1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
2	FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION		
3	LabMD, INC.		
4) Plaintiff,) CIVIL ACTION FILE) NO. 1:14-CV-810-WSD		
5	v.) ATLANTA, GEORGIA		
6	FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION)		
7	Defendant.)		
8	/		
9	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE HONORABLE WILLIAM S. DUFFEY, JR.,		
10	UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE		
11	Wednesday, May 7, 2014		
12			
13	APPEARANCES OF COUNSEL:		
14	For the Plaintiff: KILPATRICK TOWNSEND & STOCKTON LLP (By: Ronald L. Raider		
15	William D. Meyer) Burleigh Lavisky Singleton)		
16	DINSMORE & SHOHL LLP		
17	(By: Reed D. Rubinstein)		
18	For the Defendant: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE (By: Lauren Fascett		
19	Perham Gorji Joel Marcus)		
20	oder Mareaby		
21			
22	Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography and computer-aided transcript produced by		
23	NICHOLAS A. MARRONE, RMR, CRR 1714 U. S. Courthouse		
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1	Wednesday Morning Session	
2	May 7, 2014	
3	9:44 a.m.	
4		
5	PROCEEDINGS	
6		
7	(In open court:)	
8	THE COURT: Good morning, everybody.	
9	This is the hearing that is scheduled pursuant to	
10	my amended scheduling order which is dated April 9th this	
11	year. It's a hearing on the motion for preliminary	
12	injunction that's been requested by LabMD.	
13	And absent anything that you want to discuss before	
14	we start, I would say let just get started. Any objection to	
15	doing that?	
16	MR. RAIDER: No, Your Honor.	
17	MS. FASCETT: No, Your Honor.	
18	THE COURT: All right. And, LabMD, this is your	
19	hearing. You may begin.	
20	MR. RAIDER: Thank you, Your Honor.	
21	We would like to start by presenting some live	
22	testimony from Mr. Daugherty.	
23	THE COURT: That would be fine.	
24	MR. RAIDER: We also have Mr. Baker here.	
25	Is it okay that he sits in the back or do you want	

```
him out in the witness room?
1
               THE COURT: Do you want him sequestered?
2
               MS. FASCETT: I don't think that's necessary,
3
     Your Honor.
4
               THE COURT: I agree.
               Okay. Let's begin, then.
6
7
               (The oath is given by the Courtroom Deputy Clerk.)
               MR. RAIDER: Your Honor, just as Mr. Daugherty is
8
     getting some water, we have presented a notebook with all of
9
     the exhibits that plaintiff has on its exhibit list, and we
10
     will be using some of those in his examination.
11
               So the witness has a copy, government counsel has a
12
     copy, and I think a copy has been made available to you.
13
14
               THE COURT: I have got it.
               And let's make sure all the appearances are noted
15
     on the record.
16
               I guess we have Mr. Rubinstein, Mr. Singleton,
17
     Mr. Meyer, Mr. Raider for LabMD; is that correct?
18
               MR. RAIDER: Yes.
19
               THE COURT: And for the FTC, Ms. Fascett, Mr. Gorji
20
     is it?
21
               MR. GORJI: Correct, Your Honor.
22
               THE COURT:
                          And Mr. Marcus, who I don't think has
23
     made an appearance in the case.
24
               MR. MARCUS: That's correct. For the FTC, I am
25
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just serving as of counsel here. I would be happy to enter
1
     an appearance if you would like.
2
               THE COURT: Well, I mean, if you are just sitting
3
     there because you are an observer and not in the case, that's
4
     fine. But if you are in the case, you need to make an
5
     appearance.
6
7
               MR. MARCUS: I will do that, Your Honor.
               THE COURT: And please do that today.
8
               All right. Let's begin.
9
               MR. RAIDER: And, Your Honor, just to introduce
10
     myself as counsel for LabMD, I am Mr. Raider.
11
               THE COURT: All right.
12
13
                         MICHAEL JOHN DAUGHERTY
14
         being first duly sworn by the Courtroom Deputy Clerk,
15
                     testifies and says as follows:
16
17
                            DIRECT EXAMINATION
18
     BY MR. RAIDER:
19
          Would you please state your name for the record?
20
     Ο.
          Michael John Daugherty.
21
     Α.
          What is your role at plaintiff LabMD?
22
     Q.
          I'm the founder and CEO of LabMD.
23
     Α.
          How long have you been CEO of LabMD?
24
          Since 1996.
     Α.
25
```

- 1 Q. What services has LabMD offered?
- 2 A. We are a medical laboratory doing cancer detection,
- tumor markers, bacterial detection in the urology
- 4 marketspace.
- 5 Q. What services are you currently offering?
- 6 A. Currently we are billing services for prior specimens
- 7 that were tested and access to medical records for the
- 8 | physicians and -- physicians that need to still have access.
- 9 Q. And when did you stop offering cancer detection testing
- 10 | services?
- 11 A. Our last specimen I believe was taken around the 9th of
- 12 | January of 2014 and our last result was released around
- 13 | January 15th, 2014.
- 14 Q. And what caused LabMD to stop offering cancer detection
- 15 | services?
- 16 A. The overriding cloud and draining ongoing investigation
- 17 by the Federal Trade Commission.
- 18 | O. Could you turn to Tab 14 in your notebook?
- 19 A. Okay, I am in front of 14.
- 20 O. And what is Exhibit 14?
- 21 A. 14 is the letter that I sent out to physicians,
- 22 administrators, nurses and support staff of our client base
- 23 on the 6th of January, 2014, letting them know we would no
- 24 | longer be accepting specimens so that they could make
- 25 arrangements for other -- for their patients for future

1 medical testing.

- Q. And if you would look at the third paragraph, could you please explain the reasons you provided to your clients for your business reason?
- A. I said that FTC has subjected LabMD to years of debilitating investigation and litigation regarding an alleged patient information data security vulnerability without standards, information or congressional approval and without a consumer victim from the alleged breach, which is in quotations.

The FTC has taken upon itself to spend your tax dollars to ruin LabMD and regulate medical data security over and above HIPAA.

THE COURT: And do you intend to introduce this?

MR. RAIDER: Yes.

THE COURT: Well, before you publish it, don't you think you should do that?

MR. RAIDER: We were going to offer to tender the exhibits at the end unless there was an objection made to the exhibit.

THE COURT: Well, have you worked that out with the FTC?

MR. RAIDER: We have not.

THE COURT: All right. Well, you probably shouldn't publish anything until it's been introduced in

- evidence, and basically that's what Mr. Daugherty has
- done. So you can either see if there is an objection, and if
- 3 | there is --
- 4 MS. FASCETT: There is no objection, Your Honor.
- 5 THE COURT: Then it's admitted. But you need to do
- 6 that for each of the exhibits.
- 7 MR. RAIDER: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor. We
- 8 | will.
- 9 BY MR. RAIDER:
- 10 Q. Where are LabMD's records today?
- 11 A. LabMD's records are in the cooperate condominium and the
- 12 basement of my residence.
- 13 Q. What outside sources have access to your servers in the
- 14 | condo?
- 15 A. There is a support volunteer that's helping who has had
- 16 years of experience in medical urology office space. He's
- 17 | helping with the billing and winding down and answering
- 18 questions. And then myself.
- 19 Q. Is there remote access to the servers?
- 20 A. There is no remote access except to the billing
- 21 | software. There is no remote access to any of the vast
- 22 | majority of electronic records in the laboratory information
- 23 system.
- Q. The FTC has issued a proposed order addressing LabMD's
- 25 | future conduct. What are the obligations the FTC has

proposed to be imposed against LabMD?

A. They wanted a consent decree that wanted twenty years of biannual audits from an outside source at our expense. It would also open us up to additional penalties and/or fines.

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, I'm going to object. It's not something that -- negotiations are not something that would be held against the FTC at this point. There is an administrative complaint that's been filed, but a consent decree is a negotiation.

THE COURT: Well, have you offered -- have you shown them a consent decree with a proposal that that would resolve the matter?

MR. GORJI: There have been negotiations, Your Honor, in the past.

THE COURT: Well, is it -- would the FTC ever agree not to resolve this case without an ongoing consent decree subjecting them to monitoring over a long period of time, which is my experience with the FTC?

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, my understanding is that negotiations are no longer occurring. There is an administrative complaint and an ongoing administrative process that doesn't necessarily request the exact same relief.

THE COURT: Well, you can cross-examine him on that, and once the cross-examination is done, I will

- determine whether or not that's something that would go into my consideration.
- MR. GORJI: Sure, Your Honor.
- Your Honor, if I may? I plan on handling the cross-examination, Ms. Fascett plans on handling the argument today, if that's all right with the Court?
- 7 THE COURT: That's fine.
- 8 MR. GORJI: Thank you.
- 9 BY MR. RAIDER:
- 10 Q. Is it your understanding that the fact that LabMD is
- 11 merely archiving its records today would change the relief
- 12 | the FTC is seeking against LabMD?
- 13 A. No, it's not. That's not my understanding.
- 14 Q. Let's go back a step and discuss LabMD when it was
- providing cancer detection services in 2013 and the years
- 16 before.
- 17 How much revenue did LabMD generate each year roughly?
- 18 A. It ranged between three and a half to seven and a half
- 19 to eight million approximately.
- 20 | Q. And how much revenue has LabMD generated in calendar
- 21 | year 2014?
- 22 A. Approximately fifty thousand dollars.
- 23 | Q. And how much revenue has LabMD projected to generate in
- the second half of 2014?
- 25 A. Probably another fifty to seventy-five thousand

- 1 dollars.
- Q. And how much profit did LabMD generate in the years it
- was generating millions of dollars in revenue?
- 4 A. With the exception of 2013, our profit margin was
- 5 approximately 25 percent. In 2013 we lost approximately half
- 6 a million dollars.
- 7 Q. How much profit has LabMD generated so far in calendar
- 8 | year 2014?
- 9 A. None.
- 10 Q. And looking to the second half of calendar year 2014,
- 11 | how much profit is LabMD expected to generate?
- 12 | A. Zero.
- 13 Q. How many employees did LabMD have on its payroll in
- 14 2013?
- 15 A. Between 25 and 30.
- 16 Q. And how many employees does LabMD have today?
- 17 | A. One.
- 18 Q. I want to shift topics again and talk a little bit about
- 19 | LabMD's insurance program.
- 20 | A. Okay.
- 21 Q. What types of insurance did LabMD have when it was
- 22 offering cancer detection services?
- 23 A. We had medical malpractice for the company, we had
- 24 | malpractice for the physicians, we had directors and officers
- insurance, we had general liability insurance, we had medical

- insurance, dental insurance, workmen's comp and vision.
- 2 | I think that's everything.
- Q. Which of these policies does LabMD currently have?
- 4 A. We have a COBRA for medical and dental, and that is
- 5 all.
- 6 Q. In the years 2013 and before, what issues did LabMD
- 7 | encounter in obtaining insurance?
- 8 A. We never had problems getting insurance prior to 2013.
- 9 O. Were you told why your insurance -- why LabMD's
- 10 | insurance policies would not be renewed?
- 11 A. Yes. Because of the -- the claims that weren't renewed,
- 12 is was because of the FTC investigation, the ongoing cloud,
- and the fact that it involved medical records. So that even
- 14 | the policy that wasn't even covering a claim of that type was
- refused for that reason, meaning the medical malpractice
- 16 insurance.
- 17 Q. And let me refer you to Exhibit 15 in your notebook.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And let me ask you some --
- 20 MR. RAIDER: Your Honor, I would like to show this
- 21 to the witness and establish a foundation.
- 22 BY MR. RAIDER:
- 23 | Q. What is this document?
- 24 A. This is an e-mail string from our broker that was sent
- to me between I believe our broker and one of his staff

- 1 | members and an underwriter for OneBeacon Pro.
- Q. And how did you receive a copy of this?
- A. Because the broker sent it to me to show me that the company wasn't going to be interested in insuring --
- MR. GORJI: Objection, Your Honor. Hearsay.
- THE COURT: Is there any objection to this e-mail?
- 7 MR. GORJI: Your Honor, I can get into it on cross.
- 8 THE COURT: Pardon me?
- 9 MR. GORJI: I can get into it on cross.
- 10 THE COURT: So is there any objection to the
- 11 | introduction of the e-mail?
- MR. GORJI: No, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: It's admitted.
- 14 | BY MR. RAIDER:
- Q. Who is Mr. Coscarelli?
- 16 A. Mr. Coscarelli is an underwriter at OneBeacon Pro who
- 17 | communicated with my broker.
- 18 Q. Who is Mr. Seilkop?
- 19 A. Fred Seilkop is the owner of -- I believe of Healthcare
- 20 | Professional Services and my broker.
- 21 Q. And who is Ms. Garrido?
- 22 A. Betsy Garrido is an assistant that works for Mr. Seilkop
- 23 at Healthcare Professional Services.
- Q. What insurance policies are being discussed in this
- e-mail thread?

- 1 A. This is the facility, what we call tail coverage or ERP,
- which is extended reporting period coverage. After a
- practitioner, a medical facility, ceases practicing their
- 4 operations in that manner, then you have to get coverage to
- 5 extend any claims that come for that reporting period where
- 6 they were working there.
- Q. What reason is Mr. Coscarelli offering for declining to
- 8 offer insurance to LabMD?
- 9 A. He says, The potential volatility due to the FTC
- investigation is something we want to stay away from,
- 11 | particularly because it pertains to medical records.
- Q. Has LabMD been able to obtain an offer for an extended
- 13 reporting period after January 2014?
- 14 A. I split the search. We had almost everyone say no.
- I did have -- I found a company in Florida who offered
- 16 | tail coverage to the physicians, so I split them off and got
- 17 | their own tail coverage, and we don't have any medical
- 18 | coverage, medical malpractice coverage.
- 19 Q. You mentioned having comprehensive general liability
- 20 insurance. What is the status of your efforts to renew that
- 21 | policy?
- 22 A. They nonrenewed effective May 5th of this year -- that
- 23 | was Hartford -- because of the Federal Trade Commission
- 24 | claims history.
- Q. And what impact does that have on LabMD's ability to

- offer cancer detection services?
- 2 A. Well, to offer cancer detection services, you obviously
- have to have a facility where you can offer that, and we are
- 4 required to have general liability insurance in our facility
- and under our lease or anywhere else where we want to open up
- 6 space.

- 7 So without being able to get general liability
- 8 insurance, we can't function.
- 9 0. I want to switch topics again and talk a little bit
- 10 about the regulatory oversight of LabMD as an ongoing
- 11 provider of cancer detection services.
- 12 Separate from the FTC, was LabMD subject to government
- 13 regulation?
- 14 | A. Yes.
- 15 Q. By whom?
- 16 A. By the federal -- the U.S. government and the State of
- 17 Georgia under CLIA and DHR has a -- there is a laboratory
- oversight group within the Department of Human Resources in
- 19 the State of Georgia.
- 20 | Q. And in years 2013 and before, how many times has HHS
- 21 raised concerns about LabMD's compliance with HHS
- 22 regulations?
- 23 A. We never had a problem.
- Q. And what about as to the State of Georgia?
- 25 | A. No, no problems.

- 1 | Q. If you could turn to Exhibit 23 in your notebook?
- 2 A. Okay.
- Q. What is this document, just at a high level so we can
- 4 | get it introduced into evidence?
- 5 A. It is a -- we are required to submit specimens to an
- 6 independent source that reports to the government our testing
- 7 and accuracy, and so that's what that is.
- 8 Q. Is this a business record of LabMD?
- 9 A. Yes, it is.
- 10 MR. RAIDER: We tender this into evidence,
- 11 Your Honor.
- 12 THE COURT: Any objection?
- MR. GORJI: No objection, Your Honor.
- 14 THE COURT: It's admitted.
- 15 BY MR. RAIDER:
- 16 Q. What does it mean to have a rating of 100 percent
- 17 | compliance?
- 18 A. That means that all the tests came within 100 percent of
- 19 the acceptable range of the independent agency on the
- 20 testing -- on the results we reported. So it's an accuracy
- of test reporting reports.
- 22 Q. The certificate indicates a November 2013 expiration
- 23 | date. What was the status as of January 2014?
- 24 A. I'm sorry, can you point the certificate out? I'm not
- 25 seeing it.

Are you on 23? 1 I'm looking at the --Yes. 2 Ο. I'm on a different 23. 3 Α. -- expiration date on the right? 4 Ο. My 23 is not the same as your 23. Α. 5 THE WITNESS: Can he show me --6 THE COURT: This is not my hearing. This is your 7 lawyer's. 8 THE WITNESS: Okay. That's my 23. 9 THE COURT: Why don't we do this. Since you have 10 three other lawyers here with you, maybe they could find this 11 for you and we can move on. 12 MR. RAIDER: Okay, we will. 13 MR. GORJI: Your Honor, I would also like to make 14 sure the government has the correct 23 as well. 15 MR. RAIDER: Yes. I apologize for that. 16 THE COURT: My understanding is that Exhibit 23 is 17 a one-page document that is sent by the American Proficiency 18 Institute and it's dated March 5th of 2014. 19 MR. RAIDER: Yes. 20 THE COURT: Is that Exhibit 23? 21 THE WITNESS: No. 22 MR. RAIDER: That's what we are asking to have 23 admitted. 24 THE COURT: Well, that one-page document has been 25

- 1 | admitted.
- MR. RAIDER: Yes. And I will move on.
- 3 BY MR. RAIDER:
- 4 Q. You said that HHS has not raised any concerns about
- 5 | LabMD's compliance with HHS regulations. What issues
- 6 | specifically, if any, has HHS raised concerning LabMD's data
- 7 | security program?
- 8 A. None.
- 9 O. Has HHS launched an enforcement action against LabMD
- 10 because of concerns over its data security program?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 | Q. Have they, to your knowledge, instituted an
- 13 investigation?
- 14 | A. No.
- 15 Q. Have they issued notices of violation or documents to
- 16 | that effect?
- 17 A. No, sir.
- 18 Q. Okay. I want to switch topics one more time and talk
- 19 about your website and your blog.
- 20 | Have you created a blog?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And what is the website that hosts that blog?
- 23 A. MichaelJDaugherty.com.
- 24 Q. And on your blog, have you posted opinions about the
- 25 FTC?

- A. Yes, I have.
- Q. And could you describe what you have said about the
- 3 FTC?

- 4 A. I have -- I'm very opinionated about the overreach and
- 5 | lack of standards for rules or clarification and yet still
- 6 the exhaustive investigation. So I have posted what
- 7 | I consider to be my opinion and First Amendment right
- 8 | speech about how they have conducted themselves throughout
- 9 this.
- Because we have never known what we have done wrong, and
- 11 | that's been a huge frustration, and it's so damaged the
- organization that I have spoken about that in several blogs.
- 13 Q. In your dealings with FTC employees as part of this
- 14 LabMD enforcement action, what did you perceive to be the
- 15 reaction to your blog posts criticizing the FTC?
- 16 A. My perception is that they are very upset and unhappy
- 17 | about it. They don't like any public criticism.
- 18 Q. Is it your opinion that the FTC has retaliated against
- 19 LabMD because of your blog criticizing the FTC?
- MR. GORJI: Objection.
- THE COURT: Overruled.
- 22 A. Yes, it's my opinion that they retaliated.
- 23 Q. Has the FTC monitored your website with the blogs?
- 24 A. Yes, they have.
- Q. Okay. I want to discuss Google Analytics. What is

Google Analytics?

A. Google Analytics is a tool provided by Google to analyze the traffic and effectiveness of --

MR. GORJI: Objection, Your Honor, to the basis for his knowledge. There is no foundation here. He does not work for Google.

The attachments that he's provided to his declarations he has no basis for authenticating. We are objecting on those grounds, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Are you denying that the FTC has monitored his blog?

MR. GORJI: No, I'm not denying that. But, Your Honor, the specificity of representations made in the declaration have no foundation.

THE COURT: All right. Well, maybe we could bring somebody in from Google and extend this hearing, if you would like.

It seems odd that if you are an enforcement regulatory body, that rather than doing your regulatory activity, that you would be monitoring somebody's blog that is criticizing the FTC, unless you are thin-skinned about that.

MR. GORJI: Your Honor --

THE COURT: You have just acknowledged that the FTC is monitoring his blog. Are you doing that in connection

with your regulatory investigation or are you doing that for 1 your interest in his company and what they are saying about 2 it, about the FTC? 3 MR. GORJI: Your Honor, the government and agencies 4 monitor individuals' websites on a routine basis. 5 addition, here, Your Honor --6 THE COURT: 7 Why? To determine whether or not there is 8 MR. GORJI: any information that they might be able to add to their 9 10 case. So are you doing that in connection 11 THE COURT: with your regulatory activities and responsibilities in 12 connection with this investigation of LabMD? 13 MR. GORJI: Your Honor, I would have to confer with 14 the FTC officials on the exact reason. I haven't been 15 provided an exact reason. 16 And, again, the suggestion that it's for 17 retaliatory purposes is purely speculative. There hasn't 18 been any --19 THE COURT: Well, under the Federal Rules of 20 Evidence, somebody who has an experience that would provide a 21 foundation for an opinion is admissible as a lay opinion. 22 He has now gone through this investigation 23 beginning with the FTC's investigative activity beginning in 24 2010, which is now four years ago, and it would seem to me 25

that if he is able to establish when he began these public criticisms of the FTC and compare that with the investigative activity of the FTC and its various responses to actions that he's taken, that he could reach an opinion about whether or not he believed it to be or that it was his opinion that they were acting in a retaliatory manner, and, therefore, I'm going to overrule the objection.

MR. RAIDER: Your Honor, as to the specific reports, I just want to make clear that those also, I mean, if we establish a foundation, they would be admissible at this point. Is that part of your --

THE COURT: Probably not through him.

MR. RAIDER: Well, we would argue under Federal Rule 807 that there is sufficient reliability, that this is a service Google makes available to website owners to pull down information about traffic on their website.

THE COURT: Yeah, but the question would be the reliability of the information being provided by Google, and I don't think he has a basis to express that opinion.

MR. RAIDER: Understood, Your Honor.

BY MR. RAIDER:

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- Just to go back and make sure, what is Google 22 Ο. Analytics?
- Google Analytics is a service or/and a tool that Google 24 25 provides to website users, owners, to analyze and pull

reports down from Google's data of who is looking at the
website, how long they stay, how deep they go, who they are,
and so you can -- as a website owner, you can assess the

- effectiveness of reaching the audience you want to reach and you can see what audience you are pulling in.
- Q. Have you generated website visit reports for your web -for your blog post website?
- 8 A. I have, yes.

14

15

16

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- 9 Q. What type of reports did you generate?
- 10 A. I generated the reports that would show who the top
 11 users were and what dates they were on and what ranges, and
 12 coincided those to some blog posts.
- Q. What type of blog posts were you focusing on?
 - A. Well, as an example, there was a blog post when I first really announced that the FTC was suing me, which came out approximately September 17th, 2012.

And while I noted the Federal Trade Commission up until September 1, 2012, had never looked at my site one time, on that day or approximately that day or the day after the Federal Trade Commission had looked at that blog 75 times.

MR. GORJI: Objection, Your Honor. Again, there is no reliability for this testimony.

THE COURT: Is that true, that after this blog post, that there were 75 hits by the FTC in response to his criticism?

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MR. GORJI: I don't know the answer to that,
1
     Your Honor. I haven't --
2
               THE COURT: Will you find that out for me? Will
3
     you?
4
               MR. GORJI:
                           Your Honor --
5
               THE COURT:
                           Will you find that out for me?
6
7
               MR. GORJI:
                           I could contact Google and have FTC
8
     experts --
               THE COURT: Why don't you contact your agency and
9
     find out if anybody in response to a critical blog post 75
10
     times the next day accessed the blog?
11
               MR. GORJI:
                           Well, Your Honor --
12
               THE COURT:
                           And explain to me what was on the blog
13
     post that was of interest to your investigation of this
14
     company.
15
               MR. GORJI:
                          Your Honor, one --
16
               THE COURT:
                           Will you do that?
17
               MR. GORJI:
                           I can have FTC provide an explanation
18
     for that.
19
               Your Honor, one aspect of this case is that there
20
     is retaliation, and in order to demonstrate retaliation,
21
     there has to be that his freedom of speech has been adversely
22
                So it would make sense, Your Honor, for the
23
     affected.
     government to continue to monitor whether or not he's still
24
25
     continuing to express his speech.
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And I believe he is still effectively expressing 1 his speech, and, therefore, there is a legitimate reason. 2 THE COURT: Are you telling me as an officer of the 3 court that after a critical blog post, that somebody at the 4 FTC, in order to make sure that he was -- that he was not 5 impeded in his First Amendment rights, decided the next day 6 7 to 75 times make sure that the same post was up there and, therefore, it could come in and make an argument like you 8 have just made, that the purpose of that access was to make 9 sure that he was unimpeded in the exercise of his First 10 Amendment rights? 11 MR. GORJI: Your Honor --12 THE COURT: Is that what you are saying? 13 Your Honor, that is not the sole 14 MR. GORJI: explanation. 15 THE COURT: Is that what -- is that one of your 16 explanations? 17 MR. GORJI: I believe that is a legitimate reason 18 for --19 THE COURT: And is that why the -- is that why you 20 are representing to me that the FTC accessed his blog, was to 21 make sure that his First Amendment rights were not being 22 impeded? 23 MR. GORJI: No, I'm not making that representation, 24 Your Honor, that that is the sole reason. 25

THE COURT: So you are backing from what you just 1 told me? 2 MR. GORJI: No, no, Your Honor. I believe that one 3 legitimate basis for --4 THE COURT: Was that a legitimate basis on behalf 5 of your client, the FTC, the reason why they accessed the 6 7 blog post 75 times the day after the post was made? MR. GORJI: Your Honor, I would have to get FTC to 8 provide an explanation as to why they accessed it. I can --9 THE COURT: You just told me twice that's one of 10 the reasons they accessed it. Is that one of the reasons why 11 they accessed it? 12 MR. GORJI: Well, Your Honor, I know that's one of 13 the reasons why I accessed it, for example, during the course 14 of this litigation. 15 THE COURT: Did you access it on September 17th or 16 September 18th? 17 MR. GORJI: No, Your Honor. 18 THE COURT: How many times have you accessed it? 19 MR. GORJI: Maybe a handful, Your Honor. 20 21 and that was my motivation. But I can also surmise, Your Honor, that a 22 government agency might think that there is possibility of 23 statements related to the conduct -- to the conduct that FTC 24 is trying to regulate on his postings and looking for that 25

reason.

Now, whether or not that is the actual motivation here, Your Honor, I can't attest to that. I can ask FTC to provide you with their explanation.

THE COURT: This is taking an interesting and troubling turn which I never expected, for an admission by an FTC lawyer that they monitor blogs routinely of companies for whatever purposes, and you don't even know the purposes except for this purpose, that the only purpose that you have expressed, which I find incredible, is that you stated on behalf of your agency that the day after this blog posting was made, that the 75 times -- assuming that's true, but even if it was seven times, that they monitored it to make sure that his First Amendment rights were not being impeded, is incredible.

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, that's not my sole explanation. My other explanation --

THE COURT: But it's one of your explanations, isn't it?

MR. GORJI: Your Honor --

THE COURT: Isn't it?

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, I think perhaps that is probably an explanation as to why I personally did it. With respect to the FTC, I don't know whether or not that motivated --

THE COURT: Was my question unclear about the accessing of the website the day after the posting? Did you not understand that?

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, your question was not unclear. I perhaps was confused, but not because of the lack of clarity of your question. I apologize to the Court.

Again, I can have the FTC provide an explanation as to why they are monitoring, and my explanation is again what I surmise, but it may not be sufficient here. And, Your Honor, if Your Honor would like, we could have FTC provide an explanation to the Court.

and me at least. This is a hearing. I am a judicial officer, and you are an officer of the court. When I ask you a question, don't duck and cover the question. Answer the question so that I know that what you are telling me is accurate and I can rely upon it. Is that fair?

MR. GORJI: That's fair, Your Honor. I didn't intend to give the impression that I knew what the reason was. I was providing an explanation as to why I think it might be reasonable.

THE COURT: Well, that's not what you said, and the record will be clear that in answer to my two questions, that is not what you said.

1 MR. GORJI: I apologize.

THE COURT: Instead you were coming up with a defense for the conduct. And that's a problem that lawyers have when they are unarmed with the facts.

MR. GORJI: I agree, Your Honor, I do not have the facts with respect to what their specific reasoning was.

THE COURT: Then the next time you answer a question, tell me that.

MR. GORJI: I apologize that I gave a misimpression to the Court, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Well, that's not a misimpression. You apologized for making an inaccurate statement in response to a question from the bench.

MR. GORJI: I apologize, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you.

16 BY MR. RAIDER:

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- Q. Mr. Daugherty, if you could turn to Tab 31. Hopefully
- 18 these numbers are correct.
- 19 A. I'm at 31, sir.
- Q. Are those the Google Analytic reports that you
- 21 generated?
- 22 A. Let me just review them, please.
- Yes, sir. I believe those are all of them, yes, sir.
- 24 Q. And did you generate those reports?
- 25 A. Yes, I did.

- 1 | Q. And how did you go about generating those reports?
- 2 A. I just signed onto my account or my password and ID
- that's hooked up to the website and started using the tool.
- 4 | Q. I want to turn to the report. And I have the single
- 5 pages in my notebook, unfortunately. I'm not sure how far
- 6 | into the exhibit it is. January 1 --
- 7 MR. RAIDER: Well, Your Honor, we tendered these
- 8 | reports for Mr. Daugherty to explain the information on them
- 9 that he received.
- 10 THE COURT: So what does that mean, tendered to
- 11 what?
- MR. RAIDER: We would like to admit these reports
- 13 into evidence.
- 14 THE COURT: Any objection?
- MR. GORJI: Again, Your Honor, the government
- 16 | objects based on reliability.
- 17 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 18 BY MR. RAIDER:
- 19 Q. Was there information posted to your blog website that
- 20 would shed light on the adequacy of LabMD's data security
- 21 practices?
- 22 A. No, sir.
- 23 Q. Were you surprised by the number of times the FTC
- 24 | visited your website?
- 25 A. Very.

- Q. Was there any reason that you are aware of why the FTC
- employees would have to view your blog website so many
- 3 times?
- 4 A. As involved the investigation, no.
- 5 | Q. I want to switch topics one last time. What is LabMD
- 6 asking from the Court?
- 7 A. We are asking the Court to stop or pause the
- 8 | investigation so that we can try to recover from the cloud
- 9 and loss of business revenue and loss of employees and loss
- of insurance and loss of reputation and revenue and we can
- 11 | try to start to recover.
- 12 Since they don't have standards and rules and won't tell
- us what we have done, they just point to consent decrees that
- 14 say no wrongdoings in them and we have -- we just have --
- it's been ongoing for years of not knowing what we are
- 16 | supposed to do or what we did wrong, and we have just been
- 17 torpedoed.
- 18 | O. If the Court were to stop the FTC's enforcement
- 19 proceedings against LabMD, would you restart the business to
- 20 begin offering cancer detection testing services?
- 21 A. It would -- I would start the attempt to. We can't get
- insurance with this over our head. That's the first thing.
- 23 And we have to -- and we are also being sued by the
- 24 | landlord. So we have a long stretch to get back.
- And our key employees have left to other labs. Our

clients have left to other labs. Our landlord is suing us 1 because we had to leave the lease earlier -- early. 2 We have -- the insurance is not there. 3 And all that healing has to happen. So that will be 4 able to start that, and also prevent us from going deeper in 5 the hole by having no longer -- no longer having access for 6 7 the physicians for the records they need now, which are required by us to keep, depending on the record, from five to 8 ten years. 9 MR. RAIDER: Thank you, Mr. Daugherty. I have no 10 further questions. 11 THE COURT: All right. Cross? 12 MR. GORJI: Yes, Your Honor. 13 14 CROSS-EXAMINATION 15 BY MR. GORJI: 16 Good morning, Mr. Daugherty. How are you? 17 Ο. Good morning. Α. 18 I have got a question about the investigation and your 19 speech. You agree that the investigation was already 20 underway before you started critizing the FTC's conduct 21 here? 22 Well, in January of 2010 they started a nonpublic 23 inquiry. If you consider that an investigation, yes. 24 And you began your criticism in early 2012; is that 25 Q.

1 | correct?

- 2 A. My public criticism?
- 3 Q. Yes, your public criticism.
- 4 | A. That was my blog. Yeah, I think the public criticism
- 5 | started with the Atlanta Business Chronicle interviewing me,
- and I believe that came out in September approximately 7th of
- 7 2012.
- 8 And that was because I had to do it because the Federal
- 9 Trade Commission had filed suit for me to -- let me think.
- 10 Let me just think here.
- I mean, in August of '12, I believe that's when they
- 12 | sued for the CID, and that's when people started noticing and
- contacting me. Up until that point no one had known and
- 14 | I hadn't told anyone. But I was really forced to respond at
- 15 | that point.
- 16 Q. And your understanding is that the company Triversa
- 17 | found information about your patients, your customers? That
- was in 2008, is that correct, that you learned of Triversa
- 19 | finding that information?
- 20 | A. Tiversa was contacted -- contacted me or my company
- 21 | LabMD in May of 2008.
- Q. And the CID, the subpoena for information and documents
- 23 | from FTC to your company, that was in December 2011; is that
- 24 | right?
- 25 A. I'm sorry, yeah. You know, that's why my memory -- I

- believe they filed the CID in December of 2011, and then the
- 2 Department of Justice filed in August of 2012 to have the
- 3 | Court decide whether I had to sit for a CID.
- 4 | Q. So your public criticisms began well after the CID was
- served on the company; is that right?
- 6 A. Well, it didn't -- the CID service from 2012 -- 2011, I,
- believe that was. Okay, I'm getting my years mixed up. Yes,
- 8 yes.
- 9 So '11 they served right at Christmas, and no one picked
- 10 | it up publicly. And then when the DOJ I believe filed to
- 11 | have the Court decide whether I was required to, that's when
- 12 | the public started to come to me. That was the first
- 13 | time. So that's --
- 14 Q. So just so we are clear, and without focusing on dates,
- the CID came first, and then you started publicly
- 16 | criticizing?
- 17 A. Yeah, the CID -- I mean, yeah, the CID came in December
- 18 23rd, 2011, and the criticism was in September 2012.
- 19 Q. During the course of that time frame, between the CID
- 20 coming and your public criticism, were there any depositions
- 21 | that took place with respect to employees of your company?
- Were there any other investigative things that occurred that
- 23 | impacted your company before you started publicly
- 24 criticizing?
- 25 A. Well, yeah. The Federal Trade Commission was repeatedly

- demanding more and more and more information,
- 2 | totally side-swiping my management team. Because we were in
- a house of mirrors, never-never land, not knowing what they
- 4 | wanted, and they wouldn't tell us what we did wrong, and it
- 5 | was relentless.
- 6 So it was -- and you are talking a company of like
- 7 | thirty people that diagnose cancer with one VP of
- 8 operations.
- 9 | O. So the FTC was actively investigating before you started
- 10 | your public criticism?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 | O. I want to draw your attention to the FTC administrative
- complaint. Have you had a chance to look at that document?
- 14 A. Can you refresh my memory or bring it to me, please?
- MR. GORJI: One moment, Your Honor.
- THE WITNESS: I assume I can close this?
- MR. GORJI: You should have it --
- THE WITNESS: Oh, it's in the book?
- 19 MR. GORJI: You should have it as your Exhibit 8.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 21 BY MR. GORJI:
- Q. Okay. Are you familiar with this document?
- 23 A. Yes, sir, I am.
- Q. Okay. To date, has the FTC ordered you to do anything
- 25 that would change your business conduct with respect to

- 1 | managing patient-protected information?
- 2 A. No.
- Q. Now, in your verified complaint in your declaration, you
- 4 say that the cause of your company having to essentially wind
- down its business is a result of the FTC investigation?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. But it's not a result of anything that FTC has actually
- 8 ordered you to do with respect to how to manage your
- patients', customers' protected information, is it?
- 10 A. We would have liked to have known that long ago. No, we
- 11 haven't gotten that answer.
- 12 Q. Would you say that that is the primary reason why?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. Have you ever given a contrary reason as to why your
- 15 | company had to wind down?
- 16 A. Contrary?
- 17 | O. Yes.
- 18 A. I have given additional. I wouldn't say contrary.
- 19 Q. What reason would you say?
- 20 A. I said that the Federal Trade Commission set the stage
- 21 for our having to wind down operations because as a small
- 22 company this was an overarching fishing expedition that never
- 23 | gave us standards, rules, reasons, and that just unspeakably
- 24 | slowed down a cancer detection center.
- Because we only have so much energy, and so we had to

focus on this, and the only answers we were getting back was look at this consent decree, which was vague at best with fine print about no wrongdoing is admitted.

So we were in a never-never land. So we had to shoot -we don't know where we had to shoot, so we felt the only way
to get in a safe place would be to shoot for perfection.

So I had, you know, the management staff, especially the IT and my VP of operations, just spending so much time on that, and that energy was taken away from prepping for what we knew what was coming, which was Obamacare.

And so when we had plans to go into molecular science or into breast pathology, we couldn't get off the ground because we were getting diverted over here.

Because as a cancer detection center in a niche market, you specialize in just one area, and the expertise is just -- or the differentiation in the market is our expertise by our pathologists because they just read that kind of cancer, and that is something that physicians around the country want and patients benefit from, because practice makes perfect.

With Obamacare it was coming that that priority was fading away, and we were aware of that, and we were going to have to diversify our base.

And the Federal Trade Commission tied our feet together. We only have so much energy and time, and it was just overpounding for this small company.

So I have said several times that the Federal Trade

Commission set the stage during this time so that we could

not function and deal with what came with Obamacare.

And then with four weeks' notice due to sequestration, which usually it's more, we found out that our 2013 reimbursement was cut 30-something percent for pathology, and we started bleeding cash like crazy. And we were just so overwhelmed. It was like too many spinning plates.

And so -- and then that's just -- that's just the business model. Then you go into the specific knowledge that the VP of operations especially had and the IT guys, and really just how the fear and the unknown and the uncertainty, and eventually it just wore them down, and my VP left and he moved to Denver in August. And when that happened, that was just it.

And so we started losing, losing money. And then by -I didn't want to ruin everyone's Christmas, but around

December I knew this is just not looking good. It was just
reality. We just were overwhelmed with reality.

So the FTC is not going away, we are not going to get more money, our reputation has been hashed, people that are employees are just afraid and so they are just leaving.

And I couldn't give answers.

And so, you know, the ship just went down.

Q. Well, how would you say Obamacare itself impacted your

business?

- A. Because CMS starts cutting costs for costs containment, and ancillary services went first. And so, you know, for cost containment those fee schedules were cut.
 - Q. And how about customers that you previously had, were they going to be referred to you for services under Obamacare?
 - A. Well, no, because what happened was what Obamacare does is it really forces a marketplace consolidation, and so physicians in the short term to survive were going to have to -- the physicians that we had -- I mean, this is not all physicians, period. I mean, this is just urologists and office-based urologists. So that's another reason why we've got to diversify.

But they were forced to either -- they either get huge and merge together, they either sell their practice to hospitals, or they retire.

And so we saw people having to basically survive for a consolidation reason, and so the purchasing -- you know, we knew that physicians were going to have to have economies of scale, so we were going to have to broaden who our customers could be to be able to get enough customers to survive because reimbursement was going down.

Q. So as a result of Obamacare, you lost a considerable amount of business?

No, we didn't -- well, we didn't lose business. We lost 1 Α. the revenue for the business we performed, and we were 2 prevented because of the FTC action from building the 3 business to survive. We could only handle one tidal wave at 4 a time. We had two coming at us. 5 Well, isn't it true that physicians and customers were 6 7 not -- under Obamacare were no longer going to be able to refer to you for services? 8 In the urology marketspace, no. 9 Α. MR. GORJI: One moment, Your Honor. 10 Your Honor, at this time I would like to 11 cross-examine Mr. Daugherty with material that comes from the 12 FTC administrative proceedings. It involves a deposition 13 14 transcript. Under FTC regulations it is protected and 15 confidential, but there is a provision under the regulations 16 that allows for its disclosure provided that we give 17 We did so last week, Your Honor. 18 notice. But because it was previously confidential, I would 19 like to give counsel an opportunity to take whatever measures 20 they think necessary before I present it in open court. 21 THE COURT: And is this related to his direct 22 23 testimony? MR. GORJI: Your Honor, it addresses specifically 24

whether or not Obamacare was the cause of loss of revenue and

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the winding down of the company. 1 THE COURT: It is being offered as a prior 2 inconsistent statement? 3 MR. GORJI: Yes, Your Honor. So, Mr. Raider, what do you say about THE COURT: that? 6 7 MR. RAIDER: Your Honor, we would ask that a protective order apply and it be sealed at least for now 8 until we see where it's going consistent with its status in 9 the administrative proceeding. 10 THE COURT: I mean, can you introduce as a prior 11 inconsistent statement a statement that you elicited in his 12 examination? 13

Because he didn't say anything about Obamacare on direct examination. So you elicited the explanation on cross regarding Obamacare, and now you want to impeach the statement that you elicited with a prior inconsistent statement? And if so, how can you do that?

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MR. GORJI: Well, Your Honor, he testified on direct that FTC's actions are the reason why his company had to wind down.

I asked him here whether or not he believes

Obamacare is what caused it, and he says no, but I would like to point him to his testimony where he says the opposite in a deposition, sworn statement.

THE COURT: I know, but it's still testimony that you elicited on cross, and now you want to -- can you offer a prior inconsistent statement to rebut a statement that you elicited?

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, I think I can impeach him if he says something that's inaccurate. I can't bring in rebuttal evidence, bring somebody else in to impeach him, but I have a deposition, a sworn deposition.

THE COURT: Right. So what's your authority for that? Since you have been laying in wait to do this, so you must have a case or two for me to support the admissibility of --

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, I do not have any case law with me, and I wasn't at this moment seeking to introduce the exhibit. I was simply seeking to make use of it in open court to contradict the testimony here.

THE COURT: And do you have any authority that this protected material that I assume you got through this deposition under these circumstances should be allowed?

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, there is a provision, a regulation, 16 CFR Section 410 (g), that allows for its use upon notice to the party who has given the testimony in the deposition.

THE COURT: Of course, nobody ever told me you had done that. I had no idea this was coming up. I would like

to say I'm a pretty diligent fellow, but because nobody told me about these regulations, I will admit I haven't gone to look at them and I haven't memorized them.

So I do like to make careful rulings, and, you know, maybe there is another way of doing this, that you could submit after the hearing those portions that you claim are prior inconsistent statements, and the lawyer for LabMD can weigh in on whether or not it is or not, and then I can consider it after that.

But it seems to me fundamentally unfair that, one, you knew this was coming; two, you don't have any authority for me; and that you now want to disclose because you have given notice in this very public setting something which I think you know is not going to be favorable to this man individually and reputationally and in the lawsuit.

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, we did provide notice last week that we were going to make use of this transcript, so it wasn't trying to ambush anybody here.

THE COURT: Well, make use of it? Did you tell them in what specific way?

MR. GORJI: Actually, our filing from last week indicated that it would be to cross-examine him.

THE COURT: For whatever happens to be in that, without focusing on specifically what it is that you were going to use it for?

MR. GORJI: Well, we didn't identify the specific topic.

THE COURT: But you knew that's the topic that you were going to use, didn't you?

MR. GORJI: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Did you even have a communication with opposing counsel to say, look, this is why we want to use it, we don't -- our contention is that there were various and sundry reasons why the business failed, and we have this and you were there, and I just want you to know with respect to this notice that that's the purpose?

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, I didn't believe that providing an additional layer of specificity as to exactly what from the transcript we were planning on using was something that was necessary, and in light of the fact that we told them we were planning on using it and that would alert them as to whether or not their confidentiality interests were going to be implicated, the use of the transcript or not, not what the specific content of what I was about to say in court would implicate --

THE COURT: Let me just make this observation.

There is a lot of acrimony in this case, and that impedes the sort of professionalism that I expect at a hearing that allows me to make a decision on a motion. I believe that that is impeding and affecting your judgments as to the

fairness of this hearing.

And, you know, I preside over very difficult criminal cases all the time where people's liberty is at stake, and I find more cooperation between lawyers in those on much more difficult issues, including evidentiary issues, than I see in this proceeding, which is the government coming in, which -- and I think it's the responsibility of the government to be fundamentally fair to the people that it's regulating, and that it would be in your interest and I would hope your motivation as an employee of the government to say here is what -- here is our position, here is how we are going to advocate it, because we want the Judge to have a clean record to make a decision.

So your explanation that you didn't think the additional level of specificity may be technically correct -- I don't know, because I haven't looked at the -- at what the requirement is with respect to disclosure -- but I will say this, it's now interrupted the proceeding, it's made it more difficult for me to understand the position of the parties, and I think it abrogates your responsibility as an employee and representative of the United States government and particularly this agency.

But that's sort of the theme I see in this whole investigation.

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, if I may address that? I

apologize if that is what has occurred in this case.

THE COURT: You know what my mother used to say?

My mother, bless her heart, who is now dead, used to say when I apologized, she said you can't live a life of I'm sorries. Now you are living through a hearing of I'm sorries because this is now your third apology.

But it comes from the fundamental refusal of you and your colleagues with candor and with transparency to say here is where we are going on this.

Your whole position on this is that I don't have jurisdiction to do this, and that has -- and that's all you briefed is that I am not authorized to review the authority of your agency under Section 5 to conduct this investigation.

And so you are relying upon those what you think are bright line rules about a section, which in my course of doing this for for ten years is fairly ambiguous to me.

But this is the first time where it hasn't been a direct consumer action, and I frankly think there is a legal question.

Now, the question for me is whether or not I have the authority to decide that or whether there is some other process that has to first be exhausted or however you want to advocate it through in order to get a final opinion that can be appealed to a court.

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, the jurisdictional arguments are the primary arguments we do make. We do also make the 12 (b) (6) arguments, Your Honor, that do not deny your authority but that we believe the causes of action fail to state a claim.

But I would just like to put something in perspective on behalf of the government here, Your Honor, which is the history of acrimony that you perceive, this is a case that I was just very recently assigned to along with co-counsel here. Counsel who was on this case is no longer with the Department of Justice.

And so I just became aware of this transcript last week, Your Honor. And so there certainly wasn't any --

THE COURT: That's not the defendant's or my fault or my problem. That's your problem. If you want to switch lawyers, you switch lawyers.

And if you are talking about the fellow who was here on the CID, I could tell you as a result of that hearing that there was already a history of acrimony and I think on behalf of the agency the exertion of authority in a mean-spirited way.

MR. GORJI: Well, Your Honor, I can just say that --

THE COURT: And you might -- you know, I'm not saying that -- if you are just new to this case, which

I think is the reason why I put this off, to allow you time, that I would hope that change in lawyers would change atmosphere.

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, there was no intention to hide anything from plaintiff here. We disclosed this in our filing, and, you know, if counsel had asked me what part exactly of the transcript are you hoping to make use of, I certainly would have answered that question.

THE COURT: Well, I know, but they are not used to you. They are used to the people who preceded you.

And it's hard for you to say this is a new day, and I suspect you didn't call them and say, look, we have got to change the atmosphere in this case, I understand that it hasn't gone well, we understand what your complaints are -- and I would hope that you would understand their complaints -- but we want to get on a platform that allows whoever hears this in whatever forum, that would facilitate the communication and entry into the record of information that would allow a thoughtful, just decision on a case that I think needs a thoughtful, just decision.

And I think especially when lawyers change, that it's the responsibility of the new lawyers to reach out and say we are going to handle this in the way that, one, advocates on behalf of our client, but at the same time, we recognize we are the government and we do want to be fair,

and we want to go down to Atlanta on this hearing that has been put off at our request, which I did because of people's personal commitments, and while my schedule is not very fluid or is not fluid at all anymore and it has very little capacity, it made sense to do that, and I did.

MR. GORJI: Well, we appreciate that.

THE COURT: But I expected this to go a lot better than it is.

MR. GORJI: Again, Your Honor, there was no intention to hide anything. By bringing the fact that we were going to use this transcript to counsel's attention, I thought that we had taken care of our obligations to alert them to the fact that we potentially --

THE COURT: Well, I don't know, because, one, nobody has told me what the obligation is, nobody told me that there was going to be a dispute about this.

And you didn't either, Mr. Raider. You were on notice. You didn't say, by the way, we are going to have a problem with that, let me give you a heads-up that that's going to happen. But you haven't said that.

In fact, I think you are kind of shooting from the hip to say, well, we don't want it to come in now, not even really understanding what they want to come in, even though there are four of you here today.

I hope you are not paying them all, because if you

are, no wonder you are going broke.

MR. RAIDER: Your Honor, the basic points, really, have already been made without the use of the transcript that --

THE COURT: Well, you know, this is -- you don't get to try the case for them, as much as you would like to.

MR. RAIDER: No, I'm not -- I understand.

THE COURT: The question is what -- and I don't want to waste any more time. We spent half an hour on this.

Is there some way for you to draw to my attention that would not disclose in this public forum information that you all agree at the time it was taken was deemed to be confidential or protected, that you could get whatever -- there can't be that much in this transcript that relates to that, that you could highlight those for me? And you can even do it today, and say here is what we would show him, and I would determine whether or not it is or is not consistent, and we can move on?

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, there really is only about two pages of text, and we could confer with counsel to decide if they are -- to come up with a proposal for Your Honor, if that's --

THE COURT: Why don't we do that now? Because

I don't want this hanging over my head any longer than it has

- 1 been.
- 2 (Counsel confer.)
- MR. RAIDER: Your Honor, we have no objection to the pages pointed out to us.
- 5 MR. GORJI: Your Honor, if I may approach the
- 6 | witness and provide him with this transcript?
- 7 THE COURT: You may.
- 8 BY MR. GORJI:
- 9 Q. Showing you your transcript from the FTC administrative
- proceeding on February 10th, 2014, it has your name on
- 11 | it. Do you recall giving testimony in that proceeding?
- 12 A. Yes, I do.
- 13 Q. And the attorney who asked the questions was
- 14 | Alain Sheer?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Can you point out what testimony we are talking about?
- 17 Q. Yes, I'm going to draw your attention to page 130, line
- 18 25.
- 19 A. Can I read -- can I read this first?
- 20 | O. Yes.
- 21 A. What is the two pages? Can you tell me the beginning
- 22 and the end, please?
- 23 O. Yes, I am going to tell you. Starting on page 130, line
- 24 | 25, through 131, which is this page, line 12. If you would
- 25 take a look at that?

- A. That is the whole part of the two pages are these two things? Okay, so you don't mean pages of this; you mean transcript pages, okay.
- Okay. So you are ending -- I'm sorry, you are ending on 131, line what?
- 6 Q. Line twelve.
- 7 A. Line twelve, okay. I'm sorry, thanks.
 8 Okay, I have read it. Thank you.
- 9 Q. Was it your testimony there that you were asked, How does Obamacare fit into the decision to wind down LabMD?
- Answer: It's creating huge anxiety, destruction, consolidation to our customer base.
- Question: What does that mean for LabMD?

Answer: That means our customers are in survival mode and, therefore, are having to either sell their practices or merge with others and send their specimens to where they are told to send them, not where they want to send them.

Question: Is LabMD one of the laboratories to which your clients are told to send their specimens?

- 20 Answer: No.
- 21 A. Okay.

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- 22 Q. Is it that your testimony there?
- 23 A. That was my testimony, yes.
- 24 Q. Also I'm going to draw your attention to page 60.
- THE WITNESS: Okay. So did you look at this

- additional? Okay. 1 BY MR. GORJI: 2 I'm going to draw your attention to page 60 --3 Q. THE WITNESS: And my lawyers were okay with that 4 other part? 5 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Yes. 6 THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you. 7 MR. GORJI: I believe your lawyers do not object. 8 MR. RUBINSTEIN: No objection. 9 THE WITNESS: Okay. 10 BY MR. GORJI: 11 I will point you to page 60, and if you start with line 12 nine and go through line eleven? 13 Uh-huh. 14 Α. Was that your testimony there? 15 Ο. At that moment, yes. 16 Α. When you say that moment, that was on February --17 -- 10th, 2014. Α. 18 I mean, this is like out of context here, so let me just 19 see what else is going on here. 20 Other than that, I don't know at the moment. It depends 21
- on -- other than that I didn't know at the moment, I didn't
 know the future plan -- I didn't know the factors of the
 future plan pertaining to Obamacare, and other than that,
 I didn't know other factors. I --

- 1 | Q. So you agreed you were asked on line nine: What's your
- 2 | future plan for LabMD?
- Answer: It depends on Obamacare, and other than that,
- 4 | I don't know.
- 5 A. And then, I didn't know what the future plan was. But
- 6 I didn't say it was the only Obamacare. Okay.
- 7 Q. You can hold on to that.
- 8 A. Okay, thanks. Are we done for now? No? All
- 9 | right. Excuse me.
- 10 Q. Now, you mentioned that your VP of operations left the
- 11 | company?
- 12 A. Correct.
- Q. Did he indicate whether or not Obamacare impacted his
- 14 decision to leave?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. And you haven't provided an affidavit from your vice
- 17 | president of operations, have you?
- 18 A. Well, he's no longer the vice president of operations.
- 19 Q. You haven't provided an affidavit from your former vice
- 20 president of operations; is that correct?
- 21 A. You deposed him.
- 22 Q. You also claim that you have not been able to obtain
- 23 insurance as a result of the FTC investigation. Did you
- inquire to the insurance providers whether or not it was the
- 25 | fact that there was an investigation or the fact that

customers' personal information was found in places that it shouldn't have been that gave them pause?

A. Well --

- 4 | Q. Did you ask them that question?
 - A. I wouldn't have asked that question because that's an allegation about customers' information found in places other than it should have been. That's not a question I would have asked.

And whether that's true or not, when things are found in other places, that does not incite a government investigation. There are breaches that are hundreds of times greater than mine that have gone on, if mine had a breach, which we don't think it did.

So, no, that is not a question I would have asked. And because I was -- well, first of all, they won't speak to me directly. They tend to go through my broker. These insurance underwriters don't want to talk directly to the customer. They are going to go through the broker.

So this is why the broker sent me the e-mail and conveyed information to me.

But according to the broker, it was the FTC investigation and the costs they are looking at. They are looking at risks and dollars.

Q. Certainly one of the risks that they would probably be interested in is whether or not your protected information is

- adequately protected; is that correct?
- 2 A. No, because it's not a cyber security policy. They are
- 3 | interested in -- well, I would say they are interested in
- 4 whatever can cost them, and whenever there is -- nothing
- 5 scares an underwriter greater than the unknown or nothing
- 6 scares a medical underwriter than a chronic disease.
- 7 And so I'm assuming since the only response that came
- 8 | from them -- and I didn't have direct conversations with them
- other than talking to my broker -- was that it was the
- 10 unknown of the FTC investigation.
- 11 Q. Did you get an affirmative statement from the insurance
- 12 | company that they would cover you if the FTC investigation
- was enjoined?

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- 14 A. No, I didn't.
- 15 Q. How many insurance companies have you contacted to
- 16 | obtain insurance coverage?
- 17 A. Well, I contacted brokers. They contacted insurance
- 18 | companies.
- 19 Q. Do you know how many insurance companies?
- 20 A. Approximately -- I think approximately a dozen,
- 21 approximately. I am not quite sure. At least, at least
- seven or eight. But, you know, the brokers don't want to
- 23 name names.
- 24 Q. And you don't have an affidavit from any of your brokers
- 25 explaining why you have been denied coverage?

1	A. No, I don't have an affidavit from them.
2	MR. GORJI: One moment, Your Honor.
3	Nothing else, Your Honor.
4	Thank you, Mr. Daugherty.
5	THE WITNESS: Did you want this back?
6	MR. GORJI: You can keep it.
7	THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.
8	THE COURT: Any redirect?
9	MR. RAIDER: Just one quickly on redirect,
10	Your Honor.
11	
12	REDIRECT EXAMINATION
13	BY MR. RAIDER:
14	Q. Your deposition was February 10, 2014. What was the
15	status of LabMD's cancer detection testing services on that
16	date?
17	A. We were doing no more. That was about three and a half
18	weeks out from our last report out.
19	MR. RAIDER: Thank you. No further questions.
20	THE COURT: All right. Thank you. You may return
21	to counsel table.
22	THE WITNESS: Thank you.
23	THE COURT: Call your next witness, please?
24	THE WITNESS: Should I leave this here?
25	MR. RAIDER: Thank you, Your Honor. We call

Mr. Cliff Baker. And Mr. Meyer will handle that 1 examination. 2 3 CLIFF BAKER 4 being first duly sworn by the Courtroom Deputy Clerk, 5 testifies and says as follows: 6 7 8 DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. MEYER: 9 Mr. Baker, could you state your full name and address 10 for the record? 11 Cliff Baker, 4850 Topeka Court, Dunwoody, Georgia. 12 And where are you employed? 13 Q. A company called Meditology Services based in Atlanta. 14 Α. In what capacity? 15 Ο. I'm the CEO and founder of the company. 16 Α. And what exactly is your role as the CEO? 17 Obviously oversee the running of the company, but I also Α. 18 lead a practice that focuses on privacy and security in 19 healthcare, consulting with companies around privacy and 20 security in healthcare. 21 And when you say consulting about privacy and security, 22 Q. what exactly do you mean? 23 My career has been focused on helping primarily 24 healthcare organizations adopt security practices that first 25

and foremost align with the security rule and then generally good practices to have a place to protect information.

Q. What were you asked to do in this case?

- A. I was asked by counsel to review Dr. Hill's report and compare it to my understanding of the HIPAA obligations for companies in the healthcare industry.
- Q. And what additional experience do you have to make such an analysis?
 - A. As I mentioned, I spent almost twenty years now helping organizations in the healthcare industry implement security controls to comply with HIPAA.

Prior to starting Meditology Services, I spent about fourteen years at a company called PriceWaterhouseCoopers primarily in the healthcare -- leading their healthcare security practice and consulting with their clients around implementing security practices.

After I left PriceWaterhouseCoopers in 2008, I was the chief strategy officer and architect for a framework called the High Trust Security Alliance, which essentially was a number of organizations across the healthcare industry that came together to try and define a reasonable and appropriate standard for the industry so the industry could proactively implement controls for the healthcare industry.

Q. And based on that experience, could you briefly state any opinions you reached regarding the standards articulated

in Dr. Hill's report?

A. The most troubling aspect of the report is that Dr. Hill doesn't take into consideration any aspects of scalability in terms of what's reasonable and appropriate for an organization of the size of LabMD to implement security to comply with HIPAA security requirements, which has really been the primary driver for security requirements for the industry.

And so when I read Dr. Hill's report, it is out of line with the expectations of organizations of the size of LabMD.

- Q. Is it your understanding that LabMD is a HIPAA-covered entity?
- A. It is my understanding that they are a HIPAA-covered entity.
 - Q. And based on your experience, do you have any reason to believe that the standard articulated by Dr. Hill would create confusion amongst HIPAA-covered companies?
 - A. Absolutely. The industry continuously is looking for clarification and specificity from the regulators to make sure that they understand what their obligations are, and when a regulating body makes a judgment based on some standard, the industry reacts and the industry tries to understand what their obligations will be as a result of that ruling.
 - So I think the position that Dr. Hill takes is

contradictory to the ten years of experience we have had with

HHS and understanding their expectation of the industry.

Q. And following up on that, I want to go through some particular topics. What is scalability?

A. In the creation of the HIPAA rule, a key tenet of the HIPAA rule was to implement controls that were reasonable and practical for the resources, capacity, skills of an organization.

HIPAA recognizes that the healthcare industry ranges from large multinational companies to one-physician practices with no IT resources -- probably no IT resources on staff, maybe an office manager at best. And so HIPAA had to be able to specify requirements that would be adopted for the largest companies and the smallest companies.

Obviously specifying specific requirements for each of those extremes is difficult, and so HIPAA created this concept of a risk assessment which allowed organizations to analyze their exposures and to make decisions that related to the security controls that were appropriate and that they could really have the resource, capacity and skills to implement.

- Q. And how does Dr. Hill address scalability?
- A. Her primary considerations for scalability is the number of records that LabMD holds. And, candidly, the number of records at LabMD is minute compared to larger organizations

that offer similar services.

And then she doesn't really ever consider the type of organization they are in the industry, the number of employees that they have, the number of resources that they have hired from an IT and security perspective. None of those considerations come into her -- the basis of her opinion in her report.

- Q. How significant is the difference between the standard Dr. Hill articulates and what HIPAA requires?
- A. From my perspective, it's significant. Imposing requirements on an industry that are not practical and reasonable, you know, really have a contrary impact to what I believe the regulators are trying to do, which is to make sure that appropriate security controls are in place.

And so imposing requirements that don't address this kind of scalability aspect will distract the industry in large part because now they have to interpret and figure out how they are going to implement requirements that are misaligned with expectations that have been set for them for the past ten years.

- Q. How important is scalability for a company the size of LabMD?
- A. It's extremely important. Textbook security
 requirements or controls, if you read textbook requirements
 and you put the same requirements in front of a large

multinational company, you know, they have more security resources than LabMD has employees. And so the skills and investments that they will make around security would probably exceed the total revenue that LabMD probably pulled in its entire existence.

So it's incredibly important, because if the regulators want real controls to be implemented, they have to make them practical and they have to make them reasonable and they have to impose expectations that small organizations can actually achieve.

Q. What is integrity monitoring?

A. Dr. Hill refers to this concept called file integrity monitoring, and it is essentially technology used to monitor any change to files on an issue.

So it essentially looks for any change, whether you save a file or you implement a new file or put a new file on a computer, it will send off an alert to somebody. And somebody will have to read that alert, investigate it and respond to it.

- Q. Does HIPAA require file integrity monitoring?
- A. It doesn't specifically require file integrity
 monitoring at all.
- 23 | Q. And what does Dr. Hill say in her report?
- A. This is one of the key controls that she says LabMD should have had in place. And I think it's a classic example

of where her report is out of alignment with the expectations that HHS sets for the industry.

As an example, Dr. Hill often in her report refers to free software or inexpensive software that can be implemented to achieve some of these controls. What she doesn't consider is the resource requirements to follow up, investigate, configure, implement those tools.

And file integrity monitoring particularly has a significant resource impact on an organization because it's constantly sending out alerts that need to be investigated.

Furthermore, Dr. Hill recommends that file integrity monitoring be implemented on a workstation. So on occasion for large organizations you will see it on servers.

The reason I'm making that distinction is when a user is on a workstation, they are often changing files. You are opening Word documents, you are opening Excel documents, you are opening and closing files.

With that kind of software, there is a potential for an alert to be sent out every time a file is changed, and you can imagine the resource impact that that's going to have on the resources of a particularly small organization.

- Q. For a company the size of LabMD, what would you recommend with respect to file integrity monitoring in order to be in compliance with HIPAA?
- A. HIPAA is based on a risk assessment first.

Fundamentally HIPAA requires risk assessment. And so we'd work with a company the size of LabMD, understand their exposures, and essentially put a measured program in place to implement security over time.

We would start with some limited monitoring that would be in place probably on the servers versus their workstations and then evolve that over time.

The primary reason we would not start with file integrity monitoring is we know that it would overwhelm their resources and that the net impact would be that security would not be implemented, information would not be well protected because the resources would not have enough capacity to actually focus on the things that matter.

- Q. All right. What is encryption?
- A. Encryption is a process of turning readable information into unreadable information that is only accessible or unlocked for the individuals that have keys to unlock that information, in laymen's terms.
- 19 Q. Does HIPAA address encryption?
- 20 A. It does address encryption.
- 21 Q. How?

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22 A. It's an addressable requirement.

And there is a distinction, an important distinction in
the rule. There are required items and addressable items in
the rule.

And HHS guidance for addressable items is that the decision around how to achieve those requirements, addressable requirements, should be based on the risk assessment, and then HHS essentially provides options.

If the organization does a risk assessment and believes that there is an exposure, believes that they have ways that cost and impact from a resource capacity on the organization in terms of implementing that control to mitigate the exposure, they should go ahead and do it.

On the other hand, in evaluating the exposure against the cost and resource capacity to achieve that control, if that cost and resource capacity exceeds the capabilities, they can explore alternate options.

If no alternate options exist, then they don't have to implement that control.

- Q. What is Dr. Hill's opinion with respect to encryption?
- A. Dr. Hill's opinion is pretty black and white, that encryption should be implemented.

Most troubling I think about her report is that she makes reference to encryption and risk. What I mean by that encryption stored in databases on servers.

And candidly, you know, across all industries, that is not generally an adopted practice, primarily because it has an impact on the processing speed and performance of systems. We are starting to see more and more of that kind

- of control implemented, but mostly for large organizations
 that have the resource capacity to implement those kind of
 controls.
- It's very unusual -- I have never seen an organization the size of LabMD implement encryption and risk.
- Q. What would you recommend to an organization the size of
 LabMD with respect to encryption in order to comply with
 HIPAA?
- A. Again, it would be based on the risk assessment, and
 I would recommend implementing controls where I know they can
 achieve the objectives required for encryption.
 - So for example, for any access to their website, if there was particular health information exchanged, I would expect that information is encrypted.
 - Q. You mentioned the risk assessment throughout your testimony now. Does Dr. Hill have an opinion regarding risk assessment?
- 18 A. She certainly does.
- 19 Q. And what is it?

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- A. You know, interestingly, we both refer to the same
 standard reference for risk assessment, which is the NIST
 Security Series Reference 800-30, which is a
 government-published approach for performing a risk
 assessment.
- Where Dr. Hill and I have a departure in kind of

methodology, she immediately will go in her report to suggesting that the organization implement technical tools to achieve the risk assessment.

And again I think this is based on her experience in kind of, you know, she seems to have a very technically kind of focused career, technology focused career, and so her immediate response in terms of this risk assessment is to implement a number of technology solutions.

As I mentioned to you before, the license cost for those solutions may not be high. The resource cost to actually manage and implement those solutions is significant.

And when you look at the way HIPAA and HHS guides the industry in terms of doing a risk assessment, it's certainly not starting with implementing tools. It's with a process and a mind-set and a methodology, candidly mostly relying on manual methods to assess risk.

I think that kind of highlights the fundamental distinction between Dr. Hill's report and generally where HHS is guiding the industry.

- Q. In offering those opinions, does Dr. Hill rely on any published materials from FTC?
- A. She doesn't, which I found interesting.

I would have thought that the expert -- the expert witness for the FTC would have been referencing FTC guidance for security requirements. She did not reference that in her

- 1 report, that I recall.
- Q. Are you aware of the FTC publishing data security
- 3 standards for medical service providers other than what's in
- 4 Dr. Hill's report?
- 5 A. I am not aware. In my line of business, I don't rely on
- 6 FTC guidance for security requirements for my client base.
- 7 | Q. And you have been in that line of business for almost
- 8 | twenty years; right?
- 9 A. That's correct.
- 10 Q. And in that time, are you aware of any statements made
- 11 by the FTC expressing their authority to impose requirements
- on protected health information in excess of HIPAA?
- 13 A. I am not aware of those requirements.
- MR. MEYER: No further questions, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: I want some clarification to make sure,
- 16 | see if my understanding about this is correct. That -- and
- 17 | I guess this is an allegation.
- The allegation is that the security breach here was
- 19 the disclosure of certain patient records. And I don't know
- 20 the quantity of the patient records that are alleged to have
- been disclosed, but apparently it was some patient
- 22 information; is that right?
- MR. RUBINSTEIN: Your Honor, Reed Rubinstein. If
- 24 | I might?
- It's not clear. We have heard different things in

the course of the administrative hearing. Originally there 1 was a focus --2 THE COURT: Well, what's your understanding about 3 what went from LabMD outside of the company to others, or are 4 you claiming that nothing did? 5 MR. RUBINSTEIN: There are allegations that --6 THE COURT: No, what's your understanding? Have 7 you reached a conclusion that certain patient information was 8 disclosed outside the company? 9 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Our understanding, based on the 10 testimony that's been taken to date --11 THE COURT: Well, you are the lawyers for the 12 company. 13 That's correct, but --14 MR. RUBINSTEIN: THE COURT: Have you reached any conclusion that 15 information that was private for patients that was delivered 16 to you by these people that were hiring LabMD got disclosed 17 outside the company? 18 MR. RUBINSTEIN: We do not believe that 19 information -- patient PHI has been disclosed outside the 20 company based on what we have learned on discovery. 21 And the reason for that, among other things, 22 testimony of the FTC's experts with respect to the expected 23 rate of identity theft. In this case, there is no single 24

plaintiff, no single person who has alleged --

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THE COURT: All right. My question was do you 1 You are saying there is not. 2 Second, did somebody load a file-sharing program on 3 any LabMD computer? 4 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Yes. 5 THE COURT: And did you do any investigation to see 6 whether or not any information was accessed through the use 7 of that file-sharing program from somebody outside the 8 company? 9 MR. RUBINSTEIN: I believe in approximately 2008, 10 LabMD was informed that file-sharing software was on the 11 computer. LimeWire, which is used primarily for audio 12 files. 13 There was an investigation done by the company. 14 This was contrary to the company's policies, and it was 15 removed. 16 The FTC investigation began two years --17 approximately two years thereafter, and there are allegations 18 with respect to two specific alleged data breaches. 19 The first related to an insurance agent file, a 20 1718 file. A second related to certain day sheets, which 21 were actually printed forms. They had nothing to do with 22 23 data security in the sense that we are using it. It is not clear to us still today and there is no 24

evidence in the record that demonstrates how exactly the 1718

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file, if it did, got out. That's one of the things that's 1 still, frankly, developing. 2 But as I said, to our knowledge and as far as we 3 can tell to the government's knowledge, there is not a single 4 case of identity theft attributable to the alleged data 5 breach. 6 7 THE COURT: Well, what is it that the FTC claims was the data security breach? 8 MR. GORJI: Your Honor, there are two instances, 9 one being that the Sacramento, California, Police Department 10 found information belonging to LabMD's customers in the hands 11 of identity thieves. 12 Now, that was reported to LabMD. My understanding 13 is LabMD actually informed customers that there had been 14 15 a --THE COURT: And when was that? 16 MR. GORJI: That was October 2012. I don't know 17 when LabMD actually informed their customers or there was a 18 disclosure. 19 THE COURT: And how did the police department know 20 that it originated from LabMD, and in what form did they have 21 it? 22 MR. GORJI: Your Honor, there was documentation 23 that indicated it pertained to LabMD, I believe. 24 25 THE COURT: You mean papers?

MR. GORJI: Documents, papers.

THE COURT: All right. So -- and where did the police department claim that the papers -- how were the papers obtained?

By papers, you mean paper documents, that somehow they got hold of some paper documents with some patient information on it? Is that what the allegation is?

MR. GORJI: Yes, Your Honor. My understanding is they were in possession of the individuals who pled no contest to the state charges of identity theft.

THE COURT: Well, if they pled no contest, they probably cooperated. Did they tell you where they got the papers?

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, if I might inquire?

Your Honor, I don't have information as to how the documents and the information was obtained by the identity thieves.

THE COURT: Well, has anybody from the FTC gone out and interviewed the people who pled *nolo* to that to find out where it came from, to see whether or not there was indeed a security breach?

Let me tell you something, these are the most simple questions of this investigation. That you are claiming that some police department prosecuted some people for having possession of information which you are now

claiming wrongfully was not protected by LabMD, and you can't even tell me whether or not you have interviewed the people who had the data to find out where they got it to see whether or not there was a security breach or not? And yet you have implemented and instituted this investigation?

And this is your case. You are new -- I know you might be new on it, but for heaven's sakes, you are arguing to me that there is a hearing on May 20th and you don't even know.

MS. FASCETT: Your Honor, if I may just explain, just for clarity, not as an excuse. The FTC attorneys that are handling the administrative proceeding in that hearing, they I'm assuming definitely know these details. They are not present. They are not here today.

We are just -- we were just brought in from DOJ to represent this complaint in this action. So that's part of why we don't have these facts. But we represent the FTC here and we can get these facts for you.

MR. RUBINSTEIN: Your Honor, if I could?

THE COURT: I'm not --

MR. RUBINSTEIN: I --

THE COURT: Sit down.

MR. GORJI: Your Honor, my --

THE COURT: So where are those lawyers? Are they too busy to come to Atlanta today?

1	MS. FASCETT: Well
2	THE COURT: Is that one of them sitting back there
3	in the gallery?
4	MS. FASCETT: No, she's a U.S. Attorney here in
5	Atlanta, unrelated.
6	THE COURT: How about this other fellow back there,
7	is he an FTC lawyer too?
8	MR. MARCUS: Your Honor, we have a gentleman here
9	from the FTC.
10	THE COURT: Are you involved in this
11	investigation?
12	MR. MARCUS: I am personally not involved in the
13	investigation.
14	THE COURT: Okay. So you are off the hook.
15	So far I have got four lawyers here and none of
16	them are involved in the investigation. How about
17	MR. MARCUS: We do have are a lawyer who is
18	involved in the investigation.
19	THE COURT: And what's your name?
20	MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Good morning, Your Honor.
21	Robert Schoshinski. I'm assistant director in the Division
22	of Privacy and Identity Protection.
23	THE COURT: All right. So in this case, what
24	investigation has been made as to the source of the documents
25	that the police department out in California found?

MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Your Honor, the complaint 1 counsel, so that is the FTC counsel who is litigating the 2 complaint in the administrative action, noticed the 3 depositions of the two individuals who pled no contest to 4 identity theft. 5 One they could not serve because she was just 6 7 simply not findable. The other one was in jail. THE COURT: Did you try to find her? 8 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Yes, we did, Your Honor. 9 We hired several process servers. They made many attempts to 10 try to find her but were unable to serve her. 11 THE COURT: And when did you first try to serve 12 her? 13 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Your Honor, I don't have the 14 exact dates, but --15 THE COURT: Well, give me an approximation. 16 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Your Honor, I would say late 17 2013, early 2014. 18 THE COURT: So really late in the game, you finally 19 decided that it made sense to go and find out with respect to 20 one of the allegations that's the basis of your investigation 21 that's been ongoing for months, because the CID was something 22 I dealt with some months ago, that you finally decided -- or 23 not you, but your lawyers finally decided that maybe it would 24

be good to try to find the people who actually had the

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information to determine where they got it? 1 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Yes, Your Honor. 2 THE COURT: Does that strike you as odd? 3 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Your Honor, it doesn't strike me 4 as odd. It's what --5 THE COURT: Does it strike you as late? 6 7 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Your Honor, it strikes me as the normal course of the investigation. 8 THE COURT: Boy, that's a sad comment on your 9 agency, that you would wait until months before a hearing and 10 months after you instituted an investigation on a principal 11 claim that you are asserting, that you have not even taken 12 any effort to interview the people that you claim had the 13 documents that underlie the charge of a security 14 That strikes me as almost being unconscionable. 15 And how much money -- how much activity was there 16 before you served those subpoenas trying to get the 17 information from LabMD with respect to a security breach that 18 you don't even know how it occurred? How much activity? 19 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Your Honor, how would you like me 20 21 to estimate? THE COURT: Let's start in months. 22 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Well, Your Honor, I believe the 23 investigation began in January of 2010. 24 THE COURT: Okay. So three years before you tried 25

to subpoena them? 1 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Your Honor --2 THE COURT: I'm sorry, two and a half years. 3 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Your Honor, the knowledge of this 4 incident didn't occur until after the CID enforcement hearing 5 up here in Atlanta. That's when we were notified that this 6 7 incident had occurred, in October of 2012. THE COURT: So you found out about the -- the 8 incident you are talking about is the California police 9 incident? 10 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: That's correct, Your Honor. 11 THE COURT: All right. And how soon after you 12 found out about the incident did you try to contact the 13 police authorities in California to find out what they knew 14 about the source of the information? 15 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Immediately. 16 THE COURT: And what did they tell you? 17 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: They told us that they did not 18 know. 19 THE COURT: And then what did you do next, and how 20 soon did you do it? 21 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: We shared the information with 22 LabMD concerning the -- what we found out once we were able 23 to confirm that it was LabMD's information, and we then 24 attempted to find out further from the California police 25

department what they knew about the source of this 1 information. 2 THE COURT: And what did they tell you they knew 3 about the source? 4 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: They told us they were not able 5 to get the source from the defendants in the case. 6 7 THE COURT: Did you talk to the prosecutor of the 8 case as well? MR. SCHOSHINSKI: I don't believe so, Your Honor. 9 THE COURT: And so you tried to track down one of 10 the two defendants. Did you try to track down the second of 11 the two defendants? 12 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Yes, Your Honor. We actually 13 obtained service on the second defendant, who was in 14 We noticed his deposition in the action, went to take 15 his deposition, and he pleaded the Fifth Amendment and 16 refused to answer questions. 17 THE COURT: So sitting here today, you have no idea 18 where the documents came from, whether they came from LabMD 19 or some other source? Is that a fair thing to say? 20 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: No. We believe they were LabMD's 21 documents. 22 THE COURT: Well, they might have been LabMD's 23 documents, but you don't know how they got into the 24 possession of the two individuals that you tried to contact 25

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that pled guilty to this offense?
1
               MR. SCHOSHINSKI:
                                 That's correct, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: So you have no information to establish
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     how those documents were obtained; is that right?
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               MR. SCHOSHINSKI: That's correct, Your Honor.
5
               THE COURT: And you are still proceeding on this
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7
     claim?
               MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Yes, Your Honor, because the
8
     claim is not concerning that incident alone. It's
9
     concerning --
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               THE COURT: All right. But are you still
11
     proceeding on that claim?
12
               MR. SCHOSHINSKI: We are proceeding on that
13
     evidence, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: And that evidence relates to other
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     claims, because you have other documents that were found in
16
     other places?
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               MR. SCHOSHINSKI: That evidence relates to the
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     potential injury suffered by consumers as a result of
19
     exposure of this information.
20
               THE COURT: Are you serious about that last
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22
     response?
23
               MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Yes, Your Honor, I am.
               THE COURT: So you don't know where the documents
24
     came from, you don't know how these people got the possession
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of it, you don't know whether they originated from LabMD or
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     some other place, but you are going to use that to show that,
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     because they committed identity theft, that certain
3
     individuals were damaged by documents, the source of which
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     you don't even know?
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               MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Yes, Your Honor.
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7
               THE COURT: Holy cow.
               So what's the other incident that you are relying
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     on?
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               MR. SCHOSHINSKI: The other incident is the
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     exposure of the insurance agent file of several thousand
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12
     consumers.
               THE COURT: And when was that?
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               MR. SCHOSHINSKI: That was in 2008, Your Honor.
14
               THE COURT: And that was through the file-sharing
15
     program?
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               MR. SCHOSHINSKI: That's correct, Your Honor.
17
               THE COURT: And how do you know that they came
18
     through the file-sharing program?
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               MR. SCHOSHINSKI: We know because third parties
20
21
     found the file on file-sharing programs.
               THE COURT: Well, I accept that. How do you know
22
     that they came through the file-sharing program that was
23
     loaded on a computer at LabMD?
24
               MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Based on the evidence we obtained
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about the file-sharing program, evidence provided by LabMD 1 that showed that certain files, including this file, were 2 shared on the file-sharing program, we believe that it was 3 exposed through the file-sharing program. 4 THE COURT: And how many records were shared? 5 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Your Honor, I don't have the 6 7 exact number. I believe it was nine thousand, but I'm not 8 entirely sure. THE COURT: So are you aware that nine thousand 9 files ended up in some somebody else's hands that were 10 LabMD's files? 11 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Your Honor, it would be nine 12 thousand individuals. It was one file. 13 THE COURT: Well --14 MR. RUBINSTEIN: And we --15 THE COURT: So are you going to dance on the head 16 of a pin now too? 17 I'm not dancing on the head of a 18 MR. RUBINSTEIN: pin, Your Honor. I appeared before the administrative law 19 judge and --20 THE COURT: You can sit down until I'm ready for 21 22 you. 23 MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Thank you, Your Honor. MR. RUBINSTEIN: -- I told him because the FTC said 24 that the files had been shared, our position was then and it 25

remains to date that the file was taken by this third party,
Tiversa.

As you may recall, there was quite a controversy
with respect to the government's ability to rely on that

THE COURT: It was taken by use of an improperly-loaded file-sharing program.

file.

MR. RUBINSTEIN: It was taken by use of a patented program that Tiversa uses as part of their business model to go from company to company taking files and then coming to the company and saying: Nice business you have here. It would be a shame if anything happened to it. Why don't you hire us to remediate?

In fact, that's what happened here. And part of this was put before --

THE COURT: Was that enabled by the file-sharing program that was loaded by an employee on the computers at LabMD?

MR. RUBINSTEIN: For them to be able to gain access, I don't know.

THE COURT: Why don't you know that?

MR. RUBINSTEIN: Because we don't fully understand the nature and extent of Tiversa's technology.

We attempted to ask them in deposition, and we were met with objections because this is a protected confidential

and highly proprietary piece of software. So we still don't understand to this day.

THE COURT: Well, you can get a protective order in order to access that. Have you asked for that?

MR. RUBINSTEIN: I don't recall. It would be easy enough to check. I can get that for you. I just don't recall whether we did that in the administrative hearing or not. I am certain the question was asked, and I'm certain objections were interposed.

And we had asked -- we actually -- it is very possible that we did, because we filed a motion asking for discovery into the circumstances under which there was a sharing of this information between Tiversa and the FTC.

We discovered that the FTC had worked with

Tiversa. In fact, Tiversa gave LabMD's file to another third

party.

THE COURT: Well, look, I'm not trying this case, although I am getting a lot of information about the respective positions which also is troubling on both sides.

But I will say --

MR. RUBINSTEIN: The --

THE COURT: So their position, which I guess they are going to present somebody under oath to say that they have traced information through a file-sharing program that allowed some outside source, whether it's Triversa or

somebody else, to wrongfully access information that was on LabMD's computers?

MR. RUBINSTEIN: I don't believe they have done any independent investigation to verify what type of --

THE COURT: I'm not saying that. I'm saying they have got an obligation to present somebody under oath to testify with respect to that, and that's what the deputy director's position -- you are a deputy director; is that right?

MR. SCHOSHINSKI: Your Honor, assistant director.

THE COURT: All right. I would love to promote you if I could, but I can't, so you are still an assistant director.

MR. SCHOSHINSKI: It's the lowest form.

THE COURT: I understand. I know titles are big in agencies. I have been there and played that game for a while.

But the assistant director has just said that there will be evidence presented before a judicial officer, I guess an administrative law judge, in which somebody will state these nine thousand individuals -- information about individuals in a single record was accessed by an outside source through a file-sharing program that had been installed on WebMD's computers.

You are going to say that there is no evidence of

that --

MR. RUBINSTEIN: That's correct.

THE COURT: -- that that ever happened, and you are going to believe that you are right, and the FTC, although sometimes I wonder if they are -- just how compelling their evidence is, that they are going to claim that they are right, and somebody will make a determination of whether there has been a breach or not.

Then the question is -- and I do find this -- and I think I know enough about this, and I learned a lot from the CID hearing -- is that the FTC is going to go into the business of monitoring and investigating and regulating security breaches and that they have decided I think to do that within what they believe is their administrative authority, because I think they went to Congress and Congress wouldn't authorize that for whatever reason, whether it's politics or not.

But I think there has been no amendment to Section 5 to specifically allow that. But they are taking the position that they have the authority to do that.

MR. RUBINSTEIN: That is correct.

THE COURT: I think that there is a significant question about whether Section 5 allows that, but I'm not sure I can decide that based upon my jurisdictional limitations, perhaps.

But I think that's what's going on here is the FTC has staked out a position of regulatory authority and that they are going to advocate that and they are going to advance it to the greatest extent that they can.

You are somebody who is the -- is somebody who has fallen within that ambit of claimed authority, and you claim that you didn't do it. They are going to claim that you did do it.

So there is going to be a factual question of whether or not you did or did not, and then there is going to be a legal question of whether or not they have the authority to do what they have done.

MR. RUBINSTEIN: That's correct. And we are not asking you to decide factual questions today.

THE COURT: I know, but you are asking me to take jurisdiction of this, and I'm not sure I can.

 $$\operatorname{MR.}$$ RUBINSTEIN: Well, and I'm happy to do argument with respect to that.

THE COURT: Look, I have spent more time looking at cases than you have on this, so I don't need any more argument on the jurisdictional issue.

MR. RUBINSTEIN: Fair enough.

THE COURT: I mean, I do think it's strange that a judge in New Jersey gets to decide the jurisdictional issue because the posture of the FTC was different in that case

than it is in this case, and then they are arguing that, although I'm co-equal to the judge in New Jersey, that because it came to me a different way, that I can't.

I suspect that they would love to travel forward on the New Jersey decision because it favors them and that they will try to deny the opportunity for another judge to weigh in.

But I think it's a significant -- you ought to find a way, unless you are so hell bent on expanding this jurisdiction or advocating this jurisdiction, to find some way to decide this legal issue.

And I understand why you are doing what you are doing. I have been alive long enough to understand how government and their agencies work. I have been a member of an agency and I understand its impact on defendants or in this case on parties that are under investigation. I understand that too because I have done that as well.

But I think that there is a fundamental jurisdictional legal issue, and there ought to be some way of getting a more definitive ruling than what you have right now.

Because I would hope that you would think that in this current healthcare environment, that the more competition and providers there are for medical detection devices or processes like those offered by LabMD, that the

better off the consuming public is and the better off patients will be. But by your conduct, you have taken one out of the market it looks like.

And if I was an agency head, I would say there has got to be some way of being satisfied that this doesn't happen again, however it happened, and to make sure that we have as many providers as possible out there determining whether or not people do or do not have cancer.

And that that would mean a good faith, transparent, authentic discussion about what your concerns are, and trying to get those allayed by some process which would not be a twenty-year monitoring.

You know, I have defended people that had twenty-year monitoring responsibilities by an agency, big companies, and it's very, very expensive, and it's really intrusive, and in my personal opinion, having been on both sides, they generally are not necessary.

But there is never a middle ground. There should be.

But I would think that it would be in the benefit of all the parties here to say whatever happened, it can't happen again, but whatever you are doing ought to continue to be done, because it benefits the consuming public, which I think is who you are supposed to be protecting under reasonable certainties, that the consuming public would be

treated fairly.

And it's interesting the two people that didn't treat the consuming people fairly are two people in jail that won't even cooperate with you and one of whom you can't even find.

But I don't think that even the FTC thinks that they intentionally wanted this information to get out, because they are subject to HIPAA regulations.

And I will say I have gone into enough doctors' offices and nobody has ever had me sign a statement saying that whatever the obligations are, the rights that I have under the FTC are rights that I have to acknowledge and in some cases give up. It's always HIPAA.

And I think that's what happens when you try to extend into an area where you might be allowed or be permitted to extend, but that assumes, especially on behalf of the government, that they act reasonably.

And here we are, having spent now about an hour and a half, not getting to the fundamental issue here, which I think is how can your interest be accommodated.

And, Mr. Gorji, if you submitted to them a consent order -- and I'm not going to consider that; I don't think it's important -- but it does tell me something about your agency if you say we want twenty years' worth of monitoring and even suggested that was reasonable concerning this

company. No wonder you can't get this resolved, because if that's the opening salvo, even I would be outraged, or at least I wouldn't be very receptive to it if that's the opening bid.

I don't think you believe that this is a company that willy-nilly allows information to be disclosed. I also believe that you don't think, if you remove yourself from the nits and gnats of this dispute, that you would say it was a good idea to make this provider unavailable to patients.

There aren't that many people doing this work as it is. I have another case involving cancer detection processes, and so I know just a little bit about the industry, and one of the regrets of the industry is that there are so few people providing these services. And I think in the current healthcare environment, there will be fewer.

It doesn't serve any of us very well. Some day you are going to need one of those services. I hope it's available.

You have been completely unreasonable about this. And even today you are not willing to accept any responsibility that whatever needs to be done, even if you can't confirm it, that your position is going to be a litigating position, and you will drag four lawyers to a hearing like this.

I mean, I was in a big firm, but on a hearing like this, we wouldn't have four lawyers here. So I don't know what you are trying to accomplish, but I will tell you this, you haven't.

And I have a firm belief that it takes two unreasonable people to create an unreasonable atmosphere that prohibits a reasonable result, and that's where we are.

Your interest is protecting the American public.

That's your responsibility.

Your interest is to help a client who I think is providing a good service survive.

And I am confident -- I haven't been in all these depositions. I know this, it's always hard to deal with somebody who is changing lawyers all the time. But to the extent that any of that has irritated you, Mr. Daugherty, you need to settle down. I know you are upset down this, but you are poisoning the atmosphere personally.

And if I was a lawyer representing you, the first thing I would say is you have got to stop the public stuff. If you want to get this resolved and do something well, no government agency is ever going to treat somebody who's advocating publicly and criticizing publicly. They are going to be less accommodating to them. And I have told that to clients over and over and over when I was a lawyer. Now I get to see it from the other end, and now I'm convinced

that's the case.

So to the extent that you have gotten some therapeutic value out of all this, it ought to stop, because your criticism hasn't gotten you to where you want to be, has it? It's gotten you where you don't want to be.

So I understand the legal issues. I thought as I enter my sixties, one of the values I can do is give you some perspective.

Are you a Fiske Scholar? Did you go to the
University of Michigan? Did one of you go to Michigan and
are a Fiske Scholar?

MR. RUBINSTEIN: I did, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Yeah. Are you a Fiske Scholar?

MR. RUBINSTEIN: Not a Fiske Scholar. I was an Angell Scholar.

THE COURT: All right. Well, never mind. Although I will tell you that the story that if one of you had been that I have is working with Bob Fiske, who I think is one of the finest lawyers in America, that we were once granted jurisdiction, and we always, whenever somebody brought a claim to us to try to request us to expand our jurisdiction, we would have a roundtable discussion to say where within the grant of authority to us is our jurisdiction specifically, and, if not, it needs to go back to the people who are entitled to grant jurisdiction, which we believe was

Congress, and we turn things down.

I think good lawyers -- and he was an agency lawyer for a long time and ran the Southern District for a long time as United States Attorney -- that that lesson has always stuck with me.

So where we are now is I have given you my insights about this. I understand there is no more evidence to be presented.

I don't need any more -- I guess you can cross-examine him if you want. All I hear him saying is that he doesn't like your expert's report and he would have done something differently and he's claimed that HIPAA is what should be, because there are specific standards there -- I think that you will admit that there are no security standards from the FTC. You kind of take them as they come and decide whether somebody's practices were or were not within what's permissible from your eyes.

I too find how does any company in the
United States operate when they are trying to focus on what
HIPAA requires and to have some other agency parachute in and
say, well, I know that's what they require, but we require
something different, and some company says, well, tell me
exactly what we are supposed to do, and you say, well, all we
can say is you are not supposed to do what you did.

And if you want to conform and protect people, you

ought to give them some guidance as to what you do and do not expect, what is or is not required. You are a regulatory agency. I suspect you can do that.

But I think that's what happens when you jump too quickly into something that you want to do, and whether that's circumstances or whether that's agency motivation, I don't know. But it seems to me that it's hard for a company that wants to -- even a company who hires people from the outside and says what do we have to do, and they say you have to do this, but I can't tell you what the FTC rules are because they have never told anybody.

Again, I think the public is served by guiding people beforehand rather than beating them after they -- after-hand. But the assistant director doesn't have the authority to do that. He reports to the deputy director, who reports to the director, who reports to the commission. So he's way down in the pecking order.

So I understand what this witness said.

I suspect that this witness will say that he never consulted with LabMD before about their security processes. He's just come in to opine on the opinions offered by Ms. Hill. Is that correct?

THE WITNESS: Correct.

THE COURT: I kind of wish he had been there before.

One thing I do know is agencies that say you pay 1 for somebody to come in to look at your security practices 2 and this is what an expert said we had to do and needed to 3 do, that they have a different approach, because that's a 4 defense. 5 But if you want to cross-examine him, now is your 6 7 time. I had my say. MR. GORJI: Your Honor, the government has no 8 cross. 9 THE COURT: So nothing further from Mr. Baker? 10 We appreciate your testimony. 11 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much. 12 THE COURT: You may step down. 13 Do you have any other witnesses or evidence you 14 want to present? 15 MR. RAIDER: Not at this time, Your Honor, no. 16 THE COURT: Anything the FTC wants to present? 17 MS. FASCETT: Assuming that you are not asking for 18 any argument on the jurisdictional issues, no, nothing 19 further to present. Thank you. 20 THE COURT: Anything else that LabMD wants to say? 21 MR. RUBINSTEIN: Your Honor, it's been extensively 22 briefed. If you have any questions, we are glad to answer 23 them. Other than that, we have nothing further. 24 THE COURT: All right. I will take it under 25

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advisement.
1
               And if there is nothing else to cover today or to
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     present, we will be in recess.
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               MR. RAIDER: Your Honor, just one quick point
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     before we go to recess?
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               Was Exhibit 14 admitted into evidence? That's the
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7
     Monday, January 6th, 2014, letter? If so, we would like to
     tender it into evidence.
8
               THE COURT: Well, did you tender it?
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               MR. RAIDER: I thought I did.
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               THE COURT: Did you object to it?
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               MR. GORJI: We didn't object, Your Honor.
12
               THE COURT: I guess it's in.
13
               MR. RAIDER: Thank you, Your Honor.
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               THE COURT: Which is, by the way, what my records
15
     reflect was that it was tendered and not objected to and it
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     had been admitted, so you didn't really need to do that.
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     now it's clear to everybody.
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               MR. RAIDER: Thank you.
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               THE COURT: All right. Now we will be in
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21
     recess.
                   (Proceedings adjourn at 11:46 a.m.)
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CERTIFICATE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA :
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA :
I, Nicholas A. Marrone, RMR, CRR, Official Court Reporter of the United States District Court for the Northern District of Georgia, do hereby certify that the foregoing 98 pages constitute a true transcript of proceedings had before the said Court, held in the city of Atlanta, Georgia, in the matter therein stated. In testimony whereof, I hereunto set my hand on this, the 7th day of May, 2014.
/s/ Nicholas A. Marrone NICHOLAS A. MARRONE, RMR, CRR Registered Merit Reporter Certified Realtime Reporter Official Court Reporter Northern District of Georgia