IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

DAVID J. MITCHELL; ET AL.;

Appellants,

VS.

RUSSELL L. NYPE; REVENUE PLUS, LLC; AND SHELLEY D. KROHN,

Respondents.

Supreme Court Case No. Electronically Filed Mar 19 2021 09:18 a.m. Elizabeth A. Brown District Court No. A-16-761618 of Supreme Court

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TRAN

DISTRICT COURT
CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA
* * * * *

RUSSELL NYPE,

Plaintiff(s),

DAVID MITCHELL,

Defendant(s).

AND RELATED PARTIES

CASE NO. A-16-740689-B

DEPT NO. XI

TRANSCRIPT OF

PROCEEDINGS

BEFORE THE HONORABLE ELIZABETH GONZALEZ, DISTRICT COURT JUDGE FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 2020

BENCH TRIAL - DAY 4

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE PLAINTIFF/ JOHN W. MUIJE, ESQ. INTERVENOR PLAINTIFF:

FOR THE DEFENDANTS/
INTERVENOR DEFENDANTS:

BRIAN W. BOSCHEE, ESQ.
JAMES L. EDWARDS, ESQ.
H. STAN JOHNSON, ESQ.
KEVIN M. JOHNSON, ESQ.

RECORDED BY: JILL HAWKINS, COURT RECORDER TRANSCRIBED BY: JD REPORTING, INC.

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1	LAS VEGAS, CLARK COUNTY, NEVADA, JANUARY 3, 2020, 9:07 A.M.
2	* * * *
3	THE COURT: Good morning.
4	ATTORNEYS: Good morning.
5	THE COURT: Who's our next witness?
6	MR. MUIJE: I think we'll call Mr. Chamberlin first,
7	Your Honor, unless Mr. Blut wants to start with him on direct.
8	MR. BOSCHEE: Well, it would be me probably.
9	MR. MUIJE: Oh, Mr. Boschee. I apologize.
10	MR. BOSCHEE: I can. It doesn't whatever the
11	Court's preference is. I'm happy to
12	THE COURT: Mr. Boschee, it is up to you.
13	MR. BOSCHEE: Then I'll start with him; that's fine.
14	THE COURT: All right.
15	MR. MUIJE: Your Honor, may I get a pair of headsets,
16	please.
17	THE COURT: You may.
18	Sir, if you'd come on up.
19	WINTHROP DAVIES CHAMBERLIN
20	[having been called as a witness and being first duly sworn,
21	testified as follows:
22	THE CLERK: Please have a seat, and state and spell
23	your name for the record.
24	THE WITNESS: Thank you. Winthrop Davies Chamberlin.
25	MR. BOSCHEE: Good morning, Mr. Chamberlin.
	JD Reporting, Inc.
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which is the principal entity of what I believe is called a disregarded entity, which is 305 Las Vegas, LLC. We have approximately 40 limited partners. And 305 Second Avenue

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Associates was formed I believe in 1987.

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Q Okay. We've talked -- you've been in the duration of the trial. We've talked a lot about yourself and Mr. Liberman. Can you give us a -- can you give the Court a flavor for who the 40 limited partners are in 305 Second Avenue Associates and what if any influence they have on what goes on with the company.

A The 40 limited partners are composed of primarily of attorneys and Wall Street broker investment banker types. They have been investors since 1987. Their original investment was to provide some additional equity financing for the building of 305 Second Avenue, which had been the old Lying-In Hospital, and which we converted into apartments and medical office space.

Q Well, you kind of segued into my second -- my next question, Mr. Chamberlin, which is so starting in 1987 -- well, let me ask another question first. Strike that.

305 Second Avenue Associates has been in business since 1987. How long have you been in various dealings, partnerships, business, for lack of a better word, with Mr. Liberman?

A We bought our first building, a tenement building at 57 Thompson Street in the fall of 1969.

Q Okay. And have been in primarily real estate and management since then?

A Yes. And fitness. We owned and operated the Printing House Fitness Center for a number of years until we net leased it five or six years ago.

Q Okay. Now, just specifically as to 305 Second Avenue Associates, you mentioned that it was formed in the late '80s. What other businesses besides the Aquarius Plaza is 305 Second Avenue Associates involved in in New York City?

A It owns the building at 305 Second Avenue, which formerly had been the old Lying-In Hospital, and within that building, it operates apartments and doctors' offices.

Q Does it have -- does it own any other property in New York, or is it just that building with the related apartments?

A Just that building.

Q Okay. And, for lack of a better word, who -- day to day, who manages 305 Second Avenue Associates?

A Barnet's role had been primarily the construction aspect. My area of responsibility was financing. And the two of us are owners of ORB Management which manages the building.

Q Okay. Generally, you've been here, and you've heard that Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Liberman have been in Las Vegas longer than 305 has. Why did 305 Second Avenue Associates decide to get into the real estate game in Las Vegas?

A 305 Second Avenue sold in 2002, '3, '4 and '5 approximately 30 apartments at 305 Second Avenue. That money was assembled and was the basis for a 1031 exchange.

We looked first in New York for a comparable piece of property. We expanded the search to the Boston area and Washington, D.C., and we didn't find anything suitable. We looked in the Chicago area, and there wasn't anything there that seemed to match our needs.

And Barnet had been involved in Las Vegas, and at that point he had a piece of property which, you know, fit the definition of like-kind real estate, and it seemed to make sense after looking at a number of alternatives to be an appropriate investment. And at that particular time, the real estate market in Las Vegas appeared to be very strong.

Q Can you -- we heard a lot about it yesterday, and I suspect Mr. Muije is going to ask you about it today. But Mr. Barnet Liberman was on both sides of the transaction. He's a general partner of 305 Second Avenue, and he was also a member of the LLC that owned the parcel. So can you explain to the Court how this transaction took place with Mr. Liberman being, you know, theoretically at least, involved on both sides.

A Well, while we are both general partners and share responsibility overall, in this particular instance I basically felt that it was my responsibility to make this decision on behalf of 305 Second Avenue. And I did not look upon this as one of the best opportunities because Barnet was on both sides of the transaction, but I felt that we had done sufficient due

diligence and probably looked at 40 properties.

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And for whatever reason, unfortunately, when you build something, you know, you think that it's prettier than all the other buildings on the block. So I think we might have been sort of part of that whatever it is, ailment, but we looked at a lot of buildings, and they didn't match up. And Vegas at the time was as strong a market as we'd seen.

Q How did 305 determine the purchase price for the Aquarius Plaza? How did you work that out with -- I mean, the owner of the parcel?

A Well, in round numbers, at the time, it was considered that the market in Las Vegas, if you take as a yardstick a value per door, so to speak, or per unit, it was considered to be roughly 30,000 a unit, and the property had an entitlement for I believe it was about 1100 units. So it seemed to pencil out at roughly \$30 million.

Q Okay. Who did -- who negotiated the price on behalf of 305?

A Well, you know, with a 1031 exchange, there's a certain pot of money which is available to be invested. And in this case, the pot of money was essentially \$25 million. So in some measure the price was fixed. So the object was to get the best value for that particular sum of money.

Q Okay. So again, to that point, you kind of in a roundabout way have answered my question.

Because a 1031 kind of fixed what you were going to pay, what 305 was going to pay, Mr. Liberman didn't have any role in negotiating the price that was paid for the Aquarius Plaza, did he?

A Well, I mean, he had the same role that I did, which was the two of us were responsible for making the purchase. We owned 65 percent of the entity, and both of us had equal responsibility to our limited partners. So I think that the dialogue between us was sort of streamlined after 30 years or so, but, you know, a series of sort of grunts and uh-huh and, yeah, I see what you mean. It was a relatively short conversation, but we came to agree that this would be an appropriate investment.

Q Okay. Now, you've been here, and you've heard a lot of testimony about Charleston Casino Partners. Do you recall that?

A I do.

Q Okay. Why did 305 have to enter into the lease development agreement with Charleston Casino Partners if you recall?

A Well, we needed -- we needed some bank financing in addition to the monies that were involved in the transaction, and Barnet's partner David Mitchell knew the people at the Heartland Bank, which came out of St. Louis, but they were interested in these particular circumstances in making a loan

on the property at 300, 320 and 330 East Charleston Boulevard.

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Okay. Was the lease development agreement a condition of that financing?

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Α Well, I mean, it gave it support. So, yes.

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Q How so? I mean, can you explain that to the Court. I mean, when you say it gave the loan support, what do you mean by that?

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Well, I mean, we operate, and I manage the site Α today, and the site essentially has three pretty decrepit, nondescript office buildings, which to say that they get a grade of C would be kind of an overstatement. So other than that, the property was also a parking lot. And while parking spaces are valuable in Las Vegas, it didn't create the framework or the structure which could support the price.

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we needed some strong financial partners and also some people

who were regarded as capable of developing in Las Vegas.

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Okay. And then that ended up being Charleston Casino

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Partners?

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That's correct. Α

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What was the plan? What were they going to do with the Aquarius Plaza? What were they supposed to do?

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Well, at the time, the property was in, the word, it's "entitled" in Las Vegas. In New York it's called "as of right." But there was an entitlement to build 1100 units. So that basically provided the financial strength to warrant this

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1 investment.

Q Okay. Was there an overall plan of development that was presented to 305? I mean, was there kind of like this is what we want this to end up being at the end of all this? If

A Well, I mean, at the time there was an endgame that was in sight here, and also at the time the, you know, downtown Vegas had a certain amount of cachet. It wasn't The Strip, but it was considered very promising. And this was looked upon as a development which would be pretty well suited to be in downtown Las Vegas.

Q Did the development happen?

A No.

you recall.

Q Did Charleston Casino Partners ever pay 305 any rent pursuant to that agreement?

A No.

Q So the question that I'm going to ask you because I'm going to preempt the Judge asking you is why didn't 305 do anything to collect that rent? Why didn't you take any action against Charleston Casino Partners?

A Well, the ball was basically in my court. I didn't like the positioning, but that's the way it was. The parcel in Las Vegas was part of a bigger piece of pie in New York City.

And in my opinion if one of the partners, one of the two partners were to be -- have a -- be the subject of a

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significant litigation to -- that could well have been a potential default in our loan agreements with the banks in New York and under our partnership agreements.

- It could have had an adverse effect on the other limited partners of 305 Second Avenue?
 - Α Yes.
- Could it have had an adverse effect on in putting 305 Second Avenue in default of all the loans and basically out of business?
 - Α It could have.
- Okay. Now, at the same time -- you've been here. You've heard a lot about this carryback note, the \$5 million note that was due back to LiveWork, but that was due to Mr. Liberman and Mr. Mitchell. Do you recall that testimony?
 - Α I do.
- Okay. At the same time you weren't collecting anything from Charleston Casino Partners, 305 didn't make any payments on that note; right?
 - Α Correct.
 - 0 Why not?
- Well, if we weren't -- we weren't collecting rent. So we didn't have the wherewithal to pay the note.
- How was 305 paying its other bills? Because you had Heartland Bank's obligation. There's -- how much did it cost to keep -- strike that.

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How much did it cost to keep the center running every month?

- Round numbers, it was about \$50,000 a month.
- Okay. And there was an obligation to Heartland Bank that had to be paid every month; right?
 - That's correct. Α
- How were those -- how were those obligations being paid by 305 with no money coming in?
- Α That money came out of the operating account in New York City.
- Okay. Out of the other 305 Second Avenue Associates Q pool of money from the other things that they were doing?
 - That's correct. Α
- Okay. Did Mr. Liberman ever take in any personal funds to try to offset some of these obligations? That you recall?
 - Not that I know of. Α
- Okay. At the same time -- you heard the testimony, Q and I just want to confirm this. 305 actually wasn't collecting any rent from the tenants for a period of time either, was it -- were you?
 - Α That's correct.
- That was going to Charleston Casino Partners, wasn't Q it?
 - Α That's my understanding.

Q Okay. But during all of this, did Mr. Liberman ever explain any of this to you? I mean, you guys are general partners in 305. Did he ever tell you why they weren't making the payments? Did he ever give an explanation as to what was

going on that was at all satisfactory to you?

A Well, you know, when you're in a good market, everybody does very well. And when the market in Vegas turned, it seemed to go up faster than any other market in the country, and when the tide turned, it dropped like a stone.

Q Okay.

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A So it was my understanding that there just weren't the resources to meet the obligations.

Q Okay. So but at some point 305 stopped paying Heartland Bank; is that right?

- A That's correct.
- Q Why did you do that?

And let me ask you this question first. Was that your decision?

- A Yes, it was.
- Q Why?

A I had reached out to the Heartland Bank and attempted to reach some kind of a resolution with them to give us relief under the -- because the market that all of us had invested in was not the market that was the present market in Las Vegas, and I wanted the bank to recognize the change in the

circumstances and make some kind of an appropriate adjustment.

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How did that go? Q

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Α Not very well.

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Α

litigation?

Here in Las Vegas?

thinking behind that?

0 What happened next?

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couldn't -- we couldn't continue to pay these obligations, or

Well, at some point it became evident that we

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at least for better or for worse that was my decision that we couldn't be responsible to our entire partnership and continue

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So we stopped paying the bank.

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Okay. At some point thereafter Heartland commenced

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That's correct. Α

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And at some point shortly thereafter LiveWork commenced litigation, didn't they, on the \$5 million note?

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Α Yeah, I believe so.

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Okay. And then right around that same time was when

305 finally brought the claim against Charleston Casino

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19 Partners. Was that litigation a result of the other two

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litigations? Did you finally have to pull the trigger on that

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because Heartland was coming after you, or what was the

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23 I mean, at some point we needed an effective response. We also needed effective representation on behalf of

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305 Las Vegas, LLC. We hired a man named Carl Schwartz of

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Hunton & Williams in New York. And at the time Carl was considered to be one of the -- one of the best people around in negotiating with banks and restructuring the financing that was on the property.

Q Okay. And eventually all of the litigation and Mr. Schwartz's efforts resulted in a settlement agreement; is that right?

A That's correct.

Q We can pull it up. I believe it's 9033 (sic), but I could be wrong about that. Do you recall the settlement agreement, the global settlement that was entered into?

THE COURT: With Heartland Bank?

MR. BOSCHEE: With Heartland Bank, yes. Well, and other folks.

THE COURT: Right.

MR. BOSCHEE: But the Heartland Bank settlement.

THE WITNESS: I mean, I guess I remember the numbers more clearly than any other part of it because that was sort of -- it was either my job, or it was the most painful part of the deal.

BY MR. BOSCHEE:

Q Okay. Well, what is your recollection?

There it is. It's on the screen. Is that the settlement agreement that was ultimately entered into?

If you need to scroll down.

A I mean, I believe so. I'm looking at it, and I
assume that's the correct document.

MR. MUIJE: What number was that again, Brian? I must have --

MR. BOSCHEE: I think it's 9033.

THE CLERK: It may be --

ATTORNEYS: 80033.

MR. BOSCHEE: 80033.

THE COURT: 8-0-0-3-3.

MR. BOSCHEE: There you go.

MR. MUIJE: Thank you.

MR. BOSCHEE: I haven't had quite enough coffee yet this morning.

BY MR. BOSCHEE:

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Q What is your recollection? Because you -- were you the primary deal point for 305 in the negotiations of the settlement?

A No. I think we really relied on Carl Schwartz to deal with their attorneys, the Heartland attorneys, and it just seemed — it seemed best under the circumstances. I had been assigned a rather junior person to be my liaison between 305 and Heartland Bank, and it didn't seem that that was an appropriate channel of communications.

Q How long did it take to get the resolution from when you stopped paying Heartland ultimately to the 29th of August,

2014, to wrap this whole thing up?

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Well, it seemed to take the better part of two years.

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Okay. So it wasn't something that just happened in the summer of 2014, and you wrapped it all up?

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Α No.

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Q Okay.

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I went to two Christmas parties at Hunton & Williams Α during this process. So it was -- it took a while.

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They were probably really nice Christmas parties though.

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Do you -- and if you need to look at the agreement, let me know, but what is your recollection of ultimately what the resolution was between all of the parties to the settlement agreement?

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Well, I mean, the bottom line, to look at this globally and also very simply, in round numbers we had roughly \$18 million worth of financing. Of the 18, Heartland held about I think it was roughly 9, 6, as far as an original piece of paper. I mean, it was redone. I see this says 11. I think all in between principal and interest it was almost 11,

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someplace between 10, 6 and 11.

22 23

\$4 million in financing.

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Did the lease with Charleston Casino Partners go away as part of this deal?

And at the end of the day, the final result was

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Α Yes.

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Did the rent obligation that they owed 305 go away as part of this deal?

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Α Yes, I believe so. Yeah.

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Okay. And the obligation that 305 owed to LiveWork Q on the carryback note went away as part of this deal too,

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didn't it?

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Α Correct.

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Okay. From 305's perspective, why did you do that? Why did you -- why did you decide to release the Charleston Casino Partners's debt and then get out of the six and a half or \$6.9 million obligation to LiveWork?

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Well, you know, it's just as a judgment call for better or for worse, it seemed to be the cleanest way of wrapping this up with a global settlement which addressed all the issues. It certainly wasn't perfect. I'd say everybody was universally unhappy. But under the circumstances, it seemed to be in the best interest, at least of the -- of our

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partnership to do it that way.

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Okay. When you entered into the settlement agreement Q on the 29th day of August 2014, have you ever -- had you ever at that point heard the name Russell Nype?

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Α No.

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Did you have any idea who he was? Q

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Α No.

Did you have any idea he was in a dispute with Las

A I do not recall knowing that. Sorry. But I -
Q When's the first time that you recall learning that

Vegas Land Partners over a commission or fee?

- Mr. Nype had an issue or at that point maybe a judgment against Las Vegas Land Partners?
- A My sense is probably within the last three years at this point.
- Q Prior to the start of this trial, have you personally ever met Mr. Nype before?
 - A No.
 - Out of fairness to Mr. Nype, he hadn't met me either.
- Q When you entered into -- when 305 entered into this settlement agreement and ultimately a decision was made to do this deal with Heartland and everybody else, was concealing assets or hiding money from Las Vegas Land Partners any part of the decision-making process for you on behalf of 305?
 - A No.
- Q Okay. Does 305 still own -- 305 still owns this property? It still owns Aquarius Plaza and the parking lot; right?
 - A It does.
 - Q Okay. Does it still cost \$50,000 a month to run it?
- A No. The operating cost at this point is between 30 and \$35,000 a month.

	ī		
	A-16-7	740689-B Nype v. Mitchell 2020-01-03 BT Day4	
1	Q	Okay. And how much revenue is it generating?	
2	А	Between 20 and 25.	
3	Q	So it loses money every month?	
4	А	That's correct.	
5	Q	Okay. And has it been like that for since 305	
6	took back	over the property after the settlement?	
7	А	Yes.	
8	Q	Okay. 305 is currently marketing the property;	
9	right?		
10	А	That's correct.	
11	Q	Okay. To the best of your understanding, is 305	
12	marketing	it for more or less than \$25 million?	
13	А	Less.	
14	Q	Considerably less?	
15	А	Yes.	
16	Q	Okay. So strike that.	
17		Has 305 ever shared a bank account with Mr. Liberman	
18	personally?		
19	А	No.	
20	Q	Has it ever shared a bank account with Mr. Mitchell	
21	personally	y?	
22	А	No.	
23	Q	Okay. For	
24		MR. BOSCHEE: I have nothing further, Your Honor.	
25		Thank you, Mr. Chamberlin. Mr. Muije and the Judge	
		JD Reporting, Inc.	
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signature page. Would that appear to be Mr. Liberman's signature?

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THE COURT: That looks like a notary.

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THE WITNESS: I apologize. I don't see a signature here for Mr. Liberman.

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BY MR. MUIJE:

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Q And I may have misspoken. It's at the top of page 21. My bad. Because there were two notaries on the prior signature page.

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A You know, sir, you're telling me this is at the top of page 21. I will take your word for it. I don't see page 21 here, but if you tell me that's the case, I assume I can rely on that.

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Q It's down below the screen. Right down there.

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A Yes, that looks like Mr. Liberman's signature.

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Q Okay. And it actually has the same notary as the individual who notarized both of your signatures on page 19; correct?

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We can go back and look at page 19 to verify that.

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A Would you mind highlighting the notary for me, please.

2122

Okay.

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Q And then if you want to go down, we can look at the similar notary paragraphs on page 21.

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A Yes.

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A-16-740689-B | Nype v. Mitchell | 2020-01-03 | BT Day4 1 Okay. We can go to page 22, and there's a signature 2 line that says David J. Mitchell, and it appears to have a 3 notary acknowledgment below that. Are you familiar with 4 Mr. Mitchell's signature? 5 Α No. 6 Do you have any reason to doubt that this is a 7 properly signed, properly acknowledged signature page 8 undertaken by Mr. Mitchell in conjunction with this agreement? 9 MR. BOSCHEE: Objection. Foundation. 10 THE COURT: Overruled. 11 THE WITNESS: If Mr. Mitchell wants to tell me it's 12 his signature, I'll believe him. 13 MR. MUIJE: Okay. 14 15

THE COURT: No. What he just asked you, sir, is do you have any reason to believe it's not a properly notarized and authenticated what the notary has done here?

THE WITNESS: Oh. I'm sorry. It, yes, it looks okay.

THE COURT: All right.

BY MR. MUIJE:

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Okay. And then on page 23, we have two signatures. Do you recognize those, sir?

Α Yes.

Q And who are those?

А Barnet Liberman and Winthrop Chamberlin.

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signature page there, we have a document entitled sixth amended and restated promissory note. Is that the substitute loan that you testified about earlier?

> UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: John, what page is that? MR. MUIJE: I'm sorry. That's page 27.

THE WITNESS: No -- yes, I recognize this. I mean, I

can't swear to the authenticity of it, but you've shown me the document, so I'll say it's the document.

BY MR. MUIJE:

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- Q And it indicates down in paragraph 2B that that loan matures in March 2016. Do you see that, sir?
 - A Yes. Thank you.
- Q And did you, in fact, pay that loan off on or before the maturity date?
- A You know, this loan was replaced by financing from Meadows Bank. Frankly, I can't attest to the dates without looking at the paperwork.
 - O Sure.
- A But this was -- the basic trail of the financing went from Heartland Bank, and in this instance you're showing it at four and a half million, and it was at the end of the process replaced by a first mortgage from Meadows Bank in the amount of \$2 million.
 - Q In the amount of 2 million?
 - A That's correct.
- Q Had you paid down the principal that much by the time it was replaced?
- A It's my belief is that the final principal amount of the Heartland loan was \$4 million and not four and a half million dollars.
 - Q Okay. And did you owe any other monies to Heartland

Q Okay. Was there any subordinate financing that remained in effect after this restructuring that you've testified about?

- A Not at the time.
- Q Okay. And...

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- A That I know of.
- Q And again, I've looked through this entire document now, and I do not see a signature block or a place where LiveWork, LLC, is agreeing to this, consenting to it, doing anything with it.

Have you seen such a document at any time?

- A Not -- not to my knowledge. Or if I did, I don't recall.
- Q Okay. Have you ever seen any documents where LiveWork released its note against 305?
 - A I don't recall having seen a document.
 - Q Subsequent to this deal, did -- were you ever

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contacted, or was demand ever made by LiveWork that you continue to pay or resolve the loan obligation deriving from the original \$5 million note?

- Α Not that I recall.
- And if you needed to deal with LiveWork in any Q capacity, who would you contact?
 - Α I assume that would be Barnet Liberman.
- Okay. And did you have an understanding with Mr. Liberman that that note would go away, quote, unquote?
- The short answer is no, but I think a more appropriate answer is that when the negotiations were completed with the Heartland Bank, there was the junior financing was all treated at one time as a global settlement that settled everything.
- But you never saw formal documentation signed by LiveWork approving that on behalf of the entity LiveWork, did you?
 - Α I don't believe so.
- What kind of reports do you send to your limited partners, if any?
- Our limited partners are entitled to receive a financial statement, an annual financial statement.
- And that goes out around tax time every year; is that a fair statement?
 - Α No.

recall.

Okay. And you don't keep a record or a file with Q communications from limited partners?

Α (No response.)

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In other words, if they request a report, it goes into either the investor subfile or some kind of a correspondence file or some kind of a financial file?

That's -- that's quite unstructured. There are -the managing agents have got files. So to the extent that limited partners have correspondence, the managing agents do keep track of that.

- Q And who's the managing agent?
- Α The managing agents are our employees.
 - Of ORB or of Second Avenue? Q
 - Α ORB.
 - Q Okay. So ORB would maintain records of

most of our investors in 305 Second Avenue at this point are

older by any yardstick. A number of them have died, and they

I mean, the primary purpose of this is that

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communications with limited partners; is that correct?

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have heirs, and we have a mechanism whereby that the shares can be assigned to their heirs. And that's the primary thrust of the recordkeeping that we do.

Q And on an annual basis, would the limited partners receive K-1s from your accountants?

A They would.

Yes.

Q Now, when the original tax-free exchange land, for want of a better word, occurred, you had already made arrangements to enter into the lease with Charleston Casino Partners; correct?

A I don't know the chronology of that unless I reviewed it, which I have not.

Q I'll represent to you that closing and the lease are dated exactly the same.

A Okay.

Q And I'm assuming you don't enter into a development contract that's just handed to you without reading it over and negotiating some terms, discussing it, et cetera. Is that a correct statement?

A What development contract are you referring to?

Q I'm talking about what Mr. Boschee called the lease

JD Reporting, Inc.

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Α

That's correct.

Q And when the transaction -- when the transaction occurred, the properties were on East Charleston; correct, from 305 -- or 300 to 320 East Charleston? Am I remembering the address correctly?

A The property addresses are 300, 320 and 330 East Charleston Boulevard.

Q Okay. I appreciate the clarification.

And what was located on those three addresses at that time?

A Three rather nondescript commercial buildings, which they're basic. They were office buildings. Two are office buildings, and one was -- had five storefronts on the ground floor. And the 320 building had five storefronts on the ground floor and five storefronts on the second floor.

Q Okay. And around the buildings was basically dedicated parking for those buildings; is that correct?

A That's correct.

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Q And Mr. Boschee keeps referring to this property as a parking lot. It was never just a parking lot --

THE COURT: Well, that was me. Remember, that was me who started that.

MR. MUIJE: Was it you? I'm sorry, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Yeah, I started out about six months ago.

MR. MUIJE: I apologize. I thought it derived from Mr. Boschee.

THE COURT: He doesn't get credit for that one.

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MR. BOSCHEE: No. Nor would I take it.

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BY MR. MUIJE:

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Now, Mr. Boschee elicited a lot of testimony about the plans and your intention to put 1100 apartments on there.

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Was it an entitlement, an easement? Was it some kind of a

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basis that you could convert to use from basically a strip mall

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or office buildings to residential apartments? Is that what

you meant when you indicated that the property came with

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entitlements?

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Α Sir, as a point of fact, these were not my plans

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you're referring to.

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Q Okay. That's what I'm trying to determine. Whose

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plans were they?

The plans for the redevelopment of this property were

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the plans of Barnet Liberman and David Mitchell.

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Okay. But as --O

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To the best of my knowledge. Α

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And you relied on your longtime friend and partner in Q

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Α I did, coupled with my knowledge of the strength of

deciding to go with this deal; correct?

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the Las Vegas market at that time.

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Okay. And now knowing that you've got an obligation to make substantial note payments on a recurring monthly basis,

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how long would it have taken to put 1100 apartments on that

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property? You surely must have realized that it wasn't going to be built and complete within a week, a month, or even a year? How long did you anticipate it would take to see that development?

MR. BOSCHEE: Objection. I think that calls for speculation.

THE COURT: Overruled.

THE WITNESS: Well, I mean, construction is not my specialty, but my assumption would be that if the property were to be developed that the construction period once it was shovel ready would be about two years.

BY MR. MUIJE:

Q Okay. And how did 305 plan to deal with the liquidity issues and the necessary capital to service your financial obligations to Heartland during that period that the property was basically being developed and not generating income?

A The first source of revenue would be the development budget for the development of the property.

- Q Okay. And was there a fund set up for that?
- A Not to my knowledge.
- Q Okay. So basically -- and were you aware of what the property was generating in terms of monthly rents when you acquired it in '07?

A No.

Q You indicated I believe when I just asked you that currently it's generating 20- to 25,000 a month. We heard testimony yesterday, I think from Mr. Liberman and possibly from Mr. Rich, that it was running 300,000 a year, which would be 12 months times 25,000.

The property hasn't materially changed in the last 15 years, has it, to your knowledge?

A I was not managing the property at the time. So I cannot state with any great authority that the property has changed or it hasn't changed.

Q Okay. But you chose to embark on this deal with adequate knowledge to know that it was going to have negative cash flow at least initially for an extended period of time, did you not?

A You know, I've made a lot of extremely good business decisions in my career over the last 40 or 50 years. I would not hold out this business decision as one of my better decisions.

Q No. And I appreciate that. Is it fair to say that you basically trusted and relied on your longtime friend and partner Mr. Liberman in choosing to enter into this deal?

A I was influenced by his enthusiasm, which was very high at the time, and in 2006 this seemed to be a place which would -- it was a very hot market. Let's put it that way.

Q Okay. Was there any intention to basically flip the

property?

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A I didn't know of that intention.

- Q Okay. You thought it would be developed and understood that there would likely be negative cash flow at least initially and told that that would occur; is that correct?
- A In every construction project that I've been involved in, there's always negative cash flow for a couple of years until the project gets up and running. I didn't think that this project would be any different from any other project.
- Q Okay. Did the fact that the cash flow and properties in New York and other operations of Second Avenue Associates would basically be subsidizing 305 Las Vegas, was that communicated to the limited partners?
- A I believe on the financial statements that the obligations in Las Vegas or the activities were referenced.
- Q Well, and we see that in 2012, 2013 and 2014. Was it also referenced every year prior to 2012, going back to '07?
- A Between '07 and either '11 or '12, there was just the income or the lack of income from the lease.
- Q Did you have an understanding with Mr. Liberman how that deficit was going to be cured?
- A I took the responsibility to fund the losses or to fund the operating expenses of the Las Vegas property as part of my duties or part of my job as being a managing agent.

Q Okay. Was that decision discussed in any way with the limited partners? Other than the annual financial statements for those who cared to request them?

A To the extent the limited partners asked about the activities in Las Vegas, they were told.

Q But I believe you testified earlier you couldn't recall any limited partner asking.

A I don't recall all the conversations I've had, but from time to time people ask, you know, how are things in Las Vegas. It's a little like asking how's the weather. The weather in Las Vegas wasn't particularly good.

Q But you can't document or show any detailed report or written response about the ongoing losses in the Las Vegas entity other than the annual financial statements, can you?

A Correct.

Q And you were here in court yesterday when Mr. Liberman's testimony was that he does not think and does not recall advising the limited partners of the problems; correct?

A I believe that's correct.

Q Okay.

A I don't recall all of Mr. Liberman's testimony, but I think that's accurate.

Q Looking back at Exhibit 80033 and looking at page 3 of that document, paragraph 3, it makes a recitation of

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approximately what the outstanding unpaid payments were down about five lines, eight hundred and one thousand, seven, twenty-five, seventy. Do you see that, sir?

A Yes.

Q Well, and it also recites on that same line that the interest accrual is nineteen, fifty-six, point, six, oh, a day, and that's just on the first month. Then there's a second note for 486,000 in past-due interest and principal, accruing interest at eleven, eighty-eight a day. Just on a rough math basis, that would suggest to me that at the time of this settlement agreement the loans are approximately 400 days in arrears. Does that sound about right?

A I'm sorry. Say that again.

Q If you look at the recitations in this agreement that you signed as to what's outstanding and owed.

A Right. And then you made a conclusion. What was -- you said it's about --

Q My conclusion was if you look at the amount that they say is past due and owed, and the interest accrual a day and divide one into the other, it would suggest that payments stopped about 400 days prior to this settlement agreement.

Does that sound right?

A You know, I don't know. I could certainly figure that out with my calculator. If you tell me that's correct, I'll take your word for it. Otherwise, I would need to do the

August 6, 2014. Is that correct, sir?

A Sir, that's the math. I can't tell you with certainty that that's the day we stopped paying, but the 400 days from this day seem to be correct, and the math is correct on the money.

Q So that if we're close with June 2013, the property was acquired in May '07, that means for six years Second Avenue Associates was subsidizing 305 Vegas to the tune of at least, at least 3,000 and some dollars per day in interest, which is over a million dollars a year in note payments. Is that correct, sir? And that doesn't even count any reduction of principal?

A No. I don't believe that that was the subsidy that was provided. I think that number is high.

Q What do you believe was the drain on Second Avenue Associates on either a monthly or an annual basis during '08, '09, '010?

A I believe it was in the order of 50- or \$60,000 a month.

Q And where were the other funds coming from to pay these notes?

A I don't know.

Q They weren't negative amortization notes, were they?

A I don't know.

Q When did it become clear to you that Mr. Liberman's

It coincided with the market, and I believe that the

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excitement and his grandiose plans were not panning out?

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market started to collapse in maybe 2008.

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And still you hung in there and made note payments for another four or five years; correct?

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Α Yes.

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Why didn't you find a third-party independent developer that could take the ball and run with it as opposed to just relying on your friend and your partner?

Hmm. I don't know. Α

Q Did you ever think about that?

At the time my responsibility was for our businesses in New York, and they were doing very well, and this was just, you know, it was part of the overall businesses that we were in. It was the part that wasn't doing well.

So in other words, my term the parent company subsidizing the subsidiary was pretty accurate; right? You had good business in New York and bad business in Vegas?

That's correct. Α

And the reason you were in Vegas was because of the ambitions and friendly persuasion of Mr. Liberman; correct?

MR. BOSCHEE: Objection. Asked and answered.

THE COURT: Overruled.

THE WITNESS: Neither Mr. Liberman or I ever lacked for enthusiasm or expansive plans.

1 BY MR. MUIJE:

Q Okay. Now, you indicated that ultimately you just didn't have the wherewithal anymore to pay that LiveWork note, or actually the LiveWork note never got paid. So there wasn't the wherewithal to pay the LiveWork note on top of the Heartland note. Is that correct?

A Yes.

Q So there was an insufficient capital to cover the expenses of 305 Las Vegas, LLC?

A Yes.

Q Now, when Mr. Boschee was asking the questions, you suggested that trying to enforce the lease against Charleston Casino Partners would have a negative impact on your New York operations. How would a landlord enforcing a tenant's obligations in Las Vegas have a negative impact in New York?

A Within the businesses of 305 and the other businesses, that other operating entities we had in New York, we were governed by partnership agreements and loan operating agreements, and a default of a general partner was universally regarded as a possible event of default under loan documents or partnership agreements.

Q Okay. I understand that, but Charleston Casino
Partners was not a partner. It was a tenant. It was allegedly
a third party. How would enforcing your rights against
Charleston Casino Partners impact those obligations under the

loan agreements?

A It's my understanding that Mr. Liberman was one of the owners of that entity.

- Q And would that show up, per se, on a lawsuit if, for example, 305 sued to evict Charleston Casino Partners, one party versus one party, two business entities? You have them out in three days under or two weeks call it with court delays, and you have a new tenant in the next month? That should not impact your business arrangements and loans in New York; correct?
 - A I wouldn't care to speculate on that.
- Q Okay. But nevertheless you never decided to undertake anything or even to twist arms to get the overdue rent monies; correct?
- A I'd say as of August 6th of 2014, a decision was made not to proceed paying out these charges.
- Q Okay. So seven years later you decided you're not going to pay the charges anymore, and you're going to renegotiate with the bank.
- What happens -- I believe you indicated it was medical offices at 305 Second Avenue; is that correct?
 - A That's correct.
 - Q And there were some apartments?
 - A Yes.
 - Q Were you here when Mr. Liberman testified that

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There are more factors that enter in that than what would happen in Las Vegas.

Such as your friendship with Mr. Liberman; is that correct?

No. Such as putting business entities in New York at Α risk of being in default with their loan, with their bank loans.

Q And I'm still asking you to explain or clarify to me how you were in default on a bank loan when you evict a tenant?

MR. BOSCHEE: Objection. Asked and answered.

THE COURT: Overruled.

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. I just -- say that again.

BY MR. MUIJE:

And I ask again. You've lost me because I don't -- I need you to explain to me how you're in default on a loan agreement in New York when you choose to evict a tenant of a property in Las Vegas that's not paying rent?

Α Because the one entity is a subsidiary entity of the other.

Charleston Casino is a subsidiary of 305? 0

No. No. 305 Las Vegas, LLC, is I think to call it a Α subsidiary is perhaps not the right technical word. I believe it's a disregarded entity. But the partners in 305 Las Vegas are the same partners in 305 Second Avenue Associates.

Well, and I understand that. And again if you were Q

sued in Las Vegas by LiveWork, that could constitute an event of default. You're getting sued for not paying 305 Las Vegas's bills. I understand that promissory notes and partnership agreements in New York might consider that financial responsibility a default under their agreements.

But you're exercising financial diligence in attempting to enforce and collect rent that is owed to you. How does that constitute a default under those agreements?

A Well, that was a decision that I made. And at the time it seemed advisable.

Q And I believe you testified that the ultimate decision probably 2013 leading to the settlement agreement in 2014 was you couldn't keep throwing money into the black hole. Is that a fair acronym (sic) or a fair statement? You didn't have the wherewithal to sustain that anymore?

A It did not seem advisable or responsible.

Q Did you ever consider it a possibility --

A -- regardless of our wherewithal.

Q -- of filing a Chapter 11 bankruptcy to resolve those various?

A No.

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Q -- cash flow issues?

And why not?

A Filing bankruptcies is not something as a general partner of any entity that I would consider.

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- Okay. Just a matter of personal principle? Because I see partnerships file Chapter 11 bankruptcy almost every day?
 - That's fine for them.
- Okay. You were aware though that that would be a potential legal option that you could have taken; correct?
 - Α Yes.
- And in exercising your fiduciary duty to the limited partners as well as the entity 305 Second Avenue, why did you agree to release personal quarantees by Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Liberman which had the potential to recover the full \$12.6 million owed at that time?
- That's an opinion that you're stating. That is -- my Α opinion could be different from that.
- Okay. Is it true that you decided that you would Q release all rights at 305 Vegas, LLC, had against Mr. Liberman and Mr. Mitchell personally pursuant to those guarantees? Did you make that decision?
 - Α Yes.
- Okay. And did you do a financial analysis whether Mr. Liberman had sufficient net worth to pay the 12.6 million in past due rents that were owed?
- I knew what Mr. Liberman's financial capabilities were.
- And if he really wanted to, he could have done it; right? He could've sold property in New York. He could've

raised 12.6 million. Correct?

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MR. BLUT: Object. Calls for speculation.

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THE COURT: Overruled.

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THE WITNESS: In my view and judgment, that would not

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have been a wise or responsible thing to do.

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BY MR. MUIJE:

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Q To recover money for the benefit of your limited partners who have entrusted their investment funds with you,

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it's not wise to maximize their return?

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A The goal of maximizing their returns might not have

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been achieved in doing what you're suggesting.

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Q Okay. Now, you've suggested that a number of these

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limited partners were lawyers. What do you think their

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reaction would have been if you said we're owed \$12.6 million, and we're releasing it?

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MR. BOSCHEE: Objection. Calls for speculation.

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MR. BLUT: Join.

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THE COURT: Overruled.

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THE WITNESS: The people that invested in us invested

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in us because they felt that we were good enough at our

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business so that we could be counted on to do what was

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necessary to achieve some kind of responsible return.

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BY MR. MUIJE:

Q Okay. But as a fiduciary, is a 2 percent per annum

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return adequate when you know you can make 7 percent?

MR. BLUT: Objection. Lacks foundation.

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THE COURT: Overruled.

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the 2 percent and the 7 percent, and there are times when only

THE WITNESS: I -- in my opinion, you need to look at

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making a 2 percent return is a much smarter move.

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BY MR. MUIJE:

been a possibility?

document.

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Okay. But you didn't consult the limited partners about that, did you?

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Our partnership agreement is constructed so that this Α

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is not a consulting relationship.

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told them, and they would have had an option of suggesting that

But if any limited partner had asked, you would've

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management wasn't doing its job right; correct? That would've

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That's a possibility. Α

filing to me. I have no objection.

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MR. MUIJE: Nothing -- oh, one more. One more. Yes,

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I do. If we could pull up document 80039. It's a one-page

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And I better check to make sure that's admitted. I think it is.

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It is not. So I'm sorry, Your Honor.

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THE COURT: Anybody object? It looks like a

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Secretary of State filing, although I'm not looking at it.

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MR. BOSCHEE: Yeah, looks like a Secretary of State

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	A 10 /40005 B Nype v. Mitchell 2020 01 05 Bi Bay4
1	THE COURT: Be admitted.
2	(Defense Exhibit Number(s) 80039 admitted.)
3	MR. MUIJE: Thank you, Your Honor.
4	BY MR. MUIJE:
5	Q Have you seen that document before, sir?
6	It's got your signature in the lower left.
7	A Well, I've signed it. So we'll assume that I've seen
8	it before.
9	Q Okay. And in the right directly to the right of your
10	signature, it says title, and you say managing member.
11	A Yes.
12	Q Is that your handwriting, sir?
13	A Not the managing member part.
14	Q Okay. Do you have any idea who might have filled
15	this out and handed it to you for signature?
16	MR. BOSCHEE: I'm going to object to that. I believe
17	that's going to call for attorney-client communication.
18	THE COURT: Overruled. The identification itself is
19	not privileged.
20	Just the name, sir.
21	THE WITNESS: No. I don't I don't know whose
22	writing that is or who might have given it to me.
23	BY MR. MUIJE:
24	Q Now, I notice an inconsistency between this document
25	and the Heartland settlement agreement, which indicates that
	JD Reporting, Inc.
•	" E2

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it's being signed on behalf of 305 and that -- and let me pull up -- it's probably impossible to do it side-by-side, but let's --

- Α I hope you're not referring to my signature.
- No. No. I'm not referring to your signature. I'm Q referring to this designation in the signature blocks, and I'm going to try to find a page where we have...

And it's on page 19 of 80033. We can pull that up separately. And we're on page 19.

And when you signed for 305 there, it indicates that it's the sole member of 305 Las Vegas is signing on its behalf. Do you see that, sir?

- Α I don't. But point it out to me.
- Q Right at the top of the page it says borrower. There we go.
- Α Okay. Where does that fit in within these two pieces of paper?
- Well, and what I'm looking at is on behalf of 305 Las 0 Vegas, Second Avenue Associates is signing by both general partners. That's how the signature block is set up. Would you agree with that?
 - Okay. I agree. Α
- Yet when we flip over to the official state filings with the State of Nevada --
 - Α Right.

general partner, and there's no reference to Second Avenue

Associates. Is there a reason that that was done that way?

-- you're designated as a managing member, not as a

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Q In other words, you just signed it?

I don't know.

A Within our partnership agreement a single partner can bind the partnership. So whether both Mr. Liberman and I signed or whether I signed by myself, either is acceptable.

Q I'm not debating the authority, sir. I recognize that either partner can sign.

But you're designating yourself as a managing member, not as a general partner. That's a problem I have.

A It is my understanding that in the -- 305 Second Avenue Associates is a general partnership which came into being in about 1985.

Q Okay.

A And whatever this piece of paper refers to which has just my mangled single signature on it, to be referred to as a managing member, I think that that's appropriate to be a member in another corporate form. If you tell me that both of these are on behalf of 305 Second Avenue Associates, then you've clarified it for me, but I'm --

Q Well, and I guess my real question is who's the member? Who owns the equity in 305 Las Vegas, LLC? Because member implies that you have an equity interest personally.

A The owning entity in Las Vegas is 305 Las Vegas -- I think it's Associates, but it's something -- it's a corporate --

- Q It's LLC.
- A It's an LLC. Okay.
- Q 305 Las Vegas, LLC.
- A Okay.

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- Q And again you're indicating that you're a member not that you're just a manager?
 - A I believe that's appropriate, but, you know...
- Q Okay. So you don't know who actually owns the equity in 305 Las Vegas, LLC?

A The owners of the equity, and, yes, I do know. It's considered a disregarded entity, and it is the sole corporate entity of 305 Second Avenue Associates, and 305 Second Avenue Associates is the owner, and this --

- Q The sole member?
- A Pardon me?
- Q The sole member?
- A 305 Las Vegas, LLC, I believe is a sole member of --
- Q The other way around, sir. I think you misspoke.
 - A Okay.
 - Q Second Avenue is the sole member of Las Vegas. Is that a correct statement?
- A Thank you. I'll take -- yes. If that's the way it's

A It would be a guess, but I would say we probably looked at 15 properties.

MR. BLUT: And I believe that, if the clerk could check, I believe 40027 was admitted. It was shown to Mr. Liberman yesterday and on the screen, but I just want to be sure.

THE WITNESS: 40027?

MR. BLUT: Oh, this is more for the clerk.

THE WITNESS: Oh.

THE CLERK: 40,000 what?

MR. BLUT: -27.

MR. MUIJE: Was that 40,000, Mr. Blut?

THE CLERK: Yes, it is admitted.

MR. BLUT: It is admitted.

THE COURT: Yes. You may demonstrate 40027.

MR. BLUT: Excellent. Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Let's display it.

(Pause in the proceedings.)

BY MR. BLUT:

Q And so this is the lease, Mr. Chamberlin, between Charleston Casino Partners, LLC, and 305 Las Vegas. And so I'm just going to take you to page 14. I just want to show you the first page there. There was some testimony about developing -- (Pause in the proceedings.)

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1 BY MR. BLUT:

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Q And at the top of page 14, it says,

It was understood that lessee intends such alteration, tearing down and/or demolition for new construction as its purpose in this lease, and this provision is not intended to limit lessee's achievement of that purpose.

Is that what you were talking about when you said that the idea was for the lessee, Charleston Casino Partners, to develop this property?

A That's correct.

MR. BLUT: Okay. No further questions. Thank you.

THE COURT: Mr. Johnson and Mr. Edwards.

MR. H. JOHNSON: Yes.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. H. JOHNSON:

Q Mr. Chamberlin, you talked about the process where you evaluated different properties, and then you decided to look at the -- what became the 305 purchase; correct?

A (No audible response.)

Q And you had some discussions with Mr. Liberman about the merits of that particular property; correct?

A Yes. Correct.

Q And in line with what's in the lease, you felt that

that was going to be a project that might develop as many as

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1100 units; is that correct?

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A That's correct.

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Q Now, during the course of discussion with Mr. Liberman about the project and the merits of the land and that type of thing, did you ever have any discussions with Mr. Liberman about Mr. Nype or any claim that Mr. Nype had?

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A No.

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Q Now, you mentioned that --

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A Sir, I'm sorry. Will you give me an approximate time? I mean, yesterday we probably talked about Mr. Nype. So when are you referring to?

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Q During the time period when you were evaluating whether 305 would purchase the property from Leah Properties.

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A Yeah.

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Q During that time period, you had no discussions?

MR. MUIJE: You misspoke, Mr. Johnson. They

purchased it from LiveWork.

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MR. H. JOHNSON: Oh, excuse me. Wrong project.

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BY MR. H. JOHNSON:

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22 LiveWork and you had those discussions with Mr. Liberman about

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the merits of the project, were there any discussions about

Okay. When you decided to purchase the property from

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Mr. Nype or any claim that Mr. Nype had?

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A Not to my knowledge.

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Q Okay. You mentioned that the market in Las Vegas was very good at the time you were considering the purchase of this property; correct?

A Yes.

Q And that later changed in 2008?

A I believe that was about the time that there was a period of...

Q From your recollection of that time period, was that a rather sudden and dramatic change in the market here in Las Vegas?

A My sense is that the velocity of the market in Las Vegas, both up and down was -- that it was quite volatile.

Q And the change from 2007 to 2008 was quite significant as far as the market was concerned?

A You know, I don't know that the -- there was a significant erosion of value in, you know, in the ensuing years. I can't tell you the rate at which the market descended. I knew it was volatile, and we were losing value, but I can't tell you, well, this year we lost 3 million in value, and the next year we lost five. I just -- I don't know the increments, but I do know the direction.

Q And is it true in 2008 that there was a significant change in the capital markets as far as being able to obtain capital for a real estate development?

A I believe that's correct.

real estate projects beginning in 2008? Did that change

And would the same be true of finding investors for

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5 Objection.

significantly?

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24 25 BY MR. H. JOHNSON: Now, Mr. Liberman was also a guarantor of the lease

agreement; correct?

MR. MUIJE: Calls for speculation, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Overruled.

THE WITNESS: Sir, it's -- I don't know. We were not in the market to find real estate investors, and so unless -without that personal knowledge, I can't say how well other people's deals were going.

BY MR. H. JOHNSON:

Okay. Now, in looking at the transaction between 305 Q Las Vegas, LLC, and LiveWork, LLC, was there any consideration in structuring that deal that had to do with Mr. Nype or any claim that Mr. Nype had?

Α Not that I know of.

And as far as you know, was there anything done to delay, hinder or defraud Mr. Nype in relation to that transaction?

MR. MUIJE: Objection. Calls for a legal conclusion.

THE COURT: Overruled.

THE WITNESS: Not that I know of.

Q Okay. I could ask you who that counsel is, but I'm

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not going to. Might share a building with me.

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Does -- Mr. Muije asked you extensively about evicting tenants. Do you remember that?

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A Yes.

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Q Okay. The tenants you have in your New York properties are a little bit different than the tenancy that Charleston Casino Partners had here in Las Vegas, aren't they?

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A Yes.

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Q Okay. Charleston Casino Partners was more than just

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a regular personal tenant that you could just evict and collect

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rent from. They were actually -- there was, as Mr. Blut just showed you, there was the development component to that lease;

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right?

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Yes.

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Q Okay.

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A At the beginning, early on there was.

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Q Okay. So in the early stages of the lease and

19 20 whatever that Mr. Muije was asking you about, if you would have evicted Charleston Casino Partners, the development component

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of that arm goes away as well; right?

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A That's correct.

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Q Okay. And 305 actually did sue, at one point in the whole process, did sue David Mitchell on the guarantee, didn't

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they?

Mr. Mitchell could have cross-claimed or filed a third-party complaint against Mr. Liberman since they were joint quarantors

JD Reporting, Inc.

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and joint partners for casino Charleston in order to have

Mr. Liberman pay his fair share?

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A No. I was following the guidance of Carl Schwartz in New York and what our counsel was --

THE COURT: We don't want to know what your lawyers told you, sir.

MR. MUIJE: Pardon me? Sorry, Your Honor.

THE COURT: I told him we don't want to know what his lawyers told him to do.

MR. MUIJE: Understood. Thank you, Your Honor.

BY MR. MUIJE:

Q And I'm not asking what your lawyers told you to do.
But were you aware of the possibility that by suing
Mr. Mitchell on the guarantee he could have brought in

MR. BOSCHEE: Well, objection. He's still trying to get around the privilege.

THE COURT: Well, no, this isn't -- was he aware. It's just him.

THE WITNESS: My assumption is you can always sue anybody. So there's no reason that David Mitchell couldn't have sued Barnet Liberman.

BY MR. MUIJE:

Mr. Liberman?

Q Okay. And would that have violated the various covenants and undertakings in the partnership agreements and

THE WITNESS: Not to 305.

THE COURT: Okay.

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	A-16-740689-B Nype v. Mitchell 2020-01-03 BT Day4
1	MR. MUIJE: Very good. Nothing further, Judge.
2	THE WITNESS: To my knowledge, it was not to 305.
3	FURTHER REDIRECT EXAMINATION
4	BY MR. BOSCHEE:
5	Q Okay. Did 305 appreciate any benefit from the global
6	settlement that involved the lawsuit against David Mitchell?
7	A Yes.
8	Q What was that benefit?
9	A The benefit was that we started with 18 million in
10	financing, and we ended up with 4 million in financing.
11	MR. BOSCHEE: Thank you.
12	Nothing further, Your Honor.
13	THE COURT: Anything else?
14	(No audible response.)
15	THE COURT: Thank you, sir. We appreciate your time.
16	You can return to your chair.
17	MR. MUIJE: I have one follow-up, Your Honor.
18	THE COURT: Okay.
19	FURTHER RECROSS-EXAMINATION
20	BY MR. MUIJE:
21	Q How much did Mr. Mitchell personally pay towards that
22	global settlement? Do you recall?
23	A It's my understanding he paid \$1,250,000.
24	Q About 10 percent of what he would have had to pay
25	under the guarantee; correct?
	JD Reporting, Inc.
	\mathcal{L}

Q What happened? What course load did your life take?

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A I was working during the day. I was going to school at night. The work eclipsed the education part of it.

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Q Okay. What is your profession?

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A I am a real estate developer, investor.

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Q And how long have you been involved in real estate investment?

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A Since mid-1980s.

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Q Could you just tell the Court a little bit of your background in the real estate development --

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A Sure.

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O -- investment field.

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A Well, I was in the brokerage business, investment brokerage business from 1979 until the end of 1990. I worked

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for a series of different investment banking brokerage firms

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really from the end of 1990. I was somewhere, an investor, an

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active investor, proactive investor in different enterprises.

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And I started converting loft buildings, industrial loft buildings into residential buildings.

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Q Is that primarily in New York City?

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A In New York City, yeah.

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Q Okay. And when did that happen? When did that transition into developing -- industrial loft buildings into --

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A I was doing both, but that was somewhere in the

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1980s.

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- How did you meet Mr. Liberman?
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- We met in the Synagogue, the Young Israel, I think Α Fifth Avenue.
- 4
- 0 And you worked with him -- well, when did you first begin work with him?

I had bought a piece of property in Las Vegas. I met

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- the Mayor Goodman at the time and came back and told
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- 8 Mr. Liberman about what was going on in downtown Las Vegas. He
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- 10 2004 maybe -- 2003, 2004.

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- came on one of my early trips to Las Vegas, and so that was in
- And from the time you met Mr. Liberman till the Q present, approximately how many projects or developments have you guys worked on together or developed together?
 - Α Eight, nine.
 - And were most of those projects here in Las Vegas? Q
 - Α Yes.
- Could you please tell the Court what projects you've Q developed here in Las Vegas.
- Well, we have been involved obviously in the, you've heard this over the last week, but in these five city blocks that we call the Civic Center project, which involves the Regional Transportation Center. It involves the City Hall project. There was different associated projects envisioned inside of that five city blocks Civic Center project.
 - And there was a parcel in Symphony Park that was

slated to become a hotel-casino.

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which is 1100 units.

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We just finished discussing the Charleston project,

There was a project on Coolidge in casino at one point that was also going to be a residential project, but they built a parking facility.

At one point, you know, we've been in Las Vegas for quite a time working on a -- in a series of different municipal projects. Some we did not -- were successful. We were not successful in Metro, winning the bid for Metro. We were not successful in a series of different other municipal projects that we had worked on together.

Q Okay. And when you were in partnership with Mr. Liberman, what entity did you -- did you create an entity so that you would be able to do your business here in Las Vegas, the real estate business?

Over a period of time, we created numerous entities. But the entity that was on the business cards was Las Vegas Land Partners.

0 Okay. We're going to talk about that in just a minute.

A named defendant in this matter is Mitchell Holdings. What is Mitchell Holdings?

It's my entity in New York that makes investments. It also is involved in other real estate projects as a

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created?

They were created for several reasons. You know, we Α acquired over the course of our time here probably 60 different parcels, plus or minus 60 different parcels of land. So one

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reason is to shield Las Vegas Land Partners's interest in that land, and we'd form an entity just for the sole purpose of making an acquisition of a specific piece of land. other --

- Let me just interrupt you right there. When you say Q "shield Las Vegas Land Partners" --
 - Shield --Α
 - Q -- can you explain that to the Court.
 - Yeah, a shield entity. Α
 - Okay. Why was that important? Q
- Well, because you don't want to drive the price of Α the property that you're interested up, and so we'd form an entity just for the purpose of providing some discretion in the purchase.
 - Okay. Continue. I interrupted you. I'm sorry.
- You know, other reasons that entities were formed was, I mean, we were advised by counsel as far as our structure and also our financial advisors as well. And more often than not, banks required new entities to be formed.
 - 0 Why was that the case?
- Well, the banks want a clear vision and a clear reach to underlying collateral. And so they would form -- they would ask us to form bankruptcy remote vehicles, special purpose entities, SPEs. And that would in essence be the new entity that would control the property, and it would also be the

1 borrower.

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So we have done a number of different financings with a number of large sophisticated institutions, and each one of those financings would require several different entities.

And then the other is, the other is that at one point we also were contemplating owned the rights for gaming inside the Regional Transportation Center as part of the -- as part of that overall, and that required a separate special entity as well.

- Q Getting back to Las Vegas Land Partners, what was your split percentage between you and Mr. Liberman?
 - A We each earned 50 percent.
- Q In talking about these special purpose entities that you just mentioned, have you seen the caption of the litigation in this case?
 - A Yes.
- Q A number of them are defendants of related entities to Las Vegas Land Partners. Have you seen those entities as well?
- 20 A Yes.
 - Q Can you tell the Court, can you give an example of one that was -- that you were required to set up at the insistence of the bank?
 - A Well, LiveWork manager is a good example.
 - Q Okay.

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I believe that was set up for the Guggenheim financing.

Okay. Were any of the companies formed in response to the underlying case of this matter Las Vegas Land Partners versus Russell Nype or the counterclaims?

Α No.

Were these companies, these related entities that are defendants, was there any other purpose other than legitimate real estate development purposes that these were set up?

Well, other than the financing, other than the SPEs, it was specifically set up for financing, but it's all related back to the real estate ownership management and development.

Q And these companies that were set up, the related defendants and Las Vegas Land Partners, what corporate form is it, a limited liability company?

Α Yes.

Are they all Delaware companies to the best of your recollection?

I believe they're all Delaware companies. The gaming Α one might be a Nevada entity.

This structure -- and Mr. Rich talked about the fact that all of these companies have a similar tax return, they were all -- their tax returns were all under the Las Vegas Land Partners. Other factors that he -- he had mentioned, but in your experience as a land developer, you've developed projects

here in Las Vegas. We've talked about the ones in New York.

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Have you developed property anywhere else besides New York and Nevada?

Α Sure. South Florida; New Jersey; Long Island, New York. Those are the principal developments.

Q Okay. And this form of doing business where you set up where you've had all these related companies under the name of Las Vegas Land Partners, is that a similar model that you followed in other areas?

Well, like I said before, I mean, this structure was set up, you know, probably in 2004 or 2005 with our first purchase. We used a real estate firm in New York, a law firm in New York called Katsky Korins. They put together the overall structure with our financial advisors and investment bank at the time Brenner's Capital [phonetic].

And it's not dissimilar from other real estate operators and developers. I would tell you that, you know, you know, in New York City we have a single asset that has like, believe it or not, maybe 20-some-odd entities because the nature of the financing and the nature of, you know, what the asset is.

But so it's quite common.

- Q Okay. And that was my point.
- Α Yeah.
- Q It's not an uncommon way to do real estate

build City Hall? Do you remember?

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merged into unified lots.

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Probably 8 to 14 parcels. Some of them would be

And as you were doing this, developing this land, did you partner up with anybody else?

Α Well, initially, no. And then we partnered up with Forest City Enterprises.

And how did you come in contact with Forest City?

We came in contact with Forest City -- what we came Α in contact with somebody that was related to Forest City whose name was Jeff Eisenberg (phonetic), and we met Jeff Eisenberg through First Wall Street.

Okay. And when was that approximately?

2006. Α

And what was Forest City's role once you met up with them and --

Α Well, we formed a joint development partnership. A partnership, I'm using a word just to describe what it was.

You signed an agreement with them as well? Q

Α Yes.

Q And what were the terms of the agreement in general?

Well, initially it was a tenant in common interest, a TIC. They became a TIC manager. They had 60 percent of the overall equity in the partnership, and we had a 40 percent interest.

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And what was your contribution to this TIC? What was your consideration?

We contributed 40 percent, the remaining 40 percent interest in the properties that were in the five city blocks.

Who contributed the land? 0

Well, we contributed our -- they purchased 60 percent of our interest, and we still were at a remaining 40 percent. So we contributed our remaining 40 percent.

All right. Prior to this deal, did Las Vegas Land Partners own the land that was -- became the --

Α Yeah. I mean, ultimately it did, I mean through a series of different entities, yes.

I think you've already testified to this, but is it common in large real estate deals for a number of different entities to be involved?

Α Yes.

And that's what happened in this case? Q

Α Yes.

When was the project completed? Q

Well, there's several projects in that, but the City Α Hall project was I think completed in March of 2012.

Let's get to the RTC project. What was the RTC 0 project?

Α As part of the Civic Center project, the city wanted -- the city wanted to create a consolidated center for

all of its civic activities, and it would do a number of things. It would free the -- the then current City Hall, which was on 12 acres for redevelopment by others, and at the end of the day, it was I think it was leased or bought by Zappos. The transit center that was in another place in downtown, would move adjacent to the new City Hall that we were developing. So it would create a dynamic street life.

You know, one of the projects of the steering committee for downtown Las Vegas, which I was on the board of, and one of the trips I took with Mayor Goodman to New York when we really studied, you know -- when we were studying really, you know, how to cure what was downtown, which was a blighted situation, was downtown needed a dynamic pedestrian street life.

And the conclusion was working with the office of business development and Mayor Goodman's office was that we would try to create this kind of dynamic street life by locating the Regional Transportation Center adjacent or close by to the new City Hall. And so it would create retail. It would create people on the street and people that were going to work, coming from work and so on and so fourth. So the Regional Transportation Center was put where it is now on Bonneville.

And in essence, what it was the Regional Transportation Commission net leased the underlying land and

built their own facility on that land. And so there's a -- I think it was a 39-year lease which the TIC, the current TIC -- then current TIC leased to the Regional Transportation

Commission for this Intermodal Transportation Center. But it was part of a larger plan for this downtown Civic Center.

- Q Right. Was Forest City part of this project, the development of the RTC?
- A Well, the RTC at the end of the -- we worked with Forest City in doing the development for the Regional Transportation Commission. At the end of the day, they did their own development and built it themselves on the land. So it was actually fairly simple what we did. We owned the land, and we leased them the land, and they built their own facility.
 - Q And that's where the 39-year lease --
 - A Well, yeah.
 - Q -- came into play; right?
 - A Yeah.

- Q Okay. What entity owned the land for this deal?
- A It's a combination of a Forest City entity and an entity that is owned by Las Vegas Land Partners.
 - Q And did you make money from this project?
 - A No. No.
- Q Is there the potential that you'll make money from this project?
 - A I mean, the remaining asset that we have is an

interest in the -- over in the land that we just spoke about in the -- underneath the intermodal, the RTC Intermodal. You know, I think there's 31, 32 years left on that lease, and so I can't tell you what's going to happen in 32 years.

But currently I would tell you that, you know, with the disposition of the properties that Forest City has taken and the write-downs that have been in place, you know, we're far behind the eightball.

Q Was the set up of the RTC deal and the lease, the 39-year lease, was it set up that way in any way to hinder or delay or defraud Mr. Nype?

A No.

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MR. EDWARDS: Your Honor, since there's no clock in here, I don't know what time it is.

THE COURT: It's 11:42. Are you ready for me to break for lunch?

MR. EDWARDS: That might be a good place, but I could go for --

THE COURT: All right. I'll see you guys at 1:00.

MR. EDWARDS: Thank you.

MR. BLUT: Thank you, Your Honor.

MR. BOSCHEE: Thank you, Your Honor.

(Proceedings recessed at 11:42 a.m., until 12:53 p.m.)

(Pause in the proceedings.)

THE COURT: You ready?

in the building, and it's harder to park because a lot of people will be here working.

(Pause in the proceedings.)

THE COURT: Okay. Let's go (indiscernible).

MR. EDWARDS: We're ready? Okay.

BY MR. EDWARDS:

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- Q Mr. Mitchell, we've been talking about 305, the transaction. There's been some discussion about this transaction. Was there an appraisal on the land supporting the transaction, the 305 land transaction?
 - A There were actually two appraisals.
 - Q Where did the appraisals come from?
- A One was done in connection with Guggenheim financing roughly at the time of the -- of when 305 had put down a deposit. I think it came from Cushman & Wakefield. If I'm not mistaken. I know I reviewed it.
- And then the other one was done from 305's new lender Heartland. And so they did two appraisals, and they met at the same value.
- Q Okay. And are you familiar with the parcels of land which supported a real part of the Las Vegas transaction?
 - A Which Las Vegas transaction?
 - Q Sorry. The 305 Las Vegas transaction?
 - A Yes, I am.
 - Q Were those parcels 300 and 320?

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- A On Charleston Boulevard, yes.
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- Q Did any of the related defendants own this land? I'm talking about on the caption the related defendants --
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- A Yes.
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- Q -- the Las Vegas Land Partners?
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- A Yes.

ancillary parking.

LiveWork.

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- Q Which ones?
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- A Well, at different points there were a series of transfers. I think Leah. I think LiveWork Manager. I think
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- Q What was the plan for this property? How was the
- property going to be used?

 A It was going to entitlements for 1100 condominium units, residential units and a large commercial plaza and
- Q And did this -- did it come to fruition? I think we've heard some testimony as to why, but go ahead. Did it come to fruition?
 - A It did not get built.
 - Q Okay. And why was that?
- A The timing of the financial crisis and the plans to build it made that -- it did not make it possible to get the project financed.
 - Q How was the initial transaction financed?
 - A When we originally bought it?
 - JD Reporting, Inc.

Q Yes.

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A We bought it with a roughly plus/minus \$2 million of equity, and the rest was in financing. We did a primary mortgage and a second deed of trust.

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Q Was the property transferred from Aquarius owners to

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the other entities? Part of it?

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A Which other entities?

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Q Well, to Leah, LiveWork? Initially. Originally.

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A Yes. It was originally a purchase from I think it

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was called -- I think it was called Aquarius Owner, yes. And

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it was purchased initially from Leah. And then I think it was

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LiveWork Manager and then to LiveWork.

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Q Why was it transferred from LiveWork Manager to

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LiveWork, LLC?

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A LiveWork Manager, as I mentioned before, was a special purpose entity that was set up as part of the

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Guggenheim financing. It was a bankruptcy remote vehicle and

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independent directors and then once the Guggenheim financing

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had taken place, it was then transferred to LiveWork.

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Q And what was the time period for these? I'm talking about these transfers.

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A Well, the initial purchase to the sale to the 305 Las Vegas, it was about a year.

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Q Okay. And what year was that?

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A We had bought the property in 2006, and we had sold

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it in -- well, we come to an agreement in February, January or February of 2007. And then the property was consummated sometime in April, late April, May of 2007.

So let me ask you a question. Do you remember Mr. Rich talking about closings and big real estate developments? I think it was yesterday that he testified about it. Maybe it was -- I think it was Tuesday.

Α Yes.

And he said that you pretty much know what's going to happen several weeks before the closing? Do you remember him --

I remember him saying that.

Q Okay. In your experience as a real estate developer, is that -- is that true?

No. It's far from true. I mean, I've had transactions that have cratered -- or not happened the day of, the afternoon of several times.

In fact, here in Nevada, is that -- have you faced Q the experience of a transaction not closing when it was expected to?

Α Well, at least 10 times.

As an interesting side note, my initial transaction in Nevada and how it got to downtown with my own 1031, and I was originally buying a garden apartment complex, and I showed up at a closing, and the seller decided to sell to somebody

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else. So it was in Las Vegas, and somebody pointed me in the direction of downtown, and that's how I ended up in downtown. But I came here for a closing that did not happen.

- Okay. And let's talk about Forest City specifically. Had you had experience with Forest City on this transaction where it didn't close when you thought it was going to close?
 - Α Well, we --
 - Q Or not walked away, but it was --
- We had come to a -- we were about to sign, not Α closing, but we were about to sign a letter of intent, and we negotiated for a period of time on a letter of intent, and between the hours of 4 and 6 in the afternoon, that letter of intent was no longer effective.
 - Q Okay.
- And that was 10 months before, or maybe a year before it actually closed. So they had walked away once before.
- Okay. There's kind of a thing that's saying that says it ain't over till it's over does it kind of apply to the closings of land transactions?
- My mother used to say don't count your chickens Α before they hatch.
- Okay. All right. Let's talk about the -- we're going to come back to that in just a moment, but let's talk about the transaction details.
 - Did 305 execute a note to LiveWork?

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- A Yes.
- Q And how much was that note for?
- A \$5 million.
- Q And why was that set up that way? Why did they take the note back, the \$5 million?
- A They had a limited amount of cash to come to the closing table, call it \$20 million, and we took the note back as part of the overall financing the transaction.
- Q Was the decision to take the note back in any way meant to hinder, delay or defraud Mr. Nype?
 - A No.
 - Q Was that note ever paid off?
 - A No.
- Q As the holder of the note, why weren't any issues taken or any actions taken to foreclose on that note?
- A Well, as we covered before a lot this week, there was a large financial crisis. And, you know, economically it did not make sense to foreclose on the note because we were the third deed of trust behind a Heartland first deed of trust, a Heartland second deed of trust. And candidly, the property didn't have enough value to support it, and we didn't have enough money to pay off Heartland.
- Q Okay. What did you do in an attempt to collect on the note? You didn't foreclose on it, but did you take any effort to try to collect on it?

A We had sued 305 Las Vegas.

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Q And what was the disposition of that note and that lawsuit?

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A Well, we had sued for the note and its accrued interest. It was one of three actions that surrounded this transaction. And it was part of an overall settlement. That involved the bank since they really controlled the transaction since they had the first mortgage and the second mortgage, and

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the property was in foreclosure.

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11 305 Las Vegas, casino Charleston, myself and Barnet Liberman

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and the bank itself. And so as part of that overall

was not forgiven, but the note I guess was canceled.

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settlement, the note, I won't say it was forgiven because it

The bank coordinated a settlement between

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Q Okay. How did you pay for -- did you have to

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contribute to that settlement?

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A Yes, I did.

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Q And how did you pay for it?

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A Well, I didn't have all the cash at once, and so

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Heartland took some cash and then put a mortgage on my house

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for \$750,000. And so that was part of -- part of accomplishing

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the closing or my portion of the contribution -- contribution

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closing until I could get liquid and pay off that mortgage.

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Q And so that 700,000 --

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A 750.

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750 was from the -- was it Heartland Bank, or was it --

Yeah. It was -- all the monies went into Heartland Bank.

Q Okay.

As part of the settlement since they were the first mortgage and the second mortgage on the property, and they basically controlled how the settlement was going to come up with, and I didn't have the amount of money, but they put a first mortgage on my house and, you know, the concept was until I could get liquid and pay it off, but, you know, it was done on behalf of myself and behalf of, honestly, casino Charleston.

Q You also paid the -- how much money did you contribute to the settlement?

1 million, 250. Α

And what did the other 400 -- let's see. I'm bad at math -- 500,000 come from?

For what? Α

The 1.25. You had 700,000 from the --

I had 750,000 from a mortgage, and I had \$500,000 in Α cash that I took out of my account.

We talked a little bit about the lease. Was Okav. that part of the settlement agreement? Was there a lease involvement, a component of the settlement?

Well, I mean, you have to go back. And, I mean, it's Α

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part of the overall transaction. Charleston Casino had leased the property for 49 years, and as part of that lease I and Mr. Liberman personally quaranteed the lease to 305.

0 Right.

And to Heartland Savings Bank. That personal quarantee is what I was sued on. And so I -- once the overall settlement between all the parties was put together, that lease was terminated.

The quarantee on the lease? 0 Okav.

I was one of -- I was one of -- the guarantee for the -- I quaranteed the obligations of Charleston Casino along with Mr. Liberman.

Okay. Did that settlement benefit LiveWork?

Α Yes. I mean, LiveWork is the hundred percent shareholder of Charleston Casino.

All right. And can you explain how it benefited LiveWork.

Α Well, we've gone over the numbers this week of what the overall rent obligation was. And so that obligation was outstanding on behalf of -- I mean, the lease was to a LiveWork entity, Charleston Casino. So they no longer had that obligation.

Okay. Who owns the property currently? 0

Α Well, I have money going through what I heard today. I don't really have any direct knowledge, but what I heard

today it's 305 Las Vegas.

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Q Was there anything about the transaction -- we talked about the take back of the note. Was there anything about the transaction of the lease and as it relates to LiveWork or the other part of the Charleston Casino partner transaction that

was done in any attempt to perpetuate, hinder or delay or

A No.

defraud Mr. Nype?

Q Let's talk about Mr. Nype real quickly. Did you ever have an agreement with Mr. Nype?

A No.

Q You were asked, not you were asked, but there has been questions about the \$400,000 that was set aside for -- \$420,000 set aside for Mr. Nype when there was a closing. Why was that done?

A Well, the number was 435,000.

Q 435.

A So after consulting with legal counsel, my legal counsel in New York and here in Las Vegas and also with my new joint venture partner Forest City and their in-house legal team, we had gone out to collectively to different real estate brokerage firms that we had experience with and had used before and had come up with this number of \$435,000 based upon a, you know, I guess a relationship with Mr. Nype, and Mr. Nype was around. And so it was kind of a finder's fee if you will.

I had taken Mr. Nype out to lunch about a week after the closing, and I explained the circumstances, and he was very grateful. He said that no one had ever done that before. And a few days after, a few weeks, a week after, we got a letter from a contingency famed New York real estate lawyer saying, oh, Mr. Nype is your real estate broker. You owe him a real estate brokerage commission on the whole and this and that. And anyway, I mean, it's a long story. I can go through the whole story if you want.

Q That led to the litigation and --

A No, but, no, it didn't. And so, I mean, you're asking about how the number was arrived. The number was arrived because after consulting with legal counsel at Forest City and also our own here in New York, you know, the net amount that we got back ultimately that we were going to get back, not initially, but we were going to get back was about \$10 million, which was below what we invested. And this was, you know, a percentage of that. You know, I think it was close to 11 million, \$10.8 million, and this was -- it represented 4 percent of that number.

Q Okay. In your experience is a finder's fee of 4 percent pretty consistent in the community or the profession?

A In my experience, and I come out of that business. So I would tell you it's on the generous side, not excessive, but it's not low. I mean, I've been paid finder's fees a lot

	A-16-7	740689-B Nype v. Mitchell 2020-01-03 BT Day4
1	when I was	s in investment banking.
2	Q	I'm going to ask that, and I believe this exhibit has
3	been admit	tted, 10002.
4		And while they're pulling that up, let me ask you the
5	question.	Was the transaction, the sale and the distributions
6	of 2007, t	would they be reflected strike that.
7		Would this transaction we've been talking about, 305,
8	be reflected on the tax returns of 2007?	
9	A	Sure.
10		THE COURT: And for the record, all the tax returns
11	were previously admitted pursuant to stipulation.	
12		MR. EDWARDS: Okay. Thank you, Your Honor.
13		THE COURT: Does that make it easier, Nicole?
14	BY MR. EDWARDS:	
15	Q	Could you turn to
16	А	Okay. I have it in front of me.
17	Q	So shown to you is the tax return 2007 for I believe
18	it's	
19	А	LVLP.
20	Q	Yeah, Las Vegas Land Partners. We've talked about
21	the distr	ibutions to you and Mr. Liberman.
22		Could I have you can you pull up page 15.
23		Do you recognize first of all, do you recognize
24	these tax	returns?
25	А	Yes. I recognize it's a I'm reading what it is.

Yes, I recognize it as LVLP Holdings tax returns.

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Q And this is page 15.

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MR. EDWARD

MR. EDWARDS: Your Honor, may I approach?

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THE COURT: You may.

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MR. EDWARDS: If I talk loud so I can --

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THE COURT: If you talk loud and Jill doesn't yell at

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you, you may do it.

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BY MR. EDWARDS:

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Q This property B is Aquarius; is that correct?

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A Yeah. Because the next box up, yeah.

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Q And the Aquarius is who was the original owners of

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the land. Explain that.

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A Aquarius is the property. We title all our properties just for our own internal reference, and Aquarius

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was the name of the actual shopping center at Charleston. So

it was called Aquarius, and we bought it from the Aquarius

Owner, and we just kept the name Aquarius. And on this tax

return it looks like it was acquired on January 10th of '06.

Vegas Land Partners made from the sale of the Aquarius

And on this page does it reflect the gain that Las

Yeah. It's the second column over where it says

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property?

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property B, yes.

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Q And how much was that?

And then was later sold on May 1 of '07.

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1 Well, if you go down to where it says the total gain, 2 and you subtract line 23 from line 20, it's 13,000,200 --3 \$200,734. 4 0 If you turn the page, can you go to page, I think it's page 4. 5 6 MR. EDWARDS: Go up just a little bit. There we go. 7 BY MR. EDWARDS: 8 On this it has an analysis of partner's capital 9 accounts. It's a distribution of cash of 14 million, eight, thirty-one. Do you see that? 10 11 Α Uh-huh. 12 Q And then go down to six and seven. 13 (Pause in the proceedings.) 14 MR. MUIJE: What page is that? 15 MR. EDWARDS: Page 8. 16 MR. MUIJE: 8. Okay. 17 BY MR. EDWARDS: 18 Do you recognize what's being shown on page --Q 19 MR. EDWARDS: Go back up to page 6. I apologize. BY MR. EDWARDS: 20 21 Q Do you recognize what's being reported on page 6? 22 Yeah. Because it just -- I know what this is, but 23 could I see whose K-1 it is. Please go to page 1 of that. 24 (Pause in the proceedings.) 25 THE WITNESS: Okay. So this is the K-1 of Barnet --

Were these documents part of -- let me strike that.

JD Reporting, Inc.

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Was the taxes of 2007 discussed in that trial that you remember? The depositions.

Α The trial?

0 Yes.

Α Yes.

MR. MUIJE: Objection. The best evidence would be the transcript.

THE COURT: Overruled.

THE WITNESS: I believe that they were an exhibit. BY MR. EDWARDS:

So the decision was made initially to sue Mr. Nype, Q and without saying what was said, what factors went into your mind to have Las Vegas Land Partners sue Mr. Nype?

Well, after, and just to repeat myself, after Α consulting with our new partner and their in-house legal counsel and our legal counsel out here and New York about the initial payment that was put into escrow and my subsequent lunch with Mr. Nype and the fact that it was there for 120 days or so and then the -- this famed contingency lawyer in New York, we were made aware that we had an obligation to protect the joint -- the new joint venture with Forest City. As part of our agreement, we had underwritten that protection through an indemnity.

And the course of action that was suggested by attorneys in New York Randy Amagwal [phonetic] and Nick Santoro

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were that we had to protect the assets, and we had to protect the joint venture. And a suit was filed here I think in this Court, and it was won. We received a summary judgment. So their strategy and their thinking was correct. And so the summary judgment we thought put an end to this. You know, I don't want to say it's a -- put an end to this part of the chapter.

Q Okay. All right. Let's go back and talk a little bit about the Casino Coolidge transaction. Are you familiar with the eight land parcels located at or around 929 South Casino Center Boulevard and 922 South Third Street?

- A Yes.
- Q What are those parcels of land?
- A They represent a half a block bordered by Coolidge, Casino Center and Third Street.
- Q Did Las Vegas Land Partners ever purchase those land parcels?
- A Las Vegas Land Partners, I mean, through one of its entities purchased those properties, yes.
- Q Would those entities be Leah property, LiveWork Manager, LiveWork, LiveWork Manager?
 - A Yes.
- Q Okay. Do you remember what the purchase price of those parcels of lands were?
 - A \$6.4 million.

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Did there ever come a time when you sold part of those eight parcels?

We sold the parcels at that faced, if you will, Α Yes. the Third Street side, Third and the Coolidge side.

And when was that initial sale? 0

I think we bought the properties in 2005, and we sold them in 2006.

Was the market still going good in 2006 as far as you are concerned?

Α It was very strong.

So what did you sell those for, parcels for? Q

We sold half of the property basically for 4.2 million.

And why were those four parcels sold? Q

Well, it was a good return on investment. So we brought down our overall basis by \$4.2 million. We paid down debt. We sold it to a developer that we believed would develop them and symbiotically increase the value of our parcels which we thought were the better parcels facing Casino Center.

0 Who bought that, those first four parcels that sold?

Α I think a Vancouver-based developer by the name of Solterra [phonetic].

And then did you have anything to do with either through Las Vegas Land Partners or any of the related entities, did you have anything to do with the ownership or management of

- additional four lots was 725,000?
 - Or 700,000, whatever it was? Q

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Α I think 720, 725, but the -- I mean, we discussed it a lot this week, but, you know, Las Vegas had gone through

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boom, bust and depression. And, you know, this was in the, it was not in the bust, but it was the depression thereafter.

Right. You mentioned another interesting fact or whatever. When the first offer came in for the \$400,000 up front and then for the rest of it to be paid over time, the bank rejected that offer; is that right?

Α Correct.

Did the bank reject the Solterra offer? Do you know? Or was it taken to them?

Well, I mean, the bank, we were in discussions with the bank. The bank had done an appraisal of the property and made us aware of that appraisal. They had come up with a million dollars. And because they had an outstanding loan much greater than that, they asked us to sell the property, which we (indiscernible) to sell the property. And the -- the bank had suggested that if we did not sell the property it wanted to institute a consensual foreclosure. And we --

Well, what would have happened had you entered the Q consensual foreclosure?

Well, in a consensual foreclosure, this property or Α any other property, you basically, quote, unquote, you know, hand over the property to them. I don't know what they would have done with it, but most banks move to sell it in the most expedient way possible. Clearly they knew about our efforts because we kept them updated. So they knew that the downtown

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24 25 market was stale, and the property was on the market for a long time.

My quess, and it's only a guess is that they would've put it up for auction.

- Yeah. When you -- so after the bank approached you about doing the consensual foreclosure, you got the million dollar offer from Casino Coolidge?
 - Well, we had an offer from Solterra.
 - 0 Right.
- And the bank had given us a period of time and needed to move forward with that or to do the consensual foreclosure. They had spoken to Mr. Liberman. Mr. Liberman said he was working with other parties, and through the broker we got the million dollar offer.
- To the best of your knowledge and in your experience as a real estate developer, was the million dollars purchase price of those for parcels fair market value?
- Α Yeah. I mean, three things would indicate that. First, the bank had an appraisal.
 - Okay. Q
 - Α That we relied upon.
- Second, we had the market experience. You know, there was vacant and tumbleweed, I mean, as far as buyers.
- Third, you know, we had a third party knowledgeable buyer in Solterra, and they were probably the most

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knowledgeable buyer, and this was the better half of the eight lots, right, this is the Casino Center facing. And the most that they would come up with would be 720,000. So, yes, this was the best of all.

Q Was the sale of the four additional lots done in any fashion to hinder, delay or defraud Mr. Nype?

A No.

Q In your experience as a real estate developer -- I'm just going to ask you some general questions.

When you do a transaction and you seek to loan money or borrow money from a bank, what does -- what do the banks typically require you to provide them?

A They usually give you a fairly extensive due diligence list, and it covers all your internal accounting, paperwork, background, balance sheets, credit references. They usually do background checks. It's pretty extensive.

- Q Do they ask for business ledgers and taxes and --
- A Oh, the tax returns for sure.
- Q Personal information?
- A For sure.
- Q In your experience -- you heard Mr. Rich talk about all of the reasons why he came to his opinion, and he referenced his time as assisting the FDIC in these investigations. In your experience working with banks, have you ever been questioned about the way you do your business?

A-16-740689-B | Nype v. Mitchell | 2020-01-03 | BT Day4 record is clear what you're asking for a stipulation on. 1 2 MR. MUIJE: And I forgot to state the number, Your 3 Honor. My apologies. 4 It is 60001. 5 THE COURT: Thank you. 60001. Has anybody seen it before? Recently? 6 7 Some of you are looking for it now I can tell. 8 (Pause in the proceedings.) 9 I don't have an objection, Your Honor. MR. EDWARDS: 10 MR. BOSCHEE: Yeah, we're fine. 11 THE COURT: Be admitted. 12 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit Number(s) 60001 admitted.) 13 THE COURT: Now we can all look at it. 14 MR. MUIJE: Very good. 15 THE WITNESS: Can you blow it up. I can't -- it's 16 fuzzy. 17 BY MR. MUIJE: 18 And looking at -- it's addressed to you; is that Q 19 correct, Mr. Mitchell? 2.0 It is. Α 21 Q And what's the date on that document? 22 A January 25, 2006. 23 And it indicates in a heading there, nonexclusive agent financing engagement letter; is that correct? 24 25 Α Correct. JD Reporting, Inc.

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Q And it's got several pages of terms, but if we go to page 5 -- pardon me, page 4. Page 5 is just the disclosures. Is that your signature for Las Vegas Land Partners, LLC?

- A It is my signature.
- Q And --

February 7th, 2006.

- A But the date is different at the top.
- Q Okay. And what date did you sign it approximately? It shows February 7th. So --
 - A So this is --
- Q So it seems like there was a couple weeks slippage between the draft and when it's signed?
- A No. No. It seems like the first page and the last page are not in sync.
 - Q I didn't quite hear you, sir. You said --
 - A Well, go back to the first page, please.
 - Q Yeah. The first page I'm showing is January 25th.
- A Correct. And then if you go to the last page.

 Because I don't think your document -- or this document is not consistent because this one says February. At the top it says
- Q And every other page except that first page. So other than the inconsistency of the date, was this signed the day you first saw it?
 - A I have no knowledge of that.
 - Q Okay. It is your signature on page 5; correct?

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It looks -- yes. But now I question everything because the signature page and the letters seem to be very different.

And I will indicate these were documents produced by 0 Forest City, and they are sequential in number. Just checking the terms, it goes on page 1, Section 2, compensation AB, and then the very last sentence 250,000 in the event the identified part does not proceed for any reason, no money shall be owed to First Wall Street. So that seems consistent. And then the very next line on page --

Α It seems consistent with --

-- page 2 is Section 3. So it runs from 2 to 3. So respectfully, it looks like somebody forgot to change the date on the front of the letter even though they changed the header on each page.

Α That's your assumptions. Okay.

Okay. If you want to look through it, can you Q read --

Well, I -- I'm just -- just pointing out an inconsistency.

And I appreciate that. I had not noticed it. Q

So I don't know -- so it seems like the first page is from a different agreement than what the last page is from. So --

With that said and done, do you want to skim it and Q

Schedule A as individuals or identified parties to whom First Wall Street agrees to introduce you. Do you see that?

Α Uh-huh.

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If we go to page 5 or actually page 6, pardon me -actually at, somehow at the very last page, there's three identified parties.

Α Uh-huh.

0 One was Forest City Enterprises; is that correct?

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- Α Correct.
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- Thor?
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- For equities did First Wall Street introduce you to 0
- While Rusty Nype was employed at First Wall Street I met Thor, yes.
 - Okay. And how about the Cayre, C-a-y-r-e, family?
 - I did not meet them. Α
- Okay. Does this refresh your recollection when you first approximately when you first entered into a relationship with First Wall Street?
- Α Yeah. I don't dispute that we entered into a relationship with First Wall Street. I just can't tell you that this is the agreement because the difference in the dates has concern to me.
- Okay. There came a time when -- and maybe in your own words you can tell us what is your understanding of what happened in terms of a falling out between Mr. Nype and First Wall Street?
- You know, I don't know. I've only seen what I've seen in discovery.
 - Q Understood.
- And so I was not present in any falling out between the two of them, and so it's only many, many years later into discovery did I realize, you know, the specifics of it.
 - Well, perhaps we can have a look at a document. Q

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THE COURT: Okay.

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BY MR. MUIJE:

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Q Go ahead, and let's look at the top one then for you.

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A Uh-huh.

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Q And that would appear to be actually your response to Rusty's lower email; is that correct?

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A Correct.

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Q Okay. By this time September of 006, was First Wall

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Street no longer active in the picture?

A I don't know when exactly they had -- when the

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separation between us and them, but, you know, I think it was in the summer of 2006, and this seems to be in the fall. So I

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would say maybe.

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Q Okay. And looking at Rusty's initial email to you at

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8:24 a.m., he is setting forth his expectations that he anticipates making at least \$2 million in fees. Is that a

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correct paraphrase of what his paragraph is telling you?

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A I'm reading his email. I don't recall it

19 20 specifically, but that's what it says.

Q Okay. And it would appear that your response was

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slightly different and would propose to guarantee him a million

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A Well, it's a thought. It's --

dollars; is that correct?

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Q Okay. And this was about nine months, actually, yeah, almost exactly nine months before the closing with Forest

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MR. MUIJE: Try 7. I think 7 is sticking in my mind right now.

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lawyer, my New York lawyer and this person and Mr. Nype and

myself. We had several meetings.

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To try to understand the source of where this went from being very grateful to being more, I don't want to disparage him, but more greedy.

Okay. And ultimately approximately five months later Q

THE COURT: Do you want a few minutes to consult?

MR. EDWARDS: Yes.

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A-16-740689-B | Nype v. Mitchell | 2020-01-03 | BT Day4 1 THE COURT: Okay. 2 (Conference at the bench ends.) 3 THE COURT: We'll be in recess until you finish your 4 consultation. 5 (Proceedings recessed to 16:00 p.m., until 2:19 p.m.) 6 (Pause in the proceedings.) 7 THE COURT: All right. Counsel, the reason that I 8 asked you to take a break and consult is because intent is a 9 factor that I have to weigh in these proceedings as we all 10 know. And in evaluating those claims, if advice of counsel is 11 being used as a defense, I need somebody to affirmatively tell 12 me that because there are then a lot of things we have to talk 13 about. 14 So, Mr. Edwards and Mr. Johnson, did you have a 15 chance to consult? 16 MR. H. JOHNSON: Yeah, we did. We will --17 THE COURT: Are you relying on advice of counsel as a 18 defense? 19 MR. H. JOHNSON: No. 20 MR. EDWARDS: No. 21 THE COURT: Okay. So, sir, we really don't want to 22 know what your lawyers told you, please. 23 THE WITNESS: Okay. 24 THE COURT: Okay. 25 Mr. Muije, you can keep going. JD Reporting, Inc.

A-16-740689-B Nype v. Mitchell 2020-01-03 BT Day4	
	MR. MUIJE: Thank you, Your Honor.
2 BY MR. MUIJE:	
Q	Now, Mr. Nype responded to the lawsuit that was filed
against h	im by LVLP, Zoe and LiveWork with a counterclaim; is
5 that correct?	
А	I believe so.
Q	I'll represent it was
А	Okay.
Q	filed on a timely basis in December '07.
	That ultimately went through a lot of litigation, but
it ended	up with a resolution through the District Court; is
that correct?	
А	Well, it was dismissed on a summary judgment.
Q	Initially.
А	And then it was appealed.
Q	And Mr. Nype prevailed on appeal; correct?
А	Correct.
Q	And when it came back down to Judge Israel,
9 ultimately a trial was held; correct?	
А	Correct.
Q	And that trial occurred during October 2014; is that
correct?	
А	October through I think January actually, 2015.
Q	There were multiple trial dates in progress; correct?
А	Yeah. But he, yeah. I think until January.
JD Reporting, Inc.	
	BY MR. MU Q against h that corr A Q it ended that corr A Q A Q ultimatel A Q correct? A

Q Okay. And you wouldn't disagree with whenever is in the official court dockets for that prior file. I know there were multiple days. I thought they ended a little sooner than that?

A Well, whatever the docket shows.

O Okay. And ultimately after the trial was concluded

Q Okay. And ultimately after the trial was concluded and a little time passed and Judge Israel entered findings of fact and conclusions of law; is that correct?

A Correct.

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Q And he disagreed with your characterizations which Mr. Edwards solicited as to what the deal was and who was supposed to get what percentages, et cetera, et cetera?

MR. EDWARDS: Objection. Mischaracterizes the testimony -- or the questioning.

THE COURT: Overruled.

THE WITNESS: No. He took a different tact.

MR. MUIJE: Okay.

THE WITNESS: He took a different point of view. He did not ${\mathord{\text{--}}}$

BY MR. MUIJE:

Q In other words, he didn't agree with your position or that of LVLP or the plaintiff's side in that case. He adopted and basically accepted Mr. Nype's position; is that correct?

A I think you're summarizing. He based Mr. Nype's position based upon quantum meruit as I understand it.

Q And after remand and after the case came back down, the next document is 5008 (sic), and do you see that, sir?

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filed. Am I correct in my understanding here, sir?

don't have any documents in front of me. So I don't know when,

Q Okay. And the case was actually filed in the summer of 2016. But before that, in the original case, we had undertaken a sworn examination of yourself called a judgment debtor examination. Do you recall that, sir?

Α I believe so, yes.

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MR. MUIJE: But there is a stipulation that follows
the service of request for production of documents whereby we
agreed to treat it as a request for production of documents.

MR. EDWARDS: Objection, Your Honor. I'm not sure
this witness has foundation. It's hearsay -THE COURT: So you're welcome to ask him questions

THE COURT: So you're welcome to ask him questions about the discovery you did as part of the judgment debtor exam, but I'm not going to admit it because it's not part of the record. If there is a dispute as to whether it was served, but you can certainly ask the witness about his responses to it. And given the history in this case.

MR. MUIJE: -- I understand.

THE COURT: The failure to produce documents in a timely fashion, I understand the issue, but given the objection, and since it's not part of the Court's record, I'm going to sustain the objection.

MR. MUIJE: Okay.

THE CLERK: Counsel, what exhibit number was that?

MR. MUIJE: That was 50008 -- no. I'm looking at the wrong one. Sorry, Ms. Clerk.

That's 70030.

But I think I can get back to where I need to be, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay.

Mitchell defendant's list of witnesses. And then I see Mitchell defendant's list of documents.

Q And then it says see attached index for comprehensive list. Do you see that?

Where do you see -- I don't see, See attached. Α defense --

- Okay. The attached comes on down, and --Q
- Α I don't have that.
- And we'll scroll down to it, sir, on page 4. Q
- Α Okay.
 - Q And if we look at the very top of that page.
- Α Yes.

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- And you will see that there is a block of documents Q labeled LVLP Nype First Supplement.
 - Α Well, I don't see where it says first supplement.

A-16-740689-B | Nype v. Mitchell | 2020-01-03 | BT Day4 1 that, sir? 2 I see Leah Properties at the top. ICC quarantee --3 oh, now I can't see anything. 4 Yeah. It's slightly above. You have general ledgers Q 5 a couple of lines above the --6 Oh, starting with 620, yeah, I see them. 7 Okay. And the next category below, which I'll 8 represent and I'll find it in a second, was served literally 9 within a couple of days of that first block is dated in this 10 index as 9115. Do you see that, sir? 11 Α I do. 12 0 Okay. And --13 MR. MUIJE: Court's indulgence for one second. 14 If we -- of record in the old case, Your Honor --15 THE WITNESS: Where are you? 16 MR. MUIJE: This has not been marked in evidence. 17 THE WITNESS: Oh, sorry. 18 MR. MUIJE: I'm just advising the Court as to timing 19 and dates that occurred in the old case. 20 -- is a file stamped stipulation and order dated 21 August 18th, 2015, which provides for a sworn examination 22 under oath of the debtor's most knowledgeable person, 23 Mr. Mitchell, between September 9th and September 11th, 2015. And that is signed by Judge Israel. 24 25 / / /

JD Reporting, Inc.

1 BY MR. MUIJE:

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- Q Does that refresh your recollection as to the timing of that --
- A But is this on the list that you just sent me or the -- on my screen, what you just told me?
- Q We had done that one, but the Court wouldn't allow into evidence because we didn't have proof that it was in the action that we had sent your attorneys in late July.
 - A Okay. Yeah.
- Q And then we worked it out and provided a written agreement to the Court which provided that, A, the documents would be provided, and B, you would come testify.
- Do you recall coming and testifying in approximately September of 2015?
- A In a deposition.
 - Q A judgment debtor exam?
- A Yeah. But I don't know exactly when it was, but, yes.
- Q Okay. And let me find the actual disclosure document from Mr. Hayes which was served shortly thereafter.
- I just want to make sure we have the timing right as to when these documents were received.

(Pause in the proceedings.)

THE COURT: How are we doing on time, Mr. Muije? Remember, we lose this witness at the end of the day.

1 MR. MUIJE: I think we're on track for me to be done
2 by about 3:45 to 4:00, Your Honor, if I follow my notes
3 correctly.

THE COURT: Will that accommodate all of the redirect and recross?

(No audible response.)

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. BOSCHEE: I don't know. It has to.

THE COURT: Okay. I'm glad you recognize that.

(Pause in the proceedings.)

BY MR. MUIJE:

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Q I won't divert any more time. We'll that find that during the break, Mr. Mitchell, but do you recall making available to Mr. Nype and either myself or his former attorneys those general ledgers and accounting statements prior to that August September time in September 2015?

A Well, I know that in the -- the Santoro Driggs firm we produced a lot of material. I mean, I don't know when that was, but Mr. Santoro -- the Santoro Driggs firm we produced a lot of documents in that period of time.

Q Okay. But you can't point at any general ledgers or detailed accounting backup, can you, that they served at that time?

A Oh, I thought you were at the tax forms.

Q No. I was talking about the detail behind the tax

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A I couldn't tell you for certain. I know that we produced a lot of information at that point in time.

Q Okay.

Now, you had also talked about having a separate entity to preserve the gaming rights of Symphony Park. Do you recall that?

- A No. It was not Symphony Park.
- Q What --
 - A It was the gaming rights in the transit center.
 - Q Oh, okay. At the transit center.

And what entity was that that wanted to maintain the possibility of gaming at the RTC?

A It was a separate entity, and I could give you the -I could give you the name. It has a contract. It was in the
documents that we gave you. There's a letter, a cover letter
from the RTC. It names an entity of casino -- casino gaming or
something like that.

- Q Okay. It's not a defendant in this case, is it?
- A It is not.
- Q And it never did come to fruition, did it?
- 22 A It did not.
 - Q Now, as you are aware, I believe you testified earlier that the sole remaining asset of LVLP is the future expectancy to the reversionary rights in the land and

what those reversionary rights that are currently held in Wink

represent. Are they 10 percent of the land value in -- what

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year would that lease have matured to the best of your knowledge?

Α I don't know. I think I believe it was a 39-year lease that was executed in 2007. So I'm not -- you know, we are now, you know, in a 20 year -- 13 years into it; right?

- Q Approximately.
- Approximately, give or take. Α

So the rights follow the original TIC, divided interest of 60-40, 60 percent to the Forest City TICs and 40 percent to the LiveWork Las Vegas entities. So Wink One owns a 40 percent interest in the underlying land.

- However, that's subject to reduction if there are Q still unpaid amounts advanced by Forest City; is that correct?
 - Α I was getting to it, but, yes.
 - Q Okay.
 - Α But thank you for helping.

So 50 percent of the interest is subject to, if you will, a loan payback to any advances that Forest City made, any returns on those advances. And there's a complex waterfall that you and I have discussed before.

And then the other 20, the other 50 percent of that interest is free of any subject to -- is free of any claim above and beyond that.

Well, okay. So worst-case scenario, Wink would be entitled to 20 percent of the value of that property in the

year of approximately 2046?

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A If that's -- yeah, if you did the math correct, that's correct. Yes.

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Q And in a best case scenario, it might be entitled to

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as much as 40 percent. Is that correct?

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A That's correct.

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Q Do you have any idea what the land improvements underneath the RTC are worth?

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A Today?

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Q Today.

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A You know, as we've gone through this week, you know, it's -- we were at different points, and we were with different

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it's -- we were at different points, and we were with different

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pieces. I mean, it's subject to a lease. So that would -that would either enhance or impair the value. And so one

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would have to take the value with or without the lease and do

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some analysis.

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that?

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from the Heartland settlement regarding 305. Do you recall

You had further testified that LiveWork benefited

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A I do.

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Q And refresh my memory: What was the benefit to

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LiveWork of foregoing an outstanding promissory note with almost \$10 million in outstanding debt on it?

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A Well, as I explained before, and so excuse me if I'm

repeating myself, the note was underneath two deeds of trust

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totaling at the time \$9 million. The property was not worth \$9 million. It was probably worth \$6 million. So there was no financial value to the note at that point that you're talking about.

Q Well, there was no financial value regarding the collateral. The note can be independently enforced regardless of the collateral or deed of trust. Are you aware of that?

- A The note was to the --
- O To LiveWork.
- A -- 305 Las Vegas or the -- the maker of the note was 305 Las Vegas.
 - O Correct.
- A And it was subject to, the note itself was subject to the other two deeds of trust.
- Q Understood. But I'm representing to you that you don't have to rely on the security or the collateral.

But what prevented LiveWork from continuing its suit versus 305 Las Vegas to recover monies from 305?

- A Well, we did sue under the note, and as part of a overall settlement, which we've discussed before, but I don't know if I'm answering the question. Please ask me the question again.
- Q I understand the overall settlement provided that LiveWork would forgo or waive or cancel the note. But LiveWork didn't sign that settlement agreement, did it?

A-16-740689-B | Nype v. Mitchell | 2020-01-03 | BT Day4 1 soon. You are welcome to get up, walk around. 2 (Proceedings recessed at 2:58 p.m., until 3:11 p.m.) 3 (Pause in the proceedings.) 4 THE COURT: Sir, you're under oath. We're going to 5 keep going. 6 Mr. Muije, if we could pick up the pace. 7 And Mr. Boschee is here now. 8 MR. MUIJE: Very good. 9 THE WITNESS: I found out my answer to my question. 10 So. 11 BY MR. MUIJE: 12 And what was your question? 13 My question was who the note was made out to, in 14 essence who was the payee. So. 15 And am I correct in my understanding that the note 16 ran from 305 to LiveWork? 17 A Correct. 18 And LiveWork did not sign that settlement agreement, Q 19 did it? 20 Well, to my recollection, Mr. Chamberlin's testimony, Α I don't believe so. 21 22 If we could look at admitted Exhibit 90054. Do you 23 have that before you, sir? 24 Α Yes. 25 Q And if you look down below at the very last page, is JD Reporting, Inc.

JD Reporting, Inc.

Ī	II		
	A-16-740	689-B Nype v. Mitchell 2020-01-03 BT Day4	
1	MR	. MUIJE: It's a proposed exhibit, Your Honor.	
2	TH	E COURT: I'm not going to look.	
3	Is	there a stipulation?	
4	Ji	ll turned me off.	
5	(Pause in the proceedings.)		
6	TH	E WITNESS: I see it. Oh, I'm not supposed to see	
7	it; right?		
8	TH	E COURT: No, you can see it, just not me.	
9	TH	E WITNESS: Oh, okay. Okay.	
10	TH	E COURT: And my monitor got turned off.	
11		(Pause in the proceedings.)	
12	MR	. MUIJE: I'll represent that it is an email chain,	
13	including Mr. Mitchell, on all of the individual emails.		
14	MR	. EDWARDS: No objection from the Mitchell	
15	defendants.		
16	TH	E COURT: Any other	
17	Ве	admitted.	
18	(Plaintiffs' Exhibit Number(s) 60005 admitted.)		
19	MR	. MUIJE: Very good.	
20	BY MR. MUIJE:		
21	Q Le	t's look at, if we could at the top of page 2.	
22	And	d who is Doug Amado?	
23	A He	was my assistant.	
24	Q Oka	ay. And was he employed by Mitchell Holdings?	
25	A He	was.	
	JD Reporting, Inc.		
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Q And who is Bobbie at -- who he's communicating with, and I believe her longer email address is down below, Bobbie at Sierra NV.net.

A She is the property manager for this Aquarius property.

Q Okay. And would you read in Bobbie's question to Doug at the top of page 2.

A Doug, this is a new bank. I'm not to use signature any longer. On July 2nd I sent six K., \$6,000 to Signature.

No more right now, but I will pay bills this week and send what I have left over. AC repairs have been huge this last couple of months.

Are you requesting wire confirmations from bank or just an email that I sent?

Thanks. Bobbie.

Q Okay. And right below that, Doug, your employee at Mitchell Holdings indicates to Bobbie that -- requesting that the monthly income be sent for -- I'm assuming this is casino Charleston, LLC; correct?

A Well, I mean, to be specific, it references that -- I mean, it is -- $\,$

Q What's the monthly income that Bobbie's talking about?

A Yes, that's correct. Charleston Casino. Yes.

Q Okay. And you're requesting that that be sent to

MR. BOSCHEE: No.

25

A-16-740689-B | Nype v. Mitchell | 2020-01-03 | BT Day4 1 MR. BLUT: No, Your Honor. 2 THE COURT: Be admitted. 3 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit Number(s) 60032-60038 admitted.) 4 MR. MUIJE: Very good. BY MR. MUIJE: 5 6 Looking at 6032, 60032, the first page of this Q 7 document indicates it's from Sam Spitz. Who is Mr. Spitz? 8 He's a -- he's the accountant for Las Vegas Land 9 Partners. 10 0 And the date it's sent is February 6 at 5:03 p.m. 11 you see that, sir? 12 I do. Α 13 And the subject is engagement letter; is that 14 correct? 15 Yes, it says that. Α 16 And what does Mr. Spitz say in his email to you on 17 page 1 here? 18 Attached is the engagement letter you to sign. Α 19 Okay. Now, if we come down to page 2, we see the attachment. Do you see that, sir? 20 21 Α I do. 22 And what is the date on that document? Q 23 January 15th, 2008. Α 24 Okay. And if we come down to page 4, the document 25 appears to be partially signed; is that correct? JD Reporting, Inc.

- 1
- Mr. Spitz's signature is on it. Α
- 2
- But your signature is blank; is that correct? Q
- 3
- That is correct. Α
- 4
- Okay. Let's go to 63 if we can -- or 60033.
- 5
- MR. MUIJE: I'm sorry, Your Honor. Fumble mouth
- 6
- 7 BY MR. MUIJE:

here.

0

- 8
- This is perhaps a half-hour later to Samantha Gergan [phonetic]. Who is Samantha?
- 9 10
- At this time she was my assistant.
- 11
- 12 and just has a signature. It doesn't say anything, but it has
- 13
- your logo underneath where you would normally type a comment or

Okay. And again it references the engagement letter

- 14
- My signature block is there, yes.
- 15 16
- Okay. And then it forwards that 5:03 email, and it forwards that same letter we just looked at; is that correct?
- 17 18
- That part I don't know. But -- I don't know if it's Α
- 19
- forwarding that email but, okay, yes.
- 20
- Q Okay.

whatever?

- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- actually a shade earlier it would appear because it looks like it came from you. It looks like you read Mr. Spitz's email and then immediately forwarded it, and this one says print. What did you mean by that, sir?

And let's go to 6034 (sic). And again this is

- 1
- I guess I asked her to print the engagement letter.
- 2
- Okay. And then if we come down, it would appear to be that same '08 proposed engagement letter partially signed by
- 3 4
- Mr. Spitz. Is that correct? On the last page?
- 5
- Yeah. I assume it's the same one. Yes.

look correct? From Samantha at Mitchell Holdings?

- 6
- Q Okay. Let's go to 35, and this is Samantha.
- 7
- would appear to be the next morning at 10:44 a.m. Does that
- 8

9

- Yeah. I assume that the 7th is the next day. Yes. Α
- 10
- Q Okay. And it's addressed to Sam at SKE CPA.com.
- 11
 - that Mr. Spitz?
- 12
- Α Yes.
- 13
- Q With a cc back to yourself?
- 14
- Α Yes.
- 15
- And it says, please find attached signed letter; is that correct?
- 16 17
- Α Yes.
- 18
- If we come down and scroll down, looking at page 2, we have an engagement letter dated January 15th, 2008; is
- 19 20
 - that correct?
- 21
 - Α Yes.
- 22
- 23 appear to be the same signature of Mr. Spitz that we saw on the

prior screen. Would you agree with that?

- 24
- Α It's a signature. I don't know if it's the same

And although it's not blue color scanned, it would

- 25
- - JD Reporting, Inc.

A-16-740689-B | Nype v. Mitchell | 2020-01-03 | BT Day4 1 signature, but, yeah. 2 Okay. And it is signed by you. And what's the date 3 you put under your name? 4 Α Well, it's signed by me. I don't know if that's my 5 date, but it's 1/15/08. 6 Okay. Let's go to 36. This is a couple weeks later. Q 7 It looks like Ms. Gergan sent that back to Mr. Spitz on the 7th 8 I believe, and now we're on the 22nd, two weeks later. And it 9 says engagement letter 2017. Do you see that? 10 Α Yeah. It says, "Please sign page 3. Do not date. And send 11 12 me four pages signed. Thank you." 13 Did I read that correctly? 14 You did. Α 15 Okay. And it still shows that '08 letter this time 16 unsigned by anybody. 17 MR. MUIJE: And the last page is a mis-scan by us, 18 Your Honor. Page 5 has no relation to this case as far as I 19 know. My apologies. 20 THE COURT: Okay. 21 BY MR. MUIJE: 22 But the first four pages, would that appear to be an 23 email with the attachment from Mr. Spitz to the best of your 24 knowledge, Mr. Mitchell? 25 I mean, if that is the attachment, yes. Α

JD Reporting, Inc.

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Yes.

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We'll represent and counsel, your counsel produced it for us, and those were the attachments attached to their document.

Α Okay.

Shortly later you in turn sent it to Ms. Gergan as a pure forward. Do you see this in Exhibit 37? At 3:14 p.m. on the 22nd from David to Samantha Gergan?

Α Yes.

And if you come down and do you see Mr. Spitz's prior email of just a little bit earlier asking for four signed signature pages?

I don't have that in front of me, but --

Q Okay. Let's look. Let's make sure we're the same. Now, that's at page 1 underneath your signature block. Begin forwarded message. Do you see that?

Α Yeah, I see that. I see that, yeah.

Okay. And then if we come down to page, get through the logos, if we come down to page 5, we see the January 15th '08 letter. Page 6 is at page 2. And there's no signatures on page 7; is that correct?

Α Yeah.

Q Now, look --

This doesn't have any logos on there, but, yeah. Α

Okay. Q

it.

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I don't know if it's the same letter, but, yes, I see

Q Okay. And every one of these letters, because again so far we've only seen two separate letters, but those letters, let's look at page 6 if we can. Three paragraphs from the bottom it says,

By your signature below, you acknowledge and agree that upon the expiration of the three-year period SKE Group, LLC, shall be free to destroy our records related to this engagement.

Do you see that, sir?

- A I do.
- Q Did Mr. Spitz call that to your attention in February of 2018 when he was asking you to sign these?
 - A February, I don't recall.
- Q Okay. Let's look at 38. And it's from Samantha going to Mr. Spitz with a cc to yourself a little later that afternoon, almost right before 5:00 o'clock. Do you see that?
 - A I do.
- Q And it says, please find four signature pages attached. Am I reading that correctly?
 - A You are.
- Q Okay. And at page 2 we have a signature that looks like it's in magic marker. Is that your signature, sir?

A I've read Mr. Spitz's testimony, and I've read Mr. Eisenberg's testimony. I'm not sure it says that. I think -- when it comes to tax engagement letters, I think one of them calls out specifically that it's been the same engagement letter for 10 plus years.

Q Okay.

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A But if you have that testimony, we can go through it.

Q We'll defer for now. We are a little tight on time.

What I'd like to do next is look at several nonadmitted documents that start with 60014, -15, -16, -17 and -18.

THE COURT: Mr. Muije, are we moving on?

MR. MUIJE: We are.

THE COURT: Because we're almost out of time.

MR. MUIJE: I was waiting to see if they would stipulate to the admission of those five exhibits.

23

MR. H. JOHNSON: We'll let them in Your Honor.

24

THE COURT: Okay. They'll be admitted.

25

(Plaintiffs' Exhibit Number(s) 60014-60018 admitted.)

MR. EDWARDS: Well, objection, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Overruled. They look close to me.

Okay. What else?

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MR. MUIJE: And I'll represent to the Court that it

A-16-740689-B | Nype v. Mitchell | 2020-01-03 | BT Day4 1 complete ledger, it's hard to tell. 2 Okay. And you were here when Mr. Spitz --3 Mr. Spitz -- Mr. Rich went through the capital contribution 4 ledgers and showed the amounts that were paid out to you; 5 correct? 6 Α Correct. 7 And you don't disagree with those? Q 8 Α What am I agreeing to or disagreeing to? 9 You don't dispute that those amounts were paid 0 10 out to you? 11 Α No. If they came from my general ledger, I don't 12 dispute them. 13 MR. MUIJE: Okay. And we're ready to break, Judge. 14 THE COURT: All right, sir. I have a couple of 15 questions for you. 16 THE WITNESS: Sure. 17 THE COURT: You knew from your email conversations 18 with Mr. Nype that he had a claim of at least seven figures. 19 Can you tell me based upon that why you thought setting aside 20 about \$400,000 in the escrow account was appropriate. 21 THE WITNESS: Sure. We knew from the email that we 22 went through that he had an interest in receiving a minimum of 23 I think it was in the language of \$2 million. In a time of 24 September, nine months, ten months before the transaction

JD Reporting, Inc.

closed, the transaction broke apart several times, and the

transaction in June was very, very different than what was being discussed in September of 2006.

And the material parts of that are, you know, that we

transaction was restructured several times. And the end

And the material parts of that are, you know, that we had to become liable for the debt portion of -- Las Vegas Land Partners became liable for the debt portion in the amount of net dollars that came to us because the bank -- they were the Forest City bank -- took enormous amount of reserves and so on and so forth. The net amount that came to us was substantially less, and the deal was substantially less in September of 2006.

And so in our corporate mind, if you will, after consulting our real estate professionals and am I allowed to say legal professionals, and accounting professionals and also with our partner, our new partner Forest City, that was the amount that was appropriate.

THE COURT: Okay. Knowing that Mr. Nype had a seven-figure demand regardless of whether you think the demand wasn't very well-founded within the changes and the nature of the deal, why did you think it was appropriate to take a distribution to yourself of \$3.9 million shortly thereafter?

THE WITNESS: I think myself and Mr. Liberman both took distributions --

THE COURT: Well, Mr. Liberman took about 10 million. You took 3.9.

THE WITNESS: Right. Which was to pay back loans and

appraisal came back at?

It was very close plus, minus \$25 million. Α

- Okay. \$2,428,000,000 sound about right? Q
- Α It could be, yes.

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Okay. Was that appraisal shared with 305 prior to Q

A-16-740689-B | Nype v. Mitchell | 2020-01-03 | BT Day4 1 the close of escrow on that property? 2 Α Oh, for sure. 3 MR. BOSCHEE: Okay. Nothing further, Your Honor. 4 MR. BLUT: No questions, Your Honor. THE COURT: Mr. Edwards? 5 6 MR. EDWARDS: Yes, Your Honor. Shortly. 7 REDIRECT EXAMINATION 8 BY MR. EDWARDS: 9 Pull up Exhibit 600 -- 60005. It's been admitted. 0 10 While we're waiting for that to come up, this is the 11 email that you just looked at involving Mr.-- I forgot his 12 name? 13 THE COURT: Spitz. 14 MR. EDWARDS: No. Gernard? The guy that works for 15 you. 16 Oh, Doug Aurnadan. Α 17 Q Yes. 18 (Pause in the proceedings.) 19 BY MR. EDWARDS: 20 Mr. Aurnadan, is that how you say his name? 0 21 Aurnadan. Α Aurnadan. 22 Q 23 $A \qquad A-u-r...$ Okay. Mr. Aurnadan was your employee; correct? 24 Q 25 Α Yes. JD Reporting, Inc.

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And who was the other person involved in this email chain?

She was not our employee, but she was our property manager for the Aquarius property. She worked for the previous owner, and she managed the property. She paid the bills. She arranged for repairs. She collected the rents. She forwarded the rents. She worked for --

Was she your employee?

Α -- Charleston Casino under freelance -- or not a freelance, on a contractor basis.

- Q Did she work with Charleston Casino?
- A On a contractor basis, yes.
- Q Okay.
- Α She was not an employee, but she was a contractor.
- The change of the money, the direction of the money Q from Keynote -- was it from KeyBank or Signature Bank?
- Α No. The bank that they're referencing here is Signature Bank.
- Okay. And why did you make different payments? Who Q told you to change the bank?
- There was a receiver appointed by the bank, and we got an order to direct all the funds to Heartland Bank.
- You were also asked by Mr. Muije about your interaction with First Wall Street. And did there come a time when you paid First Wall Street a finder's fee?

Q In fact, the actions that you've taken were supported by normal business practices?

A Yeah. I mean, they were business decisions made because of the environment that we were in.

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1	MR. EDWARDS: No further questions.		
2	I do have a housekeeping matter, Your Honor.		
3	THE COURT: Thank you. Hold on for a second.		
4	Mr. Muije, anything left? You've got four minutes or		
5	less.		
6	MR. MUIJE: Okay. I'll do it in four minutes.		
7	RECROSS-EXAMINATION		
8	BY MR. MUIJE:		
9	Q First of all, if you look real quickly at 50039, that		
10	is the settlement agreement with First Wall Street that we		
11	couldn't authenticate with Mr. Liberman because he didn't sign		
12	it. But you did, did you not, sir?		
13	MR. MUIJE: This has not been admitted, Your Honor.		
14	MR. EDWARDS: Exceeds the scope of redirect.		
15	THE COURT: Sustained.		
16	MR. MUIJE: No. He asked about the First Wall Street		
17	agreement.		
18	THE COURT: No, he didn't.		
19	MR. MUIJE: He did not?		
20	THE COURT: Nope. You did, but nobody has since you		
21	did.		
22	MR. MUIJE: No. But he asked about the settlement		
23	amount, and this is the settlement agreement.		
24	THE COURT: No. No.		
25	MR. MUIJE: He asked		
	JD Reporting, Inc.		
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THE WITNESS: I believe he -- I believe he said that he has not received anything from Mr. Spitz, and then when Mr. Johnson mentioned that the server had been delivered, he said he had not had a chance to look at it.

BY MR. MUIJE:

Q Well, that's Mr. Spitz, but we're talking about your production. If we could look back to 60032, three paragraphs from the bottom — actually, make it four paragraphs from the bottom. Do you see when records are returned to you it is your responsibility to retain and protect your records for possible future use?

A Yes. But it doesn't mention anything about six years. Yeah, it just says what my responsibility is.

Q And you knew during '07, '08, '09, 2010, 2011, 2012, that you were in a disputed litigation with Mr. Nype, and through 2010 with First Wall Street; correct?

- A No. In '07, no, I was not in a --
- Q You sued Mr. Nype in --
- A Oh, excuse me. You're correct. I'm sorry, yes.
- Q So at all those times you knew there was litigation going on; correct?
 - A Correct.
- Q And yet at the third paragraph from the bottom, Mr. Spitz says that his firm will be free to destroy those records.

It just says his records, not my records.

3

Right. But the paragraph above says you need to 0 preserve them.

4

Where are those missing accounting records from '07 through 2012?

5 6

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It just says our responsibility is to retain and Α protect. We've given you everything, and we've employed two outside forensic data specialists, and we have handed out everything to you. So what are you missing specifically?

8 9

> Accountant work papers. Q

10

THE COURT: Sir, you don't get to ask questions.

11 12

THE WITNESS: Oh, I'm sorry.

13

THE COURT: All right. Anything else, Mr. Muije?

MR. EDWARDS: I do, Your Honor. Documents that were

14

MR. MUIJE: Not at this time, Judge.

15

THE COURT: Mr. Edwards, you said you had a

16

housekeeping matter.

17 18

produced in the prior litigation as part of their disclosures

19 20 and which were initially disclosed by Mr. Hayes, but filings from the prior action, how would you -- do you want to take --

21

can you take judicial notice of those things, or?

22

THE COURT: Arquably.

23

MR. EDWARDS: Okay. Then we'll think about it this weekend how we're going to do that.

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THE COURT: Especially since I apparently signed the

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     judgment.
2
               MR. EDWARDS: Yes. There is that.
 3
               THE COURT: And I still can't figure out how that
4
    happened.
 5
               Anything else?
 6
               MR. EDWARDS: No.
7
               MR. BOSCHEE:
                            No.
8
               MR. EDWARDS: No. Thank you, Your Honor.
 9
               THE COURT: All right. We will see you on Monday.
10
               Travel safely, sir.
11
               MR. BLUT: What time would that be?
12
               THE COURT: 10:30 on Monday after my business court
13
     calendar which isn't really long, but if I say anything earlier
14
     than 10:30, it will be all screwed up.
15
               MR. BLUT: That is always the way it all goes.
16
               THE COURT: Have a lovely weekend. Enjoy some time
17
    with your families.
18
           (Proceedings recessed for the evening at 3:57 p.m.)
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     / / /
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                           JD Reporting, Inc.
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CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A CORRECT TRANSCRIPT FROM THE AUDIO-VISUAL RECORDING OF THE PROCEEDINGS IN THE ABOVE-ENTITLED MATTER.

AFFIRMATION

I AFFIRM THAT THIS TRANSCRIPT DOES NOT CONTAIN THE SOCIAL SECURITY OR TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBER OF ANY PERSON OR ENTITY.

DANA L. WILLIAMS Las vegas, nevada 89183

DANA L. WILLIAMS, TRANSCRIBER

01/12/21

DATE