark, New Jersey, the SEC alleged that attorneys Robert L. Spallina and Donald R. Tescher and accountant Steven G. Rosen illegally traded on confidential information obtained from a mutual client who served on the board of directors of Princeton, New Jersey-based Pharmasset."
- 23. Spallina, Tescher, Rosen, Palermo, and Markowitz collectively agreed to pay approximately \$489,000 to settle the charges. The settlements are subject to court approval.

http://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2015-213.html

and

September 28, 2015 SEC Government Complaint filed against TESCHER and SPALLINA @ <a href="http://www.sec.gov/litigation/complaints/2015/comp-pr2015-213.pdf">http://www.sec.gov/litigation/complaints/2015/comp-pr2015-213.pdf</a>

October 01, 2015 SEC Consent Orders Felony Insider Trading SPALLINA signed September 16, 2015 and TESCHER signed June 15, 2014

http://www.iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/2015%20Spallina%20and%20Tescher%20SEC%20Settlement%20Consent%20Orders%20Insider%20Trading.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> September 28, 2015 SEC Press Release Regarding SPALLINA and TESCHER INSIDER TRADING CHARGES, "SEC Charges Five With Insider Trading, Including Two Attorneys and an Accountant"

- 24. "Lawyers and accountants occupy special positions of trust and confidence and are required to protect the information entrusted to them by their clients," said Joseph G. Sansone, Co-Chief of the SEC's Market Abuse Unit. "It is illegal for them to steal their clients' confidential information to trade securities for their own profit or to tip others." See, <a href="http://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2015-213.html">http://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2015-213.html</a>
- 25. Thus, those matters regarding Ted Bernstein's business partners and prior counsel to him as fiduciaries are already a matter of public record being made public by the federal government.
- 26. No compelling circumstances are shown by Ted Bernstein and his attorney Alan Rose to gag any part of the Trial herein other than what my attorney Candice Schwager says in her Letter Email that the standard in federal court for Pleadings is to simply abbreviate the minor child's name instead of spelling it out such as "J.B.", "D.B", etc. Where none of the parents of the minor children have objected on their children's behalf either.
- 27. Nothing else more than that should happen here.
- 28. Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein's desperate attempt to hide and conceal the Truth of the Trial is just like what the District Court of Appeals found offensive in the case their papers cited, "In essence, one of the parties wished to conduct the proceedings in private to prevent the disclosure of certain information the party would otherwise prefer not be made public. The information is of a somewhat general nature and not specifically tied to a domestic relations case.8The information is not related to the marital relationship nor its breakup, to the welfare of the children, nor to the marital property."
- 29. "This may be so, but we do not find this reason to be sufficiently compelling, rising to the level that would deny the party an opportunity to receive a fair trial, to justify closing these

proceedings." District Court of Appeal of Florida, First District. 508 So.2d 462 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1987) <a href="https://casetext.com/case/florida-freedom-newspapers-v-sirmons">https://casetext.com/case/florida-freedom-newspapers-v-sirmons</a>

- 30. Having acted to repeatedly Deny minor children Counsel by denial of proper Trust funds and thus deny minor children rights, these actions now by Ted Bernstein and Alan Rose are a sham and must be denied.
- 31. Ted Bernstein would have this Court disregard and deny the actual history of fraud and abusive, bullying, extortive, illegal and coercive tactics and conduct of he and his business partners and his former counsel against Minor children as if Ted Bernstein had the Court on his own Payroll. See, May 6, 2013 Emergency Motion<sup>2</sup> and See Motion on St. Andrew's School<sup>3</sup>,
- 32. I, Eliot Bernstein, further renews and reminds this Court that it lacks jurisdiction to hear the matter as this Court was mandatorily disqualified at least as of Dec. 4, 2015<sup>4</sup> and was further moved to mandatory disqualify Dec.28, 2015<sup>5</sup> and thus no further action may be taken at this time beyond mandatory Disqualification.

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140824%20Amended%20Emergency%20Motion%20to%20Compel%20Eliot%20School%20Saint%20Andrews%20Payments.pdf

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151204%20FINAL%20SIGNED%20NOTARIZED%20Disqualification%20of%20Florida%20Circuit%20Court%20Judge%20John%20L%20Phillips%20ECF%20STAMPED.pdf

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151228%20FINAL%20SIGNED%20NOTARIZED%20Second%20Disqualification%20of%20Judge%20Phillips%20after%20Validity%20Hearing%20on%20December%2015,%202015%20ECF%20STAMPED%20COPY.pdf

and

Corrections

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151204%20FINAL%20CORRECTIONS%20to%20 Disqualification%20of%20Florida%20Circuit%20Court%20Judge%20John%20L%20Phillips%20ECF%20 STAMPED.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> May 06, 2013 Bernstein Emergency Petition Florida Probate Simon and Shirley Estate Cases @ <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20130506%20FINAL%20SIGNED%20Petition%20Freeze%20Estates%20Orginal%20Large.pdf">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20130506%20FINAL%20SIGNED%20Petition%20Freeze%20Estates%20Orginal%20Large.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> August 24, 2014 Emergency Motion

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> December 04, 2015 Disqualification of Judge Phillips

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Dec 28, 2015 Disqualification of Judge Phillips

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully prayed for an Order mandatorily Disqualifying

Judge John L. Phillips and striking the improperly Noticed Hearing of Alan Rose and Ted

Bernstein from the calendar, sanctions against Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein and such other

and further relief as may be just and proper.

Dated: January 06, 2016

/s/Eliot Ivan Bernstein
Eliot Ivan Bernstein
2753 NW 34th St
Boca Raton, FL 33434
561-245-8588
iviewit@iviewit.tv

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been furnished to parties listed on attached Service List by E-mail Electronic Transmission; Court ECF; this 6th day of January, 2016.

By: /s/ Eliot Ivan Bernstein Eliot Ivan Bernstein 2753 NW 34th St. Boca Raton, FL 33434 561-245-8588 iviewit@iviewit.tv

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

TED BERNSTEIN, as Trustee of the Shirley Bernstein Trust Agreement dated May 20, 2008, as amended,

Plaintiff,

v.

ALEXANDRA BERNSTEIN; ERIC BERNSTEIN; MICHAEL BERNSTEIN; MOLLY SIMON; PAMELA B. SIMON, Individually and as Trustee f/b/o Molly Simon under the Simon L. Bernstein Trust Dtd 9/13/12; ELIOT BERNSTEIN, individually, as Trustee f/b/o D.B., Ja. B. and Jo. B. under the Simon L. Bernstein Trust Dtd 9/13/12, and on behalf of his minor children D.B., Ja. B. and Jo. B.; JILL IANTONI, Individually, as Trustee f/b/o J.I. under the Simon L. Bernstein Trust Dtd 9/13/12, and on behalf of her Minor child J.I.; MAX FRIEDSTEIN; LISA FRIEDSTEIN, Individually, as Trustee f/b/o Max Friedstein and C.F., under the Simon L. Bernstein Trust Dtd 9/13/12, and on behalf of her minor child, C.F.,

Defendants.

Probate Division
Case.: 502014CP003698XXXXNB

Judge John Phillips

Response in Opposition Motions for Guardian & Gag Order filed by Alan M. Rose

RESPONSE IN OPPOSITION MOTIONS FOR GUARDIAN & GAG FILED BY ALAN B.  $\underline{ROSE}$ 

COMES NOW, PRO SE, Eliot Ivan Bernstein ("Eliot") or ("Petitioner") as Beneficiary and Interested Party both for himself personally and as Guardians for his three minor children Beneficiaries of the Shirley Bernstein Trust and hereby files this and in support thereof states, on information and belief, as follows:

- 1. I oppose the motion by Alan M. Rose to appoint a Guardian for my children and oppose his motion for any "gag" order and since an Evidentiary Hearing and Testimony are both necessary with respect to the factual pleadings by Alan Rose and such evidence and testimony including my own testimony on both matters which would last well beyond 30 minutes alone it is inappropriate and improper process to achieve anything at the Uniform Motion Calendar Hearing on Jan. 14, 2016 beyond Scheduling of Compliance for outstanding Discovery and Production, depositions and then an evidentiary hearing and a proper Case Management Conference for this "Complex" case.
- 2. This, however, naturally raises the issue of first scheduling the hearings on the motions to remove Ted Bernstein as Trustee for not being qualified under the language of the trusts, for misconduct in fiduciary capacity, for waste and fraud upon the estate and other matters wherein even this very response by myself in this filing has been delayed by Representations by Creditor William Stansbury that his Florida Licensed Attorney Peter Feaman would be filing yesterday with the Court and Alan Rose a request to delay any hearing on these motions until a Status Conference / Case Management Conference for the Orderly scheduling of further hearings wherein Peter Feaman already notified this Court on Sept. 15, 2015 at the Case Management Conference that removal of Ted Bernstein as Trustee should be the first order of business instead of a validity trial with Ted Bernstein as Trustee, but whereupon this Court improperly moved to Schedule Trial in Shirley Bernstein's Trust case as Alan Rose misled the Court to believe that all cases were called up, which was untrue, where Shirley's

Trust case was Not Notified for the Case Management Conference<sup>1</sup> requested by the current PR of Simon's Estate being Mr. Brian O'Connell and Joy Foglietta of the Ciklin Lubitz Martens & O'Connell firm who filed the Notice to bring the matter up for the Case Management Conference on Sept. 15, 2015 in the first instance.

- 3. Thus, both alleged Creditor William Stansbury and Florida Licensed Attorney Peter Feaman are both Necessary Witnesses in relation to the Integrity of these proceedings and the good faith efforts I have undertaken to uncover fraud upon the Court and in the Court which is directly relevant to resolution of any sham claim by attorney Alan Rose or Steven Lessne regarding guardianship, both being Florida licensed attorneys who have directly Misled this Court in many ways including but not limited to falsely citing language from other Court orders such as Southern District of New York Judge Shira Scheindlin, or Alan Rose falsely claiming during the alleged validity trial that there has been no prior Order for Production of all Original Records by Tescher and Spallina when in fact this was part of the Discharge Order of Judge Colin to the extent any such Order of Judge Colin remains valid. See, Order of Colin on Production<sup>2</sup>.
- 4. Specifically, Alan Rose, a Served Counter Defendant in this very action has knowingly misquoted an Order of SDNY Judge Shira Scheindlin by falsely portraying a Proskauer Rose proposed language in an Order as an actual Order, quote, finding of Hon. Judge Scheindlin

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Case Management Notice of Hearing for Only Simon Bernstein Estate Case <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150803%20Notice%20of%20Hearing%20for%20Sept%2015%202015%20930am%20Case%20Management.pdf">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150803%20Notice%20of%20Hearing%20for%20Sept%2015%202015%20930am%20Case%20Management.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>February 18, 2014 Colin Order Regarding Turning Over ALL Records to Curator <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140218%20ORDER%20ON%20PETITION%20FOR%20DISCHARGE%20TESCHER%20SPALLINA%20Case%20502012CP004391XXXXSB%20SIMON.pdf">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140218%20ORDER%20ON%20PETITION%20FOR%20DISCHARGE%20TESCHER%20SPALLINA%20Case%20502012CP004391XXXXSB%20SIMON.pdf</a>

herself and while this conduct recently occurred in matters before the 4th DCA<sup>3</sup>, this evidence is representative of the sharp practices that Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein have employed to avoid full and fair hearings, obstruct due process, and obscure actual truth seeking processes acting in conflict of interest and more while simultaneously not only denying proper funds for myself to obtain proper counsel for my minor children and myself but further denied retained Texas attorney Candice Schwager documents to review for her to further an application to be admitted pro hac vice after having opportunity to scope potential conflicts of interest between myself and minor children.

- 5. Alan Rose falsely stated to this Court at the Case Management Conference<sup>4</sup> that no hearings were held prior for guardianship hearings but yet Alan Rose had only a year earlier been denied<sup>5</sup> by Judge Colin who claimed Eliot and Candice did not need Guardians for their children.
- 6. Thus, attorney Alan Rose's conduct himself in these proceedings has relevance to his sham motion for guardianship since his own conduct has caused waste and harm to beneficiaries and delayed and obstructed the fact finding and truth seeking processes of this court and thus right there alone are 3 Witnesses in addition to myself that should be part of any Evidentiary hearing relating to appointment of a Guardianship and thus arriving at a Schedule would be the most that can happen on Jan. 14, 2016, or at least should be the most that can happen on this date.

<sup>3</sup> December 17, 2015 Sur Reply Showing Alan Rose Misquoting Federal Judge Shira Scheindlin Order <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151217%204th%20DCA%20Rose%20Ted%20Sur%20Reply%20Dec%2016%202015.pdf">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151217%204th%20DCA%20Rose%20Ted%20Sur%20Reply%20Dec%2016%202015.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> September 15, 2015 Case Management Hearing Transcript Scheduled In Simon Estate ONLY, Page 28 Line 7-16

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150915%20Judge%20Phillips%20Hearing%20Transcript%20-%20Estate%20of%20%20Simon%20Bernstein.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> August 14, 2014 Order DENYING GUARDIAN

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140814%20Order%20Judge%20Martin%20Colin%20NO%20GUARDIAN%20FOR%20ELIQT%20CHILDREN.pdf

- 7. In fact, Florida licensed attorney Peter Feaman has directly prepared pleadings and correspondence showing myself as being the only sibling in these cases to expose fraud and forgery and other proper matters in these cases and eligible to be a Successor. See, below.
- 8. See filings by Peter Feaman on behalf of alleged Creditor William Stansbury relevant to the sham filing for Guardianship by Alan Rose on behalf of Ted Bernstein.
  - a. <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140217%20Stansbury%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140217%20Stansbury%2</a>
    OResponse%20in%20Opposition.pdf Page 4-6 (C)
  - b. <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140522%20JOINDER%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140522%20JOINDER%2</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140522%20JOINDER%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140522%20JOINDER%2</a>
    <a href="https://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140522%20JOINDER%2">https://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140522%20JOINDER%2</a>
    <a href="https://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140522%20JOINDER%2">https://iviewit.tv/Simon%20FILED%20BY%20ELIOT%20IVAN%20BERNSTEIN%20FOR%20TRUSTEE</a>
    <a href="https://iviewit.tv/Simon%20AND%20FOR%20TRUST">20FOR%20REMOVAL%20OF%20TRUSTEE%20AND%20FOR%20TRUST%20ACCOUNTING.pdf</a>
  - c. <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140627%20Response%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140627%20Response%2</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140627%20Response%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140627%20Response%2</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140627%20Response%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140627%20Response%2</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140627%20Response%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20to%20the%20Appointment%20of%20Ted%20Bersntein%20as%20Successor%20PR%20etc%20filed%20by%20Feaman%20Stansbury.pdf</a>
- 9. Then of course is the letter by Florida Licensed attorney Peter Feaman from August of 2014, nearly 17 months ago claiming PR Brian O'Connell had an absolute "duty" to file to Remove Ted Bernstein in showing failure to provide Accountings, waste of Trust assets and other matters, yet no action taken by PR O'Connell and no present follow-up by Peter Feaman although as indicated I have been delayed in this very filing by Representations of William Stansbury that Peter Feaman would be filing with the Court relative to these matters including holding hearings off until a Status or Case Management Conference but has yet to do that either, although it was represented it would be filed Tuesday, Jan., 12, 2016 further knowing I had filed for Unavailability with this Court which was served upon Alan Rose and

further filed in my last opposition to the Gag order that I was under medication and needing medical care. See,

- August 29, 2014 Letter from Attorney at Law Peter Feaman, Esq. to Personal
   Representative Attorney Brian O'Connell re Conflicts and more of Ted and Alan
   Rose.
  - http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140829%20Feaman%20 Stansbury%20Letter%20to%20Brian%20O'Connell.pdf
- b. December 16, 2014, Letter from Attorney Peter Feaman to PR and Attorney Brian O'Connell Letter re O' Connell's Absolute Duty to Remove Ted <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20141216%20Attorney%20">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20141216%20Attorney%20</a>
- c. Peter%20Feaman%20Letter%20to%20Attorney%20Personal%20Representative %20Brian%20O'Connell%20re%20Ted%20and%20Alan%20Conflicts.pdf
- d. September 19, 2014 Attorney Peter Feaman to PR Attorney Brian O'Connell re Assets of Estates -<a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140919%20Feaman%20">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140919%20Feaman%20</a> Letter%20to%20Brian%20Oconnell%20re%20assets%20of%20Simon%20Estate %209%2019%2014.pdf
- 10. William Stansbury is further a necessary Witness as he has information relating to an ongoing Federal investigation of Ted Bernstein by the US Dept. of Labor in relation to Ted Bernstein's fiduciary actions as Plan Administrator / Trustee involving Arbitrage

  International an asset of the Estate and Trusts where it is likely that further financial harm to beneficiaries including my minor children has occurred according to William Stansbury and yet Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein have not only failed to Disclose these matters to the Court

- and parties but further failed to disclose these matters in an alleged Meeting involving

  Bernstein Holdings and Bernstein Family Investments where Ted Bernstein and Alan Rose.
- 11. It is unknown why neither Creditor William Stansbury or his Florida licensed attorney Peter Feaman has yet to bring this information to the Court further making them necessary witnesses while it is further noted that just last week Alan Rose improperly scheduled a Hearing without contacting me although being on the phone that same morning with my retained attorney Candice Schwager of Texas seeking pro hac vice admission yet never mentioned the hearing and yet Rose later claimed in an email on Jan. 7, 2016 that an agreement he made with Attorney Peter Feaman to appear on short notice further justified his filing thus playing a "circus" / "charade" game of having Stansbury/Feaman in some parts of the cases but then not having them in on others all the while claiming that Ted Bernstein should be removed.
- 12. Further that the Estate itself by and through Brian O'Connell and Joy Foglietta has failed to account or provide Documents and Records despite prior Court Ordered Production<sup>6</sup> upon the former PR's, Tescher and Spallina, after their removal after admissions to fraudulently altering and creating a fraudulent Shirley Trust that Alan Rose misleads this Court about there being no such Court Order during an alleged Validity Trial<sup>7</sup> and having multiple cross examination questions sustained as a result of such misstatement to the Court where it appears that in *contempt of such order* for Tescher & Spallina to Produce and turn over all Originals and files, Alan Rose, alleged Fiduciary and Trustee Ted Bernstein, Brian

0Validity%20Hearing.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> February 18, 2014 Court Ordered Production of ALL Records of Tescher and Spallina to Curator <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140218%20ORDER%20ON%20PETITION%20FOR%20DISCHARGE%20TESCHER%20SPALLINA%20Case%20502012CP004391XXXXSB%20SIMON\_pdf">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140218%20ORDER%20ON%20PETITION%20FOR%20DISCHARGE%20TESCHER%20SPALLINA%20Case%20502012CP004391XXXXSB%20SIMON\_pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> December 15, 2015 Validity Hearing Transcript - Transcript Page 123 Lines 10-18 & Page 124 3-7 and Pages 124 Line 17 to 125 Line 17. http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151215%20Hearing%20Transcript%20Phillips%2

O'Connell and Joy Foglietta and potentially others have left "Original" documents and files instead in the Custody of Tescher & Spallina where Spallina has now admitted to fraud upon beneficiaries and their counsel, mail fraud, fraud upon the Court in the filings his office prepared and other crimes and misconduct during the alleged "validity" trial before Your Honor where the PRs O'Connell & Foglietta are wholly and conspicuously absent from the "Validity trial" (despite having pleaded to the Court in the Shirley Trust Construction case that Ted was NOT A VALID TRUSTEE<sup>8</sup> in the SIMON TRUST, which would have materially affected the outcome of such hearing on the Simon Trust case and Ted's ability to argue the validity in the first place) among many other "missing Witnesses" at the alleged validity Trial such as Traci Kratish, Notaries Diana Banks, Kimberly Moran (charged with Felony fraudulent notarization and admitted Forgery of documents in these matters) and Lindsay Baxkey and Donald Tescher and an unknown signatory witnesses, leaving the Estate of Simon Bernstein without counsel despite the fact that one of the First Orders of Business PRs O'Connell and Foglietta should have sought at the Case Management Conference held Sept. 15, 2015 which was Held and Noticed only in the Estate of Simon Bernstein is a Compliance Order to obtain all the "Originals" and files/documents from Tescher & Spallina so proper Discovery and Production could occur to prove validity but instead results in an improperly schedule Trial in Shirley's Trust case which was not Noticed for Sept. 15, 2015 as required in the procedural rules of the Court.

13. Thus, Brian O'Connell and Joy Foglietta should further be called as Necessary Witnesses in relation to the integrity of proceedings and were further factual Witnesses in relation to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> February 17, 2015 Answer Affirmative Defenses Filed by PR Attorney Brian O'Connell stating Ted is NOT A VALID TRUSTEE under the terms of the Trust.

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150217%20Answer%20%20Affirmative%20Defenses%20O'Connell%20States%20Ted%20is%20NOT%20VALID%20TRUSTEE.pdf

missing documents, missing production, missing business records and intertwined in conduct with Alan Rose in sudden emerging "original" documents from the St. Andrew's Home allegedly for the Oppenheimer matters and other dispositive Estate and Trust documents yet Creditor William Stansbury had previously stated that his Florida licensed attorney Peter Feaman suggested that a Meeting at his Office and or Brian O'Connell's Office and inviting the Palm Beach County Sheriff's for Criminal investigation and prosecution of Ted Bernstein in relation to the missing Tangible Personal Property ("TTP") should occur, thus intertwining all of the various parties as witnesses in relation to any Guardianship hearing and necessity.

- 14. Licensed attorney Peter Feaman and his client alleged Creditor William Stansbury further being Witnesses as both claimed to have observed Donald Tescher at the Courthouse after the validity trial yet was not produced by Alan Rose suggesting Tescher's presence was under Alan Rose's control and yet because this Court had impermissibly prejudiced and "prejudged" the validity trial by improperly limiting it to one day ordered in the wrong case without addressing discovery and dispositive motions there was no timing remaining for further necessary witnesses and thus the validity trial should be vacated.
- 15. While I understand it was filed in a different case number, Steven Lessne is intertwined with Rose on numerous issues including not only the sudden emergence of "original" documents in the Oppenheimer case but further the sharp practices conduct wherein Lessne has <u>directly</u> <u>mislead this Court</u> by an almost identical sharp practice of Alan Rose where Southern District of New York Judge Hon. Shira Scheindlin is again knowingly misquoted wherein Lessne claims Judge Scheindlin issued some nationwide injunction against me again misquoting language "proposed" by Proskauer Rose where in actuality the language Judge Scheindlin determined in the Order was as follows: "IV. CONCLUSION For the foregoing

reasons, a monetary sanction in the amount of \$3,500 is hereby imposed on Bernstein as is the injunctive sanction described above. The money is to be paid to the Clerk of the Court, Southern District of New York, forthwith. If Bernstein ignores the monetary sanction, defendants may obtain an enforceable judgment in the amount of \$3,500. If Bernstein continues to file motions in this case, he may be subject to additional monetary sanctions. The Clerk of the Court is directed to close the motion for sanctions (Docket Entry # 145). Dated: 14 New York, New York August 29, 2013 Opposition at 13. 79"

- 16. Thus, the only injunctive limitation determined by SDNY Judge Scheindlin is that if I file motions "in this case", being the SDNY case, I "may be subject to additional monetary sanctions", thus showing Lessne himself directly misleading this Court as a Florida licensed attorney.
- 17. The Court should note that Lessne left his firm Gray Robinson and took with him the Bernstein / Oppenheimer case as he transitioned to Alan Rose's prior law firm Gunster.
- 18. To the extent any Order of Judge Colin remains valid, he has already ruled upon motions by Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein on Guardianship and the related matters and DENIED those matters. See below Orders Colin in Rose Denial Guardian Shirley Trust Construction stating no Guardian necessary and Oppenheimer denial of same, This renewed attempt on virtually the same grounds constitutes further harassment and a 2<sup>nd</sup> bite at apple hoping for a better outcome than with Judge Colin.
  - a. Oppenheimer Denial

http://www.iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20141107%20Omnibus%20Order%20Colin%20Oppenheimer%20Case.pdf

9 of 22

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup>August 29, 2013 Order the Most Honorable Shira A. Scheindlin <a href="http://www.iviewit.tv/20130829%20Scheindlin%20Order%20Sanctioning%20Bernstein.pdf">http://www.iviewit.tv/20130829%20Scheindlin%20Order%20Sanctioning%20Bernstein.pdf</a>

- b. Rose Trust Construction Denial
  <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140814%20Order%20Judge%20Martin%20Colin%20NO%20GUARDIAN%20FOR%20ELIOT%20CHILDREN.pdf">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140814%20Order%20Judge%20Martin%20Colin%20NO%20GUARDIAN%20FOR%20ELIOT%20CHILDREN.pdf</a>
- c. Order Denying Contempt Against Eliot http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150504%20Order%20on
   %20Motion%20to%20Hold%20Eliot%20Bernstein%20in%20Contempt%20DEN
   IED.pdf
- 19. There has been no "construction" hearing scheduled much less any full and fair hearing after proper discovery and depositions.
- 20. Moreover, alleged Creditor William Stansbury's attorney has previously written to Rose directly regarding Rose's conflicts of interest and other matters of testimony relevant at any hearing as follows:
  - a. August 08, 2014 Feaman Letters to Rose
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140808%20Response%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140808%20Response%2</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140808%20Response%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140808%20Response%2</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140808%20Response%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140808%20Response%2</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20for%20Contempt%20-"http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20Feaman%20Letter%20to%20Alan%20Re%20St%20Andrews%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20for%20Contempt%20-</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20Feaman%20Letter%20to%20Alan%20Re%20St%20Andrews%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20Feaman%20Letter%20to%20Alan%20Re%20St%20Andrews%2</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20Feaman%20Letter%20to%20Alan%20Re%20St%20Andrews%2">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20Feaman%20Letter%20to%20Alan%20Re%20St%20Andrews%2</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simonmangare/">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20Remangare/</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simonmangare/">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20Remangare/</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simonmangare/">http://iviewit.tv/Simonmangare/</a>
    <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simonmangare/">http://iviewit.tv/Simonman
  - b. Pleading filed by PR Attorney Brian O'Connell in Shirley Trust Ted NOT A VALID TRUSTEE IN SIMON -<a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150217%20Answer%20">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150217%20Answer%20</a> %20Affirmative%20Defenses%20O'Connell%20States%20Ted%20is%20NOT% 20VALID%20TRUSTEE.pdf

- c. January 16, 2015 Nevada District Court Ruling Crystal Cox ruling Eliot and Crystal not associated -<a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150116%20Cox%20Bernstein%20Nevada%20RICO%20Order%20Denying%20Motions%20for%20Sum">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150116%20Cox%20Bernstein%20Nevada%20RICO%20Order%20Denying%20Motions%20for%20Sum</a> mary%20Judgement.pdf
- 21. I re-plead and re-allege the following in further opposition to any continued improper attempts at a gag order which should be denied and stricken but certainly would require an adversarial evidentiary hearing first not part of the Uniform Motion Calendar Hearing of Jan. 14, 2016 and certainly not in 10 minutes.
- 22. I have already had to reschedule medical/dental related appointments due to Alan Rose's actions this New Year, I am currently on prescription medication since January 02, 2016, including painkillers and muscle relaxers and am not fit to attend hearings, which is part of the reason for my unavailability this month. This scheduling and notice is improper and further harassment and this is not the first time Alan Rose has deployed these tactics as the record for the cases reflects.
- 23. This is nothing but more of the same "sharp practices" and legal process abuses that Alan Rose and Trustee Ted Bernstein have perpetuated throughout the litigation.
- 24. Florida Licensed attorney (presently) Alan Rose and his client Ted Bernstein fail to point out to this Court their continuing Conflicts of Interest since both Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein have actively worked Against the Interests of the "grandchildren" to Shirley and Simon Bernstein by trying to block \$1.7 in Life Insurance proceeds from coming into the Estate.

- 25. Both attorney Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein have been involved in actions which directly were contrary to the best interests of minor children by refusing to agree to a Continuance of the validity trial in Dec. 2015 even for 30 days so my minor children could have Counsel by Candice Schwager, Esq. and yet now try to claim to come to this court for the welfare of minor children. See,
  - a. December 12, 2015 Attorney Candice Schwager Pro Hac Vice Letter to Court <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151212%20Candice%20">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151212%20Candice%20</a> <a href="mailto:Schwager%20Pro%20Hac%20Vice%20ECF%20Filing%20Stamped%20Copy.pd">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151212%20Candice%20</a> <a href="mailto:Schwager%20Pro%20Hac%20Vice%20ECF%20Filing%20Stamped%20Copy.pd">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151212%20Candice%20</a> <a href="mailto:Schwager%20Pro%20Hac%20Vice%20ECF%20Filing%20Stamped%20Copy.pd">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20Hac%20Vice%20ECF%20Filing%20Stamped%20Copy.pd</a> <a href="mailto:frame-filing-

and

- b. December 15, 2015 Phillips Trial Stay
  <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151215%20ESIGNED%20Phillips%20Trial%20Stay%20ECF%20STAMPED%20COPY.pdf">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151215%20ESIGNED%20Phillips%20Trial%20Stay%20ECF%20STAMPED%20COPY.pdf</a>
- 26. Ted Bernstein and Alan Rose have articulated no adequate basis to impose a Gag order.
- 27. In fact according to the Email Letter sent by attorney Schwager today to Alan Rose (see <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20160106%20Schwager%20Letter%20">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20160106%20Schwager%20Letter%20</a> to%20Alan%20Rose%20to%20Cancel%20Hearings.pdf) to seek his voluntary withdrawal of this Hearing, even one of the cases cited by Alan Rose actually has the District Court of Appeals reversing a Trial Court's Order closing a Trial from the public: "The orders of the trial court sealing the file and closing the proceedings are REVERSED. The public shall be permitted access to the court file and the transcript or reporter's notes of any proceedings in the trial court. ERVIN, J., concurs. NIMMONS, J., concurs, with written opinion." <a href="https://casetext.com/case/florida-freedom-newspapers-v-sirmons">https://casetext.com/case/florida-freedom-newspapers-v-sirmons</a>

- 28. There was minimal if virtually any naming of the "grandchildren" and/or "minor children" in the Trial in any event and I should have every right to inspect and have my own copy of the Transcript and this appears to be nothing more than the bully sharp practices of Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein in trying to deny due process and access to the courts and the ability to seek proper appeal, collateral attack and other motions concerning the trial.
- 29. As attorney Schwager pointed out in her letter, "Thus, it truly appears that your motion is more of a "smoke-screen" and "sharp practices" which are more designed to further delay, obstruct and hinder the due process rights of Eliot Bernstein and his minor children and perhaps others in the truth seeking processes by this motion which must be withdrawn."
- 30. In one breathe, Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein rush to push a validity Trial through that had been requested years before by Plaintiff Eliot and do so in a manner to Deny Counsel to Minor Children but now that the hour of Truth is at hand where Ted Bernstein's business partner / former business partner Robert Spallina's testimony Admitting to mail fraud, fraudulently creating an Invalid Trust and Fraud Upon the Court in these matters and related Testimony is about to be available as it should be, Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein are now suddenly ( and frantically ) the big heroes for minor children and rushing in by an improperly Noticed Hearing to gag truth without providing any specific justification that this will benefit any minor children.
- 31. Yet, as stated by the very case Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein have cited for this Court, "
  Preserving the independence and integrity of the judicial process through open and publicly scrutinized judicial proceedings is the issue."

- 32. "A strong and independent judiciary is the bulwark of a free society. If there were no public access to proceedings before the trial judge, there would be no safeguard for judicial independence nor any assurance of judicial integrity."
- 33. "It is the existence of the right of access that is critical to the court's autonomy, not the public's exercise of that right. Knowing the public can attend these proceedings and review judicial records helps guarantee that those matters will be conducted with due regard for the public's interest in a fair and impartial judiciary." See, <a href="https://casetext.com/case/florida-freedom-newspapers-v-sirmons">https://casetext.com/case/florida-freedom-newspapers-v-sirmons</a>.
- 34. Minor children ultimately have to grow up and learn the laws of civil societies.
- 35. There is nothing in the Transcripts that relates to the actions and behaviors of the minor children and thus Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein have shown *nothing specific of a*compelling nature with respect to the minor children and this motion should be struck from the Calendar and denied.
- 36. Instead the Trial consisted of testimony and actions by Ted Bernstein's business partners and his former counsel to him as fiduciary Robert Spallina and Donald Tescher who admitted to (i) illegally using the Mails to mail a fraudulently created invalid trust to the three minor children's prior counsel Christine Yates, (ii) that his law firm deposited fraudulent documents in the Court record in the cases, (iii) that he fraudulently used a deceased Personal Representative to Fraudulently close the Estate of Shirley Bernstein in these matters leading to the reopening of the Estate of Shirley and three years of litigation costs and expenses and (iv) that he was under an SEC Consent order for Felony Insider Trading charges and other matters.

- 37. The SEC Consent Orders<sup>10</sup> for Spallina and Tescher are already of Public Record by the Washington, DC Office of the US SEC itself naming Robert Spallina and Donald Tescher, Ted Bernstein's business partners and former disgraced counsel to him as fiduciary in these matters, who he and Alan Rose allowed to "hold onto" Original records even after Spallina's admitting to fraud that benefited his client Ted directly and also having the firm's paralegal notary public Kimberly Moran admit to criminal charges in this matter of forging documents, fraudulently notarizing them, including Post Mortem for Simon Bernstein and committing multiple frauds on the Court and beneficiaries in these matters.
- 38. See, "FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 2015-213 Washington D.C., Sept. 28, 2015 The Securities and Exchange Commission today charged five Florida residents including two lawyers and an accountant with insider trading in advance of the acquisition of Pharmasset Inc. by Gilead Sciences Inc. In a complaint filed in federal court in Newark, New Jersey, the SEC alleged that attorneys Robert L. Spallina and Donald R. Tescher and accountant Steven G. Rosen illegally traded on confidential information obtained from a mutual client who served on the board of directors of Princeton, New Jersey-based Pharmasset."
- 39. Spallina, Tescher, Rosen, Palermo, and Markowitz collectively agreed to pay approximately \$489,000 to settle the charges. The settlements are subject to court approval.

http://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2015-213.html

and

September 28, 2015 SEC Government Complaint filed against TESCHER and SPALLINA @ <a href="http://www.sec.gov/litigation/complaints/2015/comp-pr2015-213.pdf">http://www.sec.gov/litigation/complaints/2015/comp-pr2015-213.pdf</a>

and

October 01, 2015 SEC Consent Orders Felony Insider Trading SPALLINA signed September 16, 2015 and TESCHER signed June 15, 2014

http://www.iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/2015%20Spallina%20and%20Tescher%20SEC%20Settlement%20Consent%20Orders%20Insider%20Trading.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> September 28, 2015 SEC Press Release Regarding SPALLINA and TESCHER INSIDER TRADING CHARGES, "SEC Charges Five With Insider Trading, Including Two Attorneys and an Accountant"

- 40. "Lawyers and accountants occupy special positions of trust and confidence and are required to protect the information entrusted to them by their clients," said Joseph G. Sansone, Co-Chief of the SEC's Market Abuse Unit. "It is illegal for them to steal their clients' confidential information to trade securities for their own profit or to tip others." See, http://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2015-213.html
- 41. Thus, those matters regarding Ted Bernstein's business partners and prior counsel to him as fiduciaries are already a matter of public record being made public by the federal government.
- 42. However in the December 15, 2015 Hearing Spallina testifying to the validity of documents he already admitted in the hearing to having fraudulently altered and disseminated via mail, states to Your Honor that he had **NOT** pled guilty to either felony or misdemeanor criminal conduct and yet the Consent Order signed by Spallina directly contradicts his testimony before this Court and this Court should take Judicial Notice and report such misconduct.
- 43. That SPALLINA perjured his testimony and further misled this court as he did plead guilty of criminal misconduct and the SEC Consent signed by SPALLINA states, ,
  - "2. Defendant [Robert Spallina] has agreed to plead guilty to criminal conduct relating to certain matters alleged in the complaint in this action and acknowledges that his conduct violated the federal securities laws. Specifically, Defendant has agreed to plead guilty to a one count information which charges him with committing securities fraud involving insider trading in the securities of Pharmasset, Inc. in a matter to be filed in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, (the "Criminal Action")."
- 44. Yet, in a December 15, 2015 hearing under sworn oath as a witness in a Validity Hearing before Judge PHILLIPS, SPALLINA stated the following from the hearing transcript Page 93 Lines 14-17<sup>11</sup>:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> December 15. 2015 PHILLIPS VALIDITY HEARING TRANSCRIPT

14·····THE COURT: You can answer the question, which

15· · · · is, did you plead to a felony?

16····· MR. BERNSTEIN: Sorry, sir.

17·····THE WITNESS: I have not.

- 45. Further, in the SEC Consent signed by SPALLINA reads,
  - "12. Defendant understands and agrees to comply with the term of 17 C.P.R. f 202,S(e). which provides in part that it is the Commission's policy "not to permit a defendant or respondent to consent to a judgment or order that imposes a sanction while denying the allegations in the complaint or order for proceedings." As part of Defendant's agreement to comply with the terms of Section 202.5(e), Defendant acknowledges that he has agreed to plead guilty for related conduct as described in paragraph 2 above, and: (i) will not take any action or make or permit to be made any public statement denying, directly or indirectly, any allegation in the complaint or creating the impression that the complaint is without factual basis; (ii) will not make or permit to be made any public statement to the effect that Defendant does not admit the allegations of the complaint, or that this Consent contains no admission of the allegations; (iii) upon the filing of this Consent, Defendant hereby withdraws any papers filed in this action to the extent that they deny any allegation in the complaint; aud (iv) stipulates for purposes of exceptions to discharge sot forth in Section 523 of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C.. §523. that the allegations in the complaint are true..."
- 46. No compelling circumstances are shown by Ted Bernstein and his attorney Alan Rose to gag any part of the Trial herein other than what my attorney Candice Schwager says in her Letter Email that the standard in federal court for Pleadings is to simply abbreviate the minor child's name instead of spelling it out such as "J.B.", "D.B", etc. Where none of the parents of the minor children have objected on their children's behalf either.
- 47. Nothing else more than that should happen here.
- 48. Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein's desperate attempt to hide and conceal the Truth of the Trial is just like what the District Court of Appeals found offensive in the case their papers cited, "In essence, one of the parties wished to conduct the proceedings in private to prevent the disclosure of certain information the party would otherwise prefer not be made public. The information is of a somewhat general nature and not specifically tied to a domestic relations

- case.8 The information is not related to the marital relationship nor its breakup, to the welfare of the children, nor to the marital property."
- 49. "This may be so, but we do not find this reason to be sufficiently compelling, rising to the level that would deny the party an opportunity to receive a fair trial, to justify closing these proceedings." District Court of Appeal of Florida, First District. 508 So.2d 462 (Fla. Dist. Ct. App. 1987) <a href="https://casetext.com/case/florida-freedom-newspapers-v-sirmons">https://casetext.com/case/florida-freedom-newspapers-v-sirmons</a>
- 50. Having acted to repeatedly Deny minor children Counsel by denial of proper Trust funds and thus deny minor children rights, these actions now by Ted Bernstein and Alan Rose are a sham and must be denied.
- 51. Ted Bernstein would have this Court disregard and deny the actual history of fraud and abusive, bullying, extortive, illegal and coercive tactics and conduct of he and his business partners and his former counsel against Minor children as if Ted Bernstein had the Court on his own Payroll. See, May 6, 2013 Emergency Motion<sup>12</sup> and See Motion on St. Andrew's School<sup>13</sup>.
- 52. I, Eliot Bernstein, further renews and reminds this Court that it lacks jurisdiction to hear the matter as this Court was mandatorily disqualified at least as of Dec. 4, 2015<sup>14</sup> and was further

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140824%20Amended%20Emergency%20Motion%20to%20Compel%20Eliot%20School%20Saint%20Andrews%20Payments.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> May 06, 2013 Bernstein Emergency Petition Florida Probate Simon and Shirley Estate Cases @ <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20130506%20FINAL%20SIGNED%20Petition%20Freeze%20Estates%20Orginal%20Large.pdf">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20130506%20FINAL%20SIGNED%20Petition%20Freeze%20Estates%20Orginal%20Large.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> August 24, 2014 Emergency Motion

<sup>14</sup> December 04, 2015 Disqualification of Judge Phillips
http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151204%20FINAL%20SIGNED%20NOTARIZED
%20Disqualification%20of%20Florida%20Circuit%20Court%20Judge%20John%20L%20Phillips%20ECF
%20STAMPED.pdf

moved to mandatory disqualify Dec.28, 2015<sup>15</sup> and thus no further action may be taken at this time beyond mandatory Disqualification.

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully prayed for an Order mandatorily Disqualifying Judge

John L. Phillips, striking or alternatively Continuing the motions of Ted Bernstein and Alan Rose

until after a properly scheduled, noticed and held Case Management Conference for a "complex"

case, proper Discovery, depositions and proper evidentiary hearings held first, sanctions against

Alan Rose and Ted Bernstein and such other and further relief as may be just and proper.

Dated: January 13, 2016

/s/Eliot Ivan Bernstein

Eliot Ivan Bernstein 2753 NW 34th St Boca Raton, FL 33434 561-245-8588 iviewit@iviewit.tv

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been furnished to parties listed on attached Service List by E-mail Electronic Transmission; Court ECF; this 13th day of January, 2016.

/s/Eliot Ivan Bernstein

Eliot Ivan Bernstein 2753 NW 34th St Boca Raton, FL 33434 561-245-8588 iviewit@iviewit.tv

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151228%20FINAL%20SIGNED%20NOTARIZED%20Second%20Disqualification%20of%20Judge%20Phillips%20after%20Validity%20Hearing%20on%20December%2015,%202015%20ECF%20STAMPED%20COPY.pdf and

Corrections

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151204%20FINAL%20CORRECTIONS%20to%20 Disqualification%20of%20Florida%20Circuit%20Court%20Judge%20John%20L%20Phillips%20ECF%20 STAMPED.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Dec 28, 2015 Disqualification of Judge Phillips

# **SERVICE LIST**

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	Pamela Simon	Counter Defendant

	Dracidant	Mark D. Manager: Face and
	President STP Enterprises, Inc. 303 East Wacker Drive Suite 210 Chicago IL 60601-5210 psimon@stpcorp.com	Mark R. Manceri, Esq., and Mark R. Manceri, P.A., 2929 East Commercial Boulevard Suite 702 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308 mrmlaw@comcast.net mrmlaw1@gmail.com
Counter Defendant L. Louis Mrachek, Esq. PAGE, MRACHEK, FITZGERALD, ROSE, KONOPKA, THOMAS & WEISS, P.A. 505 South Flagler Drive, Suite 600 West Palm Beach, Florida 33401 Imrachek@mrachek-law.com	Counter Defendant Charles D. Rubin Managing Partner Gutter Chaves Josepher Rubin Forman Fleisher Miller PA Boca Corporate Center 2101 NW Corporate Blvd., Suite 107 Boca Raton, FL 33431-7343 crubin@floridatax.com	Counter Defendant Kimberly Moran Tescher & Spallina, P.A. Wells Fargo Plaza 925 South Federal Hwy Suite 500 Boca Raton, Florida 33432 kmoran@tescherspallina.com
Counter Defendant Lindsay Baxley aka Lindsay Giles Life Insurance Concepts 950 Peninsula Corporate Circle Suite 3010 Boca Raton, FL 33487 lindsay@lifeinsuranceconcepts.c om	Counter Defendant Estate of Simon Bernstein Personal Representative Brian M. O'Connell, Partner Ciklin Lubitz Martens & O'Connell 515 N Flagler Drive 20th Floor West Palm Beach, FL 33401 boconnell@ciklinlubitz.com jfoglietta@ciklinlubitz.com	Jill Iantoni 2101 Magnolia Lane Highland Park, IL 60035 jilliantoni@gmail.com
Lisa Friedstein 2142 Churchill Lane Highland Park, IL 60035 Lisa@friedsteins.com lisa.friedstein@gmail.com lisa@friedsteins.com	Pamela Beth Simon 950 N. Michigan Avenue Apartment 2603 Chicago, IL 60611 psimon@stpcorp.com	

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

TED BERNSTEIN, as Trustee of the Shirley Bernstein Trust Agreement dated May 20, 2008, as amended,

Probate Division

Case No.: 502014CP003698XXXXNBIJ

Plaintiff,

٧.

Objections to Proposed Order of Alan Rose / Ted Bernstein

ALEXANDRA BERNSTEIN; ERIC BERNSTEIN; MICHAEL BERNSTEIN; MOLLY SIMON; PAMELA B. SIMON, Individually and as Trustee f/b/o Molly Simon under the Simon L. Bernstein Trust Dtd 9/13/12; ELIOT BERNSTEIN, individually, as Trustee f/b/o D.B., Ja. B. and Jo. B. under the Simon L. Bernstein Trust Dtd 9/13/12, and on behalf of his minor children D.B., Ja. B. and Jo. B.; JILL IANTONI, Individually, as Trustee f/b/o J.I. under the Simon L. Bernstein Trust Dtd 9/13/12, and on behalf of her Minor child J.I.; MAX FRIEDSTEIN; LISA FRIEDSTEIN, Individually, as Trustee f/b/o Max Friedstein and C.F., under the Simon L. Bernstein Trust Dtd 9/13/12, and on behalf of her minor child, C.F.,

Defendants.

OBJECTIONS TO PROPOSED ORDER OF ALAN B. ROSE AND TED BERNSTEIN "ORDER DETERMINING ELIOT BERNSTEIN LACKS STANDING INDIVIDUALLY AND STRIKING ELIOT'S FILINGS, AND DEFERRING RULING ON THE APPOINTMENT OF A GUARDIAN AD LITEM AND OTHER RELIEF SOUGHT" AND PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE ORDER FOR HEARING HELD JANUARY 14, 2016

- 1. That Florida licensed attorney Alan Rose on behalf of Ted Bernstein mislead this Court on Sept. 15, 2015<sup>1</sup> including whether all four cases had been properly Noticed<sup>2</sup> and where due to this misinformation at the case management conference a Trial was improperly set in Shirley Bernstein's Trust case in violation of Florida Civil Rules of Procedure 1.200<sup>3</sup> and in violation of due process while the PRs of the Simon Bernstein Estate Brian O'Connell and Joy Foglietta stood silent despite their office having sent the Notice for the Case Management Conference in the first instance,
  - 4 MR. ROSE: I'm not planning on doing the
  - 5 whole hearing, but briefly there are,
  - 6 technically, four other cases that all were
  - 7 assigned. I think we've noticed a status
  - 8 conference in all four cases.

That Florida licensed attorney Alan Rose requested January 14, 2016 at 12:17pm<sup>4</sup> that Eliot Bernstein submit comments to a proposed Order from a January 14, 2016 hearing by 3pm that same day or else he would file with the Court as an unopposed Order and Eliot replied and 3:30pm<sup>5</sup> on January that he would try to get his changes to him timely on January 15th, 2016 to submit to the Court together with his proposed Order (Eliot did not know at the time that Rose was supposed to give him five days under the rules);

2. Mr. Rose in violation of ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 5.204-5/09<sup>6</sup> then ignored said received email indicating that Eliot would send comments and a proposed order to him the next day and instead sent a letter to Judge Phillips with his proposed Order only to the Court on January 14,

 $\frac{\text{http://iviewit.tv/Simon\%20and\%20Shirley\%20Estate/20150915\%20Judge\%20Phillips\%20Hearing\%20-w20Estate\%20of\%20\%20Simon\%20Bernstein.pdf}{}$ 

http://phonl.com/fl law/rules/frcp/frcp1200.htm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Sept 15, 2015 Hearing Transcript

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> August 03, 2015 Notice of Hearing Status Conference for Simon Bernstein Estate Case Only <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150803%20Notice%20of%20Hearing%20for%20Sept%2015%202015%20930am%20Case%20Management.pdf">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150803%20Notice%20of%20Hearing%20for%20Sept%2015%202015%20930am%20Case%20Management.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Florida Rules of Civil Procedure 1.200

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> January 14, 2016 Email Rose

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20160114%20at%2012.12pm%20Alan%20Rose%20Proposed%20Order%20Email.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> January 14, 2016 Eliot Email to Rose with Dr. Report

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20160114%20at%203.30pm%20Eliot%20response%20to%20Rose%20re%20Order.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>http://15thcircuit.co.palm-beach.fl.us/documents/10179/15133/5.204.pdf

2016 at 4:15pm<sup>7</sup> without waiting for Eliot's comments and proposed order and this too in violation of Administrative Order 5.204-5/09<sup>8</sup> and further asked for an immediate ruling that day from Judge Phillips, knowing there are five days for my response and proposed order to be sent to him before seeking relief with the court as if unopposed with no counter order. This further evidences Mr. Rose's continued Sharp Practices and violation and contempt of the court decorum, efforts to obstruct due process and tortiously interfere with the fair administration of justice;

- 3. Florida licensed attorney Alan Rose on behalf of Ted Bernstein having further misled this Court about the status of the case and the time necessary for a proper validity Trial at the September 15, 2015 case management conference and left no time for a proper trial for the 10 witnesses called by the Trustee or for Eliot to properly cross examine witnesses available that day leaving Eliot and this Court with insufficient time for a proper trial / hearing which was improperly held without proper pre-trial procedures to determine outstanding discovery and requests for production and proper witnesses.
- 4. That the January 14, 2016 hearing for standing was also improperly scheduled at a UMC hearing by Alan Rose, despite needing an evidentiary hearing as requested by Eliot at the hearing to give testimony and have any witnesses present but which Eliot was denied opportunity for such by this Court;
- 5. Where Judge Phillips asked Eliot at the January 14, 2016 hearing what statute gave him standing as a named Beneficiary in the Shirley Trust document that Phillips has Ordered to be valid and when Eliot, a Pro Se litigant, did not know off the top of his head the Florida Statute giving

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> January 14, 2016 4:15 pm Alan Rose Letter to Judge Phillips

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20160114%204.06pm%20ExParte%20Letter%20to

%20Judge%20Phillips%20Alan%20Rose%20Proposed%20Order.pdf

8 http://15thcircuit.co.palm-beach.fl.us/documents/10179/15133/5.204.pdf

named beneficiaries standing in a Trust case where they are named, Judge Phillips, who is supposed to know the statutes himself improperly ruled against Eliot's standing for this sole reason of his lack of knowing the statute at the hearing and based solely on the claims of Alan Rose and not on the merits after proper hearing with testimony from both sides or giving Eliot a chance to find the correct statute to preserve his standing. Judge Phillips, then quite rudely told Eliot if he did not like it to get a lawyer despite the fact that a prior motion for a Continuance of the validity trial itself was filed timely before Trial so that Texas attorney Candice Schwager could get admitted pro hac vice yet attorney Alan Rose denied Candice Schwager any such courtesy even though it was to benefit the minor children and Alan Rose has further denied Candice Schwager access to document production to further her review of the case while this Court improperly stated the motion for continuance was untimely when the statute permits it to be made even at the time of trial and where it was filed in writing before the trial.

- 6. That Florida Statutes 733.707, 736.0103, 731.201 (2)(4)(9)(11)(20) and (23) give Eliot standing as a Beneficiary, Heir and Interested Person and Trustee of the Eliot Bernstein Family Trust in this case and the Simon Estate, the Simon Trust and the Shirley Estate.
- 7. That for instance in the Shirley Trust case addressed herein, Eliot and his two sisters are the beneficiaries of Shirley's Trust at the time it become irrevocable with a defined class of beneficiaries in stone upon her death, as stated in the trust;

ARTICLE II. AFTER MY DEATH - E. Disposition of Trusts Upon Death of Survivor of My Spouse and Me.

2. Disposition of Balance. Any parts of the Marital Trust and the Family Trust my spouse does not or cannot effectively appoint (including any additions upon my spouse's death), or all of the Family Trust if my spouse did not survive me, shall be divided among and <a href="held in separate Trusts for my lineal descendants then living">held in separate Trusts for my lineal descendants then living</a>, per stirpes <a href="lemphasis added">lemphasis added</a>]. Any assets allocated under this Subparagraph 11.D. to my children (as that term is defined under this Trust [emphasis added]), shall be distributed to the then serving Trustees of each of their respective Family Trusts, established by my spouse

as grantor on even date herewith (the "Family Trusts" which term includes any successor trust thereto), to be held and administered as provided under said Trusts. The provisions of the Family Trusts are incorporated herein by reference, and if any of the Family Trusts are not then in existence and it is necessary to accomplish the foregoing dispositions, the current Trustee of this Trust is directed to take such action to establish or reconstitute such applicable trust(s), or if the Trustee is unable to do so, said assets shall be held in separate trusts for such lineal descendants and administered as provided in Subparagraph 11.E. below. Each of my lineal descendants for whom a separate Trust is held hereunder shall hereinafter be referred to as a "beneficiary," with their separate trusts to be administered as provided in Subparagraph 11.E. below.

and

- F. Trusts for Beneficiaries. The Trustee shall pay to a beneficiary the net income of such beneficiary's trust. The Trustee shall pay to the beneficiary and the beneficiary's children, such amounts of the principal of such beneficiary's trust as is proper for the Welfare of such individuals. After a beneficiary has reached any one or more of the following birthdays, the beneficiary may withdraw the principal of his or her separate trust at any time or times, not to exceed in the aggregate 1/3 in value after the beneficiary's 25th birthday, 1/2 in value (after deducting any amount previously subject to withdrawal but not actually withdrawn) after the beneficiary's 30th birthday, and the balance after the beneficiary's 35th birthday, provided that the withdrawal powers described in this sentence shall not apply to any child of mine as beneficiary of a separate trust. The value of each trust shall be its value as of the first exercise of each withdrawal right, plus the value of any subsequent addition as of the date of addition. The right of withdrawal shall be a privilege which may be exercised only voluntarily and shall not include an involuntary exercise. If a beneficiary dies with assets remaining in his or her separate trust, upon the beneficiary's death the beneficiary may appoint his or her trust to or for the benefit of one or more of my lineal descendants and their spouses (excluding from said class, however, such beneficiary and such beneficiary's creditors, estate, and creditors of such beneficiary's estate). Any part of his or her trust such beneficiary does not effectively appoint shall upon his or her death be divided among and held in separate Trusts for the following persons:
- 1. for his or her lineal descendants then living, per stirpes; or
- 2. if he or she leaves no lineal descendant then living, per stirpes for the lineal descendants then living of his or her nearest ancestor (among me and my lineal descendants) with a lineal descendant then living who is also a lineal descendant of my spouse.

A trust for a lineal descendant of mine shall be held under this paragraph, or if a trust is then so held, shall be added to such trust.

#### ARTICLE III. GENERAL - E1 - Definitions. In this Agreement,

1. Children, Lineal Descendants. The terms "child," "children" and "lineal descendant" mean only persons whose relationship to the ancestor designated is created entirely by or through (a) legitimate births occurring during the marriage of the joint biological parents to each other, (b) children and their lineal descendants arising from surrogate births and/or third party donors when (i) the child is raised from or near the time of birth by a married couple (other than a same sex married couple) through the

pendency of such marriage, (ii) one of such couple is the designated ancestor, and (iii) to the best knowledge of the Trustee both members of such couple participated in the decision to have such child, and (c) lawful adoptions of minors under the age of twelve years. No such child or lineal descendant loses his or her status as such through adoption by another person. Notwithstanding the foregoing, as I have adequately provided for them during my lifetime, for purposes of the dispositions made under this Trust, my children, TED S. BERNSTEIN ("TED") and PAMELA B. SIMON ("PAM"), and their respective lineal descendants shall be deemed to have predeceased the survivor of my spouse and me [Emphasis Added],

That the trust language is clear that Ted and Pamela and their lineal descendants, at the time of Shirley's death were not beneficiaries and Eliot and his two sisters Lisa and Jill are. Further, the Court should note that Ted is considered predeceased for ALL PURPOSES OF DISPOSITIONS of the Shirley Trust, which would disqualify him as a Trustee to make dispositions, including holding hearings for construction and validity or making any disbursements and thus further reason to strike the Validity Hearing on December 15, 2015 as a Sham Hearing conducted by a deceased person under the trust.

8. Similarly, at Judge Phillips' validity hearing Order on December 16, 2016, Eliot was never shown a copy of beforehand or had chance to submit comments and a counter order to Rose was also issued in violation of ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 5.204-5/09\*9, the order issued contains rulings on issues that were not Noticed to be Heard, not Scheduled for the Trial and in fact not heard at the hearing at all, no testimony or anything from either party on the ruled on items as evidenced in the transcript and thus the December 16, 2015 Order should further be stricken as an improper Void Order and for other far more serious reasons further defined herein. That the Rose Proposed Order for the January 14, 2016 hearing feeds off the December 16, 2016 Order and for this reason the December 16, 2016 Order and the Proposed Order should be stricken.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Administrative Order Regarding Preparation of Order - ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER 5.204-5/09\*

- 9. That Eliot further stated to the Court that the hearing was improperly scheduled by Rose when he knew Eliot had filed in December a Notice of Unavailability for the month of January and further learned that he was under medical care and prescription medications<sup>10</sup> making him medically unfit during the time of the January 14, 2016 hearing and again, using sharp practice unbecoming of an Attorney at Law, Rose scheduled the hearing and would not withdraw it despite knowing Eliot was not well and was still seeking to have counsel admitted to protect the children.
- 10. Eliot stated on the record that he was medically unfit and on heavy medications for any hearing that day and yet Judge Phillips ignored the request to postpone and schedule a proper evidentiary hearing to determine standing and rushed to rule without even having proper testimony on any of the items in Rose's Proposed Order.
- 11. That having declared in a September 15, 2015 hearing "love<sup>11</sup>" for Judge Colin and pre-judging that he would not question Colin's actions that have been called into question and alleged as Fraud by the Court and that he would not find that Colin did something wrong, wholly prejudiced Eliot's position and denies him fundamental due process rights.
- 12. Having further reviewed the Record of the Cases having determined that an outstanding Order by Judge Colin for Production<sup>12</sup> against prior fiduciaries Tescher & Spallina was never performed or complied with fundamentally prejudicing a proper validity Trial. In fact it was learned at the December 15, 2015 trial that NONE of the Original Dispositive Documents were available for inspection at the hearing and that Trustee Ted Bernstein claimed under oath he had

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Dr. Ronik Seecharan Letter <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20160114%20Seecharan%20Letter%20Regarding%20procedure.pdf">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20160114%20Seecharan%20Letter%20Regarding%20procedure.pdf</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> September 15, 2015 Hearing Transcript Page 27 Lines 14-25 and Page 28 Lines 1-6 http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150915%20Judge%20Phillips%20Hearing%20-%20Estate%20of%20%20Simon%20Bernstein.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup>February 18, 2014 Order to Turn Over **ALL** records of Tescher and Spallina to Curator <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140218%20ORDER%20ON%20PETITION%20FOR%20DISCHARGE%20TESCHER%20SPALLINA%20Case%20502012CP004391XXXXSB%20SIMON.pdf">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20140218%20ORDER%20ON%20PETITION%20FOR%20DISCHARGE%20TESCHER%20SPALLINA%20Case%20502012CP004391XXXXSB%20SIMON.pdf</a>

never seen the original trust he operates under nor took any steps to validate the documents in light of the fact that his prior counsel SPALLINA had admittedly fraudulently created a Shirley Trust document at the December 15, 2015 hearing he testified at as to the validity of the documents he admitted fraud in creating and then sent the fraudulent trust via mail to Attorney at Law Christine Yates representing Eliot's minor children and finally it was learned at the hearing that Tescher and Spallina had violated the Colin Court Order to turn over their records in entirety and still possessed Original dispositive documents;

- 13. That the totality of the related cases should have determined this case to be a "complex" case and the case management conference should have been conducted properly as such, again such deprivation of rights severely prejudiced the outcome;
- 14. That proper pre-trial procedures thus were not followed and must be corrected in furtherance of justice;
- 15. That missing necessary witnesses and missing discovery were existent at the time of the validity trial including but not limited to witnesses Notary Publics who signed documents, Kimberly Moran and Lindsay Baxley (where Governor Rick Scott's Notary Public Division has already prosecuted in conjunction with the Palm Beach County Sheriff Moran for fraudulent notarization in these matters and Lindsay Baxley aka Lindsay Giles was also found to have improperly notarized a Will and Amended Trust of Simon) and Witnesses to the Execution of the alleged documents, Traci Kratish, Esq., Diana Banks, Rachel Walker and a John Doe signor, as well as, other witnesses William Stansbury and Donald Tescher, Esq. thus necessitating a new Trial after proper pre-trial proceedings are completed and a Case-Management Conference for a "complex" case is held before a non-conflicted and non-adverse judge;

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- 16. That the circumstances of Judge Colin's handling of the case and specifically, including but not limited to, hearings held on Sept. 13, 2013<sup>13</sup> whereupon alleged Trustee Ted Bernstein appeared on the record claiming his fiduciary status as fiduciary for the Estate at a time he had not yet been appointed, a year after Simon's death at the time of the hearing, yet remaining silent as to various Frauds upon the Court admitted by his counsel, including an April 9, 2012 Petition for Discharge<sup>14</sup> claiming all beneficiaries had properly waived their interests and rights and Simon was in possession of them on that date. Ted Bernstein having known this to be false, as he did not complete his own Waiver until August 01, 2012 and therefore knew this statement that Simon had the completed Waivers in April 2012 to be false and further fraudulent actions involving the fiduciaries Tescher and Spallina who were acting as Simon's counsel at the time of the alleged signing and Ted's counsel when it was finally delivered to the Court as if Simon were delivering it alive Post Mortem months after his death while still acting as PR.
- 17. For clarification of this complex Post Mortem scheme, it should be noted that when Simon died,

  Ted was NOT appointed Successor PR by the Court while he maintained to the family on the day

  Simon died that he was acting as PR and acted as such and yet Ted was not appointed by Colin

  and issued Letters until October 13, 2013 after the hearing September 13, 2013 hearing that

  Colin threatened to read him Miranda's, leading to a series of bad rulings of Colin's that were

  designed to protect rather than have prosecuted those officers of his court involved in these

  frauds on the Court and the Beneficiaries. Yet, Ted's counsel Tescher and Spallina never filed

  for Letters for Ted when Simon died and instead they (Ted and his counsel Tescher and Spallina)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> September 13, 2013 Colin Hearing - Mirand Warnings and more <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20130913%20TRANSCRIPT%20Emergency%20He">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20130913%20TRANSCRIPT%20Emergency%20He</a> aring%20Colin%20Spallina%20Tescher%20Ted%20Manceri.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> April 09, 2012 Alleged Simon Full Discharge Waiver Deposited by him with the Court after he passed away.

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20120409%20Petition%20for%20Discharge%20Full%20Waiver%20Shirley%20SIGNED%2020120409%20NOT%20FILED%20UNTIL%2020121024.pdf

all choose to use Simon as PR for months after he died to file fraudulently filed documents and in some instance forged and fraudulently notarized for Simon Post Mortem, all these criminal acts committed as part of a complex legal scam to create the appearance that Simon closed his wife's estate properly before he died and made changes to Beneficiaries and Fiduciaries and documents prior to his own death.

- 18. Ted introduced his friends Tescher and Spallina to his father to do estate planning so as that Ted could get business in return from them.
- 19. Spallina and Tescher, Ted's close business associates that he retained as his counsel to represent him as Personal Representative and Trustee and Ted Bernstein further sat idly by as he learned that his mother's estate was closed by his deceased father acting as PR at a time after his death and while Ted was claiming he was the PR (prior to Letters issued in October 2013) through a series of fraudulent acts of his counsel Spallina and Tescher and the totality of the circumstances indicating Judge Colin is a necessary and material fact witness as Eliot Bernstein attempted to inform this Court on July 30, 2015 and Sept. 15, 2015 and at Trial Dec. 15th, 2015 and further by opposition herein;
- 20. That Judge Colin having issued prior Orders denying Ted Bernstein's motions to deny Eliot's Standings and that Eliot Bernstein has standing in all cases before this Court until proper hearings and trial determine otherwise;
- 21. Eliot Bernstein was sued individually in this action and Eliot has filed a counter complaint that also gives him individual standing. Eliot is also the alleged Trustee of his children's trusts, trusts that to this day he still has not been given a copy of. Eliot is also a beneficiary of the Simon Estate, the Shirley Bernstein Trust and the Shirley Bernstein Estate. Eliot also is alleged to be a beneficiary of Simon's Trust, as Simon's 2012 Amended Trust, allegedly done days before his

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- death, was improperly constructed, leaving Eliot still a beneficiary. Eliot is an interested party individually in all cases.
- 22. That a continuance should have been granted for Eliot Bernstein for all hearings to determine if his minor children's counsel Candice Schwager could be admitted pro hac vice or otherwise be afforded additional time to retain counsel of his choosing as the minor children have not been represented at any hearings, despite Rose's own contention that the children need independent counsel and where the Court should demand deposit of adequate funds from the Trusts or from the parties responsible for the need for counsel, Tescher and Spallina, into a proper account for no less than \$100,000.00 for immediate retention of counsel for the minors, thereby negating any need for guardians (who would then need to get counsel and so a guardian would only add additional expenses);
- 23. Hampering this effort to retain counsel for the minor children is Rose and his client Ted, as alleged Successor Trustee, refusal to turn over records to counsel Schwager<sup>15</sup> acting on behalf of Eliot and his minor children whom she is retained to represent but cannot enter the cases until she is approved Pro Hac Vice, a determination she will be making after getting the necessary case files from the fiduciaries. Currently, efforts underway to provide Eliot and his children with local counsel for Schwager have proved unsuccessful and perhaps that is because Eliot has exposed Fraud on the Court and alleges Fraud by the Court and several South Florida lawyers and judges involved, leading to a blackballing effect whereby many contacted will not even return calls after learning of who is involved in the case and many are already aware and instantly refuse.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Rose Letter Refusing to turn over documents to Attorney at Law Candice Schwager <a href="http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20160106%20Rose%20Denying%20to%20talk%20or%20give%20information%20to%20Attorney%20Schwager.pdf">http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20160106%20Rose%20Denying%20to%20talk%20or%20give%20information%20to%20Attorney%20Schwager.pdf</a>

- 24. The refusal to turn over documents by fiduciaries including Ted Bernstein have plagued this case from the start and continue to this day and in fact are what forced Eliot to seek counsel and Court relief to get documents statutorily owed to him in the first place as he and his children were denied dispositive documents for months after the death of his father and years after the death of his mother by Ted, Spallina, Tescher and others. Production requests are still outstanding and unheard by the Court, including records of the Court in toto due to the Fraud on the Court, which requires now discovery.
- 25. That no construction hearings have been held on the Wills, Trusts and instruments herein and / or not fully and fairly heard to determine beneficiaries, standing, valid trustees (where the PR of Simon's Estate Brian O'Connell has asserted an affirmative defense to the complaint in the Shirley Trust Construction case that Ted is NOT A VALID trustee serving in the Simon Trust under the terms of the trust<sup>16</sup> and if true would call for a rehearing of the validity hearing entirely with a new legally proper Trustee who is valid, not conflicted and not adverse to Beneficiaries as Ted is;
- 26. That hearings should be held on the removal of Ted Bernstein instantly by this Court from all fiduciary capacities PRIOR TO ANY ACTIONS involving Ted proceeding further and as the referenced September 13, 2013 hearing transcript footnoted herein already shows, Judge Colin had at that time of the first hearing in September 13, 2013 enough evidence involving TWO criminal acts learned and admitted to in the hearing involving Fraud on the Court and Fraud on the Beneficiaries, to state that he had enough evidence at that moment to read Ted and his counsel Spallina, Tescher (who did not appear but was represented) and Manceri their Miranda

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20150217%20Answer%20%20Affirmative%20Defenses%20O'Connell%20States%20Ted%20is%20NOT%20VALID%20TRUSTEE.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Brian O'Connell pleading Ted is NOT A VALID Trustee Under Slmon L Bernstein Amended and Restated Trust, Page 7

Warnings, twice, yet no action has since been taken by Colin or the Phillips Court to remedy such actions that leave Ted and his counsel with "unclean hands" and involvement in criminal activities;

- 27. That the present motions of Ted Bernstein and Alan Rose should be stayed indefinitely;
- 28. That this Court having given reason to Eliot Bernstein that he would not receive a fair trial and having not received fair trials based upon the findings herein should now for this reason and others stated in two disqualification petitions filed against Judge Phillips, voluntarily mandatorily Disqualify from these proceedings.
- 29. Further, Judge Phillips is also now a necessary material and fact witness to the improper Post Recusal steering of the cases by Judge Colin to his Court, first to Judge Coates, a former Proskauer Rose Partner and where Proskauer is Counter Defendant in this action and also Coates formerly was retained by Eliot's Iviewit technology companies at the heart of the estate and trust matters, yet Coates took the cases and files and concealed in Court in this case his prior involvement with Eliot and Simon Bernstein's companies when he was a Proskauer Partner and held a hearing where he then Sua Sponte recused himself (after getting all the court's confidential and non published records sent to him) and then passed the cases to Judge Phillips, the alleged intended target all along of Colin's improper Post Recusal steering as cited in the disqualification motions filed<sup>17 and 18</sup> and thus Phillips should also instantly disqualify and void

and

Corrections

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151204%20FINAL%20CORRECTIONS%20to%20Disqualification%20of%20Florida%20Circuit%20Court%20Judge%20John%20L%20Phillips%20ECF%20STAMPED.pdf

December 04, 2015 First Disqualification of Phillips
http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151204%20FINAL%20SIGNED%20NOTARIZED
%20Disqualification%20of%20Florida%20Circuit%20Court%20Judge%20John%20L%20Phillips%20ECF
%20STAMPED.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> December 28, 2015 Second Disqualification of Phillips http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151228%20FINAL%20SIGNED%20NOTARIZED

his orders as required by Judicial Canons as he will soon be subpoenaed for deposition and as a witness to relevant matters about the case steering, for his acts outside the color of law in taking this case while knowing of his witness status, if not made a defendant in any further proceedings, state and federal, for continued Fraud by the Court and aiding and abetting and more.

- 30. That Judge Phillips knowing he is a material and fact witness and now potential defendant of charges of Fraud By the Court in these cases has an adverse interest to Eliot, his wife and their minor children that reflect in his intent to deprive Eliot and his three minor children and lovely wife of their fundamental due process rights.
- 31. Phillips has threatened Eliot and his wife Candice repeatedly with contempt for nothing other than to create false record, while at the December 15, 2015 hearing an attorney at law, Spallina and an officer the court commits and admits Fraud on the Court, Fraud on the Beneficiaries, Mail Fraud and more, yet at the same hearing Phillips is too busy threatening Candice and then removing her from participating and forcing her from the bench with Eliot as the records of the hearings reflect and simultaneously doing nothing when Spallina admits criminal misconduct in the proceedings directly involving the cases before him. This adverse interest and conflict with Eliot is because Eliot has accused Phillips, Judge Colin and Judge Coates of being part of the improper Post Recusal steering by Colin and transfer of the cases by Colin (who recused 1 day after denying a disqualification motion that alleged FRAUD BY THE COURT OF COLIN).

  Judge Phillips rude and threatening behaviors reflected in the transcripts of the hearings appear entirely in retaliation and to suppress Eliot's rights to fair hearings and Eliot fears that he and his children have not and cannot receive due process in the Phillips court.

%20Second%20Disqualification%20of%20Judge%20Phillips%20after%20Validity%20Hearing%20on%20December%2015,%202015%20ECF%20STAMPED%20COPY.pdf

- 32. The Proposed Order of Rose now attempts to remove Eliot's standing and his prior pleadings filed on behalf of himself and as Guardian of his minor children and remove his standing in the matters through this improper proposed Order without due process and in violation of Administrative Orders. The Order Rose has prepared for Phillips to sign does not accurately reflect the truth of the proceedings and is designed to remove Eliot's rights to his inheritancy through further denial of due process and procedure, even moving the court to attempt Gag Orders on Eliot and to suppress distribution of the December 15, 2016 hearing that exposes new frauds on the court and more.
- 33. That the Court should take JUDICIAL NOTICE and REPORT THE FOLLOWING CRIMINAL MISCONDUCT AND NEW FRAUD ON THE COURT INFORMATION ADMITTED TO BEFORE JUDGE PHILLIPS UNDER OATH BY SPALLINA, the sole witness to the validity hearing before Judge Phillips, who in the hearing violated his signed SEC consent Order for criminal conduct involving insider trading and admitted to new crimes under oath, including Fraud on the Court, Fraud on Beneficiaries, Mail Fraud and more in the December 15, 2016 hearing. Spallina Perjured his testimony about not having pled to felony or misdemeanor charges as the SEC Order shows he plead to criminal conduct thus mandating it be either felony or misdemeanor criminal conduct.
- 34. The following information is cause for impeachment of Spallina's testimony made with "unclean hands" and voiding of the validity hearings ruling due to the criminal conduct learned and committed in the Court on December 15, 2015 by Spallina, a court appointed officer of the court and a court appointed fiduciary in these matters. Therefore, immediate actions should be taken by the Court to notify proper authorities, including but not limited to, the SEC of the violation of his Consent Order that Spallina signed as evidenced in the referenced herein Consent Order, the

Page 15 of 33

FBI regarding the newly admitted Mail Fraud, the Sheriff department regarding the newly admitted Fraud on the Court, Fraud on Beneficiaries and their counsel and the misuse of a deceased person's identity to close another deceased person's estate (now fully admitted), the Inspector General of the Courts due to the Fraud on the Court and alleged Fraud by the Court, the Chief Judge and where the Court is the scene of fresh new crimes of continued Fraud on the Court in these matters, this Court should disqualify itself entirely from the matters as it appears that one cannot investigate oneself or one's court and judicial friends and loves without a MASSIVE APPEARANCE OF IMPROPRIETY;

- a. On or about September 28, 2015, the SEC out of Washington, DC publicly announced Insider Trading and related charges in a separate action against Florida attorneys and Third-Party Defendants herein SPALLINA and TESCHER. That SPALLINA pled guilty of criminal misconduct and the SEC Consent signed by SPALLINA states,
  - "2. Defendant has agreed to plead guilty to criminal conduct relating to certain matters alleged in the complaint in this action and acknowledges that his conduct violated the federal securities laws. Specifically, Defendant has agreed to plead guilty to a one count information which charges him with committing securities fraud involving insider trading in the securities of Pharmasset, Inc. in a matter to be filed in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey, (the "Criminal Action")." 19
- b. December 15, 2015 hearing under sworn oath as a witness in a Validity Hearing before Judge PHILLIPS, SPALLINA stated the following from the hearing transcript Page 93 Lines 14-22<sup>20</sup>;

Page **16** of **33** 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> September 28, 2015 SEC Government Complaint filed against TESCHER and SPALLINA @ http://www.sec.gov/litigation/complaints/2015/comp-pr2015-213.pdf

December 15, 2015 PHILLIPS VALIDITY HEARING TRANSCRIPT

http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/20151215%20Hearing%20Transcript%20Phillips%20Validity%20Hearing.pdf

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14······THE COURT: You can answer the question, which 15···· is, did you plead to a felony?
16·····MR. BERNSTEIN: Sorry, sir.
17·····THE WITNESS: I have not.
18·····THE COURT: Okay. Next question.
19··BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
20····Q.··Have you pled guilty to a misdemeanor?
21····A.··I have not. [emphasis added]
22····Q.··Were you involved in a insider trading case?
23·····MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
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c. Further, in the SEC Consent signed by SPALLINA reads,

24· · · · · · · THE COURT: Sustained. · Next question.

- "12. Defendant understands and agrees to comply with the term of 17 C.P.R. f 202,S(e). which provides in part that it is the Commission's policy "not to permit a defendant or respondent to consent to a judgment or order that imposes a sanction while denying the allegations in the complaint or order for proceedings." As part of Defendant's agreement to comply with the terms of Section 202.5(e), Defendant acknowledges that he has agreed to plead guilty for related conduct as described in paragraph 2 above, and: (i) will not take any action or make or permit to be made any public statement denying, directly or indirectly, any allegation in the complaint or creating the impression that the complaint is without factual basis; (ii) will not make or permit to be made any public statement to the effect that Defendant does not admit the allegations of the complaint, or that this Consent contains no admission of the allegations; (iii) upon the filing of this Consent, Defendant hereby withdraws any papers filed in this action to the extent that they deny any allegation in the complaint; aud (iv) stipulates for purposes of exceptions to discharge sot forth in Section 523 of the Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C.. §523. that the allegations in the complaint are true..."
- d. SPALLINA further states under sworn testimony at the Validity Hearing regarding the trust documents he created being valid admits to fraudulently altering a Shirley Trust Document and sending to Attorney at Law Christine Yates, Esq. representing the minor children of Eliot via the mail, Page 95 Lines 14-25 and Page 96 Line 1-19,

14···· Q.··Mr. Spallina, have you been in discussion with 15··the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office regarding the

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16. Bernstein matters?
17···· MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
18····· THE COURT: Overruled.
19· · · · · · You can answer that.
20· · · · · · · THE WITNESS: Yes, I have.
21 ⋅ ·BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
22···· Q.·· And did you state to them that you
23. fraudulently altered a Shirley trust document and then
24 · · sent it through the mail to Christine Yates?
25 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot Yes, I did.
·1· · · · Q.· · Have you been charged with that by the Palm
·2· ·Beach County Sheriff yet?
\cdot 3 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot \cdot  No, I have not.
·4· · · · Q. · · Okay. · How many times were you interviewed by
·5· ·the Palm Beach County Sheriff?
·6· · · · · · · MR. ROSE: · Objection. · Relevance.
·7·····THE COURT: Sustained.
8 · · BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
·9· · · · Q. · · Did you mail a fraudulently signed document to
10· Christine Yates, the attorney for Eliot Bernstein's
11 · · minor children?
12···· Relevance.
13····· THE COURT: Overruled.
14·····THE WITNESS: Yes.
15 · · BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
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16· · · · Q.· · And when did you acknowledge that to the 17· · courts or anybody else? · When's the first time you came 18· · about and acknowledged that you had committed a fraud? 19· · · · A.· · I don't know that I did do that [emphasis added].

- e. SPALLINA then perjures himself in self contradiction when he tries to claim that his law firm did not mail Fraudulent documents to the court and commits here further FRAUD ON THE COURT when he then slips up and admits that his legal assistant and notary public Kimberly Moran, already prosecuted in these matters for fraudulent notarization and who has admitted forgery of six persons in these matters then sent the fraudulent documents back to the court when he states;
  - 10. ·BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
    11. · · · Q.· ·And what was she convicted for?
    12. · · · A.· ·She had notarized the waiver releases of
    13. ·accounting that you and your siblings had previously
    14. ·provided, and we filed those with the court.

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15···· Q.··We filed those with the court.
16····· Your law firm submitted fraudulent documents
17··to the court?
18···· A.··No.· We filed -- we filed your original
19··documents with the court that were not notarized, and
20··the court had sent them back.
21···· Q.··And then what happened?
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22···· A.·· And then Kimberly forged the signatures and 23··notarized those signatures and sent them back.

f. That not only does SPALLINA admit to Felony criminal acts that have not yet been investigated but admits that his office members are also involved in proven Fraudulent Creation of a Shirley Trust and where MORAN has already admitted six counts of forgery for six separate parties (including for a deceased Simon and for Eliot) and fraudulent notarizations of such documents when Spallina states in

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102
20·····Sure.
21 · · BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
22· · · · Q. · · You've testified here about Kimberly Moran.
23· · · · · · Can you describe your relationship with her?
24· · · · A. · · She's been our long-time assistant in the
25 · · office.
103
·1· · · · Q. · · Was she convicted of felony fraudulent
·2· ·notarization in the Estate of Shirley Bernstein?
·3···· MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
·4· · · · · · · THE COURT: · Overruled.
·5· · · · · · You're asking if she was convicted of a felony
·6· · · · with respect to the Estate of Shirley Bernstein?
\cdot 7 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot You can answer the question.
·8·····MR. BERNSTEIN: Correct.
·9····THE WITNESS: I believe she was.
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the hearing Pages 102-103,

g. SPALLINA then claims that it is "standard operating procedure" for he and his clients to sign sworn Final Waivers under penalty of perjury with knowingly and irrefutably false statements and admitting that the April 09, 2012 Full Waiver (already referenced and linked herein) submitted to this Court by Spallina's law firm in October of 2012 by Simon Bernstein, at a time after his death on September 13, 2012 and yet still acting as the Personal Representative, signed under penalty of perjury allegedly by Simon Bernstein and witnessed by Spallina, contained knowingly false statements. Then SPALLINA had a deceased Simon file that alleged sworn document with the Court as Personal Representative on a date after his death as part of a Fraud on the Court and Fraud on the Beneficiaries and Interested Parties. SPALLINA states in testimony as follows,

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Pages 108-110
17· · · · Q. · · Okay. · Are you aware of an April 9th full
18 · waiver that was allegedly signed by Simon and you?
19 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot \cdot Yeah. That was the waiver that he had signed.
20. And then in the May meeting, we discussed the five of
21 · · you, all the children, getting back the waivers of the
22 · · accountings.
23· · · · Q. · · Okay. · And in that April 9th full waiver you
24 · used to close my mother's estate, does Simon state that
25 · · he has all the waivers from all of the parties?
·1··· A.· ·He does.· We sent out -- he signed that, and
\cdot 2 \cdot we sent out the waivers to all of you.
·3····Q.··Okay.· So on April 9th of 2012, Simon signed,
·4· ·with your presence, because your signature's on the
·5· ·document, a document stating he had all the waivers in
·6· ·his possession from all of his children.
\cdot 7 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot Had you sent the waivers out yet as of
·8· ·April 9th?
20 · · BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
21· · · · Q. · · April 9th, 2012, you have a signed full waiver
22. of Simon's that says that he is in possession of all of
23. the signed waivers of all of the parties?
24···· A. · Standard operating procedure, to have him
25 · sign, and then to send out the documents to the kids.
·1···· Q.·· Was Simon in possession -- because it's a
·2· ·sworn statement of Simon saying, I have possession of
·3· ·these waivers of my children on today, April 9th,
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·4· ·correct, the day you two signed that?

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·5· · · · · · · Okay. · So if you hadn't sent out the waivers
·6· ·yet to the --
\cdot 7 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot I'm not certain when the waivers were sent
\cdot 8 \cdot \cdot \text{out.}
·9· · · · O. · · Were they sent out after the --
10 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot I did not send them out.
11· · · · Q. · · Okay. · More importantly, when did you receive
12. ·those?· Was it before April 9th or on April 9th?
13 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A. We didn't receive the first one until May.
14 ·· And it was your waiver that we received.
15···· Q.·· So how did you allow Simon, as his attorney,
16. to sign a sworn statement saying he had possession of
17 · · all of the waivers in April if you didn't get mine 'til
18· ·May?
19· · · · · · · MR. ROSE: · Objection. · I think it's relevance
20· · · · and cumulative. · He's already answered.
21···· THE COURT: What's the relevance?
22· · · · · · · MR. BERNSTEIN: · Oh, this is very relevant.
23· · · · · · · THE COURT: What is the relevance on the issue
24 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot that I have to rule on today?
25·····MR. BERNSTEIN: On the validity? Well, it's
1 · · · · relevant. · If any of these documents are relevant,
\cdot 2 \cdot \cdot \cdot this is important if it's a fraud.
·3····THE COURT: I'll sustain the objection.
·4· · · · · · · MR. BERNSTEIN: · Okay. · Can I -- okay.
·5· ·BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
·6· · · · Q. · When did you get -- did you get back prior to
·7· ·Simon's death all the waivers from all the children?
\cdot 8 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot \cdot No, we did not.
·9· · · · Q. · · So in Simon's April 9th document where he
10 · says, he, Simon, on April 9th has all the waivers from
11. his children while he's alive, and you didn't even get
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12· one 'til after he passed from one of his children, how

14···· MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance. Cumulative.

13 ·· could that be a true statement?

15···· THE COURT: Sustained.

h. Finally, SPALLINA also perjures himself under sworn oath at the hearing when testifying to the status of his Florida Bar license, which at this time he is listed as

"Not Eligible to Practice Law in Florida<sup>21</sup>" when he states in the December 15, 2015 hearing,

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Page 91
7··BY M
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7· ·BY MR. BERNSTEIN:

·8· · · · Q. · · Mr. Spallina, you were called today to provide

·9· ·some expert testimony, correct, on the --

 $10 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot \cdot \text{No, I was not.}$ 

11· · · · Q. · · Oh, okay. · You're just going based on your

12 · · doing the work as Simon Bernstein's attorney and Shirley

13 · · Bernstein's attorney?

 $14 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot Yes.$ 

15· · · · Q. · · Okay. · Are you still an attorney today?

16· · · · A. · I am not practicing.

17· · · · Q. · · Can you give us the circumstances regarding

18 · · that?

 $19 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot I$  withdrew from my firm.

### Pages 120-121

19· ·BY MR. BERNSTEIN:

20· · · · Q. · · Did you -- are you a member of the Florida

21 · · Bar?

 $22 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A. \cdot \cdot Yes, I am.$ 

23····Q.··Currently?

 $24 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot Yes$ , I am.

25· · · · Q. · · Okay. · You said before you surrendered your

·1··license.

·2· · · · A. · · I said I withdrew from my firm. · It wasn't

·3· ·that I was not practicing.

. Spallina further Perjures his testimony when asked if the Fraudulent Shirley Trust he created by Post Mortem fraudulently altering a Shirley Amendment and disseminated through the mail attempted to change the beneficiaries of the Shirley Trust and he answered no. Yet, the following analysis shows different;

22 · · BY MR. BERNSTEIN:

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https://www.floridabar.org/wps/portal/flbar/home/attysearch/mprofile/!ut/p/a1/jc\_LDolwEAXQT-pthRaWo6mkRazxgdCNYUWaKLowfr\_42LioOrtJzs3cYZ41zA\_dLfTdNZyH7vjYvTxACM3dBrawxEHIOI3ZqgSEHEE7girnxJMMNktoDIOr2qgtF7RM\_8sjMoRf-T3zn8RJNQO5BXKtp0AxeYNIRTj-HTx\_eJ2ll7ycdg2C6e8\_WXgh/dl5/d5/L2dBISEvZ0FBIS9nQSEh/?mid=497381

- 23· · · · Q. · · Did the fraudulently altered document change
- 24. the beneficiaries that were listed in Shirley's trust?
- 25···· A.·· They did not [emphasis added].

Now comparing the language in the two documents the Court can see that this statement is wholly untrue. From the alleged Shirley Trust document,

"Notwithstanding the foregoing, as I have adequately provided for them during my lifetime, for purposes of the dispositions made under this Trust, my children, TED S. BERNSTEIN ("TED") and PAMELA B. SIMON ("PAM"), and their respective lineal descendants [emphasis added] shall be deemed to have predeceased the survivor of my spouse and me, provided, however, if my children, ELIOT BERNSTEIN, JILL !ANTONI and LISA S. FRIEDSTEIN, and their lineal descendants all predecease the survivor of my spouse and me, then TED and PAM, and their respective lineal descendants shall not be deemed to have predeceased me and shall be eligible beneficiaries for purposes of the dispositions made hereunder."<sup>22</sup>

Then the language from the fraudulent amendment states;

2. I hereby amend the last sentence of Paragraph E. of Article III. to read as follows:

"Notwithstanding the foregoing, as my spouse and I have adequately provided for them during our lifetimes, for purposes of the dispositions made under this Trust, my children, TED S. BERNSTEIN ("TED") and PAMELA B. SIMON ("PAM '), shall be deemed to have predeceased the survivor of my spouse and me, provided, however, if my children, ELIOT BERNSTEIN, JILL IANTONI and LISA S. FRIEDSTEIN, and their respective lineal descendants all predecease the survivor of my spouse and me, then TED and PAM shall not be deemed to have predeceased the survivor of my spouse and me and shall become eligible beneficiaries for purposes of the dispositions made hereunder."

Clearly the fraudulent amendment attempts to remove from the predeceased language regarding TED and PAMELA's lineal descendants from being excluded by removing them from the original trust language as being considered predeceased and thus change the beneficiaries of the Shirley Trust. In fact, adding Ted and Pam's lineal descendants back into the trust would give them a chance to convert improperly %40 of the value to their families from %0.

,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Shirley Trust Page 7 http://iviewit.tv/Simon%20and%20Shirley%20Estate/Shirley%20Trust%20plus%20fraudulent%20amendment%202.pdf

This perjury by Spallina, acting already with proven unclean hands and admitted to crimes in the Estates and Trusts of Simon and Shirley Bernstein changed the outcome of the validity hearing adding cause for a rehearing and voiding the Order that resulted, which were already void and of no effect since Judge Phillips should have already voluntarily mandatorily disqualified himself from the proceedings prior to holding any hearings.

35. That as for Ted being qualified as a fiduciary, the following passage from the December 15, 2015 hearing that Ted called for to prove the validity of the dispositive documents after his former counsel admitted criminal activities shows that Ted, who used this disgraced attorney Spallina as his star and only witness to validate the documents, did nothing to validate the documents himself as Trustee to protect the beneficiaries harmed by his former counsels actions, his friend and business associate when he states, under oath,

# Page 206-210

- 25· · · · Q. · · Okay. · Ted, you were made aware of Robert
- 1 · · Spallina's fraudulent alteration of a trust document of
- $\cdot 2 \cdot \cdot$  your mother's when?
- $\cdot 3 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot$  A. · I believe that was in the early 2013 or '14.
- ·4· · · · Q. · · Okay. · And when you found out, you were the
- ·5· ·fiduciary of Shirley's trust, allegedly?
- $\cdot 6 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot I'm$  not sure I understand the question.
- ·7· · · · Q. · · When you found out that there was a fraudulent
- ·8· ·altercation [sic] of a trust document, were you the
- ·9· ·fiduciary in charge of Shirley's trust?
- $10 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot I$  was trustee, yes. I am trustee, yes.
- 11 · · · · Q. · · And your attorneys, Tescher and Spallina, and
- 12. their law firm are the one who committed that fraud,
- 13 · · correct, who altered that document?
- 14· · · · A. · That's what's been admitted to by them,
- 15 · · correct.
- 16· · · · Q.· · Okay.· So you became aware that your counsel
- 17. that you retained as trustee had committed a fraud,
- 18 ·· correct?
- 19· · · · A. · · Correct.
- 20· · · · Q. · · What did you do immediately after that?
- 21 · · · · A. · · The same day that I found out, I contacted

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22· ·counsel.· I met with counsel on that very day.· I met
23 · with counsel the next day. I met with counsel the day
24 · · after that.
25 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot Q \cdot \cdot \text{Which counsel?}
·1· · · · A.· · Alan Rose.
P 209-210
24 · · BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
25···· Q.·· Have you seen the original will and trust of
·1· ·your mother's?
·2· · · · A.· · Can you define original for me?
\cdot 3 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot Q \cdot \cdot The original.
\cdot 4 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot The one that's filed in the court?
\cdot 5 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot Q. Original will or the trust.
\cdot 6 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot A \cdot \cdot I've seen copies of the trusts.
\cdot 7 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot Q. Have you done anything to have any of the
·8· ·documents authenticated since learning that your
·9· ·attorneys had committed fraud in altering dispositive
10· documents that you were in custody of?
11· · · · · · · MR. ROSE: · Objection. · Relevance.
12·····THE COURT: Overruled.
13····THE WITNESS: I have not.
14 · ·BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
15 \cdot \cdot \cdot \cdot Q \cdot \cdot So you as the trustee have taken no steps to
16 · validate these documents; is that correct?
17· · · · A.· · Correct.
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36. Finally, as reported by the Palm Beach Post<sup>23</sup> and others in an evolving story of Probate/Guardian abuse emanating from Florida's courts, similar to the bank and mortgage frauds that found judges and lawyers fraudulently conveying properties through "robosigning" aka bank fraud, forgery and more, Florida's Judges are coming under fire for their bizarre behaviors of probate/guardianship abuses and basically grave robbing Florida's elderly as has been evidenced herein, where dead person's identities are used to commit Fraud on the Court and when discovered covered up by further Fraud by the Court in conjunction with the lawyers and guardians and judges.

Page **25** of **33** 

http://www.mypalmbeachpost.com/guardianships-elizabeth-savitt/
and
http://aaapg.net/florida-the-judges-wife-a-frequent-court-appointed-guardian/

WHEREFORE, the proposed Order of Ted Bernstein is Objected to herein and an Alternate Order submitted.

Dated: January 19, 2016

# /s/Eliot Ivan Bernstein

Eliot Ivan Bernstein 2753 NW 34th St Boca Raton, FL 33434 561-245-8588 iviewit@iviewit.tv

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I CERTIFY that a copy of the foregoing has been furnished to parties listed on attached Service List by E-mail Electronic Transmission; Court ECF; this 19th day of January, 2016.

#### /s/Eliot Ivan Bernstein

Eliot Ivan Bernstein 2753 NW 34th St Boca Raton, FL 33434 561-245-8588 iviewit@iviewit.tv

# **SERVICE LIST**

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

TED BERNSTEIN, as Trustee of the Shirley Bernstein Trust Agreement dated May 20, 2008, as amended,

**Probate Division** 

Case No.: 502014CP003698XXXXNBIJ

Plaintiff,

v.

ALEXANDRA BERNSTEIN; ERIC BERNSTEIN; MICHAEL BERNSTEIN; MOLLY SIMON; PAMELA B. SIMON, Individually and as Trustee f/b/o Molly Simon under the Simon L. Bernstein Trust Dtd 9/13/12; ELIOT BERNSTEIN, individually, as Trustee f/b/o D.B., Ja. B. and Jo. B. under the Simon L. Bernstein Trust Dtd 9/13/12, and on behalf of his minor children D.B., Ja. B. and Jo. B.; JILL IANTONI, Individually, as Trustee f/b/o J.I. under the Simon L. Bernstein Trust Dtd 9/13/12, and on behalf of her Minor child J.I.; MAX FRIEDSTEIN; LISA FRIEDSTEIN, Individually, as Trustee f/b/o Max Friedstein and C.F., under the Simon L. Bernstein Trust Dtd 9/13/12, and on behalf of her minor child, C.F.,

Defendants.

#### **ALTERNATE ORDER**

THIS CAUSE came before the Court for hearing on January 14, 2016 on Successor

Trustee Ted Bernstein and Alan Rose's Motion for Appointment of a Guardian Ad Litem to

Represent the Interests of Eliot Bernstein's Children and other relief, and Eliot I. Bernstein

having filed Opposition and appeared in Opposition. The Court, having considered the record,

heard argument of counsel and the parties and having reconsidered the record and being

otherwise fully advised in the premises, hereby ORDERS AND ADJUDGES:

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- 1. Strike the Proposed Order of Alan B. Rose and Ted Bernstein in entirety;
- 2. That Florida Statutes 733.707, 736.0103, 731.201 (2)(4)(9)(11)(20) and (23) give Eliot standing as a Beneficiary, Heir and Interested Person and Trustee of the Eliot Bernstein Family Trust in this case and the Simon Estate, the Simon Trust and the Shirley Estate.
- 3. That there was no Construction Hearing held, Noticed or Scheduled;
- 4. That proper pre-trial procedures thus were not followed and must be corrected in furtherance of justice;
- 5. That the present motions of Ted Bernstein and Alan Rose are stayed indefinitely;
- 6. Judge Phillips mandatorily disqualify himself and void ALL orders for all the reasons stated in the disqualifications and for newly discovered factual admissions of fraud on the court learned at the December 15, 2015 hearing and further fraud on the court continued through perjured statements made under oath in testimony by a former officer of the court and former fiduciary constituting perjury, obstruction and more;
- 7. Instantly report new Admissions before this Court and perjurious statements made in the December 15, 2016 validity hearing by attorney at law, former officer of the court and former fiduciary in the Simon Bernstein Estate and Trust, Robert Spallina's admissions of his newly admitted Fraud on the Court, Fraud on Beneficiaries, Mail Fraud and Violations of his signed SEC Consent Order for Securities Fraud and Insider Trading to all the proper authorities, including but not limited to, the Inspector General of the Courts, the Chief Judge of 15th Judicial,
- 8. That the new Court demand deposit of adequate funds from the Trusts or from bonding of the responsible parties for causing the need for counsel into a proper account for no less than \$100,000.00 for immediate retention of counsel of Eliot's choosing for the minor

Page 30 of 33

children as they have not been represented at hearings despite their standing as alleged beneficiaries and despite the fact that the conflict arises due to the fraud on the court by the prior fiduciaries and their counsel as proven already and or provide leave to Eliot Bernstein to re-apply immediately for funds for Counsel upon a new Judge presiding.

DONE and ORDERED in Chambers, North County Courthouse in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, on this \_\_\_th day of January, 2016.

HONORABLE JOHN L. PHILLIPS
Circuit Court Judge

Copies to: Attached Service List

# **SERVICE LIST**

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE No. 502014CP003698XXXXNB

TED BERNSTEIN,

Plaintiff,

-vs-

DONALD R. TESCHER, ELIOT IVAN BERNSTEIN, LISA SUE FRIEDSTEIN, JILL MARLA IANTONI, et al.,

Defendants.

TRIAL BEFORE THE HONORABLE
JOHN L. PHILLIPS
VOLUME 1 PAGES 1 - 114

Tuesday, December 15, 2015
North County Courthouse
Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410
9:43 a.m. - 4:48 p.m.

Reported By: Shirley D. King, RPR, FPR Notary Public, State of Florida West Palm Beach Office Job #1358198 - VOL 1

2	
1	APPEARANCES:
2	On behalf of the Plaintiff:
3	ALAN ROSE, ESQUIRE GREGORY WEISS, ESQUIRE
4	MRACHEK FITZGERALD ROSE KONOPKA THOMAS & WEISS, P.A.
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11	Phone: 561.245.8588 E-mail: Iviewit@iviewit.tv
12	
13	On behalf of Molly Simon, Alexandra, Eric & Michael Bernstein:
14	JOHN P. MORRISSEY, ESQUIRE
14 15	
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24	
25	

1	PROCEEDINGS
2	
3	THE COURT: We're here on the Bernstein case.
4	Everybody ready to go?
5	MR. ROSE: Good morning, Your Honor. Yes.
6	Alan Rose on behalf of the plaintiff, Ted S.
7	Bernstein, as successor trustee.
8	THE COURT: Okay.
9	MR. ROSE: And with me is my partner, Greg
10	Weiss. May not be for the whole trial, but he is
11	with us for the beginning.
12	THE COURT: Okay. Well, great. Thanks for
13	coming.
14	And who's on the other side?
15	MR. BERNSTEIN: Eliot Bernstein, pro se, sir.
16	THE COURT: Okay. You're not going to have
17	any counsel? Who's with you at the table?
18	MR. BERNSTEIN: That's my lovely wife,
19	Candice.
20	THE COURT: All right. And why are you at the
21	table?
22	MR. BERNSTEIN: That's one of the questions I
23	would like to address. I'm here individually.
24	THE COURT: Right.
25	MR. BERNSTEIN: And I was sued individually.

1 But I'm also here on behalf, supposedly, of my 2 minor children, who aren't represented by counsel. 3 And I'm sued as a trustee of a trust that I've 4 never possessed. 5 THE COURT: Are you asking me a question? MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes. 6 7 THE COURT: What's the question? MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, my children are being 8 9 sued. 10 THE COURT: What's the question? 11 MR. BERNSTEIN: And I was sued as their 12 trustee, but I'm --13 THE COURT: Stop, please. 14 MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes, sir. 15 THE COURT: I would love to talk with you all 16 day --17 MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. 18 THE COURT: -- but we're not going to have 19 that happen. 20 MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. 21 THE COURT: This is not a conversation. This 2.2 is a trial. So my question is, What is your 23 question? You said you had a question. 24 MR. BERNSTEIN: I tried to get counsel for my 25 children who was willing to make a pro hoc vice --

```
1
          THE COURT: When will you ask me the question?
    Because this is all --
 2
 3
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, I'd like to stay the
    proceeding.
 5
          THE COURT: Okay. The request for a
 6
    continuance is denied. Thank you.
7
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Have you read the filing I
     filed? Because my children are minor --
8
9
          THE COURT: Was that your question?
10
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, my children are
11
    minors --
12
          THE COURT: Please stop.
13
          MR. BERNSTEIN: -- and they're not represented
14
    here.
15
          THE COURT: What is your name again, sir?
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Eliot Bernstein.
16
          THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Bernstein, I'll be
17
18
    courteous, unless it doesn't work; then I'll be
19
    more direct and more aggressive in enforcing the
    rules that I follow when I conduct trials.
20
21
          I've asked you several times if you had
2.2
    questions. You finally asked me one, and it was,
23
    Did you read my filing? No, I did not. You asked
24
     for a continuance. I have denied that because it's
25
    untimely.
```

Now I'm turning back to the plaintiff, and
we're going forward with this trial. That is one
day set on my docket. We're going to have this
trial done by the end of the day. You'll have half
the time to use as you see fit; so will the other
side. I'll not care if you waste it, but I'll not
participate in that. Thank you.
Now, from the plaintiff's side, what is it
that the Court is being asked to decide today?
MR. ROSE: Before I answer, could
Mr. Morrissey make an appearance, sir?
THE COURT: All right.
MR. MORRISSEY: Yes, I'm here on behalf of
four of the defendants, Judge, four adult
grandchildren, Alexandra Bernstein, Eric Bernstein
Michael Bernstein and Molly Simon, all of whom have
joined in the plaintiff's complaint today.
THE COURT: Okay. Last time I'll ask this
question of the plaintiff. What is it that I'm
asked to decide today?
MR. ROSE: We are asking you to decide whether
five testamentary documents are valid, authentic
and enforceable. And that is set forth in count
two of the amended complaint in this action. The
five documents are a 2008 will of Shirley

```
1
     Bernstein, a 2008 trust of Shirley Bernstein, and
 2
     an amendment by Shirley Bernstein to her 2008
 3
     trust.
          THE COURT: When was the amendment?
                     Amendment was in November of 2008.
          MR. ROSE:
          THE COURT: All right. So there's also a 2008
 6
 7
     amendment?
          MR. ROSE: Yes, sir. In fact, I have a -- I
 8
     don't know if you can read it, but I did put up
10
     here on the -- there are seven testamentary
11
     documents. We believe five of them to be valid and
12
     operative, and two of them to have been with --
13
     revoked by later documents.
          So for Shirley, there are three documents that
14
15
     count two seeks you to determine are valid,
     authentic and enforceable according to their terms.
16
17
          And for Simon Bernstein, he has a 2012 will,
18
     and a 2012 amended and restated trust agreement.
19
     And we're asking that these five documents be
20
     validated today.
          There also is a 2008 will and trust that
21
2.2
     you'll hear testimony were prepared, but have been
23
     revoked and superseded by later documents.
24
          THE COURT: Does everybody agree that Simon's
25
     2008 will and trust are invalid or is there some
```

1	claim that they're valid?
2	MR. ROSE: I can't answer.
3	THE COURT: All right. I'll ask.
4	Are you claiming that the Simon Bernstein 2008
5	will or 2008 trust are valid, or do you agree that
6	they are invalid?
7	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, I individually disagree.
8	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.
9	MR. BERNSTEIN: And my children
10	THE COURT: I just wanted to know
11	MR. BERNSTEIN: aren't represented by
12	counsel, so they can't have an opinion
13	THE COURT: Okay.
14	MR. BERNSTEIN: even though they're parties
15	to the case.
16	THE COURT: Okay. Like I say, you can waste
17	all your time you want. I won't object to it, but
18	I won't participate in it.
19	You can put on your first witness.
20	MR. ROSE: Thank you. Plaintiff will call
21	Robert Spallina.
22	Thereupon,
23	(ROBERT SPALLINA)
24	having been first duly sworn or affirmed, was examined
25	and testified as follows:

1	THE WITNESS: I do.
2	MR. ROSE: May I approach, Your Honor?
3	THE COURT: Sure. All approaches are okay.
4	MR. ROSE: Okay. I brought for Your Honor
5	would you like a book instead of the exhibits?
6	THE COURT: Nothing better than a huge book.
7	MR. ROSE: We may not use all of them, but
8	we'll adjust it later.
9	THE COURT: All right.
10	MR. ROSE: And then I was going to hand the
11	witness the original for the admission into the
12	court file as we go.
13	THE COURT: All right.
14	MR. ROSE: I have a book for Mr. Eliot
15	Bernstein.
16	DIRECT EXAMINATION
17	BY MR. ROSE:
18	Q. Would you state your name for the record?
19	A. Robert Spallina.
20	Q. Did you know Simon and Shirley Bernstein,
21	Mr. Spallina?
22	A. Yes, I did.
23	Q. And when did you first meet Simon and Shirley
24	Bernstein?
25	A. In 2007.

1	Q. What was your occupation at the time?
2	A. I was working as an estate planning attorney.
3	Q. With a law firm?
4	A. Yes.
5	Q. And what was the name of the law firm?
6	A. Tescher, Gutter, Chaves, Rubin, Ruffin and
7	Forman and Fleisher.
8	Q. And did Simon and Shirley Bernstein retain
9	your law firm?
10	A. Yes, they did.
11	Q. I'm going to approach with Exhibit No. 9
12	Plaintiff's Exhibit 9. Ask if you'd identify that
13	document?
14	A. This was an intake sheet to open up the file,
15	dated November 16th of 2007.
16	Q. And the clients are Simon and Shirley
17	Bernstein?
18	A. The clients were Simon and Shirley Bernstein,
19	yes.
20	MR. ROSE: I would move Exhibit 9 into
21	evidence, Your Honor.
22	THE COURT: Any objection?
23	[No verbal response]
24	THE COURT: No objection being stated, I'll
25	receive that as Plaintiff's 19.

```
1
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 9 was received into
     evidence.)
 2
 3
     BY MR. ROSE:
               Now, what was the purpose of Simon and Shirley
     Bernstein retaining your law firm?
 5
          Α.
               They wanted to review and go over their
 6
 7
     existing estate planning and make changes to their
     documents.
 8
               I'm going to hand you Exhibit No. 10, and ask
 9
          Ο.
10
     you if you can identify for the record Exhibit 10.
11
          Α.
               These are meeting notes, my meeting notes,
12
     and -- and then partner Don Tescher's meeting notes from
13
     several different meetings that we had with Si and
     Shirley during the time following them retaining us as
14
15
     clients.
16
          Q.
               And is it your standard practice to take notes
17
     when you're meeting with clients?
18
          Α.
               Yes.
19
               And were these notes kept in your company's
          Ο.
     files and were they produced with Bates stamp numbers?
20
21
          Α.
               Yes, they were.
2.2
               MR. ROSE: I would move Exhibit 10 into
23
          evidence, Your Honor.
24
               THE COURT: Is there any objection to the
25
          exhibit?
```

1 [No verbal response]. THE COURT: No objection being stated, they'll 2 be received as Plaintiff's 10. 3 (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 10 was received into 4 evidence.) 5 BY MR. ROSE: 6 7 Now, for today's purposes, are those notes in chronological or reverse chronological order? 8 9 Α. This is reverse chronological order. 10 Okay. Can you go to the bottom of the stack Ο. 11 and start with the earliest notes. Do they reflect a 12 date? 13 Α. Yes. 11/14/07. 14 Ο. And if you'd turn to the last page, is that 15 your partner's notes that are in evidence? 16 Α. Yes. We both would always take notes at the 17 meetings. 18 Q. And so the first -- was that the first meeting with Mr. Simon or Shirley Bernstein? 19 20 Α. I believe so, yes. 21 Now, before you met with Simon and Shirley Q. 2.2 Bernstein, did you have any prior relationship with 23 them? 24 No, we did not. Α. 25 Q. Did you personally know either of them before

```
that date?
1
 2
          Α.
               No, I did not.
 3
          Ο.
               11/14/2007. Okay. And if you'd just flip
     back to the client intake. I think that was dated
    November the 26th?
               It was two days later, 11/16. The file was
 6
          Α.
7
     opened two days later.
               So file open.
8
          0.
               Now, did you know in advance of the meeting
9
10
     what they were coming in to talk about?
11
          Α.
               Yeah. They were coming in to talk about their
12
     estate planning.
13
               And did they provide you in advance of the
          Ο.
     meeting with any of their prior estate planning
14
15
     documents?
               I believe we had copies of documents. I don't
16
17
     know if they provided them at that meeting or if they
18
     provided them before for us to look at, or after, but I
19
     know that there were existing documents that were in our
20
     file.
21
               Okay. Let me approach and hand you
          Q.
2.2
     Exhibit 40A, which is -- bears Tescher Spallina
    Number 1.
23
```

Does that appear to be an envelope from

24

25

Stephen Greenwald --

1 Α. Yes. -- directed to Simon Bernstein? 2 Ο. 3 Α. Yes, it is. 4 Q. And copy of this was in your files when they 5 were produced? 6 Α. Yes. 7 And was Stephen Greenwald the prior lawyer 0. that represented Simon and Shirley Bernstein, as far as 8 9 you know? 10 Yes. Yes, he was. Α. 11 I'm going to hand you Exhibit 40B, which is a Ο. letter from Mr. Greenwald to Simon and Shirley 12 Bernstein. 13 Is that also -- is that also provided in your 14 15 files? 16 Α. Yes, sir. 17 Does it bear a Bates stamp of your law firm? Ο. 18 Α. Yes, it does. 19 Okay. And does Mr. Greenwald, in that letter, Ο. disclose what he is sending to Simon --20 Mr. and Mrs. Simon L. Bernstein? 21 2.2 Α. Yes, he did. Their estate planning documents, 23 including their ancillary documents, their wills, their 24 trusts, health care powers, durable powers and living

25

wills.

```
1
          O.
               And if -- I'll show you 40C, D, E and F, and
     ask if you can identify these as some of the documents
 2
 3
     that were included with the letter from Mr. Greenwald?
               We have each of the first codicils to
     Mr. and Mrs. Bernstein's wills, and we have each of
     their wills.
6
7
               MR. ROSE: I would move Exhibit 40A through F
          into evidence, Your Honor.
8
 9
               THE COURT: Any objection?
10
               [No response.]
11
               THE COURT: No objection being stated, I'm
12
          going to receive this as Plaintiff's 40A through F.
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit Nos. 40A-F were received
13
     into evidence.)
14
15
     BY MR. ROSE:
               Within Exhibit 40, is there a will and a --
16
          Q.
17
     for Simon and a will for Shirley?
18
          Α.
               Yes, there is.
19
               And could you tell the Court the date of those
          Ο.
     documents?
20
21
          Α.
               August 15, 2000.
2.2
               THE COURT: Are both documents the same date?
23
               THE WITNESS: Yes, they are, Your Honor.
24
               THE COURT: All right. Thanks. I just wanted
25
          to make sure I don't get confused.
```

## BY MR. ROSE:

1

- Q. Can you generally describe what the estate plan reflected in Exhibit 40 would be, who are the beneficiaries and what percentages?
- 5 A. Okay. Just give me a minute. I haven't seen 6 these in...

7 The plan under the documents -- and let me just make sure it's the same under both documents. The 8 plan under the documents was to provide all the assets 10 to the survivor of Shirley and Si, and that at the death 11 of the survivor of the two of them, assets would pass 12 to -- it appears to be Ted, Pam, Eliot, Jill and Sue and 13 Lisa -- and Lisa. So it looks to be a typical estate 14 plan; everything would pass to the survivor at the first 15 death, and then at the second death everything to the children. 16

- Q. How many of the children under the 2000 documents?
- 19 A. This shows all five. The will shows all five.
- 20 Q. What page are you looking at?
- A. The first page of the will. Is this -- oh,
  no. That's just as to tangible personal property. I'm
  sorry.
- Q. That's okay. Are you on -- are you in Simon's or Shirley's?

1	A. I'm in on both documents, to make sure the
2	disposition was the same.
3	Q. Okay. So on the page the first page, it
4	talks under
5	A. It speaks to tangible personal property.
6	Q. Split equally among the five children?
7	A. Among the five children.
8	Q. Let me just stop you one second right there.
9	If you would, turn
10	MR. ROSE: This might help, Your Honor, if
11	you'd turn to Tab 7. It may be out of order.
12	Might be a good time just to go over the family
13	tree and let get everyone on the same page of
14	We prepared a chart, and I'm going to put
15	the it lists Simon and Shirley and the names of
16	their children on the second line, and then under
17	each child with arrows, the names of the
18	grandchildren and which parents they belong to.
19	THE WITNESS: This looks accurate.
20	MR. ROSE: I would move Exhibit 7 into
21	evidence, Your Honor.
22	THE COURT: Any objection?
23	[No response.]
24	THE COURT: No objection being stated, that's
25	in evidence as Plaintiff's 7.

```
1
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 7 was received into
     evidence.)
 2
 3
     BY MR. ROSE:
               So under the 2000 documents, for personal
 5
     property, it's split among the five children.
               And when you get to the residuary estate or
 6
7
     the amount that was put into trusts, who are the
     beneficiaries?
 8
               Again, at the death of the survivor of the two
          Α.
10
     of them, tangible personal property would go to the five
11
     children, and the residuary of the estate would go to
     four of the five children. It appears that Pam is cut
12
13
     out of these documents. And I recall that now, yes.
               Okay. So under the 2000 documents, Eliot
14
15
     Bernstein would get 25 percent of the residuary?
16
          Α.
               Correct.
17
               Now, if you look at page 5, it talks
18
     about -- page 5, near the top, it says "upon the death
19
     of my husband," then "the principal of his trust shall
     pass," and then the next sentence says "to the extent
20
21
     that said power of appointment -- oh, "and such shares
2.2
     equal or unequal and subject to such lawful trust terms
23
     and conditions as my husband shall by will appoint."
24
               Do you see what I'm talking about?
25
          Α.
               Yes, I do.
```

1 Q. That's a power of appointment? 2 Α. Correct. 3 Ο. And then it says, the next sentence, To the extent the power of appointment is not effectively exercised, then it goes to the four of the five 5 children? 6 7 Α. Correct. So under the 2000 documents, the survivor Ο. 8 would have the power to give it all to one? 10 Α. Correct. 11 And theoretically change it and give some to Ο. 12 Pam? 13 That's true, by the language of this document. Α. Okay. So I'm just going to write. We have a 14 Ο. 15 power of appointment, which we don't need to belabor, in favor of the survivor; and then if it's not exercised, 16 17 Eliot gets 25 percent, and three other siblings get the balance? 18 19 Α. 25 percent each. 20 Ο. Okay. 21 Equal shares. Α. 2.2 O. Now, when Simon and Shirley came to you, did 23 they give you an indication whether they wanted to keep 24 in place the 2000 structure? 25 Α. They wanted to change the dispositions

```
under their documents.
1
 2
          Ο.
               Okay. So if we work through your notes now,
 3
     which are in evidence as Exhibit No. 10, the first
     meeting was November the 14th, 2007. You had a
     discussion about Simon's net worth -- Simon and
 5
6
     Shirley's net worth, how much money they had at that
7
     time?
8
          Α.
               Yes.
               Okay. I'm going to show you Exhibit No. 12
          Ο.
10
    before we --
11
               Do you recognize the handwriting on
12
     Exhibit 12?
13
          Α.
               No.
               Okav. I believe it's Simon Bernstein's
14
          Ο.
15
     statement of his net worth.
               But you have seen this document before?
16
17
               I don't recall.
          Α.
18
          Q.
               Okay. And you're not familiar with his
19
    handwriting to --
20
               No. Other than his signature.
          Α.
21
          Ο.
               That's fine.
2.2
               But during the discussion, did you discuss
     Simon's net worth?
23
24
               Yes. Both my partner and I.
          Α.
25
          Ο.
               And if I look at Mr. Tescher's notes, which
```

1 are a little easier to read, he lists the joint 2 brokerage account, some money for Simon, Simon, a 3 house -- the house appears to have a million dollar mortgage -- a condo, some miscellaneous and some life 5 insurance. And he totals -- that totals to 13 million, and then he lists 5 million for 33 shares of the 6 7 company. 8 Do you see that? Α. Yes, I do. 10 Okay. So if I add up what Mr. Tescher wrote Ο. 11 in his notes, I get to about \$18 million. 12 And this is on November the 14th of '07, around 18 million, but that includes life insurance? 13 Yes, it does. 14 Α. 15 Okay. Now, did you meet with them -- how long Ο. 16 were these meetings with Simon and Shirley Bernstein? 17 They could be an hour; sometimes more. Α. 18 Q. Now, if we flip through your notes, does it 19 reflect a second meeting? 20 Yes, it does. Α. 21 And what's the date of the second meeting? Q. 2.2 Α. 12/19/07. 23 And do you have any -- I'm sorry. Ο. 24 Α. 12/19/07. 25 Q. Okay. And what's the -- let's just put all

1	the dates up here. That was the second meeting.
2	Are there notes from a third meeting?
3	A. The next meeting was January 31, '08.
4	Q. Okay. Is there a fourth meeting?
5	A. March 12 of '08.
6	Q. Now, just to put this in perspective, the
7	document that we are going to well, the document
8	that's been admitted into probate in this case is a will
9	of Shirley Bernstein that bears a date of May 20, 2008.
10	Does that sound consistent with your memory?
11	A. Yeah, it was clearly 2008.
12	MRS. CANDICE BERNSTEIN: Excuse me. Can you
13	turn that so we can see it?
14	THE WITNESS: Sure. Sorry.
15	THE COURT: Ma'am, you are not a party. You
16	are not an attorney. And you are not really
17	supposed to be sitting there. I'm letting you sit
18	there as a courtesy. If you ask for and inject
19	yourself any further in the proceeding than that,
20	I'll have to ask you to be seated in the gallery.
21	Do you understand?
22	MRS. CANDICE BERNSTEIN: Yes, sir.
23	THE COURT: Thank you.
24	BY MR. ROSE:
25	Q. So you have four meetings with Simon and

1 | Shirley Bernstein.

2

3

5

6

7

8

10

14

15

16

19

20

21

23

24

25

And did it take that long to go over what they wished to do with their estate planning documents?

- A. It was more of us, you know, trying to get a handle on everything that they had, the business, prior planning. From the first meeting to the March meeting, it was only a couple of months. The holidays were in there. So it wasn't uncommon for us to meet with a client more than once or twice when they had a sophisticated plan and asset schedule.
- 11 O. At this time --
- 12 A. By the last meeting, we knew what we needed to do.
  - Q. And around this -- based on your notes, did Simon Bernstein believe he had a net worth all in of about 18 million when he met with you?
- 17 A. Yeah, it appears that way, 18, 19 million 18 dollars.
  - Q. And did he discuss at all with you that he was involved in a business at that time, an insurance business?
- 22 A. Yes.
  - Q. And did he give you an indication of how well the business was doing at around the times of these meetings between November 2007 and March or May of 2008?

1 Α. Yeah, the business was doing well at that 2 time. He was -- he was very optimistic about the future 3 of the business. Now, did you do any -- did you prepare any documents before the will was signed in May? Did you 6 prepare drafts of the documents? 7 Yes, we did. We always prepare drafts of documents. 8 And did you share the drafts with Simon and 0. 10 Shirley? 11 Α. Yes, we did. 12 Okay. I'm going to hand you Exhibit 11, and Ο. 13 ask if you can identify that for the record? This is a letter from our firm dated April 19 14 Α. 15 of 2008. It's transmitting the documents to the client, with an explanation that they could follow, better than 16 reading their documents -- a summary of the documents. 17 18 Q. Is that a true and authentic copy of a 19 document that you created? 20 Yes, it appears to be. Α. MR. ROSE: I would move Exhibit 11 into 21 2.2 evidence, Your Honor. THE COURT: All right. Any objection? 23 24 [No response.] 25 THE COURT: All right. Then that's in

1 evidence as Plaintiff's 11. (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 11 was received into 2 3 evidence.) BY MR. ROSE: And if I read Exhibit 11, the first three Ο. words say, "Enclosed are drafts of each of your wills 6 7 and revocable trusts, the children's family trust, each of your durable powers of attorney, designations of 8 health care surrogate and living wills, " correct? 10 Α. Yes. 11 So about a month and 11 days before anything 0. 12 was signed, documents were sent by Federal Express to Simon and Shirley Bernstein? 13 14 Α. Correct. 15 And it appears to have gone to Simon's Ο. business? 16 17 Α. Yes. 18 Q. Now, if you look at -- does your -- does your 19 letter, sort of in laymen's terms, rather than reading through the legalese of a will, explain what the estate 20 21 planning was under the documents that have yet to be 2.2 signed but that you were preparing? 23 Α. Yes, it does, as much as possible in laymen's 24 terms. 25 O. Can you just give us a short -- well, the will

1 itself for both Simon and Shirley was a relatively 2 simple will that poured over into a revocable trust, one 3 for each? Yes, poured over wills for both. Α. And whoever died first would inherent the Ο. personal property? 6 7 All tangible personal property under the will would pass to the survivor. 8 So assuming Simon survived Shirley, he would 9 0. 10 be the sole beneficiary of her estate? 11 Α. Correct. And then any of her residuary would go into a 12 Ο. 13 trust? 14 Α. That's correct. 15 And he, in fact, outlived Shirley? Ο. He did. 16 Α. 17 Okay. Now, if you go to the second page, at 18 the top, you describe the will of Shirley Bernstein. 19 It's essentially identical to Si -- it says "Si." Just for the record, that's Simon shorthand? 20 21 Α. Yes. 2.2 Si is the personal representative of Shirley's Ο. 23 estate, and Ted is designated as successor if Simon is 24 unable to serve. 25 That was what was in the document you sent in

April?

1

- 2 A. Yes. I believe so, yes.
- 3 Q. And that provision remained in the final
- 4 | documents you signed?
  - A. Yes.
- Q. Now, did Ted eventually become a successor personal representative upon Simon's death?
- 8 A. Yes, he did.
- 9 Q. Then you next start to talk about the Simon L.
- 10 | Bernstein trust agreement.
- And theoretically, that was going to be the
- 12 | primary testamentary document?
- 13 A. Correct, it was.
- Q. And that's fairly standard?
- 15 A. Yes. When a client wants to avoid probate, we
- 16 use a revocable trust to title assets in prior to death.
- 17 | Those assets remain confidential; they're not part of
- 18 | the court record. And the trust is also used to avoid
- 19 | the need for the appointment of a guardian in the event
- 20 | of incapacity, because there's a successor trustee
- 21 mechanism.
- Q. Okay. Now, under Simon's trust agreement,
- 23 | moving down to the third paragraph, under that heading,
- 24 | it says that both trusts provide for mandatory income
- 25 distributions. And then the next sentence starts, "Upon

1 Shirley's death, she has been given a special power to appoint the remaining assets of both the marital trust 2 3 and the family trust to any of your lineal descendants and their spouses, a power to redirect and reallocate." 5 Do you see that? Α. Yes. 6 7 Ο. Now, is that consistent with the way the documents were intended to be drafted? 8 9 Α. Yes, it is. 10 And I guess it's sort of similar to what Ο. 11 existed in the 2000 wills? 12 Α. Typically, you give the survivor of the 13 spouse a power to appoint in the event that they want to change any of the estate planning of the first to die. 14 15 Found in most first marriage documents with only 16 children from that marriage. 17 And this is a first marriage with all five 18 children being the product of the same marriage --19 Α. Yes. 20 -- as far as you know? Ο. 21 Α. As far as I know. 2.2 O. And as far as you know, Simon and Shirley 23 Bernstein, they each married only once in their 24 lifetime, to each other? 25 Α. That's all I know.

1 O. If you flip to the next page, there's a 2 shorter paragraph for Shirley. 3 It basically says -- it's virtually identical, except that Simon is the initial successor, and after that, Ted would be Simon's replacement if he passed 5 6 away? Α. Correct. And is that the mechanism by which Ted Ο. 8 Bernstein became the successor trustee in this lawsuit? 10 Α. Yes, it is. Now, if Shirley died first, then did the 11 0. 12 documents give Simon the same power of appointment over the assets in her trust that was provided for in the 13 Simon document if he died? 14 15 Same power of appointment was in both Α. 16 documents. They were identical documents, with one 17 exception. 18 Q. And what was the exception; the name of the 19 successor trustee? The name of the successor trustee. 20 Α. And then Simon wanted his then business 21 Ο. 2.2 partner, Bill Stansbury, to be his successor trustee in both his will and his trust, and Shirley wanted her 23 24 oldest son, Ted, to be her successor in both documents?

Correct. The signer, non-survivor.

25

Α.

1 Ο. Okay. And Shirley, I guess it says here, also made a specific gift of \$200,000 to someone named 2 3 Matthew Logan? Α. Correct. If you look at our family tree chart, I think 0. 6 Matthew Logan is under Ted. 7 He is the son of Ted's second wife, Deborah? Correct. 8 Α. Okay. So there was a \$200,000 special gift to 9 Ο. 10 Matthew that was in the documents that you sent on 11 April 9th? 12 Α. Correct. 13 Then you prepared family trusts for the Ο. 14 children. 15 Were those trusts created at the time? 16 Α. Yes, they were. 17 Now, after you sent your letter on April 9th, Ο. 18 did you have a further discussion with Simon and Shirley 19 before the documents were signed? I can't recall, but we probably -- we probably 20 21 did, to set up a meeting and talk -- you know, either, 2.2 A, talk about the documents, the draft documents, any 23 changes that they wanted to make on the draft documents. 24 It would be typical of us to do that, although I don't 25 have any meeting notes that showed that, so...

1 Ο. Now, under -- we'll talk -- let's talk about 2 the ones that matter. 3 Because Shirley died first, her 2008 trust became the beneficiary of her estate? 4 Α. Correct. And then Simon had a power of appointment, 6 Ο. 7 correct? Um-hum. 8 Α. And if -- you have to say yes or no. Ο. 10 Α. Yes. 11 And if he didn't exercise the power of Ο. appointment, was there a default set of beneficiaries 12 13 that were designated in the documents you drafted in 14 2008? 15 Yes. Α. And what was the default set of beneficiaries? 16 Q. 17 Simon had and Shirley had in their documents Α. excluded Pam and Ted at the death of the survivor of the 18 19 two of them. Okay. So if the power of appointment was not 20 21 properly exercised, it would just go to three, and Eliot 2.2 would end up with 33 and a third percent and two of the 23 other sisters would get the balance? 24 Α. That's correct. 25 Q. Did Simon and Shirley eventually execute

```
documents in 2008?
1
 2
          Α.
               Yes, they did.
 3
          Ο.
               I'm going to hand you Exhibit No. 1, which
     is --
               A copy of Si's will from --
          Α.
6
               Do you have Exhibit 1?
          Q.
7
          Α.
               Excuse me. Sorry. Shirley's will.
               Is that a conformed copy of the document?
8
          Ο.
          Α.
               Yes, it is.
               MR. ROSE: I would move Exhibit 1 into
10
11
          evidence.
12
               THE COURT: Any objection?
13
               [No response.]
               THE COURT: That's in evidence as
14
15
          Plaintiff's 1.
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 1 was received into
16
17
     evidence.)
     BY MR. ROSE:
18
19
               Now, that says "conformed copy." If I turn to
          Ο.
     the last page, there's no handwritten signatures.
20
21
          Α.
               Correct.
2.2
               Do you know where the original of that
23
     document sits today?
24
          Α.
               It was filed with the court.
25
          Q.
               Okay. So somewhere in the courthouse, the
```

1 original goes. And that's something that the client would 2 3 keep? Correct. This is what we would send to the 4 Α. client to include with their files. 5 When you filed the original with the court, 6 Ο. 7 did anyone object while Simon was alive? 8 Α. No. Okay. I'm going to hand you Exhibit No. 2. Ο. 10 Do you recognize that document? 11 Yes. This is Shirley's trust agreement that Α. she executed in 2008. 12 Now, does that document have copies of her 13 Ο. 14 signature? 15 Yes. These are actual copies of the signing Α. parties and their signatures. 16 17 And how many originals would have been created of this document? 18 19 We always created three originals of the trust Α. 20 agreements. 21 Ο. Okay. Now, if you turn to the next -- if you 2.2 turn to the last page, it says that Shirley put a dollar into her trust when it was created. 23 24 Α. Yes.

And that's to make it a valid trust?

25

Q.

1 Α. Yeah, I mean, it's not required today, but 2 it's pretty much just form to show a dollar. She had 3 certainly funded it more than that. And eventually Shirley put some assets into the trust? 5 6 Α. Yes. 7 Okay. And if you go to the page before that, Ο. page 27, it appears to be a signature page, correct? 8 9 Α. Yes. 10 Now, were you one of the witnesses to the Ο. 11 signature of Shirley Bernstein on Exhibit 2? 12 Α. Yes, I was. 13 And were you present with Shirley Bernstein Ο. and the other witness, Traci Kratish, at the time of the 14 15 execution of the documents? 16 Α. Yes, I was. 17 And they're notarized by someone named 18 Kimberly Moran. 19 Does she work for your office? Yes, she did. 20 Α. 21 And through her involvement with your firm 0. 2.2 and -- did she personally know Shirley and Traci 23 Kratish, as well as yourself? 24 Α. Yes, she did.

Now, at the same time that Shirley signed her

25

O.

- documents, did Simon sign a similar set of 2008 will and trust, similar to the drafts that were sent in April?
  - A. Yes, he did. We were all sitting in the main conference area in their offices together.
    - Q. In Simon's office or your office?
- 6 A. In Simon's offices.

7

8

9

12

13

14

- Q. Okay. So why would someone from your office come to Simon's office rather than rely on the notary that they have there?
- 10 A. Because we wanted to accommodate Shirley and
  11 Si in their offices and not have them travel.
  - Q. You personally went there. Did you personally go through to make sure that the documents were signed with all the formalities required under Florida law to make them valid and enforceable?
- 16 A. Yes, we did. That's why we were there.
- Q. And if Simon did not have a 2008 will and -- sorry.
- If Simon did not have a 2002 will and trust,
  would it be your belief that the 2008 will and trust
  would be valid?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Were they properly signed with all the same testamentary formalities required by Florida law?
- 25 A. Yes, they were.

1 Q. Okay. Did Shirley at some point amend her 2 trust agreement? 3 Α. Yes, she did. And do you recall why she amended it? Q. She amended it to remove Matt Logan from the 5 Α. 6 document that she had included previously as a specific 7 device. 8 Ο. Do you know why Matt was removed? It's attorney-client privilege. Α. 10 Does it matter? 11 I'll withdraw the question. Ο. 12 Was Matthew removed at the direction of 13 Shirley? 14 Α. Yes. 15 Q. I'll withdraw --16 Α. Yes. Yes. Yes. 17 Did Shirley sign a document that effectively Ο. 18 removed Matthew? 19 Yes, she did. Α. Let me hand you Exhibit No. 3, and ask you if 20 21 you recognize that document? 2.2 Α. Yes, I do. 23 Now, was this document signed with the same Ο. 24 testamentary formalities as the 2008 trust? 25 Α. Yes, it was.

```
1
               MR. ROSE: We would move Exhibit 3 into
          evidence, Your Honor.
 2
 3
               THE COURT: Any objection?
               [No response.]
               THE COURT: All right. That's in evidence as
          Plaintiff's 3.
 6
 7
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 3 was received into
     evidence.)
 8
     BY MR. ROSE:
10
               Now, if you look -- there's a paragraph 1 and
11
     a paragraph 3, but no paragraph 2.
12
               Do you know why that is?
13
               It's just a mistake in drafting.
          Α.
               And did you specifically discuss with Shirley,
14
          Ο.
15
     whose privilege I technically would control -- my client
     would control --
16
17
               Did you specifically discuss with Shirley the
     fact that the effect of the first amendment would be to
18
19
     remove the specific gift that she had made for Matthew
20
     Logan?
21
               Yes. Even prior to the signing of the
          Α.
2.2
     document.
23
          O.
               And is this the last relevant testamentary
24
     document that Shirley ever signed that you're aware of?
25
          Α.
               Yes, it is.
```

- Q. Did you meet with Simon and Shirley in person to talk about this amendment?
  - A. Si had called me and said that Shirley had a change to her documents, and asked me to give her a call and have lunch with her. I called her. We arranged for a meeting in her house to execute the document.
  - Q. Now, you brought your -- you brought Kimberly with you to get -- for convenience and to make sure the documents were properly executed?
- A. Correct. She had -- she had her personal assistant that was there, Rachel Walker, to serve as another witness.
- Q. Just so I don't have to go back, what's the date of the amendment?
  - A. November 18th, 2008.

2

3

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

21

- Q. So now we five documents that exist; 2008, will, trust, will, trust, and an amendment to Shirley's trust.
- Did you share any of those documents with any of Simon and Shirley's children at that time?
  - A. No, we did not.
- Q. Did any of the -- did any of the children play any role in bringing Simon or Shirley to your offices?
- A. Not that I'm aware, no.
  - Q. Did any of the children accompany them

1 to -- any time they came to visit you, did any of the children come with them, drag them along? 2 Α. No. So you prepared -- did you do some other Ο. estate planning in addition to the 2008 testamentary documents? 6 Α. Yes, we did. Ο. Can you briefly describe some of the things 8 you did? 10 Α. We had set up a Florida limited partnership. 11 We created a general partner entity for that 12 partnership, a limited liability company. What's the name of the Florida limited 13 Ο. 14 partnership? 15 Bernstein Family Investments, LLLP. Α. Was that an entity that was in existence or 16 Q. 17 was it created under your direction? 18 THE COURT: Can I stop you a second? Is this 19 going to help me figure out the validity of the 20 testamentary documents? 21 MR. ROSE: Only in the very narrowest sense. 2.2 I'm just trying to establish that they had a very 23 lengthy and extensive relationship, and they did a 24 lot of estate planning for Simon and Shirley. But 25 I'll be very brief.

```
1
               THE COURT:
                           Well, if that becomes relevant
 2
          later, perhaps you could come back to it. But I
 3
          don't see the relevance at this point, so I'll ask
          you to move on.
 5
               MR. ROSE: Yes, sir.
     BY MR. ROSE:
6
7
               Now, was Simon concerned at all about asset
     protection as part of some of the things you discussed?
8
 9
          Α.
               Yes, he was.
10
               Now, we have -- did you have any discussion
11
     with him about who was expected to live longer or if
12
     either of them had health problems that you had any
13
     knowledge of?
14
               Si was not -- he was in good health, but he
15
     had had some heart issues. And Shirley had had other
16
     issues as well. And I think it -- early on, he didn't
17
     know, but as the relationship went on, we kind of knew
18
     that Shirley was sicker than him and would probably pass
19
     first.
               So Shirley died -- it's in the public
20
21
     record -- but December --
2.2
          Α.
               2010, yeah.
23
               -- 8th. So Simon was her -- he survived her;
          Ο.
24
    he becomes the sole beneficiary as far as tangible
25
     personal property under her will?
```

- 1 A. Yes, he does.
  - Q. The residuary goes into the Shirley Bernstein
- 3 Trust?

- 4 A. That's correct.
- Q. He's the sole successor trustee and the sole
- 6 | beneficiary --
- 7 A. Yes, he is.
- 8 Q. -- during the term of his life?
- A. Correct.
- Q. Now, was there a great deal of effort put into
- 11 | inventorying the assets, things like that?
- 12 A. No, there wasn't. For purposes of opening up
- 13 | Shirley's probate, we had asked Si to estimate the value
- 14 of, you know, her tangible personal property. And
- 15 | that's what we included on the inventory that was filed
- 16 | in the probate.
- 17 O. Now, if I'm correct, 2010 was the year there
- 18 | were no estate taxes at all?
- 19 A. No estate taxes.
- 20 Q. Simon's the sole beneficiary?
- 21 A. Sole beneficiary. Even if there were taxes,
- 22 | there wouldn't have been any tax on the first death,
- 23 | because everything went to Si, and there was a marital
- 24 deduction.
- 25 Q. While Simon was alive, did Ted have any access

1 to the documents, as far as you know? Did you ever send the testamentary documents of Simon or Shirley to Ted? 2 3 Α. No, we did not. Did Ted play any role in the administration of Ο. the estate while Simon was alive? 5 6 Α. No, he did not. 7 Ο. Did any of the other children play any role in the administration of the estate while Simon was alive? 8 9 Α. No, they did not. 10 Now, did you have to -- well, strike that. Ο. 11 Because it was only Simon, was it sort of the decision by Simon, That I don't want to spend a lot of 12 13 time and money in this estate because it's just wasting 14 my own money? 15 Α. Yes. And that's not unusual in a situation where 16 Q. 17 you have a surviving spouse that's the sole beneficiary? 18 Α. Correct. 19 Now, did there come a point in time when Pam, Ο. who was not a named beneficiary of the -- Shirley's 20 documents, learned of the fact that she had been 21 2.2 excluded? 23 Α. Yes, there was. 24 Okay. And did you get involved with Ο. 25 discussions with Pam or her lawyer?

1 Α. She had hired an attorney, who had made a request to get a copy of her mother's documents. And I 2 3 called Si, spoke to Si about it, and he authorized me giving Pam those documents -- or her attorney those 4 documents. 5 6 Were they provided to any of the other 0. 7 children; that would be Ted or his brother, Eliot, or his two sisters, Lisa or Jill? 8 9 Α. No, they were not. 10 And did Simon Bernstein at some point decide Ο. 11 to change his testamentary documents? Yes, he did. 12 Α. 13 Do you recall approximately when that Ο. 14 happened? 15 Early 2012, he called and requested that we Α. 16 meet to go over his documents. 17 I'm going to hand you an exhibit marked 18 Exhibit 13, and ask you if you recognize those as your 19 own notes? Yes. These are my notes from that meeting in 20 Α. 21 2012. 2.2 MR. ROSE: I would move Exhibit 13 into 23 evidence, Your Honor. 24 THE COURT: Any objection? 25 [No response.]

```
1
               THE COURT: All right. That's in evidence as
          Plaintiff's 13 then.
 2
 3
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 13 was received into
     evidence.)
 4
     BY MR. ROSE:
 5
               Now, during this meeting, did Simon discuss
 6
          Ο.
7
     the possibility of altering his estate plan?
               Yes, he did.
 8
          Α.
               Did you also go over his current finances?
          Ο.
10
               Yes, we did.
          Α.
11
               Now, we've seen from 2007 that he had
          0.
     disclosed about $18 million.
12
13
               As part of the meeting in February of 2012, he
14
     gave you sort of a summary of where he stood at that
15
     time?
16
          Α.
               Yes, he did.
17
               And what was the status of the Shirley
18
     Bernstein probate administration in early 2012, about
19
     13 months after she passed away?
20
               It was still not closed.
          Α.
21
               Do you know why it was not closed?
          Ο.
2.2
          Α.
               I think that we were still waiting -- I'm not
23
     sure that -- we were still waiting on waivers and
24
     releases from the children to close the estate, to
25
     qualify beneficiaries under the estate if Si were to
```

1 die. We had to get waivers and releases from them. 2 Ο. Standard operating procedure? 3 Α. Standard operating procedure. Okay. So Simon here, it says -- it says at Q. the top "SIPC receivable." 5 Do you know what that is? 6 7 Α. Yes, I do. That was -- Si had made an investment in a Stanford product that was purported to 8 be a CD; it was an offshore CD. And when the Stanford 10 debacle hit, I guess he filed a claim with SIPC to get 11 those monies back, because it was supposedly a cash investment. 12 13 And so he invested in a Ponzi scheme and lost Ο. 14 a bunch of money? 15 Α. Correct. Some of the 18 million he had in 2007 he lost 16 Q. in the next four and a half years in investing in a 17 Ponzi scheme? 18 19 That's correct. Α. And then the maximum that the SIPC -- which is 20 Ο. 21 like the FDIC for investments. 2.2 You're familiar with that, correct? 23 Α. Yes. 24 The maximum is 500,000. Q. 25 You don't actually necessarily recover

1 500,000? You have a receivable, right? 2 Α. Yes. 3 Ο. Do you know how much he actually realized from the SIPC? I believe he never received anything. Α. Okay. And then it said, LIC receivable, 6 Ο. 7 \$100,000. Am I reading that correct? 8 9 Α. Yes. 10 And LIC was the company he was involved, with Ο. 11 others? 12 Α. Yes. 13 Okay. So I put here 600 that he put, but the Ο. 600 is really probably closer to 100 if you didn't get 14 15 the SIPC money? 16 Α. Correct. 17 So I'm going to just put a little star here and put it's really 100,000, and sort that out. 18 19 So then he says -- he has -- Si's estate, this 20 would be his personal assets. He's got an interest in the LLLP. 21 2.2 That is not relevant to discuss how it was 23 formed, but there was an LLLP that was owned, some by 24 Si's trust, some by Shirley's trust? 25 Α. Correct.

1	Q.	And at the time, he thought the value was
2	1,150,000	for his share?
3	А.	That's correct.
4		MR. BERNSTEIN: Can I object, Your Honor?
5		THE COURT: What's the objection?
6		MR. BERNSTEIN: Relevance.
7		THE COURT: Overruled.
8		MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
9	BY MR. ROSE:	
10	Q.	And then he had an IRA that says 750,000.
11	A.	Correct.
12	Q.	And those two things totaled 1,550,000?
13	Α.	No. They totaled one million nine. Right?
14	Q.	Okay. You're right.
15		You wrote next to it "estate tax."
16		What does that mean, on the side next to it?
17	Α.	I think what I had done was offset the value
18	of the assets in his estate by the loans that were	
19	outstandi	ng at the time.
20	Q.	And it shows a million seven in loans?
21	Α.	A million seven in loans.
22	Q.	So we had loans back in 2008 I'm sorry.
23	November of 2007 time period or 2008, which were	
24	only s	o we have loans now, you said, a million seven?
25	Α.	Well, he had a \$1.2 million loan with

```
1
     JP Morgan that was collateralized with the assets of the
 2
     LLLP.
 3
          0.
               And then you list -- just to speed up, then
     you have -- underneath that, it says Shirley's asset was
 5
     empty, right? Because whatever was in had gone to
     Simon?
 6
7
          Α.
               Yeah, her estate had nothing in it.
               She had a Bentley, I think, when she died.
          Ο.
 8
 9
               Do you know what happened to the Bentley?
10
               I wasn't aware that she had a Bentley.
          Α.
11
               Did you come to learn that she had a Bentley
          0.
     and Simon gave it to his girlfriend, and she traded it
12
13
     in at the dealership and got a Range Rover?
               Much, much, much later on --
14
          Α.
15
          Q.
               But you know --
               -- after Si's death.
16
          Α.
17
               But you know that to be the case?
          Ο.
18
          Α.
               I wasn't aware that it was traded for the
19
     Range Rover. I thought he bought her the Range Rover.
     I didn't realize he used a Bentley to do it.
20
21
               Okay. Somehow you know the Bentley became
          Q.
2.2
     something for Maritza?
23
          Α.
               Yes.
24
               That's the name of his girlfriend?
          Q.
25
          Α.
               Yes.
```

```
1
          Ο.
               Okay. Then it says, in Shirley's trust,
 2
     condo, one million -- I'm sorry. I should go to the
 3
     next column. It says "FMV."
               That would be shorthand for Fair Market Value?
               Yes.
          Α.
               So condo, 2 million, which is here; house,
 6
          0.
 7
     3 million; half of the LLLP, which is Shirley's half
     after -- I assume, after the deduction of the loan, was
8
     800,000?
10
          Α.
               Um-hum.
11
               Then it says "LIC." That's the company Life
          0.
12
     Insurance Concepts that Mr. -- that Simon, his son Ted,
13
     and a gentleman named Bill Stansbury had formally been
     involved, another attorney, shares by then. Because
14
15
     we're in February of 2012.
16
               But, in any event, that's Simon's company?
17
          Α.
               Correct.
18
          Q.
               And he told you in 2007 it was worth --
     Mr. Tescher's -- notes, like -- his interest was worth
19
     5 million.
20
21
               What did he tell you it was worth in 2012?
2.2
          Α.
               Zero.
23
               Then underneath that -- I put zero here, so
          Ο.
24
     zero today.
25
               So his net worth -- and then there was a home
```

1 that he owned for -- that Eliot lives in, right? didn't really own it, but he controlled it, Simon? 2 3 Α. Yes. 4 Q. Okay. Did you set up the entity that owned the home? 5 6 Α. Yes, I did. 7 Ο. Just to save time, there's an entity called Bernstein Family Realty that owns the house. 8 9 Simon controlled that entity while he was 10 alive? 11 Yes, he did. Α. 12 And his estate holds a mortgage on the house Ο. for 365,000? 13 14 Α. Correct. 15 Ο. So there's some interest there. He didn't put it on his sheet when he talked 16 17 to you, but that still would have existed in some form, 18 right? 19 Α. Yes. 20 And it still exists to this day. Ο. We don't know the value of it, but there still 21 2.2 is a mortgage, right? 23 Α. Yes. 24 Okay. But either way, the point of this whole Q. 25 story is, his net worth went down significantly between

```
Direct Cross Vol 1
                             December 15, 2015
1
     2007 and 2012?
 2
          Α.
               Yes, it did.
 3
               And in your world, that's not uncommon, with
     the stock market crash, the depression, things like
     that, that a lot of clients with high net worth would
 5
 6
    have suffered losses during that time?
7
          Α.
               Many, many of them did. And even the values
     that are on this sheet were not the real values.
8
 9
          Ο.
               We know that the --
10
               Clients have a tendency to overstate their net
          Α.
11
     worth.
               All right. And we know the Ocean Drive house
12
          0.
     sold for about a million four?
13
14
          Α.
               Correct.
```

- Q. And the Court -- there's an order that
  approved the sale, the gross sale price of a million one
  for St. Andrews?
- 18 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. So that's still -- that's less than half, even then, Simon thought he would get.
- Now, if you look at the bottom of the
  Exhibit No. 13, it says a word, begins with an "I." I
  can't really read it.
- 24 | Can you read that?
- 25 A. Insurance.

1 Ο. Well, did you have some discussions with Simon about his insurance? 2 3 Α. Yes, we did. Q. In fact, I think -- Mr. Spallina, we talked about he had -- I'm sorry. Mr. Tescher's notes had a \$2 million life 6 7 insurance? Α. Correct. 8 Okay. Is this the same life insurance? Ο. 10 Yes, it is. Α. 11 And was there a discussion about -- I quess it Ο. 12 says 1 million --13 That's one million seven-fifty? A million 75 -- yeah, one million seven-fifty 14 Α. 15 was the value of the policy. And the death benefit was a million six? 16 Q. 17 Million six. There was a small loan or Α. 18 something against the policy. 19 Okay. And then it says "Maritza." O. What was Maritza down there for? 20 21 Si was considering changing -- the purpose of Α. 2.2 the meeting was to meet, discuss his assets. And he 23 was, you know, having a lot of, I guess, internal -- he 24 had received another letter from his daughter -- he asked me to read the letter from Pam -- that she still 25

1 was not happy about the fact that she had been disinherited under her mother's documents if the assets 2 3 were to pass under the documents and he didn't exercise his power of appointment. And this meeting was to kind of figure out a way, with the assets that he had, to 5 take care of everybody; the grandchildren, the children, 6 7 and Maritza. And so he thought maybe that he would change 8 the beneficiary designation on his life insurance to 10 include her. And we had talked about providing for her, 11 depending on -- an amount -- an increasing scale, depending on the number of years that he was with her. 12 13 So if you look at the bottom, it says 0 to Ο. 14 2 years, 250. 15 Is that what you're referring to? Yes. Two to four years, 500,000. And then 16 Α. 17 anything over plus-four years would be -- I think that's 600,000. 18 19 Now, during this discussion, was Simon Ο. mentally sharp and aware of what was going on? 20 21 Α. Oh, yeah. Yeah, he was -- he was the same 2.2 Simon. He was just -- you know, he was struggling with 23 his estate now. He was getting -- he felt -- I guess he 24 was getting pulled. He had a girlfriend that wanted 25 something. He had his daughter who, you know, felt like

- she had been slighted. And he wanted to try to make good by everybody.
- Q. And at that point in time, other than the house that he had bought that Eliot lived in, were you aware that he was supporting Eliot with a very significant amount of money each year?
- 7 A. I was not.
- 8 MR. BERNSTEIN: Object to the relevance.
- 9 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 10 BY MR. ROSE:
- 11 Q. Okay. So that's February.
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. What happens next in relation to Simon coming in to meet with you to talk about changing his
- 15 documents?
- 16 A. He had called me on the phone and he -- we talked again about, you know, him changing his
- 18 documents. He had been thinking about giving his estate
- 19 and Shirley's estate to his grandchildren. And at the
- 20 | February meeting, I did not think it was a great idea
- 21 for him to include his girlfriend, Maritza, as a
- 22 beneficiary of the life insurance policy.
- Q. He took your advice? He didn't change that,
- 24 | as far as you know?
- 25 A. He did not.

- Q. Okay. I'm sorry. Continue.
- A. He did not.

2

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

2.2

23

- 3 I had suggested that he provide for her in other ways; a joint account that would pass to her at his death, but not to mix her in with his family in their dispositive documents. And he ultimately took 6 7 that advice and decided that he wanted to give his estate to his ten grandchildren, and that the policy --8 which I had never seen a copy of the policy, but, you 10 know -- he had had. And I knew that he was paying for 11 it, because -- it almost lapsed, or did lapse at one 12 point, and it got reinstated -- that that policy was to 13 pass to an insurance trust that named his five children as beneficiaries. 14
  - Q. And that's something Simon specifically discussed with you when you were going over his estate planning in 2012?
  - A. Correct -- or something that we had known about before that meeting. But he was -- at the meeting, he was starting to talk about doing a change to the beneficiary designation to include Maritza, and I wanted to talk him out of that.
  - Q. And at some point, he made a decision to actually change his documents, correct?
- 25 A. He did. He did.

1 Ο. And did he direct you to set up any kind of a communication with his children? 2 3 Yes. He said, I want you to get -- put together a conference call with me and you and my five children so I can talk to them about what I want to do 5 6 with my estate and Shirley's estate. 7 THE COURT: All right. This would be a good time for us to take a pause for a morning break. 8 We'll be in session again in 10 minutes. 10 As far as time use goes, so far Plaintiff's 11 side has used 60 minutes. So you have 90 remaining 12 in your portion of the day. And that's where we 13 stand. MR. ROSE: We'll be well within our time, sir. 14 15 THE COURT: Great. Okay. We'll be in recess for ten minutes. Is ten 16 17 minutes enough time for everybody? That's what it'll be then. 18 19 (A break was taken.) 20 THE COURT: We're ready to proceed. 21 continue. 2.2 MR. ROSE: Thank you. 23 BY MR. ROSE: 24 I think we were when Shirley died in December Ο. 25 of 2010, and you meet with Si, according to

```
1
     Plaintiff's 13, on February 1st of 2012.
               I think by May of 2012 was when this
 2
 3
     conference call that you mentioned was?
               Yes, it was.
          Α.
               Okay. And did the five children attend the
          Ο.
6
     conference call?
7
          Α.
               Yes, they all did.
               Were you present on the call?
 8
          Ο.
          Α.
               Yes, I was.
10
               Was Simon present?
          Q.
11
               Yes, he was.
          Α.
12
          O.
               Where was Simon physically during the call?
               His office -- I believe his office.
13
          Α.
14
          Ο.
               Were you in the same room as Simon?
15
               No, I was not.
          Α.
16
               You were in your office?
          Q.
17
               I was in my office.
          Α.
18
          Q.
               Okay. Generally, what was discussed during
19
     this conference call?
               Simon wanted to talk to his children about
20
          Α.
21
     providing for his estate and his wife's estate to go to
2.2
     the ten grandchildren; wanted to have a discussion with
23
     his children and see what they thought about that.
24
               And was he asking them for their approval or
          Ο.
25
     permission or...
```

- A. Well, I think he wanted to see what they all thought, you know, based on things that had happened in the past and documents that had been created in the past. And I don't know that it was going to sway his opinion, but when he told me, you know, to -- you know, to have the conference call, to contact his -- he said, This is what I'm going to do, so...
  - Q. During the call, did Simon ask his children if anybody had an objection to him leaving his and Shirley's wealth to the ten grandchildren?
    - A. Yes. He asked what everybody thought.
      - O. Did Eliot respond?
- 13 A. Yes, he did.

10

11

12

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

2.2

23

24

- Q. What did he say?
- A. I'm paraphrasing, but he said something to the effect of, Dad, you know, whatever you want to do, whatever makes you happy, that's what's important.
  - Q. Did you also discuss during that call the need to close Shirley's estate?
  - A. Yes, we did. We had told Si that we needed to get back the waivers of accounting, the releases, and we asked -- he asked them to get those back to us as soon as possible.
- Q. Okay. If I hand you Exhibit 14, it appears to be an email from Eliot Bernstein to you addressing the

```
1
     waiver that he needed to sign?
 2
          Α.
               Yes, it is.
 3
               MR. ROSE: I move Exhibit 14 into evidence.
               THE COURT: Any objection?
               [No response.]
               THE COURT: All right. That's in evidence
 6
 7
          then as Plaintiff's 14.
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 14 was received into
 8
     evidence.)
10
               MR. ROSE: As a matter of housekeeping, Your
11
          Honor, I think I might have failed to move in
12
          Exhibit 2, which is Shirley Bernstein's 2008 trust
13
          agreement, which I would move, to the extent it's
          not in evidence, 1, 2 and 3, which are the
14
15
          operative documents Mr. Spallina's already
          testified about.
16
17
               THE COURT: Any objection?
18
               MR. BERNSTEIN: What was that? I'm sorry.
19
               THE COURT: Is there any objection to
          Plaintiff's 1, which is the will of Shirley
20
          Bernstein, Plaintiff's 2, which is the Shirley
21
2.2
          Bernstein Trust Agreement, and Plaintiff's 3, which
23
          is the First Amendment to the Shirley Bernstein
24
          Trust Agreement?
25
               MR. BERNSTEIN: No.
```

```
1
               THE COURT: All right. Those are all in
          evidence then as Plaintiff's 1, 2 and 3.
 2
 3
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 2 was received into
     evidence.)
 4
     BY MR. ROSE:
 5
          Q.
6
               Okay. This email is dated May -- May 17,
7
     2012, from Eliot, correct?
               Yes, it is.
          Α.
8
               This would have been after the conference
          Ο.
10
     call?
11
               This, I believe, was after the conference
12
     call, yep.
13
               And he says he's attached the waiver
          Ο.
     accounting and portions of petition for discharge,
14
15
     waiver of service for a petition for discharge, and
16
     receipt of beneficiary and consent to discharge that he
17
    had signed.
18
               Did you receive those from Eliot?
               Yes, I did. We received -- that was the first
19
          Α.
     waivers that we received.
20
21
               Then it says "as I mentioned in the phone
          Q.
2.2
     call."
23
               Did you have any separate phone calls with
24
     Eliot Bernstein, you and he, or is he referring to the
25
     conference call?
```

- 1 A. I think he's referring to the conference call.
- Q. Okay. I have not yet -- "I have not seen any
- 3 of the underlying estate documents or my mother's will
- 4 | at this point, yet I signed this document after our
- 5 | family call so that my father can be released of his
- 6 duties as personal representative and put whatever
- 7 | matters that were causing him stress to rest."
- 8 Do you see that?
- 9 A. Yes, I do.
- 10 Q. Now, while Simon was alive, did you ever get
- 11 | authorization to share the testamentary documents with
- 12 | Eliot Bernstein?
- 13 A. I did not.
- 14 O. Now, after the call and after the discussion
- 15 | with the siblings, did you prepare a draft of -- of new
- 16 documents for Simon?
- 17 A. Yes, I did.
- 18 Q. I'm going to hand you Exhibit 15; ask if
- 19 | that's a letter that you sent to Simon Bernstein
- 20 | enclosing some new drafts?
- 21 A. Yes, it is.
- 22 Q. Now, what's the date of that?
- 23 A. May 24th, 2012.
- Q. And what's -- what is the summary -- well,
- 25 | strike that.

1 You sent this letter to Simon Bernstein? 2 Α. Yes, I did. 3 Q. By FedEx to his home? Α. Yes, I did. MR. ROSE: I would move Exhibit 15 in evidence. 6 7 THE COURT: Any objection? [No response.] 8 9 THE COURT: All right. That's in evidence as Plaintiff's 15. 10 (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 15 was received into 11 evidence.) 12 BY MR. ROSE: 13 14 Okay. So then first page says, "Dear Si, we 15 have prepared drafts of a new will and an amended and 16 restated trust agreement." 17 Are those the 2012 documents that were his final ones? 18 19 Α. Yes, they are. 20 Okay. Then you sort of do the same thing you 21 did in 2008; you give a little summary of what the 2.2 estate plan is. 23 "Your amended and restated trust provides that 24 on your death, your assets will be divided among and 25 held in separate trusts for your then living

- grandchildren, correct? I was reading paragraph -- the middle paragraph.
  - A. Yes, I see that. Yes.
  - Q. I actually skipped the part above, which is probably more important, which says -- in the middle of the first paragraph, it says, "In addition, you have exercised the special power of appointment granted to you under Shirley's trust agreement in favor of your grandchildren who survive you."

10 Do you see that?

11 A. Yes.

3

5

6

7

8

- Q. Okay. And so that was Simon's intent as discussed on the conference call?
- 14 A. Yes, it was.
- Q. Do you know if you made any changes to these draft documents from May 24th until the day they were signed?
- A. I don't believe so. If I did, it was for
  grammar or something else. The dispositive plan that
  was laid out in this memo was ultimately the subject of
  the documents that he executed in July.
- Q. I'm going to hand you Exhibit 16, which is a durable power of attorney.
- If you flip to Exhibit 16, the last page, does
  it bear a signature of Simon Bernstein?

```
1
          Α.
               Yes, it does.
 2
               And it indicates you were a witness to the
 3
     signature?
          Α.
               Yes.
               Along with Kimberly Moran, who is someone from
6
     your office?
7
          Α.
               Correct.
          Ο.
               And someone named Lindsay Baxley notarized the
 8
     documents?
10
          Α.
               Yes, she did.
11
               Do you know who Lindsay Baxley was?
          Ο.
               Lindsay Baxley worked in Ted and Si's office.
12
          Α.
13
               She was like a secretary?
          Q.
               Assistant to Ted, I believe, maybe.
14
          Α.
15
               Okay. And if you look at --
          Q.
               MR. ROSE: Well, first of all, I'll move
16
          Exhibit 16 into evidence.
17
18
               THE COURT: Any objection?
19
               [No response.]
               THE COURT: No objection made, then I'll
20
          receive this as Plaintiff's 16.
21
2.2
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 16 was received into
23
     evidence.)
24
     BY MR. ROSE:
25
          Q.
               If you look at the last page where the notary
```

1 block is there, it says "personally known" with an underline, or "produced identification" with an 2 3 underline. And she's checked the box "personally known" -- or she's checked the line. 5 Do you see that? 6 Α. Yes. 7 So do you believe that -- did you know Lindsay 0. Baxley by that point in time? 8 9 Α. Yes, I did. 10 And you believe -- she obviously knew Simon, Ο. 11 she knew Kim Moran from other dealings between your 12 offices? 13 Α. Yes. Okay. And did you all sign this durable power 14 Ο. 15 of attorney with testamentary formalities? 16 Α. Yes, we did. 17 And what's the date of that? O. 18 Α. July 25, 2012. 19 I'm going to approach with Exhibit 4, and ask Ο. you if you recognize Exhibit 4? 20 21 Α. Yes, I do. 2.2 Okay. And what is Exhibit 4? Ο. This is Si's new will that he executed in 23 Α. 24 2012, on July 25th, the same day as that durable power

25

of attorney.

1	Q. Now, were you present when Simon executed his	
2	new will, which is Exhibit 4?	
3	A. Yes, I was.	
4	Q. If you turn to the last page	
5	Well, actually, if you turn to the first page,	
6	does it say "copy" and bear a clerk's stamp?	
7	A. It does.	
8	Q. Okay.	
9	MR. ROSE: I would represent to the Court that	
10	I went to the clerk's office unlike with	
11	Shirley's will, I went to the clerk's office and	
12	obtained a like, a copy made by the clerk of the	
13	document itself, rather than have the typewritten	
14	conformed copy.	
15	MR. BERNSTEIN: Can I object to that?	
16	THE COURT: What's the objection?	
17	MR. BERNSTEIN: Is he making a statement? I'm	
18	not sure	
19	THE COURT: You're asking me a question. I	
20	don't know.	
21	MR. BERNSTEIN: I'm objecting. Is that a	
22	statement?	
23	THE COURT: The objection is? What are you	
24	objecting to?	
25	MR. BERNSTEIN: With the statement being	

from --1 2 THE COURT: Okay. That was a statement by 3 somebody who's not a sworn witness, so I'll sustain the objection. MR. BERNSTEIN: And the chain of custody of 6 the document, I'm just trying to clarify that. Okay. The objection was to the THE COURT: 8 statement. I've sustained the objection. 10 Next question, please. 11 BY MR. ROSE: Unlike the trust, how many originals of a will 12 Ο. 13 do you have the client sign? 14 Α. There's only one. 15 And then you give the client the one with the Ο. 16 typewritten -- you call it conformed copy? 17 We conform the copy of the will. Α. 18 Q. And after Simon died, was your law firm counsel for the personal representative of the Estate of 19 Simon Bernstein? 20 21 Α. Yes, we were. 2.2 Did you file the original will with the court? Ο. 23 Α. Yes, we did. 24 Is it your belief that the original of this Q. 25 document is somewhere in the Palm Beach County Court

```
1
     system with the clerk's office?
 2
          Α.
               Yes, I do.
 3
               MR. ROSE: I'd move Exhibit 4 in evidence,
          Your Honor.
               THE COURT: All right. Any objection?
 6
               [No response.]
 7
               MR. BERNSTEIN: No objection stated, I'll
          receive this as Plaintiff's 4.
8
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 4 was received into
 9
10
     evidence.)
11
    BY MR. ROSE:
12
               Now, if you turn to the next to the last page
          Ο.
     of Exhibit --
13
14
          Α.
               Yes.
15
               -- Exhibit 4, you'll see it bears a signature
          0.
     of Simon Bernstein and two witnesses, yourself and
16
17
     Kimberly Moran, who all assert that you signed in the
18
    presence of each other?
19
          Α.
               Yes.
               And then in the next page, it has what would
20
21
    be a self-proving affidavit?
2.2
          Α.
               Correct.
23
               Now, if you look at the signature block where
24
     the notary signed, where it says "who is personally
25
    known to me," it doesn't seem to have a check box there.
```

1 It just says "who is personally known to me or who has produced [blank] as identification, "right? 2 3 Α. Correct. Is this the same person who notarized the Q. exhibit we just put in evidence, Exhibit 15, the durable 5 6 power of attorney -- 16, the durable power of attorney? 7 Α. Yes. Ο. Okay. And again, with regard to 8 Exhibit 4 -- strike that. 10 Do you recall where you signed Exhibit 4? 11 Α. Yes. In whose office? 12 Ο. This was also done in Si's office. 13 Α. 14 Ο. Okay. So you took -- you went personally 15 again, along with Kim Moran, as your practice, to make 16 sure that the documents were signed properly; true? 17 Α. Correct. 18 Q. And that's important because, if the documents 19 aren't properly signed, they might not be valid and 20 enforceable? 21 Α. That's correct. 2.2 O. And I'm going to hand you Exhibit 5. This is the Simon L. Bernstein Amended and Restated Trust 23 24 Agreement. 25 Was that signed the same day, at the same

```
1
     time, with the same procedures?
 2
          Α.
               Yes, it was.
 3
          Ο.
               And would this have been signed with three
     originals?
               Yes, it would be.
          Α.
               MR. ROSE: I would move Exhibit 5 into
 6
 7
          evidence, Your Honor.
               THE COURT: Any objection?
 8
 9
               [No response.]
10
               THE COURT: All right. That's in evidence as
11
          Plaintiff's 5.
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 5 was received into
12
     evidence.)
13
    BY MR. ROSE:
14
15
               Now, we looked at the history when you did the
     first set of documents. In the second set, you started
16
17
     in February through July.
18
               Did you have a number of telephone conferences
    with Simon during that time?
19
20
          Α.
               Yes, we did.
21
               And at least a couple of face-to-face
          Q.
2.2
    meetings?
23
          Α.
               Yes, we did.
24
               Did at any time Simon give you any indication
          Q.
25
     that he was not fully mentally sharp and aware and
```

```
1
     acting of his own volition?
               Nope. He was Si that we had known since 2007.
 2
          Α.
 3
          Ο.
               I'll close with Exhibit 17. This is a letter
     you sent to Simon Bernstein, enclosing a copy of his
     conformed will for him.
 5
6
          Α.
               Yes, it is.
 7
          Ο.
               And it's dated the 26th, the day after he
     signed the documents?
8
9
          Α.
               Correct.
10
               And did you also leave him with two of the
          Ο.
11
     originals of his trust?
12
          Α.
               Yes, we did.
               MR. ROSE: I move -- did I move 17 in?
13
          will move it in.
14
15
               THE COURT: Number 7, is it?
16
               MR. ROSE: Seventeen, sir.
               THE COURT: Oh, I'm sorry.
17
18
               Any objection?
19
               [No response.]
20
               THE COURT: All right.
                                        Then that's in
          evidence as Plaintiff's 17.
21
2.2
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 17 was received into
23
     evidence.)
24
     BY MR. ROSE:
25
          Q.
               Now, Simon passed away on September 13, 2012.
```

```
1
               Does that sound right?
               Yes, it does.
 2
          Α.
               I have Exhibit 18 as his death certificate.
 3
          Ο.
               MR. ROSE: I'll just move 18 into evidence.
 5
               THE COURT: Any objection?
 6
               [No response.]
 7
               THE COURT: All right. That's in evidence as
          Plaintiff's 18.
 8
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 18 was received into
10
     evidence.)
11
    BY MR. ROSE:
          O. So that's the death certificate for Simon
12
13
     Bernstein.
               Did you have any further discussions or
14
15
     meetings with Simon after he signed the will and trust
     in 2012 and before he died?
16
17
          Α.
               Not that I recall, no.
18
          Q.
               And you filed a notice of administration,
     opened an asset, published it in the Palm Beach Daily
19
     Review, did what you had to do?
20
21
          Α.
               Yes, we did.
2.2
          Ο.
               And you and Mr. Tescher were the personal
23
     representatives of the estate?
24
               Yes, we were.
          Α.
25
          Ο.
               And you and Mr. Tescher became the successor
```

1 trustees of Simon's amended trust after he passed away? 2 Α. Yes, we did. 3 0. I quess while he was still alive, he was still the sole trustee of his trust, which was revocable 5 still? Α. Correct. 6 7 And then upon his death, at some point, did Ο. Ted Bernstein become aware that he was going to become 8 the successor trustee to the Shirley trust? 10 Yes. We had a meeting with Ted. Α. 11 And that was the first time he learned about Ο. the contents of her trust, as far as you know? 12 13 Α. Correct. 14 Initially, did anybody object to the documents 15 or the fact that the beneficiaries were supposed to be the 10 grandchildren? 16 17 Α. No. 18 Q. When was there first some kind of an objection 19 or a complaint? I can't recall exactly when it happened. 20 Α. 21 Okay. Did you at some point get a letter from Q. 2.2 a lawyer at the Tripp Scott firm? 23 Α. Yes, we did. 24 Okay. I think she was asking you about Q.

something called the status of something called I View

```
1
     It Company? Do you recall that?
 2
          Α.
               Vaguely.
 3
               Did you know what the Iviewit company was
     before you received a letter from the Tripp Scott
 5
     lawyer?
 6
          Α.
               I'm not sure. I'm not sure.
                                              I know today.
7
     can't tell if I'm answering because I know about it
     today or if I knew about it at that time.
8
9
          O.
               Okay. And did -- was she asking for some
10
     documents from you?
11
          Α.
               Is this Ms. Yates?
12
          Ο.
               Yes.
13
          Α.
               Yes.
               And did you provide her with certain
14
          Ο.
15
     documents?
               She had asked for copies of all of Shirley's
16
          Α.
17
     and Si's estate planning documents.
18
          Q.
               And did you provide her with all of the
19
     documents?
20
          Α.
               Yes, we did.
21
               Was one of the documents that you provided her
          Q.
22
     not an accurate copy of what Shirley had executed during
    her lifetime?
23
24
          Α.
               That is true.
25
          Q.
               Okay. And I guess I'll hand you Exhibit 6,
```

- and this -- is Exhibit 6 a document that is not a
  genuine and valid testamentary document of Shirley
  Bernstein?
  - A. That's correct.

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

2.2

23

24

- Q. Can you explain to the Court why Exhibit 6 was prepared and the circumstances?
- A. It was prepared to carry out the intent of Mr. Bernstein in the meeting that he had had with his five children, and perhaps a vague -- or a layman -- a layman can make a mistake reading Shirley's documents and not understand who the intended beneficiaries were or what powers I had. So this document was created.
- Q. Is it your belief that under the terms of Shirley's document from -- the ones she actually signed, that Simon had the power to appoint the funds to the ten grandchildren?
- A. Yes. We -- we prepared the documents that way, and our planning transmittal letter to him reflected that.
- Q. And this document is, I think you said, to explain it to a layperson in simpler fashion?
- A. It was created so that the person that, you know, didn't read estate planning documents and prepare estate planning documents for a living -- you know, there was no intent to cut out Pam and Ted's children,

December 15, 2015 1 basically. 2 Now, did you ever file this exhibit in the 3 courthouse? Α. No, we did not. Ο. Did you ever use it for any purpose? 6 Α. No, we did not. 7 Was it at one point provided to Eliot's 0. counsel? 8 9 Α. Yes, it was. 10 Now, the fact -- putting aside this document, Ο. 11 were any of the other documents that we're talking about 12 in any way altered or changed from the ones that were 13 signed by Shirley or Simon? 14 Α. No, they were not. 15 Now, after these issues came to light, did Ο. Mr. Eliot Bernstein begin to attack you through the 16 17 internet and through blogging and things like that? 18 Α. He was doing that long before this document

- came to light.
  - Okay. What was Eliot doing?

19

20

- His first thing that he did was -- with Α. 2.2 respect to the courts, was to file an emergency petition to freeze assets and after his brother as successor 23 24 trustee of his mother's trust had sold the condo.
- 25 MR. BERNSTEIN: Your Honor, can I object to

1	this line of questioning for relevance to validity?
2	THE COURT: What's the line of questioning
3	you're talking about?
4	MR. BERNSTEIN: The slander defamation going
5	on about me with, you know, what I do and
6	THE COURT: Well, I wasn't aware there's a
7	line of questioning going on. There is a question.
8	You've objected to it.
9	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes.
10	THE COURT: What's the objection to that
11	question?
12	MR. BERNSTEIN: The relevancy to a validity
13	hearing.
14	THE COURT: Okay. Can I have the court
15	reporter read the question back?
16	(A portion of the record was read by the
17	reporter.)
18	THE COURT: What is the relevance of whether
19	this guy's posting on Facebook that's negative or
20	not?
21	MR. ROSE: Well, a couple of things, but,
22	primarily, we're just trying to determine whether
23	these documents are valid.
24	THE COURT: Right.
25	MR. ROSE: And he is the only one who's saying

1 they're not valid, so I want to give some explanation as to why he's saying they're not 2 3 valid, as opposed to --I don't care why he's saying THE COURT: they're valid or invalid. I'll wait to see what 6 the facts are. So I'll sustain the objection. 7 MR. ROSE: That's fine. BY MR. ROSE: 8 Ο. Did Simon Bernstein make any special 10 arrangements, other than -- strike that. 11 Did Simon or Shirley make any special 12 arrangements, other than the testamentary documents that are admitted into evidence, for special benefits for 13 Eliot Bernstein and his family? 14 15 No, they did not. Α. 16 Any special education trusts, other than the -- these five documents? And I believe there was 17 18 some shares of stock that were put in trust for all ten 19 grandchildren, right? There was no special arrangements made other 20 Α. 21 than the estate planning documents. 2.2 O. After Simon died, did Eliot claim to you that 23 Simon was supposed to have made some special 24 arrangements for him? 25 MR. BERNSTEIN: Object to the relevancy again.

1	THE COURT: Overruled.
2	THE WITNESS: Yes, he did.
3	BY MR. ROSE:
4	Q. Did he ever give you an indication how much
5	money he thought he was going to inherent when his
6	father died, or his children would inherent when his
7	father died?
8	A. Through his subsequent attorney, yes, he did.
9	Q. And how much money did he indicate he thought
10	there should be?
11	A. I heard a number from one of his attorneys of
12	40- to a \$100 million.
13	Q. Are you aware of any assets that Simon
14	Bernstein had other than what he disclosed to you at the
15	two times that we've looked at in 2007 and again in
16	February of 2012?
17	A. No, I am not.
18	MR. ROSE: No further questions, Your Honor.
19	THE COURT: All right. Thanks.
20	Is there any cross?
21	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes.
22	
22	MR. MORRISSEY: Judge, I have questions as
23	MR. MORRISSEY: Judge, I have questions as well.

1	cross-examination can take place without
2	interruption. So everybody make sure you're
3	fitting within the Plaintiff's side of the room's
4	time limitations. We'll strictly obey those.
5	CROSS (ROBERT SPALLINA)
6	BY MR. MORRISSEY:
7	Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Spallina. My name's John
8	Morrissey. I represent four of the adult grandchildren
9	of Simon Bernstein.
10	And since we're here today about validity, I'm
11	just going to go over, and try to be very brief,
12	concerning the execution of these documents and your
13	knowledge about the execution.
14	Exhibit 1, which has been entered as the will
15	of Shirley Bernstein, I'd ask you to direct your
16	attention to that document. And I'm looking here at
17	page 7. I ask that you turn to page 7 of Exhibit 1.
18	Were you a witness of this document, this will
19	that was executed by Shirley Bernstein on May 20th of
20	2008?
21	A. Yes, I was.
22	Q. And was Diana Banks the other witness?
23	A. Yes, she was.
24	Q. And did you and Diana witness Mrs. Bernstein's
25	execution of this document?

A. Yes, we did.

1

- Q. You were present during her execution?
- 3 A. Yes, we were.
- 4 Q. And was she present during your execution of
- 5 | this document as a witness?
- 6 A. Yes, she was.
- 7 Q. And was she, Shirley Bernstein, present during
- 8 | Diana Banks' execution of this document?
- 9 A. Yes, she was.
- 10 Q. Okay. And I'm again focused on this
- 11 | Exhibit No. 1, this will of Shirley Bernstein dated
- 12 | May 20th of 2008.
- Is it your opinion that at the time Shirley
- 14 | Bernstein executed this document she understood
- 15 generally the nature and extent of her property?
- 16 A. Yes, she did.
- 17 O. Okay. And at the time Shirley Bernstein
- 18 executed Exhibit 1, did she have a general understanding
- 19 of those who would be the natural objects of her bounty?
- 20 A. Yes, she did.
- 21 Q. Okay. And at the time she -- Shirley
- 22 | Bernstein executed Exhibit 1, did she have a general
- 23 | understanding of the practical effect of this will?
- 24 A. I believe she did.
- 25 Q. Okay. And in your opinion, was Shirley

1 Bernstein unduly influenced by any beneficiary of Exhibit 1 in connection with its execution? 2 3 Α. Not to my knowledge. Okay. And do you have any knowledge of any Q. 5 beneficiary or anyone actively procuring Exhibit 1? 6 Α. No, I do not. 7 Ο. Okay. Moving on to Exhibit 2, which is Shirley Bernstein's trust executed on the same date, 8 that is May 20th of 2008, I'll direct your attention to 9 10 page 27 of Exhibit No. 2. And it appears that Shirley 11 Bernstein executed that document on May 20th of 2008. 12 And the witnesses were yourself and Traci -- I can't 13 read her last name. Traci Kratish. 14 Α. 15 Okay. Did Shirley Bernstein execute Ο. 16 Exhibit No. 2 in the presence of both you and Traci 17 Kratish? 18 Α. Yes, she did. 19 Okay. And did you execute Exhibit No. 2 in O. the presence of Shirley Bernstein and Traci Kratish? 20 21 Α. Yes, I did. 2.2 O. Okay. And did Traci Kratish execute Exhibit No. 2 in your presence and Shirley Bernstein's 23 24 presence?

25

Α.

Yes, she did.

- Q. Okay. And at the time Shirley Bernstein
  executed Exhibit No. 2, which is her 2008 trust, is it
  your opinion that she had a general understanding of the
  nature and extent of her property?
  - A. Yes, she did.
  - Q. Okay. And at the time that Shirley Bernstein executed Exhibit No. 2, is it your opinion that she understood generally the relationship of those who would -- were the natural objects of her bounty?
- 10 A. Yes.

7

8

15

16

17

18

19

20

- Q. Okay. And at the time Shirley Bernstein
  executed Exhibit No. 2, is it your opinion that she
  generally understood the practical effect of this
  document?
  - A. I believe she did.
  - Q. Okay. And did you have any belief that

    Shirley Bernstein was unduly influenced in connection

    with -- by any beneficiary in connection with her

    execution of Exhibit No. 2?
    - A. Not to my knowledge.
- Q. Okay. And do you know or have any information about any beneficiary or anyone else actively procuring Exhibit No. 2?
- 24 A. I do not.
  - Q. Okay. And with respect -- now we'll move on

- 1 to Exhibit No. 3, which is the first amendment of
- Shirley Bernstein's trust, executed on November 18th of
- 3 2008. And I'll direct your attention on that Exhibit 3
- to Page No. 2. And on Page No. 2 --
- Well, let me ask this question. Did Shirley
- Bernstein execute Exhibit No. 3 in the presence of both 6
- 7 you and Rachel Walker?
- Yes, she did. 8 Α.
- Okay. And did you execute Exhibit No. 3 in Ο.
- 10 the presence of Shirley Bernstein and Rachel Walker?
- Yes, I did. 11 Α.
- 12 Ο. And did Rachel Walker execute this document,
- 13 Exhibit No. 3, in the presence of Shirley Bernstein and
- 14 vourself?

- 15 Yes, she did. Α.
- Okay. And at the time Exhibit No. 3 was 16 Q.
- executed, is it your opinion that Ms. Bernstein 17
- 18 understood generally the nature and extent of her
- 19 property?
- 20 Yes, I believe so. Α.
- 21 And is it your opinion that at the time Ο.
- 2.2 Shirley Bernstein executed Exhibit No. 3, she generally
- 23 understood the relationship of those who would be the
- 24 natural objects of her bounty?
- 25 Α. Yes, I believe so.

1 Ο. Okay. And at the time Shirley Bernstein executed Exhibit No. 3, is it your opinion that she 2 3 generally understood the practical effect of this trust amendment? Yes, I believe so. Α. Okay. And do you have any knowledge or 6 Ο. 7 information about any beneficiary or any other person unduly influencing Shirley Bernstein to execute 8 Exhibit No. 3? 9 10 Α. I do not. 11 Okay. And do you have any knowledge or Ο. information about any person, beneficiary or otherwise, 12 actively procuring Exhibit No. 3? 13 I do not. 14 Α. 15 Okay. Moving on to Exhibit No. 4 then, which Ο. is the will of Simon Bernstein, and that is a will that 16 Mr. Bernstein executed on July -- yes, July 25 of 2012. 17 18 And let me direct your attention to page 7 of that will, 19 Exhibit No. 4. And did Simon Bernstein execute this document 20 21 in the presence of you and Kimberly Moran on July 25, 2.2 2012? 23 Α. Yes, he did. 24 And did you execute this document, Ο. 25 Exhibit No. 4, as a witness in the presence of Simon

- December 15, 2015 88 1 Bernstein and Kimberly Moran on that date? 2 Α. Yes, I did. 3 And did Kimberly Moran execute Exhibit No. 4 as a witness in the presence of Simon Bernstein and 5 yourself? Α. Yes, she did. 6 7 Ο. Okay. And on this date -- or at the time of execution on this date of July 25, 2012, did Simon 8 Bernstein understand in a general way the nature and 10 extent of his property? 11 Α. Yes, he did. Okay. At the time that Exhibit No. 4 was 12 Ο. 13 executed, did Simon Bernstein generally understand the 14 relationship of those who would be the natural objects 15 of his bounty? 16 Α. Yes, he did.
- 17 And at the time Exhibit No. 4 was executed, 18 did -- in your opinion, did Simon Bernstein understand 19 the practical effect of this will?
  - Yes, he did. Α.

- 21 Okay. And do you have any knowledge or Ο. 2.2 information about any person, whether beneficiary or 23 otherwise, actively procuring this Exhibit No. 4?
- 24 No, I do not. Α.
- 25 Ο. Do you have any information about any person,

1 beneficiary or otherwise, unduly influencing Simon Bernstein to execute Exhibit No. 4? 2 3 Α. I do not. Okay. And moving on to the last document Ο. then, Exhibit No. 5, which is the Simon Bernstein 5 Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, and I'll direct 6 7 your attention to page 24 of that Exhibit No. 5. On July 25, 2012, did Simon Bernstein execute 8 this trust agreement in the presence of you and Kimberly 10 Moran? 11 Yes, he did. Α. And did you execute this trust, Exhibit No. 5, 12 Ο. 13 as a witness in front of Simon Bernstein and Kimberly 14 Moran? 15 Α. I did. And did Kimberly Moran execute Exhibit No. 5 16 17 as a witness in front of Simon Bernstein and yourself? She did. 18 Α. 19 Okay. And at the time Simon Bernstein O. executed Exhibit No. 5, in your opinion, did he 20 21 generally understand the nature and extent of his 2.2 property? 23 Α. He did. 24 And at the time Exhibit No. 5 was executed, Ο. 25 did Simon Bernstein, in your opinion, generally

1 understand the relationship of those who would be the 2 natural objects of his bounty? 3 Α. He did. And did Simon Bernstein, when Exhibit No. 5 Ο. was executed, understand generally the practical effect 5 of this trust agreement? 6 7 Α. Yes, he did. And at the time Exhibit No. 5 was executed, do Ο. 8 you have any knowledge about any person, whether 10 beneficiary or otherwise, unduly influencing 11 Mr. Bernstein, Simon Bernstein, to execute this Exhibit No. 5? 12 13 Α. Nothing that I'm aware of. 14 Ο. Okay. And do you have any knowledge or 15 information about any person, whether beneficiary or otherwise, actively procuring Exhibit No. 5? 16 17 I do not. Α. 18 MR. MORRISSEY: I have no further questions, 19 Judge. THE COURT: All right. 20 Thanks. 21 Now, is there any cross? You're not required 2.2 to ask any questions, but you just need to let me know if you're going to. 23 24 MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, are you asking me? 25 no idea.

1	THE COURT: I'm not asking you. I'm just
2	telling you, if you have questions for the witness,
3	this is your opportunity to ask them; if you don't
4	have any questions, you don't have to ask any. But
5	if you're going to, you have to start now.
6	CROSS (ROBERT SPALLINA)
7	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
8	Q. Mr. Spallina, you were called today to provide
9	some expert testimony, correct, on the
10	A. No, I was not.
11	Q. Oh, okay. You're just going based on your
12	doing the work as Simon Bernstein's attorney and Shirley
13	Bernstein's attorney?
14	A. Yes.
15	Q. Okay. Are you still an attorney today?
16	A. I am not practicing.
17	Q. Can you give us the circumstances regarding
18	that?
19	A. I withdrew from my firm.
20	Q. Are you under a consent order with the SEC?
21	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
22	THE COURT: Sustained.
23	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
24	Q. Did you sign a consent order for insider
25	trading

1	A. Yes, I did.
2	Q with the SEC?
3	You did. Can you give us the circumstances of
4	your consent order?
5	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
6	THE COURT: That won't be relevant. Please
7	move on to the next question.
8	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
9	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
10	Q. Were you did you plead to a felony crime?
11	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
12	THE COURT: Overruled.
13	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, it's relevant as to
14	THE COURT: I didn't ask for argument.
15	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, what did you say?
16	THE COURT: I didn't ask for argument. I
17	sustained the objection no, I sustained the last
18	objection. This one I'm overruling.
19	You can answer.
20	MR. BERNSTEIN: I can't ask him if he's a
21	felon?
22	THE COURT: You're asking the wrong guy.
23	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Are
24	THE COURT: The witness is you asked the
25	question.

1	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
2	Q. Are you a convicted felony?
3	THE COURT: Let's back up a second.
4	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes, sir.
5	THE COURT: When you're asking for a ruling,
6	and I make one, then we're going to have the
7	witness answer.
8	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
9	THE COURT: I made my ruling. I'm letting the
10	witness answer your earlier question, unless you're
11	withdrawing it. Are you withdrawing your earlier
12	question?
13	MR. BERNSTEIN: No.
14	THE COURT: You can answer the question, which
15	is, did you plead to a felony?
16	MR. BERNSTEIN: Sorry, sir.
17	THE WITNESS: I have not.
18	THE COURT: Okay. Next question.
19	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
20	Q. Have you pled guilty to a misdemeanor?
21	A. I have not.
22	Q. Were you involved in a insider trading case?
23	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
24	THE COURT: Sustained. Next question.
25	MR. BERNSTEIN: Does that mean he doesn't have

1	to answer that?
2	THE COURT: How many times have you been in
3	court?
4	MR. BERNSTEIN: Just a few where I've had to
5	do this.
6	THE COURT: You know how this works.
7	MR. BERNSTEIN: I really don't.
8	THE COURT: All right. If I sustain an
9	objection, that's means he does not answer the
10	question.
11	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. And overruled?
12	THE COURT: If I overrule an objection, that
13	means the witness does answer the question.
14	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
15	THE COURT: And I've asked you to ask your
16	next question.
17	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
18	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
19	Q. Is that your picture on the Florida Law
20	Review, SEC case settled against Florida attorneys?
21	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
22	THE COURT: Sustained.
23	Do you have any questions on the issues that I
24	have to decide in this case?
25	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, his testimony is based

1	on his truthfulness.
2	THE COURT: My question is, do you have any
3	questions you want to ask about the issues relevant
4	to this case?
5	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes. This is relevant to this
6	case.
7	THE COURT: I disagree.
8	MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, okay.
9	THE COURT: I thought I made that very clear
10	in my ruling. You probably want to move on to a
11	relevant issue.
12	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
13	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
14	Q. Mr. Spallina, have you been in discussion with
15	the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office regarding the
16	Bernstein matters?
17	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
18	THE COURT: Overruled.
19	You can answer that.
20	THE WITNESS: Yes, I have.
21	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
22	Q. And did you state to them that you
23	fraudulently altered a Shirley trust document and then
24	sent it through the mail to Christine Yates?
25	A. Yes, I did.

1 Ο. Have you been charged with that by the Palm 2 Beach County Sheriff yet? 3 Α. No, I have not. 4 Q. Okay. How many times were you interviewed by the Palm Beach County Sheriff? 5 MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance. 6 7 THE COURT: Sustained. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 8 9 Ο. Did you mail a fraudulently signed document to 10 Christine Yates, the attorney for Eliot Bernstein's 11 minor children? 12 MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance. 13 THE COURT: Overruled. 14 THE WITNESS: Yes. 15 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 16 And when did you acknowledge that to the Q. courts or anybody else? When's the first time you came 17 18 about and acknowledged that you had committed a fraud? 19 Α. I don't know that I did do that. 20 Well, you just said you went to the Palm Beach 21 County Sheriff and admitted altering a document and put 2.2 it in the mail. 23 THE COURT: Let me stop you there. If you 24 want to ask the witness questions, you're permitted 25 to do that. If you would like to argue with the

1	witness, that's not do you have any questions
2	you want to ask?
3	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes.
4	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
5	Q. So you sent a fraudulent document to Eli
6	Bernstein's minor children's counsel.
7	Can you tell us what that document did to
8	affect the dispositive Shirley trust document?
9	A. It has no effect.
10	Q. What was its intended effect of altering the
11	document?
12	A. To carry out your father's wishes in the
13	agreement that he had made with the five of you for a
14	layperson that would be reading the documents.
15	Q. You were carrying out his wishes by
16	fraudulently altering a document?
17	MR. ROSE: Objection.
18	THE COURT: Sustained.
19	That's argumentative. I don't want you to
20	argue with the witness. That's an argument.
21	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
22	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
23	Q. Did the fraudulently altered document change
24	the beneficiaries that were listed in Shirley's trust?
25	A. They did not.

A. It depends on under the trust instrument, in the absence of Si exercising his power of appointment, it would be yourself and your two sisters, Lisa and Jill.  Q. Oh. So the only beneficiaries in Shirley's trust are me, Lisa and Jill.  Is that directly or through a family trust?  A. Your father had established your parents had established family trusts for the three of you to receive assets from the trust.  Q. Okay. So in that document that you sent to Christine Yates, did you include Ted and Pam's lineal descendants under the amendment that you fraudulently drafted and sent to her?  MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative.  THE COURT: Sustained.  BY MR. BERNSTEIN:  Q. Did in any way the document that you fraudulently altered and sent to Yates change the beneficiaries from Eliot, Lisa and Jill and their lineal descendants to anybody else?  THE COURT: May I ask a question?  MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes, sir.	1	Q. Who are the beneficiaries of Shirley's trust?
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Is that directly or through a family trust?  A. Your father had established your parents had established family trusts for the three of you to receive assets from the trust.  Q. Okay. So in that document that you sent to Christine Yates, did you include Ted and Pam's lineal descendants under the amendment that you fraudulently drafted and sent to her?  MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative.  THE COURT: Sustained.  BY MR. BERNSTEIN:  Q. Did in any way the document that you fraudulently altered and sent to Yates change the beneficiaries from Eliot, Lisa and Jill and their lineal descendants to anybody else?  THE COURT: May I ask a question?	6	Q. Oh. So the only beneficiaries in Shirley's
A. Your father had established your parents had established family trusts for the three of you to receive assets from the trust.  Q. Okay. So in that document that you sent to Christine Yates, did you include Ted and Pam's lineal descendants under the amendment that you fraudulently drafted and sent to her?  MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative.  THE COURT: Sustained.  BY MR. BERNSTEIN:  Q. Did in any way the document that you fraudulently altered and sent to Yates change the beneficiaries from Eliot, Lisa and Jill and their lineal descendants to anybody else?  THE COURT: May I ask a question?	7	trust are me, Lisa and Jill.
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MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative.  THE COURT: Sustained.  BY MR. BERNSTEIN:  Q. Did in any way the document that you  fraudulently altered and sent to Yates change the  beneficiaries from Eliot, Lisa and Jill and their lineal  descendants to anybody else?  THE COURT: May I ask a question?	14	descendants under the amendment that you fraudulently
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BY MR. BERNSTEIN:  Q. Did in any way the document that you fraudulently altered and sent to Yates change the beneficiaries from Eliot, Lisa and Jill and their lineal descendants to anybody else?  THE COURT: May I ask a question?	16	MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative.
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beneficiaries from Eliot, Lisa and Jill and their lineal descendants to anybody else?  THE COURT: May I ask a question?	19	Q. Did in any way the document that you
descendants to anybody else?  THE COURT: May I ask a question?	20	fraudulently altered and sent to Yates change the
THE COURT: May I ask a question?	21	beneficiaries from Eliot, Lisa and Jill and their lineal
	22	descendants to anybody else?
MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes, sir.	23	THE COURT: May I ask a question?
	24	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes, sir.
THE COURT: This document that you're	25	THE COURT: This document that you're
THE COURT: This document that you're	24	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes, sir.

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1
    referring to, is anybody asking me to probate that
 2
    document?
 3
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, it's part of the estate
 4
    plan. It's part --
 5
          THE COURT: Is anybody seeking relief, either
    you or the other side, under that document?
 6
7
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah. They're seeking to
    change the beneficiaries of my mom's trust through
 8
     that document and others.
 9
10
          THE COURT: You're misperceiving my question.
11
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, okay.
                                     Sorry.
12
          THE COURT: That document, which
13
     is -- nobody's put it in evidence; I don't know
14
    what it is, but it's -- that thing that you're
15
    asking the witness about, is somebody seeking
    relief based upon that document?
16
17
          MR. ROSE: Absolutely not. The opposite.
18
          THE COURT: All right. Are you seeking relief
19
    based upon that document?
20
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah. Oh, absolutely.
21
          THE COURT: All right. Are you claiming that
2.2
     that document is subject to probate?
23
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah.
24
          THE COURT: Is the lady who's giving you
25
    advice your attorney?
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1	MR. BERNSTEIN: No.
2	THE COURT: Ma'am, are you admitted to the bar
3	in Florida? Remember what I told you earlier.
4	I've let you sit there as a courtesy. Generally, I
5	don't let wives or friends or anybody else sit at
6	the table where the parties are because it confuses
7	me. But you're giving that guy advice and you're
8	also not listening to me, which I find odd, because
9	I'm going to have you move you back to the gallery
10	now. Please have a seat in the gallery. Please
11	have a seat in the gallery. Please have a seat in
12	the gallery. Soon. When courtesy is not returned,
13	courtesy is withdrawn. Please have a seat in the
14	gallery. Thank you.
15	Do you have any other questions of the
16	witness?
17	MR. BERNSTEIN: Can I submit this as evidence
18	to the Court?
19	THE COURT: Is that the document you've been
20	asking the witness about?
21	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah.
22	THE COURT: All right. Any objection to it
23	being received as an exhibit?
24	MR. ROSE: I don't have any objection to it
25	being received as an exhibit. But as Your Honor

```
1
    noted, we aren't seeking to probate it, and we're
 2
     not suggesting it's valid in the first place.
 3
          THE COURT: All right. Well, let me see what
     that document is, so then I'll see if I can make
 4
 5
     some sense out of it.
          You can't -- Gary's always afraid that if
 6
 7
     somebody's not a member of the bar, they might do
     something bad to me. Officers of the court aren't
 8
 9
     allowed to do things bad to the judge. Other folks
10
     don't know that. And so Gary watches out carefully
11
     for my well-being.
12
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Gotcha.
13
          THE COURT: Okay. So this is a document
14
     that's titled "First Amendment to Shirley Bernstein
15
     Trust Agreement."
16
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Correct.
17
          THE COURT: And it's in the book that I've
18
     been given earlier by the plaintiff as Tab 6.
19
     You're seeking to put it into evidence as
20
     Defendant's 1?
21
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
                         Okay.
2.2
          THE COURT: Right?
23
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
                         Sure. Yes, sir.
24
          THE COURT: You're offering it as an exhibit?
          MR. BERNSTEIN: No, Evidence 1.
25
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1	THE COURT: The objection to it is that it's
2	not relevant?
3	MR. ROSE: Not relevant. Right, relevance.
4	And it's also not something we're seeking to be
5	probated or treated as authentic and genuine.
6	THE COURT: Well, the other side is seeking to
7	use the terms of this document instead of the terms
8	of the amendment that's in evidence, right?
9	MR. ROSE: I don't believe that's what he's
10	doing.
11	THE COURT: I'm not sure what he's doing, but
12	in an abundance of caution, I'm going to receive it
13	for what relevance it might have. I don't perceive
14	any yet, but we'll see what happens.
15	So this is Defendant 1.
16	(Defendant's Exhibit No. 1 was received into
17	evidence.)
18	THE COURT: Any other questions of the
19	witness?
20	MR. BERNSTEIN: Sure.
21	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
22	Q. You've testified here about Kimberly Moran.
23	Can you describe your relationship with her?
24	A. She's been our long-time assistant in the
25	office.

1	Q.	Was she convicted of felony fraudulent
2	notarizat:	ion in the Estate of Shirley Bernstein?
3		MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
4		THE COURT: Overruled.
5		You're asking if she was convicted of a felony
6	with	respect to the Estate of Shirley Bernstein?
7		You can answer the question.
8		MR. BERNSTEIN: Correct.
9		THE WITNESS: I believe she was.
10	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:	
11	Q.	And what was she convicted for?
12	Α.	She had notarized the waiver releases of
13	accounting that you and your siblings had previously	
14	provided,	and we filed those with the court.
15	Q.	We filed those with the court.
16		Your law firm submitted fraudulent documents
17	to the cou	urt?
18	Α.	No. We filed we filed your original
19	documents	with the court that were not notarized, and
20	the court	had sent them back.
21	Q.	And then what happened?
22	Α.	And then Kimberly forged the signatures and
23	notarized	those signatures and sent them back.
24		Judge Colon has a rule in his court to have
25	those doc	uments notarized, even though that's not the

1 requirement under the Florida Probate Code. 2 Ο. So when you didn't follow the rule, you 3 frauded [sic] and forged the document? MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative. THE COURT: Sustained. THE WITNESS: I had nothing to do with that. 6 7 THE COURT: You've got to stop a second. MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes, sir. 8 9 THE COURT: If you continue to argue with the 10 witness, then I'll assume you don't have any more 11 questions. I sustained that last objection to 12 argumentative. MR. BERNSTEIN: I'm a little confused --13 14 THE COURT: I'm sorry about your confusion, 15 but there are ways you could have dealt with that 16 before this trial. If you are confused during the 17 trial, you better get unconfused as quickly as you 18 can because bad things will happen. And I don't 19 want bad things to happen. I want to get the facts so that I can accurately decide the case on its 20 21 merits. 2.2 Stop arguing, ask questions, let the witness 23 answer, and listen to any rulings that I make on 24 the objections. That's the last time I'll repeat 25 that advice to you. Thank you.

1	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:	
2	Q. What law firm submitted those documents to the	
3	court?	
4	A. Tescher & Spallina, P.A.	
5	Q. Are you a partner in that firm?	
6	A. I was.	
7	Q. So your firm that you were a partner with sent	
8	in documents that were fraudulent to the court?	
9	MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.	
10	THE COURT: Sustained.	
11	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:	
12	Q. Did Tescher & Spallina law firm submit	
13	Kimberly Moran's forged and fraudulent document waivers	
14	to the court?	
15	MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.	
16	THE COURT: He already said he did.	
17	MR. BERNSTEIN: What is that?	
18	THE COURT: Cumulative means you've already	
19	had that answer given.	
20	MR. BERNSTEIN: No, I didn't have that.	
21	THE COURT: He's already said that he did.	
22	MR. BERNSTEIN: I'm asking if they deposited	
23	them with the court.	
24	THE COURT: And he said they didn't.	
25	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, I asked him, and he	

said	
THE COURT: I won't argue with you. Do you	
want to go on to the next item or not?	
MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, okay, I do.	
THE COURT: Okay. Next question, please.	
BY MR. BERNSTEIN:	
Q. Did your office did you submit documents to	
close the estate of Shirley with Simon as the personal	
representative at a time Simon was dead?	
A. We did.	
Q. You did? Excuse me? I didn't hear an answer.	
A. I said yes.	
Q. So Shirley's estate was closed by a dead	
personal representative.	
Can you give me the time that the estate was	
closed by Simon while he was dead?	
MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative.	
THE COURT: Overruled.	
You can answer.	
THE WITNESS: I believe it was October,	
November 2012.	
BY MR. BERNSTEIN:	
Q. Do you want to check your records on that?	
A. I believe it was after his death. I know he	
died September 13, 2012. And we had received late from	

- one of your sisters the signed waiver. So it was probably in November, somewhere around there.
- Q. You stated that Simon -- that Kimberly did
  five waivers for the siblings that she sent back in
  fraudulently to the court through your law firm.

Did she also do a fraudulent forged signature
of a waiver for Simon?

- 8 A. I'm not sure. I guess if you're saying she
  9 did --
- Q. Well, the court has on file a waiver of Simon's that she's admitted to.

12

13

14

15

16

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2.2

- A. We filed all of the waivers originally with the court all signed by the appropriate parties, and the court kicked those back. And she forged and notarized new documents and sent them to the court. She felt she had made a mistake.
- Q. Okay. Are you aware of an April 9th full waiver that was allegedly signed by Simon and you?
- A. Yeah. That was the waiver that he had signed.

  And then in the May meeting, we discussed the five of
  you, all the children, getting back the waivers of the
  accountings.
- Q. Okay. And in that April 9th full waiver you used to close my mother's estate, does Simon state that he has all the waivers from all of the parties?

1 Α. He does. We sent out -- he signed that, and 2 we sent out the waivers to all of you. 3 Ο. Okay. So on April 9th of 2012, Simon signed, with your presence, because your signature's on the 5 document, a document stating he had all the waivers in his possession from all of his children. 6 7 Had you sent the waivers out yet as of 8 April 9th? 9 THE COURT: What is it that you want the 10 witness to answer? There was several questions. 11 MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, compounded a little bit? 12 THE COURT: Yes. 13 MR. BERNSTEIN: Sorry. 14 THE COURT: So you even --15 MR. BERNSTEIN: I'll kick that back. 16 THE COURT: So you even know the lingo of the 17 objections. 18 MR. BERNSTEIN: I'll kick that back to one at a time, because it's an important point. 19 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 20 21 April 9th, 2012, you have a signed full waiver Ο. 2.2 of Simon's that says that he is in possession of all of 23 the signed waivers of all of the parties? 24 Standard operating procedure, to have him Α. 25 sign, and then to send out the documents to the kids.

1	Q. Was Simon in possession because it's a
2	sworn statement of Simon saying, I have possession of
3	these waivers of my children on today, April 9th,
4	correct, the day you two signed that?
5	Okay. So if you hadn't sent out the waivers
6	yet to the
7	A. I'm not certain when the waivers were sent
8	out.
9	Q. Were they sent out after the
10	A. I did not send them out.
11	Q. Okay. More importantly, when did you receive
12	those? Was it before April 9th or on April 9th?
13	A. We didn't receive the first one until May.
14	And it was your waiver that we received.
15	Q. So how did you allow Simon, as his attorney,
16	to sign a sworn statement saying he had possession of
17	all of the waivers in April if you didn't get mine 'til
18	May?
19	MR. ROSE: Objection. I think it's relevance
20	and cumulative. He's already answered.
21	THE COURT: What's the relevance?
22	MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, this is very relevant.
23	THE COURT: What is the relevance on the issue
24	that I have to rule on today?
25	MR. BERNSTEIN: On the validity? Well, it's

relevant. If any of these documents are relevant, 1 2 this is important if it's a fraud. 3 THE COURT: I'll sustain the objection. 4 MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Can I -- okay. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 5 When did you get -- did you get back prior to 6 0. 7 Simon's death all the waivers from all the children? No, we did not. 8 Α. So in Simon's April 9th document where he Ο. says, he, Simon, on April 9th has all the waivers from 10 11 his children while he's alive, and you didn't even get 12 one 'til after he passed from one of his children, how 13 could that be a true statement? 14 MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance. Cumulative. 15 THE COURT: Sustained. 16 Here's what I'm going to decide at the end of 17 the day; I'm going to decide whether Shirley's 2008 will and trust and 2008 amendment are valid and 18 19 enforceable. I'm going to decide whether Simon's 2012 will and 2012 trust documents are valid and 20 21 enforceable. You have a lot more on your mind than I have on mine. You do. Right? But those are the 2.2 23 things that I'm working on. So I'm focused like a 24 laser and you're focused more like a shotgun. 25 telling you this so that you can focus more tightly

1 on the questions you're asking and the facts you're 2 developing so they'll help me make an accurate 3 decision on those things that I'm going to decide today. You can keep asking questions that don't go anywhere, but I would hope that you'll adjust your approach so that you'll help me make an accurate 6 decision. 7 MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. 8 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 9 10 And on validity, let's just get right to that 11 real quick. You've testified to a lot of documents here 12 today, correct, of the estate documents you drafted, 13 correct? Yes, I did. 14 Α. 15 Did you gain any pecuniary interest, did you Ο. gain any titles in those documents? 16 17 Pecuniary interest? No. I was named by your Α. 18 father as personal representative and trustee of his 19 trust. 20 And so you executed -- you drafted the 21 documents, you signed them as a witness, and you gained 2.2 interest in the documents, correct? 23 Α. No, I did not. 24 You didn't gain interest as a trustee --Q.

Objection.

MR. ROSE:

25

1	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
2	Q or a personal representative of those
3	documents?
4	MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative. Asked and
5	answered.
6	THE COURT: Overruled.
7	THE WITNESS: I was named as his personal
8	representative and trustee, along with my partner.
9	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
10	Q. Did you witness the document?
11	A. I did.
12	Q. Did you draft the document?
13	A. I did.
14	Q. Okay. You mentioned there was Kimberly Moran
15	there at the signing of these documents, correct?
16	A. She was.
17	Q. Okay. Can you point her out, because I'm
18	going to need her to testify as to the validity?
19	A. I do not see her in the courtroom.
20	Q. Okay. You mentioned a Traci Kratish. Can you
21	point her out in the courtroom today to validate the
22	documents?
23	A. I don't see Traci in the room either.
24	Q. So she was another witness that is not here
25	present to validate the documents today? Well, it's

```
1
    awful -- okay.
 2
               Is Kimberly Moran here who notarized the
 3
    documents.
              MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative. Asked that
 4
          a minute ago.
              MR. BERNSTEIN: I didn't -- did I? Was it
 6
 7
          Moran --
 8
               THE COURT: No, I thought it was some other
9
         name.
10
              MR. BERNSTEIN: So did I.
11
              THE COURT: Is Kimberly here?
12
              THE WITNESS: She's not.
13
              THE COURT: Okay. Next question.
    BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
14
15
          Q. Okay. Being a former estate planning
    attorney. To validate a document, wouldn't you have the
16
17
    parties who witnessed and notarized and signed present?
18
              MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
19
          Misstates --
              THE COURT: Sustained.
20
21
    BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
2.2
          0.
              Is it necessary to validate documents with the
23
    necessary notaries and witnesses present?
24
              MR. ROSE: Objection. Calls for a legal
25
         conclusion.
```

```
1
          THE COURT: Well, I'm the one that's going
    make that decision. I don't care what the witness
 2
 3
     says about the law.
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
                          I gotcha.
                                     Okay.
          THE COURT: So this would be a good time for
 6
    us to take a pause. We're not making headway.
 7
          You ever here of cavitation when it comes to
 8
    boat propellers?
 9
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
10
          THE COURT: Okay. I don't know a lot about
11
     the physics of it, but a boat goes forward based on
12
    a propeller spinning in the water. And it happens
13
     sometimes in racing boats, maybe other boats too,
     that you get the propeller going so fast or you do
14
15
     something so much with the propeller that it
16
    cavitates, which means that it's not actually
17
    pushing in the water. It's making a lot of noise.
18
     It's spinning like crazy. It's furiously working,
19
    but it's not propelling the boat forward. I want
     to suggest to you that you've hit a point of
20
21
     cavitation. So this would be a good time for us to
2.2
    take our lunch break so that when we get back we'll
23
     go forward with this ship that is our trial.
24
          MR. BERNSTEIN: How long?
25
          THE COURT: It'll be until 1:30.
```

```
1
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
 2
          THE COURT: That'll give everybody a time to
     revive, if necessary, and we'll reconstitute
 3
 4
     ourselves at 1:30. Thanks.
 5
          (A break was taken.)
 6
          (Proceedings continued in Volume 2.)
 7
 8
 9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

1	CERTIFICATE
2	
3	STATE OF FLORIDA
4	COUNTY OF PALM BEACH
5	
6	
7	I, Shirley D. King, Registered Professional
8	Reporter, State of Florida at large, certify that I was
9	authorized to and did stenographically report the
10	foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true
11	and complete record of my stenographic notes.
12	Dated this Ath day of January 2016.
13	Merille N. Kine
14	8
15	Shirley D. King, RPR, FPR
16	
17	Job #1358198-VOL 1
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

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# Bernstein Q. Vol 2 December 15, 2015

1	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
2	CASE No. 502014CP003698XXXXNB
3	TED BERNSTEIN,
4	
5	Plaintiff, -vs-
6	DONALD R. TESCHER, ELIOT IVAN BERNSTEIN,
7	LISA SUE FRIEDSTEIN, JILL MARLA IANTONI, et al.,
8	Defendants.
9	
10	TRIAL BEFORE THE HONORABLE  JOHN L. PHILLIPS
11	VOLUME 2 PAGES 117 - 260
12	
13	Tuesday, December 15, 2015  North County Courthouse
14	Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33410 9:43 a.m 4:48 p.m.
15	
16	Reported By: Shirley D. King, RPR, FPR
17	Notary Public, State of Florida West Palm Beach Office Job #1358198- VOL 2
18	West fail Beden Office out Wisselfe von 1
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22	
23	
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25	

1		
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23		BERNSTEIN'S TRUST
24		
25		

1	PROCEEDINGS
2	
3	(Proceedings continued from Volume 1.)
4	THE COURT: We're ready to resume. Our
5	witness is still under oath.
6	Is there any further cross-examination?
7	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes.
8	THE COURT: Okay.
9	CROSS (ROBERT SPALLINA) (Cont'd)
10	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
11	Q. Mr. Spallina, just to clarify
12	MR. ROSE: Your Honor, can he just stand at
13	the podium?
14	THE COURT: Okay. Well, use the podium. Your
15	microphone will help explain your questions. But
16	you can walk up there. If you need to show the
17	witness a document or something, that's fine.
18	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
19	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
20	Q. Did you are you a member of the Florida
21	Bar?
22	A. Yes, I am.
23	Q. Currently?
24	A. Yes, I am.
	11. 100 / 1 0

```
1
     license.
               I said I withdrew from my firm. It wasn't
 2
 3
     that I was not practicing.
               Okay. In the chain of custody of these
 4
          Q.
     documents, you stated that there were three copies made?
 5
 6
          Α.
               Yes.
 7
          Ο.
               Do you have those three original trust copies
    here?
8
               T do not.
9
          Α.
10
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Does anybody?
11
               THE COURT: Do you have any other questions of
12
          the witness?
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah. I wanted to ask him
13
14
          some questions on the original documents.
15
               THE COURT: Okay. Keep going.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
16
17
               Okay. So the original documents aren't in the
18
     court?
19
               I don't have them.
          Α.
               Your firm is not in possession of any of the
20
21
     original documents?
2.2
          Α.
               I'm not sure. I'm not at the firm anymore.
               When you left the firm, were there documents
23
          O.
24
     still at the firm?
25
          Α.
               Yes, there were.
```

1	Q. Were you ordered by the court to turn those
2	documents over to the curator, Benjamin Brown?
3	A. I don't recall.
4	MR. ROSE: Objection. Can he clarify the
5	question, which documents? Because I believe the
6	curator was for the estate, and the original will
7	was already in file, and the curator would have no
8	interest in the trust
9	THE COURT: Which documents? When you say
10	"those documents," which ones are you referring to?
11	MR. BERNSTEIN: Any of the trusts and estate
12	documents.
13	THE COURT: Okay. That's been clarified.
14	You can answer, if you can.
15	THE WITNESS: I believe that he was given I
16	believe all the documents were copied by
17	Mr. Pollock's office, and that he was given some
18	type of zip drive with everything. I'm not sure,
19	though. I couldn't
20	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
21	Q. Did the zip drive contain the original
22	documents?
23	A. Did not. I believe the original documents
24	came back to our office. Having said that, we would
25	only have when we made and had the client execute

1	three documents, two originals of those documents would
2	remain with the client, and then we would keep one
3	original in our file, except including, most of the
4	time, the original will, which we put in our safe
5	deposit box. So we would have one original of every
6	document that they had executed, including the original
7	will, and they would keep two originals of everything,
8	except for the will, which we would give them conformed
9	copies of, because there was only one original will.
10	Q. Okay. I asked a specific question. Did your
11	firm, after the court order of Martin Colin, retain
12	documents, original documents?
13	MR. ROSE: Objection. Sorry. I should have
14	let him finish.
15	MR. BERNSTEIN: original documents?
16	THE WITNESS: I believe
17	MR. ROSE: Relevance and misstates the
18	there's no such order.
19	THE COURT: Well, the question is, Did your
20	firm retain the original documents?
21	Is that the question?
22	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes, sir.
23	THE COURT: Overruled.
24	Answer, please.
25	THE WITNESS: I believe we had original

1	documents.
2	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
3	Q. After the date you were court ordered to
4	produce them to the curator?
5	MR. ROSE: Object that's the part I object
6	to.
7	THE COURT: Sustained.
8	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
9	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
10	Q. To your knowledge so, to your knowledge,
11	the documents can't all be here since they may be at
12	your firm today?
13	A. I don't practice at the firm anymore, so I'm
14	not sure where the documents are.
15	Q. Okay. And you said you made copies of all the
16	documents that you turned over to the curator? Did you
17	turn over any original documents as ordered by the
18	court?
19	MR. ROSE: Objection. Same objection.
20	There's no court order requiring an original
21	document be turned over.
22	THE COURT: What order are you referring to?
23	MR. BERNSTEIN: Judge Colin ordered when they
24	resigned due to the fraudulent alteration of the
25	documents that they turn over

1 THE COURT: I just said, what order are you 2 referring to? 3 MR. BERNSTEIN: It's an order Judge Colin ordered. THE COURT: All right. Well, produce that 5 6 order so I can see it, because Judge Colton's [sic] 7 been retired for six or seven years. MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. I don't have it with 8 9 me, but... 10 THE COURT: Well, Judge Colton's a retired 11 judge. He may have served in some other capacity, 12 but he doesn't enter orders, unless he's sitting as 13 a replacement judge. And that's why I'll need to see the order you're talking about, so I'll know if 14 15 he's doing that. Okay. Thanks. Next question. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 16 17 Okay. Has anyone, to the best of your 18 knowledge, seen the originals while you were in custody 19 of them? 20 Α. Yes. 21 Okay. Who? Q. 2.2 Α. I believe Ken Pollock's firm was -- Ken Pollock's firm was the firm that took the documents for 23 24 purposes of copying them. 25 Q. Did anybody ask you, refer copies to inspect

1	the documents?
2	A. Other than Ken Pollock's office, I don't
3	recall.
4	Q. Did I ask you?
5	A. Perhaps you did.
6	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. I'd like to go through
7	some of the documents with him real quick. But I
8	don't have my wife to hand me the documents, so
9	it's going to take me incredibly long. These are
10	just copies I have. Can I approach him?
11	THE COURT: All approaches are okay.
12	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
13	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
14	Q. Are these the documents that you drafted,
15	Shirley's will and Shirley's trust agreement?
16	MR. ROSE: Your Honor, could I see what he's
17	handing the witness before he hands it to them?
18	THE COURT: Say again.
19	MR. ROSE: I don't know what he's handing the
20	witness.
21	THE COURT: All right. You'll need to show
22	the other side the documents that you're handing to
23	the witness so that they're looking at the same
24	thing you're talking about.
25	MR. ROSE: These are not accurate. These are

```
1
     multiple things stapled together. I'd object to
     the exhibit -- or the use of it.
 2
 3
          THE COURT: Ma'am, if you come back up past
     that bar one more time, you'll be in contempt of
 4
 5
     court. I don't want you to be in contempt of
     court. Do you understand my instruction?
 6
 7
          MRS. BERNSTEIN: Yes.
 8
          THE COURT: Thank you.
          MR. ROSE: I don't know if that's filed with
 9
10
     the court and I don't know that these are genuine.
11
     And the second document has attached to it --
12
          THE COURT: Well, you don't need to tell me
13
     what the papers are. The thing that the person
     who's asking the questions has to do is show you
14
15
     the documents that he's going to show the witness.
16
          MR. ROSE: Okay.
17
          THE COURT: Then I intend to move forward.
18
     expect he'll show the witness the documents and
19
     then he'll probably ask a question.
20
          Am I right?
21
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Do you want to see those?
2.2
          THE COURT: Nope.
23
          So then if there's an objection to the
24
     documents coming in, if at some time they're
25
     proffered as an exhibit, then I'll take the
```

```
1
          objection.
               Have you seen the documents that are in his
 2
 3
          hand that are going to be shown to the witness?
 4
               MR. ROSE: Oh, yes, sir. I'm sorry.
               THE COURT: Okay. That's fine.
 5
 6
               Proceed.
7
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
               Okay. Can you look at the initials on the
8
          Ο.
    pages of that document and describe them -- describe
10
     what they look like?
11
          Α.
               The initials?
12
          O.
               Yes.
13
          Α.
               On each page, there's an SB --
14
          Ο.
               Okay.
15
               -- for your mother's initials.
          Α.
16
          Q.
               And it's clearly SB?
17
               Is it clearly SB?
          Α.
               Yeah. Looks like SB?
18
          Q.
19
               Yes, it's clearly SB.
          Α.
               Okay. And on this will signed on the same
20
          Ο.
21
     date by my mother in your presence, is that my mom's
2.2
     initials? And does it look like an SB? Do they even
     look similar?
23
24
               Well, your mother was asked to sign these
25
     documents.
```

Q. Okay.

- A. When we execute a will, unlike the bottom of
- 3 | the trust agreement where we initial the trust pages, on
- 4 | the bottom of the will, she's supposed to sign her
- 5 | signature. And which she has done at the bottom of each
- 6 page, is sign her signature consistent with the
- 7 | signature page that she signed.
- 8 Q. So what you're saying is, she signed this
- 9 document, that she initialed this document?
- 10 A. Right. We only ask that for purposes of the
- 11 | trust that they initial each page. For purposes of the
- 12 | will, that they sign each page.
- 13 | So this is the signature that she has -- this
- 14 | is her signature on the bottom of this document.
- 15 Q. Well, there's no line saying that's her
- 16 | signature, correct? There would be --
- 17 A. But that was our practice.
- 18 Q. Okay.
- 19 A. That was our practice, to have --
- Q. Okay. You testified to my dad's state of mind
- 21 | that he was fine.
- 22 Si was usual when you saw him from May through
- 23 his death; is that correct?
- A. Are you speaking about 2012?
- 25 Q. Yes.

1 Α. Correct. 2 Are you aware of any medical problems my 3 father was having at that time? No, I'm not. Α. Are you aware of any stress he was under? 0. 6 No, I was not. Α. 7 Mr. Rose had you read into or -- read into the Ο. record a letter that I wrote with my waiver, saying, 8 anything -- I haven't seen the dispositive documents, 9 10 but I'll do anything, 'cause my dad is under stress, to relieve him of his stress. 11 12 Do you know what stress I was referring to? I don't. 13 Α. Were you in the May meeting with my father, 14 15 May 10, 2012? 16 Α. I was -- are you talking about on the 17 telephone call? 18 Q. Correct. 19 I wasn't together with him. Α. Okay. Were you together with anybody on that 20 Ο. 21 call? 2.2 Α. No. I was on -- in my -- my office phone. 23 Ο. Okay. And at that meeting, did Si state that 24 he was having this meeting to end disputes among certain

25

parties and himself?

A. I don't recall.

1

- Q. Were there any disputes you were aware of?
- 3 A. The only thing that he ever brought to my
- 4 attention was the letter that Pam had sent him.
- 5 Q. And what did Pam's letter state, basically?
- A. I can't remember it. I mean, it was the
- 7 | letter that he showed me in February of 2012. But the
- 8 general gist of that letter was that she was unhappy
- 9 about not being part of their estates.
- 10 0. Just her or her and her children?
- 11 A. She may have spoke to her children.
- 12 Q. Was there anybody else who was left out of the
- 13 | wills and trusts?
- 14 A. That was causing him stress?
- 15 Q. No. Just anybody at this point that was left
- 16 out, other than Pam.
- 17 A. Yes. Ted.
- 18 Q. And are you aware of anything Ted and Pam were
- 19 | doing to force upon Si changes?
- 20 A. Not to my knowledge, other than the letter
- 21 | that Pam had sent to him just expressing her
- 22 dissatisfaction.
- 23 Q. You said you talked to her attorney?
- 24 A. I talked to her attorney.
- 25 Q. And you told her attorney, while Si was

- living, that she had been cut out of the estates and trusts with her brother Ted?

  A. I don't recall the conversation with the
  - attorney, but, ultimately, Si gave me authorization to send documents to the attorney. So we may have had a conversation about it.
    - Q. So you're stating that Si told you to -- he authorized you to tell his daughter that she had been cut out of the estates and trusts?
- 10 A. He authorized me to send documents to the 11 attorney.
  - Q. Did you send those documents to the attorney?
- 13 A. I believe we did, yes.

5

6

7

8

9

12

- Q. Okay. Was Ted and his lineal descendants disinherited?
  - A. They were, under the original documents.
- Q. Well, under Shirley's document that's

  currently theirs, Ted considered predeceased for all

  purposes of disposition according to the language in the

  document you drafted?
- 21 A. To the extent that assets passed to him under 22 the trust.
- Q. Well, the document says, for all purposes of disposition, Ted Bernstein is considered predeceased, correct?

1 Α. You'll have to state the question again. 2 Ο. Does the document you drafted say that Ted 3 Bernstein is both considered predeceased under the beneficiary definition with his lineal descendants and 4 5 considered predeceased for all purposes of dispositions 6 of the trust? 7 MR. ROSE: Objection. Best evidence. The document's in evidence. 8 9 THE COURT: Sustained. 10 MR. BERNSTEIN: I'll have him read it. 11 THE COURT: Well, I mean, I can read it. 12 in evidence. So when it comes time, just point me 13 to the part that you want me to read, and I'll read it. But I don't need to have the witness read it 14 15 to me. That's of no benefit. 16 MR. ROSE: Your Honor, and for the record, 17 those issues are part of the other counts and 18 aren't being tried today. 19 MR. BERNSTEIN: Page 7, Your Honor, of the 20 Shirley trust. 21 THE COURT: What exhibit number is that? 2.2 MR. BERNSTEIN: You want me to enter it as my 23 exhibit? 24 THE WITNESS: Plaintiff's Exhibit 2, Your 25 Honor.

1	THE COURT: All right. Let me go to page 7 of
2	Plaintiff's 2.
3	MR. BERNSTEIN: Can I enter this one into the
4	record?
5	THE COURT: Is it the same as the one I
6	already have?
7	MR. BERNSTEIN: According to Alan, it's not.
8	THE COURT: According to who?
9	MR. BERNSTEIN: Mr. Rose.
10	THE COURT: All right. Well, if it comes time
11	for you to put any exhibits in on your case, if
12	that's not a duplicate of an exhibit that's already
13	in, you're welcome to put it into evidence. But
14	this is not the time when you put evidence in.
15	This is the time when you're cross-examining the
16	plaintiff's witness.
17	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
18	THE COURT: So on Page 7 of Plaintiff's 2, you
19	can go on with your questioning.
20	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
21	Q. Are you there and are we on the same page?
22	Yes?
23	A. Yes, I am.
24	Q. Okay. In the definition of under E1, do
25	you see where it starts "notwithstanding the foregoing"?

1 Α. Yes. 2 Ο. Okay. Can you read that? 3 Α. "Notwithstanding the foregoing, as I have adequately provided for them during my lifetime, for 4 purposes of the dispositions made under this trust to my 5 children, Ted S. Bernstein and Pamela B. Simon and their 6 7 respective lineal descendants shall be deemed to have predeceased the survivor of my spouse and me, provided, 8 however, if my children Eliot Bernstein, Jill Iantoni and" --10 11 Okay, that's -- you can stop there. 0. 12 Would you consider making distributions a 13 disposition under the trust? It would it depend on other factors. 14 Α. 15 Ο. What factors? 16 MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevancy. 17 THE COURT: Sustained. 18 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 19 Is a validity hearing a disposition of the Ο. 20 trust? 21 MR. ROSE: Objection. Calls for a legal 2.2 conclusion. 23 THE COURT: Sustained. 24 MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, he drafted the document, 25 so I'm trying to get what his meaning was when he

1	put it in. And it's relevant to the hearing today.
2	THE COURT: I ruled it's not relevant.
3	MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, you did rule that?
4	THE COURT: Do you have another question of
5	the witness? Or we're moving on.
6	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
7	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
8	Q. So for purposes of disposition, Ted, Pam and
9	her lineal descendants are considered predeceased,
10	correct?
11	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevancy, cumulative
12	and best evidence.
13	THE COURT: Sustained.
14	The document says what it says.
15	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
16	THE COURT: When you ask a witness if it says
17	what it says, I don't pay any attention to his
18	answer, because I'm reading what it says.
19	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
20	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
21	Q. Did you produce a fraudulent copy of the
22	Shirley trust agreement?
23	A. No, I did not.
24	Q. So when you sent to Christine Yates this trust
25	agreement with the attached amendment that you've

1	already admitted you fraudulently altered, was that
2	producing a not valid copy of the trust that was
3	distributed to a party?
4	A. We've already talked about the amendment was
5	not a valid amendment.
6	Q. No, I'm asking, did you create a not valid
7	trust of my mother's and distribute it to Christine
8	Yates, my children's attorney?
9	MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative. He's
10	covered this.
11	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, it has to go to the
12	validity, Your Honor, because
13	THE COURT: The question I'm figuring out is,
14	have we already covered this?
15	MR. BERNSTEIN: We touched on a piece of it.
16	The more important part
17	THE COURT: Okay. Then I'll let you reask
18	your question to cover something that we've not
19	already covered.
20	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. And we covered that
21	the
22	THE COURT: You don't have to remind me.
23	MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, okay.
24	THE COURT: Listen, see, this look at this.
25	I take notes. I write stuff down. Now, a lot of

1	times, if you see me not writing and I'm doodling,
2	that means you're not scoring any points.
3	MR. BERNSTEIN: You've got to show me
4	THE COURT: The point is, I should be writing
5	notes. So that means you're not doing any good.
6	MR. BERNSTEIN: Gotcha.
7	THE COURT: So, please, the reason I write it
8	is so we don't have to repeat things.
9	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
10	Q. Okay. You've already stated that you created
11	a fraudulent amendment.
12	Did you attach it to a Shirley trust document?
13	A. No. We included the amendment with the
14	documents that we transmitted to her.
15	Q. So it was included as part of the Shirley
16	trust document as an amendment, correct?
17	A. It was included as an amendment.
18	Q. To the Shirley trust document.
19	Thereby, you created a fraudulent copy, a not
20	valid copy of the Shirley trust, correct?
21	MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative.
22	Cumulative.
23	THE COURT: Overruled.
24	You can answer. Did that create a fraudulent
25	version of the trust?

1 THE WITNESS: It could have, yes, Your Honor. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 2 3 Can you explain why it couldn't have? Because Si ultimately exercised his power of 4 Α. appointment, which was broader than the definitional 5 provision in the document. 6 7 That's not my question. I'll just say it was asked and not answered. 8 Okay. So there are not validly -- not valid 9 10 Shirley trust agreements in circulation, correct? 11 Α. That's not true. 12 Well, the Shirley trust agreement you said Ο. 13 sent to Christine Yates you've just stated was invalidly 14 produced. 15 Α. To Christine Yates. Yeah, okay. So I said "in circulation." 16 Q. Is Christine Yates out of circulation? 17 I don't know what Christine Yates did with the 18 Α. 19 documents. Well, I got a copy, so they're even more in 20 21 circulation. 2.2 So my point being, you sent from your law firm 23 fraudulent -- a non-valid copy of the document --24 Α. Which document? 25 O. -- the Shirley trust and her amendment to

Christine Yates, right?
MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
THE COURT: Sustained.
MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. We'll move on from
that.
BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
Q. Would you know about when you did that
fraudulent alteration of the document?
A. January 2013.
Q. And you were a fiduciary or you were
counsel to the alleged fiduciary, Ted Bernstein, of the
Shirley Bernstein trust, correct?
A. Yes, we were.
Q. And you were counsel to Ted Bernstein as the
alleged personal representative of Shirley's estate?
A. Yes, we were.
Q. And as Ted's counsel in the Shirley trust, can
you describe what the not valid trust agreement that was
sent to Ms. Yates did to alter the beneficiaries of the
document?
MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
THE COURT: Overruled.
What alterations did that make to the
beneficiaries?

1 to the beneficiaries. The document's not a valid document and so it couldn't have made any changes 2 3 to the estate planning. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 4 Okay. But what did it intend to do? 5 Ο. MR. BERNSTEIN: Sorry. Excuse me, Your Honor. 6 7 What did you say? THE COURT: Next question. 8 9 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 10 Okay. What did it intend to do? 0. 11 I answered that question earlier. Α. 12 THE COURT: I can't let the witness object to 13 questions. That won't work. THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, Your Honor. Earlier 14 15 you asked me the question, and I responded to you 16 that it was to carry out your father's intent and 17 the agreement that you all had made prior to his 18 death, on that telephone call, and to have a 19 document that would provide, perhaps, clarity to a 20 vague misinterpretation of your mother's document. 21 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 2.2 So instead of going to the court, you just Ο. 23 frauded a document to an attorney, who's representing 24 minor children in this case -- produce a fraudulent copy

of the trust document, making us have total trouble

1 understanding what's real and not, especially with your firm's history of fraudulent and forged documents 2 3 submitted to the court in this case. THE COURT: Okay. Thanks. You're just ranting. Ranting is not allowed. 6 MR. BERNSTEIN: Sorry. 7 THE COURT: If you'd like to ask a question, I'll let you do that. If I have to call you on 8 9 this too many more times, I'm going to assume that 10 you're done questioning the witness. 11 MR. BERNSTEIN: Okav. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 12 13 Ο. When did you first meet my parents? 2007. 14 Α. 15 And how did you meet them? Ο. I met them through someone that made a 16 Α. 17 referral to them to our office. 18 Q. You didn't know Ted Bernstein prior to meeting 19 Si? I don't recall who we met first. I'm not 20 Α. 21 sure. 2.2 What firm were you with at the time? Ο. 23 Α. Tescher, Gutter, Chaves, Josepher, Rubin and 24 Ruffin and Forman. 25 0. And how long were you with them?

1	A.	Five-plus years.
2	Q.	And where were you before that?
3	A.	I was in school.
4	Q.	Okay. Did you work at Sony Digital ever?
5	A.	I did.
6	Q.	You did. And when was that, before school or
7	after?	
8	A.	That was from 1994 to '96.
9	Q.	So after school?
10	A.	After college.
11	Q.	Okay. So that was you just forgot about
12	that one i	in your history.
13		Is there any other parts of your biography I'm
14	missing?	
15		MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative.
16		THE COURT: Sustained.
17	BY MR. BEF	RNSTEIN:
18	Q.	Can you repeat, since I'm there was a
19	little cla	arification error there. Your history, you
20	started	-
21		THE COURT: That's not necessary to repeat the
22	histo	ory. Do you have a new question?
23		MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, I'm trying to get the
24	histo	ory.
25		THE COURT: I don't want him to repeat what

1 he's already said. That moves the case backwards. 2 I want to go forward. You're cavitating. 3 MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 4 Did the altered trust document sent to 5 Ο. Christine Yates attempt to convince Yates and others she 6 sent that document to that Ted and Pam's lineal 7 descendants were actually inside the document? 8 Α. Say the question again. 10 Well, we read the section where they're Ο. 11 considered predeceased, Ted and Pam and their lineal descendants. 12 13 When you altered that amendment that you said you were just doing Si's wishes postmortem by altering a 14 15 document, my question is, did you put language in there that would have made Ted and Pam's lineal descendants 16 17 now beneficiaries of Shirley's trust? 18 MR. ROSE: Objection. I think it's 19 cumulative. We've covered this. THE COURT: Sustained. 20 21 MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. 2.2 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 23 Can the beneficiary of Shirley's trust be Ted, 24 Pam or their lineal descendants? 25 Α. If the assets of her trust were to pass under

```
1
     the trust, no --
 2
          Ο.
               Okay.
 3
          Α.
               -- under the trust.
               So in the trust language of the Shirley trust
 4
          Q.
     document, Ted's lineal descendants and Pam's lineal
 5
     descendants can get no dispositions, distributions,
 6
 7
     whatever you want to call it?
               You have to ask the question in a different
          Α.
 8
9
     way, because I answered the question. I said, if it
10
     passes under the trust, that they would not inherent.
11
     Tf.
12
          Ο.
               Okay. When Shirley died, was her trust
13
     irrevocable at that point?
14
          Α.
               It was.
15
          Ο.
               Who were the beneficiaries?
               Simon Bernstein.
16
          Α.
17
               And who were the beneficiaries -- well, Simon
          Ο.
18
     Bernstein wasn't a beneficiary. He was a trustee.
19
               No, he became the beneficiary of her trust
          Α.
     when she died. He was the sole beneficiary of her trust
20
21
     when she died.
2.2
          O.
               Okay. And then who would it go to when he
23
     died?
24
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
               THE COURT: Sustained.
25
```

1	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
2	Q. Okay. When Simon died, who would the benefits
3	of Shirley's trust go to?
4	MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
5	THE COURT: Are you asking him to tell you
6	what would happen if the mother died first, then
7	the father died second, and we have the trust
8	documents and the wills that are in place so far
9	that have been testified to at the trial?
10	MR. BERNSTEIN: Correct.
11	THE COURT: I already know all that stuff.
12	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well
13	THE COURT: So what is the new question you
14	want to ask that's not cumulative?
15	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Well, I'm trying to get
16	to a very significant point there.
17	THE COURT: Get there. Just go there and see
18	what happens.
19	MR. BERNSTEIN: I just have to learn to ask
20	these questions a little more like a lawyer.
21	THE COURT: Yes.
22	MR. BERNSTEIN: So I have to rethink how to
23	ask that.
24	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
25	Q. Do you recall talking to Detective Ryan

1	Miller?
2	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
3	THE COURT: Sustained.
4	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
5	Q. Can you tell me all the roles you had in these
6	estates and trusts, and your partner, Don Tescher?
7	A. We were the attorneys to your parents. Upon
8	your dad's death, we became counsel to his estate and
9	served as co-PRs and co-trustees under his documents.
10	Q. Any other roles?
11	A. Served as counsel for we served as counsel
12	for Ted as fiduciary under your mother's documents.
13	Q. And who served as your counsel as trustee
14	PR co-trustee, co-PR?
15	A. Mark Manceri.
16	Q. Mark Manceri submitted that he was your
17	attorney?
18	A. I believe so, yes.
19	Q. Did you take a retainer out with him?
20	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
21	THE WITNESS: I'm sorry.
22	THE COURT: What's the relevance of the
23	retainer question?
24	THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. I take that back.
25	Mark Manceri was not counsel to us with respect to

```
1
          the estate, except on a very specific matter.
               THE COURT: The question that was objected to
 2
 3
          was, did you take out a retainer? What's the
          relevance of that?
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, I'm trying to figure out
          if he was properly representing before the court
 6
 7
          these documents, and to his credibility, meaning
         his --
 8
 9
               THE COURT: I'll sustain the objection.
10
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
11
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
12
          Ο.
               And a question about the court. How long
13
     before you notified the court as a personal
     representative fiduciary that you had produced a
14
15
     fraudulent trust of Shirley's?
               To whom? I don't know that we ever
16
          Α.
     represented the document to the court, and I don't know
17
18
     that anyone ever came to the court and said that we did.
19
               Well, I did in a petition I filed and served
          Q.
20
     on you --
21
               MR. ROSE: Objection.
2.2
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
23
               -- of January -- excuse me -- petition that I
24
     served on you exposing a fraud of what happened with
25
     Christine Yates after you admitted that to the police.
```

1 MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance. 2 THE COURT: Sustained. 3 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. How many times have you spoken with 4 Q. Alan Rose in the last three months? 5 Twice. 6 Α. 7 Ο. Did you prepare for this hearing in any way with Alan Rose? 8 T did. 9 Α. 10 Okay. Was that the two times you spoke to Ο. 11 him? 12 Α. Yes. 13 Do you see any other of the parties that would Ο. be necessary to validate these trust documents in the 14 15 court today? MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative. 16 17 THE COURT: Sustained. 18 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 19 And you gave testimony to the total net worth Ο. of Simon today, when you were asked by Mr. Rose; is that 20 21 correct? 2.2 Α. Yes. 23 How long did you serve as the co-trustee and 24 co-personal representative? 25 Α. Of your father's estate? Since the date of

```
1
    his death.
               And his trust?
 2
          Ο.
 3
          Α.
               Same.
 4
          Q.
               Okay. Did you produce an accounting to
 5
     support those claims you made today?
 6
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevancy.
 7
               THE COURT: Sustained.
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, can I argue that or --
 8
9
               THE COURT: No.
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Not even close. Does that
10
11
          mean I have to ask it a different way?
               THE COURT: Well, I can't answer questions.
12
13
          I'm not allowed to give anybody legal advice.
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. That was procedural, I
14
15
          thought. But okay.
               THE COURT: Well, that's legal advice.
16
17
          Procedure is a legal issue.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
18
19
               As a fiduciary of the estate of Simon and the
          Ο.
     trust of Simon, did your law firm produce a accounting?
20
21
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
2.2
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, it's relevant to, if
23
          he's a fiduciary, his conduct. I mean, there's --
24
               THE COURT: Here's the way I handle
25
          objections --
```

1	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
2	THE COURT: somebody asks a question, and
3	somebody in the courtroom says objection, and then
4	I have them state the legal objection and stop.
5	The other side doesn't say anything, unless I say,
6	Is there any argument one side or the other?
7	Because usually I can figure this stuff out without
8	having to waste time with arguments.
9	I didn't ask for any argument, right? Okay.
10	Sustained. Next question.
11	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
12	Q. Mr. Rose asked you about Shirley's Bentley.
13	Are you aware you became aware of Shirley's
14	Bentley, correct?
15	A. Yes.
16	Q. When you became aware of Shirley's Bentley,
17	did you put in an amended inventory to account for it?
18	THE COURT: What's this going to help me
19	decide on the validity of the wills or trusts?
20	MR. BERNSTEIN: I'm just responding to the
21	statements that were brought up.
22	THE COURT: I wish you would have objected to
23	the relevancy then, but you didn't.
24	MR. BERNSTEIN: I did.
25	THE COURT: I don't think so.

```
1
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
                          No?
 2
          THE COURT: I'm a car guy, so I pay attention
 3
     if somebody's asking questions about Bentleys just
     because it's interesting.
 4
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, it's so important, Your
 5
     Honor, because --
 6
7
          THE COURT: No, it's not. Right now what is
     tied is, are the wills and trusts bound?
8
9
          MR. BERNSTEIN: We have to question his
10
     competency.
11
          THE COURT: And so what's in the estate or
     what's in the trust is not of any interest to me
12
13
     right now. So if that Bentley should have been in
     the estate or should not have been in the estate,
14
15
     it should have been accounted for, not accounted
16
     for, I'm not going to figure out today. But I want
17
     to get all the evidence I possibly can to see
18
     whether these wills and trusts that are in front of
19
     me are valid or not valid. And I'm hoping that
20
     you'll ask some questions that'll help me figure
21
     that out.
2.2
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Are those originals that you
23
    have?
          THE COURT: See, I'm not the witness. I'm the
24
25
     judge. So I'm not sworn in and I have no knowledge
```

1 of the facts of this case, other than what the 2 witnesses tell me. 3 MR. BERNSTEIN: I'm winding down. I'll check my list. 5 THE COURT: All right. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 6 7 Are you familiar with a document the Bernstein 8 Family Realty LLC agreement? 9 Α. Yes, I am. 10 Did you draft that document? Q. 11 Α. Yes, I did. 12 Was it part of Simon's estate planning? Ο. 13 It was part of his estate planning -- well, Α. 14 yes --15 And what was --Q. 16 Α. -- in a roundabout way. 17 What was it designed to do? Ο. 18 Α. It was designed to hold title to the home that you and your family live in. 19 20 Oh, okay. And so it was -- who's the owners Ο. 21 of that? 2.2 Α. The three kids -- your three kids, Josh, 23 Daniel -- your three kids' trusts that your father 24 created -- and Jake -- that he created in -- I believe 25 he created those trusts in 2006.

```
1
          0.
               And the prior testimony was, there were no
 2
     special documents under Simon's estate plan for my
 3
     family; is that correct?
          Α.
               Right. None that we prepared. Those were not
     documents that we prepared.
          Q.
               Okay. I think he asked you if you knew of
6
7
     any.
8
               So you knew of these, correct?
 9
          Α.
               You're making me recall them. Yes.
10
               Oh, okay. Because you answered pretty
          Ο.
11
     affirmatively no before, that you weren't aware of any
12
     special --
13
               THE COURT: Do you have any questions for the
14
          witness?
15
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. I get it.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
16
17
               You referenced an insurance policy.
18
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Can I -- well, I can't ask him
19
          anything.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
20
21
               You referenced an insurance policy earlier,
          0.
2.2
     life insurance policy, that you said you never saw; is
     that correct?
23
24
          Α.
               Yes.
25
          Q.
               And was that part of the estate plans?
```

1 Α. We never did any planning with that. That was an insurance policy that your father had taken out 2 3 30 years before. He had created a trust in 1995 for That was not a part of any of the planning that we did for him. 5 Did you file a death benefit claim on behalf 6 7 of that policy? MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevancy. 8 9 THE COURT: Sustained. 10 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 11 Is Christine Yates, who you sent the 0. 12 fraudulently altered Shirley trust document that's not 13 valid, a layman? 14 MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative. 15 MR. BERNSTEIN: Excuse me. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 16 17 Is she an attorney at law? Ο. 18 THE COURT: Now you're asking a different 19 question. 20 MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. 21 THE COURT: Thanks. 2.2 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 23 O. Is she a layman, as you described prior? 24 She's an attorney. Α. 25 Q. Okay. So you were sending that document that

1	you said you altered to make a layman understand the
2	language in the trust better?
3	MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
4	THE COURT: Let me have you finish your
5	questioning.
6	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
7	Q. But you sent it to Christine Yates, an
8	attorney, who's not a layman?
9	A. We did.
10	Q. Okay. So it could be that you sent that
11	document to an attorney to commit a fraud upon her
12	clients, my children, minor children, correct?
13	A. The intent was not to commit a fraud.
14	Q. Okay.
15	A. Again, the intent was to carry out your dad's
16	wishes.
17	Q. By fraudulently altering documents?
18	MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative.
19	THE COURT: Sustained.
20	If you ask one more argumentative question, I
21	will stop you from asking the other things, because
22	I'll figure that you're done. Is that clear?
23	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes.
24	THE COURT: I'm done warning you. I think
25	that's just too much to have to keep saying over

```
1
          and over again.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
 2
 3
               When Shirley died, were her wishes upheld?
               Your dad was the sole survivor of her
 4
          Α.
     estate -- he was the sole beneficiary of her estate and
 5
 6
     her trust.
               So her wishes of her trusts when Simon died
 7
          0.
     were to make who the beneficiaries?
8
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
9
10
               THE COURT: Sustained.
11
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
12
               Who did Shirley make -- are you familiar with
          Ο.
13
     the Eliot Bernstein Family Trust?
14
          Α.
               I am.
15
          Q.
               And is that trust under the Shirley trust?
16
          Α.
               No, it's not.
17
               It's a separate trust?
          Ο.
18
          Α.
               It is.
19
               Is it mentioned in the Shirley trust?
          Ο.
20
               It may be.
          Α.
21
          Q.
               As what?
2.2
          Α.
               As a receptacle for Shirley's estate.
23
          O.
               Her trust?
24
               A potential receptacle for Shirley's trust.
          Α.
25
          Q.
               So there were three, the Eliot Bernstein
```

1 Family Trust, Lisa Friedstein and Jill Iantoni Family 2 Trust, that are mentioned as receptacles. I would 3 assume that's the word, beneficiary --MR. ROSE: Objection. 4 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 5 6 -- of the Shirley trust, correct? Ο. 7 MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative. THE COURT: Sustained. 8 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 10 Okay. On Simon's medical state eight weeks Ο. 11 before he died, when these documents of the Simon trust 12 are alleged by you to have been signed, are you aware of 13 any conditions of Simon's at that time medically? 14 Α. I was not. 15 Were you aware of any medicines he was on? Q. 16 Α. I was not. 17 Were you aware he was seeing a psychiatrist? Ο. 18 Α. I was not. 19 Were you aware that he was going for a brain Ο. 20 scan? 21 Α. I was not. 2.2 Ο. Were you aware that he was brought in to 23 multiple doctors during that time for brain problems; 24 that they ended up doing a brain biopsy at Delray 25 Medical right around that time that he's said to sign

```
1
     these documents?
 2
               He did not make us aware of any medical issues
 3
     that he had.
               Okay. Did you ask him at the time you were
 4
          Q.
     signing those amended documents if he was under any
 5
     medical stress?
 6
7
          Α.
               No, I did not.
               Okay.
 8
          Ο.
          Α.
               He --
10
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Can I ask him to read that?
11
    BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
12
          Ο.
               Can you look at that document and --
13
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Judge, would you like a look
14
          at this?
15
               THE COURT: I don't look at anything that's
16
          not an exhibit.
17
               MR. BERNSTEIN: I'm exhibiting it to him.
               THE COURT: Okay. Well, that's fine, but I
18
19
          want you to go ahead and ask your question. I
20
          don't look at things that aren't exhibits in
21
          evidence --
2.2
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
               THE COURT: -- unless I have to mark them.
23
24
          But no, I don't have a curiosity to look at pieces
25
          of paper.
```

1	MR. BERNSTEIN: Should I exhibit it as
2	evidence can I exhibit it as
3	THE COURT: If it comes into evidence, I'll
4	look at it.
5	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Can I submit it as
6	evidence?
7	THE COURT: Well, have you asked any questions
8	to establish what it is?
9	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
10	Q. Is this a letter from your law firm prior
11	law firm?
12	A. I did not prepare this letter
13	Q. Okay.
14	A but it appears to be, yes.
15	Q. Prepared by?
16	A. Donald Tescher.
17	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Now can I submit it?
18	THE COURT: So you're offering it as an
19	exhibit
20	MR. BERNSTEIN: Please.
21	THE COURT: as Defendant's 2.
22	Is there any objection?
23	MR. ROSE: No objection.
24	THE COURT: All right. I'll take a look at
25	it. And that'll be in evidence as Defendant's 2.

```
1
          Thank you.
               (Defendant's Exhibit No. 2 was received into
 2
 3
     evidence.)
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
 5
               Can you just read into the record
          Ο.
6
     paragraph 2 --
7
               THE COURT: Well, I'm reading it.
          document is in the record.
8
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, okay.
10
               THE COURT: I'm reading paragraph 2 even as we
11
          speak, so I don't need the witness to read it for
12
               But if you want to ask him a question, you can
          me.
13
          go ahead with that.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
14
15
               Okay. That letter states that Si's power of
          Ο.
     appointment for Simon could not be used in favor of Pam,
16
17
     Ted and their respective children; is that correct?
18
          Α.
               Yes. Don appears to have written that.
19
               Did you get a copy of this letter?
          Ο.
               I don't recall getting a copy of it, but
20
          Α.
21
     doesn't mean that I didn't.
2.2
               But you are partners in that firm?
          Q.
23
          Α.
               Yes, we were partners in that firm.
24
               Now, that -- this document --
          Q.
25
               MR. ROSE: Your Honor, can I just -- I don't
```

```
1
     want to go out of order, but this is only relevant
     if the documents are valid. And if he's -- the
 2
 3
     whole point is the documents are valid. And he
     wants to argue the second part, of what they mean,
 5
     then we should not have wasted a whole day arguing
     over the validity of these five documents.
 6
 7
          THE COURT: Well, waste of time is what I do
     for a living sometimes. Saying we shouldn't be
 8
     here doesn't help me decide anything.
10
          I thought I was supposed to decide the
11
     validity of the five documents that have been
12
     pointed out; some of them might be valid and some
13
     of them might be invalid. And I'm struggling to
     decide what's relevant or not relevant based upon
14
15
     the possibility that one of them might be invalid
16
     or one of them might not. And so I'm letting in a
17
     little bit more stuff than I normally think I
18
     would.
19
          MR. ROSE: I'm concerned we're arguing the
     second -- the second part of this trial is going to
20
     be to determine what the documents mean and what
21
2.2
     Simon's power of attorney could or couldn't do.
23
     And this document goes to trial two and not trial
24
     one, although I didn't object to its admissibility.
25
          THE COURT: Well, since it's in evidence,
```

1 we'll leave it there and see what happens next. 2 Do you have any other questions of the 3 witness? 4 MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 5 It says that the document that you 6 Ο. 7 fraudulently altered creating the invalid copy of the Shirley trust had some kind of paragraph 2 that was 8 missing from the original document --10 MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative. 11 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 12 Ο. -- from my understanding. 13 THE COURT: You may finish your question. And make sure it's a question and not an argument. 14 15 Because you know what happens if this is an 16 argument. 17 MR. BERNSTEIN: I'm not arquing. I'm just 18 asking --19 THE COURT: I want you to ask your question. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 20 21 It says here that there was a blank spot that Ο. 2.2 you -- a Paragraph No. 2 which modified the definitional language by deleting words. 23 24 According to this document, the power of 25 appointment by Simon could not alter the Shirley trust

```
1
     agreement, correct?
               Don seems to be suggesting that in the second
 2
          Α.
 3
     paragraph. I don't necessarily believe that that's the
 4
     case.
               Did you review this document with Don?
 5
          Ο.
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
 6
 7
               THE COURT: The question is, Did you go over
          this document with Don?
 8
 9
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Correct.
10
               THE COURT: Overruled.
11
               You can answer.
12
               THE WITNESS: No.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
13
               So he's -- Don, in this letter, is describing
14
15
     your actions, correct?
16
          Α.
               Yes.
17
               Okay. Did you write a letter to anybody
          Ο.
18
     describing your actions?
19
          Α.
               I did not.
20
               You did not.
          Ο.
21
               And what have you done to correct the damages
22
     caused by that to my family?
23
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
24
               THE COURT: Sustained.
25
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
```

```
1
    BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
 2
               And are you aware of an autopsy that was done
 3
     on my father the day -- or ordered the day he died?
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
 4
 5
               THE COURT: Sustained.
6
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
7
               Are you aware -- well, are you aware of a
     heavy metal poison test that was done by the Palm Beach
8
9
     County coroner?
10
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
11
               THE COURT: Sustained.
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, it's --
12
13
               THE COURT: Next question.
               MR. BERNSTEIN: I'm trying to figure that out.
14
15
          Your Honor, is -- I can't ask you that question.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
16
17
               Competency. Based on everything you know
18
     about Simon, when he signed those documents, he was
19
     competent?
20
               To my knowledge, he was of sound mind and
          Α.
21
    body.
2.2
               Now, are you a medical expert?
          Q.
23
          Α.
               I'm not.
24
               Are you aware of any other fraudulent activity
          Q.
25
     that took place in anything in the estate and trusts of
```

```
1
     Simon Bernstein by yourself or your employees?
 2
          Α.
               Are you referring back to the closing of your
 3
     mother's estate?
               I'm referring to any other --
          Ο.
               -- we've talked about.
          Α.
               So can you list those and then just say that's
 6
          0.
 7
     all that you're aware of?
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
 8
               THE COURT: Sustained.
10
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
11
               Other than the fraud that you've admitted to
          Ο.
     in the documents of Shirley, the Moran forged and
12
13
     fraudulent waivers, the April 9th waiver that you and Si
     signed stating he had all the waivers when he couldn't
14
15
     have, are there any other frauds that you're aware of
     that took place with these estate and trust documents?
16
17
          Α.
               Not to my knowledge.
18
          Q.
               When you were first interviewed by the Palm
19
     Beach County Sheriff with Kimberly Moran, did you notify
     them at that first interview that you had fraudulently
20
     altered a document?
21
2.2
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
23
               THE COURT: Sustained.
24
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
25
          Q.
               When did you notify the sheriff that you
```

```
1
     fraudulently altered a document?
 2
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
 3
               THE COURT: Sustained.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
 4
               You have these exhibits. This will says
 5
          Ο.
     "conformed copy" on Exhibit 1 of their exhibits; is that
6
7
     correct?
               Yes, it does.
8
          Α.
               Does a conformed copy have to have the clerk
          O.
10
     of the court's signature on it?
11
          Α.
               Conformed copy would not be sent to the clerk
     of the courts.
12
13
          Ο.
               Conformed copy -- okay.
               Is that your signature on the document? This
14
15
     is Exhibit 2, Shirley trust agreement, of the
    plaintiff's exhibit book, 2, page 27.
16
17
               Yes, it appears to be.
          Α.
18
          Q.
               It appears to be?
19
          Α.
               Yes.
               All right. And is that Traci Kratish's
20
          Ο.
21
     signature?
2.2
          Α.
               She was there. I can't speak to her
23
     signature.
24
               Did you witness her sign it?
          Q.
25
          Α.
               I did.
```

1 Q. Okay. Is that my mom's signature on page 28? 2 Α. Yes, it is. 3 Ο. On this first amendment to Shirley's trust --MR. BERNSTEIN: Exhibit 3, Your Honor, page 1 of 3, I guess. It's the first page in that exhibit. 6 7 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: Ο. Is that document -- do you recall that 8 document? 10 Α. Yes. 11 Okay. And you recall the day it's signed and Ο. notarized, allegedly? 12 13 Α. November 18th, 2008. 14 On the front page of that document, what day 15 is the document dated? It's not dated. 16 Α. 17 Is that typical and customary in your office? Ο. 18 Α. Sometimes clients forget to put the date at 19 the top. 20 You forget? Ο. 21 I said, sometimes clients forget to put the Α. 2.2 date at the top. 23 Well, did you check the document before making 24 it a part of a will and trust?

It was notarized as a self-proving document.

25

Α.

1	Q. Are you aware that Kimberly Moran's
2	notarization of the Simon trust has been found by the
3	Governor Rick Scott's notary public division to be
4	deficient?
5	MR. ROSE: Objection. Hearsay.
6	THE COURT: Sustained.
7	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
8	Q. Are you aware of Kimberly Moran of your office
9	being contacted by the governor's office in relation to
10	these wills and trusts?
11	MR. ROSE: Objection. Hearsay.
12	THE COURT: Sustained.
13	What do I care if he's aware of that or not?
14	How does that help me decide the validity of these
15	documents?
16	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, the governor's already
17	made a claim that
18	THE COURT: But you're asking the witness if
19	he's aware of. Are you aware the sky is blue right
20	now? It doesn't matter to me if he's aware of it
21	or not. Are you aware Rick Scott has started an
22	investigation of a moon landing? It doesn't matter
23	to me if he knows that or not. You asked him are
24	you aware of somebody from Rick Scott's office
25	doing something. It doesn't matter to me if he's

1 aware of that or not. I've got to figure out the 2 validity of these documents, so I need to know 3 facts about that, please. Any other questions of the witness on that? 5 MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 6 7 Is that my father's signature? 0. I'm not an expert on your father's signature. 8 Α. But if it's on his will, at the bottom of his will, that 10 must have been a copy that was obtained from the clerk 11 of the courts, because that will was filed, and we would 12 have conformed copies in our file, which would not have 13 his signature at the bottom. Apparently, it is. But it does say on the document that the 14 15 original will's in your safe, correct? 16 Α. For your mother's document, it showed that. 17 O. Oh, for my father's -- where are the originals 18 of my father's? 19 Your father's original will was deposited in Α. 20 the court. As was your mother's. 21 How many copies of it were there that were Ο. 2.2 original? 23 Α. Only one original. I think Mr. Rose had 24 stated on the record that he requested a copy from the 25 clerk of the court of your father's original will, to

```
1
    make a copy of it.
 2
          Ο.
               Certified?
 3
          Α.
               I'm not sure if he said it was certified or
    not.
 5
               Is that your signature on my father's will?
          Q.
 6
               MR. BERNSTEIN: This is Exhibit 4, Your Honor,
7
          Page 7.
               THE WITNESS: Yes, it is.
 8
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
9
10
               Okay. Is that my father's signature?
          Q.
11
               Appears to be.
          Α.
12
          Ο.
               Whose signature is that?
13
          Α.
               That's my signature.
14
          0.
               Oh, okay. So the only two witnesses you see
15
     on this document are you and Kimberly Moran; is that
16
     correct?
17
          Α.
               On that page.
18
          Q.
               And both you and Kimberly Moran have had
19
     misconduct in these cases?
20
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
               THE COURT: Overruled. But it's cumulative.
21
2.2
               MR. ROSE: It's cumulative.
               THE COURT: How many times do I need to know
23
24
          this?
25
               MR. BERNSTEIN: What does that mean exactly,
```

1	cumulative? I don't get that. I'm sorry.
2	THE COURT: Let's say you hit me over the head
3	with a two-by-four. That's one time. If you do it
4	twice, that's cumulative. Cumulative's not
5	allowed.
6	MR. BERNSTEIN: That's an objection, is that
7	I've asked it
8	THE COURT: Yes.
9	MR. BERNSTEIN: and it was answered? Is
10	that what it's kind of saying?
11	THE COURT: Yes, asked and answered. That's
12	another way of saying it.
13	MR. BERNSTEIN: Now I got it.
14	THE COURT: Asked and answered is a similar
15	way to say it.
16	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Sorry.
17	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
18	Q. Is that my father's signature, to the best of
19	your knowledge?
20	A. Appears to be, yes.
21	Q. And is that your signature?
22	A. Yes, it is.
23	Q. And here, did Kimberly Moran properly notarize
24	this document?
25	A. Kimberly did not notarize the document.

```
1
          Q. Or Lindsay Baxley, did she check one -- either
 2
     the person was personally known or produced
 3
     identification?
 4
          Α.
              No. This is what Mr. Rose had gone over
 5
    earlier.
              No, those, I believe, are in other documents
6
          O.
7
    we'll get to.
               So this notarization, as far as you can tell,
8
9
    is incomplete?
10
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Are we on Exhibit 2?
11
               MR. BERNSTEIN: No.
12
               THE COURT: We're on Exhibit 4, as far as I
13
         recall.
14
               MR. BERNSTEIN: He does not miss a thing.
15
          Your Honor, page 8.
               THE WITNESS: This is Si's documents.
16
17
               MR. ROSE: Got it.
18
    BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
19
               Okay. So on Simon's trust, weeks before he
          Q.
    dies, the notarization's improper?
20
21
          Α.
               This was the same document we spoke about
2.2
    before. Yes, she did not circle "known to me,"
23
    although...
24
          Q. So she didn't know you or Simon?
25
          Α.
              No, she knew all of us. She just neglected to
```

```
1
     circle "known to me."
               And that's one of the three functions of a
 2
          Ο.
 3
     notary, to the best of your knowledge, to determine the
     person is in the presence that day by some form of I
 5
     either know you or you gave me a license; is that
 6
     correct?
 7
          Α.
               Yes.
               So your firm -- have you done anything since
          Ο.
 8
     knowing this document's improperly notarized to correct
10
     it with the courts?
11
               MR. ROSE: Objection. It misstates facts.
12
          didn't say it was improperly notarized.
13
               THE COURT: Just state the objection, please.
               MR. ROSE: Well, calls for a legal conclusion.
14
15
               THE COURT: Sustained.
16
               MR. MORRISSEY: Another objection.
17
          misstates the law.
18
               THE COURT: Sustained.
19
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
20
               Is that Lindsay -- oh, you can't answer that.
21
               So, to the best of your ability, regarding
2.2
     your signature, Kimberly or Lindsay Baxley has failed to
     state that you either were known to her or produced
23
24
     identification?
25
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
```

THE COURT: Sustained. 1 2 MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. We'll go on to 3 document 5. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: Is that my father's initials, to the best of 5 Ο. your knowledge? 6 7 Α. Appears to be, yes. Do these initials look similar to you, this Ο. 8 one on page 2, next to this one on page 3, next to that 10 thing on page 4? 11 Α. Initials typically don't look perfect page to 12 page, and they don't necessarily look similar page to 13 page. I have seen clients execute a lot of documents, and by the time they get to, you know, the second and 14 15 third document, their signatures and their initials do 16 not necessarily look --17 Look at page 13, for example. I mean, this is 18 almost -- if we go through page by page, tell me if you 19 see any that are even similar. On page -- let's start back at the beginning, if that'll help you. 20 21 That? Do those look similar to you as you're 2.2 flipping through those? 23 Α. Yeah, they have a lot of the same -- similar 24 ending marks. Your father's ending mark was that line. 25 I mean, it's on every single solitary page.

1 Q. Okay. So your testimony today is those are my father's initials? 2 3 Α. That they were. Q. Okay. I was there when he was... Α. And you've looked at all of these, page 19, 6 Ο. 7 page 20? Those look similar to what you're saying -- or why don't you just look at them. If you go through them 8 all, they all look different. But okay. 10 They all look different, and they all look Α. 11 consistent at the same time. 12 Okay. Is that -- on page 24, is that my Ο. 13 father's signature? 14 Α. Appears to be. 15 Is that your signature? Q. 16 Α. Yes, it is. 17 Okay. Now, this is another trust document Ο. 18 that Lindsay Baxley did that's supposed to be notarized, 19 a will and trust, I believe, and the amended and 20 restated. 21 Can you tell that Simon Bernstein was present 2.2 or produced -- or present that day by the notarization? 23 Α. She again failed to mark that he was 24 personally known, but she worked for him. 25 Ο. So these dispositive documents are improperly

```
1
    notarized?
 2
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative. Legal
 3
          conclusion.
               THE COURT: Sustained.
 4
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
 5
 6
               Okay. And then let's go to the first
          O.
7
     amendment to Shirley Bernstein's trust. Is this a
     document prepared --
8
9
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Your Honor, that would be 6.
10
               THE COURT: All right.
11
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
12
          Q.
               Is that a document prepared by your law firm?
13
          Α.
               Yes, it is.
               And do you see where it's, "Now therefore by
14
15
     executing this instrument I hereby amend the trust
     agreement as following"? And what is it -- what are the
16
17
     numbering sequences there?
18
          Α.
               It says, I hereby delete a paragraph of
19
     article --
20
               What number is that?
          Ο.
21
               Paragraph B -- it's number 1.
          Α.
2.2
          Ο.
               Okay. And what's Number 2?
23
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Best evidence. It's in
24
          evidence. And it's cumulative.
25
               THE COURT: Two is in evidence, as is
```

```
1
    paragraph one and paragraph three. And I've
 2
    read --
 3
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, no. But Number 1, Your
    Honor, take a look real quick. Number 1; there's
 5
    no Number 2.
          THE COURT: The objection came on your next
6
7
    question, and that was dealing with paragraph 2,
    which says it's already in evidence. And it is.
8
9
          MR. BERNSTEIN: No, no, not paragraph 2. Look
10
    at down below. Under the "now therefore," there's
11
    a Number 1, and I was asking him what Number 2
12
    reads.
13
          THE COURT: I know you were.
          MR. BERNSTEIN: And there is no Number 2.
14
15
          THE COURT: You've asked me to look at
16
    Exhibit No. 6, right? Plaintiff's Exhibit 6 has,
17
    under the therefore clause, a one, a two and a
18
     three. Are you asking me to look at a different
19
    document?
20
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Can I approach?
21
          THE COURT: Sure. All right. So that's a
2.2
    different Number 6 than I have. So let's see your
23
    Number 6.
24
          MR. BERNSTEIN: What do I do on that?
25
          THE COURT: That's not my decision.
```

```
1
         MR. BERNSTEIN: That's his book, not my book,
 2
     just so you know.
 3
          THE COURT: Well, that Tab 6 is different than
 4
    my Tab 6. So there you go.
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Well, which -- what do
 5
     I go off there?
 6
7
          THE COURT: I have no --
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Can I submit that into
 8
 9
    evidence?
10
          THE COURT: I have no preference.
11
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. I'd like to submit
12
     this, because I'm not sure if the other one is in
13
    evidence wrong.
14
          THE COURT: All right. Any objection?
15
          MR. ROSE: Could I just see the book? Would
16
    you mind?
17
          THE COURT: Here, I'll show you my book. You
18
     can look at that book and see what's going on.
19
          And this will be a good time for us to take a
     short break, and let you all straighten it out.
20
21
    we'll be back in session in 15 minutes. And then
2.2
    we'll go to the bitter end. Each of you has about
23
     60 minutes remaining.
24
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Your Honor, when you say
25
     "60 minutes remaining," we haven't got through all
```

```
the witnesses yet.
1
          THE COURT: Well, we will have by the end of
 2
     60 minutes on each side.
 3
          This trial is over at five o'clock. I told
 4
    you when we started each of you has half of the
 5
    time; please use it wisely; use it as you wish.
 6
7
     I've tried to encourage both sides to be efficient.
    When your time is gone, that's the end of the trial
8
 9
     for you.
10
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, the case manager --
11
          THE COURT: When their trial is gone --
12
          MR. BERNSTEIN: At the case management, they
13
     said it would take a day. I argued and said to you
     it would take days. I mean, they've got
14
15
     10 witnesses. I need to have all the people who
    witnessed these documents here.
16
17
          THE COURT: Remember when I said a moment ago
18
    we're in recess? I was serious. Thanks. We'll go
19
    back in session 15 minutes from now.
20
          (A break was taken.)
21
          THE COURT: We're ready to resume. Are there
2.2
    any further questions for the witness on cross?
23
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. We were just working
24
    out that 1, 2, 3, Exhibit No. 6, so that we get the
25
    record straight.
```

```
1
          THE COURT: Okay.
 2
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Shall I get a copy of yours,
 3
    you get a copy of mine? Or how do you want to do
 4
     that?
          MR. ROSE: Your Honor, I tried to work it out.
 5
 6
          THE COURT: Listen, I don't have any
 7
    preference as to how we do anything. You all tell
    me how you've worked it out, and if I agree with
 8
 9
     it, I'll accept it.
10
          MR. ROSE: The copy that's been marked for the
11
    witness, the copy in my book and the copy in your
    book are all identical. I don't know what's in his
12
13
    book, and he wouldn't show me his book on the
14
    break.
15
          THE COURT: Okay.
16
          MR. ROSE: But I'm fine. It's a three-page
17
    document. And if he wants to put it in evidence,
18
    even though it's not operative, I have no
19
    objection.
20
          THE COURT: Okay. So are you putting
21
     something into evidence?
2.2
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah. The one that I --
23
          THE COURT: Have you showed it to the other
24
     side yet? You can't put secret documents into
25
    evidence, only after they've been seen by everyone.
```

```
1
    Let's at least show it to the other side so they
 2
     know the document that's being proffered as an
 3
     exhibit. If they still have no objection, I'll
     receive it as Defendant's 3.
          MR. ROSE: This is in evidence already as
 5
     Exhibit No. -- as Plaintiff's No. 3.
 6
 7
          MR. BERNSTEIN: So what's 6? So now I don't
     even have the right 6 document.
8
          MR. ROSE: The 6 that the witness has is three
 9
10
     pages. It's the same 6 that's in your book and
11
     it's in my book. It's three consecutive pages of
12
     the production from Tescher & Spallina law firm.
13
     It has the inoperative first amendment as page 1,
     then it has the operative first amendment as
14
15
     page 2, and the signature page as page 3. It's the
16
     same document in everybody's book. That's all I
17
     can tell you.
18
          THE COURT: Okay.
19
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Your Honor, in my book, 3 and
     6 are the identical documents --
20
21
          THE COURT: Okay.
2.2
          MR. BERNSTEIN: -- so I would need --
23
          THE COURT: Are there any other questions of
24
     the witness?
25
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, I was going to ask him
```

1	questions on this document.
2	THE COURT: All right. Well, then, let's go.
3	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. I need a I don't
4	have the 6 that everybody else is referring to. My
5	sinks is the same as
6	THE COURT: There you go. Take whatever you
7	need.
8	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Thank you. I think we
9	missed 6. It's just short on 6.
10	THE COURT: All right. Then here's my Tab 6.
11	MR. BERNSTEIN: Thank you, sir.
12	THE COURT: The idea is to keep moving.
13	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. I'll move on. I'm
14	almost done here.
15	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
16	Q. Okay. So on Exhibit 3, can you list the
17	numbers there?
18	MR. ROSE: Objection. Best evidence.
19	Cumulative.
20	THE COURT: Sustained.
21	You need to refer to which page. That's a
22	multi-page document, and both pages have numbered
23	paragraphs on them.
24	MR. BERNSTEIN: Page 1 of 2.
25	

## 1 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 2 Ο. The Roman Numeral -- or the numerals, can you 3 give the sequence of those numbers? One and three. It's skipping two. Α. Ο. And this is a document you allege to be part 6 of the Shirley trust that you're claiming is valid? 7 Α. That's the amendment that Shirley executed in November of 2008. 8 9 And would there be a reason why your law firm Ο. 10 numbers one, three? 11 MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative. 12 THE COURT: Overruled. 13 You can answer. THE WITNESS: Human error. 14 15 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. But it is an error in the document that 16 Q. 17 you're claiming is valid Shirley trust? 18 Α. It's a numbering error. 19 In the document, you're claiming this is a Ο. valid amendment, correct? 20 21 Α. Correct. 2.2 Okay. And then in number 6 from the judge, Ο. 23 what's the numbering sequence? 24 Α. One, two, three. 25 Ο. Okay. So you added in a number two?

1	A. Yes.
2	Q. Okay. How did you go about doing that?
3	A. There was a paragraph two inserted between one
4	and three.
5	Q. Well, the paragraph that's inserted between
6	one and three wouldn't fit there.
7	So what did you do?
8	A. The document was opened up and a paragraph was
9	inserted.
10	Q. Okay. So you increased the spacing on the
11	document, correct, by adding a number three, correct?
12	A. Adding number two, yes.
13	Q. By adding number two, correct.
14	Okay. So you actually had to alter the
15	chronology as it was placed on the document? You didn't
16	just put a number two there in between one and three?
17	You actually went and expanded the document with words
18	that were inserted by you fraudulently, right?
19	MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative.
20	Cumulative.
21	THE COURT: Sustained.
22	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
23	MR. ROSE: Your Honor, the witness does have
24	the exhibits in front of him. If Mr. Bernstein
25	could be at the podium.

```
1
          MR. BERNSTEIN: I don't know if he has all the
 2
     exhibits.
 3
          THE COURT: Well, do you have the exhibit that
 4
     I gave you from the Court's?
 5
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, jeez.
          THE COURT: Because I'd like to have it back
 6
 7
     so that that doesn't get lost.
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. You gave me the one
 8
     with one, two, three.
10
          Can I get a copy of this from the clerk?
11
          THE BAILIFF: There is no clerk.
12
          THE COURT: Can I have the document back,
13
    please? He's not a clerk.
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Marshall, sheriff, officer,
14
15
     sir. Sorry about that.
16
          THE COURT: He does not make copies.
17
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
                          Okay.
18
          THE COURT: Thanks. Any other questions of
19
     the witness? Your time is rapidly disappearing.
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Just going through that.
20
21
          THE COURT: And I think you said earlier you
22
    have no objection to Plaintiff's 6 being received
23
     as an exhibit?
24
          MR. ROSE:
                    Correct.
25
          THE COURT: Okay.
```

```
1
               MR. ROSE:
                           Thank you.
               THE COURT: Then it's in evidence as
 2
 3
          Plaintiff's 6. I'm making it Plaintiff's 6, rather
          than Defendant's 3, because it's already marked and
 4
          it's been referred to by that number.
 5
               (Plaintiff's Exhibit No. 6 was received into
 6
7
     evidence.)
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
8
9
          Q.
               Are these your notes?
10
               No, they're not. Those are Don's.
          Α.
11
               Do you know the date on that note?
          0.
               3/12/08.
12
          Α.
13
               Did you take any notes in the meeting?
          Q.
14
          Α.
               Those are my notes there.
15
               These are? Oh, so this is a compilation of
          Q.
16
     Don's and your notes?
17
               Those are my notes, yes.
          Α.
18
          Q.
               And those were taken on that day?
19
          Α.
               Correct.
               Whose notes are those?
20
          Ο.
21
               I just saw those for the first time today. I
          Α.
2.2
     believe they're your father's notes.
23
          Ο.
               How would you know those are my father's
24
     notes?
               Mr. Rose introduced that document earlier.
25
          Α.
```

1 Q. Document 12, did it come from your offices? I don't know where it came from. 2 Α. 3 Ο. Did you Bates stamp this document as part of your documents? 4 I don't recall ever seeing that document. 5 Α. And it doesn't have your Bates stamp from your 6 0. 7 production, right? 8 Α. Correct. 9 You were supposed to turn over all your Ο. 10 records, correct? 11 MR. ROSE: Objection. He's testified it wasn't in his --12 13 THE COURT: What's the objection to the 14 question? 15 MR. ROSE: Cumulative. 16 THE COURT: Sustained. 17 MR. BERNSTEIN: All right. Your Honor, I'm 18 done. 19 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. 20 Is there any redirect? 21 MR. ROSE: Brief, Your Honor. 2.2 REDIRECT (ROBERT SPALLINA) BY MR. ROSE: 23 24 Assuming the documents are valid, they'll have Ο. to be a later trial to determine the effect of Simon's 25

- 1 exercise of his power of appointment?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. It doesn't have any direct bearing on whether these five documents are valid?
  - A. No.

11

12

13

17

18

19

20

21

2.2

23

24

- Q. And I take it you don't necessarily agree with
  Mr. Tescher's view as expressed in his letter of
  January 14th, 2014?
- 9 A. Again, I'm seeing that here. Surprised to see 10 that.
  - Q. The original documents, the wills, you retained at all times of Shirley and Simon in your firm?
    - A. Prior to their death, yes.
- Q. And that's consistent practice for a trust and estate lawyer, to keep it in your will vault or in your safe deposit box?
  - A. Yes. I would say most attorneys do that just because there's only one original of the will, and very often documents can get lost if clients take documents home. So, typically, they're kept in a safe deposit box or a safe or something like that, and left with the attorney.
  - Q. I want to make sure I understand and the Court understands what happened with the waiver forms.
- 25 While Simon was alive, he signed a petition

```
1
     for discharge; is that correct?
 2
          Α.
               Correct. April of '08.
 3
          O.
               And --
               MR. BERNSTEIN: What exhibit? Excuse me.
          What number are we looking at?
               MR. ROSE: None -- well, actually, it's in my
 6
 7
          book. If you want to follow along, it's Tab 28.
          But it's not in evidence.
 8
     BY MR. ROSE:
10
               And Simon also then filed a waiver of
11
     accounting himself?
12
          Α.
               Correct.
13
               And is it necessary for Simon, even though
          Ο.
14
    he's the personal representative, to sign a waiver of
15
     accounting because he's a beneficiary?
               I mean, we do it as a matter of course.
16
          Α.
17
          Ο.
               And the signature of Simon Bernstein on
18
     April 9th, that's genuinely his signature?
19
          Α.
               Can I see?
               Exhibit 28 is a petition that was filed with
20
21
     the court. I'm going to just show you the exhibits.
2.2
     Exhibit A says "Petition for discharge full waiver."
23
               Is this a document you would have prepared for
24
     Simon Bernstein to sign?
25
          Α.
               Yeah, our firm would prepare that.
```

1 Q. Okay. And it's a three-page document. 2 Is that Simon Bernstein's signature --3 Α. Yes, it is. -- April 9th, 2012? Q. Yes, he signed the document. Α. And he was alive when he signed the document? 6 Ο. 7 Α. Yes, he was. Okay. Then he had to sign a waiver of 8 0. accounting, which he signed on the same day? 10 Α. Correct. 11 And you have a document waiver of accounting Ο. 12 on the next page signed by Eliot Bernstein on May 15th? 13 Α. Correct. 14 Ο. And there's no doubt that's Eliot's signature 15 because he's the one who emailed you the document, 16 correct? 17 Α. And sent us the original by mail. 18 Q. Right. And we already have an exhibit which is his email that sent you his waiver form? 19 20 Α. Correct. 21 And the waiver forms of Ted, Pam, Lisa and Ο. 2.2 Jill are all valid, signed by them on the date that they 23 indicated they signed it? 24 To the best of my knowledge, yes. Α. 25 Q. So then these got submitted to the court.

1 Is there anything wrong with submitting waiver 2 forms to the court signed by Simon while he's alive 3 after he had passed away? Maybe we should have made a motion to, you Α. 5 know, have a successor PR appointed and file the documents through the successor PR. 6 7 Were you trying to just save expenses because Ο. there was nothing in the estate? 8 9 Α. Correct. 10 And if Judge Colin had not rejected -- or his Ο. 11 assistant had not rejected the documents, and the estate was closed, it would have been closed based on 12 13 legitimate, properly signed documents of Simon and his five children? 14 15 Α. Correct. 16 So then they get kicked back to your law firm, Q. 17 and you could file a motion and undertake some expense, 18 instead --19 MR. BERNSTEIN: Object. This has been asked 20 and answered. 21 THE COURT: Sustained. 2.2 BY MR. ROSE: Now, does the fact that -- well, strike that. 23 O. 24 At the time that Simon signed his 2012 will 25 and 2012 trust, had there been ever anyone question a

1	signature or a notarization of any document that had
2	been prepared by your law firm?
3	A. No, there was not.
4	Q. You didn't see anything or observe anything or
5	any behavior of Simon Bernstein during the course of any
6	meeting you had with him that would call into question
7	his competence or his ability to properly execute a
8	testamentary document?
9	A. We did not.
10	MR. ROSE: Nothing further, Your Honor.
11	THE COURT: All right. Thanks.
12	Thank you, sir. You can step down.
13	MR. ROSE: At this time, we would rest our
14	case.
15	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.
16	Any evidence from the defendant's side?
17	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, I'd like can I call
18	back Spallina?
19	THE COURT: If you want to call him as a
20	witness on your behalf, sure.
21	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah, sure.
22	THE COURT: All right. Mr. Spallina, you're
23	still under oath, and you're being called as a
24	defense witness now.
25	DIRECT EXAMINATION

```
1
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
               Mr. Spallina, when Simon died on
 2
          Ο.
 3
     September 12th -- or September 13th -- sorry -- 2012,
     and you were responsible as his attorney to appoint Ted
     as the successor, correct, you were in charge of his
 5
6
     wills and trusts?
7
               THE COURT: You just asked three questions in
8
          a row.
 9
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, sorry.
10
               THE COURT: Which question would you like the
11
          witness to answer?
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
12
13
          Ο.
               Okay. When Simon died, was Shirley's estate
14
     closed?
15
               No, it was not.
          Α.
16
               Okay. Did you appoint a successor to Simon
          Q.
17
     who was the personal representative of Shirley on the
18
     day he died?
19
               I don't understand the question.
          Α.
               Well, on the day Simon died, there was a
20
          Ο.
21
     successor to him in the will, correct?
2.2
          Α.
               That's correct.
                                Ted.
23
               Okay. Did you appoint Ted?
          Ο.
24
               I did not appoint Ted. Si did.
          Α.
25
          Q.
               Si appointed Ted?
```

1 Α. Si appointed Ted as a successor trustee under the document -- I mean, Shirley appointed Ted as the 2 3 successor trustee to Si under the document. So Simon didn't appoint Ted? Ο. Α. Simon did not appoint Ted. 6 Q. Okay. 7 Α. He was the named successor under your mother's document. 8 9 Ο. Okay. So when Simon died -- just so I get all 10 this clear, when Simon died, your law firm knew Ted was 11 the successor, correct? 12 Α. That's correct. 13 According to your story. Okay. Ο. Under Shirley's documents, you're talking 14 Α. 15 about. 16 Under the alleged Shirley document. Q. 17 Okay. But yet did Simon then -- after he 18 died, did he not close the estate of Shirley while he 19 was dead? MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative. 20 21 cumulative. 2.2 THE COURT: Sustained. MR. ROSE: And I believe this whole line of 23 24 questioning's been covered ad nauseam in the first 25 cross-examination.

1	THE COURT: Well, it's important not to ask
2	the same thing over and over again. You have
3	finite time to work with.
4	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
5	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
6	Q. The estate of Shirley was closed in January,
7	correct, of 2013?
8	A. I don't recall, but it sounds it has to be
9	sometime after November.
10	Q. Okay. So it was closed by Simon, who was dead
11	at that time, correct?
12	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
13	THE COURT: Sustained.
14	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
15	Q. Did Ted Bernstein close the Estate of Shirley
16	Bernstein as the successor personal representative?
17	A. No.
18	Q. Who closed the Estate of Shirley Bernstein?
19	A. The documents were filed with the court based
20	on the original petition that your father signed.
21	Q. Did you close the estate?
22	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
23	THE COURT: What's the relevance?
24	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, I'm trying to figure out
25	who closed my mom's estate.

1	THE COURT: What's the relevance I've got to
2	figure out?
3	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. The documents, they
4	were bringing up these waivers. There's relevance
5	to this.
6	THE COURT: Well, I'll sustain the objection.
7	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
8	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
9	Q. On this petition for discharge that Mr. Rose
10	brought up on his cross and I can't remember where I
11	just pulled that I'm going to take a look. That
12	would be 28.
13	MR. BERNSTEIN: Can I admit this into
14	evidence, Your Honor, since I believe Mr. Rose
15	stated it wasn't?
16	THE COURT: You're just picking up a piece of
17	paper and walking up to me and saying, can I admit
18	this into evidence?
19	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, they didn't admit it.
20	THE COURT: Is there a foundation laid for its
21	admissibility?
22	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes.
23	THE COURT: Do I know what it is so that I can
24	make a ruling?
25	MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh. It's a petition for

1	discharge.
2	THE COURT: Did anybody testify to that, or
3	are you just
4	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah, he just did.
5	THE COURT: If you have a piece of paper you
6	want to have me consider as an exhibit, the other
7	side has to have seen it and the witness has to
8	have seen it so I'll know what it is.
9	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. They were just talking
10	about it.
11	MR. ROSE: Your Honor, just to speed things
12	along, we have no objection to this document coming
13	into evidence. It is part of our Exhibit 28. The
14	whole 28 could come in evidence. That's fine with
15	me. Then it would all be in evidence. Or however
16	you wish to do it.
17	THE COURT: I'm letting this party take charge
18	of his own case.
19	Are you asking that to be received as an
20	exhibit? There's no objection. So that'll be
21	Defendant's 3. Hand that up, and I'll mark it.
22	MR. BERNSTEIN: Thank you.
23	(Defendant's Exhibit No. 3 was received into
24	evidence.)
25	

1	THE COURT: So are you done with it?
2	MR. BERNSTEIN: No. Can I use it still?
3	THE COURT: Anything that's supposed to be an
4	exhibit in evidence has to come back to me.
5	MR. BERNSTEIN: Gotcha.
6	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
7	Q. Okay. On this document, it's a petition for a
8	discharge, a "full waiver," it says.
9	Was this document sent back to your firm as
10	not notarized by Judge Colin's office?
11	A. I'm not sure. I didn't get the documents
12	back.
13	Q. Is it notarized?
14	A. No, it's not.
15	Q. Did you sign as the notary?
16	MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
17	THE COURT: Overruled.
18	The question was, is it notarized? The answer
19	was no. Then you asked if somebody else, if
20	they'd sign, and then the witness if he signed as a
21	notary.
22	THE WITNESS: I signed it as the attorney for
23	the estate.
24	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
25	Q. Okay. On April 9th with Simon Bernstein?

- A. Yeah, it appears that way.
- Q. Could it be another way?
- 3 A. It didn't -- this document did not require
- 4 | that I witness Si's signature. So I believe that that
- 5 document was sent to Si, and he signed it, sent it back,
- 6 | we signed it and filed it.
- 7 Q. So you sent it to Si, he signed it, then sent
- 8 | it back, and you signed it all on April 9th?
- 9 A. It doesn't -- it's what day he signed it
- 10 | that's relevant. He signed it on April 9th.
- 11 Q. And what day did you sign it?
- 12 A. I could have signed it April 11th.
- 13 Q. Well, where does it say April 11th?
- 14 A. My signature doesn't require a date. His
- 15 does.

1

2

- 16 Q. Why?
- 17 A. Just doesn't.
- 18 Q. Well, the date that the document says this
- 19 | document's being signed on April 9th.
- 20 A. I did not sign that exhibit.
- 21 Q. Next question. On September 13, 2013, the
- 22 | year after my father died, in Judge Martin Colin's
- 23 | court, when he discovered this document, did he threaten
- 24 | to read you your Miranda Rights, stating he had enough
- 25 | evidence to read you Mirandas?

```
1
               MR. ROSE:
                          Objection. Relevance.
 2
               THE COURT: Sustained.
 3
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
               Did you deposit this document, this April 9th
 4
          Q.
 5
     full discharge, with the court?
 6
          Α.
               Did I personally do it?
 7
          Ο.
               Did your law firm?
               No, the law firm did, yes.
 8
          Α.
               Okay. And on whose behalf?
          Ο.
10
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
11
               THE COURT: Sustained.
12
               MR. ROSE: And relevance.
13
               THE COURT: Sustained.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
14
15
          Ο.
               Simon was dead when this document was
16
     deposited with the court, correct?
17
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative. Relevance.
18
               THE COURT: I've got that he is dead written
19
          down here several times. It's clear in my mind.
          You're not moving in a positive direction.
20
21
               MR. BERNSTEIN: I understand that part.
2.2
               THE COURT: All right. New question, please.
23
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
24
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
25
          0.
               Is this document sworn to and attested by my
```

1 father? Is it a sworn statement? Does it say "under 2 penalties of perjury"? 3 Α. It does. Okay. So under penalties of perjury, on Q. 5 April 9th, my father and you signed a document, it appears, that states that Simon has fully administered 6 7 the estate. Was that done? 8 9 Α. Yes, it was. 10 He had settled the estate, made dispositions Ο. 11 of all claims of Shirley's estate? He was the only beneficiary of the estate. 12 Α. 13 The creditor period had passed. He was the only beneficiary of the will? 14 15 He was the only beneficiary of the will if Α. he -- that's if he survived your mother. 16 17 Did you say earlier that the five children 18 were tangible personal property devisees or 19 beneficiaries under the will? I did not. I said your father was the sole 20 Α. 21 beneficiary of your mother's estate by virtue of 2.2 surviving her. 23 I thought you mentioned -- can I take a look 24 at the will? 25 Okay. On Simon's will, which is Exhibit 4

```
1
    here --
 2
          Α.
               This is your mother's will we're talking
 3
     about.
               Well, hold on. Well, you did state there were
 4
          Ο.
     mirror documents, correct, at one point? That's okay.
 5
6
     I'll proceed. That part seems to be in error.
7
               Does the document say, "I, Shirley Bernstein,
     of Palm Beach County, Florida hereby revoke all of my
8
     prior wills and codicils and make this will my spouse's
9
10
     assignment. My children are Ted, Pam -- Pamela Simon,
11
     Eliot Bernstein, Jill Iantoni and Lisa Friedstein"?
12
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Best evidence and
13
          cumulative.
14
               THE COURT: Sustained.
15
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
16
17
               Was there a separate written memorandum
18
     prepared for this will?
19
               No, there was not.
          Α.
               And if Simon didn't survive, the property
20
          Ο.
21
     would be going to the children, correct?
2.2
               MR. ROSE: Objection.
23
               THE WITNESS: Correct.
24
               MR. ROSE: Best evidence and cumulative.
25
               THE COURT: Sustained.
```

1	MR. BERNSTEIN: What was I missed that.
2	Can I not ask him that question I just asked?
3	THE COURT: I sustained the objection. You
4	can ask a new question of him.
5	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
6	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
7	Q. Is there any chance that the children could be
8	beneficiaries of anything under this will?
9	A. Not at the time of your mother's death. Your
10	father survived.
11	Q. So at the time of her death, you're saying
12	that if they both died together, would the
13	children
14	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevancy.
15	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
16	Q be beneficiaries?
17	THE COURT: Sustained.
18	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. I'm done with him.
19	MR. ROSE: No questions.
20	THE COURT: Okay. Thank you. You can step
21	down now.
22	Next witness, please.
23	MR. BERNSTEIN: My next witness, are you
24	saying?
25	THE COURT: If you have another witness, now's

1	the time to call him or her.
2	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Ted Bernstein well,
3	one second.
4	Is Kimberly Moran, your witness, here? Is
5	Kimberly Moran, an exhibited witness, here,
6	Mr. Rose?
7	THE COURT: Listen, it's your case. I've
8	asked if you have any other witnesses. Do you have
9	any other witnesses?
10	MR. BERNSTEIN: No, I don't. I was going to
11	call some of their witnesses, but they're not here.
12	THE COURT: Okay. So you aren't going to call
13	anybody?
14	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes, I'm going to call Ted
15	Bernstein.
16	THE COURT: Well, that's a witness, right?
17	MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah, yeah. I just was
18	looking for the other ones on the witness list. I
19	didn't know if they were sitting outside.
20	Thereupon,
21	(TED BERNSTEIN)
22	having been first duly sworn or affirmed, was examined
23	and testified as follows:
24	THE WITNESS: I do.
25	DIRECT EXAMINATION

```
1
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
 2
          Ο.
               Ted --
 3
               THE COURT: You've got to ask the witness his
          name. The record needs to reflect who's
 4
          testifying.
 6
               MR. ROSE:
                          And could I just ask that he stay
 7
          at the podium?
               THE COURT:
                           Okay. You need to stay near the
 8
9
          microphone so that I can hear and the court
10
          reporter can accurately hear you. And then if you
11
          need to go up to the witness stand for some reason,
12
          you're allowed to do that.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
13
               State your name for the record.
14
          Ο.
15
          Α.
               Ted Bernstein.
               Is that your full formal name?
16
          Q.
               That is.
17
          Α.
18
          Q.
               Do you go by Theodore Stuart Bernstein ever?
19
               I do not.
          Α.
20
               Okay. Is that your name on your birth
          Ο.
     certificate?
21
2.2
          Α.
               Which one?
23
          O.
               Theodore Stuart Bernstein?
24
          Α.
               It is not.
25
          Q.
               Okay. Ted, you were made aware of Robert
```

- 1 Spallina's fraudulent alteration of a trust document of 2 your mother's when?
  - A. I believe that was in the early 2013 or '14.
- Q. Okay. And when you found out, you were the fiduciary of Shirley's trust, allegedly?
- 6 A. I'm not sure I understand the question.
  - Q. When you found out that there was a fraudulent altercation [sic] of a trust document, were you the fiduciary in charge of Shirley's trust?
- 10 A. I was trustee, yes. I am trustee, yes.
- Q. And your attorneys, Tescher and Spallina, and their law firm are the one who committed that fraud, correct, who altered that document?
- 14 A. That's what's been admitted to by them,
  15 correct.
- Q. Okay. So you became aware that your counsel that you retained as trustee had committed a fraud, correct?
- 19 A. Correct.

3

7

8

9

- Q. What did you do immediately after that?
- A. The same day that I found out, I contacted counsel. I met with counsel on that very day. I met with counsel the next day. I met with counsel the day after that.
- 25 Q. Which counsel?

1	A. Alan Rose.
2	Q. Oh. Okay. So he was so Tescher and
3	Spallina were your counsel as trustee, but Alan Rose
4	became that day?
5	A. I'm not sure when, but I consulted him
6	immediately. You asked me when.
7	MR. ROSE: Can I caution the witness that it's
8	fine to say who he consulted with. I think the
9	advice was the attorney-client privilege I would
10	instruct him on.
11	THE COURT: All right. The attorney-client
12	privilege is available, and your client is on the
13	stand. Counsel's reminding him that it exists.
14	Are there any other questions? What is the
15	time period that you're asking about here?
16	MR. BERNSTEIN: Right after he discovered that
17	there had been a fraudulent, invalid will created.
18	THE COURT: Right. And you're asking him what
19	he did afterwards?
20	MR. BERNSTEIN: Right afterwards.
21	THE COURT: Okay. Have your mother and father
22	both passed away at the time you're asking him
23	that?
24	MR. BERNSTEIN: Correct.
25	THE COURT: So the validity of the documents

1 that I've got to figure out won't have anything to 2 do with the questions you're asking him now about 3 his actions at trustee, will they? MR. BERNSTEIN: Yes. THE COURT: Tell me how. MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Because, Your Honor, 6 7 when he found out that there was fraud by his attorneys that he retained, the question is, what 8 did they do with those documents? Did he come to 10 the court to correct --11 The question you're asking him is THE COURT: what did he do. 12 13 MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah. THE COURT: Well, that doesn't tell me 14 15 anything about what the attorneys did. So I'll 16 sustain my own objection. I want to keep you on 17 track here. You're running out of time, and I want 18 you to stay focused on what I've got to figure out. 19 You've got a lot more on your mind than I do. I 20 explained that to you earlier. Do you have any 21 other questions on the issues that I've got to 2.2 resolve at this point? MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah. 23 24 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 25 Ο. Have you seen the original will and trust of

```
1
     your mother's?
 2
          Α.
               Can you define original for me?
 3
          O.
               The original.
               The one that's filed in the court?
          Α.
          Q.
               Original will or the trust.
 6
               I've seen copies of the trusts.
          Α.
 7
               Have you done anything to have any of the
          Ο.
     documents authenticated since learning that your
 8
     attorneys had committed fraud in altering dispositive
9
10
     documents that you were in custody of?
11
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
12
               THE COURT: Overruled.
13
               THE WITNESS: I have not.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
14
15
               So you as the trustee have taken no steps to
          Ο.
     validate these documents; is that correct?
16
17
          Α.
               Correct.
18
          Q.
               Why is that?
19
               I'm not an expert on the validity of
          Α.
     documents.
20
21
          Ο.
               Did you contract a forensic analyst?
2.2
          Α.
               I'm retained by counsel, and I've got counsel
23
     retained for all of this. So I'm not an expert on the
24
     validity of the documents.
25
          O.
               You're the fiduciary. You're the trustee.
```

1 You're the guy in charge. You're the guy who hires your counsel. You tell them what to do. 2 3 So you found out that your former attorneys committed fraud. And my question is simple. Did you do 4 anything, Ted Bernstein, to validate these documents, 5 6 the originals? 7 THE COURT: That's already been answered in the negative. I wrote it down. Let's keep going. 8 9 MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. 10 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 11 As you sit here today, if the documents in Ο. your mother's -- in the estates aren't validated and 12 certain documents are thrown out if the judge rules them 13 not valid, will you or your family gain or lose any 14 15 benefit in any scenario? 16 Can you repeat that for me, please? I'm not Α. 17 sure I'm understanding. 18 Q. If the judge invalidates some of the documents 19 here today, will you personally lose money, interest in 20 the estates and trusts as the trustee, your family, you? 21 Α. I will not. 2.2 Ο. Your family? 23 Α. My -- my children will. 24 So that's your family? Q. 25 Α. Yes.

1	Q. Okay. So do you find that as a fiduciary to
2	be a conflict?
3	MR. ROSE: Objection.
4	THE WITNESS: No.
5	MR. ROSE: I think it calls for a legal
6	conclusion.
7	THE COURT: Sustained.
8	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
9	Q. Well, would it matter to you one way or the
10	other how these documents are validated?
11	A. What would matter to me would be to follow the
12	documents that are deemed to be valid and follow the
13	court orders that suggest and deem that they are valid.
14	That would be what I would be charged to do.
15	Q. So you can sit here today and tell me that the
16	validity of these documents, even though your family
17	will lose 40 percent, has no effect on you?
18	A. It has no effect on me.
19	Q. Okay. And you don't find that to be adverse
20	to certain beneficiaries as the trustee?
21	MR. ROSE: Objection. Calls for a legal
22	conclusion.
23	THE COURT: Well, what difference does it make
24	to me? I mean, what he thinks about his role is
25	just not relevant to me.

```
1
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, Your Honor --
 2
               THE COURT: So the next question, please.
 3
          That's not relevant.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
 5
               So in no way have you tried to authenticate
          Ο.
6
     these documents as the trustee?
7
               THE COURT: He has already said that. That's
          the third time you've asked it, at least. And I've
 8
          written it down. It's on my papers.
10
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. I'll let it go. I'll
11
          let him go today.
12
               THE COURT: Okay. You have no further
13
          questions of the witness.
14
               Is there any cross?
15
               MR. ROSE: Briefly.
16
                      CROSS (TED BERNSTEIN)
     BY MR. ROSE:
17
18
          Q. You did a few things to authenticate the
19
     documents, didn't you? You filed a lawsuit?
20
          Α.
               Yes.
21
               In fact, we're here today because you filed a
          Ο.
2.2
     lawsuit to ask this judge to determine if these five
     documents are valid, correct?
23
24
          Α.
               That's correct.
25
          Q.
               And you fired Mr. Tescher and Spallina on the
```

1 spot? 2 Α. Correct. Called the bar association? 3 Ο. The next business day. Α. You consulted with counsel, and we retained 5 Ο. 6 additional probate counsel over the weekend? 7 Α. We did. So as far as authenticating the documents, you Ο. 8 personally believe these are genuine and valid 10 documents, right? 11 Α. T do. And you, in fact, were in your office the day 12 Ο. 13 your father signed them? That's correct. 14 Α. 15 Ο. And witnessed Mr. Spallina and the notary coming to the office to sign the documents? 16 17 Yes, that's right. Α. 18 Q. And you had been on a conference call with your father, your brother and your three sisters where 19 your father told you exactly what he was going to do? 20 That is also correct. 21 Α. 2.2 Ο. And the documents that we're looking at today 23 do exactly what your father told everybody, including 24 your brother, Eliot, he was going to do on the 25 conference call in May of 2012?

- A. Yes, that is correct also.
- Q. Now, I think you were asked a good question.
- 3 Do you care one way or the other how these
- 4 documents are decided by the Court?
  - A. Absolutely not.
- 6 Q. Did you care when your father or mother made a
- 7 | document that did not specifically leave any money to
- 8 you?

1

- 9 A. I did not.
- 10 Q. Now, did you care for anybody other than
- 11 | yourself?
- 12 A. I cared for the -- for the sake of my
- 13 children.
- Q. And why did you care for the sake of your
- 15 | children?
- 16 A. My parents had a very good relationship with
- 17 | my children, and I did not want my children to
- 18 | misinterpret what the intentions of their grandparents
- 19 | were and would have been. And for that reason, I felt
- 20 | that it would have been difficult for my children.
- 21 Q. Did you ever have access to the original will
- 22 of your father or mother that were in the Tescher &
- 23 | Spallina vaults?
- A. I have no access, no.
- 25 Q. Did you ever have access to the original

- 1 copies of the trusts that Mr. Spallina testified were sitting in their firm's file cabinets or vaults? 2
- 3 Α. I did not.
- Now, did you find in your father's possessions Ο. the duplicate originals of the trusts of him and your mother that we've talked about? 6
  - Α. I did.

5

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

2.2

- And do you have any reason to believe that Ο. they aren't valid, genuine and signed by your father on the day that he -- your father and your mother on the days that it says they signed them?
- Α. None whatsoever.
- You need to get a ruling on whether these five Ο. documents are valid in order for you to do your job as the trustee, correct?
- Α. Yes, that is correct.
- 17 Whichever way the Court rules, will you follow Ο. 18 the final judgment of the Court and exactly consistent 19 with what the documents say, and follow the advice of your counsel in living up to the documents as the Court 20 21 construes them?
  - Α. Always. A hundred percent.
- 23 MR. ROSE: Nothing further, sir.
- 24 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.
- 25 Is there any redirect?

1	REDIRECT (TED BERNSTEIN)
2	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
3	Q. You just stated that you came to the court and
4	validated the documents in this hearing today; is that
5	correct?
6	MR. ROSE: Objection. It mis
7	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
8	Q. You filed a motion to validate the documents
9	today?
10	THE COURT: Wait. You've got to let me rule
11	on the objection.
12	MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, sorry. I don't hear any
13	objection.
14	THE COURT: I'll sustain the objection.
15	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
16	Q. Okay. Since did you file a motion that
17	we're here for today for validity?
18	A. Explain motion.
19	Q. A motion with the court for a validity hearing
20	that we're here at right now.
21	A. Do you mean the lawsuit?
22	Q. Well, yeah.
23	A. Yes, we did file a lawsuit, yes.
24	Q. Okay. Do you know when you filed that?
25	A. No. I don't know, Eliot. I don't know when I

```
1
     filed it. I don't have it committed to memory.
 2
          Ο.
               Do you have an idea?
 3
               MR. ROSE: Objection. I think the court file
          will reflect when the case was filed.
               THE COURT: Overruled.
 5
               The question was answered, I don't know.
 6
 7
          question.
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
 8
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
 9
10
               Prior to filing this lawsuit, Mr. Rose said
11
     you couldn't do anything because you didn't know if the
     documents were valid.
12
13
               My question is, did you do anything from the
14
     time you found out the documents might not be valid and
15
     needed a validity hearing to today at this validity
16
    hearing?
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
17
               THE COURT: What's the relevance?
18
19
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, he knew about these
          documents being fraudulent for X months.
20
21
               THE COURT: What will that help me decide on
2.2
          the validity of the five documents?
23
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Why, Your Honor, they didn't
24
          come to the court knowing that they needed a
25
          validity hearing, and instead disposed and
```

1 disbursed of assets while they've known all this 2 time --3 THE COURT: I'll sustain the objection. I'm not called to rule upon that stuff. I'm called to rule upon the validity of these five 6 paper documents. That's what I'm going to figure 7 out at the end of the day. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 8 Mr. Rose asked you if you found documents and 9 Ο. 10 they all looked valid to you, and you responded yes. 11 Are you an expert? 12 Α. I am not. 13 Can you describe what you did to make that Ο. 14 analysis? 15 Α. They looked like they were their signatures on the documents. I had no reason whatsoever to think 16 those weren't the documents that were their planning 17 documents. I had no reason at all to think that. 18 19 Even after your hired attorneys that were Ο. representing you admitted fraud, you didn't think there 20 21 was any reason to validate the documents? 2.2 MR. ROSE: Objection. Argumentative. 23 THE COURT: Sustained. 24 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 25 Q. Did you find any reason to validate these

1 documents forensically? 2 I think I answered that by saying that we filed a lawsuit. 3 No, I'm asking you to have a Ο. forensic -- you're the trustee. And as a beneficiary --5 to protect the beneficiaries, do you think you should 6 validate these documents with a handwriting expert due 7 to the fact that we have multiple instances of fraud by 8 your counsel who were acting on your behalf? 9 10 MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative and 11 argument. 12 THE COURT: The question is, does he think something. I've already told you when you ask a 13 14 question do you think, I stop listening. 15 relevant what the witness thinks. So I'll sustain the objection. 16 17 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 18 Q. As a trustee, would you find it to be your 19 fiduciary duty upon learning of document forgeries and frauds by your counsel to have the dispositive documents 20 21 you're operating under validated by a professional 2.2 handwriting expert, forensic expert, et cetera? 23 MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative. THE COURT: Sustained. 24 25

```
BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
1
 2
               Do you think these documents should be
 3
     validated -- you're the trustee.
               Do you think these documents should be
 4
 5
     validated by a professional firm forensically?
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
 6
 7
               THE COURT: It's not relevant. You just asked
          him if he thinks he should have had them validated.
 8
          I don't care what he thinks. In making my
10
          decisions today, what he thinks he should have done
11
          or not done isn't relevant. I'm looking for facts.
12
          So I really wish you would address your questions
13
          to facts.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
14
15
               So, to the best of your knowledge, have these
          Ο.
16
     documents been forensically analyzed by any expert?
17
               MR. ROSE: Objection. Cumulative.
18
               THE COURT: No, they are not. I already know
19
          that. I wrote it down. He's already said they've
20
          not been.
21
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
2.2
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
23
               Ted, when your father signed, allegedly, his
24
     2012 documents in July, were you aware of any medical
25
     problems with your father?
```

1 Α. I don't think so. 2 Were you aware that I took him for a biopsy of his brain? 3 Α. I'm not aware of that, no. Were you aware of the headaches he was 5 Ο. 6 suffering that caused him to go for a biopsy of his 7 brain? I don't believe he had a biopsy of his brain. 8 Α. But if he did, then I'm not aware of it. 10 Oh, okay. Were you aware of headaches your Ο. 11 father was suffering? 12 I recall he was having some headaches. Α. 13 Were you aware that he was seeing a Ο. psychiatrist? 14 15 Α. Yes. 16 Were you aware of the reasons he was seeing a Q. 17 psychiatrist? 18 Α. Absolutely not. 19 Were you ever in the psychiatrist's office O. 20 with him? 21 Α. Yes. 2.2 Ο. For what reason? I wanted to have a conversation with him. 23 Α. 24 Q. About?

About some personal issues that I wanted to

25

Α.

1	discuss with him.
2	Q. Personal issues such as?
3	MR. ROSE: Can I get clarification? Are you
4	talking about you wanted to he may have a
5	privilege.
6	You were discussing Simon's issues or your own
7	personal issues?
8	THE WITNESS: They were both intertwined
9	together.
10	MR. ROSE: I think it's subject to a
11	privilege.
12	THE COURT: All right. Well, you've been
13	warned by your attorney you've got a
14	psychologist-client privilege, so use it as you
15	will.
16	MR. BERNSTEIN: He's not a client of the
17	psychiatrist, I don't think.
18	THE COURT: I beg to differ with you.
19	MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, he is?
20	THE COURT: Because the answer just clarified
21	that he was in part seeking to be a client. Did
22	you listen to his clarification of his answer?
23	MR. BERNSTEIN: No.
24	THE COURT: Well, I did very closely.
25	MR. BERNSTEIN: What was it?

```
1
               THE COURT: Next question, please.
               MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. I'll just see it on the
 2
 3
          transcript.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
               Were you aware of any medical conditions,
 5
          Ο.
 6
     depression, anything like that your father was
7
     experiencing prior to his death?
               I never found our father to suffer from any
          Α.
 8
    kind of depression or anything like that during his
10
     lifetime.
11
             So after your mother died, he wasn't
12
     depressed?
13
          Α.
               No.
14
               MR. ROSE: Could I again ask Mr. Bernstein to
15
          step to the podium and not be so close to my
          client?
16
17
               THE COURT: If you speak into the microphone,
18
          it'll be even more easy to hear your questions.
19
          Thank you.
     BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
20
21
          Ο.
               So, according to you, your father's state of
2.2
     mind was perfectly fine after his wife died of -- a
23
     number of years --
24
               I didn't say that.
          Α.
25
          Q.
               Okay. He wasn't depressed?
```

- 1 Α. That's what I said. 2 Ο. Were you aware of any medications he was on? 3 Α. I was, yes. Such as? Q. From time to time, he would take something for 5 Α. your heart when you would have angina pains. But that 6 7 he was doing for 30 years, for a good 30 years, that I knew dad was taking, whatever that medicine is when you 8 have some chest pain. 10 Did you have any problems with your father 11 prior to his death? 12 MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance. 13 THE COURT: The question is, did you have any problems with your dad before he died? 14 15 I'll sustain the objection. BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 16 17 Are you aware of any problems between you and 18 your father that were causing him stress? 19 MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance. THE COURT: Sustained. 20 21 BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
- Ο. Were you aware that your father was changing 23 his documents allegedly due to stress caused by certain 24 of his children?
- 25 Α. No.

2.2

1 Q. Were you on a May 10th phone call? 2 Α. Yes. 3 Ο. In that phone call, did your father --MR. ROSE: Objection. It's beyond the scope -- well --6 MR. BERNSTEIN: It has to do with the changes 7 of the documents and the state of mind. THE COURT: Do you have a question you want to 8 9 ask? He's withdrawn whatever he was saying, so you 10 can finish your question. 11 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. So on May 10th, at that meeting, your 12 Ο. father stated that he was having trouble with certain of 13 his children, and this would solve those problems. 14 15 Are you aware of that? 16 Α. No, I don't -- not from the way you're 17 characterizing that phone call. 18 Q. Well, how do you characterize that? 19 He wanted to have a conversation with his five Α. 20 children about some changes he was making to his 21 documents. 2.2 Ο. And you had never talked to him about the 23 changes, that your family was disinherited? 24 Α. No. 25 Ο. Prior to that call?

1 Α. No. When did you learn that you were disinherited? 2 Ο. I think when I first saw documents with --3 Α. maybe after dad -- once dad passed away. Were you aware of the contact with your sister 5 Ο. Pam regarding her anger at your father for cutting both 6 7 of you out of the will? I'm aware of that. 8 Α. So that was before your father passed? Ο. 10 Excuse me. Can you ask -- say the end of that Α. 11 sentence again. 12 MR. BERNSTEIN: Can you read that back? 13 (A portion of the record was read by the 14 reporter.) 15 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. You asked me a 16 question, and I had answered too quickly. What was 17 the end of the question prior to that? 18 (A portion of the record was read by the 19 reporter.) 20 THE WITNESS: I'm aware that she was angry with him about how -- that he -- she was not in his 21 2.2 documents. 23 BY MR. BERNSTEIN: 24 You didn't learn right there that you weren't 25 in the documents?

1	A. I can't remember if it was then or if it was
2	when dad died.
3	Q. Well, this is very important so can you think
4	back to that time.
5	While your father was alive, did I invite you
6	to a Passover holiday at my home?
7	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
8	THE WITNESS: I don't recall.
9	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
10	THE COURT: What's the relevance?
11	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, it's relevance to the
12	state of mind my dad was in while
13	THE COURT: Well, you're asking did this guy
14	get invited to your home. You didn't ask about
15	your dad, so I'll sustain the objection.
16	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
17	Q. Okay. Did you get invited to a Passover
18	dinner at my home that your father was attending?
19	A. I don't recall the circumstances of
20	what whatever it is you're referring to.
21	Q. Do you recall saying you wouldn't come to the
22	Passover dinner?
23	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
24	THE COURT: Sustained.
25	

1	BY MR. BERNSTEIN:
2	Q. Do you recall writing me a email that stated
3	that your family was dead for all intensive [sic]
4	purposes?
5	MR. ROSE: Objection. Relevance.
6	THE COURT: What's the relevance to the
7	validity of these documents?
8	MR. BERNSTEIN: If Si was in the right state
9	of mind or if he was being, you know, forced at a
10	gun to make these changes by children who had
11	THE COURT: Your question asked this witness
12	if he wrote you a letter that said his family was
13	dead for all intents and purposes. What's that got
14	to do with the validity of these documents?
15	MR. BERNSTEIN: Well, it establishes Simon's
16	state of mind.
17	THE COURT: Okay. I'll sustain the objection.
18	MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. All right. Well, then,
19	I'm all done then.
20	THE COURT: All right.
21	Is there any cross?
22	MR. ROSE: I already crossed.
23	THE COURT: Oh, that's true. So you're all
24	set. You're done. Thank you.
25	Next witness, please.

```
1
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
                          Alan Rose.
 2
          MR. ROSE: I object.
                                Improper.
 3
          THE COURT: You've got 11 minutes yet.
                         Well, he's a witness to the
 4
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
 5
     chain of custody in these documents.
          THE COURT: Well, you can call anybody you
 6
 7
     want. I just wanted you to know how much time you
    had left.
 8
9
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, okay.
10
          MR. ROSE: He wants to call me, and I object
11
     to being called as a witness.
12
          THE COURT: Okay.
13
          MR. ROSE: I don't think that's proper.
14
          THE COURT: I don't think that's proper to
15
     call an attorney from the other side as your
16
     witness. So I accept the objection. Anybody else?
17
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Your Honor, I would agree with
18
     that normally --
19
          THE COURT: Well, thanks.
          MR. BERNSTEIN: -- but there's a small
20
21
               The chain of custody we're trying to
     problem.
2.2
     follow in these documents for other reasons, other
23
     criminal reasons, is Mr. Rose has pertinent
24
     information to; meaning, he claims to have
25
     discovered some of these documents and taken them
```

```
1
    off the property.
 2
          THE COURT: I thought you said you wanted a
 3
    chain of custody?
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Right. Meaning --
 4
          THE COURT: Well, the chain of custody to me
 5
 6
    means the chain of custody after the time they were
 7
    executed.
 8
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Right.
 9
          THE COURT: All right. He wasn't around when
10
     they were executed.
          MR. BERNSTEIN: No, but he found documents
11
     that are being inserted into this court case as
12
13
    originals, second originals that he found
    personally, and wrote a letter stating, I just
14
15
    happened to find these documents in Simon's home --
16
          THE COURT: Well, I'm going to sustain the
17
    objection to you calling him as a surprise witness.
18
    He's a representative of your own. Do you have any
19
    other witnesses?
20
          MR. BERNSTEIN: No. I'm good.
21
          THE COURT: Okay. So you rest?
2.2
         MR. BERNSTEIN: I rest.
23
          THE COURT: Okay. Is there any rebuttal
24
    evidence from the plaintiff's side?
25
          MR. ROSE: No, sir.
```

```
1
          THE COURT: Okay. So the evidence is closed.
 2
     We'll have time for brief closing arguments. And
 3
     I'll take those now. Let me hear first from the
 4
    plaintiff's side.
 5
          MR. ROSE: I'm sorry. Did you say it was time
 6
     for me to speak?
 7
          THE COURT: Yes. I'm taking closing arguments
 8
     now.
 9
          MR. ROSE: Okay. Thank you. May it please
10
     the Court.
11
          We're here on a very narrow issue. And
12
     we -- you know, I apologize to the extent I put on
13
     a little bit of background. We've had an extensive
     litigation before Judge Colin. This is our first
14
15
     time here. And if any of my background bored you,
16
     I apologize.
17
          There are five documents that are at issue,
     which we talked about before we started; the 2008
18
19
     will and trust of Shirley Bernstein, as well as the
     amendment that she signed, and then the 2012 will
20
21
     and trust of Simon Bernstein.
2.2
          So the uncontroverted evidence that you've
23
     heard was from Robert Spallina, who is an attesting
24
     witness to the documents and he was a draftsman of
25
     the documents.
```

1	I don't believe it's directly relevant to your
2	inquiry, but you certainly heard evidence that what
3	Simon Bernstein intended and what he communicated
4	were his wishes; the exercise of a power of
5	appointment through a will, the changing of the
6	beneficiaries of his trust document by way of an
7	amended and restated 2012 document, to give his
8	money leave his wealth to his ten grandchildren.
9	The final documents as drafted and signed are
10	consistent with what.
11	But what we're here to decide is, are these
12	documents valid and enforceable? And there are
13	self-proving affidavits attached to the documents.
14	And by themselves, if you find the self-proving
15	affidavits to be valid, then the wills themselves
16	are valid and enforceable.
17	Now, the only question that's been raised as
18	to the self-proving affidavit is an issue with
19	notarization. And we have two cases to cite to the
20	Court on the notarization issue. One is from the
21	Florida Supreme Court called The House of Lyons,
22	and one is from a sister court in the State of
23	North Carolina.
24	THE COURT: Just a second.
25	Sir, would you just have a seat. You're

```
1
     making me nervous.
 2
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
                          Sure.
 3
          THE COURT: Thanks.
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Just aching.
          THE COURT: Well, I understand. But just have
 5
 6
     a seat. That'll be better.
                                  Thanks.
 7
          And I'm sorry for the interruption.
          MR. ROSE: No, that's all right.
 8
          If I may I approach with the two cases we
10
     would rely on.
11
          THE COURT: All right.
12
          MR. ROSE: The House of Lyons. The second is
13
     a case from Georgia. The House of Lyons case is
14
     from the Florida Supreme Court. It deals in a
15
     slightly different context, but it deals with
16
     notarization. And so what you have here is, we've
17
     put on evidence. The documents that are in
18
     evidence, that these documents were signed
19
     properly. The witnesses were in the presence of
     each other, and the testator and the notary
20
21
     notarized them.
2.2
          Shirley's documents from 2008, there's no
23
     question that all the boxes were checked. There is
24
     a question that's been raised with regard to
25
     Simon's 2012 will and his 2012 trust; that the
```

1 notary -- rather than the law firm employee notarizing them, these were notarized by Simon's --2 3 the testimony is by an employee of Simon's company, not a legal expert. And if on the face of the two documents -- and for the record, these would be 5 Exhibits 4, which is Simon's will, and Exhibit 5, 6 7 which is Simon's trust. On Exhibit 4, there's no box to check. 8 whole information is written out. And I don't 10 believe there's any requirement that someone 11 circled the word -- if you just read it as an English sentence, the notary confirmed that it was 12 sworn to and ascribed before me the witness is 13 Robert L. Spallina, who is personally known to me 14 15 or who has produced no identification. So I think the natural inference from that 16 17 sentence is that person was known to him, Kimberly 18 Moran, who was personally known to me, and Simon 19 Bernstein, who was personally known to me. So on its face, I think it -- the only inference you 20 21 could draw from this is that the person knew them. 2.2 Now, we've established from testimony that she 23 in fact knew the three of them, and we've 24 established by way of Exhibit 16, which was signed 25 on the same day and notarized by the same person.

1 And Exhibit 16, unlike Exhibit 4, which doesn't have a little check mark, Exhibit 16 has a check 2 3 mark, and the notary properly checks personally known to the people that she was notarizing. So I believe -- and the In Re Lyon case stands for substantial compliance with a notary is 6 7 sufficient. And the North Carolina case is actually more directly on point. The Florida 8 Supreme Court case, Lyons -- and we've highlighted 10 it for the Court, but it says, clerical errors will 11 not be permitted to defeat acknowledges -acknowledgments when they, considered either alone 12 13 or in connection with the instrument acknowledged 14 and viewed in light of the statute controlling 15 them, fairly show a substantial compliance with the 16 statute. 17 The North Carolina case is a will case, In Re 18 Will of Durham. And there it's exactly our case. 19 The notary affidavit was silent as to whether the 20 person was personally known or not. And the Court 21 held the caveat was self-proving. The fact that 2.2 the notary's affidavit is silent as to whether 23 decedent was personally known to the notary or 24 produced satisfactory evidence of his identity does 25 not show a lack of compliance with the notary

1 statute, given the issues of personal knowledge or satisfactory evidence are simply not addressed in 2 3 that affidavit. So we have a Florida case and we have the North Carolina case, which I think is -- it's 5 obviously not binding, but it is sort of 6 7 persuasive. If they're self-proved, we would win 8 without any further inquiry. The reason we had a trial and the reason we had to file a complaint was 10 everything in this case -- you've slogged through 11 the mud with us for a day, but we've been slogging through the mud for -- basically, I got directly 12 13 involved in January of 2014, after the Tescher 14 Spallina firm -- after the issues with the firm 15 came to light. So we've been slogging through this. 16 But we did file a complaint. We went the next 17 18 step. So the next step says to you, assume the 19 notaries are invalid, which they aren't invalid; but if they were, all we need to establish these 20 21 documents is the testimony of any attesting 2.2 witness. So we put on the testimony of an 23 attesting witness, Mr. Spallina. He testified to 24 the preparation of the documents. And I do think 25 it's relevant and it will give the Court comfort in

1 making findings of fact that there was an extensive set of meetings between Mr. Spallina and his 2 3 clients when they did the documents. I mean, we documented for the first set of documents, you know, four meetings, a letter with 5 some drafts, then a meeting to sign the documents, 6 7 some phone calls and some amending the documents. And in 2012, we've documented at least one meeting 8 with notes involving Simon; telephone conferences 10 between Simon and his client; eventually, when a 11 decision was made, a conference call of all the children; drafts of the documents sent; the 12 13 document being executed. And so I think if you look at the evidence, 14 15 the totality of the evidence, there's nothing to suggest that these five documents do not reflect 16 17 the true intent of Simon and Shirley Bernstein. 18 There's nothing to suggest that they weren't 19 prepared by the law firm; that they weren't signed by the people that purport to sign them; that 20 21 undisputed testimony from an attesting witness was 2.2 that all three people were present, and it was 23 signed by the testator and the two witnesses in the 24 presence of each other. 25 So under either scenario, you get the document

```
1
     admitted.
                In fact, the documents are in evidence.
     They've been admitted to probate. But the
 2
 3
     testimony under 732.502, 503, the testimony of the
     drafting attorney, who attested -- who was an
     attesting witness, is sufficient for these
 5
 6
     documents.
 7
          There's absolutely no evidence put on the
     Court that Simon Bernstein lacked mental capacity.
 8
     In fact, the evidence is directly to the contrary.
10
     Every witness testified that he was mentally sharp;
11
     making intelligent decisions; having a conference
12
     call with his children to explain his wishes.
13
     there's simply no evidence in the record to
14
     determine that he lacked testamentary capacity.
15
          So if I have Mr. Bernstein, Simon Bernstein,
16
     with testamentary capacity signing documents in the
17
     presence of two subscribing witnesses, the 2012
18
     documents should be upheld. I don't know if
19
     there's a question at all even about Shirley
     Bernstein's 2008 document, but the testimony is
20
21
     undisputed that the documents were consistent with
2.2
    her wishes. You saw a draft letter that explained
     to her exactly what was happening. She signed the
23
24
     documents.
                 The self-proving affidavits for the
25
     Shirley documents are all checked perfectly.
```

even if they weren't, we have an attesting witness 1 2 here. 3 And, frankly, I think Eliot Bernstein likes these documents. And all he wants to do is argue 5 what they mean and how much money you get from And we didn't really need to spend a day 6 7 arquing this, but we have and we're here. And we believe that the evidence conclusively demonstrates 8 that these documents are valid. 10 Now, you've heard some nonsense and some 11 There were a couple of problems in shenanigans. the case; one with the notarization of documents. 12 13 And it's sort of a sad and tortured story, but it's -- it was clearly wrong for someone to send 14 15 documents into Judge Colin's courtroom that had been altered. The correct documents were submitted 16 17 and the estate should have been closed. 18 And when the documents were returned, someone 19 should have gone and filed a motion with Judge Colin to accept the un-notarized documents, since 20 21 there was no dispute they were signed. And we 2.2 wouldn't be here. But for whatever reason, that 23 happened. And it's unfortunate that happened, but 24 there's no evidence that Ted Bernstein, either of 25 his sisters, or Eliot Bernstein, or any of the

1 grandchildren played any role in the fabrication of that document -- the false notarization. 2 3 The fabricated amendment to Shirley's trust document is a very disturbing fact, and we took immediate action to correct it. No one's purported 5 to validate that document. We filed an action to 6 7 have the Court construe the documents, tell us which are valid, tell us what they mean. And 8 that's where we should be focusing our time on. 10 And this is, in my view, step one toward that. 11 But if you look at the evidence we've 12 presented, if you -- I understand you've got to 13 deal with the witnesses that you're handed. think Mr. Spallina's testimony, notwithstanding the 14 15 two issues that we addressed, was persuasive, it 16 was unrebutted. 17 And we would ask that you uphold the five 18 documents and determine, as we have pled, that the 19 five testamentary documents that are in evidence, I believe, as 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 be upheld and 20 determined to be the valid and final testamentary 21 2.2 documents of Simon and Shirley Bernstein. To the 23 extent there's any question the document that has 24 been admitted to be not genuine be determined to be 25 an inoperative and ungenuine document, we would ask

1 that you enter judgment for us on Count II and reserve jurisdiction to deal with the rest of the 2 3 issues as swiftly as we can. THE COURT: All right. Thank you. Any closing argument from the other side? Okay. 6 7 I keep forgetting that you've got a right to be heard, so please forgive me. 8 9 MR. MORRISSEY: Judge, if I may approach, I 10 have some case law and statutes that I may refer 11 And I'll try to be brief and not cumulative. 12 MR. BERNSTEIN: Could I get the other case law 13 that was submitted? Do you have a copy of that? 14 MR. ROSE: Sure. 15 MR. MORRISSEY: Judge, the relevant statute with respect to the execution of wills is 732.502. 16 17 It says that every will must be in writing and 18 executed as follows. And I'll just recite from the 19 relevant parts, that is to say relevant with 20 respect to our case. 21 The testator must sign at the end of the will 2.2 and it must be in the presence of at least two 23 attesting witnesses. And if we drop down to 24 Subsection C, the attesting witnesses must sign the 25 will in the presence of the testator and in the

1 presence of each other. 2 Judge, that was established and uncontroverted 3 in connection with Mr. Spallina's testimony. 732.502 was complied with. 5 Now, I think that we -- there was kind of a distraction with respect to the self-proving 6 7 affidavits at the end. As Your Honor's aware, a self-proving affidavit is of no consequence in 8 connection with the execution of a will. Execution of a will as dealt with in 732.502 merely requires 10 11 execution at the end by the testator or the 12 testatrix, and then two witnesses who go ahead and 13 attest as to the testator's signature. Now, the self-proving affidavit at the end is 14 15 in addition to. So the fact that there may or may not have been a proper notarization is of no 16 17 consequence in connection with a determination of 18 the validity of any of these documents. So that's 19 number one. Number two, I've also provided Your Honor with 20 21 another -- a statutory section, 733.107, and it's 2.2 titled "The Burden of Proof in Contest." And it 23 says there, in Subsection 1, "In all proceedings 24 contesting the validity of a will, the burden shall 25 be upon the proponent of the will to establish,

1 prima facie, its formal execution and attestation." I would submit to the Court that that was done 2 3 today. We had Mr. Spallina's testimony, which was uncontroverted, that indicated that 732.502 was 5 complied with. The statute goes on to state, "A self-proving affidavit executed in accordance with 6 7 733.502 or an oath of an attesting witness executed as required under the statutes is admissible and 8 establishes, prima facie, the formal execution and attestation of the will." 10 11 So, once again, I would submit to the Court that there were self-proving affidavits with 12 13 respect to all of these testamentary documents. They were proper in form, and therefore comply or 14 15 comport with the second sentence of the statute. 16 But even if not, we had Mr. Spallina testify today 17 so as to comply with this second sentence of 18 Subsection 1. 19 So if we drop down to the third sentence of this Subsection 1, it says that, "Thereafter, the 20 contestant shall have the burden of establishing 21 2.2 the grounds on which probate of the will is opposed 23 or revocation is sought." 24 That was not done today by Mr. Eliot 25 Bernstein. He did not present any evidence or meet

1 any burden to overturn these valid wills. 2 Judge, there is the competency argument. The 3 testamentary competency, I'm now going to quote from In Re Wilmott's Estate, 66 So.2d 465. "A 4 5 testamentary competency means the ability to understand generally the nature and extent of one's 6 7 property, the relationship of those who would be the natural objects of the testator's bounty, and 8 the practical effect of the will." 9 10 The only testimony, I elicited that from 11 Mr. Spallina. His is the only testimony that we 12 have in this regard. And it's uncontroverted that 13 both of these decedents met those very specific criteria which -- with respect to each and every 14 15 one of the five documents that are submitted for 16 your Court's validation today. 17 There's also case law, In Re Estate of Weihe, W-E-I-H-E. That's 268 So.2d 446. That's a Fourth 18 19 DCA case that says, "Competency is generally presumed and the burden of proving incompetency is 20 on the contestant." So even if we didn't have 21 2.2 Mr. Spallina's testimony today, which I elicited, 23 competency on the part of both Shirley and Si 24 Bernstein would be presumed. And it would be the contestant, Mr. Eliot Bernstein, who would have to 25

```
1
     come up with the -- or would have the burden of
 2
     showing that they were incompetent. He presented
 3
     no evidence today in that regard or in that
     respect.
 5
          Lastly, there's the In Re Carnegie's estate,
     153 Florida 7. It's a 1943 case. That says that
6
 7
     testamentary capacity refers to competency at the
     time that the will was executed, so on that date.
8
          The only testimony we have with respect to any
10
     issues of competency on the date -- on the specific
11
     dates that these testamentary documents were signed
     was from Mr. Spallina. And on all such dates and
12
13
     times, Mr. Spallina testified that these requisites
14
     with respect to competency -- or testamentary
15
     competency were met.
          Finally, Judge, undue influence, that would be
16
17
     a reason for invalidating a will. Mr. Bernstein,
18
     once again, did not present any evidence to go
19
     ahead and suggest that these wills or trusts
     documents should be overturned on the grounds of
20
21
     undue influence. And in that regard, I provided
2.2
     Your Honor with the Estate of Carpenter, 253 So.2d
23
     697.
           To prove undue influence, one must
24
     demonstrate that a beneficiary had a confidential
25
     relationship with the decedent and actively
```

1 procured the will or trust. 2 Mr. Eliot Bernstein did not even suggest today 3 that any of the beneficiaries actively procured the document. Why? Beneficiaries are essentially -are ultimately the ten grandchildren. 5 Mr. Bernstein, Eliot Bernstein, did not suggest 6 7 today that any one of the ten grandchildren, who are ultimately beneficiaries, were active in 8 procuring any of the five documents, nor did 10 Mr. Bernstein submit to the Court any evidence of 11 confidential relationship by anyone in connection with the various criteria to raise the presumption 12 of undue influence, nor did Eliot Bernstein raise 13 the presumption by satisfying any or enough of the 14 15 criteria under the Carpenter case to go ahead and 16 raise the presumption that anyone, any substantial 17 beneficiary, had committed undue influence with 18 respect to any of these documents. 19 For those various, multifarious reasons, Judge, I would submit to the Court that these 20 21 documents are valid and should be held as such. 22 THE COURT: All right. Thank you. 23 Any closing from the defendant's side? 24 MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, yeah. 25 THE COURT: You've got eight minutes

```
1
     remaining.
 2
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Your Honor, we're
 3
     really here today because of a complex fraud on the
     court and on beneficiaries like myself and my
     children. The only witness they procured to
 5
     validate these documents has consented to the SEC
 6
 7
     and felony charges recently with his partner for
     insider trading. He came up on the stand and
 8
     admitted that he committed fraud, and that his law
 9
10
     firm forged documents and frauded documents, and
11
     then submitted them not only to the court, but
     beneficiaries' attorneys as part of a very complex
12
13
     fraud to not only change beneficiaries, but to
     seize dominion and control of the estates through
14
15
     these very contestable documents.
          They've been shown by the governor's office to
16
17
     not be properly notarized. The two people who are
18
     going -- well, one is --
19
          MR. ROSE: I don't want to object to --
20
          MR. BERNSTEIN: -- has no --
21
          MR. ROSE: Can I object? He's so far talking
2.2
     about things that aren't in evidence.
23
          THE COURT: Sustained.
24
          You can only argue those things that were
     received in evidence.
25
```

```
MR. ROSE: And I realize Your Honor has a good
1
 2
    memory of the evidence --
 3
          MR. BERNSTEIN: I put in evidence that
    Mr. Spallina was SEC --
          THE COURT: No, I sustained objections to
 5
 6
     those questions.
 7
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
                         Oh, okay.
          THE COURT: You can only argue those things
 8
     that came into evidence.
 9
10
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. They didn't bring in
11
     any of the necessary parties to validate these
    documents, other than Mr. Spallina, who admitted to
12
13
     the Court today that he fraudulently altered the
14
     trust document. Can I now say that?
15
          THE COURT: It's not good for you to ask me
16
    questions. I've got to rule on objections, and I'm
17
     trying to give you some guidance so that you don't
18
     screw up. But I can't answer your legal questions.
19
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. So the only witness has
     admitted in this very case that his law firm
20
21
     submitted forged and fraudulent documents to the
2.2
    Court already in this case; that he himself did
23
    those frauds. And we're relying on his sole
24
    testimony.
25
         None of the other people who signed these
```

1 documents are here today to validate or even confirm his statements. So it's a highly 2 3 uncredible [sic] witness to the documents, especially when Mr. Spallina drafted, signed as a 5 witness, gained interest in the documents himself personally as a trustee, and seems to clearly have 6 7 then taken it upon himself to mislead beneficiaries as to the actual documents. 8 I have asked for production of these 10 Today there were no originals produced documents. 11 to this Court for you to examine. And more importantly, there's a few last 12 13 things I wanted to state to the Court. My children 14 are not represented here today as beneficiaries. 15 They were supposed to be represented by a trustee 16 of a trust that does not exist in our possession. 17 So they were -- I was sued as a trustee of a trust 18 I've never been given to represent my children, who 19 are alleged beneficiaries by these guys. And the estate's done nothing to provide counsel to three 20 21 minor children, and left them here today without 2.2 counsel, and me as a trustee of a trust that 23 doesn't exist, as far as we know. I've never 24 signed it. They haven't submitted it to the Court, 25 to anybody.

1	I want to bring up Rule 1.20, pretrial	
2	procedure, case management conference process	
3	provides, "The matter to be considered shall be	
4	specified in the order of notice setting the	
5	conference."	
6	So I just want to say that we had a status	
7	conference in Simon Bernstein's estate, and only	
8	Simon Bernstein's estate, and that this trial was	
9	scheduled in Simon's status conference, which	
10	violates that very rule. So this trial, in my	
11	view, was conducted improperly.	
12	Like I said, if you look at the hearing	
13	transcript of that day, you'll see that Mr. Rose	
14	misleads the Court to think that all these cases	
15	were noticed up that day. But Mr. O'Connell, the	
16	PR, had only noticed it up for Simon's estate. So	
17	what I'm doing here at a trial in Shirley's trust	
18	violates Rule 1.20.	
19	There are some other things that are violated	
20	and not I believe we didn't get to discuss	
21	the at the case management, the fact that, you	
22	know and I did try to get this out that we	
23	would need a lot more time for a competency	
24	hearing, for a removal of Ted process, which should	
25	have come first before doing this and letting them	

1 argue, where it's been alleged that there's some serious problems with Ted Bernstein's 2 3 representation, including the fact that the PR of the estate of Simon has filed with this Court notice that he's not a valid trustee. 5 MR. ROSE: Objection. Outside -- not in 6 7 evidence. 8 THE COURT: Okay. If you're not going to argue the facts that are in evidence in this trial, 10 then I'm going to ask you to stop. 11 MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Well, I'll keep going 12 on my -- see, that's what's confusing. What trial? 13 We had a case management. I was prepared for a Simon, where I have Simon trust construction, all 14 15 those things ready, and I didn't come with any notes about Shirley. And I've tried to notice the 16 17 Court that under 1.200, this trial was scheduled 18 improperly in the estate of Simon, and should have 19 been reheard or rescheduled or something. But that seems not to matter. It doesn't 20 21 matter that we follow the rules. I follow the 2.2 rules, but it seems that the other side doesn't 23 follow any of the rules; doesn't submit documents 24 properly to courts; commits frauds on courts; and 25 then wants you to believe the validity of these

```
1
    documents based on a felony statement to the Court,
    who's under a consent with the SEC.
 2
 3
          THE COURT: You've got two minutes remaining.
 4
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
                          There were outstanding
 5
    discovery requests. I was denied all these
    documents. I was denied the trust that I'm sued
 6
 7
    under representing my children. So I can't get any
    of those documents. We would have brought all that
 8
    up at a real status conference had it been a real
10
     status conference and not a corralling or, as you
11
     called it, a wrangling of octopuses.
12
          THE COURT: That's vivid imagery. Isn't it?
13
     I pride myself on that one.
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Oh, yeah. Well, I was
14
15
    wrangled, technically, into the wrong case here
16
     today, in a status conference that you should have
17
     corrected upon learning about this. And Mr. Rose
18
    has been aware of his mistake in misleading the
19
    Court that all these cases were noticed up, when
     they weren't. And he didn't come to the Court to
20
21
     correct it. Kind of like they didn't come to the
2.2
    Court to correct the validity of these documents
23
    before acting under them, knowing they needed to be
24
    not only challenged on validity, but on
25
    construction of terms, which will come next, which
```

```
1
     is going to just go right back into the same circle
     of fraud.
 2
          So their star witness is a felon.
 3
                                             Their star
     witness has committed fraud upon this Court in this
     case. That's who they're relying on, and hoping
 5
     you bank on his words to validate documents.
 6
 7
          I, Your Honor, am asking that you don't
     validate the documents; that we move forward to
 8
     have the documents properly forensically analyzed.
10
     They were the subject of ongoing criminal
11
     investigations, which are just getting kicked off.
12
     In fact, I got 7200 documents from Mr. Spallina,
     where almost, I think, 7200 are fraud.
13
          THE COURT: Your time is more than elapsed. I
14
15
     was letting you finish up as a courtesy, but you're
16
     getting off into things that aren't in evidence --
17
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. Well, I don't think the
18
     trial was conducted fairly. I think that my due
19
     process rights have been denied under the law.
          THE COURT: Your time is more than up.
20
21
    you.
2.2
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
                          Okay.
23
          THE COURT:
                      Is there any rebuttal?
24
          MR. BERNSTEIN: And I still would like to move
25
     for your disqualification, on the record.
```

```
1
          THE COURT: On the record doesn't count.
 2
     You've got to put it in writing.
 3
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Are you sure? I thought I saw
     in the rules --
          THE COURT: I'll tell you what. You proceed
 5
     under your understanding of the law and the rules.
 6
 7
     That's fine.
 8
          MR. BERNSTEIN:
                          Okay.
          THE COURT: Before I take this --
 9
10
          MR. BERNSTEIN: I rest.
11
          THE COURT: -- before I take this rebuttal
12
     argument, I'll let you put your request for recusal
13
     in writing. We'll be out of session five minutes.
14
          Is that something you want me to read?
15
          MR. ROSE: I just want to make my final --
16
          THE COURT: I just want to make sure that
     there's been no possibility that this gentleman
17
18
     won't have his moment to shine.
19
          So go ahead and go put that in writing, sir.
     Be back in five minutes.
20
21
          (A break was taken.)
2.2
          THE COURT: Did you get that written down?
23
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Can I approach?
24
          THE COURT: Sure. All approaches are okay.
25
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Do you want to wait for
```

```
1
    everybody?
 2
          THE COURT: Do you have something that you
 3
    wanted to file, a written motion to recuse?
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Yeah. In freestyle.
 4
          THE COURT: All right. I'll take a look at
 6
     it.
         Thank you.
 7
          MR. BERNSTEIN: Can I ask a question?
          THE COURT: I'll be in recess. I'll take a
 8
     look at this written motion. Thank you. It'll
 9
10
     take me just a minute. Don't anybody go away.
11
          (A break was taken.)
          THE COURT: The stack of documents handed up
12
13
     to me by the defendant are duplicates of documents
     that he filed, it looks like, twice with the clerk
14
15
    on December 4th, and they've already been ruled
16
    upon by me. But I am also ruling today by
17
    handwritten order on the face of one of the
18
    documents that the disqualification motion is
19
    denied as legally insufficient; already ruled upon
20
     in the order of 12/8/15, at Docket Entry No. 98;
     identical to motions filed by defendant on
21
     12/4/2015 at Docket Entries Nos. 94 and 98; done in
2.2
23
    order of John Phillips, 12/15/15. And since I have
24
     skills, I made copies of my handwritten order for
25
    everybody.
```

```
1
          Gary, if you could, just hand these out.
     That'll take care of all that.
 2
 3
          Now we can go back to talking about the case.
     I was going to take the rebuttal argument from
     Plaintiff's side. I'd take that now.
 5
          MR. ROSE: I have just the exhibits that we
 6
 7
     put in evidence on the plaintiff's side, if that's
     easier for the Court.
 8
          THE COURT: That would be much easier.
10
     you.
11
          MR. ROSE: And I have a proposed final
12
     judgment. And I wanted to talk about one paragraph
13
     of the final judgment in particular.
          MR. BERNSTEIN: I haven't had time to review
14
15
     any final judgment or anything.
16
          THE COURT: You're interrupting the argument.
17
     Thank you.
18
          MR. ROSE: So the complaint alleges -- and I
19
     realize we didn't cover every issue in the entire
     case, but we do it within the four corners of Count
20
21
     II of the complaint. Count II of the complaint was
2.2
     stated in paragraph 79 through 88 of the complaint.
          And the answer that's filed in this case on
23
24
     Count II at paragraph 80 alleges that there's been
25
     a fraud on the court by Ted Bernstein, including,
```

1 but not limited to, proven forgery, fraudulent notarizations, fraud on the court, altercation 2 3 [sic] of trust documents, et cetera, et cetera. And in paragraph 82, the answer says that Ted should be removed for his ongoing involvement in 5 fraud which is dealing with these documents. 6 7 Ted Bernstein is serving as a fiduciary. You've heard -- that was the defense to this case. 8 That's stated in the complaint. You heard no 10 evidence that Ted Bernstein was involved in the 11 preparation or creation of any fraudulent documents. In fact, the evidence from Mr. Spallina 12 13 was to the contrary. So our final judgment in paragraph 5 asks the 14 15 Court to make a ruling on the issues that are pled 16 in the answer, specifically that there was no 17 evidence that Ted was involved and that the 18 evidence was to the contrary. 19 So we have no rebuttal. We believe we've 20 established our case, and we proposed a final judgment for Your Honor's consideration that 21 2.2 discusses that this is an action to adjudicate five 23 documents to be the testamentary documents. 24 on the evidence presented, they're genuine, 25 authentic, valid and enforceable; has the requisite

1 findings. Paragraph 5, which I've explained, the reason we believe it's appropriate in the final 2 3 judgment, given the pleadings that were made and the lack of evidence on those pleadings. And we 5 didn't get into it today, but --THE COURT: Well, if we didn't get into it 6 7 today, then it's not proper for argument. Well, it's alleged in the complaint 8 MR. ROSE: and not proven, so I think it's appropriate to make 10 a finding on it. You didn't actually hear testimony that was relevant to those issues about 11 Ted Bernstein. And I would ask you to consider 12 13 that 5 is supported by the evidence and the 14 pleadings. 15 And 6, we would like you to declare the unauthorized one invalid, because it does change 16 17 potentially something, and we want to know what 18 we're doing going forward. And I don't think 19 anyone disputes that Exhibit 6 that's in evidence was not valid. And then it just states this is 20 intended to be a final order under the rules of 21 2.2 probate code. 23 So that's our order. We would ask you to 24 enter our judgment or a judgment similar to it; 25 find in favor of the plaintiff; reserve

```
jurisdiction for numerous other matters that we
1
    need to deal with as quickly as we can. But,
 2
 3
    hopefully, with the guidance we get today, we'll be
    able to do it more quickly and more efficiently.
 5
    So thank you.
6
          THE COURT: All right.
                                  Thanks.
7
          We'll be in recess. It was fun spending time
    with you all.
8
          Sir, do you have any proposed final judgment
9
10
    you want me to consider? I've received one from
11
    the plaintiff's side. Is there some from the
12
    defendant's side?
          MR. BERNSTEIN: No. I haven't received one
13
14
     from them. And seeing theirs --
15
          THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.
          Then we'll be in recess. Thank you all very
16
17
    much. I'll get this order out as guickly as I can.
          (At 4:48 p.m. the trial was concluded.)
18
19
20
21
2.2
23
24
25
```

1	CERTIFICATE
2	
3	STATE OF FLORIDA
4	COUNTY OF PALM BEACH
5	
6	
7	I, Shirley D. King, Registered Professional
8	Reporter, State of Florida at large, certify that I was
9	authorized to and did stenographically report the
10	foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true
11	and complete record of my stenographic notes.
12	Dated this 4th day of January, 2016.
13	$AI_{\bullet} \cap A_{\bullet}$
14	Miller D. Line
15	Shirley D. King, RPR, FPR
16	billiey b. (in ing, kin, lik
17	Job #1358198-VOL 2
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# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 502012CP004391XXXXNB IH

CERTIFIED COPY

IN RE:

ESTATE OF SIMON L. BERNSTEIN,

Deceased.

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS BEFORE HONORABLE JOHN L. PHILLIPS

DATE: September 1, 2016

TIME: 8:44 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.

1	APPEARING ON BEHALF OF WILLIAM E. STANSBURY:
2	PETER M. FEAMAN, P.A. 3695 BOYNTON BEACH BOULEVARD, SUITE 9
3	BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33436  By: PETER M. FEAMAN, ESQ.
4	APPEARING ON BEHALF OF TED BERNSTEIN:
5	
6	PAGE, MRACHEK, FITZGERALD ROSE KONOPKA & DOW, P.A.
7	505 SOUTH FLAGLER DRIVE, SUITE 600 WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33401 By: ALAN B. ROSE, ESQ.
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	BE IT REMEMBERED, that the following
13	proceedings were taken in the above-styled cause before
14	the Honorable JOHN L. PHILLIPS, at the Palm Beach County
15	Courthouse, 3188 PGA Boulevard, Courtroom 3, in the City
16	of Palm Beach Gardens, County of Palm Beach, State of
17	Florida, on September 1, 2016, to wit:
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

1	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S
2	
3	THE COURT: Good morning.
4	MR. ROSE: Mr. O'Connell is not here, but
5	he's in agreement on the two motions that I filed.
6	THE COURT: All right. So these are agreed
7	orders?
8	MR. ROSE: No, Mr. Feaman has objections, I
9	think.
10	THE COURT: All right. Well, let me take a
11	look at what the motions are and I'll figure out
12	what to do.
13	MR. ROSE: Okay. The easier one first.
14	THE COURT: Easy is good.
15	MR. ROSE: There's two trusts and two
16	estates. We sold some real estate. And there was
17	some personal property in the house in the
18	condo when it was sold. Technically, it was owned
19	by the Estate of Simon Bernstein, even though it
20	was in the house that was in the trust just
21	because of the way it was set up. So the deal was
22	we could sell it and we would even up later. So
23	we had everything appraised. And we have a motion
24	that Mr. O'Connell, the PR, and Mr. Bernstein, as
25	the trustee, have agreed to on the amount of the

- 1 even up. So we have a motion in both cases to
- 2 even up and pay \$12,704 from the Shirley Bernstein
- 3 trust to the Simon Bernstein estate.
- 4 THE COURT: Okay. Let me take a look at what
- 5 you've got, and then I'll hear from the other
- 6 side.
- 7 MR. ROSE: Okay. This is the motion and the
- 8 order in the trust. And Mr. O'Connell suggested
- 9 we file the same motion with the same order in
- 10 estate so we have covered both sides.
- 11 THE COURT: Okay. And what objection is
- 12 there to the proposed order that would even up the
- 13 distribution from the sale?
- 14 MR. FEAMAN: Good morning, Your Honor. Peter
- 15 Feaman on behalf of William Stansbury.
- 16 Mr. Stansbury is a claimant against the estate.
- 17 You may recall he has a separate action pending in
- 18 division AA against the estate for a significant
- 19 claim.
- 20 We are glad, Your Honor, that this
- 21 additional money is coming into the estate.
- 22 THE COURT: There you go.
- MR. FEAMAN: Because that helps our position.
- 24 And we're sorry, however, that the personal
- 25 representative's representative is not here

- 1 because there are continuing issues about missing
- 2 property in this estate, not just jewelry, that I
- 3 mentioned last week. But the property that was in
- 4 the condo was insured at the time of Shirley
- 5 Bernstein's death for a hundred thousand dollars.
- 6 THE COURT: So you think that the personal
- 7 representative may have ripped the place off?
- 8 MR. FEAMAN: Well, it was a previous
- 9 representative. You heard Mr. Spalina testify in
- 10 your court in a previous case in December, and
- 11 Mr. Tescher, they had to resign as personal
- 12 representatives. And Mr. O'Connell, who is the
- 13 successor personal representative. So he wasn't
- 14 around when all of this --
- 15 THE COURT: Can I ask you this?
- 16 MR. FEAMAN: Yes, sir.
- 17 THE COURT: Sounds like you think that
- 18 somebody has been playing with the assets of the
- 19 estates.
- 20 MR. FEAMAN: Yes, sir.
- 21 THE COURT: And diminishing the value of the
- 22 estate that's available for your claim?
- 23 MR. FEAMAN: Yes, sir.
- 24 THE COURT: What does that have to do with
- 25 the even-up order that I'm being asked to do today

- 1 which deals with whatever there was in the estate
- 2 when the property was sold and the distribution to
- 3 even things up was made? What does that have to
- 4 do with this?
- 5 MR. FEAMAN: Yeah, that's why we're gratified
- 6 that this money is coming. At least this part is
- 7 coming into the estate.
- 8 THE COURT: Sounds like you've got something
- 9 else you want to do to pursue your thoughts that
- 10 there might have been fraud earlier. But does
- 11 that have anything to do with this? Or are you
- 12 okay with me signing this?
- 13 MR. FEAMAN: Not directly.
- 14 THE COURT: So you're okay with me signing
- 15 this?
- 16 MR. FEAMAN: Yes, sir.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. So we're good.
- MR. ROSE: We're good. Ms. Lewis, we're
- 19 good?
- Well, this is easier than I thought.
- 21 Okay. Well, thanks.
- It will be interesting to see how that
- 23 other issue works out. I mean, I understand
- 24 your concerns about other things. But as far
- 25 as the even up goes, we'll -- everybody will be

- 1 happily approving that.
- 2 MR. FEAMAN: I have not -- don't think I've
- 3 seen the order that you're signing, but...
- 4 THE COURT: Here's what it says: The motion
- 5 is granted. The Shirley trust will pay the
- 6 personal representative of Simon's estate \$12,457
- 7 for the sold personal property. And there will be
- 8 no further or outstanding obligations between
- 9 these parties.
- 10 Then the other -- kind of a mirror image
- 11 of what I just read. The motion is granted;
- 12 the Shirley trust will pay the personal
- 13 representative of Simon's estate \$12,457 for
- 14 the sold personal property. And there will be
- 15 no further or outstanding obligations between
- 16 those parties.
- 17 MR. FEAMAN: Yes, sir.
- 18 THE COURT: So that leaves open the issues
- 19 that you're concerned about.
- 20 MR. FEAMAN: Okay. Very good. Thank you.
- 21 THE COURT: Okay. Great. Good luck,
- 22 everybody.
- MR. ROSE: We had one other motion that -- I
- 24 don't know -- again, limited opposition. Here's
- 25 the motion and the order. But I can tell you in

- 1 30 seconds the motion.
- 2 Mr. Feaman's client has a lawsuit against
- 3 the estate. The personal representative,
- 4 Mr. O'Connell, has decided he wanted to retain
- 5 my law firm because I've handled this
- 6 litigation for a year and a half before his
- 7 appointment. And he also wanted to appoint my
- 8 client, Ted Bernstein, who's the trustee in the
- 9 beneficiary of his estate as the administrator
- 10 ad litem to oversee the defense of the case to
- 11 save money. Because Ted will do it for free.
- 12 He was an officer of the company. He's been
- 13 defending the case when he was a party,
- 14 although he's been released. And we're very
- 15 concerned with the cost and expense. So having
- 16 Mr. Bernstein serve as the administrator, he's
- 17 the logical person to do it since he was a
- 18 party. He was a partner in the business. He
- 19 is the trustee of the --
- THE COURT: Well, what's the problem?
- MR. ROSE: Mr. Feaman's objecting to it. He
- 22 wants to choose who defends the company against
- 23 the claim -- who defends the estate in the claim
- 24 that his client has brought against the estate.
- 25 Mr. O'Connell and all the beneficiaries want it to

- 1 be as we've put it in the motion.
- 2 THE COURT: Okay. So what's the objection?
- 3 MR. FEAMAN: My position is being
- 4 misrepresented, respectfully, by opposing counsel.
- 5 THE COURT: Okay.
- 6 MR. FEAMAN: My client does not want to
- 7 choose who comes in as administrator ad litem. My
- 8 client objects to the particular individual of Ted
- 9 Bernstein coming in as administrator ad litem.
- 10 THE COURT: This is an evidentiary matter.
- 11 So just set it for an evidentiary hearing and
- 12 we'll figure it out. Or somebody else will figure
- 13 it out.
- 14 MR. FEAMAN: Yes, sir.
- 15 MR. ROSE: Can we agree that the part that's
- 16 unopposed would be that our firm can be retained
- 17 by the estate? Because we want to get the
- 18 litigation moving. And then we would defer the
- 19 other part for an evidentiary hearing.
- 20 THE COURT: Is that okay?
- MR. FEAMAN: I don't think, honestly, Your
- 22 Honor, in candor with the court, that
- 23 Mr. Stansbury could be in a position to take a
- 24 position on that one way or the other as to who
- 25 the estate wants to pick as counsel to defend them

1	in that lawsuit.
2	THE COURT: I agree with you. I agree with
3	you.
4	MR. ROSE: The only other thing, unless
5	Mr. O'Connell, who is not here, has any objection
6	to that, I'll submit I'll revise the order and
7	submit it to you.
8	THE COURT: Let me give this back to you so I
9	don't get it mixed up and accidently sign it. If
10	you would send it in with just a short
11	recollection letter so I won't forget.
12	MR. ROSE: And I'll circulate the proposed
13	order that covers that to everybody before I
14	submit it to Your Honor.
15	THE COURT: Okay. All right. Well, good
16	luck.
17	MR. FEAMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.
18	
19	
20	
21	(Thereupon, the proceedings were
22	concluded at 8:50 a.m.)
23	
24	
25	

1	CERTIFICATE
2	
3	THE STATE OF FLORIDA COUNTY OF PALM BEACH.
4	
5	
6	I, DAVID L. MARSAA, Professional Reporter,
7	State of Florida at large, certify that I was
8	authorized to and did stenographically report the
9	foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a
10	true and complete record of my stenographic notes.
11	Dated this 7th day of September, 2016.
12	
13 14	Daugh musae
15	DAVID L. MARSAA, COURT REPORTER
16	
17	
18	
19	
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23	
24	
25	

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In Re The Estate of Shirley Bernstein.txt
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       IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
             IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA
  2
                PROBATE/GUARDIANSHIP DIVISION IY
  3
                          CASE NO.: 502011CP000653XXXXSB
      IN RE: THE ESTATE OF:
  4
      SHIRLEY BERNSTEIN,
                Deceased
  5
      ELIOT IVAN BERNSTEIN, PRO SE,
  6
                Petitioner,
      vs.
  7
      TESCHER & SPALLINA, P.A., (AND ALL PARTNERS,
      ASSOCIATES AND OF COUNSEL); ROBERT L. SPALLINA
  8
      (BOTH PERSONALLY & PROFESSIONALLY); DONALD
  9
      R. TESCHER (BOTH PERSONALLY & PROFESSIONALLY);
      THEODORE STUART BERNSTEIN (AS ALLEGED PERSONAL
 10
      REPRESENTATIVE, TRUSTEE, SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE) (BOTH
      PERSONALLY & PROFESSIONALLY); AND JOHN AND JANE
 11
      DOE'S (1-5000),
                Respondents.
 12
 13
                   TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
 14
                            BEFORE
 15
                 THE HONORABLE MARTIN H. COLIN
 16
 17
                    South County Courthouse
             200 West Atlantic Avenue, Courtroom 8
                  Delray Beach, Florida 33344
 18
 19
                   Friday, September 13, 2013
 20
                     1:30 p.m. - 2:15 p.m.
 21
 22
 23
 24
                 Stenographically Reported By:
                        JESSICA THIBAULT
 25
2
00002
  1
                          APPEARANCES
  2
      On Behalf of the Petitioner:
  3
  4
                ELIOT IVAN BERNSTEIN, PRO SE
                2753 NW 34th Street
  5
                Boca Raton, Florida 33434
  6
```

```
In Re The Estate of Shirley Bernstein.txt
 13
                MR. MANCERI: But before I make my
 14
           presentation, I would just like to apologize
           for Mr. Tescher's absence. He's out of town
 15
 16
           for the holiday.
 17
                THE COURT: Okay. Who are the PR's that
 18
           vou represent?
 19
                MR. MANCERI: Well, Shirley Bernstein
 20
           there is no technically any PR because we had
           the estate closed.
 21
 22
                THE COURT: Okay.
 23
                MR. MANCERI: And what emanated from
 24
           Mr. Bernstein's 57-page filing, which falls
 25
           lawfully short of any emergency, was a petition
00024
           to reopen the estate, so technically nobody has
  1
  2
           letters right now.
                Simon Bernstein, your Honor, who died a
  3
  4
           year ago today as you heard, survived his wife,
  5
           Shirley Bernstein, who died December 10, 2010.
           Simon Bernstein was the PR of his wife's
  6
  7
           estate.
                As a result of his passing, and in attempt
  8
  9
           to reopen the estate we're looking to have the
 10
           estate reopened. So nobody has letters right
 11
           now, Judge. The estate was closed.
 12
                THE COURT: So you agree that in Shirley's
 13
           estate it was closed January of this year,
 14
           there was an order of discharge, I see that.
 15
           Is that true?
                MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: I don't know.
 16
 17
                THE COURT: Do you know that that's true?
 18
                MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Yes, I believe.
 19
                THE COURT: So final disposition and the
 20
           order got entered that Simon, your father --
 21
                MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Yes, sir.
 22
                THE COURT: -- he came to court and said I
 23
           want to be discharged, my wife's estate is
 24
           closed and fully administered.
 25
                MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: No. I think it
00025
           happened after --
  1
  2
                THE COURT: No, I'm looking at it.
  3
               MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: What date did that
  4
           happen?
  5
                THE COURT:
                            January 3, 2013.
  6
                MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: He was dead.
```

```
In Re The Estate of Shirley Bernstein.txt
  7
                MR. MANCERI: That's when the order was
  8
           signed, yes, your Honor.
  9
                THE COURT: He filed it, physically came
 10
           to court.
 11
                MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Oh.
 12
                THE COURT: So let me see when he actually
 13
           filed it and signed the paperwork.
                                               November.
 14
           What date did your dad die?
 15
                MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: September. It's
 16
           hard to get through. He does a lot of things
 17
           when he's dead.
 18
                THE COURT: I have all of these waivers by
 19
           Simon in November. He tells me Simon was dead
 20
           at the time.
 21
                MR. MANCERI: Simon was dead at the time,
 22
           your Honor. The waivers that you're talking
 23
           about are waivers from the beneficiaries, I
 24
           believe.
 25
                THE COURT: No, it's waivers of
00026
  1
           accountings.
  2
                MR. MANCERI: Right, by the beneficiaries.
  3
                THE COURT: Discharge waiver of service of
  4
           discharge by Simon, Simon asked that he not
  5
           have to serve the petition for discharge.
  6
                MR. MANCERI: Right, that was in his
  7
           petition. When was the petition served?
  8
                THE COURT: November 21st.
                MR. SPALLINA: Yeah, it was after his date
  9
 10
           of death.
                THE COURT: Well, how could that happen
 11
 12
           legally? How could Simon --
 13
                MR. MANCERI: Who signed that?
                THE COURT: -- ask to close and not serve
 14
 15
           a petition after he's dead?
                MR. MANCERI: Your Honor, what happened
 16
 17
           was is the documents were submitted with the
 18
           waivers originally, and this goes to
 19
           Mr. Bernstein's fraud allegation. As you know,
 20
           your Honor, you have a rule that you have to
 21
           have your waivers notarized. And the original
 22
           waivers that were submitted were not notarized,
 23
           so they were kicked back by the clerk. They
 24
           were then notarized by a staff person from
 25
           Tescher and Spallina admittedly in error. They
00027
```

In Re\_ The Estate of Shirley Bernstein.txt 1 should not have been notarized in the absentia 2 of the people who purportedly signed them. And 3 I'll give you the names of the other siblings, that would be Pamela, Lisa, Jill, and Ted 4 5 Bernstein. THE COURT: So let me tell you because I'm 6 7 going to stop all of you folks because I think 8 you need to be read your Miranda warnings. 9 MR. MANCERI: I need to be read my Miranda 10 warnings? 11 THE COURT: Everyone of you might have to 12 be. 13 MR. MANCERI: Okay. 14 THE COURT: Because I'm looking at a 15 formal document filed here April 9, 2012, signed by Simon Bernstein, a signature for him. 16 17 MR. MANCERI: April 9th, right. THE COURT: April 9th, signed by him, and 18 19 notarized on that same date by Kimberly. It's a waiver and it's not filed with The Court 20 21 until November 19th, so the filing of it, and 22 it says to The Court on November 19th, the 23 undersigned, Simon Bernstein, does this, this, 24 and this. Signed and notarized on April 9, 25 2012. The notary said that she witnessed Simon 00028 1 sign it then, and then for some reason it's not filed with The Court until after his date of 2 death with no notice that he was dead at the 3 4 time that this was filed. MR. MANCERI: Okay. 5 6 THE COURT: All right, so stop, that's 7 enough to give you Miranda warnings. Not you 8 personally --9 MR. MANCERI: Okav. 10 THE COURT: Are you involved? Just tell 11 me yes or no. 12 MR. SPALLINA: I'm sorry? THE COURT: Are you involved in the 13 14 transaction? MR. SPALLINA: I was involved as the 15 lawyer for the estate, yes. It did not come to 16 17 my attention until Kimberly Moran came to me 18 after she received a letter from the Governor's 19 Office stating that they were investigating some fraudulent signatures on some waivers that 20 21 were signed in connection with the closing of

22	In Re_ The Estate of Shirley Bernstein.txt
22	the estate.
23	THE COURT: What about the fact, counsel,
24	let me see who signed this. Okay, they're all
<b>25</b> ♀	the same as to so let me ask this, I have a
00029	decompative cliet veries Cliet wisht)
1 2	document where Eliot, you're Eliot, right?
3	MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Yes, sir.
5 4	THE COURT: Where you purportedly waived accounting, agreed to a petition to discharge
5	on May 15th, and you signed that. Do you
6	remember doing that? Do you remember that or
7	not? I'm looking at it.
8	MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: I remember signing
9	it and sending it with a disclaimer that I was
10	signing it because my father was under duress
11	and only to relieve this stress that he was
12	being
13	THE COURT: Well, I don't care I'm not
14	asking you why you signed it.
15	MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: I also signed it
16	with the expressed when I signed it I was
17	coned by Mr. Spallina that he was going to send
18	me all the documents of the estate to review.
19	I would have never lied on this form when I
20	signed it. It's saying that I saw and I never
21	Saw
22	THE COURT: Let me ask you
23	MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: I lied.
24	THE COURT: Did you have your signature
25	notarized?
<u> </u>	
00030	
1	MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: No.
2	THE COURT: Kimberly Moran never signed or
3	notarized his signature?
4	MR. MANCERI: Yes, your Honor, and that's
5	been addressed with the Governor's office.
6	THE COURT: You need to address this with
7	me.
8	MR. MANCERI: I am going to address it
9	with you.
10	THE COURT: Here's what I don't understand
11	because this is part of the problem here, is
12	that Shirley has an estate that's being
13	administered by Simon.
14	MR. MANCERI: Correct.
15	THE COURT: There comes a time where they
	5 4-

```
In Re The Estate of Shirley Bernstein.txt
 16
           think it's time to close out the estate.
 17
                MR. MANCERI: Correct.
 18
                THE COURT: Waivers are sent out, that's
           kind of SOP, and people sign off on that.
 19
 20
                MR. MANCERI: Right.
                THE COURT: And why are they held up for
 21
 22
           six months, and when they're filed it's after
 23
           Simon is already deceased?
 24
                MR. MANCERI: They were originally filed
 25
           away, your Honor, under the signature of the
00031
  1
           people.
  2
                THE COURT: No, they weren't filed, that's
  3
           the whole thing. I'm looking at the file date,
           filed with The Court.
  4
  5
                MR. MANCERI: No, they were returned by
           the clerk because they didn't have
  6
  7
           notarization. We have affidavits from all
  8
           those people, Judge.
  9
                THE COURT: Well you may have that they
 10
           got sent up here.
                              We have affidavits from all
 11
                MR. MANCERI:
 12
           of those people.
 13
                MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Including Simon?
 14
                THE COURT: Slow down. You know how we
 15
           know something is filed? We see a stamp.
 16
                MR. MANCERI: It's on the docket sheet, I
 17
           understand.
 18
                THE COURT: So it's stamped in as filed in
 19
           November. The clerk doesn't have -- now, they
 20
           may have rejected it because it wasn't
 21
           notarized, and that's perhaps what happened,
 22
           but if in the meantime waiting cured the
 23
           deficiency of the document, two things happen
 24
           you're telling me, one, Simon dies.
 25
                MR. MANCERI: Correct.
2
00032
  1
                THE COURT: And when those documents are
  2
           filed with the clerk eventually in November
  3
           they're filed and one of the documents says, I,
  4
           Simon, in the present.
  5
                MR. MANCERI: Of Ms. Moran.
  6
                THE COURT: No, not physically present, I
  7
           Simon, I would read this in November Simon
           saying I waive -- I ask that I not have to have
  8
  9
           an accounting and I want to discharge, that
```

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In Re The Estate of Shirley Bernstein.txt
 10
           request is being made in November.
 11
                MR. MANCERI: Okay.
 12
                THE COURT: He's dead.
 13
                MR. MANCERI:
                              I agree, your Honor.
 14
                THE COURT: Who filed that document?
 15
                MR. MANCERI: Robert, do vou know who
 16
           filed that document in your office?
 17
                MR. SPALLINA: I would assume Kimberly
 18
           did.
 19
                MR. MANCERI: Ms. Moran.
 20
                THE COURT: Who is she?
 21
                MR. MANCERI: She's a staff person at
 22
           Tescher and Spallina.
 23
                THE COURT: When she filed these, and one
 24
           would think when she filed these the person who
 25
           purports to be the requesting party is at least
00033
  1
           alive.
  2
                MR. MANCERI: Understood, Judge.
  3
                THE COURT: Not alive. So, well -- we're
           going to come back to the notary problem in a
  4
  5
           second.
  6
                MR. MANCERI: Okay.
                THE COURT: In the meantime, based upon
  7
  8
           all that I discharge the estate, it's closed.
  9
                Here's what I don't understand on your
           side, you're representing yourself, but the
 10
           rules still apply. You then file, Eliot
 11
           Bernstein, emergency petitions in this closed
 12
 13
           estate, it's closed.
 14
                MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: You reopened it.
 15
                THE COURT: When did I reopen it?
 16
                MR. MANCERI: No, it hasn't been reopened,
 17
           your Honor.
 18
                THE COURT: There's an order that I
 19
           entered in May of 2013 denying an emergency
 20
           petition to freeze assets. You filed this one
 21
           in May. Do you remember doing that?
 22
                MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: I believe so.
 23
                THE COURT: And what you said was there's
 24
           an emergency in May, you want to freeze the
 25
           estate assets appointing you PR, investigate
00034
  1
           the fraud documents, and do a whole host of
           other things, and the estate had been closed.
  2
  3
           The reason why it was denied among other
```

# IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 3.203-9/08\*

IN RE:	UNIFORM PRETRIAL PROCEDURES
	IN CIVIL ACTIONS

Pursuant to the authority conferred by Florida Rule of Judicial Administration 2.215, it is **ORDERED** as follows:

Pursuant to Rule 1.200, Florida Rules of Civil Procedure and Rule 2.545, Rules of Judicial Administration, the attached orders (except for the time deadlines) shall constitute the uniform pretrial orders for circuit court civil actions. Time deadlines may vary in the orders.

**DONE** and **ORDERED** in Chambers at West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida, this day of September, 2008.

Kathleen J. Kroll Chief Judge

<sup>\*</sup>supersedes admin. order no. 3.001-6/05

# IN THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.

Plaintiff,
vs.
Defendant.
/
ORDER SETTING JURY TRIAL AND DIRECTING PRETRIAL AND MEDIATION PROCEDURES
I. <u>SCHEDULING</u>
This action is set for jury trial on the calendar beginning at 9:45 o'clock a.m. YOU MUST APPEAR AT 9:00 O'CLOCK A.M. ON FRIDAY,, I
COURTROOM, PALM BEACH COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 205 NORTH DIXI HIGHWAY, WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA FOR THE JURY CALENDAR CALL. ( days reserved).
The trial will be scheduled sometime during the calendar beginning, at a date and time to be provided at the calendar call, subject to the court's ordering a later case setting.
II. UNIFORM PRETRIAL PROCEDURE
A. On the last business day no later than <u>120 DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL</u> , the parties shall exchange lists of all trial exhibits, names and addresses of all trial witnesses, and name and addresses of all expert witnesses.
B. On the last business day no later than <u>60 DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL</u> , the parties shall exchange lists of names and addresses of all rebuttal witnesses.
C. In addition to names and addresses of each expert retained to formulate an expert opinic with regard to this cause, both on the initial listing and on rebuttal, the parties shall provide:
1. the subject matter about which the expert is expected to testify;

2. the substance of the facts and opinions to which the expert is expected

4. a copy of any written reports issued by the expert regarding this case; and

3. a summary of the grounds for each opinion;

5. a copy of the expert's curriculum vitae.

to testify;

- D. On the last business day no later than <u>30 DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL</u>, the parties shall confer and:
  - 1. discuss settlement:
  - 2. simplify the issues and stipulate, in writing, as to as many facts and issues as possible;
  - 3. prepare a Pre-Trial Stipulation in accordance with paragraph E; and
  - 4. list all objections to trial exhibits.
- E. PRETRIAL STIPULATIONS MUST BE FILED. It shall be the duty of counsel for the Plaintiff to see that the Pre-Trial Stipulation is drawn, executed by counsel for all parties, and filed with the Clerk no later than **20 DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL**. UNILATERAL PRETRIAL STATEMENTS ARE DISALLOWED, UNLESS APPROVED BY THE COURT, AFTER NOTICE AND HEARING SHOWING GOOD CAUSE. Counsel for all parties are charged with good faith cooperation in this regard. The Pre-Trial Stipulation shall contain in separately numbered paragraphs:
  - 1. a list of all pending motions including <u>MOTIONS IN LIMINE and FRYE MOTIONS</u> requiring action by the Court and the dates those motions are set for hearing (<u>MOTIONS IN LIMINE and FRYE HEARINGS shall not be heard the day of trial or thereafter.</u>)
  - 2. stipulated facts which require no proof at trial which may be read to the trier of fact:
  - 3. a statement of all issues of fact for determination at trial;
  - 4. each party's numbered list of trial exhibits with specific objections, if any, to schedules attached to the Stipulation;
  - 5. each party's numbered list of trial witnesses with addresses (including all known rebuttal witnesses); the list of witnesses shall be on separate schedules attached to the Stipulation;
  - 6. a statement of estimated trial time;
  - 7. names of attorneys to try case; and
  - 8. number of peremptory challenges per party.
- F. FILING OF PRE-TRIAL STIPULATION. Failure to file the Pre-Trial Stipulation or a Court Approved Unilateral Stipulation as above provided may result in the case being stricken from the Court's calendar at its sounding or other sanctions.
- G. ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS, WITNESSES OR OBJECTIONS. At trial, the parties shall be strictly limited to exhibits and witnesses disclosed and objections reserved on the schedules attached to the Pre-Trial Stipulation prepared in accordance with paragraphs D and E, absent agreement specifically stated in the Pre-Trial Stipulation or order of the Court upon good cause shown. Failure to reserve objections constitutes a waiver. A party desiring to use an exhibit or witness discovered after counsel have conferred pursuant to paragraph D shall immediately furnish the Court and other counsel with a description of the exhibit or with the witness' name and address and the expected subject matter of the witness' testimony, together with the reason for the late discovery of the exhibit or witness. Use

of the exhibit or witness may be allowed by the Court for good cause shown or to prevent manifest injustice.

- H. DISCOVERY. Unless otherwise agreed in the Pre-Trial Stipulation, all discovery must be completed no later than <u>10 DAYS BEFORE THE DATE SET FOR CALENDAR CALL</u>, absent agreement for later discovery specifically stated in the Pre-Trial Stipulation or for other good cause shown.
- I. PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE. No pre-trial conference pursuant to Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.200 is set by the Court on its own motion. If a pre-trial conference is set upon motion of a party, counsel shall meet and prepare a stipulation pursuant to paragraphs D and E and file the stipulation no later than <u>5</u> **DAYS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE**. Failure to request a pre-trial conference in a timely fashion constitutes a waiver of the notice of requirement of Rule 1.200. Motions for Summary Judgment will not be heard at any pre-trial conference.
- J. UNIQUE QUESTIONS OF LAW. Prior to calendar call, counsel for the parties are directed to exchange and simultaneously submit to the Court appropriate memoranda with citations to legal authority in support of any unique legal questions which may reasonably be anticipated to arise during the trial.
- K. MODIFICATION TO UNIFORM PRE-TRIAL PROCEDURE. Upon written stipulation of the parties filed with the court, the Pre-Trial Procedure, except for items II D-F, inclusive, may be modified in accordance with the parties' stipulation, except to the extent that the stipulation may interfere with the Court's scheduling of the matter for trial or hinder the orderly progress of the trial.
- L. PREMARKING EXHIBITS. Prior to trial, each party shall meet with and assist the clerk in marking for identification all exhibits, as directed by the clerk.
- M. DEPOSITION DESIGNATIONS. No later than **20 DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL**, each party shall serve his, her, or its designation of depositions, or portions of depositions, each intends to offer as testimony in his, her or its case in chief. No later than **10 DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL**, each opposing party shall serve his, her, or its counter (or "fairness") designations to portions of depositions designated, together with objections to the depositions, or portions thereof, originally designated. No later than calendar call, each party shall serve his, her or its objections to counter designations served by an opposing party.

# III. MEDIATION

- A. All parties are required to participate in mediation.
- 1. The appearance of counsel who will try the case and representatives of each party with full authority to enter into a complete compromise and settlement is mandatory. If insurance is involved, an adjuster with authority up to the policy limits or the most recent demand, whichever is lower, shall attend.
- 2. At least <u>ONE WEEK BEFORE THE CONFERENCE</u>, all parties shall file with the mediator a brief, written summary of the case containing a list of issues as to each party. If an

- 4. The mediator has no power to compel or enforce a settlement agreement. If a settlement is reached, it shall be the responsibility of the attorneys or parties to reduce the agreement to writing and to comply with Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.730(b), unless waived.
- B. The Plaintiff's attorney shall be responsible for scheduling mediation. The parties should agree on a mediator. If they are unable to agree, any party may apply to the Court for appointment of a mediator in conformity with Rule 1.720 (f), Fla. R. Civ. P. The lead attorney or party shall file and serve on all parties and the mediator a Notice of Mediation giving the time, place, and date of the mediation and the mediator's name. The mediator shall be paid \$175.00 per hour, unless otherwise agreed by the parties.
- C. Completion of mediation is a prerequisite to trial. If mediation is not conducted, or if a party fails to participate in mediation, the case may be stricken from the trial calendar, pleadings may be stricken, and other sanctions may be imposed.
  - D. Any party opposing mediation may proceed under Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1,700(b).

## IV. NONCOMPLIANCE

NONCOMPLIANCE WITH ANY PORTION OF THIS ORDER MAY RESULT IN THE STRIKING OF THE CASE, WITNESSES, OR EXHIBITS, OR IMPOSITION OF SUCH OTHER SANCTIONS AS ARE JUST.

	DONE AND ORDERED in	West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida this	day
of_	, 2005.		
		Circuit Court Judge	

# IN THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

SE NO.
Plaintiff, vs.
Defendant.
ORDER SETTING NON-JURY TRIAL AND DIRECTING PRETRIAL AND MEDIATION PROCEDURES
I. <u>SCHEDULING</u>
This action is set for non-jury trial on the calendar beginning at 9:45 o'clock a.m.  YOU MUST APPEAR AT 10:00 O'CLOCK A.M. ON FRIDAY,, IN COURTROOM, PALM BEACH COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 205 NORTH DIXIN HIGHWAY, WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA FOR THE NON-JURY CALENDAR CALL ( days reserved).  The trial will be scheduled sometime during the calendar beginning, at a dat and time to be provided at the calendar call, subject to the court's ordering a later case setting.
II. UNIFORM PRETRIAL PROCEDURE
A. On the last business day no later than <u>60 DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL</u> , the parties shall exchange lists of all trial exhibits, names and addresses of all trial witnesses, and name and addresses of all expert witnesses.
B. On the last business day no later than <u>30 DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL</u> , the parties shall exchange lists of names and addresses of all rebuttal witnesses.
C. In addition to names and addresses of each expert retained to formulate an expert opinion with regard to this cause, both on the initial listing and on rebuttal, the parties shall provide:
<ol> <li>the subject matter about which the expert is expected to testify;</li> <li>the substance of the facts and opinions to which the expert is expected to testify;</li> <li>a summary of the grounds for each opinion;</li> </ol>

4. a copy of any written reports issued by the expert regarding this case; and

- 5. a copy of the expert's curriculum vitae.
- D. On the last business day no later than **20 DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL**, the parties shall confer and:
  - 1. discuss settlement;
  - 2. simplify the issues and stipulate, in writing, as to as many facts and issues as possible;
  - 3. prepare a Pre-Trial Stipulation in accordance with paragraph E; and
  - 4. list all objections to trial exhibits.
- E. PRETRIAL STIPULATIONS MUST BE FILED. It shall be the duty of counsel for the Plaintiff to see that the Pre-Trial Stipulation is drawn, executed by counsel for all parties, and filed with the Clerk no later than **20 DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL**. UNILATERAL PRETRIAL STATEMENTS ARE DISALLOWED, UNLESS APPROVED BY THE COURT, AFTER NOTICE AND HEARING SHOWING GOOD CAUSE. Counsel for all parties are charged with good faith cooperation in this regard. The Pre-Trial Stipulation shall contain in separately numbered paragraphs:
  - 1. a list of all pending motions requiring action by the Court and the dates those motions are set for hearing;
  - 2. stipulated facts which require no proof at trial which may be read to the trier of fact;
  - 3. a statement of all issues of fact for determination at trial;
  - 4. each party's numbered list of trial exhibits with specific objections, if any, to schedules attached to the Stipulation;
  - 5. each party's numbered list of trial witnesses with addresses (including all known rebuttal witnesses); the list of witnesses shall be on separate schedules attached to the Stipulation;
  - 6. a statement of estimated trial time;
  - 7. names of attorneys to try case.
- F. FILING OF PRE-TRIAL STIPULATION. Failure to file the Pre-Trial Stipulation or a Court Approved Unilateral Stipulation as above provided may result in the case being stricken from the Court's calendar at its sounding or other sanctions.
- G. ADDITIONAL EXHIBITS, WITNESSES OR OBJECTIONS. At trial, the parties shall be strictly limited to exhibits and witnesses disclosed and objections reserved on the schedules attached to the Pre-Trial Stipulation prepared in accordance with paragraphs D and E, absent agreement specifically stated in the Pre-Trial Stipulation or order of the Court upon good cause shown. Failure to reserve objections constitutes a waiver. A party desiring to use an exhibit or witness discovered after counsel have conferred pursuant to paragraph D shall immediately furnish the Court and other counsel with a description of the exhibit or with the witness' name and address and the expected subject matter of the witness' testimony, together with the reason for the late discovery of the exhibit or witness. Use of the exhibit or witness may be allowed by the Court for good cause shown or to prevent manifest injustice.

- H. DISCOVERY. Unless otherwise agreed in the Pre-Trial Stipulation, all discovery must be completed no later than **10 DAYS BEFORE THE DATE SET FOR CALENDAR CALL**, absent agreement for later discovery specifically stated in the Pre-Trial Stipulation or for other good cause shown.
- I. PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE. No pre-trial conference pursuant to Fla. R. Civ. P. 1.200 is set by the Court on its own motion. If a pre-trial conference is set upon motion of a party, counsel shall meet and prepare a stipulation pursuant to paragraphs D and E and file the stipulation no later than <u>5</u> **DAYS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE**. Failure to request a pre-trial conference in a timely fashion constitutes a waiver of the notice of requirement of Rule 1.200. Motions for Summary Judgment will not be heard at any pre-trial conference.
- J. UNIQUE QUESTIONS OF LAW. On the date of trial, counsel for the parties are directed to submit to the Court appropriate memoranda with citations to legal authority in support of any unique legal questions which may reasonably be anticipated to arise during the trial.
- K. MODIFICATION TO UNIFORM PRE-TRIAL PROCEDURE. Upon written stipulation of the parties filed with the Court, the Pre-Trial Procedure, except for items II D-F, inclusive, may be modified in accordance with the parties' stipulation, except to the extent that the stipulation may interfere with the Court's scheduling of the matter for trial or hinder the orderly progress of the trial.
- L. PREMARKING EXHIBITS. Parties shall pre-mark all exhibits in the manner customarily used by the Clerk of Court.
- M. DEPOSITION DESIGNATIONS. No later than **20 DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL**, each party shall serve his, her, or its designation of depositions, or portions of depositions, each intends to offer as testimony in his, her or its case in chief. No later than **10 DAYS PRIOR TO CALENDAR CALL**, each opposing party shall serve his, her, or its counter (or "fairness") designations to portions of depositions designated, together with objections to the depositions, or portions thereof, originally designated. No later than calendar call, each party shall serve his, her or its objections to counter designations served by an opposing party.

### III. MEDIATION

- A. All parties are required to participate in mediation.
- 1. The appearance of counsel who will try the case and representatives of each party with full authority to enter into a complete compromise and settlement is mandatory. If insurance is involved, an adjuster with authority up to the policy limits or the most recent demand, whichever is lower, shall attend.
- 2. At least <u>ONE WEEK BEFORE THE CONFERENCE</u>, all parties shall file with the mediator a brief, written summary of the case containing a list of issues as to each party. If an attorney or party filing the summary wishes its content to remain confidential, he/she must advise the mediator in writing when the report is filed.
- 3. All discussions, representations, and statements made at the mediation conference shall be privileged consistent with Florida Statutes sections 44.102 and 90.408.

- 4. The mediator has no power to compel or enforce a settlement agreement. If a settlement is reached, it shall be the responsibility of the attorneys or parties to reduce the agreement to writing and to comply with Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1.730(b), unless waived.
- B. The Plaintiff's attorney shall be responsible for scheduling mediation. The parties should agree on a mediator. If they are unable to agree, any party may apply to the Court for appointment of a mediator in conformity with Rule 1.720 (f), Fla. R. Civ. P. The lead attorney or party shall file and serve on all parties and the mediator a Notice of Mediation giving the time, place, and date of the mediation and the mediator's name. The mediator shall be paid \$175.00 per hour, unless otherwise agreed by the parties.
- C. Completion of mediation is a prerequisite to trial. If mediation is not conducted, or if a party fails to participate in mediation, the case may be stricken from the trial calendar, pleadings may be stricken, and other sanctions may be imposed.
  - D. Any party opposing mediation may proceed under Florida Rule of Civil Procedure 1,700(b).

# IV. NONCOMPLIANCE

NONCOMPLIANCE WITH ANY PORTION OF THIS ORDER MAY RESULT IN THE STRIKING OF THE CASE, WITNESSES, OR EXHIBITS, OR IMPOSITION OF SUCH OTHER SANCTIONS AS ARE JUST.

	DONE AND ORDERED in West Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida this		
of	, 2005.		
~ ~~~~		Circuit Court Judge	•