IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

HOME WARRANTY ADMINISTRATOR OF NEVADA, INC. dba CHOICE HOME WARRANTY, a Nevada corporation,

Appellant,

VS.

STATE OF NEVADA, DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY-DIVISION OF INSURANCE, a Nevada administrative agency,

Respondent.

Supreme Court No. 80218

First Judicial District Electronically Filed Case No. 17 OC 002 May B12 2020 05:11 p.m. Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court

Appeal from First Judicial District Court, State of Nevada, County of Clark The Honorable James. T. Russell, District Judge

APPELLANT'S APPENDIX VOLUME V OF XIV (AA000720 – AA000939)

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Subpoena for Appearance at Hearing to Kim Kuhlman (Cause No. 17.0050)	08/09/17	I	AA000137 – AA000140
Subpoena for Appearance at Hearing to Mary Strong (Cause No. 17.0050)	08/09/17	I	AA000145 – AA000148

EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION	DATE	VOL.	PAGE NOS.
Subpoena for Appearance at Hearing to	08/09/17	I	AA000117 -
Geoffrey Hunt (Cause No. 17.0050)			AA000120
Subpoena for Appearance at Hearing to Martin	08/09/17	I	AA000141 -
Reis (Cause No. 17.0050)			AA000144
Subpoena for Appearance at Hearing to the	08/09/17	I	AA000125 –
State of Nevada, Division of Insurance Person			AA000128
Most Knowledgeable as to the Creation of the			
Division's Annual Renewal Application Forms			
(Cause No. 17.0050)	00/00/17	т	A A 000120
Subpoena for Appearance at Hearing to the State of Nevada, Division of Insurance Person	08/09/17	I	AA000129
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Forth in the Division's Complaint on File in			
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Substitution of Attorney	01/25/19	IX	AA001771 –
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Substitution of Attorney (Cause No. 17.0050)	01/24/19	IX	AA001768 –
• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •			AA001770
Supplement to Division's Opposition to Motion	01/31/18	VIII	AA001504 -
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Pursuant to NRS 233B.140			
(Case No. 17 OC 00269 1B)	00/40/45	***	
Transcript of Hearing Proceedings	09/12/17	IV-V	AA000583 -
on September 12, 2017 (Cause No. 17.0050)	00/10/17	X / X / X	AA000853
Transcript of Hearing Proceedings	09/13/17	V-VI	AA000854 -
on September 13, 2017 (Cause No. 17.0050)	00/14/17	X / T T	AA001150
Transcript of Hearing Proceedings	09/14/17	VII	AA001151 – AA001270
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Transcript of Hearing Proceedings on	08/06/18	IX	AA001708 -
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Transcript of Hearing Proceedings on November	11/07/19	XIII	AA002384 –
7, 2019 (Case No. 17 OC 00269 1B)	00/09/17	137	AA002455
Updated Hearing Exhibits and Updated Witness List by Division (Cause No. 17.0050)	09/08/17	IV	AA000518 – AA000521
(Exhibits 41-42 excluded from appendix as			AA000321
irrelevant to this appeal)			
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and see what hasn't been admitted. 1 2. MS. GRIFA: That's consistent with what my list 3 was. MR. YIEN: Okay. 4 MS. GRIFA: What Madam Hearing Officer had 5 suggested, that matches my list. 6 MR. YIEN: Can I just also verify all the 7 documents that you've already stipulated to? 8 9 MS. GRIFA: Yeah, on consent, we have 2, 4, 5, 7, 12, 21, 22, 23, 28, 30, 31, 32, 36 and 37, 41 and 42. 10 MR. YIEN: And for the record, 41 and 42 are --11 came in with the supplement. 12 13 MS. GRIFA: Supplement. MR. YIEN: And I believe that the witness had 14 referred to Exhibit 42 in his, or 41 in his testimony, 15 one or the other. 16 MS. GRIFA: Yes. 17 MR. YIEN: It was the South Carolina. 18 MS. GRIFA: It's 42. That's on consent. 19 20 MR. YIEN: Yeah. And the missing ones that I 21 have, that we just went over -- did you say 38, also, Madam Hearing Officer? 2.2 23 MS. GRIFA: 38 was admitted, yes. MR. YIEN: Okay. And 24, also? 24 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Yes. 25

1	MR. YIEN: Okay. I apologize. So, yeah, the
2	ones that haven't been admitted, we're going to use
3	another witness to do that.
4	HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. The last thing
5	I want to ask is, Ms. Grifa provided a binder during
6	Mr. Jain's testimony, Exhibit II through QQ. I believe
7	that these were new. These were not discussed at the
8	prehearing conference.
9	Do you need a chance, Mr. Yien, to review these
10	to see if you stipulate, or?
11	MR. YIEN: Yeah, like maybe just during lunch.
12	And then, when we start up, I would likely have no
13	objection to that. But I would just like an opportunity
14	to take a look at them.
15	HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. So when we
16	get back from lunch, we'll do that first thing before
17	calling your next witness, so that we have almost all of
18	the exhibits accounted for.
19	MR. YIEN: Okay.
20	HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. All right.
21	So it is 12:09 on my phone. Let's take one hour, come
22	back here. Thank you.
23	* * * *
24	(A break was taken, 12:09 to 1:09 p.m.)
25	* * * *

HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Ms. Grigoriev, can 1 2. you hear us? MS. GRIGORIEV: Yes, ma'am. 3 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right. Thank 4 5 you. The time is 1:09. We will get back on the 6 7 record. Mr. Yien, I believe, we're on to your next 8 9 witness. MR. YIEN: The Division calls Kim Kuhlman to 10 the stand. Madam Hearing Officer, opposing counsel, 11 Ms. Kuhlman is hearing-impaired. So if we could also --12 THE WITNESS: Just talk loud. 13 MR. YIEN: We would appreciate that. 14 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Ms. Grigoriev, do 15 you mind pressing mute on your phone, because it does 16 eliminate some of the back noise over here. Thank you. 17 MR. YIEN: And just a reminder, because this 18 was one of your subpoenaed witnesses as well, again, 19 20 Ms. Kuhlman is only available today. MS. GRIFA: We understand. 21 That's why we chose today. 2.2 MR. YIEN: 23 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. Ms. Kuhlman, the court reporter will swear you in, and then we can 2.4 begin. Please wait until the question is fully asked of 25

you. If you don't understand a question, please ask the 1 2. attorney who asked it for clarification. And please speak up and use verbal responses like yes or no instead 3 of shrugging your shoulders or nodding or shaking your 4 head. And if you need a break, please let me know. 5 And with that, if you will please swear in the 6 witness. 7 8 9 KIM KUHLMAN, having been first duly sworn/affirmed by the Reporter, 10 was examined and testified as follows: 11 12 DIRECT EXAMINATION 13 BY MR. YIEN: 14 Q. Ms. Kuhlman, what is -- oh. Can you state 15 your... 16 MR. YIEN: Did you want me to request that she 17 spell her name for the record? 18 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I think, that's 19 20 easier for the reporter. MR. YIEN: Sure. Yes, of course. 21 BY MR. YIEN: 2.2 23 Q. Can you please state your name and spell it for the record? 2.4 A. Kim Kuhlman. 25

- Q. And please do spell out your name as well.
- 2 A. Oh. K-I-M, K-U-H-L-M-A-N.
- Q. Thank you, Ms. Kuhlman. And what is your
- 4 | position at the Nevada Division of Insurance?
- A. I'm a Compliance Investigator Two in Consumer
- 6 Services.
- 7 Q. Can you describe your duties?
- 8 A. One of my duties is assisting consumers with
- 9 questions as far as their policies, statutes. And 1
- 10 | also handle consumer complaints.
- 11 Q. And how long have you worked with the Division?
- 12 A. 13 and a half years.
- Q. And do you handle complaints filed by Nevada
- 14 | consumers against the respondents?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Can I have you take a look at Exhibit 11? And
- 17 | if you could turn to page four of seven.
- 18 A. Okay.
- 19 Q. Do you recognize this complaint?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Is this a complaint that was assigned to you?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Can you tell the court or briefly describe what
- 24 | the complaint is about?
- 25 A. This complaint was a claim denial delay. It

- 1 | had to do with -- I guess, it would be the flooding in a
- 2 consumer's home. And the company, or excuse me, the
- 3 consumer thought that when he got coverage, it would go
- 4 | into effect right away. And that was not the case
- 5 according to the warranty company, so they denied the
- 6 claim.
- 7 Q. And was, in fact, his claim covered by the
- 8 | contract?
- 9 A. Yes, it was.
- 10 Q. And so did you step in on behalf of the
- 11 | consumer to perhaps reach out to the respondent to
- 12 resolve this issue?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. And did they resolve this issue?
- 15 A. They did.
- 16 Q. But it wasn't until after you stepped in that
- 17 | they resolved this issue, correct?
- 18 A. Correct, yes.
- 19 Q. If I could have you turn to Exhibit 24. Do you
- 20 | recognize this complaint?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And can you describe to the court the nature of
- 23 | this complaint?
- 24 A. This was an air conditioning issue. It looks
- 25 | like there was a denial as well on this one. And there

- 1 appears to have been delays as far as getting the unit
- 2 | looked at and repaired.
 - Q. Was this a covered claim?
- 4 A. It was.

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- Q. Can you tell how long, by looking at the
- 6 report, that it took for them to do something about it?
- A. Let's see. It looks as though 10 weeks is what
- 8 | the consumer stated. And the temperatures were over, I
- 9 think it was, a hundred degrees.
- 10 Q. This was in Las Vegas?
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. During the summer?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Ms. Kuhlman, are you aware of any law that
- 15 requires a service contractor to report if it takes them
- 16 a certain amount of time to fix --
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. -- something in an emergency situation?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Ms. Kuhlman, if you
- 21 | could wait until the question is completed. That way,
- 22 | it's easier for the court reporter.
- THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 24 BY MR. YIEN:
- Q. Did you need me to ask it again, or? And are

- 1 you aware whether or not Choice Home Warranty, or the
 2 respondent, sent in such a report in this case?
 - A. I'm not aware.
- Q. So did the respondent eventually settle or do something after you stepped in?
- 6 A. Yes.

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- Q. But it wasn't until after you stepped in that they honored it?
- 9 A. It was after the Division stepped in.
- 10 Q. Okay. And do you find that dangerous to the 11 public to --
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. -- wait that long? Okay. If you could turn to
- 14 Exhibit 38. Ms. Kuhlman, do you recognize this
- 15 | complaint?
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. And can you briefly describe to the court what it's about?
- A. This was another air conditioning issue. The consumer had a family member that was disabled, and the temperatures were excessive, which would be dangerous.
- Q. Did Choice, or did the respondent, did they reject this claim?
- A. In the beginning, yes.
- Q. And how long did it take before the respondent

- 1 | did anything about it, if you can tell?
- 2 A. It looks as though they filed the claim in June
- 3 of 2016, and it was resolved on July 25th, 2016.
- 4 Q. So about a month?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. I had asked you if there was any statute that required the respondent to file a report. Do you know what the time frame is that they're required to file a
- 9 report by --
- 10 A. The --
- 11 Q. -- in an emergency situation?
- 12 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Hold on. One
- 13 person at a time.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Sorry.
- 15 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. Did you
- 16 | finish the question?
- 17 BY MR. YIEN:
- Q. Yes, so in emergency situations, they're
- 19 required to file a report. Are you aware of how long
- 20 | that, how long they can take before they have to file
- 21 | the report, or how many days?
- 22 A. So the repairs should commence within 24 hours.
- 23 | And if it takes longer than, I believe it's three days,
- 24 | they need to report it to the Division in writing.
- Q. And are you aware of any report that was filed?

Α. I'm not aware. 1 Does this case talk about, did it -- you 2. mentioned that somebody was disabled there. Did 3 anything happen to this person that was dangerous? 4 MS. GRIFA: Objection. THE WITNESS: I believe, she --6 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Hold on. Don't 7 answer the question. 8 9 MS. GRIFA: Objection. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Don't answer the 10 question until we address the objection. 11 What's the basis of your objection? 12 13 MS. GRIFA: It's calling for her to speculate about what happened. He asked her what, if she knew 14 what happened. And in this document, that would reflect 15 anything other than the woman had a disability. 16 MR. YTEN: There is. 17 THE WITNESS: Can you speak up, please? 18 19 MS. GRIFA: I'm sorry. 20 THE WITNESS: That's okay. MS. GRIFA: The question was whether if she was 21 2.2 aware of anything that happened. The report reflects 23 the woman has a disability. There's absolutely no reference to anything beyond the claim, the condition 2.4

and the resolution. There's nothing in this report that

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reflects anything with respect to any impact on any 1 2. household member in the household of the insured. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So I don't think 3 we're too far off. Mr. Yien, if you could lay some 4 foundation as to Ms. Kuhlman's experience in interacting 5 with the consumer, if it happened at all. Because if 6 she didn't, then she'd just be going based on this 7 report. And that's what I would like to know. 8 9 MR. YIEN: So --HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So I'm not ruling 10 on the objection yet until I --11 MR. YIEN: Right. There is actually something 12 13 in this report that speaks directly to the effect it had on other family members. 14 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: And so if you could 15 just have Ms. Kuhlman talk about what she did working 16 with this consumer. 17 MR. YIEN: 18 Okay. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: To help lay a 19 little more foundation on this. 20 MR. YIEN: Sure. Yes, of course. 21 BY MR. YIEN: 2.2 23 Q. So after receiving such report, what is your usual procedure, or if you recall, what was your 2.4 procedure in this case? 25

- A. Okay. So in this case, if the Division saw
 that this was possibly an invalid claim denial, we would
 contact the company and ask them to review it. I'm
 trying to see. Okay. This one, I believe, was a
 maintenance issue. So the consumer was able to provide
 the required maintenance records. Therefore, the
 company resolved the claim.
 - Q. So do you collaborate with both the consumer and Choice Home Warranty in resolving these complaints?
- 10 A. Yes.

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- 11 MR. YIEN: And may I -- is that enough of a 12 foundation to move forward with my question?
- HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Yes. So repeat
 your question, if you can remember it.
- 15 BY MR. YIEN:
 - Q. Yeah. So in this case and in this complaint, does it state anything that happened to a family member or someone as a result of the claim denial?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. And can you tell the court what that is?
- A. Based on the complaint, it said that a family member became ill with severe heat stroke.
- HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I'm going to

 overrule the objection, because I do think that there

 was some -- this is what led to Ms. Kuhlman doing

- whatever she did in her job duties as far as responding
 to the consumer.
 Go ahead.
- 4 BY MR. YIEN:
- Q. So do you consider the lack of adjudicating this claim properly on a covered item to be dangerous to the public?
- 8 A. Yes, it very well could be.
- Q. And in this instance -- no, I think, I already asked you whether or not they provided a report, correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Yes.
- 14 A. And I was not aware of it.
- Q. Okay. So with respect to the three complaints that we just spoke of, or I just asked you questions about, the respondent didn't do anything about them or didn't resolve them until after you stepped in?
- 19 A. That is my understanding.
- Q. And you don't step in unless they file a complaint with the Nevada Division of Insurance?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Ms. Kuhlman, do you also receive complaints
 from vendors?
- A. Yes, we do.

Q. And can I have you take a look at Exhibit 25? 1 2. Α. Okay. And can you describe the nature of this 3 complaint? 4 This appears to be a vendor who had provided service for Choice Home Warranty. And, apparently, 6 there were several invoices that were outstanding. 7 And was this complaint eventually resolved? Q. 8 9 I believe, there was an agreement that was reached. It looks as though partial payment or 10 payment -- it says "release payment," so. 11 Q. And it looks like -- can you verify that this 12 didn't occur until after the Nevada Division of 13 Insurance, by and through yourself, stepped in to try to 14 resolve this? 15 Α. Yes. 16 MR. YIEN: I have no further questions for this 17 18 witness. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Cross-exam? 19 20 MS. GRIFA: Yes, please. 21 CROSS-EXAMINATION 2.2 BY MS. GRIFA: 23 2.4 Q. Good afternoon. My name is Lori Grifa, and I'm the New Jersey counsel to Home Warranty Administrator of 25

- 1 | Nevada. And I tell you that because New Jersey people
- 2 talk fast. So I'll try not to. So if you can't hear
- 3 | me, or if it's too fast, you'll just tell me. Okay?
- 4 A. Okay.
- Q. Can you hear me okay?
- 6 A. Speak up a little bit.
- 7 Q. All right.
- 8 A. Okay.
- 9 Q. I will do that.
- 10 A. Thank you.
- 11 Q. I understand that you are a compliance
- 12 | investigator for the Division; is that right?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And in the capacity of under compliance
- 15 | investigator, you review incoming complaints that are
- 16 assigned to you; is that right?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. How are they assigned to you?
- 19 A. They're assigned from our Las Vegas office. We
- 20 | have a supervisor down there that assigns the
- 21 | investigators their complaints.
- 22 Q. Is there any methodology by which they are
- 23 assigned?
- A. Not that I'm aware of.
- Q. So you don't necessarily just receive

- 1 | complaints for Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada?
- 2 A. No.
- Q. We heard from Mr. Jain this morning that there
- 4 | were 170 licensed service contract providers in Nevada.
- 5 | Is that basically your understanding as well?
- A. I'm not certain of the number.
- 7 Q. Well, there's certainly more than just Home
- 8 | Warranty Administrator of Nevada?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And in a given week, could you tell us how many
- 11 different companies you might receive complaints from?
- 12 A. Are you asking service contract complaints?
- Q. Service contract provider complaints.
- 14 A. Oh, no, that could vary. I could not give you
- 15 a number.
- 16 Q. Is it more than five?
- 17 A. It depends.
- 18 Q. More than 10?
- 19 A. I can't say.
- Q. Well, this week -- last week, let's do last
- 21 | week. How many did you receive last week?
- 22 A. I get so many complaints that I honestly cannot
- 23 | tell you how many I would get in a week for a service
- 24 | contract provider.
- Q. In fact, too numerous to count?

- 1 A. Excuse me?
- Q. Too numerous to count?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. But you can't --
- A. Well, excuse me.
- Q. -- estimate last week. Okay. If you want to correct your answer, please do.
- 8 A. As far as being assigned different complaints,
- 9 | yes, I could not tell you how many specifically I got
- 10 for one company.
- Q. Can you tell us how many you got last week
- 12 | generically, all companies involved, not their names,
- 13 | just how many complaints you handled last week?
- 14 A. For not just service contract providers?
- 15 Q. Just service contract providers.
- 16 A. Oh. No. I'm sorry. I can't.
- 17 Q. You've worked at the department for 13 and a
- 18 half years?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And do you work in a section or division in
- 21 | which you report to Mr. Jain, who testified this
- 22 | morning, Rajat Jain?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. That's not a trick question. Just curious.
- 25 You spoke to four different marked complaints in

- 1 connection with this matter today, 11, 24, 25 and 38.
- 2 | And so most of my questions will deal with those.
 - A. Okay.

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- 4 Q. In connection with any complaint that you were
- 5 assigned with regard to Home Warranty Administrator of
- 6 Nevada, did you have occasion, as part of your
- 7 | investigation, to review their contract?
- 8 A. No. Oh, excuse me. Yes, I would. If a
- 9 contract was provided, if it was requested from me, or
- 10 | the consumer provided, then, yes, we would review it.
- 11 Q. In connection with any of the work that you
- 12 have done for the Division with respect to Home Warranty
- 13 | Administrator of Nevada, and we've been calling them
- 14 | HWAN as an abbreviation, did you ever examine their
- 15 | contract, their service contract?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 | O. And in connection with the three complaints
- 18 that you discussed this afternoon, 11, 24 and 38, in
- 19 | connection with the work you did, did you specifically
- 20 review their contract provisions?
- 21 A. I don't remember.
- 22 Q. You do understand that a contract is a legal
- 23 relationship between the service contract provider and
- 24 | the policyholder, right?
- 25 A. Yes.

- Q. Would you agree with me that they have a right to try to enforce the terms of their contract?
- 3 A. No.
- Q. You don't believe that they have the right to enforce a legal contract?
- 6 A. Yes. I'm sorry. Yes.
- Q. But is it actually your function that you are assigned to resolve, by way of investigation, collaboration and perhaps negotiation, these open
- 9 collaboration and perhaps negotiation, these open 10 complaints that come into the Division?
- A. It's our job to act as a liaison between the companies and the consumer. If we can get resolution, then.
- Q. That would be a positive objective, right?
- 15 A. (Nodded head affirmatively.)
- 16 Q. You have to answer out loud.
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Ms. Kuhlman, could
- 19 | you bring your hands down. I think, that will help.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Sorry.
- 21 BY MS. GRIFA:
- Q. When we looked at Exhibit 11 -- and do you have
- 23 | that in front of you; is that available to you?
- 24 A. Okay.
- Q. Exhibit 11 is made up of seven pages. And we

- 1 know that because in the top right-hand corner it says
- 2 | "one, slash, seven." Do you see that on the first page
- 3 of Exhibit 11?
- 4 A. Yes.
- Q. So the first two pages of Exhibit 11 are not a
- 6 | complaint that was assigned to you; isn't that right?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. In fact, that was assigned to Ms. Tanishia
- 9 Brown?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. A colleague of yours at the Division?
- 12 A. M-hm (affirmative), yes.
- 13 Q. Is that a yes?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Your testimony is about pages four through
- 16 | seven; isn't that right?
- 17 A. Correct, yes.
- 18 Q. And we know in retrospect that this complaint
- 19 | from 2014 is your complaint, because your name is found
- 20 on page three, right?
- 21 A. The complaint, 2014 or 2015?
- 22 Q. I direct your attention to page six of seven.
- 23 A. Okay.
- 24 Q. And there are, it looks like, four references
- 25 to your name there.

- 1 A. Okay. Yes, that's right.
- Q. Is that right?
- A. M-hm (affirmative).
- 4 Q. So this is the department's form, right?
- 5 A. It is, yes.
- Q. Does this reflect computer screens?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. The narrative that is found on page four of seven where it says "Consumer Detail of Complaint"?
- 10 A. Okay.
- Q. Is that something that the consumer wrote to the Division, or is that something that was told to you telephonically?
- 14 A. No, the consumer writes that.
- Q. And it's based on this written narrative that the complaint is then wheeled out among the
- 17 | investigators for review and resolution?
- A. Yes, I believe so. Again, I don't assign them,
- 19 so I'm not sure how they're divided up.
- Q. This consumer, on page four, made a complaint
 against the respondent in this case, HWAN; and we know
 that because the respondent's name and address is in the
- 23 bottom left-hand corner of the form; isn't that right?
- 24 A. M-hm (affirmative), yes.
- Q. And in this narrative -- I'll direct your

attention back to the middle of the page -- it shows the 1 2. date of the incident; isn't that right? Α. Yes. 3 And the date of this incident, which is 4 Ο. reflected in Exhibit 11, at page four, is April 30th, 5 2014, right? 6 Α. Yes. 7 But the Division didn't open a complaint until Q. 8 9 November 19, 2014, right? 10 Α. Correct. So you had no way of knowing, when this was 11 assigned to you, how much interaction was ongoing 12 between the respondent and this particular complainant 13 between those intervening dates, do you? 14 15 I just rely on the information that's provided. And any of the interaction between the company, 16 HWAN, and this particular complainant is not detailed in 17 this document, is it? 18 Well, he just talks about 5-24, when he called 19 Α. 20 the claims department. So as near as we can tell, from this document 21 Ο. alone, the complainant -- and this person actually has a 2.2 23 name. So let's use this gentleman's name. Larry

Uh-huh (affirmative).

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Naughten.

Α.

- Q. And Larry Naughten's name is found on page five of Exhibit 11. Larry Naughten is a Las Vegas resident, and that's reflected in this document; isn't that right?

 A. Yep. Yes. Sorry.

 O. Mr. Naughten contacted the department, and he
 - Q. Mr. Naughten contacted the department, and he said he signed up for a warranty, and then, on May the 25th, 25 days later, he made a complaint to HWAN, right?
- 8 A. Yes.

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- 9 Q. And that complaint was that he had a leaky 10 pipe, right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. A water pipe broke and flooded his living room,
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. That's reflected in the narrative on page four, right?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. And he complained to the Division that his claim was denied, right?
- 20 A. Yes, correct.
- Q. In your testimony, you testified that that
- 22 | claim was, in fact, covered, right?
- 23 A. Right.
- 24 Q. That was your testimony a few moments ago?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. But you did not review the contract at or about
- 2 | the time you reviewed Mr. Naughten's complaint, correct?
- 3 A. I don't specifically remember if I did or not.
- 4 It could have been something that I did review.
- 5 | Q. But do you have a recollection, ma'am --
- 6 A. I do not.
- 7 Q. -- as you sit here today? You do not. And
- 8 there is nothing in any of these pages that would
- 9 | indicate that you reviewed the term of the contract
- 10 regarding either a leaky pipe or how long the policy
- 11 | would have to be in effect before coverage was bound,
- 12 | correct?
- 13 A. Well, I can't say that that's correct. Because
- $14 \mid \text{if you look at my comment, that I have noted that I}$
- 15 reviewed the file with Derick. Derick is in our
- 16 | Property and Casualty Section. And on occasion we do
- 17 | rely on our experts when we have an issue. So I can't
- 18 say yes or no.
- 19 O. Okay. Derick is Derick Dennis, correct?
- 20 A. That is correct.
- Q. And Mr. Dennis was here this morning. Oh, he's
- 22 | here again, he's here this afternoon. And he's a
- 23 | colleague of yours, correct?
- 24 A. M-hm (affirmative). Yes.
- Q. But there is nothing in this document that

- 1 suggested that you determined that a leaky pipe was
 2 covered, right?
 - A. No, not to my knowledge.
- Q. And there is nothing in this document that suggested that you determined that coverage was bound within 25 days of the contract being signed, correct?
- 7 A. Right, I can't answer that knowingly. I cannot 8 be certain.
- 9 Q. Just I'm going to ask you, your comments, and
 10 your name appears repeatedly on page three, indicates
 11 some of the interactions you had on this file, right?
- 12 A. Yes.

3

- Q. If you had made that determination back in

 2014, it would be fair to assume that you would have put

 it down here in this comment section, wouldn't it?
- A. Well, not -- we don't document every single little stuff. So, again, I don't know.
- 18 Q. It's not documented here, though, is it?
- 19 A. Excuse me?
- 20 Q. It's not documented here, though, is it?
- 21 A. No.
- Q. Mr. Dennis, is he your contemporary, or is he a
 bit senior to you in terms of his tenure with the
 department, if you know?
- 25 A. I think, he would be the same as me. I

- 1 | wouldn't consider him a senior to me.
- 2 Q. Okay. I don't know.
- 3 A. Yeah.
- 4 | Q. So. Has he participated in the same capacity
- 5 as you do in the Division, if you know, as a compliance
- 6 | investigator?
- 7 A. I am not aware of that.
- Q. But at least with respect to Mr. Naughten, you
- 9 | did confer with him?
- 10 A. Yes, I did.
- 11 Q. And he suggested to you that you ask the
- 12 company, HAWN, to reconsider its position, right?
- 13 A. I can tell you, from the notes in here, that I
- 14 | would have spoke with Mr. Dennis, we would have reviewed
- 15 the file, and if we thought it was something that needed
- 16 to be addressed with the company, then, yes, we would do
- 17 that. And that's what was done.
- 18 | Q. And you made a note of that, right, "I asked
- 19 | the company to reconsider"?
- 20 A. M-hm (affirmative).
- 21 Q. You made that note on 3-17-2015?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And that's on page six of Exhibit 11, right?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Sometime between the time that you entered that

note, you had a telephone conversation with a man named 1 2. Victor; isn't that right? Α. Correct. 3 And we know that because it's reflected in your 4 Ο. Are you the person who makes these entries on notes. 5 any given complaint --6 Yes. Α. 7 -- that's assigned to you? You make the notes? 8 Q. 9 Α. (Nodded head affirmatively.) Q. You type them? 10 11 Α. Yes. You're not transcribing them from, you know, 12 Ο. 13 scratch notes on paper? 14 Α. No. Ο. Okay. Is that a no? 15 Α. No. 16 So she can get you. It's easy to forget. 17 Ο. Just out of curiosity, on the right-hand side of this sheet 18 there is a repeated reference to the word time. Do you 19 see it? 20 Okay. That, I believe, that is if we're on the 21 Α. phone and we record the amount of time. We don't always 2.2 23 do it. It's not a required procedure. But it's certainly available, right? 2.4 Ο. Α. Yes. 25

- Q. So when you spoke to Victor on March 18th,
- 2 2015, you spoke to him for about 15 minutes?
- 3 A. Okay. Yes.
- 4 Q. Does that sound about right?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And Victor told you that they would pay the
- 7 | claim?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. And you told him that you would reach out to
- 10 Mr. Naughten and you would tell him that?
- 11 A. Looks like I said, I advised him to reach out
- 12 to the Naughtens, yes.
- Q. And to the best of your knowledge as you sit
- 14 here, they did pay the claim?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Did you know who Victor was at the time that
- 17 | you spoke to him?
- 18 A. Victor would be the owner of Choice Home
- 19 | Warranty.
- Q. So you dealt with him, the owner of the
- 21 | company, with respect to Mr. Naughten's claim?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Well, you just said he's the owner of Choice
- 24 | Warranty. Are you sure about that?
- 25 A. There was some confusion on the name at one

- 1 point, yes. But that's what it was logged under, yes.
- 2 Q. Well, it's actually logged under --
- 3 A. It's logged under --
- 4 Q. -- Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada, isn't
- 5 | it?
- 6 A. Dba Choice Home Warranty.
- 7 Q. So when you say that it was logged under, he
- 8 was the owner of Choice Home Warranty, at the time, you
- 9 did not know that he was the owner of that company, did
- 10 you?
- 11 A. I don't know if I knew at that time or not.
- 12 Q. And you still don't know, do you?
- 13 A. Huh?
- 14 Q. You still don't know, do you?
- 15 A. I'm under the assumption. So.
- 16 | Q. Well, but do you know, ma'am?
- 17 A. No.
- 18 Q. Is that the only time that you dealt with the
- 19 owner of Home Warranty of Nevada?
- 20 A. I don't, I don't know. I probably dealt with
- 21 him more.
- 22 Q. Do you recall, and just stepping away from
- 23 Exhibit 11 for a moment, do you recall if you ever dealt
- 24 | with a woman named Marla Ramirez?
- 25 A. No.

- Q. Do you recall anybody else by name that you 1 2. might have dealt with in your capacity in trying to resolve consumer complaints against HWAN? 3 Α. Yes. 4 Q. Can you tell us who those people might be? I believe, her name was Tamarra. 6 Α. Anybody else? Q. 7 Α. No. 8 9 Ο. If I could take you back to 11, try to move on from this exhibit, when you dealt with Victor --10 Yes. Α. 11 -- was he professional in his dealings with 12 Ο. 13 you? 14
 - I'm assuming he is. I can't remember. Α.
- Well, if he was unprofessional, would you have 15 made a note of it? 16
- Yes, that's something I probably would have 17 documented. 18
- You have testified this afternoon that there is 19 Ο. 20 a law that requires a report back to the Division if there's going to be a delay in the response? 21
 - M-hm (affirmative). Α.
- 23 Q. Okay. Are you able to tell us whether that is
- a law or a regulation? 2.4
- It's NAC. Α. 25

2.2

- 1 Q. So is that a regulation?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And can you provide to us the citation
- 4 of that regulation?
- 5 A. Not word for word. I can tell you it's NAC
- 6 690.110.
- 7 Q. That's exactly what I was looking for, but
- 8 | thank you. 690.110, and that's an administrative code;
- 9 | that's what an AC is?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. And you do not have a recollection with
- 12 respect to Exhibit 11 whether a compliance report was
- 13 sent back to the Division with respect to Mr. Naughten's
- 14 | complaint?
- 15 A. I do not know.
- 16 Q. And there's nothing in your record to indicate
- 17 | that it was not sent, right?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. And there's nothing in your record to indicate
- 20 | that it was sent, right?
- 21 A. No, but I can say that I'm not the one that
- 22 | would receive that.
- Q. Would it have gone into Mr. Naughten's
- 24 | complaint file?
- 25 A. No.

- 1 Q. Where would it have gone?
- 2 A. It would go to our Property and Casualty
- 3 | Section directly.
- 4 Q. Do you know who it might go to?
- 5 A. I do not.
- 6 Q. By name, I mean?
- 7 A. No.
- Q. And is there any effort within the Division to
- 9 cross-reference the complaint of Mr. Naughten and this
- 10 report?
- 11 A. Not that I'm aware of.
- 12 Q. Are you aware of the charges specifically that
- 13 have been made against HWAN?
- 14 A. Some of them, yes.
- 15 Q. And, in fact, they have not been charged with a
- 16 | failure to provide these administrative reports in a
- 17 | timely way; isn't that right?
- 18 A. I'm not aware of that.
- 19 Q. You're not aware that they have, or you're not
- 20 aware that they haven't?
- 21 A. I'm not aware if they haven't.
- 22 Q. And you're not aware of whether they have; you
- 23 | just don't know, right?
- 24 A. I just don't know.
- 25 Q. I'm going to ask you, then, to direct your

attention to Exhibit Number 24. 1 2. Α. Okay. 24 is a four-page exhibit. And we know that 3 because we see one, slash, four in the bottom right-hand 4 corner. Can you see that? 5 Α. Yes. 6 In fact, this is a different form than Q. 7 Exhibit 11; isn't that right? 8 9 Α. That's correct, yes. Is there like an updating that went on? Q. 10 Yes, exactly. Α. 11 So this form actually comes from 2016, right? 12 Q. Uh-huh (affirmative). Yes. 13 Α. This is Exhibit 24. Exhibit 11 was from 2014, 14 Q. I guess, right? 15 Α. Yes. 16 So this is the new and improved DOI form? 17 Ο. Yes. 18 Α. And this is a complaint from Mary Jo Greenlee, 19 Ο. and her name is reflected in the bottom left-hand 20 21 corner? M-hm (affirmative). 2.2 Α. 23 Q. She's a Las Vegas resident, right? 2.4 Α. Correct, yes. And your name as a staff member is below hers 25 Q.

on the first page, right? 1 2. Α. Yes. And on the following page, there are, there's a 3 section called Actions? 4 Α. Okay. And your name appears in every line except for 6 Ο. one; isn't that right? 7 Yes. Α. 8 9 And that's the first one, or perhaps it's the last one, and that's Linda Stratton, right? 10 Α. Yes. 11 Linda Stratton made an entry into this Ο. 12 particular complaint file on March 8, 2017, yes? 13 Α. Yes, that's correct. 14 But all of the other entries are yours, right? 0. 15 Α. Yes. 16 And they arise from the time in which the 17 Ο. complaint came to your desk; isn't that right? 18 Α. Yes. 19 20 Q. So this is a complaint that was made against the respondent, HWAN, right? 21 Α. Yes. 2.2 23 And it's, the name of the insured is Kenneth Coleman, right? 2.4

Where are you seeing that at?

25

Α.

Q. Under the respondent information, about 1 2. three-quarters of the way down, it says "Name of insured"? 3 Α. Are you still looking at 24? 4 Q. I'm on 24, page one. Α. Page one? 6 Q. Sorry. Page one. 7 Α. Okay. 8 9 Ο. Right? Do you see where it says "Kenneth Coleman" 1.0 Α. Uh-huh (affirmative). 11 "Name of insured"? 12 Ο. 13 Α. Yes. But the person who communicated the complaint 14 Ο. was actually not Mr. Coleman, it was Ms. Greenlee? 15 Α. Yes, that's correct. 16 And the Division will take complaints from 17 Ο. anyone, right; I mean that's what you're there for? 18 Yes, we open a complaint once it's received, 19 Α. 20 yes. And you make no distinction whether they 21 Ο. actually own the policy, or whatnot; they call, you take 2.2 23 their complaint, and you respond, correct? Correct. 2.4 Α.

And Ms. Greenlee's complaint was from

25

Q.

August 7th of 2016, right? 1 2. Α. Okay. Yes. And we see that in the narrative at the top of 3 the page? 4 Α. Yes. 5 Actually, I'm sorry. That's not right. Her 6 Ο. complaint, and this is actually the first line, was from 7 August 8, 2016, right? 8 9 Α. Wait a second. Where are you at now? Consumer Detail of Complaint. And the sentence Ο. 10 that begins "I filed a service request"; do you see 11 that? 12 13 Α. On page one? On page one. 14 Q. Still? Α. 15 Ο. M-hm (affirmative). 16 17 Α. Okay. Page one. Do you see it, 8-8-2016? 18 Q. Oh, okay. Yes. 19 Α. The service complaint was actually to the 20 company, not to the Division of Insurance, in August of 21 2016, right? 2.2 23 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Can I clarify something for you? 2.4 MS. GRIFA: 25 Sure.

HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I don't have 1 2. something that says 8-6 of '16 or 8-8. It says 6-8 of '16 on my page. 3 MS. GRIFA: I think, mine says 8-8, but I'm 4 wearing glasses and I --5 MS. GRIGORIEV: Mine also says 6-8. 6 MR. LENHARD: That's 6-8. 7 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: 6-8. Okay. 8 9 THE WITNESS: 6-8 of 2016. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I just want to make 10 sure I got the right information here. 11 THE WITNESS: Are you looking at the incident 12 13 date? MS. GRIFA: Yes. Yes, I am. But I'd just like 14 to go back to Madam Hearing Officer's request for 15 clarification. The incident date on this form and the 16 other reference to a date in that narrative all have 17 August dates. And that is the basis for my reading that 18 19 it was actually 8-8. 20 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I just want to make 21 sure I can see this right. MS. GRIFA: If the record can reflect that the 2.2 23 print is microscopic. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Well, and the copy 2.4 of this exhibit will be included with the record, so. 25

But, yeah, mine is 6-8. 1 2. MS. GRIFA: Okay. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. 3 BY MS. GRIFA: 4 Ο. Okay. So assuming that this actually says 6-8-18, Ms. Greenlee did not contact the department 6 until August 19, 2016? 7 Α. That's, yes, that's what it appears. 8 9 Ο. And that's when you opened this file, right? No, I'm sorry. 10 It says the file was opened in October. 11 So. okay. So Ms. Greenlee had a problem that 12 Ο. 13 she reported to the company in June, and she reported it to the department in October. So the first four months 14 of the delay were related to the way Ms. Greenlee 15 handled this matter and not the company; isn't that 16 right? 17 It's my -- from reading this, it's my 18 Α. understanding that several technicians were called out, 19 20 and it wasn't, it wasn't resolved by October, so that's when she filed the complaint. 21 You have no way of knowing, from your dealings 2.2 Ο. 23 with Ms. Greenlee, what actually transpired between 2.4 Ms. Greenlee and the company --

Α.

25

Not --

- 1 A. -- during this intervening period?
- 2 A. Not, not -- sorry.
- Q. In that intervening period?
- A. Not according to this document.
- Q. Right. If she had shared that with you, it
- 6 | would have been reported in this document; isn't that
- 7 | right?
- 8 A. Most likely.
- 9 Q. Well, it would certainly be relevant to a
- 10 delayed claim, wouldn't it?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Because when you -- as assigned, the type of
- 13 | problem is listed as delay?
- 14 A. That's correct.
- 15 Q. Do you have a recollection of who you might
- 16 have dealt with in resolving this?
- 17 A. I don't. It was probably Tamarra. She seems
- 18 to be the person that I've been working with the last
- 19 | several complaints.
- 20 Q. But that's not reflected in this document,
- 21 | right?
- 22 A. No.
- Q. So that is an educated guess?
- A. Excuse me?
- Q. An educated guess, right?

- A. Yes. Looking at the date, yes, I would say it was probably Tamarra.
- Q. But this was resolved on November 10th, 2016,
- 4 | right, because it says "end date" next to your name on
- 5 November 10th, 2016?
- 6 A. It looks as though this was resolved on 11-30,
- 7 2016.
- 8 Q. So when you testified that it took 10 weeks to
- 9 resolve this, 10 weeks is your estimate of the time from
- 10 October 4th to November 30th, right?
- 11 A. The complaint was opened on -- oh, okay. That
- 12 | is what the complainant is alleging, yes, it was 10
- 13 weeks.
- 14 Q. Well, but the Division received the complaint
- 15 on October 4th?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 | O. And that's indicated in the form. And, in
- 18 | fact, it says "closed" at the top of the page,
- 19 November 30th, 2016, right?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And the company paid, paid the claim made by
- 22 Ms. Greenlee; fair to say?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Could you direct your attention to page 38.
- 25 | I'm sorry. Exhibit 38.

- 1 A. 38?
- 2 Q. Yes, Exhibit 38. Bear with me one moment.
- 3 | Could we go back to Exhibit 24 for a moment?
- 4 A. Back to 24?
- Q. 24, sure. The second page of that exhibit.
- 6 A. Okay.
- 7 Q. Part of the reason why you were able to close
- 8 this complaint is on November 30th you were told by
- 9 someone on behalf of the company that they were going
- 10 pay Ms. Greenlee up to the limit of the policy, right?
- 11 A. That's correct.
- 12 Q. You entered that in your notes, yes?
- 13 A. That's correct.
- Q. Do you know what the limit of the policy was
- 15 | for Ms. Greenlee?
- 16 A. I do not.
- 17 Q. Do you know what the amount of her claim was?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. If you would go to Exhibit 38, please.
- 20 A. Can you repeat that?
- 21 Q. If you would just go on to Exhibit 38.
- 22 A. Oh.
- Q. Exhibit 38 is four pages, also. And this is a
- 24 | complaint that was assigned to you from a man named
- 25 | Anthony Trombetta, right?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And the consumer's name is located in the
- 3 | bottom left-hand corner, and it's a complaint against
- 4 | Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada, right?
- 5 A. Home Warranty Administrator dba Choice Home
- 6 Warranty, yes.
- 7 Q. And this is the particular complaint that
- 8 involved a person who became ill with heat stroke as a
- 9 consequence of the air conditioning not being repaired
- 10 | in a timely way, right?
- 11 A. Yes, that's what they've alleged.
- 12 Q. Mr. Trombetta notified the department on
- 13 June -- of a complaint arising from an incident on
- 14 June 27, 2016; isn't that right?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And, in fact, he did not notify your department
- 17 until July 12th, 2016; isn't that right?
- 18 A. That is correct, yes.
- 19 Q. That's the opening date, right?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And, ultimately, this was resolved by way of a
- 22 payment to Mr. Trombetta on this claim, the maximum
- 23 amount of authorize; isn't that right?
- 24 A. 1,500, yes.
- Q. Okay. And that, and you know that because you

reviewed your notes on page two of this document dated 1 2. 7 - 25 - 2016? Yes, that's correct. Α. 3 I'd like to ask you, in the left-hand column on 4 Ο. this page, and perhaps it is on other documents as well, 5 it says "letter"; what does that mean? 6 Α. Can you repeat that? 7 It says "letter," 7-25-2016 letter? Q. 8 9 Α. Yes. Ο. Does that mean that you wrote a letter to 10 Mr. Trombetta? 11 Α. Yes. 12 13 A hard copy good old-fashioned letter on a piece of letterhead? 14 Α. Yes. 15 Ο. All right. And then above it, it says 16 "satisfaction ballot"; what does that mean? 17 That is something that we send to the consumers Α. 18 when we close their complaint, and they can choose to 19 fill it out and return it to the Division. 20 Or not? 21 Ο. Or not. 2.2 Α. 23 Q. And on this particular page, page two of this document, it indicates time, right, middle column? 2.4 A. The time on the phone? 25

- Q. Yeah. There's zeroes for all of that, right?
- A. Yeah, that's if we don't enter a time. And
- 3 like I said, that's not something that's required.
- 4 Q. From start to finish, between the time you got
- 5 involved and the time that this matter was closed,
- 6 | actually was just eight days; isn't that right?
- 7 A. The file was closed on the 25th. So it looks
- 8 as though it would be more like 13 days.
- 9 Q. 12, right?
- 10 A. What?
- 11 Q. 12 days? Did I do that right?
- 12 A. It was opened on 7-12.
- 13 Q. 7-12. 13 days, yes, 13 days. Do you recall
- 14 | who you dealt with in the company in resolving this
- 15 | complaint?
- 16 A. I do not.
- 17 Q. But would it be fair to say that whomever you
- 18 dealt with, they were professional and responsive to
- 19 | your request?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And, again, you testified that they didn't file
- 22 | the report in connection with Mr. Trombetta's claim?
- 23 A. I have no knowledge.
- 24 Q. You have no knowledge whether they did or they
- 25 | didn't, right?

- 1 A. Correct.
- Q. If they had filed a report, you would have put
- 3 | it in here; isn't that right?
- 4 A. If they had filed, what?
- 5 Q. The report; you would have entered it?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. Or is it because it goes to the other division;
- 8 you don't know?
- 9 A. Are you talking about the report that's
- 10 required per NAC?
- 11 Q. Yes.
- 12 A. No, I would not know that.
- Q. Okay. In your letter, on page two, just out of
- 14 curiosity, is this the text of the letter that went onto
- 15 | a letter sent by you to Mr. Trombetta?
- 16 A. Are you talking about the July 25th one?
- 17 | O. Yes.
- 18 A. Yes. Okay.
- 19 Q. It has his address. And, I think, it even says
- 20 | "Dear Mr. Trombetta"; right? Yes, it does. You
- 21 | indicated to us that -- your letter indicates that "Our
- 22 | examiners use complaint date for performing audits"?
- 23 A. Yes, that's correct.
- 24 Q. Did you ever recommend HWAN to be audited?
- 25 A. Did I ever recommend --

- Q. Did you ever recommend that this company, HWAN, be audited by the Division?
 - A. Not to my recollection.
- Q. Have you ever recommended a company, that is a service contractor provider, be audited?
- A. Okay. Let me correct. I don't, I don't
 recommend any companies be audited. I would simply
 refer them to another section for further review, and
 then they would do the process. That's not something I
 do.
- 11 Q. I understand. Did you ever refer HAWN to that 12 other section for review?
- 13 A. Not that I recall.
- Q. Have you ever referred a service contract provider to that other section for --
- 16 A. Yes.

3

- Q. You have. About how many different companies have you referred to --
- 19 A. I can't say.
- Q. Was it more than one?
- 21 A. Probably, yes.
- 22 | Q. More than five?
- 23 A. I don't know.
- 24 | 0. More than 10?
- A. I don't know.

Q. I just want to try to understand your job 1 2. description a little bit better. Do you only deal with the complaints that come in to you, that are assigned to 3 you? 4 Do I only deal with complaints that I'm -- the companies that I'm assigned to? 6 Yes. The complainants that are assigned to Ο. 7 you? 8 9 Α. Most often, yes. So you don't survey any particular company for 10 performance; that is not in your job description? 11 Α. No. 12 That's handled by somebody else? 13 Q. Α. Yes. 14 Q. Exhibit 25, if you could just look at that 15 briefly. 16 Α. 25? 17 Q. Yes. 18 19 Α. Okay. 20 Exhibit 25, I think, Mr. Yien might have characterized as a vendor complaint, right, from a man 21 named -- I think, his name is Ott? 2.2 23 Α. Yes. 2.4 Ο. Opp actually, O-P-P?

Α.

25

O-P-P, yes.

- Q. A Las Vegas person, right? This is not your case, right?
 - A. Right. This is Tanishia's.
- Q. And, but this is the format in which complaints are received?
- A. Correct, yes.
- Q. Is Ms. Brown somebody that you continue to work
- 8 with?

- 9 A. Tanishia?
- 10 Q. Yeah.
- 11 A. Tanishia's in our Las Vegas office. And, yes,
 12 she has the same position and title as I do.
- Q. In connection with HWAN, do you recall ever reviewing or even just handling a vendor complaint?
- 15 A. Of HWAN?
- 16 Q. Yes.
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. Are they reflected in any of the documents that are here before this body today?
- 20 A. Can you repeat that?
- Q. To the extent that you investigated any vendor complaints against the company, are they in any of the documents that are before the hearing examiner today?
- 24 A. No.
- Q. Just give me a moment.

- Some of these complaints are categorized as

 "delay." Are there any guidelines in your particular

 section as to what is a reasonable time frame for an

 insurer to deal with an insured?
- A. Well, yes, we would probably look at it, and if it was over 30 days, we would probably enter it as a delay.
 - Q. Okay. Are those published for purposes of the service contract provider community, those guidelines?
- 10 A. Not that I'm aware of.

8

9

11

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- Q. Are there any guidelines available to you as to how long the Division will review a complaint and how long they'll permit an insurer to respond to you?
- A. If they're claim-related complaints, they are to respond, the company is to respond to the Division within 10 business days.
- 17 | O. Is an email considered a response?
- 18 A. Yes, you can certainly email the response.
- 19 Q. Is a telephone call a response?
- 20 A. No. We like a written response. That's what 21 we require.
- Q. You call -- I don't mean you, individually.

 But we can use you as an example. In connection with

 any case that you're assigned to, you will call the

 company and say, ask them to give you an explanation,

- 1 right?
- 2 A. No, I would require the written response. If I
- 3 | had additional questions, then, yes, I would call the
- 4 company, but I do ask them to put that in writing.
- Q. So anything that might transpire on the phone
- 6 | you would ask them to confirm in an email or a letter?
- 7 A. Yes, most often.
- Q. Do you have authority to ask them to give you
- 9 | information in your present capacity?
- 10 A. Ask them to what?
- 11 Q. Provide you with information about how they are
- 12 | handling a particular complaint?
- 13 A. No, I don't.
- Q. Or backup documentation with respect to how
- 15 they handled a particular person?
- 16 A. Okay. Yes.
- 17 Q. You have the authority to ask for that?
- 18 A. Yes. Oh, I'm sorry. I misunderstood.
- 19 Definitely.
- Q. Do you have a recollection, when you were
- 21 | dealing with HWAN complaints, that you asked them for
- 22 | supplemental information at any time?
- A. Yes, I believe, I have on other complaints.
- Q. And did they provide that to you in a timely
- 25 | way?

- 1 A. I can't say.
- Q. Well, did they provide it?
- A. If they did not provide it, I would contact the
- 4 | company again, so. I'm sure they did.
- MS. GRIFA: Okay. I don't have any additional
- 6 questions for the witness. But one moment, please.
- 7 BY MS. GRIFA:
- Q. I just want to -- I'm not trying to be
- 9 argumentative. I'm just not sure if I asked you this.
- 10 A. Okay. That's fine.
- 11 Q. Do you have a recollection of during the course
- 12 of your work how many complaints you handled with
- 13 respect to HWAN; can you put a number on that?
- 14 A. I don't.
- 15 Q. Okay.
- 16 A. No.
- 17 MR. GRIFA: Thank you.
- 18 I have no additional questions for the witness.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Before I launch
- 20 | into redirect and recross, I'm going to ask my question.
- 21 | That way, you guys can handle it on redirect and
- 22 recross.
- 23 And I actually only have one question for you,
- 24 Ms. Kuhlman. You said, in your response to a question
- 25 by Mr. Yien, that a claim was covered by contract. Who

made that determination; did you, or did somebody else? 1 2. THE WITNESS: So if it was the one that I spoke with Derick about, and I don't know if that's the one 3 you're referring to, we would have determined it 4 together. 5 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. 6 Thank you. Redirect? 7 MR. YIEN: Yes. And my first question kind of 8 9 dovetails with yours, Madam Hearing Officer. 10 REDIRECT EXAMINATION 11 BY MR. YIEN: 12 If you, in fact, did discuss a contract issue 13 with a colleague, would you have necessarily documented 14 it in your files? 15 Α. No, not always. But it appears I did in this 16 17 case. Q. Okay. 18 It's not always documented. 19 Α. Ms. Grifa went through exhibits 24 and 38 with 20 Q. 21 you and some dates that correspond with when the complainant filed the complaint, I'm sorry, when the 2.2 23 complainant had their initial problem and when they finally filed a complaint with the Nevada Division of 2.4 Insurance? 25

- 1 A. M-hm (affirmative).
- Q. Now, does that delay affect the respondent's
- 3 requirement to have to self-report any emergency repairs
- 4 | within a certain amount of time?
- 5 A. I'm not aware of that.
- 6 Q. Okay. Oh. If I could, one last time, trouble
- 7 | you to go through those exhibits one more time.
- 8 A. Oh, that's okay.
- 9 Q. On Exhibit -- let's start with 11 again.
- 10 A. Okay.
- 11 Q. And you said that the area under Consumer
- 12 Detail of Complaint, that language is filled out by the
- 13 | complainant?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And who do they think they have a contract
- 16 | with?
- 17 MS. GRIFA: Objection.
- 18 BY MR. YIEN:
- 19 Q. Who do they -- I'll rephrase. In their
- 20 | writing, who do they state they have a complaint with,
- 21 | the company?
- 22 A. Choice Home Warranty.
- 23 Q. Okay. Does it say Home Warranty of Nevada
- 24 | anywhere in there?
- A. No, it just says Choice Home Warranty.

Q. Let's go to Exhibit 24. Again, in the Consumer 1 2. Detail of Complaint, who does Ms. Greenlee believe --I'm sorry. Who does Ms. Greenlee file this report 3 against, who was she complaining? 4 Choice Home Warranty. Do you see Home Warranty of Nevada anywhere in 6 Ο. there, in her complaint? 7 No. Α. 8 9 Ο. And then Exhibit -- is it 38? Can you read the second sentence in Mr. Trombetta's --10 Α. I called --11 -- consumer -- yeah. 12 Ο. 13 Α. "I called my warranty company, Choice Home Warranty, in Edison, New Jersey." 14 O. Is it fair to say he believes his home warranty 15 company is Choice Home Warranty, of Edison, New Jersey? 16 MS. GRIFA: Objection. 17 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Based on? 18 MS. GRIFA: He's asked the witness if 19 Mr. Trombetta believes. And she would have no way of 20 21 knowing that. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Can you rephrase 2.2 23 the question, please? MR. YIEN: I'll withdraw it. I'll just let the 2.4

record stand that Ms. Kuhlman read the second sentence

into the record. 1 2. BY MR. YIEN: If I could go down to the respondent 3 Ο. information, who is this, who is the complaint actually 4 against, the name? 5 Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada, Inc. dba 6 Choice Home Warranty. 7 MR. YIEN: Okay. I have no further questions. 8 9 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Recross? MS. GRIFA: Yes, please. 10 11 RECROSS-EXAMINATION 12 BY MS. GRIFA: 13 When these consumers make complaints, and they 14 Ο. provide the name of the company against who, against 15 whom, I guess, which, I guess, the claim's being made, 16 it is incumbent upon the department to identify whether 17 it's a licensed entity, right? 18 Well, the complainant would, obviously, note 19 Α. 20 the company, but we're the ones that log it into our database. 21 Q. So in Exhibit 11, at page four, Mr. Naughten 2.2 23 made a complaint against Choice Home Warranty, but the Division listed the entity as Home Warranty 2.4 Administrator of Nevada, right? 25

- 1 A. What are you looking at?
- Q. Well, on page four, in the narrative,
- 3 Mr. Naughten listed his complaint against Choice Home
- 4 | Warranty, but the Division cataloged that complaint
- 5 against Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada, right?
- 6 A. Okay. Yes, I see that.
- 7 Q. And then jump ahead to Exhibit 24, page one.
- 8 A. Okay.
- 9 Q. And Ms. Greenlee made a complaint against
- 10 | Choice Home Warranty, and the Division logged that
- 11 | complaint against Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada,
- 12 | right?
- 13 A. Dba Choice Home Warranty.
- 14 Q. And the same is true for Mr. Trombetta in
- 15 Exhibit 38?
- 16 A. What number is that?
- 17 Q. Exhibit 38, page one.
- 18 A. Okay. Yes.
- 19 Q. So without regard to what the consumer is
- 20 | reporting to you, the Division always knew that the
- 21 | respondent, who is responsible, was responsible to the
- 22 | consumer and with respect to these particular three
- 23 | individuals?
- 24 A. Well, Choice Home Warranty added the dba. So I
- 25 | don't know, I'm sorry, I don't recall how that was

- 1 logged in or how it came about being logged in under
- 2 | that one.
- Q. That's not what I'm asking you. I'm not asking
- 4 anything about the dba.
- A. That's not what? I'm sorry.
- Q. That's not what I've asked you.
- 7 A. Okay.
- 8 Q. So let me try again.
- 9 A. Can you repeat it?
- 10 Q. Yes. When the complaints came in from these
- 11 | various individuals to the department --
- 12 A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 13 Q. -- the department immediately was able to
- 14 | identify that Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada was
- 15 | the responsible party?
- 16 A. It appears that way.
- 17 MS. GRIFA: Thank you. I don't have any
- 18 additional questions.
- 19 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right. Thank
- 20 | you, Ms. Kuhlman. As a reminder, please don't discuss
- 21 | your testimony with anybody until the final order is
- 22 issued.
- THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 24 | HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay? And you are
- 25 excused, then.

```
Mr. Yien, do you want to call your next
 1
 2.
   witness?
            MR. YIEN: You guys okay to continue?
 3
            MS. GRIFA: Yeah.
 4
            MR. LENHARD: Yeah.
 5
            MR. YIEN: Okay. The Division calls Derick
 6
   Dennis.
 7
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Good afternoon,
 8
   Mr. Dennis.
 9
            THE WITNESS: Good afternoon.
10
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: The court reporter
11
   will swear you in, and then we will begin. Please wait
12
13
   for the question to be fully asked. If you don't
   understand the question, do ask for clarification.
14
   Speak up, and always use a verbal response. And if you
15
   need a break, just ask. Do you have any questions?
16
            THE WITNESS: No.
17
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. All right.
18
   Can you please swear the witness in.
19
20
21
                   DERICK DENNIS,
     having been first duly sworn/affirmed by the Reporter,
2.2
23
            was examined and testified as follows:
    ///
2.4
25
    ///
```

DIRECT EXAMINATION 1 2. BY MR. YIEN: Mr. Dennis, can you state your name for the 3 0. record and spell it? 4 Derick Dennis, D-E-R-I-C-K, D-E-N-N-I-S. Α. And what is your position with the Division? 6 Ο. My position is Actuarial Analyst. 7 Α. And how long have you been working with the 8 Q. Division? 9 Two years. Oh. Since 2009 with the Division. Α. 10 Any other past roles you've had with the 11 Division? 12 Yes, I have had multiple past roles. 13 Α. Do you want to talk a little about it? 14 Ο. Sure. I started off as an Accounting 15 Technician. I moved to a Management Analyst One, 16 Management Analyst Two, Management Analyst Three, 17 Actuarial Analyst One. 18 And what kind of training have you had? 19 Ο. I was trained by the Lead Actuary, the Chief 20 Insurance Examiner, as well as internal training 21 procedures. 2.2 23 Q. Okay. And can you briefly tell the court, how 2.4 did you come to know the respondent, how did you begin 25 working on any of their cases or materials?

My first time I spoke with -- about Choice or Α. 1 2. with Victor Mandalawi was in 2013 regarding their renewal. It was not sent to us on time. So I had sent 3 them an email requesting the renewal application. 4 Okay. And did he respond in time? Ο. He did respond. And that took care of that. 6 Α. Okay. In your past dealings with 7 Q. Mr. Mandalawi, did you ever have to tell him to provide 8 9 financial documents, as part of your job duties? Α. Yes. 10 So is he aware that he needs to provide these 11 financial documents with these applications? 12 13 Α. Yes. Have you had a chance to review the two 14 thousand and -- the most recent renewal application? 15 Α. I have not. 16 Oh, okay. If on that application they did not 17 Ο. submit renewal -- or financials, would you consider it 18 complete or incomplete? 19 20 MR. LENHARD: I'm going to object as speculation. He hasn't seen the document. 21 MR. YIEN: I'm asking him for his opinion as to 2.2 23 if there was a --HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Hold on. Hold on. 2.4

25

So, yeah, my understanding is we've moved on

from the question he just asked. 1 2. MR. LENHARD: Right, I understand. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Are you talking 3 about that specific question? 4 MR. LENHARD: Yes, I'm talking about an opinion 5 referencing a document he hasn't seen. If he's going to 6 render an opinion, he's got to see the document first. 7 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Yien --8 9 MR. LENHARD: He's rendering an opinion in a vacuum. 10 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Yeah, hold on a 11 12 second. 13 Mr. Yien, so could you repeat the question. Because my understanding was you moved on from that 14 question once Mr. Dennis answered it, so. 15 MR. YIEN: I actually went back. I'm sorry. 16 Let me try to rephrase. The question I asked was if, in 17 the renewal application, financial documentation was not 18 submitted with that application, if Mr. Dennis would 19 20 consider that application complete. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Right. And I got 21 2.2 that. And then you asked about the two -- the most 23 recent application. 2.4 MR. YIEN: That's the one I'm talking about. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: But he said he 25

hasn't had a chance to review it. 1 2. MR. YIEN: That's correct. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: And so your 3 objection is to this next question? 4 MR. LENHARD: Right. 5 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So I would sustain 6 that objection. Because if you're asking about 7 something he hasn't reviewed, he has no personal 8 9 knowledge. BY MR. YIEN: 1.0 Okay. You work with applications in general? 11 Ο. Α. I used to, yes. 12 13 Q. Okay. If an application was submitted without financials, would you consider it complete or 14 incomplete? 15 Α. Incomplete. 16 Now, you say that you didn't work with the 17 Ο. respondents, you didn't deal with any of the 18 respondents' work until about 2013. But have you had a 19 20 chance to review some of the applications from previous 21 years? I did review the renewal applications from 2.2 23 2012, '13 and '14. 2.4 Ο. Okay. And can I have you, then, turn to Exhibit 4, 2012-2013 application? 25

HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: What exhibit? 1 2. MS. GRIFA: Four. MR. YIEN: It's Exhibit 4. 3 BY MR. YIEN: 4 0. And can you read into the record; what does question three state? 6 Since the last application, has the applicant Α. 7 or any of the officers listed in question one ever -- do 8 9 you want me to read all, (a) through (e)? No just read (d) actually. 0. 10 (d), been fined any state or governmental 11 agency, been fined by any state or governmental agency 12 13 or authority in any matter regarding service contracts? So if the respondent had been fined, would they 14 Ο. have been required to check yes on that box? 15 Α. Yes. 16 And what is the checkmark on this box? 17 Ο. No. 18 Α. May I have you turn to Exhibit 3. And on page 19 Ο. 29 of 39. And under the order section, can you verify 20 21 whether Choice Home Warranty had to pay a fine of \$15,000? 2.2 23 Α. Yes, they did. 2.4 And if you could turn two pages over, on page 31 of 39. When is this document dated? 25

- 1 A. Looks like December 29th of 2011.
 - Q. And who is it signed by?
 - A. Victor Mandalawi.
- 4 | O. And what is his title there?
- 5 A. Representative of respondent.
- Q. Now, going back to that application, Exhibit
- 7 | Number 4, on page one, who's the president, who is the
- 8 president of Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada?
- 9 A. Victor Mandalawi.
- 10 Q. So based on that and the Oklahoma action that
- 11 | we just referenced, was Victor Mandalawi required to
- 12 | check yes on question 3(d)?
- MR. LENHARD: Of Exhibit 4 again?
- MR. YIEN: Yes.
- MR. LENHARD: Okay. Thank you.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 17 MR. YIEN: Did we get his answer in, on the
- 18 | record?

2.

- 19 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- THE REPORTER: Yes.
- 21 BY MR. YIEN:
- 22 Q. Can you turn to Exhibit 2? And, again, read
- 23 | into the record question three. It's on page two of
- 24 three.
- 25 A. Since the last application, has applicant or

- 1 any of the officers listed in question one ever --
- 2 Q. Just (d).
- A. Been fined any state or governmental agency,
- 4 been fined by any state or governmental agency or
- 5 authority in any matter regarding service contracts.
- 6 Q. Can you verify for the record when this
- 7 application was received by the Nevada Division of
- 8 | Insurance?
- 9 A. November 2nd, 2011.
- 10 Q. So if Mandalawi was fined in the year prior to
- 11 | this application, were they required to disclose that?
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. If I could have you turn to Exhibit 1, page 15.
- 14 And under number seven, which is on line 17, can you
- 15 | just read that into the record?
- 16 A. Choice, Choice shall pay a fine in the amount
- 17 of \$10,000 within 30 days of receipt of an invoice from
- 18 | the Commissioner. The payment shall be mailed to the
- 19 California Department of Insurance, Division of
- 20 | Accounting, 300 Capitol Mall, 13th Floor, Sacramento,
- 21 California, 85714.
- 22 Q. And if you could turn the page, page 16 of 16.
- 23 Do you see a signature there on behalf of Choice Home
- 24 | Warranty?
- 25 A. Yes.

- Q. And what is the print of -- whose signature is it?

 A. Victor Mandalawi.
- Q. And what's the date that it's executed, this document?
- 6 A. December 28th, 2010.
- 7 Q. No, there's two dates.
- 8 A. Or --
- 9 Q. And let's make sure we get them both on the 10 record.
- 11 A. There's one that says December 24th, 2010 as 12 well.
- Q. Okay. And so, based on that information that
 you just read, was Mr. Mandalawi required to check yes
 on question 3(d) in Home Warranty Administrator of
 Nevada doing business as Choice Home Warranty's renewal
- 18 A. Yes.

contract?

- 19 Q. Do you consider this a false answer?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. On each of those two renewal applications, I'd like you to verify the email address of Mr. Mandalawi, and if you could read that into the record. So we'll start with Exhibit 2, which is the respondent's
- 25 2011-2012 renewal application. What is that email

```
address?
 1
 2.
             It's VMandalawi@HomeWarrantyAdministrators.com.
             So if the Division were to send something to
 3
    that address, they would expect that it would get to the
 4
    respondent?
 5
        Α.
             Yes.
 6
             And on the renewal application for, what was
        Q.
 7
    it, Exhibit 4, I believe, same thing, can you read into
 8
    the record the email address that Victor Mandalawi
 9
    provides to the Nevada's Division of Insurance?
1.0
             VMandalawi@HomeWarrantyAdministrators.com.
11
             MR. YIEN: I have no further questions at this
12
    time.
13
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Cross-exam?
14
             MR. LENHARD: Yes, thank you.
15
16
17
                        CROSS-EXAMINATION
    BY MR. LENHARD:
18
             Let's go back to -- good afternoon, Mr. Dennis.
19
        Ο.
20
        Α.
             Good afternoon.
             Can you go back to Exhibit 1? We're going to
21
        O.
    kind of work through some of these orders or whatever.
2.2
23
    Okay?
2.4
        Α.
             Okay.
             And so you and I are clear, Exhibit 1 concerns
25
        Q.
```

- 1 | California, right?
- 2 A. Yes, it does.
- 3 Q. Okay. And so I want to be certain you and I
- 4 are on the same page. Can you go to page 16 of the
- 5 exhibit, I believe. The signature of Victor Mandalawi
- 6 under the heading Choice Home Warranty; is that correct?
- 7 A. Correct.
- Q. Who is the entity being fined by the State of
- 9 | California; it was Choice Home Warranty, wasn't it?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. It wasn't Victor Mandalawi individually, was
- 12 | it?
- 13 A. Victor signed the document.
- 14 Q. Right. He signed on behalf of Choice Home
- 15 | Warranty, correct, sir?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. Okay. So Choice Home Warranty's being fined,
- 18 according to Exhibit 1; fair enough?
- 19 A. Correct, yes.
- 20 Q. All right. The licensee or registrant in
- 21 Nevada in Exhibit 2 is HWAN; am I correct?
- 22 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. Now, let's go to 3(a) through (d).
- 24 | that's on page two. I'm sorry, Mr. Dennis. Since the
- 25 | last application, has applicant or any of the officers

- 1 listed in question one ever; then we have the four
- 2 questions, right?
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. And it's your belief that the letter (d), small
- 5 D, was answered incorrectly or falsely; is that correct?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. Been fined in any state governmental agency or
- 8 | authority in any matter regarding service contracts?
- 9 | Victor Mandalawi wasn't fined, was he?
- 10 A. Victor was the president of the company.
- 11 Q. I appreciate that. But he wasn't the one being
- 12 | fined by the state. Do I have to read every page of
- 13 | this?
- 14 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Can you let the
- 15 | witness answer the question?
- 16 MR. LENHARD: I sure will.
- 17 | THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Repeat your
- 18 question.
- 19 BY MR. LENHARD:
- 20 Q. I'll start over. Victor Mandalawi, Victor M.,
- 21 | signed, on behalf of Choice Home Warranty, the order;
- 22 can we agree to that?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Al right. Can we also agree that the entity
- 25 | being fined was Choice Home Warranty?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Now, looking at 3(d): Been fined by any
- 3 | state or governmental agency or authority in any matter
- 4 | regarding service contracts? The applicant on this
- 5 exhibit is HWAN, isn't it?
- 6 A. I'm sorry. Say that again.
- 7 Q. The applicant on this exhibit is HWAN, Home
- 8 Warranty Administrators of Nevada, correct?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. They were not fined in California, were they?
- 11 A. They are not listed on that, correct.
- 12 Q. Okay. Now, this is for clarity's sake. let's
- 13 | go to page one. Question one, which is referenced in
- 14 | question number three; do you see that?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. We're kind of hopping back and forth. It's
- 17 | always difficult. Have there been any changes in the
- 18 executive officers or the officers responsible for
- 19 | service contract business since your last applications?
- 20 Did I read that correctly?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. That's the number one being referenced in
- 23 question number three, isn't it?
- 24 A. I believe, three is referring to (a) through
- 25 (d), and one is referring to the executive officer.

Q. Since the last application, has applicant or 1 2. any of the officers listed in question one ever; then we have four letters, right? 3 Α. Correct. 4 Ο. Did I read that correctly? Correct. 6 Α. I think, you and I can both agree -- if you Q. 7 can't, tell me -- that there was no change in the 8 9 officers of HWAN in 2011, was there? Correct. Α. 10 Now, if we can go to the Oklahoma fine, which 11 is Exhibit 3. And I'm going to ask you to refer --12 well, first of all, the first page shows, one of 39 13 shows State of Oklahoma, ex rel. John D. Doak, I 14 believe, Insurance Commissioner, petitioner, versus 15 Choice Home Warranty, an unlicensed service warranty 16 association. Did I read that correctly? 17 Α. Yes. 18 19 The respondent was Choice Home Warranty, Ο. 20 correct? 21 Α. Yes. Not Victor Mandalawi individually; is that 2.2 Ο. 23 correct? 2.4 Α. That's correct.

25

Q.

Then, if you go to page 31 -- bear with me a

- 1 second. It looks like we have a signature on a
 2 five-page document. Let's get it straight. Go to 27 of
- 3 | 39. I'm sorry. It says "Consent Order"; do you see
- 4 that?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Once again, the petitioner is State of
- 7 Oklahoma, ex rel. John D. Doak, Insurance Commissioner,
- 8 | correct, sir?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And the respondent is Choice Home Warranty, an
- 11 unlicensed service warranty company; is that correct,
- 12 | sir?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And this says "Consent Order," right?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Looks like it's filed-stamped January, I think
- 17 | it's 9th, I'm not sure, 2012?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. Then, if you go to page five, we have a
- 20 | signature of the hearing examiner.
- 21 | HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Which page five,
- 22 Mr. Lenhard?
- MR. LENHARD: You know what, you're correct.
- 24 | Page five on the lower case. It's 31 of 39 on the top.
- 25 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay.

BY MR. LENHARD: 1 2. Ο. I'm sorry, Mr. Dennis, we got too many numbers here. 3 Α. Page 39? Or 31? 4 0. 31 of 39; do you have that, sir? Α. Yes. 6 It looks like there's a notary stamp of some 7 Ο. sort there? 8 9 Α. Yes. Okay. And it's signed by a -- it looks like Ο. 10 the hearing examiner; do you see that? 11 Α. Yes. 12 And then it's signed by Victor Mandalawi as the 13 representative of respondent; is that correct, sir? 14 Α. Yes. 15 Now, if we can go to the next application that 16 we were shown by Mr. Yien. And this is Exhibit 4. And 17 I'm going ask you to look at two of three in number 18 four. 19 20 Α. Question two? Yes, sir. 21 Q. 2.2 Α. Okay.

210

Excuse me. Page two. I'm sorry. It's

question number three. I'm sorry, sir.

23

2.4

25

Q.

Α.

Okay.

- 1 Q. Are you with me?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. Since the last application, has applicant or
- 4 any of the officers listed in question one ever. And
- 5 you said he answered falsely. (d), been fined by any
- 6 | state governmental agency or authority in any matter
- 7 | regarding service contracts? Am I correct, sir?
- 8 A. Correct, yes.
- 9 Q. Now, it's true from looking at the previous
- 10 order, that the order was entered against Choice Home
- 11 | Warranty, an unlicensed service provider, correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Not Victor Mandalawi individually, correct?
- 14 A. Correct, Victor signed off on it.
- 15 Q. As the representative?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Okay. And it's the same question I asked you
- 18 on the last exhibit. If you would turn to one of three.
- 19 Actually, I keep hopping back. I apologize. Three, on
- 20 page two of three, three says "Since the last
- 21 application, has applicant or any of the officers listed
- 22 | in question one"; okay, do you see that?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. Now, let's go back to question one. It's on
- 25 page one. Have there been any changes in the executive

- officers or any officers responsible for service 1 2. contract business since your last application? read that correctly? 3
- Α. Correct. 4
- And in truth and in fact, there had not been any changes to HWAN in that previous year, had there, as 6 far as the officers? 7
- Correct. Α. 8
- Just briefly, Mr. Yien didn't go into this, but I want to be sure that you and I are on the same page on 10 something. It looks like -- and I read. I got to know 11 you very well through your emails. There's a string of 12 emails that you did --13
- Α. Yes. 14
- -- concerning the -- I call it the dba? 15 0.
- Α. Okay. 16

- Or the fictitious name? 17 Ο.
- Sure, yes. 18 Α.
- It appears, and correct me if I'm wrong, that 19 Ο. 20 you were heavily involved, from the department standpoint, in either assisting or guiding my client 21
- through the dba process. If I misstated that, tell me. 2.2 Α. I was involved. I wasn't involved heavily. I
- was involved in making sure that the dba was processed 2.4
- and that the certificate of registration came back to me 25

- 1 and that the new one was issued.
- Q. And in truth and in fact, my clients, at the
- 3 request of the department, again through you, did
- 4 process a dba, didn't they?
- 5 A. They did process the dba. It was not
- 6 through -- well, it came in through me, but I wasn't
- 7 | the --
- 8 Q. I'm not implying you were the one processing
- 9 | it.
- 10 A. Sure.
- 11 Q. I wasn't implying they processed it. But it
- 12 | was you were involved in the request to process?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And there was no pushback from them, was there,
- 15 | they cooperated?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. And they got you the documents you needed, and
- 18 eventually the dba was, in fact, filed with the
- 19 department, correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 MR. LENHARD: Thank you, sir.
- 22 | HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I have one
- 23 question, and then I'll open it to redirect and recross.
- 24 | Can you tell me what makes up a renewal
- 25 application, what goes into it?

THE WITNESS: Yes. So do you mind if I look at 1 2. it? HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Yeah, as long as 3 it's on the record what exhibit you're looking at. 4 MR. YIEN: Just state what exhibit you're 5 looking at. 6 THE WITNESS: Okay. I'm looking at Exhibit 2, 7 which is an older one. And, basically, we just ask for 8 9 updated information. The question three, any updates since the previous one, if there have been any 10 governmental actions or fines or anything like that. We 11 also ask for updated financials regarding the reserve 12 account and the security deposit. We ask for 13 complaints, the gross revenue, claims paid, number of 14 complaints, and a list of their active, or their 15 approved forms. 16 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: And you process 17 applications when they come in? 18 THE WITNESS: Yes. 19 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: 20 So you would -okay. That answered, essentially, what I was looking 21 for. 2.2 23 Any redirect? 2.4 MR. YIEN: Yes, I do have a question. Perhaps 25 two.

REDIRECT EXAMINATION 1 2. BY MR. YIEN: Who is the applicant in Exhibit 2 in front of 3 you; is Victor Mandalawi the applicant? 4 The applicant is the -- Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada is the provider. Victor is the 6 president who filled out the application. 7 Q. So is Victor Mandalawi submitting this 8 application on behalf of Home Warranty Administrator of 9 Nevada? 1.0 Α. Yes. 11 Is he the applicant? 12 Ο. 13 Α. Yes. MR. YIEN: No further questions. 14 15 RECROSS-EXAMINATION 16 BY MR. LENHARD: 17 Wait, wait. Let's back up a second here. Q. 18 You're saying that he -- are you treating Mr. Mandalawi, 19 20 as a corporate officer, as an individual applicant; is 21 that what you're saying? I'm not treating him, no. I don't understand 2.2 23 what you're saying. I just wanted, I just wanted to make sure I 2.4 25 didn't misunderstand your response, sir. The Hearing

- 1 Officer asked a couple questions about the renewal
- 2 process, and that reminded me of something. There were
- 3 times, admittedly, that HWAN, when they would submit
- 4 | their renewals, omitted something or were late; is that
- 5 | fair?
- A. Yes, multiple.
- 7 Q. Because, if I recall correctly, and tell me if
- 8 I'm wrong, you would send email saying, you know,
- 9 gentlemen, you're late on this, I need this
- 10 | documentation; you would try to help?
- 11 A. Yes, I tried to help multiple times, and Victor
- 12 | was nonresponsive most of the time.
- 13 Q. Well, didn't you eventually get most of your
- 14 | information?
- 15 A. I did, with the help of my -- with the help of
- 16 | the Chief --
- 17 Q. All right.
- 18 A. -- of the Property and Casualty, yes.
- 19 Q. What I'm saying is, when you would reach out to
- 20 | try to assist, which is certainly appreciated, if you
- 21 | didn't get the response you wanted, somebody else would
- 22 | reach out, but, ultimately, you got the information you
- 23 | needed?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Will you look at Exhibit Z. This just

arose from another witness. And, admittedly, I'm a 1 2. little bit confused. I'm sorry. Exhibit? Α. 3 Exhibit Z as in zebra. 4 Ο. MR. YIEN: Is this on your exhibits? MS. GRIFA: Yes. 6 MR. YIEN: Let me go get that for you, Derick. 7 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I'm going to grant 8 9 you some leeway, Mr. Lenhard, but this was not in the direct, cross, my questions, or redirect. 10 MR. LENHARD: That's right. 11 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So we're going into 12 13 something totally new here. MR. LENHARD: That's right. And if you tell me 14 I can't, I won't, and I'll just come back later, but. 15 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: We'll just see how 16 relevant it is. Interesting. 17 MR. LENHARD: Sounds like a threat. 18 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Yeah. All right. 19 BY MR. LENHARD: 20 Q. I just am asking about SERFF. You state you 21 2.2 encourage using the electronic form filing process 23 through SERFF; is that correct? 2.4 Α. We do, yes.

25

Q.

And that's a system that your company, your

company, your agency encourages and utilizes? 1 2. Α. Yes. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Hold on one second. 3 Mr. Yien, are you looking for something? 4 MR. YIEN: Yeah, I'm looking for my copy of 5 Exhibit Z. 6 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Oh. Let's not go 7 yet until he has that. 8 MR. LENHARD: Sorry. 9 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I thought you were 10 looking for something else. 11 MR. YIEN: There's six of these, and they're 12 13 everywhere. MR. LENHARD: I thought he was box-wrestling. 14 MS. GRIFA: He is box-wrestling. 15 MR. YIEN: And, of course, it's the one way out 16 in the middle. I'm sorry. Mine, mine aren't tabbed. 17 MR. LENHARD: Do you want mine, Richard? 18 MR. YIEN: Yeah, I think, I can just look over 19 20 your shoulder. MR. LENHARD: Sure, that's fine. 21 MR. YIEN: That's fine, if that works for you. 2.2 23 MR. LENHARD: Ms. Reporter, to save time, could 2.4 you just read back the question. 25 (The Reporter read back as requested.)

```
MR. LENHARD: I was just asking about the SERFF
 1
 2.
   system and whether you --
            MR. YIEN: Oh, okay. I apologize. I was just
 3
   looking for the document.
 4
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I want to make sure
 5
   you have the document to look at this while we're going
 6
   over it.
 7
            MR. LENHARD: That's all I had.
 8
 9
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: And that's all your
   question?
10
            MR. LENHARD: That's all it was.
11
            MR. YIEN: Thank you both.
12
13
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right.
            MS. GRIFA: Thank you very much.
14
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So that was
15
16
   recross.
            And, Mr. Dennis, you are excused. Please do
17
   not, as a reminder, do not discuss your testimony with
18
   anybody until after the final order is issued. And
19
20
   thank you.
21
            THE WITNESS: Thank you.
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Do we need a break?
2.2
23
            MS. GRIFA: (Nodded head affirmatively.)
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Yes. Okay.
2.4
                                                      So we
   will take about a seven-minute break. It is 2:48 right
25
```

```
now.
1
 2
             (A break was taken, 2:48 to 3:01 p.m.)
 3
 4
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right. Back on
 5
   the record.
6
            Okay. So I apologize for the delay. But we
7
   have a few things that I want to go over, some questions
8
9
   that came up. So I said I would address them on the
   record.
10
            Number one, the supplemental exhibits we got
11
   this morning from HWAN, Joanna Grigoriev, apparently,
12
   didn't have a copy. So my clerk has taken it upstairs
13
   so that they can scan a copy to her.
14
            Mr. Jain asked if he could be excused at 3:30
15
   today. And to the extent you'll be -- you'll do your
16
   examination tomorrow?
17
            MR. LENHARD: Yes. And there's a -- I had a
18
   chance to kind of revisit everything over the noon hour.
19
   I would say that the odds are at least 50/50 I won't
20
   recall him at all. And I'll let you know that first
21
   thing in the morning.
2.2
23
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right. So,
   Mr. Jain, you're excused for today.
2.4
            MR. RAJAT JAIN: Thank you.
25
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HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Ghan, Tim Ghan,
 1
 2.
   asked if he could be excused till tomorrow. He's got a
    family medical emergency.
 3
             MR. LENHARD: Of course.
 4
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So he's asked to be
 5
   excused until tomorrow.
 6
             So we'll see you tomorrow, then, Mr. Ghan.
 7
            And then Mr. Dennis asked, if he was done
 8
 9
    completely, if he could be excused from the rest of the
10
   hearing.
             Is that correct?
11
            MR. DERICK DENNIS: Well, I just needed to
12
13
    leave. I don't need to be excused to go home.
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right.
14
                                                     Then,
   does anybody need him again today?
15
            MR. LENHARD: No, he could be excused.
16
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay.
17
             MR. LENHARD: My feelings are hurt that he
18
   doesn't like listening to us.
19
20
            MR. DERICK DENNIS: No, I'm listening.
21
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Fascinating topic.
            And another thing I'd like to bring up to the
2.2
23
   parties today, I want to get a sense if we're going to
   need to continue to Thursday. Because if we do, we have
2.4
   two locations, but we only have our court reporter for
25
```

the morning. And I don't want to have to get a new 1 2. court reporter who's unfamiliar with everything so far. And so we would have to, then, continue Thursday through 3 the morning and then Friday. And I want to get a sense 4 of do you guys think we will need Thursday and Friday? 5 MR. LENHARD: I don't know. 6 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: We can reserve it, 7 and then, just as we get closer, we can cancel it. 8 9 MR. LENHARD: We've sped up a little bit with the last two witnesses. So maybe we're starting to get 10 a little bit of a momentum going. 11 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. All right. 12 MR. YIEN: I'm sorry. I didn't hear what you 13 said. 14 MR. LENHARD: I said maybe we're getting some 15 momentum going here. You know, we got through 16 Mr. Dennis pretty quickly. 17 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So, then, what I 18 will do is we will reserve for Thursday morning and then 19 20 Friday. And then, based on tomorrow afternoon, we'll 21 revisit to get a sense of where we will be Thursday and 2.2 Friday. 23 MR. YIEN: I think, I only have four more 2.4 witnesses. And two I intend to get through today. don't know if that helps you guys to estimate as to how 25

long, how much longer we'll need. 1 2. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: MR. YIEN: But, yeah, that sounds like a plan. 3 MR. LENHARD: I don't anticipate any questions 4 at all for -- is it Ms. Casta? 5 MS. GRIFA: Casci. 6 MR. YIEN: Casci, yeah, and she's actually --7 her testimony is very short. 8 9 MR. LENHARD: I would assume so. And Ms. Strong, we have some questions, but I don't expect 10 it taking hours on end, so. 11 MR. YIEN: Okay. 12 13 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. So, then, I'm going to go ahead and have my clerk reserve 14 everything, have it ready to go. And then tomorrow 15 afternoon we'll revisit to see where we are. 16 Okay. And then, Ms. Renta, my clerk, just 17 brought in some waters. So if you would like some. 18 19 Thank you. 20 MR. LENHARD: Thank you. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: With that, do we 21 have anything else that is not directly related to 2.2 23 witnesses that we need to discuss, now that we are not with a witness on the stand? 2.4 25 MR. LENHARD: Lori, are you all right?

HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right. Mr. Yien, if you will call your next witness, please MR. YIEN: The Division calls Felecia Casci. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Good afternoon. THE WITNESS: Good afternoon. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So the court	
MR. YIEN: The Division calls Felecia Casci. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Good afternoon. THE WITNESS: Good afternoon.	
HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Good afternoon. THE WITNESS: Good afternoon.	
6 THE WITNESS: Good afternoon.	
7 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So the court	
8 reporter will be swearing you in, and then we will	
9 begin. Please wait until the question has been	
10 completely asked of you. And if you don't understand	i
the question, ask for clarification. Speak up, and	ıse
verbal responses. Please don't shrug or shake your l	nead
or nod. And if you need a break, just ask. Okay?	
14 THE WITNESS: Okay.	
15 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Please swear the	ž
16 witness in.	
17	
FELECIA CASCI,	
19 having been first duly sworn/affirmed by the Report	er,
was examined and testified as follows:	
21	
22 DIRECT EXAMINATION	
23 BY MR. YIEN:	
Q. Ms. Casci, can you state your name for the	
25 record and spell it?	

- 1 A. Felecia Casci, F-E-L-E-C-I-A, last name Casci,
- $2 \mid C-A-S-C-I$.
- Q. And what is your position at the Division of
- 4 Insurance?
- 5 A. I am the Supervising Legal Secretary.
- 6 Q. And how did you come to know about this case?
- 7 A. Being the head legal secretary, I work with all
- 8 of the cases, as we assign each secretary to one of the
- 9 cases. And I have helped Mr. Yien with filing some of
- 10 the -- some of the documents.
- 11 Q. Okay. And can I have you turn to Exhibit 27?
- 12 | Can you look through these documents and tell me whether
- 13 or not you recognize them?
- 14 A. Yes, I do.
- 15 Q. And can you describe to the court what they
- 16 | are?
- 17 A. They are emails from Choice Warranty regarding
- 18 offers.
- 19 Q. Okay. And how many of them are there?
- 20 A. Two.
- Q. And who are they sent to?
- 22 A. My personal email address.
- Q. Okay. And that would be?
- A. The FeleciaCasci@gmail.com.
- 25 Q. Okay. Do you see Home Warranty of Nevada

anywhere on the ads? 1 2. Α. No. And were you in Nevada when you received these? Ο. 3 Α. Yes. 4 Are you a Nevada resident? Q. Α. Yes. 6 When did you receive these email ads? Q. 7 I received one on August 21st, 2017 and one on Α. 8 9 August 16th, 2017. Is there sort of a motto on here that Choice 10 Home Warranty has that you can identify, perhaps on page 11 one and page five in the first page of each ad? 12 It says "Never pay for covered home repairs 13 Α. again" on both of them. 14 And on the last page of each ad, so it would be 15 16 page four of nine and nine of nine, for each one, starting with page four of nine, can you read the 17 address that is stated in their advertisement? 18 1090 King Georges Post Road, Edison, 19 Α. New Jersey, 08837. Do you want me to read it on page 20 nine of nine as well? 21 Yes, please do. 2.2 Ο. 23 1090 King Georges Post Road, Edison, Α. New Jersey, 08837. 2.4

MR. YIEN:

25

And I don't believe this exhibit has

been admitted. And I move to admit this as evidence, 1 2. Exhibit 27, on the Division's. It's titled CHW Email Advertisements. 3 MR. LENHARD: No objection. 4 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Exhibit 27 is admitted. 6 (Exhibit 27 was admitted.) 7 MR. YIEN: I have no further questions. 8 9 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Cross-examination? MR. LENHARD: Yeah, just real brief. 10 11 CROSS-EXAMINATION 12 BY MR. LENHARD: 13 Q. Ms. Casci, I'm trying to figure out. You know, 14 I'm not that great on emails sometimes. Where does it 15 show the delivery, the deliver time? It see one of 16 these. 17 On page one of nine, up in the top left-hand 18 19 corner, I guess. 20 Q. Okay. Here it says August 21st, 2017, and that 21 would be the nine-page ad? I believe, there's two separate emails there, 2.2 Α. 23 and there's one on page five of nine. 2.4 Q. Okay. Let me be sure I've got this right. Okay. This is August 16th, which is then five through 25

```
nine; is that right?
1
 2.
        Α.
             Correct.
             All right. So this is on a separate page.
 3
   you were requested, I would assume you were requested --
4
   or did you solicit these ads?
 5
            Not that I'm aware of.
6
        Α.
             Okay. How did they come to you?
        Q.
7
             I have no idea how they came to me. They --
        Α.
8
9
        Ο.
             Well, they came in your email?
             They were in my junk email, correct.
        Α.
10
             Okay. Your spam?
        Ο.
11
            Yes.
        Α.
12
13
             MR. LENHARD: Okay. Nothing further.
             MR. YIEN: Thank you, Ms. Casci.
14
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right.
15
   Reminder, please don't discuss your testimony with
16
   anyone until after the final order is issued. Okay?
17
             THE WITNESS:
                           Thank you.
18
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN:
19
                                         Thank you.
20
             Your next witness, Mr. Yien?
                        The Division calls Mary Strong.
21
             MR. YIEN:
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Good afternoon,
2.2
23
   Ms. Strong.
             THE WITNESS: Good afternoon.
2.4
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN:
                                         The court reporter
25
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will be swearing you here, swearing you in here shortly, 1 2. and then we will begin. Please wait until the question has been asked by each attorney, and then answer the 3 question. If you don't, if you don't understand the 4 questions, ask for clarification. Speak up, and always 5 use verbal responses. Please try to avoid shrugging or 6 nodding or shaking your head. And if you need a break, 7 just ask for it. Okay? 8 9 THE WITNESS: Okay. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Thank you. 10 Can you please swear the witness in? 11 12 MARY STRONG, 13 having been first duly sworn/affirmed by the Reporter, 14 was examined and testified as follows: 15 16 DIRECT EXAMINATION 17 BY MR. YIEN: 18 19 Ο. Ms. Strong, can you state and spell your name 20 for the record? Mary Strong, M-A-R-Y, S-T-R-O-N-G. 21 Α. 2.2 Ο. Ms. Strong, what is your position with the 23 Nevada Division of Insurance? 2.4 Α. I'm a Management Analyst Three. Okay. And can you describe the sort of the 25 Q.

- 1 duties of your position?
- 2 A. I review service contract provider
- 3 applications, renewals, and service contracts that are
- 4 going to be sold in the state of Nevada.
- Q. And how long have you worked with the
- 6 Division?
- 7 A. Four years.
- Q. And can you comment on the training that you
- 9 have?
- 10 A. It's continuous. Every -- it's just
- 11 | continuous. There's always new things coming up, always
- 12 | new situations. Everything's always constantly
- 13 training. And also with the NAIC.
- Q. Okay. And can you just briefly describe how
- 15 you came upon working with the respondent in this case?
- 16 A. The renewal application came to my desk. And
- 17 | there were some conflicting information. So I was
- 18 | instructed by my supervisor to inform him when the
- 19 application came in.
- 20 Q. Did you request information about CHW's open
- 21 | accounts?
- 22 A. Yes, I did.
- Q. And did they initially provide them to you?
- 24 A. No.
- Q. Then, how did you -- did you end up getting

- 1 | them?
- 2 A. Yes, through a subpoena.
- Q. Okay. What about information regarding CHW's
- 4 reserve account; did you ever request information?
- A. Yes, I did.
- 6 Q. And if I could have you turn to Exhibit 33.
- 7 | Was this the email that you sent requesting information
- 8 about CHW's reserve account?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Did they ever reply?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Did you eventually get some information about
- 13 | the reserve account?
- 14 A. Yes, via subpoena.
- 15 Q. Okay. Did you request that they clarify
- 16 | whether it was a sole account dedicated for Nevada
- 17 | consumers?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And did you ever request the account number of
- 20 | the reserve account?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Did they provide either?
- A. Through subpoena, an account number was listed,
- 24 but it was X'd out.
- Q. And did you ever, did you ever get

- 1 clarification from the respondent as to whether it was 2 the sole account for Nevada consumers?
 - A. No.

- Q. Can you read out the email address that you sent this to?
- A. To VMandalawi@HomeWarrantyAdministrators.com.
- Q. And is this the email address that was provided to DOI, to the Nevada Division of Insurance, in the respondent's initial and renewal applications?
- 10 A. Yes.
- Q. Before, another witness had testified about a
- 12 law that requires service contract providers to
- 13 | self-report in events of emergencies. Are you aware of
- 14 | that law as well?
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. And are you the person at the Nevada Division
- 17 of Insurance that would receive such a report?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And has respondent ever submitted any such
- 20 | report?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. Can I have you turn to Exhibit 38? And can I
- 23 | have you review the Consumer Detail of Complaint. It's
- 24 on page one of four.
- 25 A. Okay.

Q. After reading the Consumer Detail of Complaint, 1 2. would you consider that this was an emergency situation that would have required a self-report to the Nevada 3 Division of Insurance due to the emergency? 4 Α. Yes. And, again, you just testified that did you not 6 Ο. 7 receive a report, correct? Correct, I have not. Α. 8 9 MR. YIEN: Okay. That's all the questions I have. 10 11 CROSS-EXAMINATION 12 BY MR. LENHARD: 13 Q. Good afternoon, Ms. Strong. Go back to 14 Exhibit 33, for a second, if you can. This is a -- are 15 you with me? 16 Α. Yes. 17 This is an email that you sent to 18 Mr. Mandalawi, correct? 19 20 Α. Yes, sir. It's dated July 17, 2017, correct? 21 Q. Yes, sir. 2.2 Α. 23 Q. And that was just a couple weeks before this matter was originally scheduled to go to trial, wasn't 2.4 it, or if you know? 25

Α. I don't understand. Trial? 1 2. Ο. Hearing. Oh. Yes. Α. 3 Okay. Now, who asked you to send this email? 4 Ο. My supervisor. Α. 5 And your supervisor is who? 6 Ο. Or my section chief. Excuse me. Rajat Jain. Α. 7 Okay. So Mr. Jain asked you to send this email Q. 8 9 on July 17, 2017, correct? 10 Α. Yes, sir. Were you personally aware that there was 11 litigation and a hearing scheduled and that my clients 12 had counsel? 13 Yes, sir. 14 Α. Okay. Did Mr. Jain ever suggest to you that 15 16 maybe this request should be made to counsel? 17 Α. No, sir. And you never made it to counsel, either, did 18 you, you never made any request to the lawyers, me, for 19 20 instance? No, sir, I don't have your email address. 21 Α. I can represent to you I'm pretty easy to find. 2.2 Ο. 23 You didn't try to find me, did you? HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: 2.4 I'm sorry, but could you refrain from using a commentary. Is there a 25

question in there? 1 2. MR. LENHARD: BY MR. LENHARD: 3 Ο. Did you try to find me? 4 Α. No, sir. Did you try to find my name? 6 Ο. No, sir. Α. 7 You've testified that the bank records were, in Q. 8 9 fact, produced pursuant to a subpoena, right? Α. Yes, sir. 10 Okay. And the subpoena was issued by the 11 department, correct? 12 13 My understanding, yes. And you referred to the fact that there was 14 Ο. certain data, I believe, or information that was 15 redacted; I believe, the account number? 16 Α. Yes, sir. 17 Do you know, as you sit here today, who 18 redacted the account number? 19 20 Α. No, sir. Ms. Strong, one of the exhibits that, I think, 21 Ο. was produced to us through Mr. Yien was a memo you 2.2 23 prepared on June 26th, 2017 to Barbara D. Richardson, Commissioner of Insurance. It's marked as Exhibit S. 2.4 Can you pull that up, please? 25

```
HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Yien, could you
 1
 2.
   check to make sure that --
            MR. YIEN: Yes, of course.
 3
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: -- your witness has
 4
    the --
 5
            MR. YIEN: Is it Exhibit D, dog?
 6
            MR. LENHARD: No, S, S as in Sam.
 7
            MR. YIEN: S. Oh, I totally missed that. Of
 8
 9
   course, it's the last document in this binder.
            MR. LENHARD: Sorry about that.
10
   BY MR. LENHARD:
11
        Q. Do you have S in front of you, Ms. Strong?
12
13
        Α.
            Yes.
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: And, Mr. Lenhard,
14
   if you can wait a moment, since Mr. Yien had to go --
15
            MR. LENHARD: Oh, sure. Sure.
16
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: -- set it up. I
17
   want to give him a chance to get his S.
18
            MR. LENHARD: Sure.
19
20
            MR. YIEN: Thank you. I've got it.
21
            MR. LENHARD: Are you ready to go?
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I'm not. I'm still
2.2
23
   struggling with my binder.
2.4
            Okay.
25
    ///
```

- 1 BY MR. LENHARD:
- Q. I have in front of you, Ms. Strong, Exhibit S.
- 3 This is the memo that you drafted?
- 4 A. Yes, sir.
- Q. Were you requested to draft this memo by
- 6 anybody?
- 7 A. No, sir.
- 8 Q. Okay. It looks like -- I don't understand the
- 9 | language. So help me. It says "To Barbara D.
- 10 Richardson through Rajat Jain, Tim Ghan. What does
- 11 | "through" mean; can you tell me, how does that work?
- 12 A. It means it's reviewed by.
- Q. Okay. And then the fact they initialed this
- 14 document indicates they reviewed it and then a date
- 15 | next to it; is that correct?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Okay. Now, you did the homework or the
- 18 | background work to prepare this document; is that
- 19 | correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Okay. And if I understand correctly what
- 22 | you're stating, there's a misrepresentation by my client
- 23 | in the answer to questions number five of the most
- 24 | recent renewal application; is that correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

- Q. Okay. And the most recent renewal application would have been the one dated November 8, 2016; is that correct?
- 4 A. Yes.
- Q. And, in fact, the department received that renewal application around November 8, 2016; is that correct?
- 8 A. I'm not sure. I'd have to look at the 9 application.
- Okay. If I'm -- I want to be sure I have this 10 right. The last two lines on page one of three reads as 11 follows: Upon review of each renewal application 12 submitted since becoming an approved service contract 13 provider, Choice Home Warranty responded that there has 14 not been any action taken against the company. However, 15 there have been multiple state actions. Did I read that 16 correctly? 17
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. First of all, so you and I are on the same page, the applicant is, in fact, Home Warranty
 Administrators of Nevada; isn't that correct, ma'am?
 - A. No.

2.2

- Q. Dba Choice Home Warranty?
- 24 A. No. The applicant is Victor Mandalawi.
- Q. Let's pull out Exhibit 21. I want to be sure

we're on the same page here. Okay. First of all, the 1 2. first page of Exhibit 21 appears to be a service contract provider application renewal; is that correct? 3 Α. Correct. 4 Okay. And the contact is listed as Victor Mandalawi; is that correct? 6 Α. Correct. 7 The provider name is Home Warranty 8 Administrator of Nevada dba Choice Home Warranty; is 9 that correct? 1.0 Α. 11 Correct. Is that the applicant? 12 Ο. 13 Α. Together they are the applicant. Okay. So you're treating Mr. Mandalawi as an 14 Ο. individual applicant even though he's the president of 15 Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada; isn't that 16 correct? 17 Α. Yes. 18 Now, with that understanding, let's go to the 19 20 back page to ensure we see how it's signed. Okay. Down towards the bottom, Ms. Strong, it's name of service 21 contract provider, Home Warranty Administrator of 2.2 23 Nevada, Incorporated. Did I read that correctly?

Once again, that's the contract provider,

2.4

25

Α.

Q.

Yes.

correct, ma'am? 1 2. Α. Yes. And it's by signature of officer in full. Then 3 there is a horrific looking signature that, I think, is 4 Victor Mandalawi; is that correct? 5 Α. Yes. 6 Let's assume it is for the time being. Below Ο. 7 it is another typed name, Victor Mandalawi, President; 8 is that correct? 9 Α. Correct. 10 Okay. Now, if we can go back to Exhibit S, you 11 list four bullet points for multiple state actions; am I 12 correct, ma'am? 13 Α. Yes. 14 Okay. The first action is Amanda Kernahan 15 0. versus Home Warranty Administrator of Florida, 16 Incorporated dba Choice Home Warranty, May 27, 2016, 17 State of New Jersey. Did I read that correctly? 18 19 Α. Yes. 20 Do you see the term Home Warranty of Nevada in those first two lines? 21 Α. 2.2 No. 23 Q. Okay. The second bullet point, John J. Hoffman 2.4 versus CHW Group, Inc. dba Choice Home Warranty, June 9,

2015, State of New Jersey. Same question, do you see

- the term Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada in those
 two lines?
- 3 A. No.
- Q. Bullet point number three, State of Oklahoma
 versus Choice Home Warranty, February 7, 2014, State of
 Oklahoma. Same question, do you see the term Home

Warranty Administrators of Nevada in those two lines?

8 A. No.

- 9 Q. Finally, State of Washington, Office of
 10 Insurance Commissioner versus CHW Group, Incorporated
 11 dba Choice Home Warranty, January 27, 2010, State of
 12 Washington. Same question, ma'am, do you see the term
 13 Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada in those three
 14 lines?
- 15 A. No.
- Q. Okay. Did you actually read the four documents that are in the bullet points?
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And it's true, is it not, that the term
 Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada does not appear
 in any one of those documents, does it?
- 22 A. No, it does not.
- Q. Do you even know if the first complaint, the first bullet point, is a state action or is an individual lawsuit; can you tell me?

- 1 A. I believe, it's an individual action.
- Q. Okay. Ms. Strong, going back to Exhibit 21 a
- 3 second, please, this appears to be, again, the
- 4 application in November 2016. Did you take any part in
- 5 drafting this document?
- 6 A. Yes, sir.
- 7 Q. Okay. Can you tell me what part you took in
- 8 drafting the document?
- 9 A. Typing it.
- 10 Q. Okay. Well, then, I used the wrong term. And
- 11 | I appreciate you may have done the mechanical work. Did
- 12 | you draft the language of the document?
- 13 A. No, sir.
- Q. Okay. Do you know who did?
- 15 A. Three people.
- 16 Q. Okay. Can you identify them, please?
- 17 A. Rajat Jain, Tim Ghan, and myself.
- 18 Q. What role did you have in preparing Exhibit 21?
- 19 A. Basically, typing it.
- Q. Okay. Well, that's fair enough. Let me ask
- 21 | you it this way. Question number one says: List all
- 22 | aliases or names under which the company conducts
- 23 business, paren, doing business as, close paren, in
- 24 Nevada. Provide supporting documentation filed with the
- 25 | county clerk of the county in which the company is doing

business. You typed that language. I understand that. 1 2. Did you actually prepare the language or write it out, draft it? 3 Α. No, sir. 4 Okay. That would be Mr. Jain and Mr. Ghan? I'm not sure if this particular question was 6 already on the application or if it was a new question. 7 Okay. There is a -- the last exhibit in our Q. 8 9 package, is it GG? Do you have that handy, or can you get that, Ms. Strong? 10 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Lenhard? 11 MR. LENHARD: I'm sorry? 12 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Clarification. 13 Which, it was the last? 14 MR. LENHARD: It's the very last exhibit we 15 submitted, Exhibit GG. 16 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Hold on. 17 person at a time, because we're still on the record. 18 So not the supplement from this morning? 19 20 MR. LENHARD: No. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. So GG. 21 2.2 MR. YIEN: GG. Okay. 23 THE WITNESS: Yes. 2.4 MR. YIEN: Oh, you've got it? THE WITNESS: M-hm (affirmative). 25

```
BY MR. LENHARD:
1
 2.
        Q. Exhibit GG appears to be a revised form of the
   renewal application; am I correct?
 3
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Hold on one second,
 4
   be Mr. Lenhard.
 5
            Mr. Yien, have you found it?
6
            MR. YIEN: Some of mine aren't tabbed. And I
7
   can just stand over the witness, if that's okay with
8
9
   everyone.
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Do you want to take
10
   a minute or two to go through?
11
            MR. LENHARD: Yeah.
12
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: It's one of the
13
   thinner binders.
14
            MR. YIEN: Which binder is it in?
15
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: It's one of the
16
   thinner binders.
17
            MS. GRIFA: It's T to GG.
18
            MR. YIEN: So is it one of three, two of three,
19
   three of three?
20
            MS. GRIFA: It's volume three, exhibits T
21
   through GG. It's the last one.
2.2
23
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Yien?
            MR. YIEN: Yes?
2.4
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Check the binders
25
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behind you on the podium as well. 1 2. MR. YIEN: Okay. MR. LENHARD: He can use mine. I know what it 3 It's no problem. 4 says. MR. YIEN: It's over here. 5 MR. LENHARD: You got it? 6 MR. YIEN: Yeah. 7 MR. LENHARD: Okay. 8 9 MR. YIEN: I've got it. BY MR. LENHARD: 10 Okay. We'll start all over again, Ms. Strong. 11 Do you have in front of you Exhibit GG? 12 13 Α. Yes. Okay. That appears to be a revised form of the 14 service contract provider application, dash, renewal; am 15 I correct? 16 Α. Yes. 17 When was this prepared? 18 Q. August 3rd, 2017. 19 Α. That's in the footer down below; is that 20 Q. correct? 21 Α. 2.2 Yes. 23 Q. Okay. Now, did you type this, also? 2.4 Α. Yes. Who actually took part in drafting this 25 Q.

- 1 document? Drafting being preparing the actual language.
- 2 | I'm sorry.
- 3 A. The section chief, Rajat Jain, my supervisor,
- 4 | Tim Ghan, and myself.
- Q. Okay. Specifically, questions number one and
- 6 two. And I'm not going to read them into the record.
- 7 You can see them. Take a look at them. Do you believe
- 8 | the language in questions one and two were drafted by
- 9 Mr. Jain and Mr. Ghan?
- 10 A. I believe that those have previously been on
- 11 | the applications and may have been in conjunction with
- 12 | the previous section chief. I am not sure who actually
- 13 wrote these questions.
- 14 Q. Okay. If you would look now at question number
- 15 | five, which has, on page two, five, let's say, bad acts
- 16 | that aren't supposed to occur, it says "Since the last
- 17 application, has the applicant or any of the officers
- 18 | listed in question one or two in the last 10 years, " and
- 19 | it lists five things; do you see that?
- 20 A. Yes, sir.
- 21 Q. Do you know who prepared that question, would
- 22 | it be Mr. Ghan and Mr. Jain again?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 | Q. And this would have been, again, in August of
- 25 | 2017, last month?

- 1 A. I believe so.
- 2 Q. Ms. Strong, when you were doing the
- 3 | investigation to determine if there were falsehoods on
- 4 | the November 2016 renewal application, did you ever call
- 5 anybody at HWAN or, for that matter, CHW to ask for
- 6 their explanation as to their answers?
- 7 A. No.
- Q. Were you requested to do that by anybody from
- 9 | the department?
- 10 A. No.
- Q. Earlier today, earlier this afternoon, Mr. Yien
- 12 asked you a question about the July 17 letter you sent,
- 13 | I believe. I'm going to get you a number in just a
- 14 second, or a letter.
- 15 MS. GRIFA: I think, we're going to need the
- 16 very thin binder for the witness. HH. II. I'm sorry.
- 17 MR. YIEN: The witness is -- oh, you got it
- 18 back. Great.
- 19 BY MR. LENHARD:
- 20 Q. Exhibit II, this was sent to Mr. Mandalawi on
- 21 July 21st, 2017; is that correct?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. That was authored by you and directed to him,
- 24 | correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

- Q. Okay. Who instructed you to send this email?
- 2 A. Rajat Jain.
- Q. And this email was sent, if I understand it,
- 4 | because it was the position of the department that the
- 5 registration had not been renewed; is that correct?
- 6 A. Correct.
- 7 Q. Is this the first notification that my client
- 8 | had that their registration had not been renewed, that
- 9 you're aware of?
- 10 A. That I'm aware.
- 11 Q. You're not aware of any other notice being
- 12 | sent, are you?
- 13 A. No.
- Q. And as a result of sending this notice and
- 15 declaring the renewal nonexistent, you also made the
- 16 decision to list my client as inactive on the
- 17 | department's website, didn't you?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. Who made that decision, can you tell me?
- 20 A. Rajat Jain.
- 21 Q. Can you tell me when that decision was made?
- 22 | A. The day the email was sent.
- Q. This email does not state why the renewal has
- 24 | not been treated as renewed, what errors there were on
- 25 | the renewal, does it?

- 1 A. No.
- Q. It just said it automatically expires, in this
- 3 case, I guess, about seven months ago; is that right?
 - A. Approximately, yes.
- Q. So the decision was made to treat this renewal
- 6 as it expired, seven months later, and list on the
- 7 | website for the world to see that my client was now
- 8 | inactive, and that was made by Mr. Jain; is that
- 9 | correct?

- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. I've been asked to ask you about
- 12 | Exhibit J, Ms. Strong. I'm going to represent to you it
- 13 appears to be a computer run, approximately five pages.
- 14 MR. YIEN: Just one second.
- 15 | HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Lenhard, hold
- 16 on one second, please.
- MR. LENHARD: Sure. Sure.
- 18 | HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Thank you.
- 19 And, Mr. Yien, Betsy Gould is here. So she can
- 20 | help with the witness binders.
- MR. YIEN: Okay.
- 22 | HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So that you can
- 23 | concentrate on getting your stuff.
- 24 MR. YIEN: Okay. Thank you.
- 25 | HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: What Exhibit are we

on, Mr. Lenhard? 1 2. MR. LENHARD: We're on J first, and then I'm going to move to another one, and I'll be done. 3 BY MR. LENHARD: 4 Q. Do you have J, Ms. Strong? Α. Yes. 6 Okay. It appears to be a computer run. I 7 Q. think, it looks like it's dated, it looks like it's 8 9 sometime, it looks like, in March 2017? Maybe your eyesight's better than mine. 10 Α. Yes. 11 Okay. Did you do this computer run? Ο. 12 13 Α. No. Do you prepare it? Do you know who did it? 14 Q. Α. No. 15 Ο. Okay. Show me Exhibit -- if you would, 16 Ms. Strong, Exhibit W. 17 MR. YIEN: Sorry. I'm not there yet. 18 MR. LENHARD: No problem. I have more hands to 19 20 help me than you do. MR. YIEN: There in my binders, just they're 21 not tabbed, so. 2.2 23 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Found it? MR. YIEN: Yeah, I tried to make an excuse, but 2.4

it was clearly right in front of me.

HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right. 1 2. Mr. Lenhard. MR. LENHARD: Thank you. 3 BY MR. LENHARD: 4 Do you have Exhibit W, Ms. Strong? Α. Yes. 6 It appears, it appears to be five pages; am I 7 Q. correct? At least it says one of five, two of five? 8 9 Α. Correct. Okay. If you look at the upper right-hand 10 corner of the document, it says "Consumer Complaints"; 11 do you see that? 12 13 Α. Yes. Logged into Nevada Division of Insurance as 14 Mary Strong. So did you do this? 15 Α. Yes. 16 Okay. And it's a listing of various consumer 17 Ο. complaints; is that right? 18 Α. Correct. 19 20 Did you do any homework or make any effort to determine what the status was of these complaints as of 21 the date this document was run? 2.2 23 Α. No. Okay. It looks -- well, so I can understand 2.4 25 the document, go to the very bottom. It looks like we

have the first complaint and Maryam T-A-V-A-K-O-L-I. Do 1 2. you see that? On which page? Α. 3 First page, ma'am, first one. 4 Ο. Α. Okay. Do you see that? 6 Ο. Α. Yes. 7 It says "Status Open"; is that correct? Q. 8 9 Α. Yes. Would that indicate to you that the file was Q. 10 still open? 11 Α. Yes. 12 Okay. Same with the next one? 13 Q. Α. Correct. 14 Ο. Status open, correct? 15 Α. Yes. 16 Then go to the top of the next page. We have 17 Ο. the third one, status open, right? 18 Α. Yes. 19 Now, I want you to go down the rest of this 20 page, the entirety of the next page, the entirety of the 21 next page, and the entirety of the final page. They're 2.2 23 all closed, aren't they? 2.4 Α. Correct. Do you know why they were closed? 25 Q.

- 1 A. No, sir.
- Q. Now, earlier you had testified -- and I may
- 3 have this a little bit fouled up, so. Earlier you had
- 4 testified if there's an emergency situation, the insurer
- 5 or the service provider has an absolute obligation to
- 6 | notify the department within a certain period of time;
- 7 | is that correct?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. And that period of time was what, again?
- 10 A. Three days.
- 11 | Q. Three days. My co-counsel was --
- 12 A. If there's a --
- Q. Parson me?
- 14 A. If there's a situation which renders a home
- 15 unsafe or unhabitable, that they must report to the
- 16 homeowner and the Division.
- Q. Okay. So they have to report to the homeowner;
- 18 | is that correct?
- 19 A. And the Division.
- 20 Q. And which statute are you referring to that
- 21 | they have to report to the Division; do you know?
- 22 A. It's a bulletin, 08, dash, 010.
- Q. So it's not in the NAC?
- 24 A. I believe, it is. But I refer to it through
- 25 | the -- via the bulletin.

- Q. Okay. So there's a bulletin out there that
 says the provider is supposed to report to the Division
 as well as the homeowner. Just for the record, I'm
 looking at NAC 690C.110. Do you think that's the one I
 should be referring to?
- 6 A. I would have to look at the statutes to verify.
- Q. Okay. I'm not going to ask you to do that right now. But as you're sitting here today, so we're on the same page, it's your belief that there is also an administrative code, I'll call it a statutory provision, requiring the same type of notice; is that right, to the homeowner and to the department?
- 13 A. I'm not sure if it's an administrative code or 14 the Nevada Revised Statutes.
 - Q. Okay. Either one, either NRS or NAC?
- 16 A. I believe, there is something --
- 17 | O. As well as the --
- 18 A. -- yes.
- 19 Q. I'm sorry. I talked over you. I didn't mean
- 20 to.

- 21 A. I believe, there is something that the bulletin 22 refers to, yes.
- Q. All right. And what was the date; can you recall the date of the bulletin, ma'am?
- A. When it was issued, I'm not sure, but it's 08,

```
dash, 010.
1
 2.
            MR. LENHARD:
                           Thank you, Ms. Strong.
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I have one
 3
   question, and then we'll go to redirect and recross.
4
            Ms. Strong, you had testified about
   Mr. Mandalawi and Home Warranty Administrators of Nevada
6
   as being part of the applicant. I just want
7
   clarification. Does the Division usually get like
8
9
   individuals that apply, or is it companies, or can you
   explain that a little bit to me?
10
            THE WITNESS: Yes. When an application comes
11
   in, we review who the applicant is, not only the company
12
13
   name, but who is actually applying. The certificate of
   registration is nontransferable. So we, the Division,
14
   look at the company as a whole. The applicant and the
15
   company are one and the same. So whoever is the
16
   primary, president, owner, is what is reviewed.
17
            In the initial application, that's what we're
18
   looking at, is who owns the company a hundred percent.
19
20
   If it comes in, and a corporation owns the warranty
   company, that can change, that can change officers. But
21
   if that company is then sold, we revoke that certificate
2.2
23
   of registration, require a new application with the new
   owners be submitted and completed for verification and
2.4
25
   approval.
```

```
Just because someone comes in and purchases an
1
 2.
   established service contract company does not mean that
    the certificate of registration transfers to that new
 3
   owner. We revoke it, we inactivate them, we make them
4
   establish as a new entity unto themselves.
 5
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Can you explain
6
7
   why?
             THE WITNESS: That means a company that has
8
   been evicted from the state in another company can then
9
   purchase an established company and then try and,
10
   basically, they sneak into the state that way by not
11
12
   being approved.
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay.
13
            THE WITNESS: And that is, basically, to
14
   keep -- it's, basically, a way of keeping track of who
15
   the owners of the companies are and keeping them
16
   accountable for the actions of their company.
17
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. That's all
18
   of my questions.
19
20
            Mr. Yien, do you have any redirect?
            MR. YIEN: I do. My first one sort of
21
2.2
   dovetails, again, on the Hearing Officer's question.
23
   ///
2.4
    ///
25
    ///
```

REDIRECT EXAMINATION 1 2. BY MR. YIEN: So going back to the problem question in each 3 of the renewal applications, sometimes it appears as 4 question five, and sometimes it appears as question 5 four. Do you consider that Mandalawi is the applicant 6 in that question and that he needs to disclose in 7 section (d) whether he had been fined or have had any 8 9 administrative actions taken against him? Α. Yes. 10 Can you go back to the respondents Exhibit II? 11 Part of the respondent's defense is that they 12 never received this. Or perhaps we didn't provide them 13 the proof that they received it. 14 MR. LENHARD: No, we never --15 MR. YIEN: Let me rephrase. Part of the 16 allegations are that the Division never proved that 17 respondents received this. 18 MS. GRIFA: It's not in here. 19 MR. YIEN: 20 I'm pretty sure it's in there. 21 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Let's not argue. 2.2 Do you want to just phrase your question? 23 MR. YIEN: Sure, yes. BY MR. YIEN: 2.4 Can you tell me the address where you sent this 25 Q.

- 1 email to on July the 21st, 2017?
- 2 A. VMandalawi@HomeWarrantyAdministrators.com.
- Q. And do you know the email address that's
- 4 provided by the applicant in each of the renewal
- 5 applications, including the initial application? And if
- 6 you need to review it or go through each one of those,
- 7 | we can.
- 8 A. It's the same address that I have on file.
- 9 Q. Okay. Are you aware of it ever being changed
- 10 | throughout the years?
- 11 A. No, it has not been changed.
- 12 Q. Okay. So if you were to reach out to the
- 13 president of the respondent, you would send something to
- 14 | that email address and expect that it been read?
- 15 A. Correct.
- 16 Q. So I had a question earlier for a different
- 17 | witness that couldn't answer. Perhaps you can, because
- 18 | you had stated that you are the person that receives any
- 19 report when an emergency repair can't be done within a
- 20 | certain amount of time; is that correct?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. Does it matter whether or not the consumer
- 23 | files a complaint with the Nevada Division of Insurance?
- 24 | I quess, my question is whether the consumer files the
- 25 | complaint with the Nevada Division of Insurance or not,

does that affect that time period on when they're 1 2. supposed to self-report? Α. No. 3 MR. YIEN: Okay. That's all I have. 4 5 RECROSS-EXAMINATION 6 BY MR. LENHARD: 7 First, in response to the Hearing Officer's Q. 8 9 question, so we're clear, since you have been involved in the renewal applications of HWAN, there's been no 10 transfers, have there, no sales, no transfers of the 11 12 company? Α. 13 Correct. Okay. So you and I are on the same page. 14 appears -- sometimes lawyers miscommunicate. It's just 15 the nature of the beast. We are not claiming you didn't 16 send this and we didn't receive Exhibit II. Okay? 17 18 Α. Yes. I will acknowledge on the record that it was 19 20 received by my client. So that should put that issue to 21 bed, assuming it is an issue. That said, your complaint, well, your complaint 2.2 23 on the renewal was you thought that the renewal application submitted sometime, and I would say sometime 2.4 in November 2018, 2016, excuse me, was somehow 25

- 1 | incomplete or false; is that correct?
 - A. Can you state that again, please?
- Q. It wasn't very well put, so I'm going to try it
- 4 again. Let's look at II. The certificate of
- 5 registration automatically expires as a matter of law.
- 6 As such, the status in Nevada is inactive. Do you see
- 7 | that?

2.

- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Okay. The reason it expired was because there
- 10 was something wrong in the renewal application in
- 11 | November; is that correct?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 | Q. Okay. And what Mr. Yien has asked you about is
- 14 | question 5(d) on Exhibit 21; isn't that correct? And
- 15 | that's -- do you have Exhibit 21 in front of you?
- 16 A. I do.
- Q. And he asked you whether Mr. Mandalawi should
- 18 | have responded to 5(d) with a yes; is that correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. And it's your belief he should have; is that
- 21 | right? Do you understand my question? Maybe I should
- 22 rephrase it.
- A. Could you rephrase it, please.
- 24 O. Okay. Is it your belief that Mr. Mandalawi
- 25 | should have answered 5(d) with a yes rather than a no?

- 1 A. Yes, given the facts that I received.
- Q. Right. And that would be what happened in the
- 3 | New Jersey consent order; is that correct?
- 4 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. Now, question five says "Since the last
- 6 application, has the applicant or any of the officers
- 7 | listed in question one ever"; do you see that?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. So it refers to question one, doesn't it,
- 10 Ms. Strong? First of all, does it refer to question
- 11 | one?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 | Q. And question one reads as follows, does it:
- 14 List all aliases or names under which the company
- 15 | conducts business, doing business as, in Nevada.
- 16 | Provide supporting documentation filed with the county
- 17 clerk of the county in which the company is doing
- 18 business. Did I read that correctly?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. There's no reference to officers or anything
- 21 | else, is there; there's reference to a dba and nothing
- 22 else; isn't that correct?
- 23 A. Correct.
- 24 MR. LENHARD: Thank you very much, Ms. Strong.
- MR. YIEN: I think, it would be better if I --

can I have a few more questions for this witness? 1 2. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: MR. YIEN: I think, it would be better if I 3 went through each of the renewal applications. And I'm 4 sorry, this is going to be a tedious effort. But to 5 clarify the questions that I had asked Ms. Strong in 6 advance, before. 7 8 9 RE-REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. YIEN: 10 Just to state again, you stated that you 11 believe Mr. Mandalawi is the applicant; is that correct? 12 13 Α. Yes. Okay. And in question -- let's start with the 14 first renewal application. 15 MS. GRIFA: Can I have the exhibit number, 16 17 please? MR. YIEN: Yes. Let me find it. So let's go 18 to Exhibit 2, the 2011-2012. 19 20 MR. LENHARD: Mr. Yien, before you ask the question, let me note my objection. I think, she's been 21 employed with the department for four years. So she 2.2 23 would have only been involved with renewal applications 2.4 for four years at the most. Is that correct? I don't know. You can ask her that 25 MR. YIEN:

- 1 on recross.
- 2 MR. LENHARD: No, I'm objecting. I think, it's
- 3 beyond the scope of her direct knowledge.
- 4 | MR. YIEN: I haven't asked a question yet.
- MR. LENHARD: I'm referring to -- go ahead.
- 6 BY MR. YIEN:
- 7 Q. So if you could go to Exhibit 2. And perhaps I
- 8 should build a foundation. You worked on these
- 9 applications and in the drafting of these applications?
- 10 | I think, that's already been established.
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Okay. And, again, you consider Victor
- 13 Mandalawi to be the applicant?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. On Exhibit 2, it's question three. Can you
- 16 | read the question?
- 17 A. Ouestion two?
- 18 Q. Question three.
- 19 A. Since the last application, has applicant or
- 20 | any of the officers listed in question one ever.
- 21 | Q. And then just go straight to (d).
- 22 A. Been fined by any state or government,
- 23 governmental agency or authority in any matter regarding
- 24 | service contracts?
- 25 Q. Now, if the applicant, Mr. Mandalawi, had been

- fined in any state or government agency or authority in any matter regarding service contracts since the prior application, would he have to check yes on that question?
 - A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. Let's go Exhibit 4, 2012-2013 service
 contractor provider renewal application. Can you read
 question three? It appears on page two of three.
 Again, just in reference to D. So just read the
 question and D.
 - A. Since the last application, has applicant or any of the officers listed in question one ever, (d), been fined by any state or government agency or authority in any matter regarding service contracts?
 - Q. And as you consider Mr. Mandalawi to be the applicant, should he have checked yes to this answer if he had been fined by any state or government agency or authority in any matter regarding service contracts?
- 19 A. Yes.

12

13

14

15

16

17

- Q. Let's go to Exhibit 5, the 2013-2014,
 respondent's renewal application. Can you read question
 three again in that application?
- A. Since the last application, has applicant or any of the officers listed in question one ever, (d), been fined by any state or governmental agency or

- 1 | authority in any matter regarding service contracts?
- Q. And if Mr. Mandalawi, the applicant, had been
- 3 | fined, should he have checked yes on that question?
- 4 A. Yes.
- Q. Exhibit 7, 2014-2015 application?
- 6 A. Since the last application, has applicant or
- 7 any of the officers listed in question one ever, (d),
- 8 been fined by any state or governmental agency or
- 9 authority in any matter regarding service contracts?
- Q. And, for the record, that question is question
- 11 | four now, correct, it's different?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. But it's pretty much the same question?
- 14 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. And Victor Mandalawi, as president, on
- 16 the first page, is the applicant. Would you consider
- 17 | that you would have to check yes to that answer if he
- 18 | had been fined within the past year? Or since the last
- 19 | application? I'm sorry.
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. So would you consider a no answer to be
- 22 | false?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. In all of the applications that I just went
- 25 over with you?

```
Α.
            Yes.
1
 2.
            MR. YIEN: I don't believe I have any other
   questions right now.
3
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Recross?
 4
 5
                     RE-RECROSS-EXAMINATION
6
   BY MR. LENHARD:
7
        Q. I apologize, Ms. Strong, as we keep going back
8
9
   and forth. I promise I'm not going to go through every
   one of these again. But go to Exhibit 2, please.
10
   just want to be certain I understand your testimony. Do
11
   you have it in front of you, ma'am?
12
        Α.
13
            Yes.
            MR. LENHARD: Do you have it, Mr. Yien?
14
            MR. YIEN: I do. Thank you.
15
   BY MR. LENHARD:
16
            The provider name is Home Warranty
17
        Ο.
   Administrator of Nevada, Inc., right?
18
        Α.
            Yes.
19
20
        Q.
            The contact is Victor Mandalawi, president,
21
   correct?
        Α.
2.2
            Yes.
23
            On page three, the name of the corporation is
   Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada, Inc.
2.4
   signature of the officer in full is Victor Mandalawi; is
25
```

that correct? 1 2. Α. Yes. Are you testifying here today that since 3 Mr. Mandalawi signed this application as the president 4 of this corporation, he is a personal applicant; is that 5 what you're telling us? 6 As a sole owner of the company, yes. Α. 7 Okay. I just want to be sure for the record. Q. 8 9 Since he is the sole stockholder and the president and sole officer and director, you're treating him as a 10 personal applicant as well as a corporate applicant, 11 that's the position you're taking; is that correct, 12 13 ma'am? Α. Yes. 14 And that's true for each one of these 15 applications; is that correct, ma'am? 16 Α. Yes. 17 Okay. Have you -- has that position been 18 discussed -- I don't want to hear about your counsel. 19 20 Has that position been discussed internally within the department, what you just testified to? 21 Α. 2.2 Yes. 23 Q. With Mr. Jain? 2.4 Α. Yes. Okay. And Mr. Ghan? 25 Q.

Α. Yes. 1 2. Ο. So if I ask them to testify here and ask them this question, it's your belief they will also say, 3 since Victor Mandalawi signed as the president of the 4 corporation, a corporation that he's the sole member of, 5 he's also an individual applicant; is that your belief, 6 ma'am? 7 Yes. Α. 8 9 MR. LENHARD: Thank you very much, Ms. Strong. THE WITNESS: M-hm (affirmative). 10 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: We're done? 11 MR. YIEN: Yeah. 12 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. 13 MR. LENHARD: Believe it or not. 14 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Ms. Strong, just as 15 a reminder, please do not discuss your testimony from 16 today until after the final order is issued in this 17 matter. Thank you. 18 MR. YIEN: How are you guys doing? 19 20 MR. LENHARD: We're fine. MS. GRIFA: We're fine. 21 2.2 MR. LENHARD: It's always easier when you're 23 crossing. 2.4 MR. YIEN: So by that theory, I'll have a better day tomorrow. 25

HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So one second. Ιt 1 2. is 4:07 p.m. I have to leave by 5:00 o'clock. Just my life right now. 3 So how are we on witnesses? Do you think we 4 can call one and get them done today, or what are you 5 thinking, Mr. Yien? 6 MR. YIEN: I had intended to call Mr. Ghan. 7 MR. LENHARD: He is here. 8 9 MR. YIEN: And so I don't know if you care to mix it up, if you think you can get one of yours done 10 within an hour. 11 MS. GRIFA: Mr. Hakim and Mr. Mandalawi will be 12 very lengthy witnesses. So I think that we'll prefer to 13 wait. 14 MR. YIEN: Yeah, and I had actually instructed 15 our other witness that he would likely testify tomorrow. 16 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: How many witnesses 17 do you have left? 18 MR. YIEN: Two, I believe. 19 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Ghan. 20 MR. YIEN: No, Mr. Ghan and Mr. Hall. 21 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Hall. 2.2 Mr. Hall's testimony expected to be lengthy? 23 2.4 MR. YIEN: Yes, he's going to -- yes, he has to talk about each of the regulatory actions involved, and 25

```
there's quite a few.
                          So.
 1
            MR. LENHARD: Is he going to be describing what
 2.
   happened in California, et cetera, et cetera; is that
 3
   what we're talking about?
 4
            MR. YIEN: Yes.
            MR. LENHARD: All right.
 6
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Well, then, shall
 7
   we adjourn for the day?
 8
            MS. GRIFA: I suppose.
 9
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay.
10
            MR. LENHARD: It sounds like we're guaranteed
11
   to go into Thursday, doesn't it?
12
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: A little bit, yes.
13
            We're going to start tomorrow morning at 9:00.
14
            All right. Well, then, let's just start
15
   promptly tomorrow morning. If you guys want to leave
16
    things here, we can. Is that easier for you?
17
            MS. GRIFA: Yes, it's an awful lot to carry.
18
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right. So with
19
    that, we will break until tomorrow. The time is 4:09.
20
   And we'll start at 9:00. Thank you.
21
            MR. LENHARD: Thank you.
2.2
23
              (The Hearing adjourned at 4:09 p.m.)
2.4
                              -000-
25
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1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
2	
3	I, SHANNON L. TAYLOR, a Certified Court Reporter, Nevada CCR #322, do hereby certify:
4	That I was present at the Department of Business
5	and Industry, Division of Insurance, 1818 East College Parkway, 1st Floor Hearing Room, Carson City, Nevada, at
6	9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 12, 2017, and commencing at 9:11 a.m. took verbatim stenotype notes of the first
7	of three days of a Hearing had upon the matter captioned within, Cause Number 17.0050;
8	That the witnesses were duly sworn/affirmed by
9	me to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth;
10	That I thereafter transcribed the aforementioned
11	stenotype notes into typewriting as herein appears, and that the within transcript, consisting of pages 1
12	through 271, is a full, true and correct transcription of said stenotype notes of said Hearing.
13	DATED: At Carson City, Nevada, this 28th day of
14	September, 2017.
15	
16	SHANNON L. TAYLOR
17	Nevada CCR #322, RMR
18	
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2 0	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	

1	STATE OF NEVADA					
2	DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY					
3	DIVISION OF INSURANCE					
4	BEFORE HEARING OFFICER ALEXIA M. EMMERMANN					
5						
6	-000-					
7						
8	IN THE MATTER OF Cause No. 17.0050					
9	Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada, Inc. dba Choice Home Warranty,					
11	Respondent.					
12						
13						
14						
15	HEARING					
16	Wednesday, September 13, 2017					
17	9:00 a.m.					
18	Carson City, Nevada					
19	(Videoconferenced to Las Vegas)					
20						
21						
22						
23	REPORTED BY: SHANNON L. TAYLOR, CCR, CSR, RMR					
24	Certified Court, Shorthand and Registered Merit Reporter Nevada CCR #322, California CSR #8753, Idaho CSR #485					
25	(775) 887-0472					

]

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2			
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6			
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15			
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24			. 2002 Manam
25			
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17			_	
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19				
20				
21				
22				
23				
2 4				
25				

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CARSON CITY, NEVADA, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2017,
 1
 2
                            9:00 A.M.
                              -000-
 3
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: The time is
 4
    9:00 o'clock. Are we ready to go on the record?
 5
            MR. LENHARD: Yes.
 6
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right. Good
 7
   morning, everyone. I don't think we need the
 8
 9
    formalities of introduction for the record, since it's a
   continuation from the hearing in Home Warranty
1 0
   Administrator of Nevada doing business as Choice Home
11
   Warranty, Cause Number 17.0050.
12
13
            Mr. Yien, you were still on stage. Are you
   ready to proceed with your next witness?
14
            MR. YIEN: Yes, we are.
1.5
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay.
16
            MR. YIEN: The Division calls Timothy Ghan.
17
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Good morning,
18
   Mr. Ghan.
19
20
            THE WITNESS: Good morning.
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: The court reporter
21
   will swear you in shortly, and then we will begin. If
2.2
23
    you could wait until the question's been asked
2.4
    completely before answering. That way, we don't have
25
    two people speaking over each other. If you don't
```

understand the question, ask for clarification. Please 1 2 speak up, and always use a verbal response. Don't shrug your shoulders or nod your head. It makes it difficult 3 to capture in the transcript. And if you need a break, please let us know. 5 THE WITNESS: Will do. 6 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. Please swear 7 the witness in. 8 9 TIMOTHY GHAN, 10 having been first duly sworn/affirmed by the Reporter, 11 was examined and testified as follows: 12 13 DIRECT EXAMINATION 14 BY MR. YIEN: 15 Q. Good morning, Mr. Ghan. 16 Good morning. 17 Α. Could you state your name and spell it for the 18 record. 19 20 Α. Timothy Scott Ghan, T-I-M-O-T-H-Y, S-C-O-T-T, G-H-A-N. 21 Q. And what is your position at the Nevada 2.2 23 Division of Insurance? A. I'm the Assistant Chief in Property and 2.4 25 Casualty.

Q. And how long have you worked with the Division? 1 2 Well, the first time was about four and a half years, that was going back almost some 24 years ago, 3 where I was hired initially to do the IT, which I did 4 for about a year and a half and then moved over to the 5 casualty actuarial section. I'll go in between and then 6 get to where I am currently. But I left the Division to 7 go over to the State Industrial Insurance System where I 8 9 worked as an actuary doing workers' compensation for 10 about six years. And then I moved on to two years as Executive Branch audit for the State of Nevada. After 11 that, I became an independent agent for about 12 years. 12 13 And after that, I decided to come back to the state, when I saw an opening in the Property and Casualty 14 Section, as an Actuary Two. And I believe it was 15 16 July 7th, 2015, I moved up to the Assistant Chief. So. Quite a long time with the Division? 17 Q. Α. Yes. 18 19 Can you tell the court about your training 20 and/or education? I have an AA in construction technology. 21 Yes. I have a BS in economics and a master's degree in 2.2 23 applied economics. I also have property/casualty, life, 2.4 health and variable annuity licenses that are currently 25 inactive, when I came back to the Division. And I also

- have a C-20 and C-43 license in heating, ventilating,
 air conditioning and sheet metal.
- Q. And, Mr. Ghan, how did you come to start
 working on this case or work with the respondent's
 matter?

7

8

9

1 0

11

12

13

- A. When I became Assistant Chief, I started to supervise the position of staff involved with the information that was, basically, coming out on a claims document that came by my desk, which showed the number of claims that Choice Home Warranty had incurred over a period of time, and they were, from what I saw in the document, leading the industry by a substantial amount.
- Q. Had you at any point reviewed respondent's renewal applications?
- A. I have reviewed it after Mary had received it,

 and we had some discussion concerning some of the things

 that were in the application.
- Q. Okay. And do you consider an application to be any book, report or statement?
- A. I consider it to be the statement because of
 the fact that it is an attestation to the facts provided
 in the application.
- Q. Okay. And if I could have you turn to
 Division's Exhibit 7. And do you recognize that
 document?

- 1 A. Yes, I do.
- 2 Q. And what is it, can you describe it?
- MS. GRIGORIEV: I'm sorry. Which exhibit? I
- 4 | can't hear Richard.
- 5 MR. YIEN: Division's Exhibit 7.
- 6 MS. GRIGORIEV: Seven. Okay. If you can speak
- 7 | up, Richard. I'm having a hard time hearing you.
- 8 MR. YIEN: Okay. I will. I'll try.
- 9 MS. GRIGORIEV: Thank you.
- 10 BY MR. YIEN:
- 11 Q. Can you describe that, who's the applicant and
- 12 | what year, when was it submitted to the Nevada Division
- 13 of Insurance, or when was it signed perhaps?
- 14 A. The provider name that it was submitted under
- 15 | is Home Warranty Administrators of Nevada, Inc. dba
- 16 | Choice Home Warranty. It was submitted and signed by
- 17 Victor Mandalawi on November 12th of 2014.
- 18 Q. Okay. Are you aware that CH -- or CHW was
- 19 fined by Oklahoma in February of 2014?
- 20 A. Yes, I am.
- 21 Q. And would they have been required to disclose
- 22 | that fine under question 4(d)?
- A. In my opinion, it should have been disclosed.
- 24 Q. Okay. And if I could have you -- wait. Let me
- 25 | see here. I think, it should be on the record where we

- 1 have that fine. If I could have you turn to Exhibit 3,
- 2 page 31 of 39. I'm sorry, 29 of 39 first. And under
- 3 | that order, is there, do you see a fine?
- 4 A. Yes, \$15,000.
- Q. And then let's go 31 of 39. Is there a date
- 6 there as to when this fine was assessed?
- 7 A. Yes. It's dated, well, the Final Order on the
- 8 | 31st day following the receipt of the order. Witness my
- 9 hand and official seal this 29th day of December of
- 10 2011.
- MR. YIEN: Okay. If I could have a moment,
- 12 | Madam Hearing Officer.
- 13 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Yes.
- 14 BY MR. YIEN:
- 15 Q. So I made a mistake. I actually was referring
- 16 to the wrong regulatory order. So let's go to the same
- 17 \mid exhibit, and still on Exhibit 3, and page four of 39.
- 18 | In paragraph three, is there a fine there?
- 19 A. Yes, \$10,000.
- 20 Q. Okay. And then let's go to page five, the next
- 21 page. And when is that dated?
- 22 A. This is dated the 7th day of January, 2014.
- 23 Q. 2014, right?
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25 Q. Okay. And let's go to the first page of

Exhibit 3. Who's this case against? 1 2 Choice Home Warranty, an unlicensed service warranty association. 3 Okay. And you just testified that Victor 4 Q. Mandalawi had signed as a representative. Did you? 5 No. Let's go to 31 of 39. Victor Mandalawi, a 6 representative --7 MR. LENHARD: I'm sorry. What page? I'm 8 9 sorry, Mr. Yien. MR. YIEN: 31 of 39. 10 MR. LENHARD: Thank you. 11 BY MR. YIEN: 12 13 0. And did Victor Mandalawi sign as a representative of the respondent? 14 15 Α. Yes, he did. Q. Okay. I think, I got it. Let's go to 27 of 16 17 39, too. And who's that case against, State of Oklahoma 18 versus? Choice Home Warranty. 19 Α. Okay. So should Victor Mandalawi have 20 disclosed the 2014 fine in his 2014-2015 application? 21 As a representative, yes, it should have been 2.2 23 disclosed, in my opinion. Under question 4(d)? 2.4 Q.

25

Α.

Yes.

- Q. So do you consider his question under question 2 4(d) as no to be false?
 - A. False or misleading.
- 4 Q. Okay. And you can --
- 5 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Yien, when you
- 6 talk about 4(d), what are you referencing?
- 7 MR. YIEN: I'm referencing 4(d) on the
- 8 application. So that would be Exhibit 7. That is the
- 9 renewal application of Home Warranty Administrator of
- 10 Nevada signed by Victor Mandalawi on November the 12th,
- 11 2014.

- 12 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I got it. Thank
- 13 you.
- MR. YIEN: Okay. And question 4(d) appears on
- 15 page two of four.
- 16 BY MR. YIEN:
- 17 Q. Mr. Ghan, would you consider that a violation
- 18 of NRS 686A.070, falsifying a material fact in the
- 19 | statement?
- 20 A. Yes, I would.
- 21 Q. And did you review respondent's 2015-2016
- 22 | application?
- 23 A. Yes, I did.
- 24 Q. Can you turn to Exhibit 12? And do you
- 25 recognize that document?

- 1 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Is it the respondent's 2015-2016 service
- 3 | contract provider renewal application?
- A. Yes. You said the -- pardon me. Would you
- 5 repeat that, the 20 --
- 6 Q. 2015-2016 application?
- 7 A. Yes.
 - Q. When was it submitted by Mr. Mandalawi?
- 9 A. It was submitted November 17th, 2015.
- 10 Q. Okay. Let's go to page two of four. Question
- 11 four.

- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. Can you read the question four and as it
- 14 applies to (d)?
- 15 A. Since the last application, has applicant or
- 16 any of the officers listed in question one ever, (d),
- 17 been fined by any state or governmental agency or
- 18 | authority in any matter regarding service contracts?
- 19 Q. And are you aware of a fine from the State of
- 20 | New Jersey from the year preceding that application?
- 21 A. Yes, I am.
- 22 Q. So should the respondent have checked yes on
- 23 | that answer?
- 24 A. In my opinion, yes.
- Q. And would you consider the no answer on that

- page to be false? 1 2 False, misleading. And is that a violation of NRS 686A.070, 0. 3 falsifying material fact in a statement? 4 Yes, it is. Α. 5 Let's, for the record, turn to the New Jersey 6 action, which is Exhibit 6. And can you just read the 7 first sentence of the press release on page one of 43? 8 Α. It says: Newark, Edison-based CHW Group, Inc., 1 0 which does business as Choice Home Warranty, has agreed to pay the state \$779,913.93 including consumer 11 restitution, revise its business practices, and retain a 12 13 compliance monitor for at least one year under a Final Consent Judgment resolving the lawsuit brought by the 14 New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs in July 2014 1.5 against the company and its current and former 16 principals, Victor Mandalawi, Victor Hakim and, if I 17 pronounce it right, David Seruya. 18 Okay. And if you'd turn to page 30 of 43. 19 Q. $D \cap$
- Q. Okay. And if you'd turn to page 30 of 43. Do
 you see a signature there from Victor Mandalawi?
- 21 A. Three of them, yes. Or actually, no, just one.
 22 I'm sorry.
- HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I'm sorry.
- 24 Mr. Yien, what page are you on?
- MR. YIEN: It's 30 of 43 on Exhibit 6.

HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Thank you. 1 2 BY MR. YIEN: And there's actually two? 3 Α. Two. 4 And I'm just referring to the first one. is it dated by Victor Mandalawi? 6 5-21-2015. Α. 7 Okay. So this was in the year preceding the 8 9 2015 renewal application? Correct. Α. 10 So he should have disclosed this on that 11 application, this fine? 12 13 In my opinion, yes, 4(d) should have been marked no on the application. 14 1.5 Okay. And just to clarify --Ο. Pardon me. May I correct that, 4(d) should 16 have been marked yes on the application and not no. 17 Okay. And it was marked no? 18 Q. Correct. 19 Α. 20 Q. Right. And that is a false answer? Correct. 21 Α. For the record, too, under his signature, what 2.2 Ο. 23 is his title? A. President. 2.4 Q. Of who? 25

- A. And it says CHW Group, Inc. dba Choice Home
 Warranty.
 - Q. And can you, for the record, read the address?
- A. The address is 1090 King Georges Post Road,
- 5 Edison, New Jersey, 08837.
 - Q. Do you happen to recognize this address?
- 7 A. From recent documents, yes.
- Q. And would you say it's the same address as the respondent's address? We can verify that later.
- 10 A. I can't guarantee that, because there's several addresses that are submitted, so.
- Q. Okay. So in both the 2014-2015, 2015 and 2016 applications, do you consider that Victor Mandalawi was an applicant?
- 15 A. Yes.

- Q. And as an applicant, was he required to disclose that fine?
- A. I would believe that he should have, because
 he's attesting to the fact of not only himself but the
 corporation as well, which he's president of.
- Q. Have you had an opportunity to review respondent's most recent renewal application?
- 23 A. Yes, I have.
- 24 Q. Okay. And do you consider it complete?
- 25 A. No, I do not.

- 1 Q. And why not?
- 2 A. A few reasons. Number one, again, the question
- 3 | number four, it's marked no, in the application, the
- 4 4 (d) question. And do you have a copy of it, by any
- 5 | chance?
- 6 Q. I do, yes. I'm sorry. I should have. So the
- 7 | most recent application is, it's Division's Exhibit 21,
- 8 titled 2016-2017 Service Contract Provider Renewal
- 9 Application.
- 10 A. And in this application I was referring to
- 11 | 5(d). Hold on. Yes, 5(d), not 4(d).
- 12 The other issues with the application was that
- 13 | it did not have submitted at the same time as the
- 14 | renewal application the security deposit based on prior
- 15 | year's premiums that were received. It also did not
- 16 | have financial statements submitted with it. There was
- 17 | information missing at the bottom under 9.F., basically
- 18 | referring to number of customer complaints by Nevada
- 19 residents for the calendar year 2014 and calendar year
- 20 2015.
- And if you look up above, in item D, if using
- 22 | financial security option two, complete the following,
- 23 | the dates are not consistent. And I do not know why
- 24 | they're not consistent as they had been in past filings.
- 25 | I did not know if it was a typo. So the accuracy is in

- 1 question on that document.
- 2 And, therefore, I felt it was incomplete.
- Q. And do you consider respondent to be operating
- 4 | without a certificate in Nevada at this date?
- 5 A. Currently, yes, because the renewal was not
- 6 processed.
- 7 Q. Are you aware if the Division had requested
- 8 open contracts from the respondent?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. At some point in it time?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. Okay. And did the Division initially receive
- 13 | those contracts?
- A. I don't remember initially receiving them, at
- 15 | least in a format that was something that we could work
- 16 with.
- 17 Q. Okay. But did you eventually receive some of
- 18 them?
- 19 A. Yes, we did receive for the period that you had
- 20 requested in the subpoena.
- Q. Was it a rather large file?
- 22 A. It was. There was open contracts, about
- 23 12,390.
- 24 Q. Okay. And did you have the opportunity to
- 25 review all of those contracts?

- A. I didn't review them all. I, basically, did
 some search on them just to find out the commonalities
 between them and to see if the contracts were
 consistent.
- Q. And can I have you turn to Exhibit 37? And is this sort of a -- can you describe it; is it a sample of one of the contracts you had reviewed?
- A. Yes, it's one of them that was printed from the document that was submitted.
- Q. And based on your review of all the contracts, is it close to, relatively the same, the same, in your opinion?
- A. It's close, but it's not what was approved by the State of Nevada.
- Q. It was not what was approved by the State of Nevada?
- 17 A. No.
- MS. GRIFA: Excuse me. I don't think we have
- 19 | 37.
- MR. YIEN: Oh, you don't have 37?
- MS. GRIFA: Can we have a copy, can we have a
- 22 copy perhaps?
- 23 MR. YIEN: Sure. It's one of the --
- 24 MS. GRIFA: We're not saying you didn't serve
- 25 | it. We just want some type of copy.

MR. YIEN: Sure, yes. 1 2 MS. YVONNE RENTA: Do you want me to go and make a copy real quick? 3 MR. YIEN: No, it's okay. I'll just... 4 MS. GRIFA: Maybe just borrow it. 5 MR. YIEN: Yeah, the witness has his own. 6 Perhaps I can just stand over the witness. 7 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: We can make a 8 9 photocopy. MR. LENHARD: I was going to say, I just need 10 to cross him with it, and if we can do that, that's 11 fine. 12 13 MR. YIEN: I'll just hand it over on cross; is that okay? 14 MR. LENHARD: Yeah, that's fine. 1.5 MR. YIEN: Okay. 16 MS. GRIFA: Apologize for the interruption. 17 MR. YIEN: Oh, no worries. 18 MR. LENHARD: We just couldn't find it. 19 Thanks, Richard. 20 BY MR. YIEN: 21 Q. Okay. So Exhibit 37 was one of the contracts 2.2 23 that the respondent had provided to the Division? 2.4 Α. The Division per the subpoena, yes. Per the subpoena. Okay. And you had just 25 Q.

- 1 testified also that it was not the approved contract by
 2 the Division?
- A. It is not. Which would mean it's not in compliance with NAC 690C.100.
- Q. Okay. So let's turn to the contract that was approved by the Division, then, which is somewhere; 35, Exhibit 35. And do you recognize that document,
- 8 Mr. Ghan?
- 9 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Is that the contract that was approved by the Division?
- 12 A. Yes, it was, July 19th, 2012, I believe.
- Q. Okay. And you had just testified that there's a violation here because the contract they're using is not the same as the contract approved by the Division?
- 16 A. Correct.

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- 17 Q. And can you tell me how so?
 - A. Well, going back to NAC 690C.100, it basically states that a contract provider will not issue, sell or offer for sale a contract that has not been approved by the Division. Okay. In item 2(a) and (b), I believe, going to the best of my recollection, it basically talks about the application that has to be submitted and disclosed and all documents pertaining to it, and then also the contract and all documents pertaining to it.

In this situation, there's been some changes. 1 2 For the most part, it's similar. However, when you go down to the coverage plan, while Nevada was given a plan 3 called the Gold Plan, I could not find the Gold Plan in any documentation that was submitted to the subpoena. 5 And I also checked records to see if we had ever been 6 7 notified of any change, and I could not find or locate 8 anything regarding this matter. 9 Secondly, the address in this document, which was approved, said 510 Thornall Street, Edison, 1 0 New Jersey. The address in the new one, which you 11 referred to a few minutes ago in the other exhibit, was 12 13 1090 King Georges Road, I believe, or Post Road, or something to that effect. 14 The other thing is -- and that's also on page 1.5 one and on page two at the very top where it says this 16 agreement is administered by Choice Home Warranty 17 Administrators, 510 Thornall Street. That's what was 18 approved. Aside from the last thing, which is the form 19 2.0 number, which is down on the bottom right-hand corner of the form, which is HWA, hyphen, NV, hyphen, 0711. 21 when a document has been approved, the intent is for 2.2 23 that form number to be consistent throughout all forms submitted to the public, for identification. 2.4

25

Q.

Can you comment on the policy as to why the

Division insists that service contractor providers use a
certain approved form?

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- A. So that we know what's been filed, so that we know what's being delivered to the public, so that we know that we can protect the public by looking after the documents that are out in the public.
- Q. And so is there a danger to the public, then, if somebody's using a form other than the one that was approved by the Division?
- A. There is when the company doesn't provide that information to the Division, because then the Division is unaware of these type of circumstances.
- Q. And I'm sorry. Did you state that this was a violation of a statute or a reg?
 - A. This is Nevada Administrative Code 690C.100.
 - Q. Okay. Moving on, part of the respondent's defense is that CHW and HWAN, as they refer to the title, are separate entities. Can I have you turn to Exhibit 3? And if you could at the same time sort of keep Exhibit 37 open, so we can compare the two.
 - A. And I'm sorry. What page number?
- Q. So it would be Exhibit 3. And it's hard with this binder because there's so many pages in between.

 But it's Exhibit 3, which is the Oklahoma regulatory action. Do you have a copy? I apologize. I didn't --

```
MR. LENHARD: Which? I'm sorry.
 1
 2
            MS. GRIFA: Exhibit 3. No, we have it.
   have it. Thank you.
 3
             MR. LENHARD: What page is it?
 4
             MS. GRIFA: Oh, I'm sorry. What page?
 5
   BY MR. YIEN:
 6
        Q. So it's Exhibit 3, which is the Oklahoma
 7
   regulatory action. And on Exhibit 3, it's page 21 of
 8
    39. And if you recall, the Oklahoma action was against
   Choice Home Warranty. The Division's position is that
1 0
    Choice Home Warranty and the respondent are one and the
11
    same entity. Can you compare the contract they're using
12
    in Nevada with the exhibit in the Oklahoma action and
13
    tell me what similarities you see?
14
            Yes. Again, this one, of course, is called the
1.5
   Total Plan in this document, where the one that was
16
    approved in Nevada was the Gold Plan.
17
            I'm sorry. I'm sorry. I'd like you to compare
        Q.
18
    the Exhibit 37, which is --
19
            Is it 37 or 35?
2.0
        Α.
            No, 37.
21
        Q.
2.2
        Α.
            Okay.
23
        Q.
            37 is one of the --
2.4
        Α.
            Right.
             -- contracts that the respondent provided to
25
        Q.
```

- the Nevada Division of Insurance in response to the
 subpoena.
- 3 A. Okay.
- Q. Now, they claim that these, Choice Home
 Warranty and Home Warranty of Nevada, are different
 entities. So I'd like you to compare the similarities
 now between these two documents. Because this is the
 Oklahoma action in Exhibit 3, which applies to Choice
 Home Warranty. And Exhibit 37 is something from the
- 11 A. They're very similar.

respondent, Home Warranty of Nevada.

- Q. Okay. Can you describe the logo on the upper left-hand corner; are they the same?
- A. Yes, it's the same four walls with a door and a window.
- 16 Q. Okay.

- 17 A. And it says "Choice Home Warranty" next to it.
- Q. Okay. And can you take a look at the content in the letter, and carefully just read, you know, to yourself, the paragraphs in each one? Do you see any
- 21 differences?
- 22 A. No, I don't.
- Q. What's the phone number listed on the third paragraph?
- 25 A. 888-531-5403. It's the same phone number.

- 1 Q. It's consistent between the two documents?
- 2 A. Correct.

- Q. And the website on the lower right corner of the last paragraph?
- A. It is the same, www.ChoiceHomeWarranty.com.
- Q. What about the phone number way on the bottom, lower right-hand corner?
 - A. Same telephone number.
- 9 Q. Okay. So the exhibit in the Oklahoma

 10 regulatory action is nearly identical to the respondent,

 11 Home Warranty of Nevada doing business as Choice Home
- 12 Warranty's contract that they provided to the Nevada
- 13 Division of Insurance?
- A. Correct, aside from the phone, or not the phone
- 15 | number, but the address. The address at the bottom
- 16 of -- pardon me. The address at the bottom on page 21
- 17 of 39 in Exhibit 3 basically has the 510 Thornall
- 18 Street. And the address submitted by Choice Home
- 19 | Warranty in Exhibit Number 37 on the first page is the
- 20 | 1090 King Georges Post Road.
- Q. Okay. Are you aware if respondent had ever
- 22 moved locations?
- A. I'm totally unaware. I haven't seen
- 24 | documentation come across that would support that.
- MR. YIEN: Sorry, Madam Hearing Officer. If I

- 1 | could just have a moment.
- 2 BY MR. YIEN:

12

13

14

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2.0

21

- Q. In comparing those two, would you think that they were from the same company?
 - A. On the face, yes.
- Q. Okay. Mr. Ghan, have you had a chance to review the respondent's prehearing statement?
 - A. Yes, I have.
- 9 Q. And is there anything suspicious about it or
 10 about the numbers that they report, after having
 11 reviewed that document?
 - A. There was a few things that stood out. On the first page, I believe, going off my recollection, there was a number of claims stated to be 69,849, I believe. And on page four, similar, aside from there was apparently a typo there, to be the 69,849. And it says that those are service requests. And then, when you go to page nine, it says again that the 69,849 are claims. Which I find a little ironic because of the fact that when you go through and look at the applications, what
- 22 was claims of like six and nine, or something to that

we were provided with initially in the first few years

- 23 effect. And then we weren't given any claims
- 24 information whatsoever on Nevada claimants.
- So I really had nothing to go to compare to.

```
However, when you go to look at the total contracts,
which I was able to estimate there's somewhere around
maybe 26,000, maybe more by now, the fact that they have
it in there at 69,849 claims seems substantially off,
for any company to have that many claims as compared to
contracts.

The other thing was that they had cited in
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there a .01 percent. Which if you're looking at the 60 claims that are being stated as being, you know, filed with the Division of Insurance -- which, I might add, most individuals don't file with the Division or have knowledge that they should file with the Division, for that matter. If you were to take that percentage based on just what was submitted to the Division from consumers and the public, then that might be close to being correct.

However, when I went through the subpoena document, I found, in the open claims information that was requested in the subpoena, some 1,615 open claims. And that was for the period, I believe, of July 1st, 2016 through July 1st of 2017, or something of that nature.

So it just doesn't add up that there's that many claims that have existed with this company since 2010 when they first reported six and nine. So. 2010

- 1 or '11. I can't remember exactly.
- 2 Q. Okay.
- 3 A. In their application, so.
- Q. So that, what is it, 0.01 percent, that's based on the number of complaints filed with the Division of
- 6 Insurance?
- 7 A. Correct.
- Q. And that's used to calculate the percentage
 of -- what is it, of claims?
- 10 A. Total claims, I guess, that have supposedly
 11 been submitted to the Division alone.
- 12 Q. But you're saying there's more claims out 13 there?
- A. Absolutely.
- Q. Okay. And so would you consider that misleading or a distortion?
- A. It appears to be, on both, actually. Because I received nothing else to confirm, when looking at past applications, that those claims were actually filed.

 And 69,000, almost 70,000 seems somewhat awkward,
- 21 especially when every claim that we get from any other
- 22 carrier has a unique identifier to it. And it is
- 23 misstated in being claims on page one of nine but
- 24 service request on page four. So I don't know.
- Q. And you're distinguishing between service

requests and claims? 1 2 Correct. A service request would be a person calls in and asks a question. That's not a claim. 3 Q. Okay. Okay. Moving on, did at some point in 4 time, did one of your staff do a Google search and find 5 some news reports about the respondent? 6 A. Yes. I had asked one of my staff to Google 7 out, and as Mr. Jain had as well, to go out and research 8 9 the Internet and see what they could come up with, if 1 0 there was anything out there. Q. Okay. And did you get a chance to review what 11 the information that came back? 12 Yes. 13 Α. And can I have you turn to Exhibit 19? And was 14 1.5 that one of the news reports that had been uncovered? Α. Yes, it was. 16 MR. YIEN: The Division moves to admit 17 Exhibit 19 into evidence. 18 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Any objection, 19 Mr. Lenhard? 20 MR. LENHARD: In light of the past rulings, no. 21 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right. 2.2 Exhibit 19 is admitted. 23 (Exhibit 19 was admitted.) 2.4 /// 25

```
BY MR. YIEN:
 1
 2
        Q. And was there a corresponding video to this,
    that you're aware of?
 3
        Α.
            Yes, there was.
 4
             MR. YIEN: Okay. And the Division -- I don't
 5
   know, Madam Hearing Officer, if the video is therefore
 6
   also admitted, because this is just a document of what
 7
 8
   the video is. Do I need to separate --
 9
            MR. LENHARD: Is this the transcript of the
   video?
10
            MR. YIEN: It's not in its entirety. So the
11
   video contains a little bit more. So, I guess, I'm
12
13
   requesting that the video be admitted.
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I didn't hear any
14
1.5
   foundation laid for the video. My understanding was it
16
   was just the written portion. So if you could just lay
   a foundation for that.
17
             MR. YIEN: Sure.
18
   BY MR. YIEN:
19
20
             So part of that research that your staff did,
    they uncovered -- did they uncover a video?
21
            Yes.
2.2
        Α.
23
        Q.
            And was there a few videos?
2.4
        Α.
             There was a few videos, yes, about four videos.
            Okay. About four videos?
25
        Q.
```

Α. Correct. 1 2 Okay. Can you quickly, then, take a look at exhibits 19, 20, 39 and 40? 3 MR. LENHARD: 20, 39, 40? 4 MR. YIEN: Yes, that's correct, 19, 20, 39 and 5 40. 6 THE WITNESS: Yes. 7 BY MR. YIEN: 8 9 Q. Are these the videos that you are referring to? Yes, it is. Or yes, I am. 10 Okay. And do the hard-copy exhibits reflect 11 what the videos are or reflect generally what the video 12 is of? 13 14 Α. A generalization, yes. MR. YIEN: Okay. The Division moves again to 15 16 admit exhibits 19, 20, 38 and 39 and the accompanying 17 video into evidence. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Yien, 38 is 18 already in evidence. 19 MR. YIEN: I'm sorry, 39 and 40. So it's --20 here, let me do that again. 21 BY MR. YIEN: 2.2 23 Q. Mr. Ghan, did you just review exhibits 19, 20, 39 and 40? 2.4 A. Yes, I did. 25

Q. And did you just testify that those news 1 2 reports were the result of an investigation by some of your staff? 3 Α. Yes. 4 MR. YIEN: Okay. The Division moves to admit 5 exhibits 19, 20, 39 and 40 and the accompanying video 6 into evidence. 7 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Lenhard, do you 8 9 have any objection? MR. LENHARD: Well, I do. Normally -- well, 1 0 let me ask. How do you want me to do this, Ms. Hearing 11 Officer? Madam Hearing Officer. Excuse me. The way 12 13 I've been taught is I am allowed to voir dire the witness for his foundation. Do you want me to do that 14 now or on cross-examination? 15 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I think, it'll be 16 sufficient on cross-examination. 17 MR. LENHARD: All right. 18 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I mean the question 19 20 is, you know, if he relied on it. If he looked at it as part of their investigation, then it would kind of make 21 sense to me to admit it. 2.2 23 MR. LENHARD: Yeah, I'll defer to you on that. 2.4 You know the questions I'm going ask. I've asked them 25 before. It's no secret.

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HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay.
 1
 2
            MR. LENHARD: If you want to do it that way, I
   won't, I won't object.
 3
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So do you want to
 4
   handle it on cross-examination, then?
 5
            MR. LENHARD:
                           That's fine.
 6
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay.
 7
            MR. LENHARD: I just want to be sure that you
 8
 9
    understand I have some foundational question I'll be
10
   raising.
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. All right.
11
   Well, for now, they are admitted. That's exhibits 19,
12
   20, 39 and 40.
13
             (Exhibits 19, 20, 39 and 40 were admitted.)
14
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Yien, the
15
16
   videos that accompany these.
17
            MR. YIEN: I'd like to play them for the
   Hearing Officer.
18
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: These were the ones
19
20
   that you --
            MR. YIEN: They're already on, they should be
21
2.2
   on the computer.
23
            MR. LENHARD: How long are they going to take,
   Richard?
2.4
25
            MR. YIEN: I believe, they're -- they're short.
```

They're from like from a local news broadcast, little 1 2 segments. MR. LENHARD: I'm familiar with them. 3 MR. YIEN: So they might be, I don't know, four 4 to five minutes each, give or take. 5 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So you want to 6 7 watch them now? So I'm going to give you, Mr. Yien, the mouse and the keyboard. 8 9 For a mere moment, I have a question of the court reporter for functionality. We're going to have 1 0 this off the record. 11 (There was a discussion off the record.) 12 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So back on the 13 record. Okay. Thank you. 14 All right. So we've figured out how we're 1.5 going to move forward with the video evidence. 16 So Mr. Yien, please proceed. 17 MR. YIEN: Okay. So, for clarity, we'd like to 18 move that the accompanying video to exhibits 19, 20, 39 19 2.0 and 40 be admitted as their own separate exhibit, and then we'll move to admit them independently of 19, 20, 21 39 and 40. 2.2 23 I need the mouse to match them up. 2.4 MS. YVONNE RENTA: It's right there. I just put it there. 25

```
MR. YIEN: Okay.
                               Thanks.
 1
 2
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Do you know what
   you're going to identify?
 3
            MR. YIEN: Yeah, that's what I'm trying to
 4
    figure out right now. So let me see.
 5
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Here, how about I
 6
   make it easier for you, just do 19-A, 20-A, 39-A and
 7
    40 - A?
 8
 9
            MR. YIEN:
                      Okay. So 19-A is the video I'm
   going to play now. And I move the court to admit as
1 0
    evidence the current video. And, I believe, opposing
11
    counsel may object on foundation grounds after the
12
13
   video's played.
            MR. LENHARD: I think, what I had agreed to was
14
    that we made it subject to my cross-examination.
15
            MR. YIEN: Okay.
16
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Right, that's my
17
   understanding, too. But because now we've separated the
18
19
    exhibits, I'm going to want your -- your cross will deal
2.0
    with the videos only, not with the paper exhibits?
21
            MR. LENHARD: Oh, no, no. I'm going to cross
2.2
   him on everything. And I'm assuming you're admitting
23
    these. And I'll just cross. And I can always move to
2.4
    strike the exhibits, or whatever, later.
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN:
25
                                         Okay.
```

MR. LENHARD: Okay. Does that work for you? 1 2 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Works for me. Okay. Go ahead, Mr. Yien. 3 MR. YIEN: Okay. So is this properly admitted 4 as Exhibit 19-A, Madam Hearing Officer? 5 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: 19-A, 20-A, 39-A 6 and 40-A have been admitted. And Mr. Lenhard will 7 address each on cross. 8 9 (Exhibits 19-A, 20-A, 39-A and 40-A were marked and admitted.) 1.0 MR. YIEN: Great. Okay. So let's play the 11 first video. 12 13 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: One second, Mr. Yien. 14 Mr. Grigoriev, are you able to see the video 1.5 and hear it? 16 MS. GRIGORIEV: Right. I see something, but. 17 Okay. 18 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right. Thank 19 20 you. MS. GRIGORIEV: I see the page that you're on, 21 2.2 so. 23 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. And if you 2.4 could keep it on mute, because when the video plays, 25 it's going to feed back to us. So it'll be annoying.

```
MS. GRIGORIEV: Yeah, I do keep it on mute. I
 1
 2
   do.
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right.
 3
                                                      Thank
 4
   you.
             (Played video.)
 5
             MR. YIEN: I'd like the witness to testify
 6
 7
   about something in here. So I'm not going to play it in
 8
    its entirety, but I'm going to pause it at a certain
 9
   point.
            MR. LENHARD: Which exhibit are you on now?
10
            MS. GRIFA: 19-A.
11
            MR. LENHARD: Still the same one?
12
13
            MS. GRIFA: 19-A, yes.
            MR. YIEN: Yeah, it's the Click2Houston. So
14
    that would be 19-A. And I apologize that we have to see
1.5
    this commercial.
16
            (Played video.)
17
   BY MR. YIEN:
18
           Okay. Mr. Ghan, in this news report, do you
19
20
    see a Better Business Review, does it show a Better
   Business Review report there?
21
            Yes, it does.
2.2
        Α.
23
        Q.
             That the newscaster is referring to?
2.4
        Α.
            Yes.
            And what is the phone number?
25
        Q.
```

- 1 A. 888-531-5403.
- Q. If you could go to Exhibit 37 again. That's
- 3 one of the contracts that the respondent is using in
- 4 Nevada?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What's the phone number on the lower right-hand
- 7 | corner?
- 8 A. 888-531-5403.
- 9 MR. YIEN: Exhibit 20-A is from Chicago, NBC
- 10 Chicago.
- 11 (Played video.)
- MR. YIEN: I'm pausing here at mark 39, or at
- 13 | 49 seconds.
- 14 BY MR. YIEN:
- 15 Q. Mr. Ghan, can you read the phone number on the
- 16 | lower right-hand corner?
- 17 A. I can see the 888-531-5. It looks like 403,
- 18 but I can't really tell.
- 19 Q. Okay. Are the first six digits the same as the
- 20 | first six digits in the contract?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. What about the logo and the title of the
- 23 company; is it the same as Exhibit 37, the contract that
- 24 | the respondent is using?
- 25 A. Yes, same.

(Played video.) 1 2 MR. YIEN: Exhibit 39-A will be the next video that I'm going to play. 3 BY MR. YIEN: Ο. Well, I've clicked on it. And at the beginning of this report, there's a phone number. Mr. Ghan, can 6 you read that phone number into the record? 7 Yes, it's 888-531-5403. Α. 8 9 And can you describe the logo and comment as to whether it appears to be the same logo that the 1 0 respondent is using in their Nevada contracts? 11 It appears to be exactly the same logo. Α. 12 MR. YIEN: Well, it looks like this video 13 either is no longer available, or. 14 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Yien, there's a 1.5 notice at the bottom. 16 MR. YIEN: Oh, okay. 17 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I can't read it. 18 MR. YIEN: Okay. The video will not play in 19 20 the browser you are using. Okay. You know, we'll just let Exhibit 39 on 21 paper speak for itself and not rely on Exhibit 39-A. 2.2 MR. LENHARD: Is 39-A withdrawn? 23 MR. YIEN: We could just strike 39-A. There's 2.4 no accompanying video. 25

Well, no. I'm sorry. I'd like to keep 39-A 1 2 admitted, and because it, Mr. Ghan had testified that it was the same phone number on the news link that the 3 respondent uses in the Nevada contracts, if that's okay 4 with the Hearing Officer. 5 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Do you want to 6 7 watch the video? Because I thought the notice said something about the browser. So I don't know if that's 8 9 what the problem is. MR. YIEN: Yes, it did. I mean do you want me 10 to? I didn't want to delay. 11 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: What browser is 12 this? 13 MR. YIEN: This is Internet Explorer. And so 14 it says we don't have the current version. But if 1.5 there's Chrome or Firefox, I can go there, Chrome or 16 Firefox. 17 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I don't know. 18 Click All Programs. You could go to the bottom left, 19 2.0 All Programs. It's at the bottom left. It may not be 21 there. MR. YIEN: Thanks for trying. But, yeah, it's 2.2 23 fine. There's sufficient. There's still another one. 2.4 And there's a hard copy of it. But I do want it on the record that Mr. Ghan had testified after we clicked on 25

the video that the phone number for the Choice Home 1 2 Warranty that they were investigating is the same phone number that the respondent uses in their Nevada 3 contracts. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. And, Mr. Yien, as I see it in Exhibit 39, it looked like the 6 link you pulled up is what you have as Exhibit 39. 7 MR. YIEN: Okay. 8 9 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: And that it looks like that document with that phone number and logo that 10 Mr. Ghan testified about is there. 11 MR. YIEN: Oh, is there. 12 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So I don't know if 13 you think the video still --14 BY MR. YIEN: 1.5 Perhaps I'll just ask Mr. Ghan to, if you can 16 read the phone number on the top of Exhibit 39? 17 Α. Yes. It's 888-531-5403. 18 MR. YIEN: That's all I need. That's fine, 19 2.0 Madam Hearing Officer, to just strike Exhibit 39-A. 21 not going to rely on it or use it. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right. 2.2 23 is, then, withdrawn or stricken. (Exhibit 39-A was withdrawn.) 2.4 25 MR. LENHARD: However you want to do it.

MR. YIEN: And this is Action 9 News in 1 Florida. It's Exhibit 40-A. 2 (Playing video.) 3 BY MR. YIEN: 4 Q. Can you read that, that sort of phrase that this company they're investigating uses, if you can read 6 it? 7 A. Never pay for coverage home repairs again. 8 9 (Playing video.) BY MR. YIEN: 10 So based on your testimony and your review of 11 their applications, Mr. Ghan, and some of the other 12 information -- I know you've been sitting in the 13 audience throughout these hearings -- do you consider 14 that the respondent's actions are deceptive? 1.5 Α. Yes, I do. I feel that they're misleading. 16 Do you feel, do you have an opinion as to 17 Q. whether they're suitable to conduct business in the 18 state of Nevada? 19 20 I think, the suitability is questionable 21 because of the issues that we have observed, not only with the applications, not only with, you know, a number 2.2 23 of complaints I've seen that have come in, but just on 2.4 other things that I have seen. And I understand you have to take everything with a grain of salt. 25

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there's a lot of salt out there, so.
 1
 2
            MR. YIEN: Thank you, Mr. Ghan.
             I have no further questions for the witness.
 3
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Cross-exam?
 4
             Do you need a break?
 5
             THE WITNESS: If I could have a couple minutes
 6
 7
   to stand up and stretch, if that's okay.
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Yeah, let's do
 8
    that. We're off the record.
 9
10
            (A break was taken, 10:08 to 10:14 a.m.)
11
                             * * * * *
12
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Are we ready to get
13
   back on the record?
14
            MR. LENHARD: Yes.
1.5
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Are you ready?
16
            MR. YIEN: Yes.
17
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: All right. Back
18
         Thank you.
19
   on.
20
             MR. LENHARD: Can I go ahead?
21
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Lenhard,
2.2
   certainly.
23
             MR. LENHARD: Thank you.
2.4
             MR. YIEN: I'm sorry. Madam Hearing Officer,
   if I could, before, during the break, some of the staff,
25
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one of the staff in the audience had approached me. 1 And 2 they're uncomfortable because they have overheard counsel making disparaging remarks about them, something 3 like they get paid for sitting around doing nothing. And that, it makes them uncomfortable. They're public 5 servants. They work at the Nevada's Division of 6 Insurance. If the Hearing Officer could just ask 7 counsel not to make those types of remarks. 8 9 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I would hope that we're all adults and professional here. So I don't want 1 0 to engage in any he-said-she-said debate during this 11 hearing. So just as a reminder, I expect everybody to 12 13 be professional. I hope I don't hear a complaint about something like this again. 14 But I do want to say, you know, keep our time 1.5 focused on the matter at hand. And thank you for 16 letting me know. And we will just continue, but. 17 MR. LENHARD: Very briefly in defense of my 18 19 side, there is always banter amongst counsel and joking 20 among counsel. If someone took that in a different way, 21 I apologize. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Thank you. 2.2 23 MR. LENHARD: Because it's -- anybody who knows 2.4 me and my practice knows that I have a sense of humor, 25 and I tend to have a gallows humor at times, and I tend

to joke around. And if someone's heard something out of 1 2 context, like I said, I feel bad about that. I do not mean to be disparaging. But here, these are serious 3 proceedings. And I'm sure these are civil, civil servants that are doing their job to the best of their 5 ability. 6 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Thank you. 7 MR. LENHARD: May I proceed? 8 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Yes, please 9 proceed. 10 MR. LENHARD: Thank you. 11 12 CROSS EXAMINATION 13 BY MR. LENHARD: 14 Q. We got off track, Mr. Ghan. I'm sorry. Good 1.5 morning. How are you today? 16 A. Good. How are you doing? 17 Q. Well, I'm here. Let's start, if we can, with 18 the TV videos we just saw and kind of work backwards. 19 20 Okay? 21 A. Sure. And the first one, if I recall, we saw was 2.2 Q. 23 19-A, which was the video of -- I'm not going to put the 2.4 video up again. But it was coming out of Houston. 25 that right, sir?

- 1 A. Correct.
- Q. And that was brought to your attention by some
- 3 of your staff people?
 - A. Correct.

- Q. Investigators or whatever. And you looked, I
 assume you reviewed or saw the TV presentation before it
- 7 | was played here today?
- 8 A. Correct.
- 9 Q. All right. Now, at any time, did you contact
- 10 anybody from that Houston TV station to verify their
- 11 | representations?
- 12 A. No, I did not.
- Q. All right. Did you have anybody from your
- 14 | staff contact anybody from the Houston TV station to
- 15 | verify their representations?
- 16 A. No, I did not.
- 17 Q. Did you ask anybody from your staff to contact
- 18 | the investigators on behalf of the Houston TV station to
- 19 | find out how they happened to investigate the claims
- 20 | that were presented in this TV presentation?
- 21 A. No, I did not.
- 22 Q. Did you review the contract that was the
- 23 | subject of the claim in the Houston TV presentation?
- 24 A. No, I did not.
- 25 Q. There was a reference, and I'm reading my

notes, and if I'm wrong, correct me. There was a 1 2 reference to a vendor actually going to the home in Houston; do you recall that? 3 Α. I believe so. 4 Okay. And if I misstate it, let me know. Did you at any time have any of your people or did you 6 contact that vendor? 7 No, I did not. Α. 8 There's a reference in the Huston TV clip to a 9 "hundreds of complaints." Did you verify whether these 10 complaints were in Houston or nationally? 11 No, I did not. Α. 12 13 There was a reference also to there being a reimbursement in the Houston clip; do you recall that? 14 Α. Yes. 1.5 Did you verify whether that reimbursement 16 occurred? 17 No, I did not. 18 Α. Did you verify the circumstances of the 19 Q. 20 reimbursement? No, I did not. 21 Α. 2.2 Okay. If we can go on to Exhibit 20, paren, A, Q. 23 I believe, that's Chicago. And if my notes are -- well, first of all, is that correct? I'm sorry. I need to 2.4 25 ask a question. I believe, that's Chicago; is that

correct, sir? 1 2 Α. I believe so. Okay. And in the Chicago clip, there was 3 reference to a preexisting condition; do you recall that, or something along that line? 5 Preexisting condition mentioned, yes. 6 Yes. And did you verify, in your 7 Q. investigation, whether in truth and in fact there was a 8 9 preexisting condition in Chicago? No, I did not. Α. 10 Did you verify what repairs were attempted, if 11 any, on behalf of the service provider? 12 No, we did not. 13 Α. There's a reference to hundreds of policies not 14 Q. being paid off in the video clip; do you recall that, 1.5 16 sir? Α. Yes. 17 Did you verify whether those hundreds of 18 policies were national or local? 19 20 Α. No, I did not. Did you verify whether they're Cook County, 21 2.2 Dupage County? 23 Α. No, I did not. If we could go on to 40-A, I believe, that 2.4 is -- let me catch up here, sir. 25

MS. GRIFA: 40-A is Florida. 1 2 MR. LENHARD: Florida? Okay. Thank you. BY MR. LENHARD: 3 I believe, that's Florida, Mr. Ghan. 4 dated -- I'm looking at the sheet first. Do you have 5 that in front of you, the first page? 6 Yes. Α. 7 There's a picture of a couple of newscasters 8 9 there? Α. Yes. 10 It says "Updated August 19, 2013." Does that 11 sound right? 12 Yes. 13 Α. So this clip would be -- if we're September of 14 2017, that would lead you to believe the clip that was 1.5 played was about four years old? 16 Yes, probably. 17 Α. Okay. Same question. Did anybody on your 18 staff, at your request, investigate the allegations 19 2.0 contained in the Action 9 investigation in Florida? 21 Α. No. There's also a reference that Mr. Yien referred 2.2 Ο. 23 you to on page two. I'm going to refer to page two of 2.4 the document. I think that what we're talking about was on the video. It's about eight lines down. Do you see 25

it? It's two of two. It's the seventh line down. 1 2 "Choice Home has an F rating"; do you see that, sir? I'm sorry. I could be confused in my 3 description. 4 I saw it on the video. I don't. I'm looking. 5 Are you on the second page of the exhibit? 6 Q. Yes. 7 Α. Okay. At the top, it says "It says right in 8 Q. 9 the contract it covers leaks." Do you see that? Yes. 1 0 Α. Okay. Then you have a four-line paragraph? 11 Q. Right. 12 Α. 13 Q. Do you see that? Α. Right. 14 And "What's good"; do you see that? Ο. 1.5 Α. Yes. 16 And next is "Choice Home has an F rating"; do 17 Q. you see that? 18 Α. Yes. 19 20 Okay. Did you personally verify whether Choice, or anybody on your staff verify whether Choice 21 Home had an F rating with the Better Business Bureau 2.2 23 with 775 complaints? No, I did not. 2.4 Α. 25 Q. Okay.

- A. I have, however, looked at the Better Business

 Bureau site and looked at Choice Home Warranty. But I

 don't recollect everything that was in it.
- Q. Okay. As you sit here today, can you tell me what the present Choice Home Warranty rating is at the Better Business Bureau?
- 7 A. I do not know at this point.
- Q. Mr. Ghan, earlier today you testified about a couple items on the -- I think, it's the 2015 renewal.

 And that's Exhibit 12, I believe, isn't it? Actually, I take that back. Exhibit 21. I'm sorry. The most
- recent renewal. And, I believe -- do you have it in front of you, sir? I'm sorry.
- 14 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. Okay. And you have had a chance, have you not, to review Exhibit 21 prior to coming here today?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And, in fact, you answered some
 questions about Exhibit 21 from the deputy attorney
 qeneral this morning; is that correct, sir?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. And if I'm correct in my recollection, it was
 your testimony that this document is incomplete. Is
 that correct, sir?
- 25 A. Correct.

- Q. And part of the incompleteness was paragraph
 nine? I just want to be sure we're on the same page. I
 think, it was 9.F., you said?
 - A. Correct.

- Q. It's left blank, right?
- 6 A. Correct.
- Q. Is there any other item of incomplete, before I ask my next question, that you can recall?
- 9 A. Well, incomplete. As I said, it didn't have a service -- pardon me, not service, but it didn't have a security deposit, additional deposit required.
- Q. Where are you referring to, Mr. Ghan?
- 13 A. This is on page three of four.
- Q. Okay. And which number are you talking about?
- 15 A. This is option two.
- Q. Okay. And are you saying the proof of option two wasn't provided with the renewal? Help me out.
- A. Security deposit. Okay. Which submit
 documentation verifying that the security of 40 percent
 of unearned gross premium on all expired service
 contracts sold to Nevada residents.
- 22 Q. Okay.
- A. Okay. The information provided over on the next page, I did mention that that doesn't appear to be accurate because of the dates that have been provided.

Q. All right. 1 2 I did mention monthly statements of the reserve account. 3 Okay. So it's basically, if I -- correct me if 4 Q. I'm wrong. It's 9.F., the blank, and the failure to 5 meet all the documentation requirements under option 6 two; is that right? 7 Additional 10 percent security deposit. 8 Α. 9 Q. Right. Right. Okay. Have you read the amended complaint on file filed by the department --10 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Hold on one second. 11 We lost the connection. 12 13 Could we go off the record. (There was a brief period off the record at 14 10:27 a.m. to reestablish the videoconference connection 1.5 16 with Las Vegas.) 17 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. We're back on the record. 18 Ms. Grigoriev, what was the last thing that you 19 20 heard down there, so that we can continue from there? MS. GRIGORIEV: I believe, there was a 21 2.2 question --23 MS. SHIRLEY FOSTER (in Las Vegas): 9.F. MS. GRIGORIEV: 9.F., yeah. 2.4 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Thank you. 25

Mr. Lenhard, okay. Are you finished chewing? 1 2 MR. LENHARD: Excuse me. THE WITNESS: It's all right. 3 BY MR. LENHARD: 4 Mr. Ghan, I think, I think, we need to kind of 5 step back a second so everybody can catch up. If I 6 recall, I asked you if 9.F., the blank in 9.F. and the 7 deficiency in documentation under option two were two 8 9 items of incompleteness. And I'm not trying to put 10 words in your mouth. I'm just trying to get in front of 11 it. And the additional 10 percent security deposit. 12 Α. 13 Q. Okay. And those are items of incompleteness. Then I had shifted. I thought my next question was, 14 1.5 have you seen or read the amended complaint that had 16 been filed on behalf of the department in this matter? Α. I don't believe I have. 17 18 Okay. Do you have independent knowledge as to whether the department is charging my client with an 19 20 incomplete renewal application in 2016 in that document? 21 Α. I can't say yes. I don't know. Because you haven't seen it and you haven't 2.2 Q. 23 discussed it; fair enough? No, I haven't. 2.4 Α. I don't want what you talked with lawyers. 25 Q.

- 1 A. I have not.
- 2 Q. Okay. Mr. Ghan, at the beginning of your
- 3 testimony, Mr. Yien spent a little time going through
- 4 | your educational background. And due to the fact that
- 5 | you've rendered some opinions here today, I need to kind
- 6 of revisit that for a second. Okay?
- 7 A. Okay.
- Q. And I understand you have an associate of arts
- 9 degree in the construction field?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Can you give me more definition on that; is it
- 12 like a construction management, or?
- 13 A. Yes, construction management.
- 14 Q. All right. Then you have a bachelor of science
- 15 | degree?
- 16 A. In economics.
- 17 Q. Okay. And you also have a master's degree?
- 18 A. In applied economics.
- 19 Q. Okay. Do you have any legal education?
- 20 A. I've never taken legal courses.
- Q. You haven't taken business law or --
- 22 A. There was an economics law that I took. That
- 23 was it. Yes.
- 24 O. I understand.
- 25 A. To correct that.

Q. You haven't taken con law, those type of 1 2 classes; fair enough? Α. Yes. 3 You certainly don't have a law degree? 4 Q. Α. No. 5 Have you ever heard of the concept of piercing 6 Q.. 7 the corporate veil? Yes. 8 Α. 9 Do you know what that concept means? Α. Not in its entirety. 10 Okay. Have you ever engaged in the exercise of 11 attempting to pierce the corporate veil in your 12 employment with the department? 13 Α. No. 14 I think --0. 1.5 MR. YIEN: Objection. Relevancy. 16 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I think, we're past 17 that. I'm not sure what you're objecting to anyway. 18 MR. YIEN: Well, you're asking the witness 19 20 questions about piercing the corporate veil. That's not an issue. 21 MR. LENHARD: Well, I -- may I respond? 2.2 23 shouldn't argue. 2.4 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Yes, please 25 respond.

MR. LENHARD: Thank you. 1 2 You have rendered opinions that amount to legal conclusions. 3 MR. YIEN: None of which have to do with the 4 piercing the corporate veil. 5 MR. LENHARD: I would respectfully disagree. 6 7 MR. YIEN: Okay. MR. LENHARD: You have two separate 8 9 corporations here, and you're trying to merge them. that's where I'm heading with my questions right now. 1 0 MR. YIEN: The witness hasn't testified to 11 anything that would --12 MR. LENHARD: He has testified that in his 13 opinion, they are one and the same. And he's treating a 14 dba as one and the same. And, believe me, I'm going to 1.5 ask some questions about it, unless I'm not allowed to. 16 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. So let's 17 stop the debate. I'm going to allow the question and 18 see where it goes. 19 20 Proceed. MR. LENHARD: Thank you. 21 BY MR. LENHARD: 2.2 23 Q. If we can go first to Exhibit 2. This is the 2.4 renewal, I believe, yes, executed on October 31, 2011. 25 Do you have that in front of you, sir?

Α. Yes. 1 2 Q. Okay. I want you to keep that there, and then look at Exhibit -- is it Q? 3 MS. GRIFA: W. 4 MR. LENHARD: No, no, no. Q is the memo. 5 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Which exhibit? 6 MS. GRIFA: O. 7 BY MR. LENHARD: 8 9 It's the Scott Kipper memo, July 8th, 2014. Do you have it in front of you, Mr. Ghan? 1 0 Yes, I do. 11 Α. HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I do not. My 12 binder's broken. 13 Okay. 14 MR. LENHARD: Good to go? 1.5 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I'm good to go. 16 BY MR. LENHARD: 17 Mr. Ghan, I'm going to play with two exhibits 18 for a moment. Do you have in front of you Exhibit Q, 19 20 which purports to be a memo dated July 8th, 2014 to Scott Kipper from Derick Dennis? And so we're clear, 21 Mr. Dennis is sitting in the room here today; is that 2.2 23 correct? 2.4 Α. Yes. And you heard him testify yesterday; is that 25 Q.

correct, sir? 1 2 Α. Yes. All right. Have you seen this item before? 3 Not before yesterday. I didn't see it 4 yesterday. I only saw in your presentation. 5 Okay. Do you have any reason to doubt the 6 authenticity of Exhibit Q? 7 Α. No. 8 9 Do you have any reason to doubt that the department requested in 2014 that my client file a 1 0 fictitious name certificate under the name Choice Home 11 Warranty? 12 13 A. I don't question it. And who was Scott Kipper? 14 Q.. He was the Commissioner of the Division of 1.5 16 Insurance. In 2014? Q. 17 Correct. 18 Α. And that was the position now presently held by 19 Q.. Ms. Richardson? 2.0 Α. Correct. 21 Now, let's go to Exhibit 2. 2.2 Q.. 23 Α. I would like to add -- well, 7-2014, we should be good. Never mind. 2.4

Q. Okay. Now we go to Exhibit 2.

- 1 A. Okay.
- 2 Q. Page three of three, please.
- 3 A. Okay.
- Q. The application is dated October 31, 2011; am I
- 5 correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Three years or a little less than three years before the issue on the dba; is that correct, sir?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. And it's signed Home Warranty Administrator of
- 11 | Nevada, Incorporated, name of corporation; do you see
- 12 | that?
- 13 A. Name of corporation, yes.
- Q. Yes. Do you know, as you sit here today, where
- 15 | Home Warranty Association of Nevada, Incorporated is
- 16 | incorporated?
- A. If it's saying "of Nevada," I would think it
- 18 | would be Nevada. So I don't really know.
- 19 Q. You haven't checked the corporate filings?
- 20 A. No, I haven't.
- 21 Q. Okay. Do you know, as you sit here today,
- 22 | where Choice Home Warranty Group, Incorporated is
- 23 | incorporated?
- 24 A. I would imagine New Jersey, but I don't know.
- 25 Q. You've not confirmed either way; is that

- 1 | correct?
- 2 A. Well, if I was looking at a document, I could
- 3 | confirm it.
- 4 Q. Okay. I'm not going to ask you to look at the
- 5 corporate records today.
- 6 A. Okay.
- 7 Q. You have no -- well, let me do it this way.
- 8 You do understand that Choice Home Warranty Group,
- 9 Incorporated is a corporation, wherever it's
- 10 | incorporated?
- 11 A. Yes.
- 12 Q. And you do understand that Home Warranty
- 13 Administrator of Nevada, Incorporated is a corporation,
- 14 | wherever it's incorporated, correct?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Okay. Now, back to the exhibit, which is three
- 17 of three on Exhibit Number 2, the signature is by Victor
- 18 | Mandalawi, President, signature of officer in full; is
- 19 | that correct?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. So this document is being signed by Victor
- 22 | Mandalawi as the president of that corporation; that's
- 23 | the way it appears at least, right?
- 24 A. Correct.
- 25 | Q. Okay. Now, we have had some discussion on

Exhibit 3 of a conditional administrative order from the 1 2 State of Oklahoma, and that's page one of 39 on Exhibit 3. Do you see that? 3 Α. Yes, I do. 4 And the respondent is Choice Home Warranty, an unlicensed service warranty association, correct? 6 A. Correct. 7 Not Home Warranty Administrators of Nevada, 8 9 correct? Correct. Α. 1 0 And if we can go back to the consent order, 11 which, I think, was -- yes, page 27 of 39. 12 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Which exhibit? 13 MS. GRIFA: Six. 14 MR. LENHARD: Exhibit -- I'm sorry. 1.5 MS. GRIFA: Six. 16 MR. LENHARD: No, we're still on three. 17 MS. GRIFA: I'm sorry. 18 BY MR. LENHARD: 19 20 Q. Exhibit 3. The next round of questions all come on Exhibit 3. Are you with me? 21 27 of 39. Α. 2.2 23 Yes, sir. And it says "Consent Order," that 2.4 page. Do you have that, sir? Α. Yes. 25

Q. Okay. State of Oklahoma, ex rel. John D. Doak, 1 2 Insurance Commissioner, versus Choice Home Warranty, an unlicensed service warranty company, respondent, again, 3 correct? Α. Yes. Not Home Warranty Administrators of Nevada, 6 correct? 7 Α. Correct. 8 Now, it's signed by Victor, just so we're 9 clear, Victor Mandalawi, representative of respondent, 10 correct? 11 12 Α. Page? Oh, I'm sorry, 31 of 39. I'm sorry, sir. 13 Q. Α. Correct. 14 This is filed 29 December, 2011, correct? 1.5 Ο. Α. Correct. 16 You were shown Exhibit 12, which is the renewal 17 Q.. of 2015 by Home Warranty Administrators of Nevada. Do 18 you have that in front of you, sir? 19 20 Α. Yes. Okay. Once again, if you would look at page 21 four of four, the last page. It's executed by 2.2 23 Mr. Mandalawi as the president of Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada, correct? 2.4 A. Correct. 25

- Q. Now, the dba was in effect at this time; is that correct? I will represent it is, if you would want to accept that.
- A. No, I would agree, accordingly, and it's filed on the front page, also, as the provider name.
 - Q. All right. Now, it's your testimony -- I want to be sure I understand your opinion. And if I misstate that, correct me. You are testifying that as of this 2015 application, Home Warranty Administrator of Nevada, with a dba of Choice Home Warranty, had an obligation to state that they were subject to a consent degree in another state; is that correct?
- 13 A. Correct.

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- Q. And the consent decree would be New Jersey; is that right?
- 16 A. Correct.
- Q. Now, the New Jersey consent decree is
 Exhibit 6. Let's flip to that for a moment. And I'm
 talking about the corporate entity right now. The named
 corporate entity is CHW Group, Inc. dba Choice Home
- 21 | Warranty; is that right?
- 22 | HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: What page are you
- 23 on, Mr. Lenhard?
- 24 BY MR. LENHARD:
- Q. I'm sorry. Three of 43?

- 1 A. You are on three of 43?
- 2 Q. Yes, sir. I don't care about the press
- 3 | release.
- 4 A. I just didn't know which page.
- 5 Q. No, it's my fault. It was an inartful
- 6 question. Are you with me?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. The consent judgment, the heading, the
- 9 title is John J. Hoffman, Acting Attorney General. Do
- 10 | you see that?
- 11 A. Yes, I do.
- 12 Q. The defendants are CHW Group, Inc. dba Choice
- 13 Home Warranty; do you see that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Victor Mandalawi, Victor Hakim, David Seruya,
- 16 | Jane and John Does, et cetera; do you see that?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Now, going back to Exhibit 12, I want to
- 19 be certain that I understand the full scope of your
- 20 opinion. Are you saying that one of the
- 21 | misrepresentations is that Home Warranty Administrator
- 22 of Nevada dba Choice Home Warranty had an obligation to
- 23 admit as a corporation that they were subject to the
- 24 | New Jersey consent decree; is that what you're saying?
- 25 A. I said that was my opinion.

- Q. Okay. Now, let's deal with Victor Mandalawi individually. And your opinion is based -- excuse me. Let me back up. And your opinion is based on the fact that Home Warranty Administrators of Nevada has a dba of
- 5 Choice Home Warranty as of 2014; is that correct?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. I just want to be sure we're on the same page. Okay. Now let's go back to Victor Mandalawi. He also signed the New Jersey consent decree; is that correct, sir?
- 11 A. And what page are we are?
- Q. Go back to Exhibit 6. I'm sorry. I keep
 assuming that you've looked at all this like the lawyers
 have, and that's not fair.
- 15 A. No, I have another job to do. So.
- Q. I appreciate that. I apologize for the inartful question. If you would look at page three of 43 again.
- 19 A. Still there.
- Q. Yes. If you look at the defendant, one of the named defendants is Victor Mandalawi; do you see that?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Are you aware as to whether Mr. Mandalawi is an officer of Choice Home Warranty Group, Inc.?
- A. I don't know. I would presume from this, but I

- 1 don't know a hundred percent.
- 2 Q. All right. All right.
- A. If I was provided a document, then I could
- 4 confirm.
- Q. Fair enough. Are you aware of whether he is
- 6 the sole officer and director of Home Warranty
- 7 Administrators of Nevada?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Okay.
- 10 A. I believe, president, director, treasurer.
- 11 Q. Right. Everything?
- 12 A. Yeah.
- Q. Fair enough.
- 14 A. Secretary, whatever.
- 15 Q. Yeah. And, in fact, Mr. Mandalawi signed the
- 16 consent decree on page 30 of 43. Let's just get this in
- 17 | the record. He signed it as CHW Group, Inc. dba Choice
- 18 | Home Warranty, the president; do you see that?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And he also signed it individually; do you see
- 21 that?
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Now, let's go to, back to Exhibit 12.
- 24 | Can you do that? Are with you me?
- 25 A. Yes.

- Q. If I understand your opinion, one of the opinions is based on question 4(d), which is on page two of four. Are you with me?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. Okay. And my understanding is that it's your opinion that Mr. Mandalawi answered question 4(d) as an officer incorrectly. Is that correct?
 - A. As an officer, yes.
 - Q. Okay. Now, will you read -- well, let me read this to you and ask you if I've read it correctly. The first line of question four states as follows: Since the last application, has applicant or any of the officers listed in question one ever. Then we have the four items. Is that right?
- 15 A. Correct.
 - Q. Okay. Now, let's go back and look at question one: List all aliases or names under which the company conducts business, doing business as. Provide supporting documentation. Do you see the word officers in there?
 - A. No, but I understood the intent of it.
- Q. Okay. You may have understood the intent of
 it, and I appreciate that. But my question is, the word
 officers doesn't appear there, does it?
- A. No, it doesn't. But I would like to say that I

- do request that Secretary of State filings are reviewed by our office.
- 3 Q. Okay.
- A. To make sure that not only has the entity

 filed, but that any officers have filed, provided their

 names, addresses, and so on.
- 7 Q. And I appreciate --
- 8 A. So that was my intent.
- 9 Q. No, and I appreciate that's your intent. But 10 what I'm focused on is the question that goes to my
- 11 client. And the question that goes to my client does
- 12 | not contain the word officers, does it, sir?
- 13 A. The word is not in that, in the sentence, no.
- Q. Thank you. Did you take part in drafting
- 15 Exhibit 12?
- 16 A. I had a part in it, yes.
- Q. Did you take part in drafting question number one?
- 19 A. I don't remember drafting question one.
- Q. Did you take part in drafting question 4(a),
- 21 (b), (c), (d)?
- 22 A. I don't recall exactly what I was involved in.
- 23 It was done on a group basis.
- 24 | Q. Okay. All right. But you were part of the
- 25 group that prepared it?

- 1 A. Correct.
- Q. Are we safe in stating, as being part of the
- 3 group that prepared it, you certainly understood what
- 4 you were asking for, right?
- A. What I understood?
- Q. Yeah.
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 MR. LENHARD: Can we put up 690C, can we put up
- 9 | the statute?
- 10 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Oh. Sure.
- 11 BY MR. LENHARD:
- 12 Q. Mr. Ghan, there was some testimony earlier
- 13 about who was supposed to provide information to the
- 14 department. And I'm standing here, because I don't have
- 15 | a copy of the statute, and I can't read it from there.
- 16 Is that okay?
- 17 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: That's fine.
- 18 MR. LENHARD: All right. I hope I'm not
- 19 | blocking the people in Las Vegas.
- 20 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: You will notice
- 21 | that the video on the right shows us. If you're not
- 22 | standing in front of it, they can see us.
- MR. LENHARD: Okay.
- 24 BY MR. LENHARD:
- Q. I have put in front of you NRS 690C.160,

application for certificate fees and renewal; do you see 1 2 that, sir? Α. Yes. 3 Can you read it from there? 4 Q. Α. Yes. 5 Okay. Sub one, a provider, a provider who 6 Q. wishes to sell or offer for sale service contracts in 7 this state must submit to the Commissioner. And there's 8 9 five items that it must submit. Correct? Α. Correct. 10 All right. And the provider in the case of the 11 renewal application is, in fact, Home Warranty 12 Administrators of Nevada, isn't it, the service 13 provider? 14 Dba Choice Home Warranty, yes. 1.5 Q. Fair enough. That's the service provider, 16 correct? 17 18 Α. Correct. That's who should be the applicant, correct? 19 20 Victor -- I'm sorry. I cut you off. The applicant, but the applicant's application 21 Α. has to be attested to by someone. 2.2 23 Q. Right. 2.4 Α. Typically the president. Right. And that's what Mr. Mandalawi --25 Q.

- 1 A. Which would include the accuracy.
- 2 Q. I didn't mean to cut you off. I'm sorry.
- 3 A. That's all right.
- 4 Q. Have you concluded your answer?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. And the provider here is HWAN, Home Warranty
- 7 Administrators of Nevada dba Choice Home Warranty,
- 8 right?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. And the person signing on behalf of the
- 11 | corporation is Victor Mandalawi, correct?
- 12 A. Correct.
- Q. He's not a provider, is he, he's not
- 14 | individually the provider, he's signing on behalf of the
- 15 | provider who is HWAN dba, correct?
- 16 A. So, I guess, let me ask this, because I wasn't
- 17 | fully aware of what was going on as far as, you know,
- 18 piercing the corporate veil, if that's what we are
- 19 supposed to be trying to do. But, I guess, I do
- 20 understand the term hiding behind the corporate veil,
- 21 so.
- 22 | Q. Well, it's --
- 23 A. If that's what that is intended to be.
- 24 Q. Hiding behind the corporate veil is an issue
- 25 | for the Legislature, not for us, so. My real issue is

- do you understand that Mr. Mandalawi signed as the 1 president of HWAN when he signed the provider, right?
- Α. Yes. 3
- Now, you have also referred to the fact, in 4 your testimony, that the renewal being incomplete, it 5 was not renewed in 2016. Am I stating -- let me sit 6
- down. Am I stating that correctly? 7
- Correct. Α. 8
- 9 Okay. And that's the November, November 8th renewal, I believe; is that right, sir? It's 10
- Exhibit 21. I'm sorry. Are you with me? 11
- Α. 12 Yes.

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- 13 Okay. This renewal is the one that you said was incomplete. As a result, their renewal expired. 14 Αm I using the terminology correctly?
- Α. The registration expired, yes. 16
- Right. And as soon as it expires, they're 17 Q.. selling, or they're selling a product improperly; is 18 that right? 19
- 2.0 Α. Correct.
- 21 All right. And that's not something your Division wants them to do. Is that a fair statement? 2.2
- 23 Α. Correct.
- 2.4 All right. And I would assume that as soon as this thing expires, your Division is all over these 25

- guys, telling them stop selling, aren't you?

 A. I would hope so.
 - Q. Okay. Now, you and I both know. I think, you have been sitting here, at least for awhile. You and I both know the Division didn't bother to notify these people until the end of July 2017 that the Division felt they had not been renewed. Are you aware of that?
 - A. I was aware of that. However, one thing I would state is that the companies should be aware, when a registration expires, there is a problem. That needs to be understood by both sides.
- Q. I appreciate that. And I appreciate that
 you're a man of convictions. But what I'm getting at
 here is they submit their renewal; fair enough?
- 15 A. Yes.

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- Q. It gets sent in. Your department feels it's incomplete. Are you with me so far?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Is that a yes?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. Yet no one sends a notice to my client saying
 "Your renewal's incomplete, stop"; isn't that correct?
- A. I believe so.
- Q. Could I ask you this, because, you know, I'm certainly not disputing what you say about completeness

- and incompleteness. But when you get an incomplete
 renewal like this, does anybody from your staff of the
 department call the applicant or the renewal party and
 say, "Hey, you're missing a few things. Let's get this
 straightened out"; isn't that something you can do?
- A. It's not something that I have been doing, because I have a different job.
 - Q. I appreciate that.

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- 9 A. Okay. I supervise the portion. There is 10 someone in charge of it.
- 11 Q. I'm not inferring you should be doing it 12 personally.
 - A. No, understand. So, you know, but questions are asked, whether they're responded to or not. You know, I'm typically brought into the loop.
 - Q. Do you know if anybody in the department -and, again, I'm not implying that you should be out
 doing that. But do you know if anybody under your
 direction and control, a staff member, an investigator,
 or whatever, when it was determined this application,
 Exhibit 21, was incomplete, picked up the phone or sent
 an email or a text, whatever, saying "This is
 incomplete. We need the following information now"; do
 you know if anybody did that?
 - A. I don't know what we sent at this time, no.

MR. LENHARD: Can I just have one second? 1 2 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: MR. LENHARD: Thank you, Mr. Ghan. 3 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: One moment. Let me 4 check my notes to see if I have any questions, and then 5 we will open to redirect. 6 I actually don't have any questions. 7 Mr. Yien, redirect? 8 9 MR. YIEN: Yes, please. Thank you, Madam Hearing Officer. 1 0 11 REDIRECT EXAMINATION 12 BY MR. YIEN: 13 Mr. Ghan, are you required to call the business 14 Q.. if an application is incomplete? 1.5 To my understanding, no. 16 And any effort to do that, could that be 17 Q. considered a courtesy? 18 Any effort would be considered a courtesy. I 19 2.0 do not believe the state's required to contact them when they've submitted information that's not complete. 21 Q. Would you agree that perhaps that's the duty of 2.2 23 the licensee or certificate holder or their counsel, to alert them when they're operating without a license? 2.4 A. I would believe so. 25

- Q. Let's turn to Exhibit 40 again. Counsel had
- 2 pointed out the fact that this news report is from 2013.
- 3 | Are you aware of whether or not the respondent was
- 4 operating in 2013?
- A. I believe, they were, but I don't know the
- 6 exact dates.
- 7 Q. But we have license applications and renewals
- 8 from, say, 2010 forward?
- 9 A. Forward, yes.
- 10 Q. Okay. And counsel had noted that you are not
- 11 | an attorney. But, and so I'm asking you this question
- 12 again, as somebody who does not have a legal background.
- 13 But having worked on the respondent's case and knowing
- 14 | the history of its dealings with the State of Nevada,
- 15 | hearing the complaints that were put on the record
- 16 | yesterday against the Division, and perhaps you know of
- 17 others as well, do you consider that CHW and Home
- 18 Warranty of Nevada doing business as Choice Home
- 19 Warranty to be one and the same?
- 20 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. And, again, with all of that background, and
- 22 | having worked with perhaps both entities, if they are
- 23 | separate entities, would you consider that Victor
- 24 | Mandalawi controls both Choice Home Warranty and Home
- 25 | Warranty of Nevada doing business as Choice Home

Warranty? 1 2 Α. Yes, I do. You were here yesterday. And did you hear 3 Ms. Kuhlman's testimony as to the complaints in Nevada 4 that she had testified to? 5 Α. Yes. 6 I can refresh your memory if you'd like. 7 Ο. had testified that each of the complaints were filed 8 9 against Choice Home Warranty. 1 0 Α. Right. Do you recall that? 11 Q. Α. Correct. 12 13 And do you also recall that they were eventually resolved after Ms. Kuhlman had stepped in and 14 1.5 addressed the respondent, Home Warranty of Nevada? Α. Yes. 16 Now, would you consider it an injustice if Home 17 Q. Warranty of Nevada doing business as Choice Home 18 Warranty did not resolve those complaints filed against 19 2.0 Choice Home Warranty? Yes. 21 Α. MR. YIEN: I have no further questions. 2.2 23 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Lenhard? MR. LENHARD: No redirect, whatever this is, no 2.4 25 recross.

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HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. Mr. Ghan,
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 2
   thank you for your testimony today. As a reminder,
   please do not discuss your testimony with anybody until
 3
    after the final order is issued in this matter.
             THE WITNESS: Okav.
 5
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN:
                                         Thank you.
 6
            THE WITNESS: Thank you.
 7
            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Yien, do you
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 9
    still, do you have one more witness?
            MR. YIEN: I do have another witness. It's
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   going to be a long one if you want to take a break.
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            MS. GRIFA: Okay.
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            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. So let's
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    take at a 10-minute break. And let's start him. I'd
    like to get through as much as we can today.
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            MR. YIEN: Sure. Okay.
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                            * * * * *
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             (A break was taken 11:00 to 11:13 a.m.)
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            HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: With that, let's go
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    on the record.
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            Mr. Yien.
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            MR. YIEN: Yes, before we begin, I'd like to
   address that the supplemental hearing exhibits provided
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   by counsel, we haven't -- opposing counsel hasn't used
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them yet, and I may have inadvertently agreed to admit 1 2 The reason why I'm bringing this up now is because, I believe, these were documents inadvertently 3 provided to the respondent as a result of a public 4 records request. And they contain privileged 5 attorney-client emails, specifically attorney-client 6 emails from the next witness that I intend to call, 7 Mr. Hall. 8 9 MR. LENHARD: Can you identify specifically the documents you're referring to if we're doing a 10 call-back? 11 It's KK, which is --12 MR. YIEN: Yeah. 13 MR. LENHARD: Hang on a second. Let me catch 14 up to you. KK. Okay. It's an email from Delores Bennett MR. YIEN: 15 16 to David Hall. He is an attorney with the Nevada Division of Insurance and the Division's next witness. 17 18 So I request that that --MR. LENHARD: It's page one of four? 19 20 MR. YIEN: Well, it's page one of four, but I would request that the entirety of it is not admissible. 21 2.2 MR. LENHARD: As to page one of four, it would 23 be our position that it's not seeking legal advice. My understanding of the rule is if it's a factual email or 2.4 25 a factual communication not seeking advice from a

counsel, either seeking advice or giving advice, it's 1 fair game. I don't see a rendition of advice in here or 2 a seeking advice on one out of four. 3 MR. YIEN: It's in relation to just received a 4 service contract provider renewal application. 5 MR. LENHARD: M-hm (affirmative). 6 MR. YIEN: And since I cannot renew -- I'm just 7 reading this. 8 9 MR. LENHARD: Right, no. Fair enough. MR. YIEN: Since I cannot renew a license for a 10 corporation that does not exist, therefore, I had 11 indicated on our renewal that they have no sale since we 12 licensed them. 13 It's correct, perhaps there is not an actual 14 question in there, but it's insinuating that they don't 1.5 know what to do, and they're asking David, what should 16 we do? 17 MR. LENHARD: May I respond? 18 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Yes. 19 20 MR. LENHARD: It's an FYI. they're not seeking 21 advice. They're advising him of a situation. 2.2 not asking him his advice on how to respond or what to 23 Lawyers get those all the time. do. MR. YIEN: Respectfully, I disagree. 2.4 25 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. So, then, I

get that you both disagree. Mr. Yien, you want this 1 2 withdrawn from the exhibits? MR. YIEN: Yes. And Mr. Lenhard's only 3 addressed page one. So I'm looking through the rest of 4 this, also. 5 Yes, and page two of four is communications 6 7 between attorneys. MR. LENHARD: Was it four of four? 8 MS. GRIFA: Two of four. 9 MR. YIEN: Two of four. Amy is also an 10 attorney with the Nevada Division of Insurance. 11 MR. LENHARD: Yeah, I know who Ms. Parks is. 12 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I don't know what 13 page you're talking about, Mr. Yien. 14 MR. YIEN: So it's KK, page two of four, and 1.5 it's a yellow piece of paper. 16 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: And let me get this 17 right. So, Mr. Yien, this was produced in response to a 18 public records request? 19 20 MR. YIEN: I believe so. It was a public 21 records request. 2.2 MR. LENHARD: It was a request in response to a 23 subpoena, but I can't be certain as I sit here. 2.4 MR. YIEN: I believe, Mr. Chance had requested any and all documents. By subpoena, then? 25

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MR. CHANCE: Yes.
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 2
            MR. LENHARD: There's a Bates stamp on here,
   which would indicate it's probably --
 3
            MR. CHANCE: Our Bates stamp.
 4
            MR. LENHARD: Our Bates stamp.
 5
            MR. CHANCE: But it was in response to the
 6
 7
   subpoena.
 8
            MR. YIEN:
                      Okay. So it was inadvertently
 9
   provided in response to a subpoena.
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. So this is
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   what I'm thinking for now. It's already in here. And I
11
   assume this has something to do with the testimony.
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            MR. YIEN: It has nothing to do with direct,
   but perhaps it has something to do with cross.
14
             HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okav. So let's see
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    if we even get to it in the hearing. Because if we
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    don't, then there's no sense in putting it here. But
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    this may be something that I'm going to have to
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    research, because I don't know if there's an impact.
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   And I'd like to know how it came out, if it came in
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    response to the public records request or a subpoena.
    This is a legal issue I haven't seen before. So I want
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    some time to think about it and do a little research on
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    it. But I don't want to impede the hearing today.
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             So to the extent anything is discussed relating
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to this exhibit, if I decide that this is not -- that 1 2 this can be withdrawn, then we will just strike everything from the transcript and from the record that 3 involves this. But for now, let's just go ahead and go forward with it. And then I'm going to need some time 5 to do the research. 6 7 MR. YIEN: Would you like me to identify the exhibits in advance? Or are you just going to assume 8 9 that any exhibit provided to the respondents unintentionally, that contains information from David 1 0 Hall, Amy Parks or any attorney at the Nevada Division 11 of Insurance is in question, then? 12 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I can do that. 13 think, it would be better and more clear for you --14 clear, more clear, for you to put it on the record. 1.5 MR. YIEN: Okay. 16 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: But as we go 17 through it. 18 MR. YIEN: Oh, as we go through. 19 20 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: So that way, we 21 don't have to stop everything. MR. YIEN: Okay. 2.2 23 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: And then, and this 2.4 may be something I may have you all brief me on. 25 for now, let's proceed.

MR. YIEN: But for the record, because it's 1 2 just right in front of me, I actually can identify that all those exhibits LL, MM, NN, OO, PP, and QQ have David 3 Hall's name in them, and they are all emails, or many of them are emails that have him as somebody that it's 5 addressed to or cc'd to. 6 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Okay. And, I 7 think, I agree that just because an attorney's 8 9 identified on it doesn't necessarily mean that it's privileged. But I do want the time to research it. And 1 0 I'll give you a heads-up that you guys may have to brief 11 me on this. So. 12 But it's noted. And then we can go ahead and 13 proceed. 14 MR. YIEN: Okav. 1.5 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Are you ready to 16 17 proceed? MR. YIEN: Yes, I am. The Division calls David 18 Hall. 19 20 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: Mr. Hall, good 21 morning. THE WITNESS: Good morning. 2.2 23 HEARING OFFICER EMMERMANN: I know you're an 2.4 attorney with the Division. I'm going to give you the 25 rundown anyway.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to NRAP 25(1)(b) and 25(1)(d), I, the undersigned, hereby certify

that I electronically filed the foregoing APPELLANT'S APPENDIX (VOLUME

V OF XIV) with the Clerk of Court for the Supreme Court of Nevada by using the

Supreme Court of Nevada's E-filing system on May 12, 2020.

I further certify that all participants in this case are registered with the

Supreme Court of Nevada's E-filing system, and that service has been accomplished

to the following individuals through the Court's E-filing System as indicated below:

Via Electronic Filing System:

Richard P. Yien

Joanna N. Grigoriev

/s/ Joyce Heilich

An Employee of Holland & Hart LLP