Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs
Special Investigation

Deposition of Daniel B. Denning

June 30, 1997

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[16]

Page 3

Page 1



UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS In the Matter of: SPECIAL INVESTIGATION

Washington, D.C. Mondey, June 30, 1997

The disposition of DANIEL B. DENNING, called for examination by counsel for the United States Senate. Committee on Governmental Affairs, Floom 326, Dirkson Senate Office Suilding, commenced at 9:32 a.m., before Susan Harris, a notary public in and for the District of Columbia. when were present on behalf of the parties:

APPEARANCES:

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On behalf of the Committee on Governmental Affairs:

PHILIP J. PERRY, ESQ.

Counsel, Special Investigation, Majority Staff United States Senate Committee on Governmental Attains Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-2000

JONATHAN FRENKEL, ESQ. LISA E. ROSENBERG, ESQ.

Counsel, Special Investigation, Minority Staff **United States Senate** Committee on Governmental Attains

Washington, D.C. 20510 (202) 224-2627

On behalf of the Deponent Daniel B. Denning: ROGER C. SPAEDER, ESQ.

Zuckerman, Speeder, Goldstein, Taylor and Kolker 1201 Connecticut Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036 (202) 778-1806

CONTENTS

WITNESS **EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL** Daniel B. Denning

By Mr. Frenkel By Mr. Perry 276

wy	210	
EXH	IBITS	
DENNING DEPOSIT	TION EXHIBIT NOS.:	PAGE
No. 1	167	
No. 2	163	
No. 3	184	
No. 4	193	
No. 5	199	
No. 6	203	
No. 7	209	
No. 8	214	
No. 9	220	
No. 10	225	
No. 11	230	
No. 12	235	
No. 13	238	
No. 14	254	
No. 15	258	
No. 16	258	
Na. 17	260	

262

No. 18

No. 19

PROCEEDINGS Whereupon.

DANIEL B. DENNING

was called for examination by counsel for the Committee on Governmental Affairs and, having been first duly sworn by

the notary public, was examined and testified as follows: MP. FRENKEL: Good morning, Mr. Denning.

THE WITNESS: Good morning.

(3) MR. FRENKEL: Why don't we all just state our

[10] appearances for the record?

My name is Ionathan Frenkel. I'm with the (12) minority counsel to the Governmental Affairs Committee [13] special investigation staff.

MS, ROSENBERG: I'm Lisa Rosenberg, also with the [14]

[15] minority counsel.

MR. PERRY: Phil Perry, with the majority.

MR. SPAEDER: Roger Spaeder, Zuckerman, Spaeder, 119 Goldstein, Taylor and Kolker, in Washington, on behalf of ing the witness.

Counsel, when you have a moment, I do have a 1501 [21] preliminary statement to make.

[22] MR. FRENKEL: Go ahead and make it now, if you'd

[23] like.

MR. SPAEDER: Mr. Denning is here pursuant to a (24) 35] subpoena issued by the committee. For the record, Mr.

Page 5

[1] Denning worked at the National Policy Forum from January of [2] 1994 through approximately May of 1995. While at NPF, Mr.

Denning held the position of chief operating officer.

Pursuant to Senate Resolution 39, the Senate.

[5] after debate, authorized the committee to expend funds for

is the sole purpose of conducting an investigation of illegal [7] or improper activities in connection with the 1996 federal

in election campaigns. We believe, under these circumstances, (9) that the committee's sole investigative jurisdiction extends

[10] to issues connected with the 1996 federal election campaign.

As the Joint Committee on Congressional Operations

(12) has observed, subpoenas issued by Congressional committees

must not exceed the scope of authority delegated to the [14] committee, and I'm sure counsel are familiar with the

[15] Supreme Court's declarations about the limits of the

[16] committee's investigative jurisdiction as being embodied in [17] the authorizing resolution. That document is the

118) committee's charter, citing Watkins v. United States. Where

[19] an investigating committee exceeds its jurisdiction, the

gor witness has no duty to respond to the committee's questions, [21] under a variety of Supreme Court decisions, and a subpoensed

[22] party need not produce records. We are here today in response to the subpoena in

[24] connection with the committee's attempt to investigate

[25] illegal or improper activities relating to the 1996 federal

Page 6

[1] election campaigns. We do hope that we can cooperate with it the committee's interrogations, and my goal is to make Mr.

[3] Denning available within any reasonable limit to address

[4] issues within the scope of the committee's investigative

(5) jurisdiction.

In some cases, I intend to object for the record, [7] but nevertheless permit the witness to answer, because I

believe that is, in the long run, in the client's interests.

in some cases where I believe that the questions are clearly

(10) outside what I believe a court would rule to be the

[11] committee's investigative jurisdiction, I may feel obliged

[12] to instruct the witness not to answer.

[13] But I'm happy to discuss with you on or off the record [14] the basis for which the question is being tendered because I [15] may want to permit him to answer some of the questions, and (16) then when I get the feeling that we're off into the area (17) that's out of bounds, I will object and instruct the witness [18] not to respond. But we hope to conclude Mr. Denning's deposition today and to be of assistance to the minority and (20) the majority staff.

MR. FRENKEL: I appreciate your statement, Mr. 221 Spaeder. I don't intend to engage in any sort of colloquy [23] now. I would say it's questioning rather than [24] interrogation, but that's a matter of semantics, of Mr. 25] Denning. I'm sure it will not surprise you that the

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(14)

in minority staff and possibly the majority staff might have a [2] different view than you about what is and what is not within

the legitimate scope of the committee's inquiry. I appreciate the fact that, as you stated, your

[5] intention will be for the most part to simply note your [6] objection for the record and permit an answer, and then at m those times when you feel it's necessary to give an [8] instruction not to answer, to do that, and then we can 191 discuss that at the time either on or off the record. I

> **EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR THE MINORITY** COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Mr. Denning, have you ever been deposed before?

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Q: Well, you have one of the best lawyers in [17] Washington, D.C., if not the country, so I'm sure he has reviewed with you what transpires here today, is that (18) ()(19) correct?

A: That's correct.

[10] appreciate your views.

[20] (21) Q: As you know, it's a sworn proceeding under oath. 10 [22] It's as if you were in a courtroom. My questions and your answers will be taken down by the court reporter, so it's [24] just necessary for you to give an audible answer as opposed [25] to shaking your head or saying things like "uh-huh" or "uh-

🏥 (1) uh." We just need a clear, audible answer. If at any time you don't understand my question, please let me know and [3] I'll try to make it understandable for you. Otherwise, [4] we'll assume that you understood the question as it was (51 tendered to you. [6]

Is there anything preventing you from giving full, accurate and truthful testimony here today? [7]

A: No.

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[12]

[13]

[17]

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(8)

Q: Have you taken any prescription or over-the-[10] counter medications this morning that might impair your [11] ability to recall events clearly?

A: No.

Q: Can you please give us your home or business [14] address, whichever you prefer?

A: My home address is 9201 Georgetown Pike, Great [16] Falls, Virginia 22066.

Q: Can you please provide a sense of your post-high

school educational background? [13]

A: Undergraduate degree from Indiana, a master's from [19] (20) American. I've completed a number of Army-I'm still a [21] reserve officer, so a number of Army courses, including [22] command of general staff.

Q: What was your master's degree in from the [24] University of Indiana-from American University?

A: Public administration management.

Q: Give me a sense, please, of your career positions [2] following college. Did you enlist immediately or were you made an officer in the United States Army?

A: I was commissioned and served a little over three years, was on Capitol Hill for about two years on the House (5) [6] side

Q: What sort of position on the House side?

A: An L.A. for a Congressman.

Q: Which Congressman?

A: John Myers of Indiana. I then went to the U.S. 1101 [11] Chamber of Commerce for, again, about two years and handled [12] energy and environmental issues. From there, I went to Gulf Oil Corporation for about six years, the same kinds of [13]

[14] issues, federal relations

I resigned from Gulf in '81, I believe-it was the year Reagan was shot; I remember that-and went with a small [17] company called Marline Uranium and was with Marline for a [18] year, and then joined the Reagan administration and I had a series of assignments that lasted until, oh-well, I'm [20] sorry. It wasn't-it was about a year-and-a-half when I resigned from the administration and worked for the RNC as deputy convention manager in '84; went back into government [23] in '85 at the Department of Defense-I was deputy assistant [24] secretary under Weinberger-and then to the Atomic Weapons 25] Program at DOE. I left the government in '88 and joined

[1] General Electric, where I was until I resigned and joined (Z) NPE

Do you want me to keep going beyond that? [3]

[4] Q: Yes, please.

A: I was at NPF I think I resigned as chief operating officer in about February or March. [6]

Q: Of 1995?

A: Of 1995, and took over the American Legislative Exchange Council as executive director in '96, and I was 191 there for a year. (10)

Q: And what are you doing now?

[12] A: Well, I'm doing a little bit of consulting and, as

[13] Roger says, I'm between opportunities.

Q: Just going back briefly over your background, what [14] position did you have within the Reagan administration?

A: I was first at the Agency for International [17] Development, Frankly, I've forgotten the title. I was the [18] chief legislative person over there. I was detailed to the White House and helped put together the '84 summit, and [20] after that, that's when I resigned when I was the number two

21] for-I built the Republican convention in Dallas. Then I went back into government and I was deputy assistant 23) secretary to Weinberger for Senate Liaison, and then

[24] Director of Congressional Affairs, I think was the title,

[25] with the Atomic Weapons Program.

Q: In connection with your first stint in the Reagan 27 administration, you mentioned putting together the '84 3) summit before you left to head up the Republican convention [4] in Dallas in 1984. Did you do any work with the White House Political Office?

A: No, not really.

Q: Do you recall whether you worked with Haley

A: I mean, I knew some of the people there. No, I [10] didn't-Haley was-I don't know where he was then. I first [11] met him at the Republican convention in '84

Q: Do you recall whether you did any work with Ed Rogers at that time?

A: No, no. I do recall, and I didn't.

1151 Q: How did you come to leave General Electric to take [16] a job with the National Policy Forum?

A: We-G.E.-my-the part of G.E. that was part of, (18) G.E. Aerospace, was sold to Martin-Marietta, and it was, [19] frankly, a real different culture from General Electric to a (20) very structured, hierarchical kind of organization. I was slated to move more into marketing, outside of my-what I [22] thought was my expertise. Haley was a friend. I was interested in getting back into the political process, and

[24] he came to me in December of '93 and asked me to take the [25] job and I turned it down, I think, twice before I finally

Page 12

Page 11

[1] said yes.

Q: Backing up one second, you say when you left General Electric, one of the reasons was because you thought

Martin-Marietta was going to put you in an area not within your expertise. What did you consider your expertise to be?

A: Congressional affairs, marketing, government

marketing. Our business was primarily government services-DoD, DOE, Social Security. You know, our-in the main, the business was systems integration and arrange services for

[10]

big government agencies.

12: Can you tell me a little bit more about the conversation you had with Haley Barbour in December of '93 about taking a job with the National Policy Forum? Was that the first contact you had with anyone from the National [14] Policy Forum about taking a job there? [15]

A: Uh-huh, it was.

[17] MR. SPAEDER: I'm going to object, but permit the witness to answer. This is, in my judgment, outside the '96 election cycle, but I think they're entitled to get a little bit of information about how you came to come into the employ of the NPE But we'll see how it goes. You can answer the question, though.

THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Can you say it one more (22)

[23] (24) time?

[25]

BY MA, FRENKEL:

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Q: Sure. You had mentioned that Mr. Barbour and you 12) had a conversation in around December 1993 about joining the 121 NPF Was that the first conversation you had with anyone?

Q: Can you describe to me a little bit what you

is recall about that conversation?

A: Well, Haley was not satisfied with the pace of activity over there. His hope had been that a number of the forums that the NPF was supposed to get underway had not 1101 happened. I think there were 1 or 2 that had actually been my held at that point in time, and his hope was the number would have been more like 10 or 15. And he was most anxious [13] that that activity get underway.

The way-he felt that Mike Baroody, while doing a 115] good job, was-he had it headed more toward just a strictly [161 think tank kind of activity as opposed to the kind of hybrid (17) that he envisioned, which was part policy development, but not here in Washington. He wanted these activities out in (19) the real world, listening to, you know, what's on people's [20] minds and getting that information and turning it into [21] something. And that wasn't going-you know, it wasn't (22) happening. Money was being spent, but there was nothing coming out the other end, and he asked me to go in there and [24] get it going.

Q: Mike Baroody was the president of the National

(1) but they hoped to bring that to an end as fast as possible. BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Did you have any understanding at that time, in or around December 1993, about why the RNC was subsidizing the start-up of the NPF? A: No. I didn't.

Q: Did you come to an understanding at any point after December 1993 about why the RNC had funded the initial start-up of the NPF?

A: As to why the RNC had-no, I didn't, I mean other (10) [11] than what I ascertained, you know.

Q: What did you ascertain about that?

A: Well, the fund-raising was not going as he'd 7130 [14] hoped, I guess, and that-you know, that this was necessary 1151 to fund operations.

Q: Did you have any understanding as to why the RNC was providing funding, as opposed to any other organization (171 or as opposed to obtaining a bank loan?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection, but you may answer. THE WITNESS: No.

[20] BY MR. FRENKEL: 1211

Q: What, if anything, did you know about the 1231 financial status of the NPF when you accepted a job in [24] December 1993, or the financial condition?

MR. SPAEDER: Object. I'll let you answer.

Page 14

Page 15

111 Policy Forum-

A: Yes.

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. Q: -at that time?

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Q: Just as a matter of structure, please try to let [6] me finish the question, even though you anticipate-A: Oh, sorry.

Q: -what the end of it will be, just so it's easier [8] for the court reporter. 191

What did you say back to Mr. Barbour, if you [10] [11] recall?

A: I was interested-well, I don't recall in detail. [12] [13] I mean, I think the main thing was I was-

[14] MR. SPAEDER: Answer as to what you remember. If jisj you're speculating, tell counsel you're speculating. And if you don't remember, save us all the time and trouble by [16]

[17] saying so. THE WITNESS: Well, the major thing I remember is we had a number of discussions about compensation. You [20] know, I realized I was going to have to take a financial hit [21] to do this and we had some discussions trying to minimize that. We reached an accommodation after two or three weeks. [22] [23] It was over that kind of a period of time, and I accepted [24] the position just close to Christmas

BY MR. FRENKEL:

THE WITNESS: What did I know about the financial

[2] condition of the NPF when I accepted the job? That was in [3] debt to the RNC to the tune of about \$250, \$300,000, and (4) that that kind of subsidization would have to probably

is continue until fund-raising could pick up, but with-you know, with the caveat that Haley had expectations about

those forums I mentioned earlier. He wanted to see the pace [8] pick up, so spending would have to-you know, you'd have a m rising curve on that as well. And that was it.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: When you were hired in or about December 1993. did [111 you-what did you understand the fund-raising structure to [13] be to help pay for this increase in the number of forums [14] that Mr. Barbour wanted to hold?

MA, SPAEDER: I'm going to object and, for reasons previously indicated, instruct the witness not to answer. This is plainly outside the 1996 federal election campaign (13) cycle, and it strikes me that until there's clarity about [19] the committee's jurisdictional to investigate outside that [20] cycle, and given my understanding that there's even a

[21] controversy about whether the donor records or bank records [22] of the committee are properly subject to committee subpoena, [23] I think that it's fair for me to instruct the witness not to

We're, of course, prepared to talk about the loan

Page 18

Page 17

Q: I thought I understood you to say in response to [2] an earlier question that at least two times, maybe three times, Mr. Barbour asked you to take the job. You declined it. Is that separate and apart from the compensation (5) issues?

A: No. I'm sorry. It was directly related. I just-[6] -I felt I couldn't afford it. It was strictly a matter of M

Q: What did Mr. Barbour tell you about the National [10] Policy Forum during the conversations you had with him in (ii) December '93?

MR. SPAEDER: I object. You may answer. THE WITNESS: I think what I've already stated. [14] It wasn't performing as he hoped it would perform. He [15] needed somebody to go in there and get it organized and get [16] it moving.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Did you have any discussions with him in or about [19] December 1993 about the affiliation, if any, between the [20] National Policy Forum and the Republican National Committee? [21] MR. SPAEDER: Object. You may answer.

THE WITNESS: To the extent of this, that it was a [23] legally separate entity; that I was to be chief operating [24] officer. I would report to Haley, who is chairman of the 25) board, and that the RNC was subsidizing its start-up costs, [1] guarantee. We view that as part of a continuum that begins [2] in 1994 and carries forward until 1996, and I do think the Young Brothers Development guarantee is fair game, given your committee's mandate. But I'm happy to state for the record I would continue to instruct the witness not to (9) answer any questions that relate to the finances of the organization prior to the 1996 cycle, save those questions that he has already responded to.

MR. FRENKEL: Just so I'm clear, is your position, 10 Mr. Spaeder, that questions relating to the financial condition of the National Policy Forum prior to obtaining the foan from-the loan guarantee from Young Brothers Development you believe to be outside the scope of the

[14] committee's jurisdiction? [15] MR. SPAEDER: Yes, subject to the answers he's already given to give you some frame of reference. MR. SPAEDER: I appreciate your position. It's

not one I agree with, but just to proceed, what I propose to do is just ask a number of questions, then, leading up to [20] that point. If you want to have a continuing objection and just each time during that period until Mr. Denning can answer again, the understanding will be your objection also includes an objection-an instruction not to answer because of your position that the question is outside the scope of [25] the committee's jurisdiction, is that's fine

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Page 19 Page 22 MR. SPAEDER: That is acceptable. I am happy to m Policy Forum? MR. SPAEDER: Objection. proceed that way. This means that there will be a number of BY MR. FRENKEL: questions and pursuant to my standing objection and [3] instruction to you, you should simply decline to answer. Q: Any time prior to-strike that, Counsel wants to make a record. Counsel is entitled to do When you were hired by the National Policy Forum 151 in that. I've stated my position, and that way we can slog 161 on or about December 1993, did you have any discussions with through the balance of the day. [7] Haley Barbour about the need for members of Congress to THE WITNESS: Do I have to say I decline to answer raise money to fund the activities of the National Policy (A) or do you do that? (9) [9] Forum? MR. SPAEDER: I'll help you out. MR. SPAEDER: Same objection. [10] MOI BY MR. FRENKEL: MR. FRENKEL: For the record, I'm prepared to say [111 Q: When you were hired by the NPF on or about (12) that you will follow Mr. Spaeder's instructions and that [12] [13] it's not necessary for you to decline to answer the [13] December 1993, did you have any discussion with other [14] officers and directors of the NPF, exclusive of Mr. Barbour. [14] question. BY MR. FRENKEL: [15] about the need for members of Congress to raise money for (15) Q: When you first came to the National Policy Forum (16) the activities of the National Policy Forum? [16] un in or about December 1993, was there any discussion with MR. SPAEDER: Same objection. 117 Haley Barbour, the chairman of the National Policy Forum, BY MR. FRENKEL: [1A 19 and also the chairman of the Republican National Committee. Q: When you were hired by the NPF on or about 119 [[20] about the need to raise money from non-United States [20] December 1993, did you have discussions with Haley Barbour ्राष्ट्रभ citizens? [21] about the need for State and local elected officials to (22) (23) MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction. raise money for the activities of the National Policy Forum? 1221 MR. FRENKEL: Just for the record if you want. MR. SPAEDER: Same objection. [23] BY MR. FRENKEL: [24] you don't have to say "same instruction." If you want to, [24] that's fine, whatever your-however you want to do it. It's [25] Q: When you were hired by the NPF did you have Page 20 Page 23 (i) either way to me, but if you don't want to, I'll just assume (i) discussions with other officers and directors of the NPE 2) that every time you're stating an objection to these series [2] exclusive of Mr. Barbour, about the need for State and local (3) of questions, it includes an instruction not to answer. [3] elected officials to raise money to fund the activities of MR. SPAEDER: You would just prefer to ask the [4] the NPF? MR. SPAEDER: Same objection. (S) questions scriation, with the understanding that his answer 151 BY MR. FRENKEL: would be one in which he declines to respond at my 181 :61 # [7] direction. And then I guess I'll interrupt you if I get to Q: Any time prior to the October 1994 loan the NPF a question-[8] took from Signet Bank in the amount of \$2.1 million that was MR. FRENKEL: No. I'm sorry. I guess-you know, (Vi guaranteed by the Young Brothers Development Company, did [10] either way, I guess all I'm saying is you can either just you have any discussions with Haley Barbour about the need [11] say "objection." Which I will, for the record-for this part for the NPF to raise money from non-U.S. citizens to fund f111 [12] the activities of the NPF? [12] of the record will be deemed to include an instruction not MR. SPAEDER: Same objection. [13] to answer. If your personal preference is to say, [13] "objection, instruction not to answer," each time, that's BY MR. FRENKEL: [14] [14] Q: Any time prior to October 1994 and the Signet (15) fine, too. [15] MR. SPAEDER: I accept your proposal.
BY MR. FRENKEL: loan, did you have any discussion with other officers and [16] [161 directors of the NPF about the need to raise money to fund (17) [17] Q: Mr. Denning, when you were hired on or about [18] the activities of the NPF from non-U.S. citizens? [18] MR. SPAEDER: Same objection. [18] December 1993 by the National Policy Forum, did you have any [19] BY MR. FRENKEL: [20] discussions with other officers and directors of the (20) [21] National Policy Forum, exclusive of Haley Barbour, about the [21] Q: Any time prior to October 1994 and the loan from Signet Bank, did you have any discussions with Haley Barbour [22] need to raise money from non-United States citizens to pay (22) [23] for the activities of the Mational Policy Forum? about the need to raise money from non-United States corporations to fund the activities of the NPF? MR. SPAEDER: Objection. [24] 1241 BY MR. FRENKEL: MR. SPAEDER: Same objection. [25] [25] Page 24 BY MA. FRENKEL: Q: When you were hired by the National Policy Forum in or about December 1993, did you have any discussions with Q: Any time prior to October 1994, did you have Haley Barbour about the need to raise money for the National discussions with other officers and directors of the NPF. exclusive of Mr. Barbour, about the need to raise money to Policy Forum from non-United States corporations? MR. SPAEDER: Objection. fund the activities of the NPF from non-United States 151 151 BY MR. FRENKEL: corporations? (6) [6] MR. SPAEDER: Same objection. Q: When you were hired by the National Policy Forum M BY MR. FRENKEL: [8] on or about December of 1993, did you have any discussions Q: Any time prior to October 1994, did you have any with other officers and directors of the National Policy [10] Forum, exclusive of Mr. Barbour, whether the National Policy discussions with Haley Barbour about the need to raise money [10] from U.S. subsidiaries of foreign corporations to fund the (4 11

[11] Forum needed to raise money for the activities of the [12] National Policy Forum from non-United States corporations?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection

[13]

BY MR. FRENKEL: [14] Q: When you were hired by the NPF in or about [15] [16] December 1993, did you have any conversations with Haley Barbour about the need to raise money for the activities of 1171 (18) the NPF from U.S. subsidiaries of foreign corporations? MR. SPAEDER: Objection. (19]

BY MR. FRENKEL: [50] Q: When you were hired by the NPF on or about [21] [22] December 1993, did you have any discussions with other officers and directors of the NPF, exclusive of Mr. Barbour, [23] 24) about the need to raise money from U.S. subsidiaries of [25] foreign corporations to fund the activities of the National

BY MR. FRENKEL:

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Any time prior to October 1994, did you have

discussions with any other officers or directors of the

Q: Any time prior to October 1994, did you have a

discussion with Haley Barbour about the need for members of

U.S. subsidiaries of foreign corporations to fund the

[24] Congress to raise money to help the activities of the

National Policy Forum about the need to raise money from

[12]

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activities of the NPF?

activities of the NPF?

25 National Policy Forum?

MR. SPAEDER: Same objection.

MR. SPAEDER: Same objection

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Page 28

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MR. SPAEDER: Same objection.

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BY MR. FRENKEL: [2] Q: Any time prior to October of 1994, did you have (3) discussions with other officers or directors of the National [4] Policy Forum about the need for members of Congress to raise [8] money to fund the activities of the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: Same objection.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Any time prior to October 1994, did you have tion conversations with Haley Barbour about the need for State and local elected officials to raise money to fund the [11] activities of the NPF? (12)

MR. SPAEDER: Same objection.

BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Any time prior to October 1994, did you have (16) discussions with other officers and directors of the NPE exclusive of Mr. Barbour, about the need for State and local elected officials to fund the activities of the-to help

fund the activities of the National Policy Forum? MR. SPAEDER: Same objection. [20]

Q: Can you describe what the-what fund-raising mechanism was in place when you were hired by the NPF in [24] December 1993

MR. SPAEDER: Could you clarify your question?

Page 26

MR. FRENKEL: Sure.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

BY MR. FRENKEL:

(3) .O: Let's start with, can you-well, strike that. [4] I'll come to that in a second.

What were your duties and responsibilities at the [6] National Policy Forum when you were hired in December 1993?

A: To run the place, I mean A to Z. The staff reported to me and I worked with Mike Baroody and we kind of jointly reported to Haley and to the board. As-you know,

[10] as the weeks went by, the way Mike and I worked together was fiff he primarily concentrated on the policy side of the house, trying to get the first issue of Commonsense, the quarterly [13] journal, published, and I attended to operational details, getting those forums organized, getting staff on board, [14]

budgeting, and I started to review the fund-raising [15] situation and operation. [16] MR. SPAEDER: Did the reporter understand the [17]

witness to say "forums," f-o-r-u-m-s, not "forms?" MR. FRENKEL: I appreciate that clarification.

84 MR. FRENKEL: [50] Q: Did you have a title when you were hired by the [21]

[22] NPF? A: Yes [23]

Q: What was that title? [24]

A: Chief operating officer.

Q: What were the divisions, if they were called [2] divisions or some other name, within the NPF that reported to you or that you had oversight responsibility for? [3]

A: Administration, Fund-raising-MR. SPAEDER: Let me object to this line of questioning, but I'll permit you to answer. They are (6) entitled to know a little bit about, in my judgment, the structure, organizational structure, of the organization

subject to my standing concern that this may be outside the committee's investigative jurisdiction. But you may answer [10] [11] the question.

THE WITNESS: Can I just continue on or do we have [12] [13] to-Policy, but as I say, that-you know, I suppose, [14] technically, it reported to me, but at that point, at least, [15] it worked principally with Mike Baroody There was an

[16] advance staff that was charged with, you know, identifying 177 possible locations for forums; Publications, including the people doing Commonsense and public affairs and that kind of [18]

thing. There was a support staff of assistants and [19] receptionists, people like that. I think I've covered it. 1201 [21] I may be leaving something out, but-

BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: If you recall, did Publications report-and I know "report" may not be as formal as it sounds-to you or [24]

A: At that point-

MR. SPAEDER: I'll object, but you may answer.

THE WITNESS: Principally to Mike

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: At a later point, did you assume some more responsibility for the publication of Commonsense, not necessary whether you-that you sat the presses of getting

it out, but that the people were under your guidance? A: After Mike left, after he resigned on or about the

end of July '94, it reported-everything reported to me. [10] But I rarely-I don't remember a single instance-I'm sorry, with one exception, where I got involved in, you know, what [13] articles were published or editorial thing. It just-as

long as it got out and I could track costs, I didn't care. (15) I was making the trains run on time, not, you know-

[16] Q: Did that one instance you just mentioned have anything to do with the article or articles that Ambrous [17] Tung Young was going to submit to Commonsense? 71**a**1

A: Yes.

[19 Q: Could you tell me what your involvement was with [20]

[21] Mr. Young's article?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer.

THE WITNESS: I recall telling the editor at that [24] time that we wanted to publish one or two articles on the

[25] China-Taiwan relationship and that they be submitted, you

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[1] know, and I found out the time line required and that kind of a thing. And then, secondly, I saw an early draft of his article and commented on that, and I may have reviewed the final copy. I don't recall.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Do you recall, was there any discussion with the editor of Commonsense about the need to run Mr. Young's article in what edition of Commonsense it was to appear?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer.

THE WITNESS: Can you clarify what you mean? I ttol mean, did I tell him he had to run it? Is that what you're-[72] [12] BY MA. FRENKEL:

Q: I guess I-not necessarily what your final instructions, if any, were, but if you had any discussions with the editor about the need for Mr. Young's article.

A: I don't believe I did. I don't really recall. I told him we were going to run it and that was enough.

Q: Do you recall any discussion along the lines of why do we need to have an article about Taiwan-U.S. relations at this point, anything along that subject area? [50]

A: No.

[21] Q: You also mentioned that you may have reviewed a [22] draft and provided some comments on a draft. Do you know [23] where the comments went? Did they go back directly to Mr.

Young or did they go to the editor, whoever the editor of

Page 30 [1] the piece was for Mr. Young's article to be published in

Commonsense? MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer.

THE WITNESS: As I recall, it was such an early draft, I don't think the editor was even involved at that (5) point. I think it went back-my comments went back to Steve Richards, who I believe had helped write the article. 7

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: And Mr. Richards is a cousin or nephew of Richard-(4) or Dick Richards, is that right? [10]

A: I think nephew of Dick Richards.

[11] Q: How did you come to be in possession of the early [12] draft of Mr. Young's article? (13)

A: I think he faxed it to me.

Q: Mr. Young or Steve Richards?

Steve.

[16] Q: Did you have any understanding about Steve 1177 Richards' connection, if any, to Ambrous Tung Young? 1181 [19]

A: Yes.

Q: What was your understanding?

A: That they-that the firm that he was a part of-I [21] assume you're going to kick me if you're objecting to 1221 something

MR. SPAEDER: Well, I'm going to-I want to make 25] this as smooth as possible. I don't like to segment the

25] principally more Mr. Baroody?

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Page 35

June 30, 1997 Page 31 [1] questioner's interrogation. I guess I have to object and [2] let you answer. Otherwise, we're going to have a poor record. So I object and you can answer his question. THE WITNESS: I'm sorry. Do that again. [4] BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: I believe the question was whether you had an (6) understanding about Mr. Richards's connection-7 A: Right. 181 [9] Q: -with Ambrous Tung Young. MR. FRENKEL: But let's just go off the record for [10] [11] a second just so the court reporter can tell me if I'm wrong [12] about my recollection of my own question. [The Reporter read back the requested portion of [14] the record.] BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: The court reporter has just refreshed all of our [16] [17] recollections that the question was, what was your understanding of the connection between Steve Richards and [18] 📜 [19] Mr. Young [20] A: That the firm that he was employed by was retained [21] by Young Brothers Development. · [22] Q: What was your understanding, if any, of Young [23] Brothers Development at the time? MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer. .: (24) ्य <mark>(25</mark>) THE WITNESS: It was a Florida-based company that

📳 (1) Mr. Young's family owned. **11 (2)** 

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BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Let's just try and put a date around this. Do you [3] recall when you saw the early draft of Mr. Young's article? [4] [5] A: In the summer of '94-well, you know, that's not right.

[6] Q: Let's try and ask it this way. Do you recall [7] whether you saw a draft of the article before NPF took out the \$2.1 million loan from Signet Bank that had been (10) guaranteed by Mr. Young's company?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer. THE WITNESS: I really don't. If you want me to [13] speculate, I can, but I really don't.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: What is your speculation?

A: I think it was later that year. I think it was [17] late-some time in the fourth quarter of '94 because I think we published-it was a two-part article and I think we 119] published the first installment in the first quarter issue (20) of '95

Q: During your stay at the NPF, do you recall any-

A: If I could-

Q: Sure. Were you finished with your answer?

MR. SPAEDER: It makes me nervous when people add

ps footnotes to their answers. If you want to say something, I

want to know what it was. [Witness conferring with counsel.] [3] BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: You've had an opportunity to confer with Mr. Spaeder. Would you like to continue your answer? Did you have anything else to add? **(8)** 

A: No. That's enough. n Q: During your tenure at the National Policy Forum, do you recall any other topic that received a two-part

article in Commonsense, the NPF publication? [10] MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer. [11]

THE WITNESS: Not specifically, but I think there (12) [13] Were others. [14]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: The comments that you indicated you provided on the first draft of Mr. Young's article-do you recall what f151 [16] kinds of comments you were making? In other words, were you making sort of grammatical changes or spelling changes, [18] (19) things of that nature, or something more than that?

A: Oh, I think it was something more than grammatical. It was-I was not-I don't-I know I was not [22] happy with the tone of it, but, no, it wasn't grammatical. It was more substantive [23]

Q: What do you recall the tone was in the first draft 25] with which you disagreed?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You can answer. [2] THE WITNESS: I frankly don't recall the article,

but it-I mean, what the point of it was other than the Taiwan-China-the future of the Taiwan-China relationship.

But there was something about the way Mr. Young presented the argument that I thought may be too strident, is my best recollection. I thought the tone-the tone of it troubled

me and I thought they ought to, you know, change that into 191 more diplomatic language

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: When you saw the first draft of Mr. Young's article, did it-how did that first draft-the tone of the 1121 first draft relate to other articles that had been published by Commonsense? [14]

MR. SPAEDER: Object. You may answer.

THE WITNESS: I really don't know because I-as I 21**6**3

said earlier, I didn't concern myself a lot with (17)

Commonsense. I mean, I was intellectually interested in it 1881 [19] and was-I was so busy, you know, I really didn't have time.

I was aware of other articles, like Olasky's on welfare [21] reform that I may have read-I tried to get the time to read

most of, but I have nothing to compare it to, really. 1221 BY MR. FRENKEL: [23]

O: What, if anything, happened to the comments you made when you sent them to Steve Young?

Page 32

Page 33

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer. [1]

THE WITNESS: Well, he-as far as I know, he-

BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Excuse me. Steve Richards. I said Steve Young.

A: Steve Richards. As I recall, he had pretty much the same concerns I did, and after that I don't know what happened, but the next draft that came back was much improved.

Q: Did you have either a phone conversation or in-[9] person conversation with Mr. Richards to discuss the [10] comments you had made? [11]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer. (12) THE WITNESS: One or the other, but I don't [13]

recall; probably a phone. [14] [15]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: The redraft, at least the second draft that you 1161 saw of the article that Mr. Young was writing, was that also [17] provided to you by Steve Richards? [10]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer. THE WITNESS: You know, I don't remember. I saw [19]

[21] it one more time before it was published, but I don't know if that was the second or the sixth draft.

BY MR. FRENKEL: [23]

Q: Do you recall whether, either on the second draft

(24) or if there were up to-l understand you don't recall what

[1] the exact number of drafts were and that's fine, but do you [2] recall on any subsequent draft whether you made any non-copy editing changes to the piece, or suggestions?

A: I don't believe I did.

Q: Back to the structure of the National Policy

Forum, when you were hired in or about December 1993, do you [6] recall approximately how many employees were in place at the 7 NPF? [8]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer. [9]

THE WITNESS: Give or take 20, maybe

BY MA. FRENKEL

[11] Q: When you were hired in December 1993, were there [12] any important positions that remained open and needed to be (13) [14] filled!

[15] MR. SPAEDER: Same objection. You may answer. THE WITNESS: I can't think of any. I think most [16] of the major supervisory positions were filled.

BY MR. FRENKEL: [17]

[18] Q: When you were hired at the NPF, did you have any understanding that you and the NPF were going to need to hire additional people to accomplish the tasks of the NPF?
MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer. 1211

THE WITNESS: Oh, yes. I mean, it was apparent to

(24) the that we were going to have to substantially ramp up the [25] organization to get the job done within the time frame Haley

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[1] had in mind. BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: What was the time frame Mr. Barbour had in mind, (4) if you recall? MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer.

THE WITNESS: He wanted a solid record of-that [6] [7] was based on these forums having been held around the (a) country, and his target was, I think, in the range of 75 to [9] 100 of them by late spring in order that that record be no reviewed and the policy councils be-you know, have that [11] record in order to turn out the report that-the deadline (12) for which was late July.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[13] Q: Do you have any recollection whether, within the [14] [15] NPF, either in the time, say, between January '94 and April '94 or some subsequent time, that effort to produce 75 to [16] 100 forums was called forum frenzy? [17]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer the forum frenzy" question. THE WITNESS: Yes, I recall that.

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BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Do you recall who, if anyone, developed that-or 132 initiated, coined the term at the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer.

THE WITNESS: I don't recall. There was a staff,

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[1] you know, thing. I mean, that's how the staff referred to (2) it.

#### BY MR. FRENKEL:

(3) Q: Did you have any understanding as to what the cost [4] would be to the NPF of holding 75 to 100 policy forums by late spring, or by spring 1994?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer.

THE WITNESS: Well, after I was there for a while, you know, four or six weeks, and got my hands around the operation and realized-you know, as I got into it, I was [11] better able to project cost and budgets. So, yes, there [12] came a point in time, you know-I don't know, maybe February [13] or early March where I-you know, I don't recall the figure, [14] but I had my hands around about what a forum could cost and [15] I could budget them. But they all varied, you know, because [16] of location and size.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

(17) Q: Did you develop at some point, prior to the end of [18] the forums being completed, a rough estimate of the total (20) cost of the forums for that quarter, that quarter being [21) January '94 and ending in-well, it's extended beyond a [22] quarter to April of '94.

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer is you can intelligently respond to the question.

(24) [25]

THE WITNESS: That's always a challenge. It was a

[1] movable target. Overall, I mean reality imposed itself and 12] the resources of the staff and the time available, you know, m indicated that we couldn't accomplish 100. Even 75 was a [4] reach and, as I said, they all varied as to cost, so there wasn't a hard budget that I was up against.

My challenge was to spend the least possible to 7 get the most done, but I don't-there was not a point in time that I can recall where I realized, oltay, this whole

ly thing is going to cost \$2 million, you know.

BY MR. FRENKEL: [10] Q: Did you have any understanding from Mr. Barbour [11] [12] why it was necessary or why it was Mr. Barbour's wish to [13] have the NPF start the forum frenzy process to hold a series [14] of between 75 to 100 forums by the end of the spring 1994?

MR. SPAEDER: I object. I'm not sure that the [15] witness said that it was Mr. Barbour's term to use "forum (16)

frenzy." Perhaps you could rephrase the question.

MR. FRENKEL: Sure, and you are correct. I (19) believe Mr. Denning has not testified that that was Mr. Barbour's term, but rather it was a staff term. I agree [20] with that, Mr. Spaeder. [21]

Q: Do you recall why Mr. Barbour indicated to you that Mr. Barbour felt it was necessary for the NPF to conduct this increasing number of forums between the time

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[1] you were hired and the end of April 1994.

MR. SPAEDER: Object. You may answer. THE WITNESS: Well, from the start, it was not-

that wasn't the goal. The product was the goal. The

product was that Listening to America report, which before I arrived had a publication-anticipated publication date of

(7) the end of July '94. And as I said earlier, the reason I

was recruited was because they were behind the curve in

py holding those forums. So when I arrived in January '94, I [10] had to do catch-up to get the body of input of-that the

[11] forums produced finished in time for the policy councils to

then take that and do the writing and produce the document. [13] That's what drove the train more than anything.

BY MR. FRENKEL: [14] 115 Q: Did you have any discussions with Mr. Barbour [16] within the first several weeks you were hired, or whatever [17] period of time you nee led to get an understanding of the operations of the NPF, about delaying the publication of

the-I forget exactly the name of the publication. (19) A: Listening-[20]

Q: Listening to America.

[21] MR. SPAEDER: Objection, but you may answer. (22)

THE WITNESS: No, it was never considered, nor [23]

(24) recommended.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Why didn't you recommend it, if you recall? Why did that subject not come up? [2]

MR. SPAÉDER: Objection. You may answer. (3)

THE WITNESS: It never came up.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Did you have any understanding that the (6) publication, Listening to America, was intended to have some

influence in the-or some use in the 1994 general election in November?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection, and I think the way that [10] [11] question is phrased, I have to instruct you not to answer.

[12] That seems to be on its face related to something other than the 1996 federal election campaign. So I'm going to ask you [14] not to respond to that.

MR. FRENKEL: Just as a clarification, Mr.

[18] Spaeder, some in the committee, or maybe the committee as a whole-I'm not going to represent that I speak for the

[18] committee as a whole-have interpreted the resolution to include the entire 1996 election cycle, which goes back to the beginning of 1993, and would thus include the 1994-I

211 guess you could call them mid-term elections, as they're often referred to. 22

You are not under oath, obviously. I guess my (24) only question to you is, if that would be the scope of the

25; committee's jurisdiction, would you still maintain the

(1) instruction not to answer?

MR. SPAEDER: I really can't answer a

(3) hypothetical. I have read the resolution and tried to make [4] an honest legal judgment about what it embraces, it seems

[5] to me that, as enacted by the committee and approved by the

Congress, it's clearly the election cycle beginning in

November of 1996. Obviously, we could revisit this issue if

the committee clarifies its position.

MR. PERRY: And let me just note for the record [10] that I believe that the process by which the committee will [11] consider the issues that are now arising will be undertaken

[12] in the coming weeks after briefs are submitted, et cetera.
[13] MS. ROSENBERG: After what?

MR. PERRY: Briefs by certain parties that are

is prepared are submitted on these issues.

By MP. FRENKEL: I'll just rephrase the question and

if you want to object again, you're certainly free to do so.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Did you have any understanding that the July '94 [19] publication date of Listening to America was important (20) because of the possible role that publication would play in the 1994 mid-term elections?

MR. SPAEDER: Object. I instruct you not to [23] [24] answer.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

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Page 44

June 30, 1997 Page 43

Q: What fund-raising mechanisms were in place-I (1) 2 guess we'll start with the structure of the fund-raising [3] department or division, or whatever the appropriate would (4) be-at the NPF when you arrived in December 1993? MR. SPAEDER: I object. I'll permit him to answer [6] some preliminary questions about the fund-raising component, if one existed. M

THE WITNESS: There was a fund-raiser on staff and [8] she had an assistant that changed over time, but there were tion basically two people and they-that was their job, was to [11] help raise money for NPF.

8Y MR. FRENKEL:

Q: As you're sitting here, do you recall the names of [13] [14] those two individuals when you started in December '93?

A: Yes.

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Q: Please give us the names.

A: Kelly Guesnier was the Director of Development, I [10] think was the title. And I really don't recall who her 19 assistant was initially. Later on, Heather El Haj assisted Kelly. That was it.

<u>:</u> (20) 2: As the chief operating officer of NPF, were you to 2: have any personal responsibility for raising funds to help Q: As the chief operating officer of NPF, were you to [ [23] fund NPF?

<u>ं</u> ह्य Q: Other than Ms. Guesnier and her assistant, was

[1] anyone else at the NPF tasked with the job of soliciting (2) funds to fund the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: I object, but he can answer. You're [3] [4] talking about these fund-raising component employees that (s) you've been asking about?

MR. FRENKEL: Yes. My question is if anyone other (61 than the two individuals he has identified, Ms. Guesnier and 77 in her associate, who apparently changed over time-it started out being Ms. Al Haj-whether anyone else at the NPF had the [9] [10] responsibility for soliciting contributions to the NPF.

THE WITNESS: No, no one else had responsibility. BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Do you know whether anyone on the board of [13] directors at the NPF had any responsibility for raising [14] funds for the activities of the NPF? (15)

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer, if you [17] know

THE WITNESS: Lee Brown, who was a member of the [19] board, was-I've forgotten the title, but the director-I [20] guess Finance Chairman is the title, and Haley as chairman was the-as chairman of the board was the one that worked [22] most closely with my staff and with Lee Brown, the fund-(23) raiser.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Do you have any understanding what Mr. Barbour's

Page 45

[1] role was in fund-raising for the NPF? MR. SPAEDER: Object. You may answer.

THE WITNESS: Haley did most of the fund-raising.

**BY MR. FRENKEL:** 

Q: Do you know whether-he personally did the fund-(5) raising, is that correct? [8]

A: I believe so.

Q: Can you describe the process, to the extent it [8] existed, where you as chief operating officer would receive 19) [10] reports about how well fund-raisers were doing in their [11] Work?

MR. SPAEDEN: What is the time frame of your [12] [13] question, counsel?

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[14] Q: Let's start with the process in place when you got [15] there, December 1993, before you would have had an [16] opportunity to make any changes to any existing structure [17] (18) that was there

MR. SPAEDER: I'm going to object and instruct the witness not to respond to any fund-raising questions beyond (20) (21) the general configuration of the organization prior to the 1996 election cycle. So you should not answer that [22](23) question.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Can you describe any changes you made to the

[1] system in place when you arrived in December 1993 at the NPF which you made to get the information you felt you needed to have as chief operating officer relating to the fund-raising (4) activities of the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. I instruct you not to (e) answer.

8Y MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Did there come a time at your stay at the NPF (8) where you felt that changes needed to be made to the fund-[10] raising structure of the NPF? [11]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Did there come a time where you-during your [13] tenure at the NPF where you had discussions with Haley [14] (15) Barbour about the need to change the fund-raising structure [16] of the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[19] Q: Did there come a time during your tenure at the [20] NPF where you had discussions with other officers and directors of the NPF about the need to change the fund-1221 mising structure of the NPF? [23]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction. BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Did there come a time during your tenute at the

Page 47

[1] NPF where you had discussions with Haley Barbour about the [2] need to change the system by which you as chief operating

[3] officer got information relevant to the fund-raising of the

[4] NPF

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction. Now, I take it that your question embraces the entire time period

that he was chief operating officer-7 MR. FRENKEL: Yes, sir. It's during his-

MR. SPAEDER: -which, according to my

interpretation, would be both pre-election cycle and post-[11] election cycle?

[12] MA. FRENKEL: Yes, sir. It's any time-at this point, it's any time between December 1993 when he was hired [13] (14) and the time he left.

(15) MR. SPAEDER: Same instruction, same objection. MR. FRENKEL: Could you just read back my last [16] (17) question, please?

(The Reporter read back the requested portion of [19] the record.

[20] MR. SPAEDER: Is that the pending question? MR. FRENKEL: I believe you've objected to the

[21] [22]pending question. I just had to get it back in my head what

I had started with. I assume the objection stands, Mr. [23]

(24) Spaeder. [25]

MR. SPAEDER: Yes, sir.

Page 48

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Did there come a time during your tenure at the NPF where you had discussions with other officers and directors of the NPF, exclusive of Mr. Barbour, about the need to change the way information was received by you as chief operating officer relevant to the financial condition of the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: Same objection, same instruction. And I am interpreting fund-raising here to exclude the loan (8;

guarantee to Signet by the Young Brothers Development [10] Corporation in Florida. [1 1] 1121

MR, FRENKEL: Yes, sir, that's a fair interpretation of the question. (13)

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Did there come a time during your tenure at the NPF where you, as chief operating officer, had discussions with the individuals in the Development Division about the production change the way you received information about the production and instruction.

MR. SPAEDER: Same objection and instruction.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Did there come a time during your tenure at the NPF where you had discussions with Haley Barbour about the performance of the Development Division of the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: Same objection and instruction

June 30, 1997 Page 52

Special Investigation Page 49 f11 BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Did there come a time during your tenure at the (2) NPF where you had discussions with other officers and 131 is directors of the NPF exclusive of Mr. Barbour, about the 151 need to change the activities of the Development Division? MR. SPAEDER: Same objection and instruction. [6] BY MR. FRENKEL: (71 Q: Did there come a time during your tenure at the NPF where you had discussions with the Development Division about the need to raise money from non-United States 1101 in citizens to fund the activities of the NPF? MR. SPAEDER: Same objection and instruction. BY MR. FRENKEL: [12] [13] Q: Did there come a time during your tenure at the [14] (15) NPF where you had discussions with individuals employed in the Development Division of the NPF-where you had a 117 discussion concerning the need to raise funds for the activities of the NPF from non-United States corporations? [1#1 MR. SPAEDER: Same objection and instruction. 1191 BY MR. FRENKEL (20) Q: Did there come a time during your tenure at the [21] NPF where you had discussions with the Development Division [23] of the need to raise money for the activities of the NPF [24] from U.S. subsidiaries of a foreign corporation?

> Page 50 BY MA. FRENKEL:

Q: Did there come a time during your tenure at the [3] NPF where you had discussions with the staff of the [4] Development Division about the need for members of Congress [5] to raise money to fund the activities of the NPF? MR. SPAEDER: Same objection and instruction. BY MR. FRENKEL:  $\square$ 

MR. SPAEDER: Same objection and instruction.

Q: Did there come a time during your tenure at the NPF where you had discussion with members of the Development Division about the need for State or local elected officials [10] un to raise funds for the activities of the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: Same objection and instruction. 1121 BY MR. FRENKEL: [13]

Q: Mr. Denning, following the Signet loan NPF [14] [15] received in October 1994, did you have any discussions with [16] Haley Barbour about the need to change the fund-raising or development operations at the NPF? Itπ

MR. SPAEDER: Object. You may answer that, if (10)

19 you'd like the reporter to read it back-[20] THE WITNESS: No, that's fine. No.

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BY MR. FRENKEL:

[21] Q: Following the October 1994 loan from Signet Bank, [22] (23) did you have discussions with other officers and directors [24] of the NPF about the need to change the fund-raising [25] activities of the Development Department of the NPF?

A: I'm sorry. My mind went off to-could you read (2) that again, please?

[The Reporter read back the requested portion of [3] (4) the record.

[5] MR. SPAEDER: I object, but I indicated you could answer.

THE WITNESS: Yes.

[7]

BY MA. FRENKEL:

Q: With whom did you have those discussions, if you [10] recall?

[11] A: I think-I don't really recall, but I think with 113 Scott Reed if-can I explain the circumstances?
113 MR. SPAEDER: Well, why don't you have her read [14] back the question, first of all, and we'll get where we are?

[The Reporter read back the requested portion of 1151 the record. [16]

[17] MR. FRENKEL: Do you want to stay off the record

[18] or do you want to go on?
[19] MR. SPAEDER: Stay off the record.

[Discussion off the record.] (20)

MR. SPAEDER: We'll go back on the record and let the witness answer. This is subject to my objection, but I'm permitting him to answer. 1231

THE WITNESS: At some point in time after the loan [25] guarantee had been completed and the transaction was (i) complete, funds had been transferred, et cetera, at some

[2] point in the fall, Ms. Guesnier announced that she intended to resign, and the discussions I remember were about who should replace her and what kind of fund-raising operation

(5) NPF might construct to keep going on.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

m Q: And I know I-sorry-were you done?

A: Yes.

Q: I know I indicated we would take a break after the question, but if I recall the question was with whom you 1101 had the discussions. 12 23

A: I believe Scott Reed There may have been some (+30 internal discussions when I was casting about for

candidates. That's what I recall about it. 1143 1151

Q: Do you recall specifically anyone other than Mr. Reed with whom you discussed this topic? (13)

A: I don't recall. There could have been others, but (+71

that's-there probably were others. [18] Q: Who do you think probably you might have had the [10 [20] conversations with?

MR. SPAEDER: I object, but you can answer. (211 THE WITNESS: I don't recall talking to Haley |22 1231 about this, although I could have, and I don't-there's (24) nobody that jumps to mind on staff that I would have

25] counseled with other than, you know, "do you know anybody"

Page 53

[1] kind of questions. You know, I was looking for somebody [2] competent to just continue what they were doing because, as [3] I viewed my-the kind of division of labor was Haley did [4] most of the fund-raising and my job was to provide the staff

that supported that effort, not to do it, I didn't view

myself as responsible for it.

MR. FRENKEL: Would you like to take a break now? 7

MR. SPAEDER: Yes. Off the record.

[Recess.] 191

BY MR. FRENKEL: 1101

Q: Mr. Denning, right before we took the break, you ព្រះ [12] had mentioned a conversation or conversations you might have had with Scott Reed about the need to change the fund-[14] raising activities of the NPF. When was the first such

(15) conversation you had with Mr. Reed?

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A: On that subject?

Q: Yes, sir, on that subject. [17]

A: I don't recall, really, but it could have been as 17.83 early as the spring of '94 [19]

Q: That was prior to, then, the October 1994 loan 120 from Signet Bank? [21]

A: It was. [22] 123

Q: Do you recall the substance of your conversation

with Mr. Reed at that first conversation? [24]

MR. SPAEDER: I object and instruct the witness

Page 51 [1] not to answer concerning matters that transpired prior to

[2] November of 1994 unless it relates to the Ambrous Young loan (3) guarantee subject matter.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Following the first conversation you had with Mr. Reed in the spring of 1994, were any changes made to the [6] operations of the fund-raising or Development Division of 7 the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: I instruct you not to answer unless the answer would relate to events after November 1994. [10]

THE WITNESS: No changes were made until afterwhen Guesnier resigned and we changed personnel. BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Do you recall when Ms. Guesnier resigned?

[34] A: I don't, but I could speculate around December 1st [15] or so. It could have been a month earlier or it could have [15]

[17] been a month later. Q: Some time between November '94 and January '95, (18) [19] somewhere in that range?

A: That's right.

Q: Did Ms. Guesnier leave voluntarily or did you or others at the NPF make a suggestion that she find other employment? [23]

A: She left voluntarily.

Q: In the conversation you had with Mr. Reed-well,

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Page 55

[1] let me back up one second. Was Mr. Reed-at the time you had the first conversation with him relating to fund-raising for the NPF, was he an employee of the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection, and I instruct you to confine any answer you give to events after November of 1994. Are you able to answer that question with that [6] limitation? M

THE WITNESS: Yes. He was not an employee of NPE RY MA. FRENKĖL:

[10] Q: Any time after November of 1994, was Mr. Reed-to [11] your knowledge, was Mr. Reed an employee of the NPF? A: No. [12]

Q: Prior to November 1994, was Mr. Reed on the board [13] of directors of NPF? [14] [15]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You can answer.

THE WITNESS: No. [16] [17]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Any time after November 1994, to your knowledge, [18] If 119] was Mr. Reed ever on the board of directors of the NPF?

Q: Do you know where Mr. Reed was employed where Mr. Reed Q: Do you know where Mr. Reed was employed when you

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Q: Where was he employed?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You can answer. You're

Page 56 [1] getting ahead of me on my objections. Give me a beat or two [7] [7] to state my objection, but you can answer that predicate 🖟 ⑶ question.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[4] Q: I believe the question was where was Mr. Reed [5] employed?

. [7] A: At the RNC.

Q: Do you know what his job title was there, if you al kuows

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You can answer. THE WITNESS: I believe it was Chief of Staff. [12] I'm not sure, but it was, in effect-

BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Chief of Staff to the Chairman, who was Haley Barbour, is that correct?

A: That's correct.

[16] Q: Why were you having a conversation with Mr. Reed, [17] who was an employee of the RNC, but not of the NPF, about [181] [19] the fund-raising activities of the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Can I confer with him

[21] [Counsel conferring with witness.] [22]

[23] MR. SPAEDER: I will permit him to answer this

[24] question, and I think we're gravitating toward the area

(25) which I consider to be out of bounds. But I want to be fair

Page 57

[1] to minority staff, so I'll let you come up to the fringes of (2) the forbidden area. For that reason, I'll let him answer, subject to my objection.

BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Do you recall the question, sir?

A: Yes. Haley was busy and Scott was his-I don't know what the term would be, but a delegate, I guess, in terms of day-to-day requirements that I had he would ask questions on or whatever. But the main reason I interacted was because I had an ongoing need to meet operations budgets [11] for cash and, at least every two weeks, a payroll, and so [12] I'd have conversations with Scott about what my cash (13) projection was And I had to go to them for the loans to the extent fund-raising wasn't sufficient. [14]

Q: Why did you need to go-let me back up a second. In your last answer, "go to them," is the "them" the RNC? MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer. [15] [16]

THE WITNESS: Yes.

8Y MA. FRENKEL:

Q: Why was it your judgment that the RNC needed to be [20] informed about the financial condition of the NPF? You mentioned your payroll needs and things like that. Why was 1221 that a concern to the RNC as far as you understand? [23]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer. THE WITNESS: It wasn't a concern to the RNC. It [1] was a concern to Haley as chairman of NPE and to

[2] communicate that in the interest of efficiency and time

[3] Scott was there as someone I could lay my requirement in [4] front of, and he in turn communicated that to Haley, who

[5] made the decision.

BY MA. FRENKEL:

Q: If Mr. Reed was not available-and this assumes [7] Mr. Barbour also is not available-was there anyone else at [8] the RNC that you would pass on a request to that you wanted (10) to get to Mr. Barbour?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer. (11) [12]

THE WITNESS: I don't recall such an instance.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[14] Q: When you would make requests to Mr. Reed, was it-[15] and I think you have testified to this-was it your intention that that request made to Mr. Reed would then get [16] transmitted to Mr. Barber? F181

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer.

THE WITNESS: Yes.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: When you would get a response to your request, [21] would that response typically come directly from Mr. 1221 Barbour? [23]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer.

THE WITNESS: I'm stumbling over the word-your

Page 59

[1] use of the word "typically." It varied. Sometimes-[2]

8Y MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Sometimes, would the response back also come from [3] Mr. Reed? [4]

Q: Would it come-sometimes, would the response come from others who worked for Mr. Reed? [7]

MR. SPAEDER: Object. You may answer. [8] [9]

THE WITNESS: No.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Other than Mr. Barbour or Mr. Reed, did a response come back from anyone else? MR. SPAEDER: Object. You may answer.

[13] [14]

THE WITNESS: No. [15]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: During your tenure at the NPF did you have any [16] discussions with individuals at the RNC other than Haley [17] Barbour about the fund-raising activities of the NPF? [81] MR. SPAEDER: You're including the entire tenure? [19] MR. FRENKEL: Yes, sir, the entire tenure. [50]

[21] MR. SPAEDER: I object and instruct the witness not to answer [22]

[53]

MA. FRENKEL: Maybe we'll bifurcate, which will [24] also make the objections easier, too. BY MR. FRENKEL: [25]

Page 60

Q: Any time prior to the Signet loan in October 1994. [2] did you have discussions with anyone at the RNC about the fund-raising activities of the NPF. MR, SPAEDER: Object. Please don't answer. [4]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: At any time prior to obtaining the Signet loan in October 1994, did you have discussions with anyone at the RNC other than Haley Barbour about the need to-or proposal to raise money for the activities of the NPF from non-U.S. 191 (10) citizens?

MR. SPAEDER: Object. I instruct him not to [12] answer, although that sounds remarkably similar to a previous question that may have been asked and already objected to

[14] MR. FRENKEL: Yes, I believe it is essentially the same series of questions. I don't believe I actually asked 161 about the RNC specifically, but that is the-it is the same [18] series of questions, as best as I recall them, that will be

(19) asked here MR. SPAEDER: All right. 1201

BY MR. FRENKEL:

(21) Q: Did you have any-prior to October 1994 and [22] [23] obtaining the Signet loan, did you have any discussions with [24] anyone at the RNC other than Haley Barbour about a need or [25] proposal to raise money for the activities of the NPF from

Special Investigation

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Page 61 [1] non-U.S. corporations? MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction.

Q: During the time period prior to October 1994, did [5] you have conversations with anyone at the RNC other than Haley Barbour about the need or proposal to raise money for the activities of the NPF from the U.S. subsidiary of a non-United States corporation?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction. BY MR. FRENKEL:

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Prior to October 1994, did you have any [11] [12] conversations with anyone at the RNC other than Haley Barbour about the need or proposal to have members of Congress raise funds for the activities of the NPF? [14]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction. [15] BY MR. FRENKEL: [16]

Q: Prior to October 1994, did you have discussions [17] [18] with anyone at the RNC other than Haley Barbour about the [19] appropriateness of members of Congress raising funds for the (20) activities of the NPF?

MR. GPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction. BY MR. FRENKEL:

(22) Q: Prior to October 1994, did you have a discussion [23] [24] with anyone at the RNC other than Haley Barbour about the [25] appropriateness of raising money from non-United States

Page 62

[1] citizens-MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction.

MR. FRENKEL: I'm sorry. I'm going to add to it, [4] but I understand what the response will be. I'll combine (S) them.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Foreign corporations or United States subsidiaries 7 (8) of foreign corporations. [9]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction. BY MR. FRENKEL:

[10] Q: Prior to October 1994, did you have discussions [11] juzy with anyone at the RNC other than Haley Barbour about the (13) need for or proposal to have elected State or local [14] officials raise money to fund the activities of the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction.

BY MR. FRENKEL: [15] Q: Prior to October 1994, did you have discussions [17] with anyone at the RNC other than Haley Barbour about the [58] appropriateness of elected officials, either State or local, [20] raising money for the activities of the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction. BY MR. FRENKEL:

1221 Q: Following the receipt of the \$2.1 million Signet [23] [24] loan in October of 1994-strike that.

Prior to October 1994, are you aware of anyone

Page 63

[1] else at the National Policy Forum who had discussions with [2] anyone at the RNC other than Haley Barbour about the range (3) of questions Mr. Spaeder has objected to, for shorthand, [4] meaning raising money for the NPF from non-United States [5] citizens, non-United States corporations, U.S. subsidiaries [6] of foreign corporations, members of Congress, and/or State (7) and local elected officials? MR. SPAEDER: Object. Same instruction. [8]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: After the receipt of the Signet loan, the \$2.1 [10] [11] million Signet loan in October 1994, did you have [12] conversations with anyone at the RNC about the fund-raising [13] activities of the NPF?

[Pause.] [14]

[24]

[15] MR. FRENKEL: I think your witness is waiting to (16) see if you object.

MR. SPAEDER: This is within the-if I understand [17] [18] his question, he's talking about events within the 1996 [19] federal election campaign cycle.

THE WITNESS: So-[20]

MR. SPAEDER: So you can answer the question if [21] there's a response, an answer to give. [22]

THE WITNESS: Yes, I did. [23]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: With whom did you have those conversations?

A: With Ms. Guesnier's replacements; with Haley, I

believe; possibly with-

MR. SPAEDER: Was your question limited to the

RNC? [4]

[5]

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[20]

[21]

MR. FRENKEL: Yes, it was.

MR. SPAEDER: Okay. [6] 7

THE WITNESS: Oh, I'm sorry.

MR. SPAEDER: You have to listen to the question.

THE WITNESS: With Haley. Well, we're in a

(10) technicality here. You know, which hat did he have on? He [11] had his-when I talked to him, he had his NPF hat on, not

his chairman of the RNC hat. Possibly, Scott Reed. I don't [13] recall.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[14] Q: Do you recall whether there were any conversations [15] [16] after October 1994 about the fund-raising or financial (17) condition of the NPF with anyone at the RNC other than Mr. Barbour or Mr. Reed? 1161

A: There were not, to my knowledge.

G: Would you know, or would you have been in a position to know if others on your staff or others at the NPF would have had those conversations after October 1994

[22] with anyone at the RNC, including Mr. Barbour or Mr. Reed? [23] [24]

A: The fund-raising staff may have had conversations 25] that I'm not aware of, but I don't recall anything in

Page 65

[1] particular.

Q: Who do you recall replaced Ms. Guesnier?

A: There were two individuals, Diane Harrison, and [4] she reported to Grace-I believe it was Wiegers. I'm not

sure of that, and I think she subsequently got married and her name may have changed.

Q: Did you hire Ms. Harrison and/or Ms. Wiegers?

[7] A: Well, this was right in the transition, 23 I recall. I believe I did, but it was after Mr. Bolton had

1101 joined NPF and I was in the process of phasing out, but I (11) think the actual decision was made prior to his arrival or

[12] concurrent with it. Q: And if a decision were made either prior to his (13)

[14] arrival or concurrent with it, is it likely that you made the final decision about whom to hire? (:5)

A: Well, as I recall, it was probably more concurrent because I think I did all the initial work. But he had arrived by the time, you know, the offer was being made and

I think I briefed him on it and he had final sign-off at [20]

Q: In that prior answer, you just testified that you [21] did the initial work on their candidacies, for lack of a [22]

[23] better word. What did you mean by that? What was involved (24) in doing the initial work?

A: Well, making a judgment as to their

Page 66

(1) qualifications, a judgment as to how successful I thought they might be, what their compensation would look like; you

know, the standard things you go through.

Q: When you were involved in that process leading up to the hiring of these individuals, did you have a target

fund-raising goal in mind for what the NPF would need over a certain future period, whatever that period was?

MR. SPAEDER: I've lost my frame of reference on

the time line here.

MR. FRENKEL: Sure. I believe-and correct me if

[11] I'm wrong-I believe that Ms. Guesnier left somewhere [12] between November of '94 and January of 1995, and I'm talking

[13] about the period in which Mr. Denning was involved in finding a replacement for Ms. Guesnier. I guess, to be

fair, we haven't really established exactly when that is, [15]

but that's the period of time I'm asking.

MR. SPAEDER: To the extent that your answer would require that you testify about events before November of

[18] 1994, I object and instruct you to confine your answer to

events occurring after November of 1994.
THE WITNESS: There were such discussions. I [21]

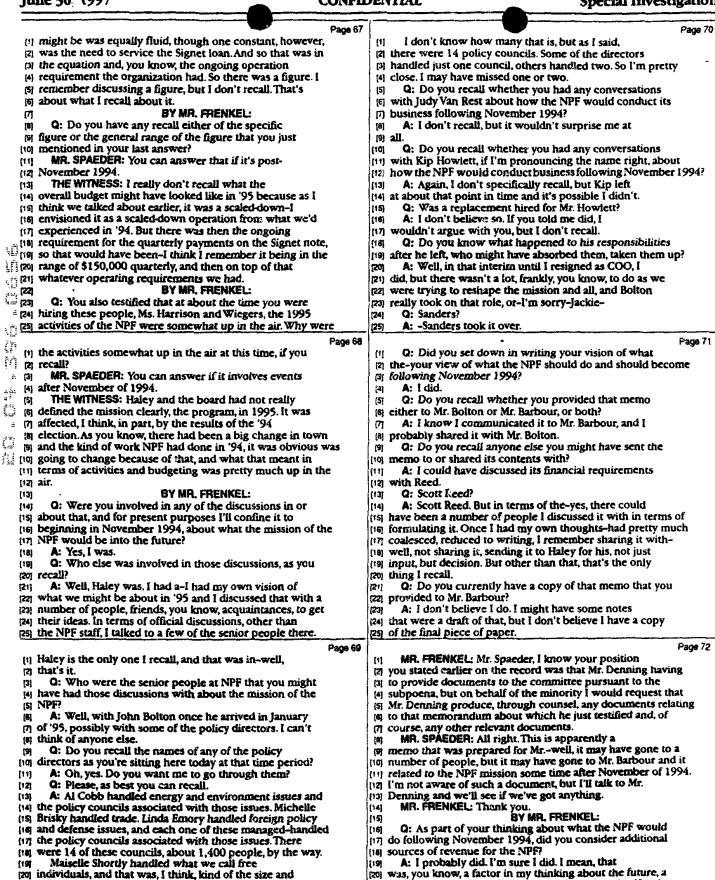
don't recall them in detail, except that-well, that's one predicate. The other would be that the scale and nature of

NPF's 1995 operations were somewhat up in the air as to, you [25] know-and because they were up in the air, what the budget

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(21) mix of not only what the Forum might address itself to, but,

you know, what would help generate revenue as well.

Q: As you sit here today, do you have any

[24] recollection of your ideas about what would help generate

revenue for the NPF and what you thought about at that time?

[25] individual changed somewhere in there.

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[20] individuals, and that was, I think, kind of the size and

[24] It might have been Allison McHose, I'm not sure. That

justice issues, as well as kind of the civil rights milieu. There was another policy director that handled education.

[21] scope of government debate. Bruce Leftwich handled criminal

[50]

[5]

[6]

Page 76

Page 73

A: Well, Haley and I-I don't know who came up with 12) the idea of doing some forums in a whole different format in Washington on-as opposed to around the country, on policy [4] issues that were of real interest at that time.

MR. PERRY: I'm sorry. What time frame are we is talking about exactly?

THE WITNESS: I'm talking about '95 now. [7] BY MR. FRENKEL: [8]

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Q: Were those known as mega-conferences at the NPF?

[10] A: That was Haley's term, but I always-I would [11] prefer to differ with it. He came up with that and it kind 12 of took on its own life, yes.

Q: I'm sorry, but I think we were talking about ways [13][14] to raise money or sources of money.

A: Well, that, and I'm sure I had discussions with [15] (16) the fund-raising staff about potential donors and I, you [17] know, shared my view of potential sources, possible [18] contacts; you know, talked to, counseled with people about [19] what can we do that, you know, would not only be good, but

go could help raise money as well. Q: Do you recall or have any understanding about-(22) again, looking at that time, November 1994, when you were [23] sending out your thoughts about what the NPF should do into (24) the future, about whether any emphasis should be given in [25] raising money from individuals as opposed to corporations?

Page 74

[25]

[17]

Page 75

A: I'm sorry. I lost the drift of your question. [2] Can you

[3] MR. FRENKEL: Sure. Can you please repeat the (4) question?

(The Reporter read back the requested portion of [5]

in the record.] THE WITNESS: No. In fact, I think just the

[8] opposite. I mean, it wasn't one or the other. It was-NPF was perfectly-it was perfectly okay to raise money from [10] virtually any source. So we didn't-I didn't concern myself

[43] with individuals versus corporations. BY MR. FRENKEL: (:21

Q: Do you recall whether you had discussions with [13] [14] anyone about whether funds should be raised from any non-[15] U.S. citizens?

A: Whether or not funds should be raised for any non-[16] [17] U.S. citizens?

Q: For the NPF. [18]

[6]

[7]

(8)

A: Well, I think it-no, I don't recall specific [19]

[20] conversations, but unless Roger kicks me, I volunteer that [21] as I said earlier, it wasn't matter of concern because as a

[22] 501(c)(4), we were-I was advised that it was perfectly [23] legal and proper to accept money from virtually any source.

[24] But I don't recall any instance of-that we targeted, or

[25] anything else, any kind of foreign contribution. I think,

[1] on the contrary, we-well, that was it.

Q: Do you recall any time after November 1, 1994, (3) there was any review process in place at the NPF to [4] determine if any contribution solicited or made was from a [5] non-United States citizen?

A: We had no such system that I was aware of. Q: If there had been some-

A: I mean, any kind of a formalized system.

Q: Are you aware of any sort of informal system?

A: No. I mean, only in the sense that we paid [10] [11] attention to who our donors were. You know, if one came in [12] from Joseph Stalin, you know, we would have noticed it, I [13] think, but-

Q: Especially at that date, I would imagine. [14] MR. PERRY: Coming in from the netherworld. [15] THE WITNESS: Although, legally, we could have [16]

[17] accepted it. BY MR. FRENKEL: [16]

Q: Are you aware if there was any system, formal or [19] informal, in place to determine whether any funds raised by [20] the NPF came from a non-U.S. corporation?

MR. SPAEDER: This is all after November of 1994,

[23] is that correct? (24)

MR. FRENKEL: Yes, that's the question, yes. THE WITNESS: No, there was no system to

(1) discriminate on that basis. In fact-

MR. SPAEDER: Well, you should answer his question and then shut up, unless you want to be here for a couple of days. Answer his question. [4]

Ask the next question.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: I'm sorry, sir. You were going to conclude, "In [8] fact?"

A: Siemens Corporation, which I believe-I'm not [9] (10) sure, but I think is German-owned, was interested in [11] training policy, labor, education and training policy, and [12] was anxious that-that's a real, focused concern of theirs [13] and they were anxious that NPF do more work in that area and (14) were interested in supporting the Forum for that purpose. I [15] don't recall if they ever did, but it wouldn't-I would have (is) welcomed it.

Q: I'll ask the same question in terms of whether (tı7 (18) there was a process, formal or informal, in place prior to [19] November of 1994. And since I can anticipate Mr. Spaeder's reaction, I will make it for both-or inclusive of non-U.S.

(21) citizens, foreign corporations, or United States [22]

subsidiaries of foreign corporations. MR, SPAEDER: As to all those categories, I object [24] and instruct the witness not to answer.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Page 77

Q: Was there-following November 1, 1994, was there 23 any system, formal or informal, in place at the NPF to my review any donations made by a U.S. subsidiary of a foreign [4] corporation?

A: No, other than the general thing that I stated earlier, being aware who our donors were, and I suppose if one arose that made us uncomfortable for some reason, I-if you're going to ask me what would make me uncomfortable, I

don't know, but, you know, we were aware of who was [10] supporting the Forum. If-well, I'll shut up.

MR. SPAEDER: Well, answer his question because you're starting to drift. He asked you whether there was any system in effect after November of 1994 that fits the [14] category of his question. He's entitled to ask you that. [15] Is your answer no, yes, or something in between?

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Any time after November 1, 1994, until the time 1191 you left the NPF, was there any solicitation of a potential [20] contributor that you were aware of that in your mind rose to [21] the level of an entity from whom the NPF did not want to [22] accept money? [23]

A: No.

Q: Are you aware, from November 1, 1994, until the 1241 izsi time you left the NPF, of any solicitation of a donor for

Page 78

[1] funds to the NPF that others felt was an inappropriate izi entity to make a contribution to the NPF?

A: Not that I recall.

Q: Do you recall any conversations with anyone inside is the NPF following November 1, 1994, about whether or not it was legal or permissible to accept funds from certain ources, whether there should be any kind of policy in place is) to figure out whether particular kinds of sources or groups of sources were inappropriate entities to make contributions

ing to the NPF? MR. SPAEDER: Could you read back the question? [11]

MR. FRENKEL: It was not the world's model of a (13) clear question.

[The Reporter read back the requested portion of [14] [15] the record.]

(16) MR. SPAEDER: You can answer that.

THE WITNESS: There were not. Your use of the word "inappropriate" is the one I'm struggling with. That was pretty much left to our common sense and judgment, but I (20) don't recall an instance.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[24] Q: Do you recall, following November 1, 1994, whether 1231 you had that type of conversation with Mr. Barbour or any of the officers and directors of the NPF. My prior question was just internal to the NPF and I'm just asking, beyond

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June 30, 1997 CONFIDENTIAL · · Special Investigation Page 79 Page 82 [1] that, the same question. MR. SPAEDER: I think he has answered your A: Our counsel-I mean, I relied on my counsel's [2] question about pre-I mean post November of 1994. Now, were advice and our literature described what we were as a you to ask the same question regarding the events before November of 1994, I would instruct him not to answer on the [4] 501(c)(4) and those were the guidelines, and we wereis everybody operated, you know, along the rules we understood is grounds that I've previously articulated. to apply to us. That's it. [6] MR. FRENKEL: Just so the record is clear, I will Q: Who was your counsel at the time, if you recall? ask the question Mr. Spaeder just indicated he would raise 7 A: Linda Long was the outside counsel and she became an objection to, and I understand the objection is (81 ill and was gone for long periods, and there was another forthcoming. 191 (91 iawyer in that office, but I don't recall the name. BY MA. FRENKEL: Q: David Norcross, by any chance? Q: Prior to November 1, 1994, did you ever have-was [11] [11] A: He may have been involved, and I'm slipping back [12] any contribution made to the NPF which raised in your mind [12] the question about whether it would be appropriate for the [13] before-am I slipping back before November of '94? (13) MR. SPAEDER: Well, why don't you-[14] NPF to accept that contribution? [14] MR. SPAEDER: I object on the grounds previously THE WITNESS: I think I am. (151 !151 MR. SPAEDER: Why don't you clarify for counsel's [16] stated and instruct him not to answer. in benefit whether the other lawyer you were thinking of was BY MR. FRENKEL: 11171 Q: Any time after November 1, 1994, did it come to [18] Mr. Norcross or some other individual whose name you can't (18) [19] recall? (19) your attention that others at the NPF had a question about THE WITNESS: It's another individual. [20] the appropriateness of any donation that had been made to (20) [21] BY MR. FRENKEL: the NPF? [21] Q: Do you believe that the other individual worked at MR. PERRY: Any donation that had been made after 1221 the same law firm as Ms. Long and that law firm is Blank, Ç. [23] [23] that date? MR. FRENKEL: Yes. We're talking after November [24] Rome, Comisky and McCawlay? [24] A: I do. [25] 1, 19<u>9</u>4. Page 80 Page 63 [1] Q: Do you know whether that individual was an THE WITNESS: At the risk of getting kicked by 2 associate or a partner of Blank, Rome, if you would have [2] Roger, I want to-we had a brick wall between our policy learned that information? staff and our fund-raising operation, and I did my level (3) A: I don't recall. best, as did the other senior officials there, to insulate [4] Q: Do you recall whether you had any conversations is the policy development people from almost every aspect of fSI with anyone outside the NPF or its officers and board of on not only fund-raising, but financial operations. We didn't want to even give the appearance that NPF was for sale, directors about the topic of the appropriateness of certain m sources of funds that the NPF might raise subsequent to because it wasn't. [8] 19 November 1, 1994? So if you gave me an instance where a particular A: No. staff member, outside of a handful, was even aware of a [10] Q: Do you recall any such conversation with [11] particular one, I'd be surprised, and I don't recall any [11] 127 instance where somebody raised that kind of objection. [12] individuals at the RNC. Same time frame, Mr. Spaeder. BY MR. FRENKEL: [13] [13] A: No. Q: Are you aware of any instance-sort of Mr. Perry's [14] [14] Q: Do you recall any conversations with Scott Reed on question, or I'll take Mr. Perry's suggestion about a [15] [16] that topic? 1161 donation that had been made prior to November 1, 1994, that A: On the topic of whether or not a particular came to the attention of someone or someone discussed after [18] November 1, 1994, about the appropriateness of the donation. [18] donation was appropriate or not? MR. PERRY: That wasn't my suggestion. Q: Right, and not necessarily in the context of one [19] (19) gof that had been tendered that you had been trying to make a MR. FRENKEL: But it gave me the idea. [20] [21] decision about, because if I understood correctly, your [Laughter.] [21] THE WITNESS: No. testimony was that no such donation arose while you were [22] BY MR. FRENKEL: (23) there that raised a question in your mind about the [23] [24] Q: Same question for prior to November 1, 1994, to [24] appropriateness of a donation that had been made. So I psi guess the question is about donations that, if they came in 25) the extent I haven't already asked that. Page 84 Page 81 MR. SPAEDER: I think you've covered the [1] might raise a question at the NPF about whether it was appropriate or not to receive it. MR. SPAEDER: I guess I'm a little bit confused by MR. FRENKEL: I may have. If I would ask that the question now. This is did he, post November of 1994. question again, Mr. Spaeder, you would interpose an objection and instruct him not tohave conversations with Mr. Reed about the appropriateness MR. SPAEDER: I would as to any fund-raising of certain categories of contributions to the NPF? [8] MR. FRENKEL: Yes, sir. THE WITNESS: No. issues arising before November of 1994, and I would instruct 7 the witness not to answer it. MA, FRENKEL: Off the record for one second. BY MR. FRENKEL: (91 [Discussion off the record.] Q: Just to be clear, my statement of your earlier-1101 1101 BY MR. FRENKEL: [11] Was my statement of your earlier testimony correct? And [11] what I mean by that is that while you were at the NPF, you Q: Mr. Denning, following November 1, 1994, did you have any discussions with anyone inside the NPF about (13) did not encounter a situation where a particular donation whether members of Congress should be involved in raising was made that raised an issue in your mind about the 1141 funds for the activities of the NPF? [15] appropriateness of the NPF accepting that donation. [15] A: Is your question limited to after November of '94 (16] A: Not that I recall. [16] Q: Do you recall having those discussions, again, (17) 1177 Of-[18] following November 1, 1994, with any of the officers or Q: Let's start with after November of 1994, yes. directors of the NPF about members of Congress raising funds [19] No, no, I don't think it ever came up. [19] O: Just to make sure that the record is clear, so my [20] [20] A: Again, not that I recall, but there were a number

of members, Senators and members, on the board and it's

possible, in a blue-sky kind of way, we discussed options

[24] that could have included that one, but I don't remember a

25] specific proposal regarding that.

A: I'm really confused now.

legalism here.

Q: I'm sorry.

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characterization of your testimony was accurate, is that

right, that it did not come up? And this is just a little

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A: No.

June 30, 1997

Page 88

Page 85 Q: Do you recall any time after November 1, 1994, (2) whether other members of the board, in addition to Mr. [3] Brown, became involved in raising funds for the activities (4) of the NPF? A: No. 151 Q: Do you recall any time after November 1, 1994, 171 whether there was ever a discussion at a board meeting about whether other members of the board should become involved in raising funds for the activities of the NPF? A: Yes. (101 Q: When do you recall the first discussion of that [11] [12] topic? A: I can't put it in time, but at various-at least [13] [14] one and probably more board meetings, Lee Brown would make a pitch to the board to get more involved in soliciting and [16] helping raise money for the Forum. 3: Other than a general exhortation by Mr. Brown, was [18] any formal proposal ever placed before the board for a vote [19] about whether the board should become more involved in the [20] fund-raising activities of the NPF? A: Not that I recall. Q: Do you recall-and this is all after November 1, [23] 1994-whether there was any discussion at the board meetings

(5) any point in time? BY MR. FRENKEL: 161 [7] Q: To the extent you can segregate the time, you can [8] respond to November 1-after November 1 of 1994. If you're 193 not able to do that or if you think Mr. Volcansek raised monies prior to November 1, 1994, then you should probably [11] state that in your answer and then Mr. Spaeder can object to whatever portion of the answer he chooses to object to. MR. SPAEDER: I have an objection to any testimony [14] about events with Mr. Volcansek pre-dating November 1994. [15] So if you could answer the question because it involves risj events occurring after November of 1994, I'll permit you to [17] do it. THE WITNESS: Can I ask you a question relative to [16] (19) that? MR. SPAEDER: Sure, yes. [20] [21] [Witness conferring with counsel.] MR. SPAEDER: I'll permit him to answer the question with respect to Mr. Volcansek's activities after [24] November of 1994, but I'm not sure I remember what the (25) question was. Page 89

Q: Did Mr. Volcansek have a certain target goal he

MR. SPAEDER: Is this after November of 1994 or at

was supposed to reach in terms of monies raised for the NPF?

Page 88 [1] participate in fund-raising for the NPF? A: It never came up that I recall. MR. FRENKEL: Off the record for a minute. [3] [4] [Recess.] [5] MR. FRENKEL: Back on the record. BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Mr. Denning, prior to November 1, 1994, did the Ø National Policy Forum ever use fund-raisers who were [9] retained on contract? And by that I mean they weren't full-[10] time employees of the NPF Development Office, but were [11] retained by NPF to raise funds for NPF. MR. SPÄEDER: I object. I'll permit you to answer [12] [13] that. THE WITNESS: That's possible. There's one [14] [15] instance I can think of that might fall in that category and psp there could have been-there could have been others. I [17] mean, by "others" I mean one or two. The fact that I don't [18] remember probably indicates they weren't very successful. BY MR. FRENKEL: [19] [20] Q: The one or maybe more than one individual instance that you might have in mind prior to November 1, 1994-would [21] that individual or individuals have continued on after November 1, 1994? [23] A: Yes. [24]

[24] that you do recall about whether it would be appropriate for

[25] elected officials who are on the board of the NPF to

MR. FRENKEL: Do you need to have the question [2] repeated? THE WITNESS: Yes, please. [3] MR. FRENKEL: Can you please read it back? [The Reporter read back the requested portion of the record.) THE WITNESS: No, I don't recall a specific goal. [8] There were expectations that he could raise money. BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: What were the expectations of the-what were your [11] expectations of the minimum amount that you would have 1121 expected Mr. Volcansek to raise for the NPF any time after [13] November 1, 1994? A: I seem to recall a couple instances where [14] (15) corporations supported those conferences, those large forums that occurred in '95, and some of those donations were in the \$20, \$25,000 range. And his ability to bring those in was what merited the decision to offer him some compensation ing for that work. Q: What was to be the basis of Mr. Volcansek's (20) (2:) compensation? A: As I recall, it was a monthly retainer somewhere (22) in the \$3,000 a month range. [23] Q: Would Mr. Volcansek be entitled to more

O: Who are those individuals, as best you recall? [25] Page 87 A: Fred Volcansek entered into a-we entered-NPF (2) entered into a contract with Volcansek at some point before (3) or after November of '94. Q: Anyone else that comes to mind? [4] A: Not that-no, not that I recall. [6]

Q: How did Mr. Volcansek come to the attention of the [7] NPF?

A: I'd known him for a number of years and he was a friend and he demonstrated to me, and I think to Haley, that [10] he could be helpful and merited compensation for the work he [11] was doing.

Q: To your knowledge, did Mr. Barbour have any [13] involvement in the decision to put Mr. Volcansek under [14] contract to the NPF?

[15] A; Yes. [16]

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Q: What role did Mr. Barbour have in that decision?

[17] A: He had the ultimate decision.

[16] Q: Was he consulted at any point prior to making the [19] ultimate decision?

A: I may have discussed it conceptually with him and [21] then, as long as I had a green light, moved ahead until theyou know, the ultimate decision had to be made.

Q: Do you recall if anyone else was present in the [24] conversations you would have had with Mr. Barbour other than [25] yourself and Mr. Barbour?

251 compensation or any sort of bonus, depending on the amount Page 90 (1) of money he had raised? A: No. Q: He would be paid the same amount whether he had raised \$1 million in a month or no money in a month? A: That's the way-as I recall, that's the way-that was the agreement. Q: Did that agreement change at any time that Mr. Volcansek was under contract to the NPF? A: I don't believe so. Q: Did you have an understanding of Mr. Volcansck's [11] potential access to sources of money that were not available to the existing development staff of the NPF or to Chairman [13] A: Well, I think to this extent, that he had-he had 1141 [15] ideas about-and relationships that were not readily available to the development staff or to Mr. Barbour, and to that extent he felt that he would be successful and we felt 199 that it was worth the-giving him that opportunity.

199 Q: Any time after November 1, 1994, do you know whether Mr. Volcansek solicited contributions from non-U.S. 1201 citizens? [21] A: Not to my knowledge. [22] Q: Are you aware-[23] A: Not that I recall.

(17) Page 85 - Page 90

Q: I'm sorry?

CONFIDENTIAL

Senate Committee on Governmental Attairs Special Investigation

Page 91 Page 94 A: Not that I recall. [1] with him after I resigned. And if I expressed a concern [1] Q: Are you aware of any instances after November 1, [2] about this or advice about it, it would have been to Bolton, [2] but I don't remember a specific instance of it. 1994, when Mr. Volcansek solicited contributions for the NPF (3) Q: Any time after November 1, '94, were you aware of from a non-United States corporation? [4] A: No, but again it wouldn't have mattered because we any effort by the NPF to raise funds from corporations thatwere a 501(c)(4). I mean, I didn't sit back and-Siemens, -corporations or others designated as research dollars? to me, was the same as General Electric. 7 A: No. That's a new term to me. Q: At this point, I'm just asking for your Q: The reason I-Time Magazine reported in a-I (8) recollection. Do you recall, any time after November 1, believe it's a May 5, 1997, article that the NPF had tried 1994, whether Mr. Volcansek solicited contributions for the to-identified one source of additional money from [11] NPF from a U.S. subsidiary of a foreign corporation? corporations other than just the usual solicitation as A: Again, none come to mind. [12] research dollars that the corporations had, and I'm just Q: Are you aware any time after November 1, 1994, of again asking whether you've heard anything about that or [14] an instance where Mr. Volcansek approached a member of have any understanding about that. 1141 Congress to raise funds for the NPF? MR. PERRY: You don't happen to have a copy of [15] [15] A: No. 1161 [16] that article? Q: Are you aware of an instance after November 1. [17] (17) MR. FRENKEL: I do not. [18] 1994, where Mr. Volcansek approached any elected official, THE WITNESS: That doesn't-that term does not (18) 🕮 [19] State or local or federal, to make-to engage in the (19) mean-ring any bell with me. pipel solicitation for the NPF? BY MR. FRENKEL: [20] 10 [21] A: No. [21] Q: I'll start with prior to November 1, 1994, even Q: How did Mr. Volcansek's success or lack of success though I think I know what the result of the question will [23] get communicated to you? I guess what I'm asking is how did be. Can you describe prior-from the time you were hired at = [24] you know which contributions had been solicited by Mr. [24] NPF until November 1, 1994, the kinds of meetings you had 25] Volcansek and which by others at the NPF? (25) with Haley Barbour?

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A: He told me. Q: Did he send you a written document at the end of

[3] each month or each quarter saying, "just a reminder, here [4] are the contributions that I've raised or the pledges that I (5) have obtained in the last 90 days?"

A: No. I don't remember any written reports. He'd (61

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[7] call me and, you know-we were friends, remember, and he (8) would-we'd talk occasionally, officially and unofficially, [9] and in the course of all that he'd relay how he was doing.

Q: Did Mr. Volcansek have a contract with NPF to **[]]** (10) [11] raise funds from November 1, 1994, through the time you left (12) the NPF?

A: He had a contract from whenever it started until [13] 114) after I left.

Q: Do you have any understanding of how he was doing (16) in terms of raising funds during that period of time?

MR. SPAEDER: I'll permit you to answer if you 1171

[18] confine your response to post November of 1994 knowledge. THE WITNESS: I recall after I-I believe it was [19]

(20) after I resigned as COO and those major conferences were [21] underway that there were two or three occasions, possibly (22) more, in the February, maybe, through April time frame of '95 where he was successful in raising, I'll say substantial 1231 [24] support for each of those conferences that occurred during es that period.

> Page 93 BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Do you mean 1995 or '96? Was it after you left or 121 was it while you were-(3)

A: I left in '95 and these occurred in the spring of [4] 157

Q: Did you come to learn through your friendship for Mr. Volcansek or from other sources that his contract to Ø raise funds from the NPF was terminated? (8)

A: At some point, yes.

Q: Do you have any understanding as to when his [10]

[11] contract was terminated?

A: Well, at some-my recollection is at some point in '95, NPF did not honor its obligation and was not paying the [13] [14] full amount, and when that occurred I just don't recall.

Q: Did Mr. Volcansek ask for you to intervene at all [16] to help him get the monies he felt were due him under his contract with NPF? [17]

(18) A: I know we discussed it and it could be that he did [19] ask me for advice or help.

Q: Do you recall whether you communicated with anyone at the NPF or Haley Barbour about any monies that might be owed to Fred Volcansek?

A: I don't believe I had much, or any occasion [53 really-well, I don't want to say any occasion, but there [25] were very very few occasions that I talked to Haley or met

MR. SPAEDER: I'm going to object and instruct the witness not to answer in light of the background information [3] that we have provided you with my position about the scope of the committee's jurisdiction.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Between December 1993 and November 1, 1994-[8] October 31, 1994, did you have-can you describe the kinds M of meetings you had with the officers and directors of the [9]

MR. SPAEDER: Same objection and instruction. BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Following November 1, 1994, until the time you [12] left the NPF, what kinds of meetings did you have with Mr. [13] Barbour? [14]

MR. SPAEDER: I'm sorry. I was taking notes. [15] What's the time frame on that question? 1161

MR. FRENKEL: November 1, 1994, until the time he (17) left the NPF in 1995. [181]

MR. SPAEDER: You can answer that.

[19] THE WITNESS: There were-there were a number of (20) meetings, and by that I mean two, three, about what the [21] future of NPF might be, my advice on who might be its president, subjects like that. Some of that-some of those [24] meetings were subsequent to recommendations I had made in

[25] Writing along those lines.

Page 96

MR. FRENKEL: To the extent they exist, I'd also [2] again request that any writings or other documents Mr. Denning might have from at least the period November 1, 1994, until the time he left the National Policy Forum relating to the activities of the NPF be produced to the committee. I would extend my request to any documents in his possession, custody or control from the time he started there that's, you know, part of the inducement-given to him as part of the inducement for him to come. But I understand your position on the date may differ from mine, Mr. Spaeder. [10] MR, SPAEDER: I'm a little confused. Is it the committee's view that the witness is under a subpoena today (12)

(13) to produce documents, or is he here to testify and nothing [14] more MR. FRENKEL: Again, I don't speak entirely for

the committee, and I understand he's here to testify. I (16) want to say he has certainly testified quite fully and completely as of this point and I would expect that to [15] continue throughout the day And I understand the point you made on the record at the beginning about the subpoena and (201

the production of documents. [21] I'm just requesting that to the extent that the

documents Mr. Denning may have in his possession, custody 24 and control relating to the subject matter of the

[25] committee's inquiry-that those documents be produced to the

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in committee in order to aid the committee in its inquiry. MR. SPAEDER: Well, I guess about all I could say 121 [3] in respond to counsel's question is I'll take the request [4] under advisement. The subpoena that we got, as well as the [5] notice of deposition, does not contain any duces tecum [6] provision in its current form. So I guess we should just m proceed with the questioning and I'll reflect on counsel's (a) request that we review any records he has in his possession and consider honoring your request.

MR. FRENKEL: Thank you.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[11] Q: From November 1, 1994, forward, did you have any [12] [13] regularly scheduled meetings with Mr. Barbour? And I guess [14] by that I mean with the senior staff, of which I presume you [15] certainly were one as chief operating officer-have weekly [16] or other time period meetings with Mr. Barbour in his role [17] as chairman of the NPF?

1181 A: Again, at the risk of Roger kicking me, no, but I [19] met weekly or so with his delegate. I mean, bear in mind, [20] please, that Haley was busy. He was traveling and he had [21] delegated not operational control of the NPF to Reed, but I [22] had to have somebody to talk to you when I couldn't get to [23] Haley and Scott was the designated hitter, so-

MR. SPAEDER: Are we now in the period after

[25] November of 1994?

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MA. FRENKEL: I believe that was the time frame of [1] (2) my question.

THE WITNESS: Yes. [3]

MR. SPAEDER: You may answer the question.

[5] BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Again, I think you've used both the first and the [6] last name in your last answer. But just to make sure, the [7] individual that you understood to be delegated by Mr. [8] Barbour to field requests that you had relating to the NPF [9] [10] was Scott Reed, is that correct?

A: That's right. [11]

Q: If Mr. Reed was not available, was there anyone [12] [13] else that you would try to communicate with in an effort to [14] get information to or from Mr. Barbour?

A: Yes.

[15] [16] Q: Who was that?

A: A close friend of mine who worked over there was [17] [18] Don Fierce and I didn't communicate with him on an official [19] basis, but if I had an opinion or something that I wanted communicated to Haley and I couldn't get it directly and if [21] Reed wasn't available, I might talk to Don.

Q: Did you have any occasion to talk to Sanford (23) Sandy, McAllister about matters relating to the NPF?

A: Yes. I'm sorry. She-after Reed resigned, [24]

[25] whenever that was-if you know, help me out.

Q: I don't when he resigned. [2]

A: He left, well, somewhere, let's say-I think he [3] left at the end of the year, give or take.

Q: 1995?

[16]

[25]

A: '95, and she took over-Sanford is what she goes [6] by, by the way-took over as chief of staff over there, or

m some similar title, and then-so she then took on the role that Reed had had and I met or spoke with her on a fairly

regular basis until I resigned. Remember, this was all happening simultaneously. Bolton is coming in, I'm going [10]

[11] out, Reed is leaving, McAllister is coming in. Q: Other than the board of directors meetings you [12]

[13] testified to earlier this morning, did you have any other [14] regular contact with any of the members of the board about

[15] matters relating to the operation or conduct of the NPF? A: There were two board members-well, I'm getting in

[17] before and after November of '94.
[18] MR. SPAEDER: Well, you should confine your [19] answers, subject to my continuing objections, to the period

(20) after November of 1994. MA. FRENKEL: All right. I'll just ask a question [21]

[22] which-we'll get Mr. Spaeder's objection for the record on (23) it and then ask it for post November 1994. BY MR. FRENKEL: [24]

Q: Prior to November 1994, did you have any

(i) discussions with any members of the board of directors of [2] the NPF about the conduct or operation of the NPF?

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Kindly do not answer

that auestion. [4]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: The same question now for any period of time [6] after-on or after November 1, 1994. [7]

A: I spoke with-MR, FRENKEL: Off the record.

[Discussion off the record.]

[11] THE WITNESS: I spoke with Lee Brown about both

[12] fund-raising, his activities, and how fund-raising in

general was going. And, secondly, every time NPF required a [14] Subsidy from the RNC, it required me to get his approval of [15] that, and there could have been instances post November '94

(16) where we did that. I don't recall. [17]

BY MR. FRENKEL: G: Other than Mr. Brown, did you have any contact [18] [10] with any other members of the board of directors of NPF relating to its operations, first prior to October 31, 1994? [20]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. I instruct you not to answer that question.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: And then the same question for any time after

[25] November 1, 1994.

Page 101

Page 102

A: The only other board member I recall specifically [2] having a conversation with is Blake Hall, and there could

[8] have been an instance after November '94 where I spoke with

him as well

[5] Q: Who is Mr. Hall, or what position did he have at the NPF or on the NPF board, as you recall? [6]

A: He was-I don't recall the exact title, but  $\mathbf{n}$ 

counsel. I mean, he was kind of the-I don't know what the title would have been, but he was the one kind of designated [9] [10] to be our outside legal advice.

Q: Was there anyone at the NPF who was designated as [11]

the in-house counsel, and I guess what I mean by that, [12] (:3) someone other than an attorney at an outside law firm? A: No. [14]

Q: You testified just a little bit earlier that when [15] the NPF would need a subsidy, you would need to get Mr. [16] Brown's approval, is that right? (17) A: That's right. [18]

Q: Did anyone else at the NPF, in addition to Mr. [19] Brown, need to be consulted before you could complete the [20] process of obtaining an additional subsidy for the NPF? [21] MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer that [22]

[23] question if you have knowledge of events after November of 1994 that are responsive to the question. (24)

MR. PERRY: I'm a little confused by the term

Page 99

(1) "subsidy." (2) [3]

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BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: You can answer the question, given Mr. Spaeder's

constraint, as best as you can.

(5) MR. SPAEDER: You understand my instruction. You can answer the question if you have knowledge of events that [6] are responsive to the question after November of 1994. If m

you don't, just tell counsel you don't have any knowledge. THE WITNESS: I don't believe there were any such (¥)

transfers post 1994 until the time I resigned as COO MR. SPAEDER: Do you mean post November of 1994 or

post 1994? THE WITNESS: Post November of '94 through the

1131 time I left [14]

MR. SPAEDER: And I think majority counsel has [15] raised a legitimate question about your use of the term [16] "subsidy." That could be construed in a number of ways and 1171 you want to make the record clear as to what you meant by [18] [19] the term.

THE WITHESS: It's a poor choice of words. They were loans for-they were operating loans that-we signed [21] promissory notes that there was a full intent that they be repaid.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: What was the process for getting a loan of that

# CONFIDENTIAL

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Page 103

in nature? What I mean is I'm excluding now the loan from [2] Signet Bank, which we'll talk about this afternoon.

MR. SPAEDER: I'll object, but permit him to [4] provide a little background, a little context. So you can [5] answer the question generally until I instruct you otherwise. [6] [7]

THE WITNESS: The ones I recall were all prior to October '94, although there could have been others later 181 after I resigned. And the process was typically that I'd 191 project what the cash requirement was, where revenue would [11] be, and if there was a deficit, what, about, it would be, [12] and would talk to Lee Brown about that and get his permission. And I seem to remember-I think this is rightthat we would actually have to execute a promissory note that he-I think initially, at least, he had to actually sign, along with Mike Baroody, I think, and that document would be delivered to the RNC before or concurrent with cash 1171

BY MR. FRENKEL:

being transferred to an NPF account.

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Q: Other than Mr. Baroody and Mr. Brown, was anyone [50] else from the NPF involved in the process of obtaining a [21] loan from the RNC, to your knowledge?

(53) A: Well, Steve Walker, who was our controller, had to [24] handle the paperwork and the accounting, and I believe Steve [25] reported to Catherine Keller and she kept track of the loans

[1] and I believe produced the promissory notes and supervised (2) the accounting. And by the way, there were a number of [3] repayments on those notes prior to my arrival and during my [4] tenure.

Q: In terms of obtaining a loan from the RNC, do you in know who on the RNC side was involved in either the-well, let's start with the negotiating process, the process of negotiating with the NPF for the loan or the loan amount?

MR. SPÄEDER: I object, but I'll permit you to [10] answer the question, providing counsel a little context of [11] the relationship.

THE WITNESS: The arrangement had been worked out [12] [13] prior to my arrival, and as I explained earlier, it [14] involved-it required a promissory note. There was an-it [15] bore an interest rate and it had other stipulations, I think including that it was due on demand. And as I said, a [17] number of repayments were made both prior and post my [18] arrival, and that, I believe, was worked out initially by [19] Ken Hill, who was VP of Administration, I think, or I'm not [20] sure of the exact title.

Catherine Keller was involved in that on our side, and [22] then-I mean, Haley had agreed to the initial arrangement and then Reed and Jay Banning at the RNC actually carried it [24] through. They were the working level on the RNC side and

[25] Keller and Hill on the NPF, and then when I came on board, I

[1] got a little more involved in it.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: At about the time you came on board with the NPF. [3] related to these loans, did you have ever sit down and have [4] face-to-face negotiations with the RNC over any of the 151 details of the loans? [6]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection. I'll permit you to [8] answer. We're getting close, but I'll permit you to answer. THE WITNESS: What do you mean, negotiate about 19 what?

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: About any of the terms of the loans or the amount [12] [13] of the loans.

[14] A: Oh, sure, constantly. I mean, my weekly meetings with Reed would either be devoted entirely or substantially [15] to that topic, and it usually involved around I would [17] project that I needed-pick a figure, \$100,000-because of x, y and z, and he would remonstrate that, "you know i don't (18) [19] have it." And we'd go back and forth about, "well, you got [20] to cut this out or cut that out, or delay paying this."
[21] That was a constant cash flow thing, with the goal of trying to make the-on both our parts, trying to make the draw as (23) small as possible.

Q: Are you aware of any instance where the NPF requested monies from the RNC where the RNC didn't come up [1] with at least some money, whether it was the full amount you

[2] had initially wanted or some lesser amount? MR. SPAEDER: Objection. You may answer. THE WITNESS: You mean-i'm sorry. You mean where they just flat refused? [5]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Yes, sir, that's what I meant.

181 A: I don't. You know-I'm sorry. Let me add something because I want to be accurate with you. There was one instance where it wasn't so much that they refused.

They just didn't have it, as hard as that may be to believe, and we had an immediate requirement that had to be met and so I advanced a personal loan over a weekend and then was repaid on Monday or Tuesday. And I don't remember the source of those funds, whether a donor-you know, whether a

donation had come in that had been anticipated or the RNC stepped forward. I don't remember.

[18] Q: Any recollection as to the date when you had to

is make that out-of-your-own-pocket loan to the NPF to keep it 1201 running for the weekend?

A: Yes. It was late November-or I'm sorry-late [22] July '94. We had to do the mailing of the bloody report and [23] the post office doesn't take credit and, you know, it was [24] like a \$12,000 mailing bill and it was either-somebody had (25) to either pay the postage or the report wasn't going to get

[1] mailed.

Page 107

Page 106

Q: Prior to the \$2.1 million loan from Signet Bank in October 1994, did you have any discussions with anyone at

the RNC about the level of debt or the amount of debt the NPF was incurring related to the RNC? Now, if that question

[6] isn't clear, I guess, you know, the amount of monies, total monies, that the RNC had been loaning to the NPE

MR. SPAEDER: I'm going to object and instruct the witness not to answer. That goes into the period before November of 1994, and I think you've provided counsel with a

fair understanding of the working relationships. So I think [12] that it's appropriate to instruct you not to answer that

[13] question.

BY MR. FRENKEL: [14] G: In the same period of time, prior to November [15] 1994, did you have discussions with the directors and

[16] officers of the NPF about the debt totals the NPF was [18] incurring from the RNC? [19]

MR, SPAEDER: Same objection, same instruction. BY MR. FRENKEL:

[20] Q: I'm just going to ask you about a series of loans that the-which I will represent to you the NPF received [22] from the RNC starting in December '93-there were others [24] that took place before you arrived-up to August 1994, and [25] ask whether there was any discussion about these loans and

Page 105

Page 108 [1] what the money-well, a series of questions. I would anticipate there will be objection to the questions about-

MR. PERRY: I'm sorry to interrupt you. If I understand correctly where you're going, this is going to take a little bit of time to ask these and it's about 1.00,

so either way. MR, FRENKEL: Yes. I mean, I'll finish the

sentence, but I mean I think that's why we'll do this. I assume there will be an instruction not to answer any of the questions and I can just ask them as it relates to each loan, and I'll just give the date and the amount of the loan

[12] and then we can break for lunch. But the questions are going to relate to-well, I'll tell you what, why don't we [13]

just-I will start the process with the first loan, and if you want to pose an objection, Mr. Spaeder, and then we can 1153 discuss whether those objections will pertain to all the [16]

dates I'm about to ask prior to November '94 and go from [17] [18]

MR. SPAEDER: Right. I will represent to you that [19] if your goal is to articulate in seriation a number of (20) [21] alleged loan transactions between the RNC and the Forum predating November 1994, I will instruct the witness not to respond, subject to the objection I have previously made. [24] But to facilitate the schedule, I'm happy to have you

25] perhaps list each of the transactions and then if you would

111 accept a single omnibus answer, which will be in the form of an objection from me, an instruction not to answer, I'm [3] happy to stipulate that if you had asked each question [4] separately and elicited a response, it would have been an [5] objection and an instruction as well.

MR. FRENKEL: That's fine. That works for me. BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: The questions will relate to any discussions you m would have had with Haley Barbour about a loan transfer; any [10] discussions with others at the RNC, including Scott Reed, [11] about the loan transfer; any discussions with officers or [12] directors at the NPF about the loan transfer; any [13] discussions with any of that above group about the use of [14] the proceeds; any discussions with the above group about the [15] need for the proceeds and the timing of the need for the [16] proceeds; and any discussion with any of the above group about alternative sources for the money; and I think, [18] finally, any discussion with any of the above group, including the development staff of the NPF about activities the development staff or others related to the NPF could have undertaken to have brought in a Aditional monies to the (22) NPE

The first loan I'd like to ask you about is [24] December 23, 1993, from the RNSEC to the NPF in the amount [25] of \$30,000.

And I guess, Mr. Spaeder, now that you have the questions, I'll just go through the dates and the amounts, if that's fine with you. [4]

MR. SPAEDER: That's agreeable. BY MA. FRENKEL:

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Q: December 28, 1993, \$30,000. Each time, the entity will be the RNSEC making the loan. The entity receiving the loan will be the NPF, and maybe at the end after I've done it, I can ask just what the RNSEC is, but let's go ahead and [10] make the objection record and we'll do that if that's okay [11] with you.

[12] If I didn't already say it, December 28, '93, (13) \$30,000; January 13, '94, \$125,000; January 27, 1994, [14] \$65,000; February 14, '94, \$80,000; the next day, February [15] 15, '94, \$30,000; March 4, 1994, \$55,000; March 14, 1994, [16] \$200,000; March 18, 1994, \$35,000; March 30, 1994, \$75,000; [17] April 5, 1994, \$15,000; April 13, 1994, \$10,000; two [18] transactions the next day, April 14, 1994, one in the amount [19] of \$25,000, another in the amount of \$90,000, for a total on [20] April 14 of \$115,000; April 22, 1994, \$25,000; April 28, [21] 1994, \$115,000; May 5, 1994, \$65,000; May 10, 1994, \$45,000; [22] two days later on May 12, 1994, \$120,000; five days later,

[23] May 17, 1994, \$100,000; May 25, 1994, \$50,000; May 31, 1994, [24] \$75,000; June 3, 1994, \$50,000; five days later, on June 8, 25 1994, \$80,000; the next day, June 9, 1994, \$140,000; June

[1] 30, 1994, \$85,000; July 14, 1994, \$70,000; and finally from [2] this list, August 12, 1994, \$60,000.

MR. SPAEDER: As to those particular transactions, [4] I object and instruct the witness not to respond. And counsel may assume that had you asked the questions [6] separately, I would have given the same instruction. MR. FRENKEL: Thank you, Mr. Spaeder. BY MR. FRENKEL:

[9] Q: Mr. Denning, what is the RNSEC, as far as you [10] know?

A: I was going to ask you. I don't know.

1123 Q: As far as you know?

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A: As far as I know, the loans-well, I guess that's [13] [14] a fair way of putting it. As far as I know and believe, the [15] loans all came from the RNC. What account, particular

[16] account, Banning may have drawn them from, I'm ignorant, and (17) that term means nothing to me.

MR. FRENKEL: Okay. I'm ready-I'm willing to [18] [19] break for lunch, if that's agreeable.

THE WITNESS: Can I ask Roger a quick question? MR. FRENKEL: Of course, of course.

[21] [22] [Witness conferring with counsel.]

MR. SPAEDER: We're cool. We're off the record. [24] [Whereupon, at 1:07 p.m., a luncheon recess was [25] taken, to reconvene at 2:05 p.m. this same day.] CONFIDENTIAL

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Page 111

AFTERNOON SESSION

[2:05 p.m.] Whereupon,

DANIEL B. DENNING [4]

resumed the stand and, having been previously duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

FURTHER EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR THE MINORITY BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Mr. Denning, before turning to the Signet loan (9) [10] subject and documents, I just wanted to ask you one other-[11] or two other series of questions. Prior to any discussions [12] at the NPF about getting a loan from Signet Bank, had youwere you aware of any views held by Mike Baroody about whether the NPF should raise money from foreign sources? MR. SPAEDER: This now relates to events occurring (18) before November of 1994. Am I correct?

MR. FRENKEL: To the extent that it would have

[18] occurred in that period, yes

MR. SPAEDER: Right. In light of that, I think [20] I'm obliged to object and instruct the witness not to [21] answer.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Are you aware of any disagreement Mr. Baroody [24] might have had with Haley Barbour about whether the NPF 253 should raise funds from foreign sources? And to make it

Page 113

[1] easier for Mr. Spaeder, I'll say prior to November 1, 1994. MR. SPAEDER: Object and instruct the witness not [2] (3) to answer.

BY MA. FRENKEL:

Q: Are you aware, prior to November 1, 1994, whether it was the view of Mr. Baroody or others at the NPF that Mr. Haley Barbour had an obsession or other strong interest in raising money from foreign sources?

MR. SPAEDER: Object. Same instruction.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Subsequent to November 1, 1994, did you have any (11) conversation with persons at the NPF on the topic of raising foreign money for the NPF? [13]

I think if Mr. Spaeder is not objecting, then it's [15] okay for you to answer.

A: I'm sorry. Prior to November of '94, was I-[16] Q: After November 1, 1994. [17]

A: Oh, was I aware of anybody objecting? Not that I

recall. You know, it wasn't an-it wasn't an issue. Q: When you came on board the NPF in December 1993. did you make any determination about why it was that the National Policy Forum had operated in the red or at a

[23] deficit since it was formed in June or May of 1993? MR. SPAEDER: Object. I'll permit you to answer

that if you have the information.

Page 114

THE WITNESS: I think it's fair to say that the [2] fund-raising had not met Haley's expectations, nor anyone

13; else's. It was proving to be much more difficult than it [4] had been anticipated. Hence, the need for loans. I think

there was the anticipation when I came on board that once we started to do forums, the pace picked up, Commonsense is published, that fund-raising would increase dramatically and

outstrip expense. As you know, that proved not to be the [8] [9] case.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: At any time you were affiliated with NPF do you 12 recall whether there was a period of time where fund-raising (13) or revenues coming in did outstrip the expenses, the costs of operating the NPF?

A: From-yes, from time to time. I mean, I didn't have to go knock on the door every two weeks to meet payroll. There were stretches, as you can see, I think, from that schedule where the loans were erratic, and that's

[19] because revenue exceeded expenses for that period. Q: In more than one month where you were at the NPF, 1201 did the costs of operating the NPF exceed the revenue coming (21)

[22] A: I'm sorry. Do that one more time.

Q: Sure. In any given month that you were there, did [25] it occur at least more than one time where the costs of

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CONFIDENTIAL June 30, 1997 Special Investigation Page 115 Page 118 (I) RNC? [1] operating the National Policy Forum exceeded the amounts of (2) money coming in to help fund the operation? MR. SPAEDER: Same objection, same basis, same A: Oh, yes, yes, often, most of the time. We wereinstruction. (4) I'll shut up. BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: If you feel you need to say anything more to Q: In the same of period, did you have conversations (5) [5] [6] answer the question, please do. on the topic of how to improve the financial condition of MR. SPAEDER: I want to object because I'm not the NPF with anyone other than members of the NPF officers 7 sure I understood the question, but maybe the witness and directors, or the RNC? I guess the question is anyone 191 understood it. Would you please restate it so I can outside of the groups that I've just asked about and an (10) interpret the witness' answer was? [10] objection has already been tendered. MR. FRENKEL: Sure. The question was, in any MR. SPAEDER: Same objection, same instruction. [11] [11] BY MR. FRENKEL: [12] given month that he was there, at least did it occur more [12] [13] than one time where at the end of the month the costs of Q: When did you first learn that the National Policy [13] [14] operating the NPF exceeded the amounts of monies coming in [14] Forum was thinking about getting a loan guarantee or other [15] to fund the NPF for that month, essentially where the NPF [15] type of loan to improve its financial condition? [16] operated at a deficit for that month. A: As I recall, it would have been May, maybe give or MR. SPAEDER: Did you understand counsel's [17] [17] take 30 days or so. It could have been April, it could have question to mean that? [18] been June. [18] ران [19] عَنْ الْأَوْدَةِ الْأَوْدَةِ الْأَوْدِةِ الْأَوْدِةِ الْأَوْدِةِ الْأَوْدِةِ الْأَوْدِةِ الْأَوْدِةِ ا THE WITNESS: Yes. Q: Which year? [19] ्र<u>ी</u> [20] MR. SPAEDER: Are you satisfied with your answer? A: Of '94. [20] [21] [22] THE WITNESS: Yes. I could go on, but I won't. Q: How did you first come to learn about the [21] BY MA. FRENKEL: possibility of getting a loan from any entity other than the [22] [23] Q: I'm happy to let you go on if you feel that you [23] RNC for NPF g [24] need to. Would you like to? A: Well, it was-with each trip to the font, it [24] 25 A: Let me just say that that's why I found that Time 125] became increasingly difficult to get loans. Money was Page 116 Page 119 (1) article so laughable that we were a, quote, "laundry, [1] tighter and tighter and tighter as the summer-the spring 22 unquote, of some type. If anything, we were a sink. You [2] and into the summer, and I realized I was having to not just [3] know, I mean I was there hat in hand every-I mean, it was [3] justify every penny expenditure, but I was increasingly [4] more the norm that I was there justifying and asking for a having to light for it. It was not a pleasant experience. 151 loan than it was when I-you know, I could go a month I had a lot of other worries. Is that responsive? 👸 [8] without having to go over there. And I didn't enjoy it Q: It is. g [7] either. [7] Were those-the fights that you just described, Q: And when you say "there" and "over there," you're were those-[6] py referring to the RNC? A: I wasn't having fights, but you know. A: Yes. Q: The conversations regarding the topic about 실 (10) Q: From the time you were hired at NPF-really, I [11] potential loans or just essentially the financial condition (21) [12] of the NPF-were those held with anybody other than Scott [12] guess, the time that you sort of had a fair understanding of [13] the operation of NPF-obviously, that takes some time when [13] Reed or Jay Banning? MR. SPAEDER: Are we referring now to [14] you first come on-until the time you first became aware of [14] [15] any discussion of getting loan from Signet Bank or some conversations before November? [15] MR. FRENKEL: Yes, the conversations, though, [16] other bank in excess of, say, \$2 million, what steps did you [17] specifically in relation to this testimony about-this is in [17] take to try to make sure that the NPF would operate in [18] relation to obtaining a loan from some source. But, yes, [18] surplus rather than at a deficit? MR. SPAEDER: So I understand the question, we're [19] the question is-I believe his testimony was either April. [20] pre-November of 1994 and you're asking, apart from the loan [20] May or June of '94. MR. SPAEDER: You can answer the question so long guarantee that was procured from Young Brothers Development (21) [21] [22] to collateralize a loan by Signet, what, if any, other [22] as you confine your answer to any discussions regarding [23] efforts he engaged in to try to ensure that the Forum obtaining a loan from Signet. 1231 THE WITNESS: And the question is who I talked to [24] operated other than at a loss? [24] MR. FRENKEL: That's a fair summary of the (25) about obtaining a loan? [25] Page 117 Page 120 BY MR. FRENKEL: (1) question, yes MR. SPAEDER: I will object to that question and Q: No. I guess my question was you testified that you had to make these presentations to people at the RNC in instruct the witness not to answer. To the extent that [4] counsel addresses any questions with regard to the Young order to justify getting the loan, and sometimes-I'm sorry. Brothers Development loan guarantee, you should answer those A: I'm sorry. Can I-[5] questions, but I don't understand that his question [6] Q: Yes, sir. addresses that issue. A: I think what I meant to say was I made n [7] BY MR. FRENKEL: presentations, arguments, presented data in a continuing (8) Q: Prior to any discussion relating to the Young effort to keep NPF funded, to get loans from the RNC, which [10] Brothers Development loan guarantee for the National Policy [10] proved to be increasingly, increasingly difficult as the spring and summer wore on. [11] Forum, did you have any conversations with Haley Barbour Q: I'm sorry. Maybe I was-that's what I was [12] about steps that you or others recommended to improve the 1121 [13] financial condition of the NPF? referring to, and that process of continuing to fund the NPF from the RNC. With whom did you have those discussions? MR. SPAEDER: Objection. Same instruction. [14] BY MR. FRENKEL [15] [15] A: Primarily Scott Reed. [16] Q: Was Jay Banning involved in any of the

Q: In the same period of time, which is before any (161 discussion of the loan guarantee from Young Brothers [17] Development, did you have any conversations with individuals [19] at the RNC other than Mr. Barbour about how to improve the [20] financial condition of the NPF? [21]

MR. SPAEDER: Objection, Same instruction BY MR. FRENKEL:

[23] Q: For the same period of time, did you have any such [24] conversations with Scott Reed or others who, as far as you [25] knew, reported to or worked directly for Mr. Barbour at the 1177

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discussions

into it only to implement it.

25) answer your question

A: Only to the extent of-Reed either made the

the summer of '94 wore on-funding from the RNC?

MR. SPAEDER: I object, but I'll permit him to

decision or referred it to Haley, and Banning was brought

Q: Did you have any understanding as to why it was

that it was becoming harder to obtain funding for the NPF as

[22]

Page 121 THE WITNESS: Only offhand comments that, you [2] know, demands on their cash because of the uncoming campaigns and everything were putting increasing pressure on (4) the cash position. Much of it was unanticipated plus you know, I didn't fall off the turnip wagon last night. I [6] realized that the closer you got to the fail, the more-[7] there's more money going out than coming in, and so it wasn't a news flash that they were getting stringy.

BY MR. FRENKEL: 181 Q: And when you-just to make clear what you mean by 1101 [11] the fall and the campaign, you're referring specifically to

the November 1994 mid-term elections? A: Yes.

(131 [14] Q: What-excuse me one second. [15] Following this conversation-maybe I'm not-you 1161 may have testified to it and so I apologize because I've [17] already forgotten. But when you-talking now about getting funding from some source other than the RNC to fund the 1197 operation of the NPF, which you said may have taken place in [20] April, May or June 1994, do you recall with whom you had that conversation or how you first learned that?

MR. SPAEDER: I'm confused now by the question. 1221 MR. FRENKEL: I'm trying to return to his earlier [24] testimony that the conversation took place-this is going to [25] the Young Brothers Development guarantee.

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4.; 12.

Page 122 MR. SPAEDER: Okay, so this is when he first had [2] discussions with anybody, not necessarily people at the RNC [3] or Mr. Barbour, about the Young Brothers guarantee

(4) transaction? MR. FRENKEL: Yes. I guess I don't want to limit (5) [6] my question necessarily to the Young Brothers guarantee transaction unless it was already known in April or May or [8] June when he was first having the discussion that it wasthe guarantee would come from Young Brothers; I guess any [10] source that would have provided the funds that later came [11] from Young Brothers, though.

MR. SPAEDER: All right. Well, since there is, to [12] [13] the best of our knowledge, only one loan guarantee in this [14] case which, in fact, did come from Young Brothers [15] Development, a USA corporation, I'm going to object and [16] instruct him not to respond, except to the extent that your [17] answer is required in order to explain your contacts with (18) Young Brothers or the events leading up to your contact with [19] Young Brothers, I think the Young Brothers loan guarantee (20) transaction and the loan from Signet is an area of

[21] interrogation that is fair. Now, can you deal with that question?

THE WITNESS: I'm trying to figure out how to walk 122 [23]

[24] this log. Well, you know, it didn't take a rocket scientist [25] to realize that NPF was not a, you know-what's the term-

(1) qualified debtor. There were few banks that were going to [2] Ioan NPF any money, so we couldn't just walk in. And I-you

[3] know, I didn't have to ask anybody to realize that. I [4] didn't want to waste my time or anybody else's.

[5] And, well, that led to, you know-and as I said (8) earlier, borrowing from the traditional source had become 77 increasingly difficult, so it occurred-it seemed obvious to [8] me the way to continue NPF's operations, continue to meet 191 payroll and all of the other obligations it had, was to try [10] to find a way to guarantee a note from a bank.

Is that responsive to-

[11]

(12)

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: It is. What was it about the structure or [13] [14] operation of the NPF that made it difficult for the NPF to [15] walk into a bank and receive a loan the way another business [16] or entity would, even a (c)(4) organization?

A: We were-we were-I don't know-pick a figure-1171 [18] \$1.5 million in debt, for God's sake, to the RNC. We had-[19] you know, our source of income, to use a term, was voluntary donations that hadn't so far matched outgo. And, you know, [21] if I were a bank vice president, I'd drive me out of business. This wasn't hard. [22]

Q: Other than obtaining a loan guarantee from someone or something, were there any other methods of financing the 25] NPF that were explored prior to November 1, 1994, or prior

[1] to October 13, 1994?

MR. SPAEDER: If your answer doesn't involve the Young Brothers and it occurred prior to the November 1994 (4) commencement of the campaign cycle, I'm going to instruct you not to respond, pursuant to objection.

MR. FRENKEL: Just so you're-I just want to make 163 777 sure, Mr. Spaeder, you're clear about what my question was. is It was other methods besides a loan guarantee that NPF considered as a way of funding the NPF.

MR. SPAEDER: But I think I still wish to lodge my i10\$ (11) objection and instruct the witness not to answer. It's (12) prior to the campaign cycle and it relates to fund-raising, (13) and I think it goes beyond the general information that [14] we've permitted the witness to give you. And it doesn't relate, as I understand the question, to the Young Brothers [16] loan guarantee.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[17] Q: What was the first mention of using a loan 1190 [19] guarantee to fund the NPF that you recall? (20)

MR. SPAEDER: Are you referring now to the Young Brothers loan guarantee or to-

(21) MR. FRENKEL: Counsel, I'm not referring 122

228 specifically to the Young Brothers guarantee in the sense (24) that we've not established, and I'm sure you do not want to

[25] stipulate, that the only possible source of the guarantee

Page 125

[1] was Young Brothers Development. So if there were other [2] entities that were considered to be the loan guarantor or in the first mention was just a concept of using a loan

[4] guarantor without any particular company or individual being

identified, that is why-that's what my question goes to, not specifically to Young Brothers Development.

MR. SPAEDER: Okay. That question, under my perception of the appropriate ground rules, is too broad,

and so I object and instruct you not to answer. We're going to respond to what actually happened and that would be the [11] decision to talk about the Young Brothers loan guarantee and

[12] any facts you know about that matter. But if it occurred before November of 1994 and did not involve the Young

Brothers Development Company or Ambrous Young, I instruct you not to answer. 115

BY MR. FRENKEL:

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Q: When was the first time you heard the name Young [17] Brothers Development or any variation of it or Mr. Ambrous [18] Young or any of his sons as a possible source of loan guarantee to the NPF? 1201 A: Again, probably May, maybe June. 1211

Q: 1994? 1221 [23]

[24]

[111]

[12]

(17)

1201

A: Yes, If you say it was April I wouldn't argue with you, it was somewhere in that area.

Q: At the time, April, May or June, whenever it was,

Page 126

(1) that instance, how did you first hear the name, Young Brothers Development or Mr. Young or people associated with them? [3]

A: From Fred Voicansek. [4]

Q: Do you recall the context of your conversation or now you learned that information from Mr. Volcansek?

A: We, well, as I think I mentioned earlier, Fred was a friend of mine of long standing. And I discussed this

problem with him including a number of options and this came [10] up as one of those options.

Q: What were the other options that you discussed with Mr. Volcansck?

MR. SPAEDER: If these discussions, whenever they were, occurred before November of 1994 and did not involve [14] the Young Brothers, I object and instruct you not to answer. [15] BY MA. FRENKEL: [16]

Q: Did the other options you referred to in this [18] conversation with Mr. Volcansek involve other individuals. private individuals who might guarantee a loan to Young Brothers Development? I'm sorry, a loan to the National Policy Forum? [21]

MÁ. SPAEDER: Objection and same instruction. I will continue to object to questions pre-dating November of 1994 that relate to discussions, options, plans which never 25] materialized regarding the loan guarantee that ultimately

Ju	ne 30, 1997	CONFID	EN	Senate Committee on Gov	ecial Investigation	
		Page 127			Page 1	30
[1]	was executed by the Young Brothers.	- 1	[1]	just take a moment.	•	
[2]			[2]			
	having let the witness talk about the Young Brothers			[Witness confering with counsel.]		
	guarantee, I understand you would like to make a record			MR. SPAEDER: As I understand his answer,		
	though.	j		the grounds I'm trying to follow, you'd be	entitled to his	
[6]	So, we may have to go back and forth on these			answer.		
	issues for a little while.		n	BY MR. FRENKEI	.:	
[8]			[8]	Q: Would you like the question?	usiam af	
(47)	Mr. Spaeder, but you, as you anticipated I do need to make record.	: 2		[The Reporter read back the requested po	ruon of	
				the record.] MR. SPAEDER: If I understand Mr. Denning	le .	
[11] [12]	Q: Mr. Denning, did any of the options you discussed			expected response it is going to deal with		
	with Mr. Voicansek in the conversation you testified to,			Brothers relationship, is that correct, Mr. D		
[14]	take a terminal formation of the company of the com	I	[14]	THE WITNESS: Yeah.		
[15]	4 44 49 4 4 4 4 1 1 4 4 4		[15]	MR. FRENKEL: Do you want to confer?	You are free	
[16]		- 1	[16]	to confer with Mr. Spaeder if you want.		
[17]	MR. SPAEDER: Objection, same instruction.	J	[17]	THE WITNESS: Is he asking me what I d	id next with	
(18) [19]	BY MA. FRENKEL:	j	[18]	Young Brothers or what I did next, period	•	
			[19]	BY MR. FRENKEL	i	
[20]	conversation with Mr. Volcansek concern monies that cou	ld be	[50]	Q: My question is what you did next, po	riod.	
[21]	provided by non-U.S. corporations?	1	[21]	A: That's that I thought.		
[55]	MR. SPAEDER: Same objection, same basis, same instruction.	1	[22]	MR. SPAEDER: If the answer to that que		
[53]	INSTRUCTION.	Ì		okay. I object to that question to the exten		
[24]		j		call for a discussion of any matters other the		
[25]	Q: Did any of the options you discussed with Mr.		isəi	relationship with Young Brothers Develop		
	Voluments in the appropriate and appropriate and the second	Page 128			Page 13	31
נון הו	Volcansek in the conversation concern monies that could	DC		you not to answer it. I think counsel will p		
1-7	raised from U.S. subsidiaries of non-U.S. corporations?  MR. SPAEDER: Same objection, same instruction.	1		follow with a question that will eventually Brothers.	get us to toung	
[3] [4]	BY MA. FRENKEL:			BY MR. FRENKEL		
[4] [5]	Q: Did any of the options you discussed with Mr.	j	[4] [5]	Q: What was the next-	•	
[8]	Volcansek concern whether any single U.S. corporation co	ould	[6]	MR. SPAEDER: There may be some stop	s along the	
[7]	be the source of the funds needed by the NPF?			way.		
(8)	MR. SPAEDER: Same objection, same instruction.	!	(8)	MR. FRENKEL: Or reversals along the w	ay, once l	
[9]	BY MR. FRENKEL:	1		get to the next stop.	•	
[10] [8]	Q: Did any of the options discussed with Mr.		[10]	BY MR. FRENKEL	:	
	Volcansek include whether members of Congress could so		[11]	Q: What was the next action you took a		
	funds in the amount needed by the NPF from any source			be either a conversation or a meeting, a me		
	whatsoever?			that, in relation to Young Brothers Develop	ment relating to	
[14]	MR. SPAEDER: Same objection, same instruction. BY MR. FRENKEL:			the loan guarantee for the NPF? This is now following your conversation	in Antil	
[15] [16]	Q: Did any of the options you discussed with Mr.		[15] [160	May, June of 1994 with Mr. Volcansek?	ntubin'	
	Volcansek in that conversation address the appropriatenes		[17]	A: As I recall, I think the next thing was	1	
	of members of Congress approaching corporations or			discussed the possibility of this kind of a gr		
	individuals to raise funds for the National Policy Forum's			RNC and whether or not we should pursue		
	needs?	li	[20]	Q: With whom do you recall-I am sorry	were you	
[21]	MR. SPAEDER: Same objection, same grounds, same			done?		
-	instruction.		[22]	A: Yes.	an laimein and	
[53]	BY MR. FRENKEL:		(23)	Q: With whom do you recall having the	SE KUNGS OF	
[24] 1361	Q: Did any of the options you referred to in your			conversation you just testified at the RNC?  A: I think I discussed it with Don Fierce	initially	
<u> </u>	conversation with Mr. Volcansek include discussions about		[25]	A: I think I discussed it with Don Fierce		
	make above as here also and a 60 state. We take a Construction of	Page 129		and the same and the language for the same	Page 13	.5
	whether other elected officials, Federal, State or local,	•		and then possibly with Reed.  Q: Scott Reed?		
	could approach any source, whatsoever, to obtain the func needed by the National Policy Forum?		(Z)	A: Hmm-hmm.		
(3) [4]	MR. SPAEDER: Same objection, same instruction.	i	(3) [4]	Q: You have to give a yes or a no.		
(5)	BY MR. PRENKEL:	}	( <del>*)</del>	A: I'm sorry, yes.		
[6]	Q: Did any of the options you discussed with Mr.		(6)	Q: Do you recall what they said to you?	Well, I	
	Volcansek include a discussion of the appropriateness of	1		guess let's back up one second. This meetir		
[8]	whether an elected official, Federal, State or local, could		(8)	was it in the office space of the Republican		
[9]	approach an entity to obtain the funds needed by the NPF	,		Committee, if you recall?		
(10)	MR. SPAEDER: Same objection, same instruction.		[10]	A: I really don't recall.	tl	
[11]	BY MR. FRENKEL:	1	[11]	Q: Wherever this meeting took place, do	you recall	
[12]	Q: What happened as a result of your conversation		[12]	whether both Mr. Fierce and Mr. Reed were telephone, either on a conference call or pl	vsically in the	
	with Mr. Volcansek considering various options under consideration?			room with you?	systematy as tile	
(15)	MR. SPAEDER: Are you confining your question,	1.	[15]	A: I, I would seem to recall that they we	re separate	
	counsel, to further developments with Young Brothers			conversations. And I don't recall if it was in		
	Development or globally?			am pretty sure they weren't together thou		

(16) counsel, to further developments with Young Brothers [17] Development or globally?

MR. FRENKEL: I am back in the time frame, April, [18] [19] May, June, 1994, after we just made the record about the [20] options and essentially I'm asking what happened next?

So, it's not necessarily confined to Young [5:] 122] Brothers Development, it's a more general question of what [23] was the next thing said or done in relation to the [24] conversation he was testifying about.

MR. SPAEDER: Maybe I can expedite this. Let me

am pretty sure they weren't together though.

[20] about the loan guarantee?

[24] matter of hours or minutes apart?

A: No.

Q: Do you have any recollection as to which of those

two individuals, Mr. Fierce or Mr. Reed, you spoke to first

rwo conversations took place on the same day or just a

A: No. They were in fairly short sequence, but I

Q: Do you have any recollection as to whether the

[21]

[22]

[11]

[3]

(4)

[13]

[14]

[16]

Page 133

[i] don't know.

Q: Do you recall as you're sitting here today whether, whomever it was you spoke to second of that group, Mr. Fierce or Mr. Reed, that second individual had already [5] spoken to the first one, again, either Fierce or Reed, about the subject matter of a loan guarantee to the NPF?

A: I seem to remember they were separate [8] conversations and I don't remember having the sense that 19) they had, you know, talked together and were giving me an [10] answer. It was more of a, you know, kind of a green light [11] kind of a thing, to explore the possibility.

MR. SPAEDER: I want to counsel the witness to [12] [13] understand what I believe they are both talking about and that is the discussions which ultimately led to the Young [15] Brothers loan guarantee transaction. Now, is that what you [16] intended to tell counsel?

THE WITNESS: Yes.

[17] MR. SPAEDER: I think that's what counsel asked [18] but I just wanted to be sure we weren't talking past each [19] [20]

### BY MR. FRENKEL:

[21] [22] Q: As best as you can recall, can you describe the contents of the conversations? If you can do it by what you [23] [24] remember saying to Mr. Reed and he said back to you or Mr.

[25] Fierce and what he said back to you or if it's just sort of

Page 134

[1] a giant blend in your mind, however it is that you can recall it, if you can just try to relate the substance of either or both of those conversations as best you can today.

A: Well, when it was first the, you know, I was is really getting Don's advice.

Q: Mr. Fierce? [6]

A: Fierce's advice as to the feasibility, the [7] [8] advisability, more the advisability of NPF getting a

guarantor for a commercial bank loan. Kind of in the scheme [10] of things did that make sense? We didn't know what the

[11] future was, we knew what our spending rates were currently. [12] We didn't really have a clear picture of what the life of

[13] NPF was but, you know, in doing this we would be taking on a

[14] fairly long-term obligation.

[15] Did that make sense? And the answer, I guess, [16] was, yes. I don't remember clearly but we proceeded.

[17] And I guess I must have described in general terms Young and Young Brothers Development, and, you know, we [18] [19] didn't see any reason not to proceed. So, we proceeded.

Q: Was the source of your information about Mr. Young 21) and Young Brothers Development Fred Volcansek?

A: Yes. [22]

Q: Did you have any, did you have knowledge from any (23) [24] other source about either Mr. Young or the Young Brothers

[25] Development other than Mr. Volcansek?

Page 135

A: No.

Q: You just described in the conversation or (3) conversations you had with Mr. Fierce and/or Mr. Reed, where

you discussed whether it was feasible to do this. Other

than your answer to the, your testimony on that question about, at least one item was, the length of time the NPF

might be around, were there other reasons, at least in your 7 mind, that obtaining a loan guarantee from any entity.

191 including Young Brothers Development, might not be [10] feasible?

A: Well, as I said earlier, you know, walking into a [11] [12] commercial bank wasn't feasible. I didn't have people knocking on my door offering to loan me two million bucks. [13]

You know, in seeking the-it was more of a sounding board [15] kind of a conversation.

You know, as I said, I realized we were taking on [15] 17) a long-term obligation here because we were. I don't think [14] at that point in time I knew the exact figure, but we were [19] talking about a substantial amount of money, a million-and-[20] a-half up, that would require some lengthy period of time to

[21] pay back. And before I took on that kind of an obligation on behalf of NPF I wanted, you know, some, a reality check [23] that we would be around to honor the obligation and there

was a way of doing it. So, that's what that thing was all about.

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[1] Does that-

Q: Thank you. [2]

Did you have any conversations with Mr. Barbour, [3]

either in his role as chairman of the NPF or chairman of the Republican National Committee about the feasibility and

appropriateness of National Policy Forum taking on the kind

of obligation you just described? [7] FAT

I guess to narrow it further, I guess the time

frame would be prior to these conversations with Mr. Fierce and/or Mr. Reed? 1101

A: Not that I recall.

Q: In your conversations with either Mr. Fierce or 1121 conversation, well, leave it plural, with either Mr. Fierce

[14] or Mr. Reed or both, did the names of any entity, other than Young Brothers Development or Mr. Young, personally, come up [15]

[18] as a possible source of the guarantee?

MR. SPAEDER: I object and instruct you to answer [17] that only to the extent that the name of Young Brothers 7180

Development or Ambrous Young came up [19] In other words, my position is that with respect (20)

21) to any events pre-dating November of 1994, the only person (22) or candidate for a loan guarantee status about which you

should give testimony is that of Young Brothers Development. [23]

I don't know if you can answer counsel's question 125] the way he framed it, subject to my instruction or not.

Page 137

Page 138

THE WITNESS: If I understood the question correctly I can't. (2)

MR, SPAEDER: All right.

BY MR. FRENKEL;

Q: Why was it in April, May, June 1994, whenever [5] these conversations took place, with Mr. Fierce and Mr. [6] Reed, you felt it was necessary to inquire of them whether 71 the NPF should get a loan guarantee from any source,

including Young Brothers Development? 191 MR, SPAEDER: Let me confer with my client. Maybe [10] we can expedite this. Maybe there is a way through this [11]

[12] subject matter that is less awkward.

MR. FRENKEL: Sure. [Witness conferring with counsel.]

MR. FRENKEL: Back on the record. [15]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[77] Q: Mr. Denning, I've had an off the record conversation which Mr. Perry was also here for, of course, [18] with your counsel. If I were to ask you any question [20] relating to the loan guarantee which NPF eventually received

[21] from Young Brothers Development, and if the questions I were to ask related to any other entity that was considered in

any other conversation not devoted to the subject of Young

[24] Brothers Development or Mr. Young, himself, as the entity 25] guaranteeing the loan, would you be prepared to answer

[1] questions about that today?

MA. SPAEDER: Counsel, as I indicated, I would object and instruct the witness not to answer, although I (4) would advise him to respond to questions about the guarantee that, in fact, occurred in this case from Young Brothers

181 Development.

BY MR. FRENKEL

(7) Q: I think now we are back to the, following the conversation you had with Mr. Fierce and Mr. Reed, what was in the next development that you were aware of relating to the list loan guarantee provided by Young Brothers Development or-(12) well, strike that question.

Start with this. Following the conversation you [13] [14] had with Mr. Fierce and Mr. Reed was a determination made,

at that point-and this is April, May, June 1994-that the Young Brothers Development and/or Mr. Young would be the [15] [16]

(17) entity to guarantee the loan?

A: Well, at that stage I think it is fair to say that [161 we were exploring the possibility not that they would be the [19] one but that we were putting some thought and effort into [20] developing that as a possibility. (211

Q: Is it fair to say then that if I were to ask that question about any other entity that Mr. Spaeder will pose 24) an objection to those series of questions and give you an

[25] instruction not to answer?

[10]

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MR. SPAEDER: That's correct. If it occurred [7] prior to November of 1994.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[3] Q: Following your conversation with Mr. Fierce and [4] [5] Mr. Reed was any decision reached at the time about whether [6] Mr. Young would personally provide the funds to be used in the loan guarantee or whether those would come from a 77 corporation he controlled? [8]

A: The discussion was always about Young Brothers

[10] Development. [11]

Q: Was there-I am sorry.

A: It was always about Young Brothers Development (13) Company.

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Q: Was there any discussion relating to the Young [15] Brothers Development guarantee about whether Mr. Young would [16] provide personal funds as opposed to corporate funds for the [17] guarantee? 1181

Q: Is it fair to say that following your 201 conversations with Mr. Fierce and Mr. Reed you received the [21] green light that you had been looking for to continue pursuing the loan guarantee?

A: Yes

Q: To your knowledge, was Haley Barbour consulted by [25] anyone prior to your moving forward on the arrangements for

Page 140

[1] the loan guarantee by Young Brothers Development? A: I don't know that for sure. I assume that [3] somebody briefed him. But I did not, I don't recall a

[4] specific conversation saying this makes sense, go ahead. And that's at that point all I was looking for was

(6) a green light to explore it.

Q: Based on your experience at the NPF and your dealings with Mr. Barbour, would it be fair to say that if Mr. Barbour learned of the proposal to have Young Brothers 1:01 Development guarantee the loan and objected to that proposal [11] that you would have heard about it?

A: Oh, yes. 1121

[13] Q: Is it fair to say that you did not, in fact, hear [14] from him or through his chain of command or delegates, as I think you've called them today, that he did, in fact, object [16] to Young Brothers Development providing the guarantee? A: I think that's right. [17]

Q: Let me try and clean up that question. I can see 1161 1:9 how it-it took a few turns before it finished coming out my [20]

Did you ever learn from any source that Mr. [21] Barbour, in fact, objected to Young Brothers Development being the source of the loan guarantee to the National [23] [24] Policy Forum?

A: No.

(25)

Page 141

Q: Following the green light you received from Mr. Fierce and Mr. Reed, what steps did you take next to pursue the loan guarantee from Young Brothers Development?

A: I asked Fred Volcansek to introduce and explore is the possibility of-and as I understood it, his contact with [6] Mr. Young. I don't even know if he knew Mr. Young, but he m knew of Mr. Young because of his association with Steve and Dick Richards. And, so, I authorized Fred to explore the possibility with or through them.

Q: Do you recall what, if any, instructions you gave [10] [13] Mr. Volcansek about pursuing the idea with either Steve [12] Richards, Dick Richards, Mr. Young or the Young Companies?

A: Only that, you know, the amount we were interested [13] [14] in borrowing was plus or minus two million. And I supplied [15] him with material about NPF, what was the program, and that (16) it was a guaranteed.

MR. PERRY: I'm sorry, could you read back that (in question, I'm not sure I heard it.

The Reporter read back the requested portion of [19] the record.

[21] MR. PERRY: I think he's testified about Young

Brothers Development, a Florida company and I don't think he [23] has testified about Young Companies. So, to that extent I

[24] have a problem with the question in that it is somewhat (25) misleading.

Page 139

MR, SPAEDER: Let me ask you, Mr. Denning to be [2] precise with respect to your terminology, it may be important to some of the investigators to understand the distinction, if you made it in your own mind between Mr. Young, personally, his foreign companies, his domestic U.S. companies and any other companies. And, so, for purposes of testimonial precision try to bear that in mind when you [6] answer the questions.

**BY MR. FRENKEL:** 

Q: I'm not sure if prior to Mr. Perry's objection, had you finished your answer to the question about instructions to Fred Volcansek?

A: That's all I recall and as clarification,

[14] throughout those negotiations I was dealing with Young Brothers Development Florida, period. That was the entity that was on the other side of the table. 116

Q: Did Mr. Volcausek ever inform you prior to the

signing of the loan documents on or about October 13, 1994. that Young Brothers, the Florida Corporation known as Young Brothers was affiliated with a Hong Kong company bearing the [21] name Young Brothers Development Limited or any other sort of

name that might have been used? [22] A: I don't remember.

Yeah, I don't remember a specific name but he (24)

[25] informed me, I was aware that it was Hong Kong, there was a

Page 143

[1] Hong Kong connection, it was owned by or a subsidiary of, or [2] whatever. But, you know, frankly, it didn't matter. We were a 501(c)(4) and it didn't matter.

So, I didn't put a lot of time into worrying about subsidiary wholly owned, what the legal relationship was [5]

between the Florida company and the parent. Q: Thank you. I think you have testified to this

already and I certainly don't intend to put words in your mouth and even if I tried Mr. Spaeder would stop me, but is [10] it fair to say that the relationship you just testified

[11] about, whatever relationship there might have been between the Florida Young Brothers Company and the Hong Kong Young Brothers Company didn't matter to you because as far as you

1141 understood the National Policy Forum could raise money from anyone, any entity, whether or not it was a U.S. entity, is

re that a fair?

A: It's fair. Q: Did it-

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[18]

A: I would add that I didn't invent that out of whole [20] cloth. There was a ton of legal advice I got that was

(21) exactly the case and I asked repeatedly through this process

to make sure we were, you know, proceeding the way we 1231 should.

Q: Who do you recall consulting with about the [24] [25] question about whether it was proper to get the loan

Page 144

[4] guarantee or not from Young Brothers Development? A: I believe, well, it changed over time but at that

point in time, I think Linda Long was who I talked with. Q: Do you recall anyone else that was involved during

the period of time that it first surfaced as an idea that Young Brothers Development would do the loan guarantee until 171

the documents were signed on or about October 13, 1994? A: Oh, yeah.

Q: Who were some of those individuals?

A: I don't have any-I got a whole bloody law firm [11] that we paid a lot of money to paper over this transaction (12) and make sure it was squeaky clean. [13]

And I would be glad-go ahead.

Q: Is that the law firm of Baker & Hostetler, if you recall; 1:51

A: Right on, counsel.

Q: Were any other outside law firms involved in the 11:7 in representation concerning the legal review of the appropriateness of the loan guarantee by Young Brothers [19] Development? [21]

A: They had their own counsel and reviewed it on their side

Q: So, I should clarify that question, thank you. Anyone else, any other outside counsel to the National [25] Policy Forum that was involved?

[14]

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Page 145 A: I'm not sure of this but I seem to remember that [2] Long & Norcross from-I didn't consult directly with [3] Norcross but my memory is he was in the mix somewhere there. Particularly at the early stages before it moved to Braden [5] and the Baker Hostetler firm. And there may have been (s) others. Q: I think you testified to this earlier, Mr. David Norcross is affiliated with the Blank, Rome law firm? [8] A: Right. And as I stated earlier, Linda Long was (10) experiencing some severe physical problems and was [11] unavailable to me for long periods. And this could have been a period when Norcross stepped in and that may be why I [13] remember, you know. This was not more than one or two [14] conversations. Q: With Mr. Norcross? [15] (161 A: Right, hmm-hmm. And they were on the phone, I

1171 think, I don't even think they were in person. Q: And any time prior to signing the loan documents 118 on October 13, 1994, did you learn from Mr. Volcansek or from any other source that Mr. Ambrous Tung Young was not a United States citizen?

MR. PERRY: Let me, can we go off the record for a [23] second?

[24] [Discussion off the record.]

(55)

125] MR. SPAEDER: We can go on the record, I think the

MR. FRENKEL: I think my question when we will see it on the record was no longer a U.S. citizen, but if I [5] misstated it, I apologize and the correct situation of Mr. Young's citizenship is a matter of our deposition record or our understanding of it. 173 MR. SPAEDER: I think he testified that his knowledge was that Mr. Young's status might have been in 191 transition and I think your question now relates to what, if 1101 anything, did he do with that knowledge? MA. FRENKEL: That's correct. [12] MR. SPAEDER: Such as it was. [13] BY MR. FRENKEL: [14] Q: That's correct, such as it was, whether your 1151 116] understanding at that time was that it was in transition or whether your understanding was that Mr. Young was a U.S. (17) ne citizen? A: I don't recall clearly. I'm sure I informed Reed [19] and/or Haley and/or Fierce, somebody over there. (20A Q: Over there meaning the RNC again? A: Yes. But when I used that term, you know, I'm, please bear in mind that you said this earlier about, you know. Haley had those two hats. When I talked to him, (25) without exception, it was as chairman of the National Policy

(1) that manner, I would like to indicate that I think it is a

[2] bit misleading. Go ahead.

Page 146

[1] witness does understand the question.

You can answer it.

THE WITNESS: No, I can't remember it. Can you [4] just say it again?

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[5] Q: Sure. If I recall correctly, my question was, prior to signing the loan documents with Young Brothers Development on October 13, 1994, did you learn from Mr. Volcansek or from any other source whether Mr. Ambrous Tung [10] Young was not a United States citizen?

A: I asked and learned that he had been but was gray either in the process or had, whatever the term is, turned [13] back his citizenship because of tax, not problems but there [14] had been changes in the tax laws in a number of, as I [15] understood it just from the press I think at the time, that its there had been a number of wealthy individuals who had been, who were U.S. citizens, who were dual nationals, had decided for tax reasons to turn in, or whatever the term is, their [181]

So, what his exact status was at that point in 1201 time, I can't testify to except I knew it was in, he either was still a U.S. citizen or he was in transition. 1221

Q: Do you recall from whom you learned that [24] information?

A: Fred Volcansek. [25]

Page 147

Q: Do you recall when you learned that information 27 from Mr. Volcansek?

A: Sometime prior to signing the transaction off but, no, other than that.

Q: Do you have any recollection whether you learned that Mr. Young was no longer a U.S. citizen from Mr. Volcansek closer to October of 1994 or closer to those first conversations in May or June?

A: I don't, but you have to understand I didn't particularly care. The loan was with Young Brothers [10] Development Florida and it was, and the company was owned by jiz) the, as I understood it, was controlled and owned by the (13) sons who were U.S. citizens for all that that was worth but it was a U.S. company and I was a (c)(4) but even if it-I [14] [15] am going to shut up.

Q: Do you-1161

A: You get my point.

(17) Q: Do you recall whether you told anyone else after (19) you had learned from Mr. Volcansek that Mr. Young was not a U.S. citizen, do you recall sharing that information with (20) [21] anyone else?

MR. PERRY: I'm sorry, I don't mean to interrupt you, but I think he testified that his state of knowledge [24] was somewhat different than that Ambrous Young was not a [25] U.S. citizen, so, to the extent your question is phrased in

[1] Forum. I didn't have a relationship with him with his other in hat on. And I dealt with his lieutenants in that same [3] context. If I couldn't reach him, I dealt with Reed, not as (4) an RNC official, but as somebody, a conduit for me to talk to my boss. And, similarly, with Fierce, he was a friend of

long-time standing. In fact, he used to work for me. I trusted his advice and that's the context I talked to him in. So, if I went to them and said, I'm using "if" here [10] because I don't remember clearly doing it even, but I [11] probably did, just a heads-up, that this guy is either not (12) or, you know, at somewhat a gray area. It was just in the

(13) context of getting advice and the point of all that is that I was dealing with a Florida company and I didn't care about [15] Ambrous.

And just one other thing for the record. That [17] Time article, again, is the first time I knew his middle name was Tung. It was in the Time article. I thought that was really gratuitous. Anyway.

Q: As far as you know, did you have any conversations with Baker & Hostetler at either Mr. Braden, Mr. Geppert or anyone working with them, in which you informed them that [23] Mr. Ambrous Tung Young was-his immigration status was [24] either in transition or that he was no longer a U.S.

eitizen, do you recall whether you had a conversation of

Page 150

Page 149

(i) that sort with him?

A: Not that I recall but if you told me I did, I wouldn't argue with you. You know, there was so much intercourse between Braden on our side and Becker on theirs, that whatever issues had to be vetted got vetted. I didn't worry about it.

Q: Just so the record is clear, the Becker is Ben

Becker? [8]

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[10]

Q: Do you know about, did you come to learn of any [11] conversations that Mr. Volcansek might have had directly with Mr. Braden or other attorneys for the Baker, Hostetler (13) ftrm

A: I don't recall any that he had directly I mean [14] he, his, he didn't have a relationship. They were, I was

is the client, not Volcansek. Q: Taking you back a little ways now, I think that

period of time where we had just stopped before, going down this series of questions, was you had spoken with Mr. Volcansek-this is now in the period of time after you had 1191

(21) the green light from Mr. Fierce and Mr. Reed about pursuing the loan guarantee from Young Brothers Development-if you 231 can, do you recall approximately what month that might be

where you have had this "instruction talk" with Mr.

[25] Volcansek? Recognizing that no one at the time probably

(10)

Page 151

Page 154

(i) considered it to be an instruction talk, we are just using (2) that for purposes of clarity.

MR. SPAEDEA: Is the word, instruction, a term that you thought the witness used? Or I am confused, I thought he used the word, sounding board. (5)

MR. FRENKEL: It could have been in one of my questions, I believe-I mean at this point it's probably too hard to find in the record-I think I might have asked about whether he had given Mr. Volcansek any instructions about ing how to pursue the opportunity with Young Brothers [11] Development.

So, I'm not even clear that it's Mr. Denning's [13] term. It may very well be my term. But that's the [14] conversation I'm trying to get back to.

BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Do you recall when that conversation was, sir?

A: It all, no. It is an easy answer. It all [17] in happened so fast that-and I'm a little troubled, I'm not being argumentative but your use of the word, instruction, [80] or not instruction, but green light, from Mr. Fierce and Mr. [21] Reed. It was a green-I mean I wasn't doing a Mother May I? [22] It was more of a, this is an avenue I want to pursue, do you 🔛 [23] see anything, any reason not to?

And not seeing a red light, I authorized Fred to - [24] 25 sound out Richards and to them about does this pass the

(1) laugh test with you? Is this something that you think the (**2**) Young Brothers might be capable of, interested in, et cetera, et cetera. And that, to answer your question, that [4] was in-l-mean this happened so fast, it, we're dealing with [5] a sixty day or so window here and it was somewhere in that 📋 📵 period. So, we're somewhere in June, maybe, probably early

🍦 🕅 June. Q: Your last answer, the two of them, meant Steve 181 | Richards and Dick Richards, is that correct?

A: That's correct. 📋 [10]

[12]

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Q: Following that conversation with Mr. Volcansek, [12] What was the next thing you learned about the Young Brothers [13] Development guarantee?

A: At some point, word came back to me from [14] Volcansek, who I think got it from Richards, that, yes, [15] [16] let's talk. We'd like to help and it's worth a meeting at [17] least.

2: What did-l am sorry.

A: I don't know, Becker got into it there somewhere, (19 (20) too. That may have been probably about the first time I met [2:] him

Q: Do you have any recollection about when it was you heard back from Mr. Volcansek about the interest of the (22) [23] Young Brothers Development or Mr. Young?

A: If you want me to guess, I will.

Q: What is your best guess? I know it is very hard [2] to remember.

A: Late June or early July, maybe.

Q: What did you do next?

A: There you are going to lose me. I, the next event I remember is actually meeting the Young family. [5] [6]

Q: When do you recall that meeting taking place? A: I'm awful on this. I mean I was trying to run a 19) whole organization during this period. It was a dinner meeting and it was the one that was reported in Time [11] magazine. And my gress is late July.
[12] Q: Do you recall where the meeting was?

A: Sam and Harry's.

Q: Here in Washington, D.C.?

A: Emm-hmm, It's the one the reporter nailed me on. [15] Q: Do you recall who was present at the dinner at Sam [16]

and Harry's? A: No, it was a cast of thousands. Well, let's see. [10]

Let me go down, Haley, Fierce, Volcansek, myself, Mr. and Mrs. Young, Steve, Ann or Lorin-I can't remember if they were both there or not-Dick Richards, I think Steve Richards, I'm not sure of that, and some friend of Mr. [22] (23) Young's from United Technology, Pratt & Whitney

My impression was that he was a long-term friend and wasn't really there for the purpose of the dinner

[1] meeting, it was more of a they hadn't seen each other in a long time kind of thing.

Q: Anyone else that you recall?

A: If you got any names, I would be glad to confirm

or deny but those are the-there could have been a couple of others, too, but I, those are the ones I remember.

Q: I think it will be obvious but, from your answer.

but when you said Mr. and Mrs. Young at the dinner, you were

referring to Ambrous Young and his wife, is that right? A: That's right.

Q: Do you know how the arrangements for the dinner [12]

were made in terms of who would be present?

A: I don't really remember. I think that Fred and I (13) must have talked about it and we talked to probably Steve [14] [15] Richards. But Benton Becker was there, too.

I mean the three of us kind of each representing (16)

Young Brothers on one side and NPF on the other said, okay, who needs to be at this? And you had that core group and then, you know, Mr. Young brought Mrs. Young and his sons

and so it was all-

Q: You may have stated, I did not write down the [21] list, I will confess. Was Fred Volcansek at the dinner? [22] [23]

A: Yes

Q: And while you were at General Electric, did you 1241 (25) have any business dealings with Mr. Young with his

Page 152

Page 153

[1] connections at Pratt & Whitney?

A: You are devious. No. He sold a lot of engines over there, we probably

should have.

2: Prior to that dinner meeting, which I think you believed took piace sometime in late July of 1994, do you (67 recall having conversations with each of the individuals M (8) who-

A: If you turned around and said, Denning, I got to not have it and said it was July 25th, it could have been 30 day, late July, late August. Somewhere in that.

Q: I think you are right. I think it is probably [12]

that last week of July. I mean it might have been the 28th, [13] [14] 29th, 27th somewhere in that area. I was wondering but [15] between the time you had that, I guess I will call it an expression of interest from Mr. Young that got filtered back through either Steve Richards or Dick Richards to Fred Volcansek to you, do you recall having conversations with others at the National Policy Forum about the topic of the loan guarantee from Young Brothers Development? (20) A: Not only don't I recall, I don't, I would doubt

that I had had any. (22) Q: Do you recall having any conversations in that period with Haley Barbour or one of his lieutenants or

resi delegates about the interest of Young Brothers Development?

Page 158

Page 155

A: Not specifically. And, you know, we were (2) proceeding. So, it was-

Q: Did you take part in any briefing of Mr. Barbour prior to that dinner meeting in late July of 1994 to prepare him for what topics might be discussed and possible responses he might want to give? [8]

A: Not that I remember specifically. But Fred and I could have gone over there and briefed him, I just don't

remember it. 9 Q: Was it your practice when briefing Mr. Barbour to

[11] provide him with written materials or is he the kind of person where if you explained something orally it sinks in 112 rather quickly? [13]

A: Both are true. It really was dependent upon his is schedule. You know, if he was travelling you might give him a decision memo or a briefing paper. If he was in town and you could set up an meeting a lot of times it was just verbal. That one I suspect, I don't remember anything in [18] (19)

writing.
MR. FRENKEL: Mr. Spaeder, just in case there was [21] anything in writing, I understand your position which we have talked about twice on the record, if there is writing [23] that Mr. Denning has in his possession, custody and control,

[24] relating to any briefing materials he provided to Mr.

[25] Barbour in connection with that meeting, I would request on

[2]

Page 157

Page 160



in behalf of the minority that that be produced to the

[2] committee counsel. MR. SPAEDER: I'm not aware of any but I will take [3] the request under advisement.

MR. FRENKEL: Thank you, sir.

[6] Off the record.

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[Discussion off the record.] [7]

[8] MR. FRENKEL: Back on the record.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Can you describe that dinner meeting as best you [11] recall late July 1994?

You don't have to tell me what food was served but the substance of the conversations

A: Haley explained NPF and what it was doing. And (14) [15] tried to relate it to the issues that Mr. Young and his sons [16] had expressed an interest in, principally international [17] trade but mainly the future of the U.S./Taiwan relationship. [18] And Mr. Young talked at length about that topic, the [19] Taiwan/China relationship. The U.S., the trilateral

(50) relationship there. And expressed his views on that, Indicated an [21] [22] interest in being able to express that in some public way and Haley mentioned that we published Commonsense and maybe

[24] we could entertain an article by him on that. He really

[25] liked that idea. And it was more of a, the meeting was

Page 158

[1] really a kind of a first date. It was, you know, let's get [2] acquainted kind of a thing. I don't remember that the issue: of the guarantee was discussed or really any of that kind of [4] technical details, it was more of a social thing

Q: As far as you knew, had Mr. Barbour and Mr. Young,

Ambrous Young ever met before?

A: Not that I'm aware of. M

(a) I'm pretty sure they hadn't. Q: Did everyone at the table do their share of [9]

[10] talking or was most of the talking done by Mr. Ambrous Young

[11] and Haley Barbour, if you recall?

[12] A: Most of it was by the two principles. I mean [13] Ambrous, oriental families, he's clearly the head of it. [14] And neither Mrs. Young nor the sons did much talking. And [15] the other people on that side of the table were subordinates [16] in that organization. Haley, on our side, was the senior [17] official and my memory is the two of them had a lot of [18] interchange and the rest of us kind of, as you know, how [19] those things are.

Q: Prior to that-[20]

[21] A: It's not one that you want to put in your

[22] scrapbook and remember forever, at least, you know-it was

another one of these Washington meetings.

Q: Prior to that, let's call it late July 1994 dinner

[25] meeting at Sam and Harry's, had the National Policy Forum

Page 159

[1] focused any appreciable extent on the U.S./China/Taiwan

(2) trilateral relationship? (3) A: Boy. You're asking the wrong guy. I was making (4) the trains run on time. If you went back through

[5] Commonsense you might-or the Policy Council you might-I am (6) sure it came up but I don't know. It was a fairly hot

[7] topic. Q: Do you recall though whether a Policy Council or (8)

(9) any sub-council, if there were such things, had addressed [10] that particular topic?

A: I don't know. [11] Q: What, if anything, happened following that late [13] July dinner meeting at Sam and Harry's? Were any, I guess,

[14] maybe one way of asking that is were there any agreements or [15] discussions about next steps following that dinner meeting?

A: At some point, I was informed, I think through [17] Fred that they were willing to proceed if we were. And [18] shortly after that we brought the lawyers into it, and (19) contacted Signet Bank and that began a series of meetings [20] and discussions and negotiations that culminated in trud-

[21] October. Q: Either at the July 1994 dinner meeting or before, [23] was there any discussion that you were aware of intended to [24] reach Mr. Young or people acting on his behalf that the work 25) of the National Policy Forum would be important to possible [1] Republican success in the mid-term 1994 elections?

A: Not that I'm aware of.

Q: Was there any discussion that would have been intended to reach Mr. Young or people acting on his behalf that the loan guarantee to the National Policy Forum would by free-up money that the RNC could use in its effort to gain

additional Congressional seats in the November 1994 isi election?

A: What's the front part of that?

Q: Whether there was any discussion or communication (101 [11] that as far as you knew was intended to reach Mr. Young or (12) people acting no his behalf?

MR. PERRY: Let me just note that the term, "Free-[13] (14) up" is problematic but please continue.

THE WITNESS: That came up but Fred and I, I

(in believe talked about that as one of the reasons the RNC was 117] anxious that the note be repaid. Because they had other

[14] uses for the money. It, frankly, was not a factor as far as (19) I was concerned. You know, I was interested in trying to

120 keep NPF funded and to the extent that this furthered that, was the incentive I had. [51]

Fred may have used that though as kind of-and

[23] here's another reason we hoped Young Brothers would help us. you know, would guarantee this note. It was not, however,

(25) the primary mover in any of this.

Page 161

BY MA. FRENKEL:

Q: It was your understanding that whatever conversations you had had with Mr. Volcansek on the subject about additional funds being made available to the RNC because of the NPF being able to repay monies to them took place prior to that dinner meeting in July of 1994?

A: Did that happen prior to that dinner meeting?

Q: Yes, siz. (8)

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A: I have no clue about that.

[10] And one other thing, bear in mind, please, that was money that was borrowed and had to be repaid. It wasn't (12) extra cash into a system. It was money that was, at least

[13] my impression is that it was money that had been budgeted (14) for other purposes all along that had been-I hate the word,

[15] siphon, but it had been put into, unexpectedly into NPE Q: I don't want to hold you to a-I know you are not [17] a lawyer-I don't want to hold you to a legal term or (in anything, but did you have any understanding during this

1191 period where you were attempting to get the loan guarantee [20] from Young Brothers Development that there was any legal reason the RNC couldn't simply extend the due date the loans

(22) were due to be repaid by the NPF to the RNC! A: Not that I'm aware of. Except, let me just add to

[24] your question. My own incentive was to stop going through [25] that pain every two weeks and get them off my back. I was

Page 162

[1] trying to run and organization and I had enough problems [2] without having to go justify a loan every two weeks.

Have you ever done that? It's not fun.

Q: You testified sort of in summary form about what (5) happened after that July 1994 dinner meeting, I am just wondering again if you could go back to that time and think of what, did you have any responsibilities or were you given is any tasks to do following that meeting to help facilitate (9) the guarantee taking place?

A: Following? [10]

Q: Yes, sir, following that meeting.

51 11 A: Well, as I remember it, once the decision had been [12] made by Young Brothers, YBD, to proceed, and we were ready [14] to proceed on our side, they authorized turned on Becker and we got Braden and I think Steve Walker or I, I don't

[18] remember who called Signet, and we began those negotiations.

First, my memory is that I may have met with [18] Becker first, even before Braden got involved and before we [19] started having-we were, we had some telephone meetings. [20] conversations with officials of Signet before we-and we did [21] a lot of work between the two parties before we brought

Signet into it on a real day-to-day basis. Q: Was there any reason, in particular, that the NPF [24] or all the parties, used Signet Bank, as opposed to some [25] other bank?

A: That's just-not that I'm aware of That's who [2] the RNC had had a relationship with. When NPF was incorporated or set up that's who the relationship was established with so, it was natural and they were our [5] banker. So, it was, that's who we turned to.

MR. SPAEDER: By, "our banker" do you mean NPF's 7 banker?

THE WITNESS: NPF's banker.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: And were you essentially the point person at the [10] [11] NPF once the tentative decision had been made on all sides [12] to go forward with the guarantee from Young Brothers Development to NPF? [131

Were you essentially the point person for NPF to [14] [15] see that process through until the documents were signed?

A: Yes.

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1161 Q: And you need to give or were you asked to give [17] progress reports to anyone during the period once you, let's [18] call it, once you became the point person until the loan [19] documents were actually signed on October 13, 1994? [20]

A: Only in the sense that every time I trooped back over there for the two week loan-

Q: Over there meaning the RNC?

A: Right, for those weekly meetings with Reed, you know, there was, he did say how is it going? And I would

Page 164

[1] tell him.

Q: And can you describe a little bit the process of (21 how you developed the tentative agreement that Young [3] Brothers Development would guarantee the loan to getting to the process where the documents were signed 151

A: Ask the lawyers. I didn't concern myself with [7] that stuff. I was paying them a lot of money to worry about

(8) Uhis. (9)

Just call me when it's ready to sign. Q: If you can recall, I guess sort of what was your [11] involvement in terms of either dealing with Mr. Becker or in

[12] deciding what should be handled by the lawyers and what you (13) and Mr. Becker would work. I trust that Mr. Becker was [14] basically the point person for Young Brothers Development?

A: Yes, right. (15) [16] He and I had a number of discussions and by that I [17] mean maybe a half a dozen or even fewer two or three in [18] person and two or three on the phone, maybe, where he had a [19] number of questions about NPF's financial condition, how much exactly did we owe the RNC, what did we anticipate [20] owing the RNC at that point in time when we hoped to close izzi the guarantee. What did rundraising look like? How did we expect to repay this? He was very concerned on behalf of [23]

|24| his client that this note was going to be repaid. |25| This was not to be some-I mean he was really

Page 165

ii) doing his due diligence on this thing and that was the purpose, I think, of his conversations and meetings with me. Once he got past that point, and the broad outlines of it H had been shaped, it was turned over to-he, for them and [4] Baker and Hostetler for us, and Signet because they laid in their own set of requirements, and that then resulted in the 161 рарег. [7]

Q: Do you recall during this negotiation process, did you have to make certain decisions along the way where your [10] lawyers or Signet said, okay, we can do it, you know, one [11] way or another way or, you know, something where here are [12] some proposed language and can you live with this-things, I [13] mean without being limited to that. But where you sort of [14] had to be called in to make some sort of decision to have

(15) the process go forward?

A: I don't remember any specifics but I do remember [17] that Braden and I would be on the phone from time to time and there would be draft documents that he would have me 1187 (19) look at but I don't remember a specific question that he [20] raised.

MR. FRENKEL: Off the record for a moment. [21]

(Recess.) [22]

MR. FRENKEL: Back on the record. [23] [24]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Mr. Denning, did there come a time following that

[1] July 1994 dinner meeting where a written proposal was put [2] together to present to Mr. Young?

A: Yes. Q: Do you recall when that proposal was prepared? [4]

A: It was-As far as I remember, it was prepared during September and October, leading up to the actual [6] consummation of the transaction in mid-October. 77

Q: Did you have any role in working on that document

[9] that was submitted to Mr. Young?

A: Only ancillary, It was primarily a mixture of-It 1101 [11] was primarily the work of Baker and Hostetler, with Signet [12] Bank's input and with Becker's input And Braden would (13) check with me from time to time on particular items. I [14] don't recall at this point a particular one, but I do

[15] remember getting phone calls from him. Q: Also, maybe my question was unclear. Right now [18]

[17] I'm not referring to drafts of the actual loan guaranty documents or, you know, the transactional documents, but iust a more concrete proposal to Mr. Young about what it is [20] that the NPF wanted from him and why it wanted it from him;

[21] not so much embodied in drafts of the loan documents.

A: You lost me.

Q: Sure, I'll try and restate that, I may have (23)

[24] misunderstood your answer. But the way I understood your

[25] previous answer was more of a reference to drafts of-

Page 167

A: Right.

Q: -documents surrounding the actual signing of the loan guaranty. And what I was referring to was not so much those documents, but really any kind of document that had [5] been prepared for Mr. Young or his associates' use in having them think more about going forward with the loan guaranty.

A: There could have been, but I don't recall a specific-1 suppose there was, but I don't recall a specific 191 document or instance.

MR. FRENKEL: I will mark a document, a two-page 1101 [11] document, as Denning Exhibit I, and provide copies to Mr.

Perry and to Mr. Spaeder.

[Denning Deposition Exhibit

[14] No. 1 was marked for

[15] identification.]

MR. FRENKEL: For the record, the document has a Bates range of 28 through 29. The heading is "National [17]

[18] Policy Forum Proposal for Ambrous Young, Monday, August 15.

[19] [20]

(21)

[22]

(23)

[25]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Take as much time as you need to review the

You have now had an opportunity to review the

document? [24]

A: Yes, I have.

Page 158

Q: To your knowledge, have you ever seen this (2) document before, or some draft of this document?

A: It looks familiar. I probably saw a draft, or at least discussed it. I don't remember this specific-this particular document.

Q: Do you have any recollection of whether-A: I'm sorry. I don't know if I'm reacting to the

concepts here, or, you know, the actual words, but-I'm SOLLA 181

Q: That's okay. Do you have any recollection whether (101 [11] either the concepts or the words embodied in Denning Exhibit [12] I were prepared for the use of Mr. Ambrous Young on or [13] around the date of the document, August 15, 1994?

A: I don't have a specific recollection. I mean, I

[15] take it for what it appears to be.
[16] MR. SPAEDER: Well, he wants you to testify, as

best you recall, whether you've seen the document before. There may be others who saw it and you did not. What's your (18) best recollection concerning Denning 1? Have you seen it [19]

before today (20) THE WITNESS: I may have. That's the best I can

[21]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: If you were not involved in the preparation of [25] Denning Exhibit I, who do you believe would have been

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(23)

Page 174

Deposition of Daniel B. Denning Tune 30, 1997

[1] involved in writing up the information here?

A: This looks, it appears to me-Denning 1 appears to me to be the product of maybe a Volcansek-Richards (4) collaboration, maybe with some input from me.

Q: What leads you to believe that Mr. Volcansek and (6) Mr. Richards may have collaborated on producing Denning Exhibit 1, and thereby producing-And I don't mean the actual act of producing the document to the committee, but 181 drafting the words?

A: Well, I meant my recollection is that they FICE [11] collaborated in producing some of the early documents that went to Young, went to YBD, and that this is one of those. 1121

Q: When you mention Mr. Richards, do you have a [13] recollection whether it's Dick or Richard Richards, or whether it's Steve Richards? 1151

A: Steve Richards, I believe.

[16] Q: Do you have any sense of who else within the NPF [18] might have seen Denning Exhibit I before it was sent to Mr. [19] Young, if it was sent to him?

A: I doubt if anyone other than myself-If I saw it, (211 I doubt anybody else would have.

Q: Do you have any sense or any understanding whether 1231 Haley Barbour or one of his lieutenants or delegates would [24] have needed to have seen the Denning Exhibit 1 before it

[25] would have been sent to Mr. Young?

A: I don't know. I doubt it. Q: Why do you doubt it?

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· A: Well, as I said, the concepts had been kind of [4] established at that dinner meeting at Sam and Harry's, and [5] this was simply, I think, a follow-up to that. It's kind of [6] a backgrounder. And as I said-I think it was a follow-up to that meeting and, you know, they must have wanted something in writing, and this is what Fred and, I guess, Steve produced. 191

But I want to stress, I don't know the origin of [10] [11] this. You asked me to speculate on my best guess, and [12] that's my best guess. I recognize some of the concepts [13] here. These words are familiar. That's the best I can do.

Q: Thank you. Turning to the first paragraph of (15) Denning I-I'll try not to read all the words. And [16] obviously, if Mr. Spaeder or Mr. Perry think I'm being unfair in a characterization, I have no doubt that either [18] will provide the full text or the context of the text.

[19] The phrase I'm interested in was starting at the [20] end of the first sentence there of the first paragraph, [21] "Haley Barbour believed that an independent center for the [22] exchange of ideas was needed to serve as a foundation to [23] reach out to the people of America as a result of the loss [24] of the 1992 presidential campaign. The NPF was established

[25] by Chairman Barbour to accomplish this task." That's the

(i) end of the language.

Does that paragraph refresh your recollection in [3] any way as to whether one goal of the NPF was to enable Republican candidates for federal offices to win election?

MR. PERRY: I'm a little confused with that (6) question. If you don't mind, could I have that one read back so I can hear it?

The reporter read back the requested portion of

the record. [10] THE WITNESS: Absolutely not. The purpose of NPF (11) is exactly what it says in that paragraph. And I don't read (12) that paragraph as at all related to election, to the '92 113) election campaign-or, I'm sorry, to the '94 election [14] campaign. It was to do what it says there, to come up with [15] ideas, policy-period.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Was any purpose of the National Policy Forum to facilitate the Republican Party in its effort to win the [18] White House in 1996? (19)

A: Absolutely not.

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[17]

[20]

Q: Moving down to the fourth paragraph of Denning Exhibit 1, it says, "[Chairman Barbour] believes that-" in the second sentence of the fourth paragraph of Denning 1 "-believes that a committee to study these issues-" those [25] issues are U.S., China, and the Far East "-would best fit

Page 169

Page 172 m within the framework of either one policy council or another 12) policy council" that's identified in paragraph four of

Denning Exhibit 1.

ls it fair to say that the issues of the United States. China, and the Far East were not already being considered within an existing policy council of the National

A: No. I don't think it is fair. It would be fair to

say that those issues were within the competence of one or for both of those policy councils, but it's not accurate to say [11] that those issues were being actively considered. There

were other priorities that had engaged those two groups, and (13) I don't know the particular thing that the Young family was [14] concerned with-i.e., the U.S.-Taiwan-China relationship was

(15) very high on those priority lists. Certainly not the first tiet one, and I don't remember it being on the hit parade of the

(17) U.S. leadership policy council, either. Q: I think it's clear from your answer, but I may [19] have gotten confused in the beginning. Is it your testimony 120 that U.S., China, and Far East issues were being covered by

(21) the two policy councils, or they were not really a subject of the study of the two existing policy councils?

A: Clearly, foreign policy was the charge of the U.S. [24] leadership policy council, as international trade was the est charge of the competing in the global marketplace policy

Page 170

[1] council. The particular issue of the U.S.-China-Taiwan

[2] relationship was not, to my knowledge, a focus of either. in And that is what was at issue here.

Q: Skipping down to the next-to-last paragraph of [5] Denning Exhibit 1, the document states, "What the NPF needs is from you-" "you" presumably being Mr. Ambrous Young "-is a

m three-year loan guaranty in the amount of \$3.5 million to either Chase Bank or Citibank." What do you recall about

the effort to obtain a loan for the NPF in excess of the [10] \$2.1 million which the NPF ultimately received on October

(#) 13th, 1994?

A: I'm sorry, what do I recall about-(121

G: The efforts to get a loan in excess of \$2.1 1131 [14] million.

A: I think that was discussed early on As I said [16] earlier, you know, a continuing concern of mine was (17) operating funds for the organization and the increasing difficulty of getting operating loans from the RNC. And I

believe I recall that at one point for a brief period we [20] talked about the possibility of a larger amount than was [21] owed the RNC at that point in time, in order to cover NPF's

(22) operating requirements over some period. And I don't know (23) what time period that three-and-a-half related to. But it

[24] quickly fell by the wayside, because I don't remember that (25) getting any serious discussion at all.

Page 171

[5]

Q: Do you recall whether you would have had discussions about the \$3.5 million figure with either Mr. Reed or Mr. Barbour? (3)

A: I don't recall. I really do not.

Q: Do you have any recollection as to why-

A: I suspect-Let me-I'll add for you. I think-My recollection is that that figure was invented-I'll use that

word, I guess-by us; by me, or by-in talking to Fred-as a hypothetical. It was, "If we're going to get a guaranty,

[10] let's get one that's big enough to handle all of our [11] requirements over a long period of time. Maybe it's a line

112) of credit. We don't have to draw it down all the way." [13] Something along those lines. "At least, let's get some

[14] cushion here." And I don't know that we-I don't remember

ever discussing that with Haiey or anybody else. [15] Q: The banks mentioned in here are Chase Manhattan-(15)

A: Uh-huh. (17) Q: I don't know if they were Chase Manhattan at that

[19] time or not, or Citibank, Do you have any recollection as to why those two entities were mentioned? [20] A: I remember them being mentioned but, no, I don't (21)

recall as to why. [22] Q: The second paragraph from the bottom on Denning Exhibit 1 continues, "To handle the debt repayment, the NPF 25] already has received pledges for 1995 in the amount of \$1.8

(31) Page 169 - Page 174

[2] members for a policy council committee that would study

A: Well, you know, the answer is "yes." And then

[5] you're going to ask me which ones, and I'm not going to

(6) remember. But this was not unusual. Haley would invite

practically everybody-i mean, we had 1,400 policy council

150 apiece. It was wide open. And if a donor said, "Hey, I

[10] want Tom, Dick, and Harry to serve on this council," "Sure,

[11] the next meeting's next Monday at 3:00. Show up." It was

[14] Mr. Young was very concerned and very persuasive that not

[16] standpoint by the major think tanks was being directed at

[17] the Taiwan-China issue; nor to our country's relationship to [18] that problem, if you view it as one instead of these

(21) challenge we're facing; and I guess was making the argument

And as to this Far East thing, as I said earlier,

[15] nearly enough attention in this country from a policy

119) different pieces. And he really thought-and I suppose

(22) that, You guys are distracted off onto these other things

[24] attention to this big bear of a problem." And that's what

23) that are of passing importance, when you're not paying any

record that there is another sentence in this paragraph. I

(20) still thinks-that that is the major foreign policy

members and 14 different councils, so they ranged from 80 to

[3] areas of interest to that donor?

(12) not a big deal.

(13)

Page 178 [1] potential donor to the NPF was asked to suggest potential

[1] million." Stop there. What was the purpose, as best you [2] can recall, of notifying Mr. Young about the amount of [3] pledges already received by the NPF?

A: Well, the purpose, I think, was to offer him some is assurance that NPF had the prospect of a revenue stream that was sufficient to handle, you know, its operating requirements and service the debt.

Q: Do you have any understanding as of about August 15th, 1994, of what percentage of the pledges made to the [10] NPF were actually collected by the NPF?

A: In August of '94, for '94? Is that what you're [11] (12) asking me?

Q: I guess, well, just to try to make the question [14] clear, would any pledges made prior to this document, which [15] bears a date of August 15th, 1994, would they already have [16] been collected? In other words, if I were a corporation making a pledge for June 1995, would I have typically paid

..± (1**0**} that prior to the date I made the pledge for? · · [19] A: Well, that's a real hypothetical, I mean, in the [20] sense that there's no typical to it. A corporation or any [21] donor might pledge, commit, to a certain amount, and their [22] own circumstances are going to dictate when you actually receive it. It could be at the beginning of the year. For (24) tax reasons, they might want to wait till the end. They [25] might give it to you in quarterly payments. It's all over

Page 176

25) he was interested in and was pushing here. Page 179 MR. PERRY: I'm sorry. Let me just note for the

[1] the lot. O: In your experience at the NPF, from December 1993 [2] in till on or about August 15th, 1994, was it your experience (4) that the NPF would collect in a timely manner all the [5] pledges made to the NPF by donors?

A: Yes. I think so. Typically, we would. Nobody stands out in mind.

[6]

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Q: The second-to-last paragraph of Denning Exhibit 1 191 continues, "Chairman Barbour is committed to continuing his ing fundraising efforts on behalf of the NPF's work, and fully [11] intends for the NPF to repay the loan. However, if there is [12] any default in loan payments by the NPF, he will authorize [13] the guaranty of the RNC and ask for the Republican National [14] Committee's ratification. As chairman of the RNC and the [15] NPF, he intends to be certain that neither organization [16] defaults on its obligations."

Do you have any understanding as to where the [17] information from the sentences I just read concerning [18] [19] Chairman Barbour and his intentions came from?

A: That is, I believe, language that Mr. Becker had [21] asked for He wanted a-As I said, he was very diligent in (22) his due diligence, and he asked for specifically this kind of a guaranty, and Haley agreed to it. And that was the [24] background of that language. Is that what you mean?

Q: Yes, sir. How did you come to the understanding

[2] that, in the event of a default, Mr. Barbour would authorize

(3) the guaranty of the RNC and ask for the RNC's ratification,

[1] that Mr. Barbour agreed to it? What I mean by "it" was

[4] and that, as chairman of both the RNC and the NPF he intended that neither organization would default on the

A: I was aware, I believe, from Volcansek, that

[10] Becker was insisting on such a guaranty. And I believe he

[12] saw the letter, I believe, and that was how I was-Beyond [13] that, I don't-I mean, I don't remember discussing it with

[17] Exhibit 1, which carries over, says, "In addition to the

[11] insisted on a letter from Haley to Mr. Young and YBD. And I

[14] Haley, but I remember that being an issue and he agreed to

Q: The last paragraph on the first page of Denning

[6] obligations under the loan guaranty.

Q: Yes, sir.

[15] it.

A: How did I become aware of that?

[10] [11] [12] [13] [14] [15] [16] [17]

Page 177

don't know if that's something you intend to cover, but just so we're cognizant of that. MR. FRENKEL: No, I didn't intend to, but if you [6] want to read it into the record, you're free to do so. MR. PERRY: Okay, I'll be happy to read it into (7) the record. It should be clearly understood that financial contributions or financial assistance must not dictate final

policy determinations." BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Who at the NPF was responsible for making

decisions about individuals who would serve on the various policy committees, if you know? A: Well, that, number one, varied over time. But

after I arrived-Boy, how do you answer that? We all did. As I said earlier, it wasn't a closed-There weren't a [18] finite number of spots. And I recommended people, or I made the decision to put people on policy councils. Haley would send over names. Other policy council members would say, "You know, I've got this guy. He really knows about 'X-Y-[22] Z. Let's put him on." It was wide open. Not wide open, I [23] mean-The decision was more if a name came up that, you [24] know, people knew to be a nut or something and there was [25] reason not to put them on, that was really discussed more

[1] than to put somebody on, if I'm making any sense here.

Q: Do you recall whether Scott Reed made any in suggestions about individuals to serve on a policy council where it didn't appear to you that he was just merely transmitting a request of Mr. Barbour?

A: Not that I recall.

Q: The final paragraph of Denning Exhibit 1, which is on the second page of the document, begins, 'The timing of this effort is crucial. The loan needs to be arranged and funded in the next two weeks." What's you recollection of why the loan needed to be-as this Denning Exhibit 1 states. 1111 [12] the loan needed to be arranged and funded in the two week-[13] by the end of August, 1994?

A: I think that's a real, real overstatement. And I [14] [15] think it's worded that way and inserted here more as a [16] market-you know, almost a marketing ploy to lend some [17] urgency to the decision. As I said earlier, arranging for [18] and getting loans from my traditional source, the RNC, was [19] getting increasingly difficult. This was right after publication of that preliminary report. The final report was due out, I think, in September, and that was going to be 1201 another large expenditure, and cash was a problem And we wanted to get-If we're going to do this, let's do it. If 124] not, I need to go on to other options here. I hate that

[16] creation of a committee for the 'Far East' within the NPE [19] you would be asked to suggest potential members for the committee, as well as provide your own input on the policy 1201 [21] issues. I know that your testimony has been that you made

the trains run; you weren't involved in the actual planning [24] and operation of particular policy councils. However, are 25 you aware of any other instance where a donor, or a

Page 180

[25] word now but-

MR. FRENKEL: If I were to ask you about those other options, would Mr. Spaeder pose an objection and instruct you not to answer? 131

MR. SPAEDER: I would.

[4]

[5]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: The final sentence of Denning Exhibit 1 states, (61 [7] "Senator Dole and Congressman Gingrich, who are committed to (8) the NPF, will make themselves available to express their (9) support for your participation on this project." I'm sorry, [10] I omitted from the beginning of the sentence "Chairman Barbour" before the words "Senator Dole."

Do you have any understanding of who would have [12] [13] made the representation about Senator Dole's and Congressman Gingrich's availability to express their support for Mr. [14]

[15] Young's participation in the project?

A: What are you asking me? [16] Q: Well, I suppose that Chairman Barbour can speak (17) [18] for himself about his availability to do whatever he chooses [19] to do with his time. My question is, do you have any [20] understanding as to how the information about Senator Dole's [21] and Congressman Gingrich's availability made its way into (23) the document?

A: Not specifically, but I think in this context [24] Haley would have-not would have, could have, probably did [25] say that, you know, if Mr. Young were willing to guarantee

Page 182

(1) this, that he would-he, Haley, would ask them to be 27 available to meet with Ambrous and express their appreciation. Both the Speaker and Senator Dole on numerous occasions had been involved in NPF, were aware of it, and [4] were supportive of what it was doing. [5] Q: Apart from that past experience, do you have any knowledge of whether or not Mr. Barbour in fact communicated [7] to Senators [sic] Dole and Gingrich about the type of 181

commitment set forth in the last paragraph? [10] A: I don't-Q: I'm just trying to find out the level of your [11]

(12) knowledge, because I heard "would have," "could have," and [13] "should have."

(9)

[14] A: They were not aware at all, as far as I know, [15] about this issue or where we were at this point in time, or jig as far as I know, until much later, if then, that they were [17] aware of it.

[18] Q: At any time following the date on Denning Exhibit [19] 1, which is August 15, 1994, are you aware of any other [20] instance where Senator Dole, who then subsequently became [21] the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, and Congressman Gingrich, who became the Speaker of the House of (23) Representatives, met with or agreed to speak with donors to

[24] the NPF? A: I believe-I could be wrong, but I think both of

Page 183

[1] them spoke with supporters, staff, donors, on more than one [2] occasion prior to this.

Q: Prior to this, or after this? A: Prior to. Possibly after, as well.

[4] Q: I guess my question is more on the after, if [5] [6] you're aware of any time after August 15th-

A: No.

[7] Q: -1994, where the Majority Leader of the Senate 191 and the Speaker of the House met on a more individual basis (10) in a small group or one-on-one basis with any donor to the [11] NPF, or proposed donor to the NPF?

A: I don't recall. [12]

[13] MR. FRENKEL: Let's mark the next document as [14] Denning 2.

[Denning Deposition Exhibit [15]

[16] No. 2 was marked for identification.]

[17]

[18] BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Denning Exhibit 2 has previously been used as [19] [20] Becker Exhibit 16, and it bears that indicator on the [21] document. It's a one-page document on the letterhead of [22] Frederick W. Volcansek, dated Monday, August 29, 1994, and [23] it's addressed to Don Fierce and Mr. Dan Denning

A: You're are losing me about halfway down here on Number 3. Do you know what the words are?

Q: Yes, I'm sorry, I apologize for the quality of it. [2] but that's how we have it, too. Where do you want me to

[3]

A: "A white paper would be drafted by Becker which [4] would lay out the-

[5] Q: "Which would lay out the-" more or less "-

concepts for the issues which we discussed Saturday m [8] evening." Then "A is-Can we go off the record on this?

MR. SPAEDER: Yes.

[10] [Discussion off the record.] Denning Deposition Exhibit 77 13

[12] No. 3 was marked for

[13] identification.]

[14] MR. FRENKEL: While we were off the record, we

[15] also marked as Denning Exhibit 3 a one-page document that (16) had been previously marked as Becker Exhibit 17, also on Mr.

1177 Volcansek's letterhead, bearing the same date, August 29

[18] 1994, addressed to the same individuals, Don Fierce and Dan

[19] Denning.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[20] [21] Q: Just as a preliminary matter for both Denning Exhibits 2 and 3, is that the same Frederick W. Volcansek [22] about whom you've been testifying at various points today? 1231 1241

A: It is.

Q: Do you recall receiving-Let's begin with Denning

Page 185

Page 184

[1] 2. Do you recall receiving Denning Exhibit 2? A: Not specifically, but I believe I did. It's [2]

familiar. [3]

[25]

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[4] Q: In the first sentence of item number one on Denning Exhibit 2, where it states, "I was told by Steve [5]

Richards last night that Ambrous was pleased by our dinner meeting. He is looking forward to receiving the white paper M on how all this works by FedEx tomorrow morning in San [9] Francisco '

A: Uh-huh.

[10] Q: The dinner meeting referred to, is that the dinner [11] meeting that you testified to earlier this afternoon which you think may or may not have been late July 1994? [13]

A: 'That's right. It appears it was late August of

'94. [15] [16] Q: Do you think it was the-Is it possible it was the Saturday preceding this Monday-

A: Exactly Q: -August 29, 1994, date on Denning Exhibit 2?

A: Uh-huh.

Q: You have to say "yes." [21]

A: Yes.

Q: Thank you. Do you know what white paper Mr.

Volcansek is referring to towards the end of item number one [25] in Denning Exhibit 2?

Page 186

A: I seem to remember that Ambrous Young asked-[2] either Ambrous Young or Becker asked for a white paper kind

of laying out the concepts. And by that, I mean, you know, the concept of a guaranty, how it might work, and some of these other things that he and Haley had talked about during

[5] that dinner meeting. Some of this I'm unaware of or I'd

171 forgotten about until I'd read it here.

Q: Did you have any role, or were you intended to [8] have any role in the writing or preparation of the white paper to be given to Mr. Young or his associates? 1101

A: I'm sure I had input in it. I remember discussing f1 11 it with Volcansek, but I think Fred put it together, working 1121

really more with Steve Richards. 1131 Q: Do you have any recollections as you sit here now of what the white paper to Mr. Young referred to in Denning [15] Exhibit 2 might have included? [16]

A: I think most of what Fred's captured here. [17]

Q: Here on Denning Exhibit 2?

[18] A: That's right. I don't know that it ultimately (19 included all these points, or it may have included others. [20] But I think in the main, it's here. [21]

Q: Moving to item two of Denning Exhibit 2, it says, (22)"Haley did an excellent job. The idea of a separate [23] personal letter to Ambrous from Haley is also excellent."

[25] Do you recall any discussion at the dinner meeting about a

(33) Page 181 - Page 186

## CONFIDENTIAL

[4] personal letter from Mr. Barbour to Mr. Young? A: No, not really. I mean, it sounds familiar, but I

don't recall, you know, anything about it. [3] Q: Moving on to the subpoints under item two on

Denning Exhibit 2, sub "A" states-Well, I guess it seems to in be referring to the separate letter from Mr. Barbour to Mr. 77 Young.

A: Uh-huh. 181

Q: It would incorporate Haley's offer to have Ambrous [10] contribute an article to "Commonsense" for the March 1995 [11] issue. Do you recall that? Do you recall Mr. Barbour's offer to Mr. Young about submitting an article to

"Commonsense" taking place at that August dinner meeting? [13] A: Yes. [14]

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[10] [11]

Q: And it's essentially what you testified to earlier [15] (15) this afternoon, correct?

A: That's right.

1177 Q: Subpoint "B" states that the letter would remind [18] (19) Ambrous that Haley would like for Ambrous to attend the 🚉 1201 political leaders conference in Seoul, Korea, in September [21] of 1995. Do you remember any discussion of that issue, [22] meaning Mr. Young and Mr. Barbour attending the political [23] leaders conference in Seoul, Korea, in September '95? Do 2 [24] you remember a discussion of that topic at the August '94 (25) dinner?

A: I believe Haley mentioned to Mr. Young that he

would be attending that conference, and expressed an py interest in having Mr. Young come along.

Q: Would Mr. Barbour's invitation to Mr. Young come [5] along the scene as a social or political or business advantage to Mr. Young in Asian-I guess more specifically, (6) [7]

A: I have no idea. 

MR. PERRY: I'm going to-I'm sorry. Go ahead.

THE WITNESS: I don't know.

MR. SPAEDER: You're happy with that, right? BY MR. FRENKEL:

[12] [13] Q: Do you have any understanding as to why Mr. [14] Barbour made an offer of invitation to Mr. Young to attend the conference on Seoul, Korea in September 1995?

A: Well, I'd be glad to speculate. I can't walk into [17] Haley's mind.

Q: Sure. What is your speculation?

A: He is trying to sell him. This is marketing, you [:9] [20] know. He's not going to-give me the 2 million and get the [21] hell out of here.

Q: Would it be your understanding that it would be to [23] some advantage to Mr. Young to be seen to be a confidante of [24] Mr. Barbour?

MR. PERRY: Okay. There, I'm going to say that I

Page 189

(1) think the question is not fair. You are asking him to get [2] into Mr. Young's head.

BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Can you answer the question, sir?

A: I can't.

[5] Q: Moving on to the next subpoint, suggest that Haley would like to look to Ambrous as a key advisor in (8) trade-related and political issues in the Far East. Do you recall whether that discussion took place at all during the [10] dinner?

A: I don't believe it did, and I think its inclusion [12] here is, you know, these are ideas that Volcansek had of, (13) you know, ways Haley could induce Ambrous to agree to the [14] guarantee

Q: Moving down to the next item on Denning Exhibit 2, [15] [16] mention the Team 100 trip to the Far East and offer to have [17] him, meaning Mr. Young, participate in a meaningful way, [18] maybe some specifics. Did you have an understanding as to what Team 100 was? [19]

A: Very generally. As I said earlier, we had a brick [21] wall between the fund-raising operation at NPF and the policy operation. Similarly, we had a brick wall between the RNC financial operation at NPF, and I was aware that [24] this Team 100 group existed. I was told by somebody that it [25] was planning this trip to the Far East. That's about the

(1) extent of it.

Page 190

Q: Do you recall any discussion of the Team 100 trip (3) to the Far East at the dinner with Mr. Young in August 1994?

A: No. Haley may have mentioned it, but it was

[5] almost in passing, and it was not-I was at the other end of (s) the room.

MR. SPAEDER: Let me ask the witness, you should [8] answer his question to the best of your knowledge, but unless you wanted to be invited to the festivities in the (10) big room on TV-

THE WITNESS: No, thank you.

MR. SPAEDER: -you ought to make sure that what 1121 [13] you say is something you really do remember, not something which you may have assumed happened.

He's entitled to know what you know, but don't (15) [16] mislead him by saying what happened and you are simply

(17) guessing or presuming-(10) THE WITNESS: Fair enough.

[19] MR. SPAEDER: -because we'll all pay for that (20) experience.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Not to supplant Mr. Spaeder in any way, but if you [22] [23] are guessing or speculating in any way, please just say that (Rej this is your guess or speculation, that you don't know that 25 to be a fact.

Page 188

A: Okay, thank you.

Page 191

Page 192

Q: Then, the final item under sub 2, was mentioned [3] Haley's desire to meet Steve Young personally when he comes for the Team 100 meeting in September, would be your

in understanding of this would be more of a kind of a marketing inducement to Mr. Young

MR. PERRY: That is Mr. Steve Young, right, his 7

(8)

11191

[21]

MR. FRENKEL: Yes, but the question is whether it would be another sort of marketing inducement to Mr. Ambrous [19] Young to participate in the loan knowing that Mr. Barbour would meet his son Steve. [12]

MR. PERRY: And you are asking if when Volcansek 1131 wrote it, it was intended in that fashion? I'm sorry. I'm [14] [15] just trying to understand.

MR. FRENKEL: I believe the question is whether [16] Mr. Denning's understanding of what that inclusion in [18] Denning Exhibit 2 means.

THE WITNESS: I don't know what was in Fred's mind 120 here. I mean, that's what it appears to be.

BY MR. FRENKEL: [21]

Q: I just want to ask you about the last sentence [22] [23] under the last item under Denning Exhibit 2, and I am [24] referring now to paragraph 3F. It is probably easier to [25] read that as paragraph 2F under Denning Exhibit 3, but

[1] whichever one you prefer to us, that's fine.

It says emphasize the need to move both policy and political issues on separate, but simultaneous paths. Do you have any recollection, first of all, as to what that (5) means?

A: Not a clue, I don't know. It doesn't even make any sense here.

Q: Do you have any recollection as to whether a conversation was had at the August 1994 dinner about moving in policy issues and political issues in any sort of separate

[11] A: No, but if I could speculate, I think that's a-l [13] think that's a poor choice of language. I think what he's

[14] talking about is the need to move the transaction issues and [15] this kind of marketing stuff on separate, but simultaneous [16] paths; in other words, move ahead on-if you want to publish 117] an article on the China-Taiwan thing in Commonsense, we'll (18) be glad to take a look at that, and it's got a path, and all these other things got paths, but let's not hold up the

transaction because that's a straight business deal. 1201

G: Thank you. MR. FRENKEL: Mark the next document as Denning (22) [23]

For the record, Denning Exhibit 4 is, yet, another document Mr. Volcansek appeared to have created on Monday,

Miller Reporting Company, Inc.

Page 196

Special Investigation

[1] August 29, 1994. It's time-marked urgent, and it was previously used as Becker Exhibit 18. The addressees of

this memorandum are Don Fierce, and hand-written in is Ms.

Denning's name.

[Denning Deposition Exhibit 151

No. 4 marked for identification.)

D [Witness perusing document.]

MR. SPAEDER: Is there a pending question? 191 [10]

MR. FRENKEL: There is no question. As far as I [11] know right now, he is just reviewing the document.

THE WITNESS: Okay.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Do you recall receiving this document-

[14] (15)

[12] [13]

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Q: -which is Denning Exhibit 4? [16]

[17] Do you recognize the handwriting which has put

your name in and then the check mark on the right-hand side

(19) of your name on Denning Exhibit 4?

20 A: I don't recognize it, no.

[21] . Q: Are you familiar with Mr. Volcansek's handwriting?

A: Not really I mean, I don't-it's not something I [22]

[23] pay attention to. It could be his. Q: Does the check mark to the right of your name

[25] appear to be your check mark? Is that how you would make

Page 194

[1] one?

A: No, that's not mine. [2] Q: I just want to ask, on the-

[3]

A: I'm not that neat.

Q: On the second paragraph of Denning Exhibit 4, it (5) [6]

says I, meaning Mr. Volcansek, delivered a copy of the Don [7]

Wood letter to Haley's press secretary. Do you know what is

meant by that, the Don Wood letter? Does that have any 191 relation to the loan guarantee by Young Brothers

no Development?

A: Yeah, I do. [11]

THE WITNESS: Do you want me to get into this, [12]

Counsclor? [13]

[14]

[22]

[1]

(2)

[15]

(16)

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Why don't I ask, what was the Don Wood letter, as [15]

(18) best you recall today?

[17] MR. SPAEDER: Let me confer with the client so I

have some idea if we are talking on the same channel here. 1:81

MR. FRENKEL: Sure. [19]

[Witness conferring with counsel.] (201

[21] MR. FRENKEL: Back on the record. BY MR. FRENKEL:

[23] Q: Mr. Denning, we paused around a question about the

[24] Don Wood letter mentioned in the second paragraph of Denning

[25] Exhibit 4. Do you recall what the Don Wood letter is?

Page 195

A: I do not

Q: Do you have-A: I remember-I remember delivering-not me

(4) delivering. I remember a reference-somebody delivering a

letter to Haley, and they had to go to ABC to do it. That's

all I recall.

Q: Do you know who Don Wood is? 77

A: Yes.

Q: Who is Mr. Wood?

A: He's a businessman, I believe, in Utah. It could

[11] be Arizona, Arizona or Utah, one of those square States.

Q: Do you have any understanding about whether Mr. [12]

[13] Wood's letter was related in any way to the loan brothers

[14] guarantee?

A: It was not.

Q: My question was the loan brothers guarantee. I

[17] mean to say Young Brothers guarantee.

The second sentence of that second paragraph on [18]

Denning Exhibit 4 says, Saturday night, I, meaning Mr. [19]

Volcansek, understood from Haley that he would do a draft of [21] the white paper, and then we, apparently you and Mr. Fierce

[22] and Mr. Volcansek, would do our edits and additions before

[23] I. Mr. Volcansek, get it to Benton Becker. Does this

[24] refresh your recollection in any way as to whether Mr.

[25] Barbour was going to be personally involved in drafting the

(i) white paper to Mr. Young?

A: Evidently, he was.

Q: Do you have any independent recollection of that

other than-

A: No, I do not.

(5) Q: Do you recall whether you were presented a draft [6]

of a white paper in which you reviewed before Mr. Volcansek

transmitted it to Benton Becker?

A: Again, I don't clearly recall.

[10] I'm sorry. Can I ask a question here? When I

[11] read something like this, you know, I'm prepared to believe

[12] I did see it and maybe even edited it, but I don't recall

(13) that.

[14]

Q: That's fine.

(151 A: That's the trouble I'm having with this. I did

[16] not concern myself with a lot of these kind of details. I

iust didn't. [17]

Q: Who do you recall from the NPF was involved in the [16] detail work about bringing the loan guarantee to completion 1191

or to being assigned?

A: Well, see, that's what's maybe confusing, as I 1211

was, but Fred undertook to be the liaison, kind of, between [23] us and YBD, and he undertook to do a lot of this kind of

[24] work, subject to our overall guidance, and that's why I, you

know, I guess, kind of delegated that kind of thing.

Page 197

Page 198

Q: The final paragraph says, "Because time is of the

(2) essence..."-I am saying that I am skipping the words

[3] there-"... I am available as soon as you call me to get this

[4] going." Again, did you have any understanding at the [5] time-this is the end of August 1994-that time was of the

A: No. I think this is more marketing. I mean, we

wanted to complete the transaction as soon as possible, but

other than that-(91

Q: Did you have any deadline in mind, and you meaning [01] [11] the NPF have any deadline in mind by sort of a drop-dead

(12) date by which if the monies or the funds were not received,

[13] it wasn't beneficial to the NPF to go forward with the loan [14] guarantee?

(15) Q: Just the last words on the page in Denning Exhibit [161

4, which is, "I am available as soon as you call me to get [17] [18] this going," did you have a sense of what it was, either you

[19] or Mr. Fierce, separately, in combination, was supposed to

[21] A: Well, I think it refers to-again, I'm kind of

[22] speculating. I think it refers to, the next step was to

(23) produce the white paper, and I think that's what he's referring to. Evidently, Haley was going to do a draft.

[25] We'd do a cut on it and turn it over to Fred for final, and

[1] he would get it out.

Q: Do you have any understanding as to whether Mr. Volcansek was to receive any kind of commission for

arranging this guarantee by Young Brothers Development?

A: He was not.

Q: Was Mr. Volcansek to receive any payment over and above the normal payment he was getting under the contract (7)

that you testified-

A: He was not-(8)

Q: -to earlier for-[10]

A: What I-[11]

Q: Hold on one second. Let me just finish my [12] question.-for helping to arrange the loan guarantee by

(13)

Young Brothers Development? (15)

A: I don't recall, and I don't believe I testified earlies. [16]

The arrangement I recall was entered into after this transaction and had more to do with prospective [18]

fund-raising rather than this event. He was not compensated

(20) for his role in this transaction, save 2-he asked for and I believe received a pair of Presidential cufflinks from [[21] Haley. That was it.

25] the Bates Nos. 42 and 43. It is a letter dated August 30,

[22] MA. FRENKEL: Mark the next document as Denning 5. Denning Exhibit 5 is a two-paged document bearing [24]

(35) Page 193 - Page 198

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Special Investigation

Page 202 Page 199 [1] 1994 to Ambrous Young from Haley Barbour and signed by Mr. (1) financial situation and prospects, that kind of thing [2] Barbour on the letterhead of the Republican National Q: Who asked you to put that information together, if pj Committee. you recall? [Denning Deposition Exhibit A: Well, I don't recall. I think it was one of [4] is No. 5 marked for the-you know, it was on the to-do list after the dinner [8] identification.] meeting of things we had to get together to answer the [6] [7] (Witness perusing document.) questions, and it was-I don't recall. BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Following that dinner meeting, was there any [8] Q: In the upper right-hand corner of the first page follow-up meeting either on site or in some other location where the individuals in the National Policy Forum and [10] of Denning Exhibit 5, there is a mark, "received," Young Brothers Development Company, Limited, September 2, 1994. [11] perhaps Mr. Volcansek gathered to figure out what had to be 1113 Mr. Denning, do you recall ever seeing a copy of (12) done next following the meeting? [13] what's been marked as Denning Exhibit 5? A: Again, I don't specifically recall. I know and 1132 believe Fred and I had a number of conversations, possibly [14] A: No, I don't. [14] Q: The first line of the letter refers to the [15] meetings about what had to be produced, and I, in turn, 1151 [16] Saturday night dinner in Washington. Is that your tasked my controller to put together the financial data that 117 understanding that that is the same Sam & Harry's dinner was required. (17) [18] you've testified to earlier this afternoon? Q: That was Steve Walker? [18] A: Steve Walker. He was the only other NPF employee, [19] I believe, that was involved, possibly Guesnier for Q: In the second paragraph, Mr. Barbour refers to 1201 1201 taking Mr. Young's son, Steve, to a dinner for Senator Dole, [21] where Senator Dole would have been appearing. Do you know Q: You used the phrase "to-do list," and sometimes (22) anything about that dinner? that's just sort of a reference to yourself about things 1231 [24] that need to be done as opposed to any sort of document that 1241 [25] was created. Are you aware of any document that was MR. PERRY: Let me just note that, I understand it [25] Page 200 Page 203 (i) created, then circulated-[1] says "Steve" there. It doesn't have a last name. I presume [2] you're talking about Steve Young when you said that? A: No. MR. FRENKEL: Yes. That's what I assumed it to Q: -that was the equivalent of a to-do list? (3) [3] A: No, other than this kind of thing. (4) be, and not the Forty-Niners quarterback. [4] MR. PERRY: Yes, but there is also a Steve Q: And you're referring to the exhibits we've looked (e) at to date? Richards we have talked about. I'm not sure what. I posit, 173 there is a potential for ambiguity there. A: Yeah, the Exhibit 4, Exhibit No. 3. m MR. SPAEDER: Mr. Denning, let me just make sure I MR. FRENKEL: Mark this as Denning 6, please. 191 understand what you are telling counsel. You do not recall Denning Exhibit 6 has been previously marked as seeing this document; is that correct? Becker Exhibit 19. It bears the date August 30, 1994, under [10] THE WITNESS: I do not recall, yeah. I could [11] the letterhead of the National Policy Forum. It is a letter [11] to Ambrous Young from Haley Barbour, with Mr. Barbour's (12) have. I just don't recall seeing it. MR. SPAEDER: So your testimony about [13] signature, and an enclosure. Then, there is a two-paged 1131 [14] enclosure with the heading on the first page of the interpretations forwarded to paragraphs in this document enclosure, "The National Policy Forum." (151 represents your opinion about what the events may refer to rather than your personal knowledge? [Denning Deposition Exhibit [16] 1151 THE WITNESS: That's right, at least so far. No. 6 marked for [17] 1171 identification.] [18] BY MR. FRENKEL: (18) Q: Moving onto the third and fourth paragraphs of (191 [Witness perusing document.] [19] BY MR. FRENKEL: [20] Denning Exhibit 5, make reference to a conference in Korea 1201 Q: Mr. Denning, have you seen Denning Exhibit 6 in September 1995, and the fourth paragraph mentions some 1211 before, the letter from Mr. Barbour to Mr. Young on the NPF individuals who would be there. [22] (221 Do you know if that is related to the conference letterhead? [23] 1231 A: I believe I have. [24] mentioned in both Denning Exhibits 2 and 3? In Denning Q: Do you believe you saw it on or about the time the [25] Exhibit 2, it's point 2B, and in Denning Exhibit 3, it's Page 204 Page 201 [1] document was sent or created? [1] item 1B of the Political Leaders conference in Seoul, Korea A: Yes. in September 1995. [2] [2] Q: In the third paragraph of the letter, on the first page of Denning Exhibit 6, the second sentence says, A: I'm sorry. Exhibit 3, it's what? Q: Item 1B. Therefore, NPF is forming a task force from its trade. A: 1B. Yeah, I think it's the same thing. economic, defense and foreign affairs policy councils to Q: The last question I have on this document is on focus on the Far East. the second page of Denning 5. The second sentence Is it your understanding that on or after the says-well, we can read the first sentence, too. "I am August 30, 1994 date of this letter was the first time that enclosing a fact sheet about the National Policy Forum, its NPF formed a task force to focus on the Far East? work and its financial situation. I hope it responds to all 1101 [10] A: I just don't remember. That's the answer. [11] the questions you asked Saturday night." [11] 1121 [12]

Do you recall whether Mr. Young asked questions of Mr. Barbour and others at that Saturday night dinner at Sam [13] A: I don't. As I said, he was at the other end of (151 the room. [16] [17] Q: Do you recall any discussion following that dinner with any of the participants of the dinner about any [18] information you needed to gather and might be responsive to [19] a question Mr. Young had? A: Yes. [21]

Q: What kind of information were you asked to gather?

A: Financial report, donor history-I mean, in the

[24] aggregate-projections, you know, the normal kind of

[25] information you'd want to ascertain, an organization's

Q: That's fine. If you don't remember, you don't remember. [13] A: I don't remember. [14] Q: I ask you to turn to the third page of Denning Exhibit 6, which is the first page of the enclosure headed "The National Policy Forum." In the second paragraph, the 1161 last three lines of the paragraph, it's talking about NPF and crafting ideas-strike that. [19] I wanted to focus your attention on the fourth (20) paragraph, rather than so much on the second paragraph, page [21] [22] MR. PERRY: Do you want to get a second to read [23]this? Have you had a chance?

THE WITNESS: Yeah, just a-

[22]

Page 210

June 30, 1997

Page 205 BY MR. FRENKEL:

[1] Q: Oh, I'm sorry. I thought you had had an 121 opportunity, I apologize. 131 A: Well, I breezed over it. [4]

MR. PERRY: It's a long thing. 151 Witness perusing document. [6]

THE WITNESS: Okay. m

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BY MR. FRENKEL:

(8) Q: Just directing your attention to the last sentence (9) of the fourth paragraph of page 3 of Denning Exhibit 6, (10) "Next spring the Forum," which is the National Policy Forum, f111 "will publish "An Agenda for America, which promises to be the foundational document of Republicanism and the public mai policy touchstone for all 1996 GOP presidential candidates. A: Uh-huh [15]

Q: I know I have asked this question a few times, but my was it your understanding that any of the work the NPF was (18) doing was intended to benefit or be used by Republican 1191 candidates for elective office?

A: Absolutely not. In fact, it was just the-no, 1201

[21] that was not the case. Q: Moving to the next paragraph, it discusses some of [23] the financial information, including monies that had bene [24] pledged to the NPF I just want to focus on the last two

[25] sentences of that paragraph, "Only 53 companies, crade

Page 206

(1) associations and individuals have contributed or pledged so far, with the average commitment in excess of \$70,000. Many (3) other Fortune 500 companies and major entrepreneurs and (4) businesses are yet to be contacted for support."

As of the date of Denning Exhibit 6, which is

August 30, 1994, how many individuals were you aware had made contributions to the NPF?

A: As of when?

Q: August 30, 1994, the date of Denning Exhibit 6. MR. SPAEDER: I will object and permit him to [10]

in answer if he can make an answer that's-or if the air that

(12) requires to breathe it.

THE WITNESS: Thank you. 1131 You're asking me to remember who may have been a [14] [15] donor as opposed to a company or who might have contributed its in their-from a personal account as opposed to a-none that 1171 I can remember.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Do you recall how many, if any, trade associations [19] had made pledges to the National Policy Forum on or about he date of Denning Exhibit 6, which is August 30, 1994? 102 (21)

A: I really don't recall. [22]

MR. PERRY: Can I ask a question? I don't want to [23] interfere if you are on a roll here. I just have a (25) clarification point.

MR. FRENKEL: If it's a clarification, go ahead.

MR. PERRY: Okay. This information here is

intended to provide data that was requested with respect the loan guarantee. [4]

MR. FRENKEL: You will have to speak up. The [6] court reporter is having trouble hearing. MR. PERRY: Did you hear my question? m

THE WITNESS: That's my-yes, that's my m recollection of this particular document. A lot of the [10] language in here is familiar and was pulled from other [11] publications, I think I don't think this is an original [12] piece, but it was written, I believe, for purposes of a

(13) guarantee MR. PERRY: So, obviously, by August 30, 1994, the [14] [15] guarantee had not yet been committed to by the ultimate [16] guarantor?

THE WITNESS: That's right. 1177

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[18] [19] Q: In the final sentence of the paragraph I was asking about, which is paragraph 5, "Many other Fortune 500 companies...yet to be contacted for support," what was your understanding about who would be making the contact to these (23) companies, entrepreneurs, and businesses to get support for [24] the work of the NPF?

A: Just like it had always been done, by Haley and

[1] supported by our Fund-Raising staff.

Q: I would like you to turn to the final page of (3) Denning Exhibit 6, and in particular, I direct your [4] attention to the next-to-the-last paragraph on the page, [8] beginning, "The RNC "There is a discussion in there is about money the RNC intends to spend.

Well, first of all, let me just ask that. Do you [7]

know how the NPF would have learned about the RNC's intention to, for example, in the first sentence of that no paragraph, increase its budget by 12 million and to put at [11] least 10 million of that into campaign and campaign 1121 activities?

A: I don't have a clue.

Q: The final-I'm sorry? [14]

A: I don't know who wrote this or where it was 1151 written. So I don't know the origin of any of this. (16)

[17] G: What about just the-directing your attention to [18] the final sentence of that paragraph, "And this amount is [18] over and above its contributions to Senate and governors from races and to state party campaign efforts to support those [21] races." Do you have any information about how the RNC was

going to use contributions? (22) A: No. [23]

MR. FRENKEL: Mark the next document as Denning 7,

[24] [25] please.

1132

Page 209 Denning Exhibit 7 is a two-paged letter dated September 19, 1994 on the letterhead of the National Policy [3] Forum to Ambrous Young from Haley Barbour, with is is signature, a blind carbon copy, or "bcc," on the second page to Dick Richards, Fred Volcansek, Don Fierce, and Dan Denning

On the first page of Denning 7, there is

essentially a Post-It note, which has the logo of the RNC on it, and somebody-I can't make it out. Maybe it's Baker & Hostetler, but I can't tell who the "from" is, sending it to 1111 David Norcross.

[Denning Deposition Exhibit

[12] [13] No. 7 marked for identification.) [14]

115) BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Do you recall receiving a copy of this letter? [16]

A: No. [17]

[25]

[10]

Q: If the letter from Mr. Barbour on NPF stationery [1**8**] [19] had the "bee" to you, do you have any reason to doubt that (201 you did receive it?

A: No. uh-uh.

[21] Q: Just a general question, what did you do with [22] [23] documents that came to you? Did you have a secretary that [24] you gave them to, typically?

A: Typically, yes. Uh-huh.

Page 207 Q: Did you keep any current documents in a filing

[2] cabinet or desk drawers or things like that? A: I had a working file that I kept documents that

were important to me to refer back to, but typically, I didn't keep something like this. This is-

Q: When you left the NPF in October 1995, did you take any documents with you that weren't of a personal M nature?

A: I took some of my working files, I believe. Q: Do you still have possession of those working

files, as far as you know? [11] A: Well, when I moved, after I left NPF and then I [12] joined ALEC, I cleaned out a bunch of my files then. I had just run out of room. I am usually a pack-rat, but I had to do something, but I didn't have that many to begin with, and (15) I did end up with some, mainly the legal documents, a set of [16]

(17) those MR. FRENKEL: Mr. Spaeder, I guess to the extent (18) they exist, any working files that Mr. Denning may still have from his tenure at the National Policy Forum, I would (20) request on behalf of Minority that they be produced to the Committee to assist it in its inquiry [22]

MR. SPAEDER: Your request is duly noted.

MR. FRENKEL: Thank you, sir.
BY MR. FRENKEL

(37) Page 205 - Page 210

[23]

[24]

(25)

Q: Just on the second paragraph of Denning Exhibit 7,

(2) Mr. Barbour writes to Mr. Young, "Needless to say, I am very in grateful for the news he delivered," he meaning Steve. Do you have any-and then it continues, "It is extremely

[5] generous and tremendously helpful to our efforts." Do you is have any sense of what that news was being delivered by [7] Steve?

ÓΒΊ A: I don't.

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[52]

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[1]

Q: On or about September 19, 1994, did you have any 191 no indication that the Young Brothers Development had-was going forward sort of full steam with the loan guarantee? A: Yeah. That was about the time, and it could well

[13] be that that second paragraph of 7 refers to Steve delivering the commitment, if you will, from Young Brothers [14] that they were prepared to proceed. [15]

[16] Q: Do you have any understanding as to whether the [17] Steve in this letter is Steve Young? (1E)

A: I believe it to be Steve Young.

Q: Just something to follow up on what Mr. Perry had 1201 asked earlier, would that shed some light on some earlier 🧓 [21] document-

MR. PERRY: Can we go off the record for a second? MA, FRENKEL: Sure.

[Discussion off the record.]

25 MR. FRENKEL: Back on the record.

#### BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Shedding light on Denning Exhibit 5, the second [2] [3] paragraph where it says-again, the letter from Mr. Barbour to Mr. Young that, "My office is contacting Steve to confirm (4) is he will attend the Team 100 meeting on September 13." (6)

A: Where? I'm sorry.

Q: It's a lot of paper already, I apologize. 17 Denning Exhibit 5, the second paragraph. (8)

(91 A: I believe that to be Steve Young. Steve was a [10] member-I believe was a member of Team 100, or whatever it's [11] called.

Q: Turning your attention back to Denning Exhibit 7, 112 [13] focussing on the fifth paragraph at the top, Mr. Barbour [14] writes, By the way, I had a great meeting with Dick [15] Richards and Fred Volcansek, as well as Steve." Do you have [16] any understanding as to when that meeting took place?

(17) A: Well, I would assume it to be in the two-week

[18] period between this letter and the last one.

Q: Do you know whether the meeting had anything to do [20] with the loan guarantee to the National Policy Forum?

A: I don't. [21]

Q: I'm sorry? I didn't hear you. [22]

[23]

Q: No, it did not, or no, you don't recall? [24]

A: No, I don't recall. [25]

> Page 213 Q: The final paragraph on the first page of Denning Exhibit 7, Mr. Barbour writes, "Finally, I was heartened by

[3] Steve's telling me that at the end of the year consideration would be given to doing even more. The Young family and your company are exceptionally generous, and I am genuinely grateful for the confidence you are showing in me. There is [6] [7] no better or more effective way to help in what we are doing than this."

Do you have any recollection as to on or around [10] September 19, 1994, there was any indication that either Mr.

[11] Young personally, his family members, or any of his companies would be giving additional aid to the National Policy Forum in addition to guaranteeing the \$2.1-million [13] (14) loan?

(15) A: Not that I recall. I don't know what this refers III. to.

Q: I don't really have a question. It's just the [18] last line of Denning Exhibit 7, Mr. Barbour writes, in [19] reference to the meeting in Seoul, Korea, "I would like for [20] the party leaders from around the world to meet you and to benefit from your counsel." I am just making that a part of

[22] the record and have no question relating to it. MR. FRENKEL: I will have the court reporter mark the next exhibit as Denning Exhibit 8, which is a five-paged [25] document, the first three pages of which are dated September

[1] 23, 1994. It is a memorandum to Ambrous Young from Benton [2] Becker dated September 23, 1994, if I haven't already said (3) that, in reference to the RNC matter that's on the

[4] letterhead of Mr. Becker's law offices. The exhibit was

previously marked as Becker Exhibit 22, and the final two [6] pages are a report of a news conference held on August 3,

77 1994 by Federal Election Commission Chairman Trevor Potter (8) in Washington, D.C.

[Denning Deposition Exhibit

not No. 8 marked for

[11] identification.]

1151

Page 212

[12] [Witness perusing document.]

1131 THE WITNESS: I will save some time. Are you

[14] going to ask me if I've ever seen this?

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[16) Q: No. I would be quite confident that you've never seen it, especially since it was stamped "confidential." Is 1171 [18] that correct?

A: That's correct. [191

Q: I just wanted to ask you about some of the [20] 211 information in it. Under the first page of Denning Exhibit [22] 8, item 1-well, the introductory sentence to that says

these procedures that Mr. Becker is coming up with in this

[24] memo are calculated to accomplish certain goals, and the [25] first is: "To insure that no arguable violation of US law

Page 215

[1] could result to YBD or its principals " At the time Mr. Becker was going through this [3] process, was NPF engaging in any similar process to determine whether any violation of U.S. law might result [5] from a loan guarantee by Young Brothers Development?

A: Yes.

Q: Can you describe what that process was, please?

n A: We retained Baker & Hostetler, paid them a lot of money to make damn sure there wasn't

Q: Who at the NPF was providing information to Baker & Hostetler so that they could conduct their review? [11]

A: I was.

(12)

[13]

[14]

[21]

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Q: Was anyone else, to your knowledge?

A: To the extent I instructed them to, Steve Walker.

Q: Anyone else other than you or Mr. Walker as far as you can recall? (161

A: No.

[17] Q: I'm sorry. I cut you off. If you could just give [18]

[19] the answer to that question. You did, but I think we talked [20] over each other.

A: No.

Q: The third item on Mr. Becker's agenda is: "To (22) reduce the length of time (expected at the outside to be six [23] [24] to eight months) YBD," which stands for Young Brothers

28) Development, "will be required to continue to post its

Page 216

(i) collateral as a loan guarantor."

Do you recall whether you had any information in [3] late September 1994 that the NPF might be able to pay off the guarantee or the amounts guaranteed by Young Brothers Development in six to eight months?

A: There might have been some speculation, you know. if fund-raising increased dramatically, but no. it was

always expected that it would be paid back over a three-year term. 191

Q: A three-year term?

A: I believe it was a three-year term.

Q: Turning the page of Denning Exhibit No. 8 and [12] focussing your attention on point No. 8, "... NPF has 1131 represented to YBD (USA) Inc. that in the past years the NPF has always received 100% of all pledges made to it and that the NPF fully expects to receive, and assign to the Signet Bank, all of its current and prospective pledges as [17] described herein....

Do you have any understanding as to where Mr. [19] Becker or others at YBD (USA) had received the belief or (21) understanding that the NPF always received 100 percent of [22] its pledges, understanding, again, that that's Mr. Becker's use of words and not yours?

A: I think probably from in discussions with me, he [25] asked me, as I recall, what kind of history we had in that

1121

[17]

Page 217



in regard, and I indicated that we had been able to collect on [2] all the pledges made and saw no reason that that might

Q: Is it your recollection that around this time, 151 late September 1994, the NPF had, in fact, always received [6] 100 percent of the pledges made to it. I guess collected 100 percent of the pledges?

A: That's right.

Q: Finally, in the last sentence on the second page 191 [10] of Denning Exhibit 8, Mr. Becker is making reference to the [11] two-paged attachment which bear the Bates Nos. 53 and 54, [12] the last two pages of Denning Exhibit 8, and he said, This [13] publication deals directly with the law's"-which is the [14] Federal election laws-"prohibition against foreign (15) nationals being involved in federal elections." (16)

At any point prior to September 23, 1994, were you [17] aware that there might be an issue with the loan guarantee [18] of a foreign national being involved in a Federal election?

A: Was I aware? [19]

Q: Yes, and I guess consistent with what Mr. Becker (21) is saying, were you aware that there could be an issue [22] arising in the loan guarantee about a foreign national's [23] involvement in a Federal election?

A: Number one, yes, I was aware that it was against

[25] the law for a foreign national to contribute to an election.

Page 218

[1] Number two, I hired a law firm to make damn sure that was in not the case here. We're talking about apples and oranges, [3] I think, and I've got a pretty thick legal opinion someplace [4] to back it up 151

Q: At any time prior to signing the loan guarantee documents on October 13, 1994, did anyone from the NPF as [7] far as you know, which would extend to the lawyers you hired (a) for that, conduct an investigation as to whether the funds 191 were coming from a foreign source or not, as far as you know? [10]

A: No. It didn't concern us. Even if it did, it was [11] [12] legal

Q: The last question I have for you is on the last [13] [14] page of Denning Exhibit 8, the bracketed paragraph, which I [15] don't know whose handwriting that is that drew the box [16] around it, but it says, "There are special rules for U.S) subsidiaries of foreign corporations, so that no foreign [18] money is used to run any political action committees (PACs) [19] they establish, and no foreign nationals are involved in any [20] way"-it's underscored, but that appears to be underscored 22) by the person's handwriting—in contributions by such 122 PACs." Was that your understanding of the law in the fall (23) of 1994?

A: It was [24]

Q: Do you have any reason to believe that the [25]

[1] National Policy Forum did not comply with the law in (2) relation to the loan guarantee from Young Brothers Development?

A: No, not at all. in fact, we took steps to assure that it did. [5]

MR. PERRY: That it did comply with the law? [6] THE WITNESS: That it did comply with the law. BY MR. FRENKEL: n

Q: And those steps were ones you testified to already [9] which is hiring the law firm of Baker & Hostetler; is that [10]

[11] right? 1:21 A: That's right, and as far as this reference to this [13] FEC press release goes, I'd note that it talks about PACs [14] and special rules for U.S. subsidiaries, and the NPF was not [15] a PAC. It was a 501(c)(4), and this isn't even relevant to [16] the issue.

Q: Did you have any discussions with Mr. Becker when [17] [18] you were a point person for the NPF and he was the point [19] person for Young Brothers Development about his-l'il call [20] it concern. However, if counsel wants to object to that (21) characterization, that at least in his September 23, 1994 [22] memorandum, Mr. Young-he seems to think that it was

(23) relevant. A: What are you referring to?

MR. SPAEDER: Well, yes. I think it is very hard

Page 220 [1] to ask this witness about something that another individual

[2] who happens to be a lawyer is communicating in confidence to

[3] this client regarding a matter that is the subject of

transaction with another party. I don't think this witness in could give anything that is probative in terms of the

(6) answer.

He's testified that his state of mind was totally 77 innocent with respect to this transaction, for the reasons

on he's indicated. I am really reluctant to have him go into much further detail because I don't see how it's relevant to

[11] the inquiry.

BY MA. FRENKEL:

Q: I'm sorry. Maybe my question wasn't clear. I was [13] [14] asking if you had any discussions with Mr. Becker about the (15) issue.

A: Not that I recall. [16]

MR. SPAEDER: Off the record.

MR. FRENKEL: Sure. 1181 [Discussion off the record.]

[19] [20] (Recess.)

(Denning Deposition Exhibit 1211

221 No. 9 was marked for

[23] identification.]

[24] MR. FRENKEL: On the record.

[25] During the break, the court reporter marked a

[1] composite exhibit as Denning Exhibit 9, which is made up of 121 the Bates stamp Nos. SIG617, 598 which is the second page,

[3] and 600 which is the third page, and the first page of Denning Exhibit 9 is dated October 3, 1994, on the

letterhead of Baker & Hostetler, a letter from Eric Geppert

(6) to P.J. Stevens at the Signet Bank, carbon copies to Mr.

Denning, Steve Walker, and Mark Braden, another lawyer with Baker & Hostetler.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[2] Q: I would represent to you, Mr. Denning, that it [10] would be my understanding that the last two pages of this [11] document, Denning Exhibit 9, are probably in the handwriting (13) of someone at Signet Bank.

A: Okay

[14] MR. PERRY: Let me note for the record that these (15) [18] are non-sequential Bates numbers, and you called it a (17) composite exhibit or a group exhibit. It is not necessarily clear that these three documents are intended as a series of [18] connected pages. [19]

MR. FRENKEL: Without a long colloquy, I would 1201 just say that I believe them all to be linked. We will go [21] (22)

ahead. BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: The second page of Denning Exhibit 9-first of [25] all, do you recognize the handwriting on the second page of

Page 222

(1) Denning Exhibit 9?

1231

Page 219

A: No.

[2] (3) Q: The third item on the page says "Add." It could (4) be an abbreviation for "additional," but that's also my speculation. Due Diligence-Hong Kong Corporation.

Do you recall any discussion with Mr. Becker about whether the funds Young Brother Development USA was going to

use to guarantee the loan at the National Policy Forum would

[5] come from a Hong Kong corporation? [10]

A: No.

Q: Do you recall whether anyone else-did you come to 1111 [12] learn whether anyone else at the NPF had discussions with [13] anyone at Young Brothers Development about whether the source of funds from the loan guarantee would come from a [14] Hong Kong corporation? [15]

A: No. [16]

Q: Turning to the last page of Denning Exhibit 9 [17] which bears the Bates No. SIG600, it appears to be some sort [19] of a draft letter where there it is to you, Mr. Denning, as 201 a borrower and Becker as the collateral provider. Do you

recognize the handwriting on this document? [21] [22]

Q: On the very bottom of the page 600, on the left-hand side, there are words which appear to say "Balance

[25] RNC." Do you have any idea as you look at some of the

#### CONFIDENTIAL

Page 223

(i) computational numbers what that is intended to mean? A: I could only speculate that it means recourse to [53 the RNC. 131

Q: What does that mean in non-legal language, [4] [5] recourse to the RNC?

A: That if there were a default, the balance would go m to the RNC for repayment, possibly.

Q: Just to see if I understand you what you mean by 191 recourse to the RNC, does that mean if there would be a

(10) default, the RNC would be the party responsible for repaying whatever balance was left on the loan guarantee? [11]

A: That's right. If NPF defaulted, the bank would [13] first go to the RNC before it drew down the collateral.

Q: Do you recall having any discussions with any [14] [15] individuals from Signet Bank on that particular topic about fig recourse to the RNC in the event of a default by the NPF?

A: No, not discussions with Signet.

1181 Q: Do you recall having discussions with others about /191 the recourse to the RNC?

A: I recall that Mr. Becker, that that was a condition the guarantor made in the transaction. (21)

[22] Q: Is it your understanding that that was a condition the RNC agreed to prior to entering the loan transaction? [23]

A: That's my understanding, yes.

Q: Do you know who on behalf of the RNC made that

Page 224

[25]

[1] commitment that the RNC would agree to be the-I don't know [2] if the right term is "recourse payer."

A: Mr. Barbour made the commitment.

{4} Q: Were you present when Mr. Barbour made the commitment, as far as you know? [5]

A: No, I was not.

[6]

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Q: Do you know who, if anyone, was present?

A: I don't know. Q: Just directing your attention to the curved [10] writing or the writings on the right-hand margin at an [11] angle, I am just directing you to the last point, which is point 2 which says "Fair Consideration," and my reading of [12] [13] this writing says what are the providers of collateral [14] getting for giving CD. I guess CD is certificate of [15] deposit. Would that be your guess as to what CD stands for? [16] A: That would be my guess, yes.

[17] Q: It says in parentheses, "(Attorney)." Do you [18] recall any discussions on or about October 3, 1994 with [19] Signet Bank about what Young Brother Development USA as the [20] collateral provider would be getting in return for giving a [21] certificate of deposit?

A: I do not, no.

MR. FRENKEL: Mark this as Denning 10. I have marked as Denning Exhibit 10 a

[25] four-paged-a five-paged document with Bates Nos. NPF305

Page 225

(21)

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(1) through 309. The first page is on National Policy Forum [2] letterhead. The document is dated October 7, 1994, and it [3] is a telecopy of a letter sent by telecopier and Federal

[4] Express from Mr. Denning as chief operating officer of the [5] NPF to Ambrous Young and Benton Becker.

(Denning Deposition Exhibit

No. 10 marked for 171 identification.] 163

(Witness perusing the document.) 191

(10) BY MR. FRENKEL

Q: Just to shorten the proceedings, I don't plan to [11] [12] ask you detailed questions about the legal elements in here, just if you have had a chance to review the letter.

A: Okay. [13]

[14]

Q: On the third page of Denning Exhibit 10, which 115 bears the Bates stamp NPF307 in the lower right-hand corner, [16] is that your signature, Mr. Denning? (17)

A: It is.

(21)

(22)

[23]

[18] O: Do you recall writing this letter to Mr. Young and [19] 1201 Mr. Becker?

A: No. It was prepared for my signature.

Q: Do you recall who prepared the letter for your signature?

A: Baker & Hostetler.

Q: Do you know which lawyer or lawyers at Baker &

Page 226 [1] Hostetler might have prepared this document? A: I dealt with Mark Braden, so either Mark or somebody under his supervision, I would think. [3] Q: Do you recall whether you had any comments on a [5] draft of this document, if there was a draft of the document? A: Not that I recall, no. 171 Q: I want to direct your attention to the second page of Denning Exhibit 10, item 2, the last two sentences of item 2, "In this regard, NPF has experienced the fund my raising results described on Exhibit A to this letter," and [12] if you just turn the page with me, NPF 308, the next-to-the-last page, it is headed Exhibit A. It says "NPF FUND RAISING RESULTS AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 1993," but is

otherwise blank, and I will represent to you that that was [16] the way it was produced to us. So I don't know whether

there was or was not writing on that page as of the date of (18) your letter.

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Let me also state for the record-well, I guess it doesn't have to really be on the record. (20)

MR. FRENKEL: I think some of the photocopying [21] came out very poorly. So you may have trouble reading the Bates stamps on your copies, but they are there.1 [23][24] BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Then, turning back to the second page of Denning

Page 227

[1] Exhibit 10, item 2, it says, "Furthermore, NPF's collection rate on pledges deemed by NPF to be firm commitments has of been 100%." Do you recall the use of the term "firm

commitments" at the NPF on or about this time, October 7, 1994? [5] A: To the extent I believe it to mean pledged by

entities that we expected would be honored, we felt [7]

confident, firm about. Q: Do you have any sense as of, again, where it says [10] early October 1994, what the donation history of pledged had in been to the NPF? What I mean by that is what percentage of those pledges made to the NPF you felt confident would, in [12] [13] fact, be turned over to the NPF at some time.

A: To the extent our donor history had been fairly stable, once a commitment was made, it was our experience it [15]

was followed through on. (161

[17] Q: I just want to turn your attention back to Denning [18] Exhibit 8, the second page of that exhibit which is a memo [19] from Mr. Becker to Mr. Young. It is the second page, item (20) 8.

A: Uh-huh.

Q: Mr. Becker writes, "...NPF has represented to YBD [55] [23] (USA) Inc. that in the past years the NPF has always 124) received 100% of all pledges made to it and that the NPF [25] fully expects to receive, and assign to the Signet Bank, all

Page 228

(1) of its current and prospective pledges as described (2) herein....

Do you know whether anyone from the NPF had [4] represented to Mr. Becker that NPF expected to receive 100 is percent of all pledged and not just those pledged that [6] deemed to be firm commitments or those items identical in

your mind-those terms? I'm sorry 

A: Well, if I'm following you, I think they're identical in that sense.

Q: Essentially, your understanding was that at or 1101 about this time in early November 1994 that all pledges made to the National Policy Forum were firm commitments that would, in fact, be collected? [13]

That's right, yes.

A: Yes.

[14] Q: Do you know whether anyone at the National Policy [15] Forum as opposed to lawyers retained by the National Policy 1161 Forum engaged in what is known as due diligence regarding [17] [18] this loan?

I will leave that question on the record, but let [19] me ask it a different way. Are you familiar with the term [20] [21] "due diligence"?

[52] Q: What is your understanding of the term, especially [23] [24] in connection with the loan transaction?

A: The individuals within their areas of expertise

Page 229

Page 232

iii are required to fully investigate the pertinent facts and 21 report their opinions to the person they have to report those to.

Q: Given that understanding of due diligence, did anyone other than retained counsel to the National Policy (5) Forum to your knowledge engage in any due diligence of Young **Brothers Development?** M

MR. SPAEDER: That assumes that due diligence was legally required, but he can answer the question, as he [10] defines the term.

THE WITNESS: Well, I looked into it. I think [11] [12] Norcross was asked by Haley about-I don't know that to be [13] the case, but I think he was. I looked into it, was [14] satisfied, and then, really, from that point on, relied on [15] legal counsel to make sure it was air-tight. BY MR. FRENKEL: [16]

Q: What did your undertaking of due diligence consist [17] [18] of, your personal undertaking? I think you testified in the answer to the last question that you looked into it. I am [20] just asking you to expand a little bit on that answer. A: I asked questions about Young Brothers Development

of Mr. Volcansek and, I believe, Mr. Becker and was assured [22] that, you know, it was a U.S. corporation, that it was in [24] Florida, and that was about it.

Q: At any time as part of the due diligence that you

Page 230 (1) conducted, did you make any inquiry into the assets of Young

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[23]

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23 Brothers Development USA, the Florida corporation? · A: I did not. [3] Q: Did you make any inquiry to Mr. Volcansek or

others or request of them to look into the asset condition [6] of Young Brothers Development USA? A: No. (7)

Q: Do you know whether anyone else connected with the National Policy Forum made any inquiry into the asset [9] condition of Young Brothers Development USA prior to (11) entering the loan transaction?

A: Not to my knowledge or belief. 1:21

MR. FRENKEL: I will mark the next exhibit as Denning 11. (141

[15] Denning 11 is a two-paged document on the [16] letterhead of Baker & Hostetler dated October 6, 1994, although the second page in the header is dated October 7, [18] 1994. So it was created on one of those two dates. It is a [19] letter from Mark Braden to Benton Becker with a carbon copy [20] to Mr. Dan Denning. The subject of the letter on Denning

[21] Exhibit 11 states loan guarantee. (Denning Deposition Exhibit

[23] No. 11 marked for

[24] identification.]

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[13]

[25] [Witness perusing document.]

Page 231

Q: Now that you have had a chance to review Denning Exhibit 11, you testified earlier about a legal opinion that [3] you paid for-not you personally, of course-the National Policy Forum paid for from Baker & Hostetler. Is this the *15*1 legal opinion that you were referring to in your earlier [6] testimony? [7]

BY MR. FRENKEL:

A: It is. Q: Is there any other legal opinion that you are (91 110) aware of that Baker & Hostetler performed for the National [11] Policy Forum in relation to the loan guarantee by Young [12] Brothers Development?

A: Other than the transactional work and [13] [14] documentation backing up the entire transaction, no, [15] although there may be others. This is the only one I'm 1:61 aware of.

Q: Again, I think you just said it there at the end. [18] As far as you remember, Denning Exhibit 11 is the only legal 1191 opinion concerning the propriety of the transaction that you recall receiving? [20] [21]

A: That's right.

Q: In the second paragraph of Denning Exhibit 11, Mr. [23] Braden does what many lawyers do which is sort of to state 24 what the question to him was before he gives the answer, and 25 he states, You have requested our review of whether this [i] transaction conflicts with certain United States laws. Your izi concern arises out of the fact that the existing and

currently due loan obligations of NPF are to an organization

which has an affiliated political committee as defined by

the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 As best as you can recall now, sitting here, was (C)

Mr. Braden's statement to you an accurate reflection of what [7] you had, in fact, requested Baker & Hostetler to undertake? [8]

A: No. My memory is I wanted an A-to-Z opinion on the entire transaction, and the way you're referring to this ft Of and the way I read that sentence, it seems more limited than [12] I remember. This seems to address itself strictly to NPF's

its relationship to what I assume to be the RNC. I don't know what he means by an affiliated [14] (15) political committee. Is that what he's referring to? MR. FRENKEL: I'm sorry. Mr. Perry, did you [61]

(17)

MR. PERRY: No, I'm sorry. I just wanted to note 1181 that I'm not sure this is the only letter from Mr. Braden in [19] existence, but I don't want to get in the way of your 1201 questions, so go ahead.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Just to follow up on what Mr. Perry said, and I believe you have testified to this twice, you're not aware [25] of any other letter that Mr. Braden sent you relating to

Page 233

[1] this subject matter of the legality of the transaction, is [2] that correct, other than-I'm not referring not specifically [3] to the loan transaction documents, whether this form of (4) collateral is okay or not okay. I am just referring to

whether the transaction could be entered into at all

Do you recall any other legal opinion from Baker & Hostetler other than Denning Exhibit 11? 7

A: Yes.

Q: What is that? What do you recall receiving?

A: That the anticipated transaction met all the [10] [11] requirements of the statutes, as did the guarantor, and that [12] it was gone over from A to Z in every aspect by this law [13] firm, and the appropriate Holy water was put on it. I read [14] this letter as more limited than I remember to be the case.

[15] Q: Again, I believe you just testified to it, but [16] just so I am clear, your recollection is that Mr. Braden's statement to you about the scope of the work he was doing is [18] less comprehensive than you had actually asked him to [19] undertake on behalf of the National Policy Forum; is that (20) right?

A: That's right. I believe there is either another [21] letter or I'll state for the record that he told me verbally [23] that his review of the entire transaction met the [24] requirements of the statute.

Q: Do you know whether Mr. Braden considered-and I

Page 234

[1] know you can't get into Mr. Braden's mind to know everything iz) he considered, but do you know whether he had the

information that Young Brothers Development USA was going to

be receiving monies from a Hong Kong corporation. Young [5] Brothers Development, Limited?

A: I do not.

(6) Q: Turning to the second page of Denning Exhibit 11, the second paragraph reads, We have been assured (and [7]

assume it to be true) that the partial repayment by NPF of such outstanding loan obligations will not be made to a [10j political committee as defined by the Act.

What was your understanding in early October 1994 [12] [13] as to what entity would receive payment from the NPF as 2 result of obtaining the \$2.1-million loan guarantee? [14]

MR. PERSY: Let me make a quasi-objection at this [:5] point. I think that the intent of your question is to ask [16] him about the proper interpretation of a term in an FEC the statute, and I am not sure if that is where you are going or not, but from your question, I was led to believe that is where you are headed. [20]

I don't think that is an appropriate question at this point for a person who is not performing the legal [22] analysis. [23]

That's it. Please go ahead.

MR. FRENKEL: No. I am not asking Mr. Denning to

Special Investigation

Page 235 (1) make a legal judgment as to the accuracy of Mr. Braden's 2 advice. It was simply a question. BY MR. FRENKEL: 131 Q: Reading the document, I was hoping to frame the [4] [5] question as to what entity did you understand would receive monies from the NPF as a result of the NPF being able to get [6] 27 a loan guarantee of \$2.1 million. A: The RNC. What's 11 CFR? 191 Q: "CFR" is a legal abbreviation for something known [10] [11] 2s the "Code of Federal Regulations." A: I know that, but what's 11? Is that the federal [12] campaign, the Federal Election Act? 1131 Counsel? I don't know what the hell that sentence [14] [15] means. MR. PERRY: Hold on Are we on the record? Let's [16] go off the record. 1173 MR. SPAEDER: Let me confer for a second. [18] [Witness confering with counsel.] [19] ं (३०) MR. FRENKEL: Let's mark the next document as Denning 12. [21]

Page 236

Q: I'll alert you that it's a multi-page document, [2] but I really don't intend to ask many questions on it. I really just intend for you to identify if you've seen it. For the record, Denning Exhibit 12 bears the Bates stamp is range NPF 186 through 193.

MR. FRENKEL: I have got to apologize to counsel. [6]

That's been cut off on your copies. 7

[Denning Deposition Exhibit

1231 No. 12 was marked for

identification.]

25 BY MR. FRENKEL

MR. PERRY: That is 186-? [0]

MR. FRENKEL: Through 193. I will represent that

(10) that's what the Bates range is.

BY MR. FRENKEL: !111 [12] Q: The document is minutes of a special meeting of 113] the board of directors of the National Policy Forum which [14] goes on for some six pages, followed by a one-page list of 115] the board of directors of the National Policy Forum and how his they received notice of the meeting, and the final page, [17] NPF-193, an affidavit of mailing of the notice of special [18] meeting of the NPF board which had been prepared for Mr. [19] Denning's signature but which is unsigned on the document. [20] Mr. Denning, do you recall participating in this [21] special meeting of the board of directors of the National

Policy Forum by telephone-well, you weren't necessarily on [23] it by telephone, but some people were participating by [24] telephone on or about 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, October 10, [25] 1994?

[22]

[24]

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A: I do. Q: Do you recall who suggested that it was necessary [3] for the board to have a special meeting? A: I believe I did.

Q: Who did you have to communicate that to for the 151 meeting to be held, if anyone? [6]

A: Haley, just the chairman of the board.

[7] Q: Was the primary purpose of the meeting to get board approval to complete the loan transaction documents 191 [10] for the Young Brothers Development loan guaranty that we've [11] been talking about most of the afternoon? [12]

A: It was.

[13] Q: Briefly, on page 5 of Denning Exhibit 12, Bates [14] Number NPF-190, under "Election of Secretary-Treasurer," [15] there's an indication that the office of secretary-treasurer was vacant since no successor to Mr. Kenneth J. Hill had [17] been nominated or elected. And then the board proceeds to [15] nominate and appoint Lyons Brown, Jr., as the secretary-[19] treasurer. Do you recall when Mr. Hill left the NPF?

A: I believe in July '94. Q: Do you recall whether he left voluntarily, or was

[21]

he asked to leave by someone at the NPF?
A: I do recall. It was-After the report was issued, [24] there was a general downsizing, and Ken left as part of

Page 238 Q: Until a successor was nominated and elected, as 12) took place at the board meeting, did the general [3] responsibilities as secretary-treasurer fall to you as the (4) chief operating officer? A: They did. Q: On the next page of Denning Exhibit 12, which is page 6, and Bates Number NPF-191, is that your signature as acting secretary? [8] A: It is 191 MR. FRENKEL: Off the record for one second. (101 [Discussion off the record.] [11] [12] MR. FRENKEL: Mark the next exhibit as Denning 13. [Denning Deposition Exhibit (131 [14] No. 13 was marked for [15] identification.] [16] MR. FRENKEL: For the record, Denning 13 begins on

[17] Bates page SIG-676, and goes through 687, although the final [18] page is Bates SIG-231. So again, it's 676 through 687 in [19] SIG, and the very last page of the document, Denning 13, is

(20) SIG-231.

BY MA. FRENKEL: (2:) Q: Have you ever seen-I guess I'll count by the [22] [23] pages, because some of this you may have seen before; I'm 124] sure some of this you've never seen before. I guess up [25] until what I have as Bates page 683, and I don't know

[9] whether that came out on counsel's copy or not, but that's (2) the NPF balance sheet. Have you previously seen any of the 13) pages of Denning 13, up until the point of the balance sheet, before?

A: I've never seen the first two pages.

Q: From the materials starting with the balance sheet on Denning Exhibit 13, which I have as Bates page SIG-683, 7 have you seen the subsequent pages before?

A: I believe I've seen the document titled

"Commercial Credit Memorandum, October 12," pages 1 through 5, which was part of the documentation backing up the

[12] transaction.

Q: Just to be clear, the pages you've just (13) [14] identified, that begins on the third page of Denning Exhibit [15] 13?

Q: And where do you believe you've seen that before? [17]

A: It's part of the documentation on the transaction [16]

Q: Is this a document the bank would have prepared? (19) A: Yes. [20]

[16]

751

1141

[15]

1161

[[17]

Page 237

Q: And now, turning to the end of that document, so (21) after page 5 of the material you've just identified, and 123] beginning with the balance sheet which says on the lower

[24] left-hand corner "Exhibit 1," I'm asking you if you recall [25] seeing what's marked on the lower left-hand corners as

Page 240

"Exhibit 1," "Exhibit 2," "Exhibit 3," "Exhibit 4," "Exhibit [2] 5," and then the final page, which is a fax page which does not have any exhibit identification on it on the lower left-[4] hand corner?

A: I do.

Q: At least for Exhibits 1 through 5, as they're [7] identified here on Bates page SIG-683, which is the balance sheet, and ending on 687, which is the lower left-hand in corner Exhibit 5, entitled in bold print "National Policy no Forum," with a listing of months and pledges, was that material-by "that material" I mean Exhibits 1 through 5 [12] here in the Denning 13-provided to the bank?

A: I believe it was. I believe it was appended to this document.

Q: Do you know about the final page, which is not in sequential Bates number but SIG-231, whether that information was also provided to the bank at any point?

A: This is-I don't recall. It's a standard payable report format. It probably was. I believe it was required.

[20] so I believe it was provided to the bank.
[21] Q: Going back to the first page of Denning Exhibit 13, understanding that you did not create this document and [22] you're not responsible for the words in it, the heading [24] "Nature of Business," which is in the upper left-hand

25] corner, the-I guess the third item down-Do you see where

Page 241

[ii] I'm referring on the document? A: I do. Q: It says, "Nature of Business: Research affiliate [4] of Republican National Committee." Was it your belief, on is or about the date of this exhibit, which is October 11 1994, that the NPF was a research affiliate of the RNC? Q: Do you have any understanding as to where the bank [9] might have come up with that impression? A: Yes, I think somebody had to fill in a blank and

[11] they filled it in, not knowing what they were talking about. Q: Turn to the next page of Denning Exhibit 13, about (13) halfway down the page, section "K," to the right-hand side [14] of the page where it says "Risk Rating Justification." The [15] person preparing the document says, "Excellent collateral quality, borrower shares top-level management Republican National Committee." Other than Mr. Barbour, are you aware [18] of any other top-level management that was shared by the NPF

(19) and the RNC? A: There were none.

Q: Turning to the next page of Denning Exhibit 13, on which the heading is "Commercial Credit Memorandum, National Policy Forum, October 12, 1994," under item I, "Borrower (24) Description," the first sentence identifies the NPF and says [25] it was formed in May 1993 as an offshoot of the RNC. Was it

Page 242

[1] your understanding in mid-October 1994 that the NPF was an [2] offshoot of the RNC?

A: Come on, counsel. Give me a break. Q: Can I interpret that to mean "no"? (5) A: You can interpret it to mean "no."

Q: Do you have any understanding as to where the Signet Bank might have determined for itself that the NPF [7] was an offshoot of the RNC?

A: I have no idea. 791

[10] Q: Turning to section II, "Due Diligence, "B," a [11] guarantor in professional services," directing your [12] attention to the second sentence there, it says, "YBD USA is [13] a wholly-owned subsidiary of Young Brothers Development [14] Company, Limited, YBD, a Hong Kong based organization." Did [15] you know at the date of this document, October 12, 1994. [16] that Young Brothers Development USA was a wholly-owned [17] subsidiary of the Hong Kong company Young Brothers 1181 Development Limited?

A: Well, let me answer it this way. I knew YBD USA [19] [20] was affiliated with a parent that was Hong Kong based. I [21] think "wholly-owned subsidiary" has a legal connotation that I was not aware of. But I'll add, I didn't care, being a [23] 501(c)(4).

[24] Q: Turning to the next page, under "III, Risk [25] Assessment," "A(1) Business Risk," looking at the second

(1) paragraph which begins with "Mr. Barbour's increased [2] availability-

A: Uh-huh

[10]

Q: I'll just continue reading: Beginning in 15] November of 1994, NPF expects to embark on a solicitation program which will have Mr. Barbour visiting ten corporate prospects per month." Is that an accurate reflection of the plans of the NPF beginning in November of 1994 for Mr. [9] Barbour's time or visits for fundraising activities?

A: Yes, I believe it is.

[11] Q: As far as you know, would the number of visits, [12] ten per month, represent any change in the level of Mr. [13] Barbour's activity in fundraising?

A: I believe that's an increase over what he was able [15] to devote to it, at least in the immediate past period. I [16] think earlier on he had devoted that much time, and then [17] other commitments had taken over. And here he was [16] committing to take it back up to this level.

Q: Skipping one sentence, the following sentence [20] reads, "Although Mr. Barbour frequently comes away from [21] these meetings with a check, NPF has projected most pledges [22] to be collected within a four- to six-week period following the meeting." Again, given the time frame, mid-October of [24] 1994, was that a generally accurate statement about the [28] period lapse between a pledge being made and the money

(1) coming in to the coffers of the NPF?

A: It is. Well, some donations were one check. Others were spread over a defined period of time. So it varied. But typically, after a commitment was made, it was (5) forthcoming in the very near future.

G: Procedurally, do you know what happened when Mr. Barbour was given a check where he either made a [8] solicitation or someone, as this paragraph indicates,

[9] actually wrote him a check at the meeting, what would happen [10] to it once he came back with it to the NPF?

A: It was turned over to our controller and entered [12] onto the books.

Q: Do you know what process, if any, there was to [13] [14] then match, to keep track of who had made the pledge, when [15] it had been received, the amount, whether additional pledges were being received, that sort of information?

A: It was tracked by our fundraising department. 11.77 Q: The next sentence following the one we just read

(19) said, "While this time table may hold true in the futureand I think that's referring to the four- to six-week period

"-NPF's data on collected pledges point to a longer

[22] collection process." So I guess some period of time longer (23) than four to six weeks. Do you have an understanding as to [24] whether that statement that NPF's actual collection process

[25] prior to October 12th, 1994, took on average longer than

Page 245

Page 244

[1] four to six weeks?

A: No. As I said, normally the funds were in forthcoming shortly after the commitment was made, or when [4] due. We didn't have a payables problem, or a receivables (5) problem.

Q: Turning to the next paragraph, in the second 77 sentence, it says, "Analysis of their-" meaning the NPF's "-quarterly expense projections shows fixed quarterly cash expenses before debt service of between 500 M," which I presume means 500,000. Is that your understanding of that? [11]

A: It is.

Q: "-and 600,000, supported by collection of [12] pay existing pledges of between 270,000 and 50,000 per quarter. This gap between 'known revenue' and fixed expenses is the essence of NPF's business risk. In a typical quarter, NPF's (16) new fundraising efforts must bring in sufficient funds to bridge a gap of around \$300,000 plus provide approximately [18] 225,000 to service this credit facility.

Just so I understand it, is the assessment that [19] every quarter the NPF needed to raise approximately \$500,000

[21] to fund all of its operating expenses and stay current on the obligations it was going to incur following the loan

[23] guaranty by Young Brothers Development? A: In other words, you're asking me if I agree with

[25] this analysis?

Page 243

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Page 246 Q: I guess I'm trying to say, based on your [2] experience as the chief operating officer, was that a generally correct statement for October 1994, that the NPF was going to need to raise approximately \$500,000 per quarter to stay current? [5]

A: Including debt service?

Q: Yes, I believe that's what they're saying in here. A: Okay, that'd be about right, I would think. I [9] mean, I think this analysis here is really faulty, but I

agree with your bottom line. [10]

[11] Q: What do you disagree with in the analysis? A: I did it again. Well, you know, this analysis [12] [13] assumes a constant level of spending, when in fact it had [14] dropped precipitously after we issued the report And I [15] think these numbers are based on old data, for example. But without-You know, at this hour of the day and-I mean. I haven't looked at these numbers in quite a while. That's [[17]

[18] about the best I can do. I think 500,000 at that point in time is probably too high, in fact. I'm sorry, per quarter? 11191 Is that what it is? [20]

Q: That's my understanding of what they're writing [22] about.

A: Okay, I'll-I can live with that.

Q: From October 1 ith, '94, through the end of your [25] stay at the NPF do you know whether NPF was able to raise

(43) Page 241 - Page 246

[21]

[23]

[6]

[1] approximately \$500,000 per quarter, as hoped for, I suppose, (7) by Signet Bank?

A: I don't know. The records are the records. I (4) mean, this is just-It's garbage-in-garbage-out. The bank is had to fill out a form, and I don't know where they got (6) these numbers.

Q: Maybe I can ask the question this way. Following the loan guaranty and I guess maybe then beginning November (81 1, 1994, the next month, till the time you left the NPF in-[10] I think it was October 1995? Is that right?

A: No, I was out of there well before that.

[11] Q: I'm sorry. I've completely forgotten the date. 1121 [13]

A: No, it was more like-I resigned in February or 1151 March.

Q: Okay, sorry, February or March. Do you recall [16] whether the NPF continued to run a deficit for those four months, five months, that you were still there following the 😅 [19] loan guaranty?

A: I don't recall.

[14]

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(i) (so) [21] Q: Turning the page to page 3 of Denning 13-and [22] really, I guess I mean page 3 of the commercial credit [53] memorandum under number two, "Financial Statement and Cash [24] Flow Analysis," in the first sentence it says, "Since [25] commencing operations 16 months ago, NPF has operated with

[1] the guidance and funding of the RNC," and then goes on to izi list the steps. Do you agree with the statement in there that the NPF operated with the guidance and finding of the [3] [4] RNC?

A: Absolutely not. I mean, you know, it's-I don't [5] [6] agree with that.

Q: Turning towards the end of the second paragraph П within that section, the sentence states, "It is through this increased level of fundraising that NPF will service 191 [10] this loan facility," and I suppose that means the loan [11] guaranty payments that it was taking on. Is it a correct 12 statement that if the NPF were not successful in increasing [13] its fundraising activity or getting pledges to come in, that [14] it would continue to have trouble meeting its operating [15] expenses?

A: Sure.

[16] Q: Is there any plan in place that you recall as of [17] [18] around this time about what the NPF could do to try and [19] ensure that it would be successful in meeting its obligations under the loans, under the Signet loan? 1201

(21) A: Other than what you referred to earlier, it's captured I think in part in there as Haley's commitment to increase his level of activity in that regard. [22] [23]

Q: Turning to page 5 of this credit memorandum, under [25] the section "Financial Reporting"-

A: I'm sorry, Roman V?

Q: Yes, "Financial Reporting," a couple of sentences in it says, "Monthly report of pledge revenue activities to
 include-" and I guess these are things that NPF is supposed [5] to provide Signet Bank on an ongoing basis, "Number of [6] solicitation meetings, number and amount of new pledges 77 received, forecast of timing of collection of new pledges, (8) and updated forecast of timing of collection of prior period piedges. [9]

Who at NPF was-Well, first of all, is that an [11] accurate statement of some, if not all, of the documentation [12] NPF was supposed to provide Signet Bank, as best you can [13] recollect?

A: As I recollect, that is a fair summation of what 1141 [15]

we were supposed to provide.

Q: Who at the NPF was responsible for assembling and transmitting that ongoing information to Signet Bank. [17]

A: I believe Steve Walker was. Q: Was anyone other than Mr. Walker involved in that,

(20) as far as you recall? A: Well, probably the-I mean, he would get that kind [21] of data from the fundraising staff. [22]

Q: I just wanted to turn your attention to what is [24] marked in the lower left-hand corner as "Exhibit 3," which 25] is several pages further in, Denning 13. It's a

[1] spreadsheet. I'm just interested in understanding what some

[2] of the categories mean. The sixth one down from the top says "Pledged Revenue." What was your understanding of what (4) pledged revenue represented at this time?

A: Hard commitments.

Q: And the next category down, "Prospecting Revenue"?

A: Those were projections of what could be raised in those months, based on those commitments Haley had made from meetings, you know. I think there were-What was it? Ten meetings per month should result in that kind of revenue. 1101

Q: And the next category down, Total Anticipated Revenue." Is that simply adding up the two categories, 1121

pledge revenue and prospecting revenue?

A: Yes. [14]

Q: I'd like to turn your attention to the next-to-(15) (16) last page of Denning Exhibit 13, which has in the lower left-hand column "Exhibit 5." (17)

A: Yes.

(18)

(19)

(21)

Q: And the columns across read "Number of Meetings," "Number of Pledges," "Total Pledged," "Average Pledge," and "Pledges Received." And the dates run from July 1993 through September of '94, which would have been the last

full month prior to October '94. The question I have is [24] under the "Pledges Received" total, it's slightly over \$2

[25] million; the "Total Pledged" is slightly over \$3.4 million.

Page 251

(i) I guess we've talked a number-And you can break out a [2] calculator if you like, but you can take my representation (3) that the "Pledges Received" is about 59 percent of the total (4) pledges.

I think there's been testimony earlier today that the NPF expected to receive 100 percent of all monies pledged to it. Would that still be your testimony, having M reviewed this document?

A: It would. You're trying to add apples and oranges. "Total Pledged" is not time dependent. "Amount [11] Received" is That extra 1.4 million was probably due [12] between September of '94 and the end of '95, I would

[13] suspect, because they don't run it out.

Q: Is there any place you could go to within the National Policy Forum to find out when any pledged revenues (18) that had not been received were due in, and whether they in [17] fact came in on that date?

A: Yes. Q: Where?

[181

(191

A: The fundraising staff maintained those kinds of [20] records. So I could at any point in time anticipate revenue [21] by looking at when those pledges were due.

Q: Finally, just turning to the last page of Denning [23] Exhibit 13-just so counsel doesn't get over-excited, I [24] [25] finally meant Denning 13-the list of NPF aged payables,

Page 249

Page 252

[i] what are aged payables, for those of us who aren't as (2) familiar?

A: Money we owe, over 90 days, over 60, over 30. Q: And are those periods, do they correspond to any

kind of reporting periods, or is that just an easy way to keep track of things, by number of months?

A: It's just a standard accounting term and a standard format.

Q: Looking just a minute first at the over 90-day column in the left-hand side of the page of SIG-231, do you have any idea what the \$15,000-plus owed to Linda Long was [11] [12] for?

A: That's legal services.

(10) Q: Okay. Let me go over to the current section, the first entry, Todd Allen. And these are listed in descending [15] order, most amount to least amount, is that right? [16]

A: It appears so.

Q: Do you know what services Mr. Allen had rendered? (181

It's a printing company.

i (194 Q: What about the next entry down, S. Berkowitz? [05]

A: That's editorial services for the "Listening to America" report and graphic layout.

Q: Is that an outside contractor or individual? A: Yes.

[24]

Q: The next one, McAdams?

[18]

[19]

(17)

1221

[53]

fune 30, 1997

Page 256

Page 253 A: It's another service of some type. I just don't [1] [2] remember-I remember the name, but I don't remember what exactly they did.

Q: Skipping CIGNA, P. Robertson for \$6,000-plus? 141 A: I can tell you it's not Pat Robertson. That was (6) your question, wasn't it?

Q: I was thinking that. (7)

A: Yes, I'll bet. It doesn't ring any bell at all. (6)

Q: And one under Mr. or Ms. Robertson, for Fred

[10] Volcansek in excess of \$4,000. Do you recall what that

[11] amount was for?

A: I don't. [12] Q: Does the \$4,000 correspond to the approximate [13]

[14] amount of money Mr. Volcansek was supposed to receive under

[15] his contract with NPF?

A: No. I suspect that it's, you know, that-what was [16] [17] that?-149-85. I suspect that's a travel reimbursement, [18] because I think he traveled to Hong Kong on our behalf to [19] meet with Mr. Young. But I want to stress, I'm not sure. I

(20) don't know. O: That's fine. (21)

MR. FRENKEL: Mark the next document-(22)

MR. SPAEDER: Let me just note, the time is 7:15. [23]

[24] It looks like you've got either a lot more documents than I

[25] had originally suspected, or you're going through them more

[1] slowly than I would have predicted. You spent about 20 [2] minutes just on that bank loan, I wonder whether v ? ought

13) to just call it a night. I'm concerned that we may be here

[4] till 9:00 at this rate. (5)

MR. FRENKEL: I think if you would give me ten-

REPORTER: Do you want to go off the record? [6] (7)

MR. FRENKEL: Oh, did you want that on the record,

(a) Roger? (9)

MR. SPAEDER: It doesn't matter to me either way.

MR. PERRY: Let's go off now. [10]

[11] [Recess.]

[12] MR. FRENKEL: We will mark this document as

[13] Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 14 which begins Bates No.

[14] SIG-1909 and runs to 1011. It is a little bit of a

[15] composite or the order has been reshuffled and it is SIG-999

[16] through 1002, SIG-980 and 981, and SIG-782 and 783. It is a

composite document but it's all relating to the Young 1177

[18] Brothers loan.

(Denning Deposition Exhibit

No. 14 was marked for

identification.] [21]

(22) BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: Mr. Denning, I am not going to ask you to read

[24] through and review the document, but really just a general

gestion of that you know what has been marked as Denning

Page 255

[1] Deposition Exhibit No. 14 is?

À: 1 do. [2]

Q: What is it? [3]

A: It's transactional documents that accompanied the [4] loan guarantee.

Q: And that's your signature on the third page of

Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 14? [7]

A: It is. [8]

Q: If you could turn to the page labeled National

[10] Policy Forum authentication and incumbency certificate,

[11] Bates No. SIG-980.

Is that your signature where it says, Daniel B. Denning, Chief Operating Officer?

[13]

A: It is. [14]

Q: Do you recognize the signature below it? [15]

A: I do. [16]

Q: Is that the signature of Steve Walker? [17]

A: I believe it is.

[19] [20]

Q: And the signature below that, are you familiar with Ms. Van Rest's signature?

A: Not really, not really. [21]

Q: Do you have any reason to doubt whether that is

Ms. Van Rest's signature? [23]

[24]

A: No, I don't.

Q: Turning two more pages to the document labeled

[1] promissory note? I will skip the signature page.

A: Hmm-hmm. [2]

Q: The second paragraph talking about repayment and it says, ten quarterly installments, each in the amount of

\$191,000 commencing April 30, 1995, continuing on the last day of each July, October, January and April thereafter, [6]

through and including July 31, 1997, and the eleventh 7

installment in the amount of \$190,000 payable on October 31, (8)

1997, the maturity date of this note. [9]

1101 To your knowledge, is that an accurate reflection of when the National Policy Forum had to make payments on [11] [12] the loan guarantee that was conducted on October 13, 1994?

[13] A: It is

Q: And the amounts are accurate? [14]

(15) A: They are.

Q: Just on the last page of Denning Deposition [16]

Exhibit No. 14, is that your signature, Daniel B. Denning, 11171

Chief Operating Officer? 1181

A: It is 1191 MR. FRENKEL: We will mark the next exhibit as :201

Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 15. [21]

[Denning Deposition Exhibit 1221

No. 15 was marked for

[24] identification.]

25 BY MR. FRENKEL:

Page 257

Q: I am handing you Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 15 which is a one-page document dated October 17, 1994, on the

letterhead of Baker & Hostetler from Eric Geppert to Mr.

Denning and a CC, carbon copy to Mark Braden, and the Bates

Nos. NPF-172.

Do you recall receiving Denning Deposition Exhibit [6]

No. 15, Mr. Denning? [7]

A: I do. [8]

Q: In the first sentence following the, "Dear Dan",

it says, "Congratulations on making the Friday deadline for 101 funding of the loan." [11]

[12] Do you recall if there was any sort of deadline

for making the loan or, I guess, getting the loan by the [13] [14] NPF?

[15] A: No, not really. 1163

Q: Do you know whether there was-

(17) A: I think it was some kind of a technical deadline, not in-house. [ពេក

[19]

Q: Technical in what sense?

A: No, only a deadline in the terms of getting all 1201 the paperwork. Everybody wanted to get it completed and the [21]

[22] paperwork in order and the transaction complete. That's

what I meant as opposed to if we didn't do it by some date

[24] that the guarantor would pull out or the bank would pull out

[25] or we would pull out. That was, I don't remember that to be

Page 258

[1] the case.

Q: It goes on to say, "Mr. Geppert looks forward to

discussing the governance structure and other issues that

[4] surfaced during the loan process", in that first paragraph. [5] Do you recall what the governance structure and other issues

(s) referred to might be?

A: I think something arose about NPF's bylaws were-

what is the word I want-difficult or it was hard to operate. Something about board meetings, I think and Eric [10] had some ideas on how we could, amendments to the bylaws

[11] that were going to clean up that process.

Q: Do you recall anything else? (121

A: No. [13]

[14] MR. FRENKEL: Mark the next exhibit, please.

[Denning Deposition Exhibit [15]

ne No. 16 was marked for

[17] identification.] [10] BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: I'm now handing you what has been marked as

Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 16, a two-page document, NPF-[20] 197 and 198 are the Bates Numbers representing two checks

from the National Policy Forum to the RNSEC on October 20th, [22][23]

Mr. Denning, how were the proceeds of the loan [24] [25] guarantee to be used by the National Policy Forum? Page 259

A: We were to repay our indebtedness in part to the RNC.

Q: And do the checks reflected in Denning Deposition [3] Exhibit No. 16, were they payments made to the RNC to pay [4] (5) back loans the NPF had?

A: They were.

[1]

[25]

[4] [5]

(7)

[6]

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( ... ( ... [6]

Q: Do you have any understanding as to why it was [7] in necessary to write two checks to the RNC?

A: No, I don't-

MR. SPAEDER: The RNSEC

[10] MR. FRENKEL: Yes, I agree that the Denning [11] [12] Deposition Exhibit No. 16, the payee in both pages of the [13] document is the RNSEC. I believe also that Mr. Denning's [14] earlier testimony is that he's not familiar with the entity known as the RNSEC but believes the monies to be going to the NRC [16]

MR. SPAEDER: No. I think he said that he was not [17] tin clear on the precise accounts within the RNC. And he, so, I think acknowledged that there might have been some legal 1199 distinctions of which he was unaware. [20]

MR. FRENKEL: If I have mischaracterized your · (28) testimony I apologize. I am sure your testimony is well recorded in the record and I apologize to counsel if I have [24] misstated anything.

8Y MR. FRENKEL:

[1] Q: Do you know why-I think you may have just 22 answered this and I'm sorry if I just lost it in the shuffle-why two checks were necessary? [3]

A: I have no idea at all.

Q: And do you know why payment was made to the RNSEC?

A: I do not

MR. FRENKEL: We are going to mark the next document as Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 17.

[Denning Deposition Exhibit

[10] No. 17 was marked for

identification.] [11] BY MR. FRENKEL: [12]

Q: This document, Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 17 [13] (14) starts with Bates page SIG-19 and the second page is SIG-25 which continues through SIG-29. [15]

The first page of Denning Deposition Exhibit No. [17] 17 is on the letterhead of Arthur Andersen, LLP, and has in [18] the lower left-hand corner of Denning Deposition Exhibit No. [19] 17, it bears the date March 17, 1995, and location, Washington, D.C.

[20] And I don't intend to ask you detailed questions [21] about Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 17 but generally, do (22) [23] you know what Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 17 is?

A: Well, generally I was aware that this audit was [25] under way. By the time this audit report was issued, I

Page 261

(i) don't believe I was COO any more. I believe I had resigned [2] at this point in time. So, I don't know that I even saw (3) this report when it was issued.

Q: Was the audited financial statement part of the [5] requirements of the loan guarantee or is that something that in the National Policy Forum did as a matter of course?

A: We did it as a matter of course. 77

[8] Now, this might be the first report we issued. It was just coincident with the guarantee.

Q: I just want to draw your attention to one [10] [11] statement on the second page of this document which is [12] headed, "National Policy Forum notes to financial [13] statements, as of December 31, 1994, and 1993." Under [14] heading number one, organization and in the second

[15] paragraph, the third sentence. It says, "Management of NPF believes it has (17) developed a plan including formalizing the establishment of

a fundraising function to enable NPF to fund its operations and meet its maturing debt obligations."

Do you know to what that is referring? I mean was there a plan in place as of the time let's say you left the NPF, different from the fundraising plans that had been in place, oh, at any other time you were at the NPF?

A: Yeah. I believe it is referring to what we discussed earlier that of Mr. Barbour's commitment to an [1] increased schedule or meetings and fundraising appeals which were projected to result in revenue sufficient to service

debt and meet obligations.

Q: Do you know whether it included any, of the plan referred to here, included any use of members of Congress to

[6] raise funds for the NPF? A: Not that I'm aware of, no. [7]

MR. FRENKEL: Off the record for a second.

[Recess.]

MR. FRENKEL: We are back on the record. (101

[11] We will mark this as the next exhibit, please. (12)

[Denning Deposition Exhibit

[13] No. 18 was marked for

tra identification.)

[15] BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: While we were off the record, we marked as Denning 1181 [17] Deposition Exhibit No. 18 a two-page exhibit which also has [16] been used as Becker Deposition Exhibit No. 43. And it is a

letter from Fred Volcansek, here identified as Fred

Volcansek, Sr., to Haley Barbour, Chairman of the National

[21] Policy Forum and it is dated Wednesday, July 10, 1996, with (22) carbon copies on the second page to Mr. Denning and Don

Fierce and a blind carbon copy to Ben Becker and Steve

[24] Richards.

[25]

[13]

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Page 260

Turning to the second page of the Denning

Page 263

Page 262

[1] Deposition Exhibit No. 18 first, do you recognize what [2] country that telephone number is from that Mr. Volcansek

has? I just noticed that is probably an international [4] number, do you have any idea what country that is?

A: I don't. He travelled extensively and it could have been-he typically, you know, on a computer changed

[7] that depending on where he was. Q: And the third paragraph of Denning Deposition

Exhibit No. 18, Mr. Volcansek after exchanging some [10] pleasantries says, I called John Bolton, and Mr. Bolton was [11] the President of the National Policy Forum at that time, is

(12) that correct? A: That's correct.

9: And I guess, that time, meaning July 1996. About the issue of closing out the NPF's financial obligation to [16] me, Fred Volcansek. The NPF has not paid me the final

[17] payment of \$5,000 due in December of 1995, and then he goes [10] on. I have tried to be patient since I recognize how

difficult it has been for the NPF to raise money and I do not want to make an issue of it. The \$5,000 payment Mr. 1201 Volcansek is referring to, do you know what that was for? [21]

A: Yes. I believe it was the payment that was part of a series for fundraising assistance, the contract that /231

[24] NPF and Mr. Volcansek had entered into

Q: That's something you have testified about here

Page 264

[1] today, right? A: Yes.

Q: In the next paragraph of Denning Deposition

Exhibit No. 18 it says, I suggested to John Bolton that even though our contract has expired I was still trying to be

helpful to NPF's cause through my continued efforts to work with Ambrous Young. (7)

Did you have any understanding that Mr. Volcansek was continuing to solicit funds from Mr. Young?

A: No.

Q: Do you-[11]

A: Well, I'm sorry, go ahead.

[12] (13) Q: I'm sorry, you were going to clarify your answer? A: No. He was not trying to raise additional money [14] [15] from Young

Q: Do you know what he is referring to then by, his [16] continued efforts to work with Ambrous Young? [17]

A: I think at that point in time-bear in mind, please, I've been gone for over a year-Haley was hopeful

ihat Ambrous Young would-1201 MR. SPAEDER: Let me just interrupt now. You can [21] certainly answer the question but bear in mind that you are [22]under oath and you're being asked what you know, not what-[24] and try to confine your answer to what you know, or, if you 25] don't know and you're just making it up, tell counsel you're

Miller Reporting Company, Inc.

Q: What was your understanding about what Mr. Barbour

Q: You mentioned you'd already been gone from the NPF

may or may not have known-l am sorry, I didn't quite, I

A: I have, too. Let me find the reference again.

[11] for over a year, do you have any understanding why Mr.

A: Well, as I explained early in the day, we were [14] friends and he was distressed about this and I think he

[15] faxed me a copy there to let me know what was going on.

117) have never asked for any money except for the six \$5,000

[21] have only requested one of your limited "pairs of Reagan

[25] referring to by the written agreement of July 13, 1995?

Q: In the next paragraph Mr. Volcansek continues, I

[18] payments which were in accordance with our written agreement

For my efforts with Ambrous Young you know that I

Volcansek sent you a carbon copy of this letter?

(19) of July 13, 1995, and that which only one remains.

A: There it is in writing.

A: Yes. I don't know what Fred was doing at this

point in time, but I am fairly certain he was not trying to

[ii] making it up so we are all clear on the subject.

Q: It's the fourth paragraph to the first-

lost track a little bit of your answer.

raise additional money from Mr. Young.

Special Investigation

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CONFIDENTIAL

Page 265

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Page 268

whole letter and have you ever seen this letter before? [3]

Q: When did you see it other than this deposition?

[1] chairman of the RNC. Have you had a chance to review the

A: If I recall Mr. Volcansek, I believe it was Mr.

Volcansek, sent me a copy of this at about this time. And 161 by that, I mean during September of 1996. Q: In Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 19, Mr. Richards

(9) sets out his recollection of the events concerning the approach to Ambrous Young to guarantee the loan to the [10]

[11] National Policy Forum and subsequent events. (12)

MR. PERRY: I'm sorry to interrupt your 113] questioning, I know it's not good form, but let me just note

[14] for the record that I object to the extent that you

[15] characterize this letter as accurately reflecting Mr. [16] Richards' recollection of the events at issue and please [17] proceed.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

[18] Q: As you reviewed the letter, does your recollection (19] of the events concerning the loan guarantee by Young [20] [21] Brothers Development agree with that of the views of Mr. Richards as set out in Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 19? 1221 A: No. (23)

MR. SPAEDER: I was going to object. I believe as

[25] a matter of interrogation form, it's really not appropriate

Page 259

Page 266 A: I think he's referring to the agreement I just [2] referred to, the contract between NPF and a Mr. Volcansek for fundraising assistance.

Q: That's right. Do you know what Mr. Volcansek is

[4] Q: Do you think his date is wrong, in that, I mean you were gone at that point and I believed you had testified [5] that you had entered the contract with Mr. Volcansek or [6] while you were at the NPF the contract was entered into with (8) Mr. Volcansek.

A: I'm sorry, I could be wrong about that. I was 191 [10] aware of it, whether I actually signed, I don't remember. [11] And according to this, I didn't, if that date is accurate. Q: Does the amount Mr. Volcansek cite sound about 112 [13] right to you, \$5,000, six payments of \$5,000 was what he was [14]

supposed to receive from the NPF? A: Sounds right. (15)

[16] Q: Was it your understanding that each of the [17] payments represented his work for one month's effort on behalf of the NPF? [161 [19]

A: Yes.

[25]

[11]

[15]

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Q: Is it your understanding that the NPF got its [20] [21] money's worth from Mr. Volcansek's efforts?

A: Yes, I think that's fair to say to the extent I (22) know about it. I know he was successful on a couple of [53] occasions

MR. FRENKEL: Mark this as Denning Deposition

Page 267

[1] Exhibit No. 19, the final exhibit. [Denning Deposition Exhibit

[3] No. 19 was marked for [4] identification.]

(5) BY MR. FRENKEL

Q: Before I get into Denning Deposition Exhibit No. [6] [7] 19, just one area of questioning. From the time of the loan [8] guarantee in October of 1994 until the time you left the National Policy Forum, did National Policy Forum have to get [10] additional loan funding from the RNC, as far as you know?

A: I don't believe it did.

Q: Do you know what, subsequent to your leaving, 1121 whether there came a time where the NPF needed additional 1131 [14] loans from the RNC to continue?

Q: Now, we will turn to Denning Deposition Exhibit [10] 117 No. 19, which has previously been marked as Becker Deposition Exhibit No. 51. It is a three-page letter dated [18]

September 17, 1996.

MR. PERRY: Let me note for the record there is no /20 [21] indication on here that Mr. Denning would have received this [22] letter.

(23)MR. FRENKEL: That's correct.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Q: It is from Richard Richards to Haley Barbour, the

(i) to ask a witness who does not purport to be a first-hand 2) observer of all the events, who did not author the document, who did not receive the document to testify about the (4) document. The probative value of Mr. Denning's testimony **(S)** about a letter written in September of 1996 by Mr. Richards strikes me as so far attenuated from the first-hand sources of information about the transactions at issue, including Mr. Barbour, himself, Mr. Richards, and others with personal no knowledge it is like asking you or me about what we think about the transaction based upon our knowledge. [11]

about it, but it seems to me that it really can't advance (13) the committee's inquiry very much to ask Mr. Denning's opinion about what's in this letter. [15] I also have, as an aside, a loose document before [16]

I guess I can't stop you from asking the witness

[17] me and I-MR. FRENKEL: Yes, that is not being used or it is 1181 another copy of something else. [19]

MR. SPAEDER: That's not part of any exhibit? MR. FRENKEL: No, it's not.

MR. SPAEDER: Okay, I have said my piece. [22] BY MR. FRENKEL: [23]

Q: Turning to the fourth paragraph of Denning [25] Deposition Exhibit No. 19, Mr. Richards states in the letter

Page 270

[1] that prior to the elections of 1994 he was asked by Fred [2] Volcansek to help facilitate a loan in excess of \$2 million

(3) to assist the RNC in replacing hard money at the Forum with soft money so that the hard dollars could be used to help

(s) pick up 60 targeted House seats.

Do you have any recollection of whether at any

time during the consideration of the Young Brothers loan guarantee you heard any discussion about hard money and soft money as it related to the loan?

A: No. I did not.

[11] Q: Do you recall anyone else having a discussion about hard and soft money as it related to the loan? [12]

[13]

Q: The final paragraph on that page, page 1 of [14] Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 19, talks about a fund ries transfer from Hong Kong to Young Brothers USA, the Florida corporation, then it says, shortly after the loan was made,

you, meaning Mr. Barbour, journeyed to Hong Kong to approach (181

Mr. Young for the first time about the question of [19] [20]

forgiveness of the loan.

Were you aware of any conversations Mr. Barbour [21] might have had with Mr. Young about forgiving the loan to the NPF? [23]

A: I became aware of Haley's interest in forgiveness [25] of all or part of the note sometime in early 1995. I'm not z consulted?

tize the itinerary.

[21] that time?

A: Yeah.

[17]

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Page 271

(1) sure when his trip was which Mr. Richards refers to. The [2] first time I became aware of it was very late 1995 or early m 1996.

Q: What do you recall the discussions were? [4]

A: That Haley was hopeful that Mr. Young would agree to forgive all or part of the obligation.

Q: Do you recall what arguments or suggestions Mr. [7] Barbour was going to advance to Mr. Young to persuade him to forgive all or part of the loan to the National Policy 193 Forum, if any? fiai

A: What arguments he was going to present. No, not 1121 really. I mean he, no.

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Q: On the second page of Denning Deposition Exhibit 1131 1141 No. 19, in the first full paragraph on the page, it includes [15] a discussion of a trip Mr. Barbour was to take to China, do you have any knowledge about Mr. Barbour's trip to China including what the purpose might have been? 1171

[18] MR. PERRY: Let me, in connection with that last [19] question, just renew my previous objection when I earlier MR. PERRY: Let me, in connection with that last **i** [50] interrupted your first question about this letter. () (S1)

BY MR. FRENKEL: Q: Do you need to hear the question again?

A: Yes, I'm sorry, would you?

MR. FRENKEL: Could you re-read it, please?

[25] [The Reporter read back the requested portion of

Page 272

[25] you know, on pending issues but I turned over all my active Page 275

Page 274

[i] the record.] BY MR. FRENKEL: [2]

(3) Q: Do you have any knowledge about the purpose of the [4] trip to China?

A: I'm confused on which trip we're talking about [6] now. There was the one we discussed earlier.

Q: The trip to Hong Kong, is that what you're referring to?

[8] A: Well, the Seoul was on the itinerary and wherever (9) [10] clse

Q: The September 1995?

A: Yes, I think that sounds about right. Is this a [13] second trip?

MR. PERRY: I'm sorry, I'm having a problem here [14] [15] because I think it is appropriate to ask him what, if [18] anything, he knows from conversations with Mr. Barbour or [17] anybody else but having him read a letter that he didn't [18] have any involvement in and that, you know, I have made an (19) objection to, and I want to restate that, is potentially [20] misleading. And to the extent you try to link your questions to statements in that letter, or independent of (21) his knowledge I think you have a problem in the form of the [23] question

MR. FRENKEL: Your objection as to form is noted.

BY MR. FRENKEL:

Page 273 Q: I guess the question still goes, what, if [2] anything, did you know, I mean do you know about any other trip to China other than one that might have occurred in or [3] around September 1995 [4]

A: Well, this letter talks about what appears to be a [6] second trip to China. And I believe that one, I believe I'm aware of a second trip but the timing is what I'm stumbling (7) on here. I'm not sure what they're referring to here. There could have been a second trip in maybe January of [10] 1995. Or maybe a little later.

Q: How did you come to learn of a second trip, if one

took place, to China? 1121 A: I received a fax or an invitation to a meeting to [13] [14] help plan part of the itinerary, I remember that. And I probably was aware of it as well through Mr. Volcansek. [15] [16]

Q: Do you recall who sent you the invitation to [17] participate in planning the itinerary?

A: Ed Rogers.

[18] Q: Was Mr. Rogers working for Mr. Barbour at that [19] (20) point as far as you knew?

A: No, he was not.

Q: Do you have any special experience or expertise in [23] Asia that you would be expected to be consulted about [24] planning an itinerary to the Far East or China?

in responsibilities pretty quickly to Bolton and to Jackie

Q: When you left the National Policy Forum for good, [4] I guess after that three or four month period, were you is confident that the NPF was going to be able to make the loan

Q: Do you have any understanding as to why you were

NPF even though I was no longer chief operating officer, and

[5] I guess being there I was the most knowledge about Mr. Young

in and the situation with him. And that's why I was consulted.

of that loan forgiven and I think and I was, you know, the

for communication with Mr. Young at the time. And, so, my role

was to kind of translate between the two groups in terms of

Q: Do I understand that when you resigned at the

Q: What were your duties or responsibilities during

A: I was really, most of the time, concentrating on

23) what I was going to do next, finding another job. And then

[24] there was the normal transition kinds of things, clean up,

[7] And I was aware of Haley's interest in getting all or part

one with the history with Mr. Volcansek who was in

[14] chief operating officer of NPF, was there still a period

(18) just didn't quite understand your

A: About three or four months.

[15] where you stayed at the NPF without the title? I guess I

Q: I guess how long was that period of time?

A: At that point in time, I was still physically at

payments on the loan guarantee from Young Brothers Development Company?

A: Well, I don't I'm not sure I was confident. The payments were being made and I can't project out beyond, you know, what I saw at the time. They were able to make them in as of the time I left.

Q: Just the next paragraph down, said, as the [13] payments became due, we then requested forgiveness of [14] individual payments, the first of which, Mr. Young refused jis; but agreed to skip the payment, pay the interest and put the payment on the back side of the loan, which he did. (161

Do you have any knowledge about that, were you [17] still at the NPF when any loan payments were rearranged? [18]

A: No. I don't believe so. I don't recall really but 1191 that didn't ring any bell with me. 1201

Q: During your time at the NPF, did you become aware 1211 of any activity that in your mind would have jeopardized a [23] 501(c)(4) status of the NPF?

A: There were, there were, no. I mean we worked to

[25] avoid those kind of situations.

Page 276

MR. FRENKEL: I don't have any further questions 2) at this time. The only thing I would do is reiterate the document request I made on the record already to Mr. Spaeder and ask you to review them and produce them.

MR. PERRY: I have one question as a point of 151 [6] clarification.

BY MR. PERRY:

Q: On a couple of occasions, today, during this long day, you used a metaphor of a brick wall and I think on one [10] of those occasions you used this metaphor, that metaphor [12] when you were referring to the relationship, if any, between [12] the RNC and NPF, would you explain what you meant by that?
[13] A: We made a concerted effort to keep NPF free of [+3]

influence with the RNC, itself. And restricted staff access [14] over there as did Haley with his RNC hat on restrict access [15] the other way, from the RNC to us. [16]

And it was really, you know, once the pattern was [17] established, our independence, I have to say, was pretty. was very well maintained. We weren't pressured or directed to take a particular position as far as I'm aware of, at least during the time I was in charge. [21]

That's what it meant.

Q: I apologize, one further question. Yes, I think [24] you used the metaphor the brick wall to address an issue [25] that's briefly addressed in Denning Deposition Exhibit No. 1

[22]

Page 277

[1] and let me read the sentence, it should be clearly [2] understood that financial contributions or financial [3] assistance must not dictate final policy determinations. Is that sentence I read an accurate reflection of the policy of the National Policy Forum? A: Yes. MR. FRENKEL: May I just ask a clarification, as  $\mathbf{m}$ [7] MH. PREVIOLE (MAY 1 Just written?
[8] of the time the document was written?
BY MR. PERRY: Q: As of the time the document was written? [10] A: I don't recall the date on that but that was the [11] policy not only that we established but that we maintained the entire time I was there and it's my belief that it was in place even prior to my arrival.

MR. PERRY: I have nothing further at this point. MR. FRENKEL: I have no redirect. I just want to thank you, I'm sure both on my behalf and of the minority [18] and on behalf of Mr. Perry and the majority for your coming [19] here today and spending a long, long, long day answering [20] questions. I think you've been extremely cooperative and [21] answered questions fully and to the best of your ability and [22] we thank you for coming down here and doing that.
[23] MR. SPAEDER: Let me reflect that the time is 8 (24) o'clock p.m., and I believe this deposition began at 9:30 [25] with approximately a 55 minute funch break, so, apart from

Page 278

[1] the few bathroom breaks, I think the mathematicians can compute the amount of time that Mr. Denning has spent in an [3] effort to accommodate the committee's subpoena for his oral estimony today.

That's all I have.

MR. FRENKEL: Off the record.

[7] [Whercupon, at 8:00 p.m., the deposition was

adjourned.]

(49) Page 277 - Page 278

### CONFIDENTIAL

687 238:17, 18; 240:8

7 208:24; 209:1, 7, 13; 211:1, 13; 212:12; 213:2, 18: 225:2; 227:4; 230:17 **75** 37:8, 16; 38:5; 39:3, 14 **783** 254:16 7:15 253:23

## 8

8 110:24: 213:24: 214:10. 22; 216:12, 13; 217:10, 12; 218:14; 227:18, 20; 277:23 80 178:8 81 9:15 84 9:22: 10:19: 11:2, 11 85 9:23

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88 9:25

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9 110:25: 220:22: 221:1. 4, 12; 222:1, 17 9-first 221:24 90 92:5; 252:3 90-day 252:9 92 171:12 9201 8:15 93 11:24; 12:12; 15:11; 43:14; 110:12 93-there 107:23 94 28:10; 32:17; 37:15, 16; 38:21, 22; 40:7, 9; 42:19; 53:19; 54:18; 66:12:67:17:68:7.9: 79:13; 81:16; 87:3; 94:4; 99:17; 100:15; 101:3; 102:13; 103:8; 106:22; 108:17; 110:13, 14, 15; 113:16; 118:20; 119:20; 120:23; 171:13; 175:11, 11: 185:15: 187:24: 237:20: 246:24: 259:22. 23: 251:12 94-well 32:5 95 32:20: 54:18: 67:14; 68:22; 69:7; 73:7; 89:16; 92:23; 93:4, 5, 13; 99:5; 187:23; 251:12 96 10:9; 12:18; 93:2

# A

A(1 242:25 a-As 176:21 a-he 198:20

981 254:16

9:00 254:4

9:30 277:24

a-1 68:21:94:8: 161:16; 192:12 a-none 206:16 a-we 87:1 a-half 135:20 A-to-Z 232:9 abbreviation 222:4; 235:10 **ABC 195:5** ability 8:11:89:17; 277:21 able 38:11: 55:6: 88:9: 157:22; 161:5; 216:3; 217:1; 235:6; 243:14; 246:25; 275:5, 10 about-and 90:15 about--i 229:12 about-this 119:17 above 109:13, 14, 16, 18; 198:7; 208:19 Absolutely 171:10, 20; 205:20: 248:5 absorbed 70:19 accept 20:16; 74:23; 77:22: 78:6; 82:14; 109:1 acceptable 19:1 accepted 14:23; 16:23; 17:2; 75:17 accepting 81:15 access 90:11; 276:14, 15 accommodation 14:22 accompanied 255:4 accomplish 36:21; 39:3; 170:25: 214:24 accordance 265:18 according 47:9; 266:11 account 103:18; 111:15, 16; 206:16 accounting 103:24; 104:2: 252:7 accounts 259:18 accuracy 235:1 accurate 8:7; 81:21; 106:9; 172:10; 232:7; 243:7, 24; 249:11; 256:10, 14; 266:11; 277:4 accurately 268:15 acknowledged 259:19 acquaintances 68:23 acquainted 158:2 across 250:19 act 169:8; 232:5; 234:11; 235:13 acting 159:24; 160:4, 12; 238:8 action 131:11; 218:18 active 274:25 actively 172:11 activities 5:7, 25; 13:18; 20:23; 21:11, 17, 25; 22:8, 16, 22; 23:3, 12, 18, 24;

24:5, 12, 19, 24; 25:6, 12,

49:5, 11, 18, 23; 50:5, 11,

18, 19; 44:15; 46:4; 48:19;

25; 53:14; 56:19; 59:18; 60:3, 9, 25; 61:7, 14, 20; 62:14, 20; 63:13; 67:25; 68:1, 11; 84:15; 85:3, 9, 20; 88:23; 96:5; 100:12; 109:19: 208:12: 243:9: 249:3 activity 13:8, 13, 16; 243:13: 248:13, 23; 275:22 actual 65:11; 166:6, 17; 167:2; 168:8; 169:8; 177:23: 244:24 actually 13:10:60:16: 103:14, 15; 104:23; 125:10; 153:6; 163:20; 175:10, 22; 233:18; 244:9; 266:10 add 32:24; 33:6; 62:3; 106:8; 143:19; 161:23; 174:6; 222:3; 242:22; 251:9 adding 250:12 addition 85:2; 101:19; 177:17; 213:13 additional 36:21; 72:17; 94:10; 101:21; 109:21; 160:7; 161:4; 213:12: 222:4; 244:15; 264:14; 265:9: 267:10, 13 additions 195:22 address 6:3; 8:14, 15; 72:21; 128:17; 232:12; 276:24 addressed 159:9; 183:23; 184:18; 276:25 addressees 193:2 addresses 117:4,7 administration 8:25: 9:18, 21: 10:15; 11:2; 27:4; 104:19 advance 27:16; 269:13; 271:8 advanced 106:13 advantage 188:6, 23 advice 79:3; 93:19: 94:2; 95:22: 101:10: 134:5, 7; 143:20; 149:8, 13; 235:2 advisability 134:8,8 advise 138:4 advised 74:22 advisement 97:4; 157:4 advisor 189:7 Aerospace 11:18 Affairs 4:5, 12; 7:12; 10:24; 12:6; 27:18; 204:6 affected 68:7 affidavit 236:17 affiliate 241:3.6 affiliated 114:11; 142:20; 145:8; 232:4, 14; 242:20 affiliation 15:19

185:12; 187:16; 199:18; 237:11 again 9:11; 18:22; 31:4; 42:17; 51:2; 70:13; 73:22; 84:4, 17, 21; 91:5, 12; 94:13; 96:2, 15; 97:18; 98:6; 125:21; 133:5; 146:4: 148:21: 149:17; 162:6; 196:9; 197:4; 202:13; 216:22; 227:9; 231:17; 233:15; 238:18; 243:23; 246:12; 265:5; 271:22 against 39:5; 217:14, 24 aged 251:25; 252:1 agencies 12:10 **Agency 10:16** Agenda 205:12; 215:22 aggregate-projections 201-24 ago 247:25 agree 18:18; 39:20; 189:13; 224:1; 245:24; 246:10: 248:2, 6: 259:11; 268:21; 271:5 agreeable 110:4; 111:19 agreed 104:22; 176:23; 177:1, 14; 182:23; 223:23; agreement 90:6, 7; 164:3: 265:18, 25: 266:1 agreements 159:14 ahead 4:22; 56:1; 87:21; 110:9; 140:4; 144:13; 148:2; 188:9; 192:16; 207:1; 221:22; 232:21; 234:24; 264:12 aid 97:1; 213:12 air 66:24, 25; 67:25; 68:1, 12; 206:11 air-tight 229:15 Al 44:9: 69:13 **ALEC 210:13** alert 236:1 alleged 108:21 Allen 252:15, 18 Allison 69:24 almost 83:5; 180:16; 190:5 aiong 29:18, 20; 79:5; 95:25; 103:16; 131:6, 8; 161:14; 165:9; 174:13; 188:3,5 already 15:13; 18:8, 16; 60:13; 83:25; 110:12; 118:10; 121:17; 122:7; 133:4; 143:8; 172:5; 174:25; 175:3, 15; 212:7; 214:2; 219:9; 265:10; 276:3 alternative 109:17 although 52:23; 60:12; 75:16; 103:8; 127:2; 138:3; 230:17; 231:15; 238:17; 243:20

always 38:25; 139:9, 12;

207:25; 216:8, 15, 21; 217:5: 227:23 always-- 173:10 ambiguity 200:7 Ambrous 28:17; 30:18; 31:9: 54:2: 125:14, 18: 136:19; 145:20; 146:9; 147:24; 149:15, 23; 154:9; 158:6, 10, 13: 167:18; 168:12; 173:6; 182:2; 185:6; 186:1, 2, 24; 187:9. 19, 19; 189:7, 13; 191:10; 199:1; 203:12; 209:3; 214:1: 225:5: 264:7, 17, 20: 265:20: 268:10 amendments 258:10 America 40:5, 21:41:7: 42:20: 170:23: 205:12; 252:22 American 8:20, 24: 10:8 amount 23:8:89:11, 25: 90:3; 93:14; 104:8; 105:12; 106:1, 2; 107:4, 6; 108:11: 109:24; 110:18, 19: 128:12: 135:19: 141:13; 173:7, 20; 174:25; 175:2, 21; 208:18; 244:15; 249:6; 251:10; 252:16, 16; 253:11, 14; 256:4, 8; 266:12 amounts 110:2; 115:1, 14; 216:4; 256:14 an-it 104:14:113:19 analysis 234:23; 245:7. 25; 246:9, 11, 12; 247:24 ancillary 166:10 and-1 246:16 and-Siemens 91.6 and/or 63:6; 65:7; 135:3; 136:10; 138:16; 148:20, Andersen 260:17 angle 224:11 Ann 153:20 announced 52:2 answered 82:1; 260:2; 277:21 answering 277:19 anticipate 14:6; 76:19: 108:2; 164:20; 251:21 anticipated 106:16; 114:4; 127:9; 233:10; 250:11 anticipation 114:5 anxious 13:12:76:12, 13; 160:17 any-and 211:4 any-1144:10 any-prior 60:22 anybody 52:25; 113:18; 119:12: 122:2: 123:3, 4: 169:21; 174:15; 272:17 anyone 12:14; 13:3, 37:22; 44:1, 6, 9, 13; 52:15; 58:8; 59:12; 60:2, 7, 24; 61:5, 12, 18, 24; 62:12,

687 - anyone (2)

afford 15:7

after-on 100:7

# \$

\$1 90:4 \$1.5 123:18 \$1.8 174:25 \$10,000 110:17 \$100,000 110:23 \$100,000~because 105:17 \$115,000 110:20, 21 \$12,000 106:24 **\$120,000** 110:22 \$125,000 110:13 \$140,000 110:25 \$15,000 110:17 \$15,000-plus 252:11 \$150,000 67:20 \$190,000 256:8 \$191,000 256:5 \$2 39:9; 116:16; 250:24; 270:2 **\$2.1** 23:8; 32:9; 62:23; 63:10; 107:2; 173:10, 13: 235:7 \$2.1-million 213:13: 234:14 \$20 89:17 \$200,000 110:16 **\$25,000** 89:17; 110:19, S250 17:3 \$3,000 89:23 \$3.4 250:25 **\$3.5** 173:7; 174:2 \$30,000 109:25; 110:6, 13, 15 \$300,000 17:3: 245:17 \$35,000 110:16 \$4,000 253:10, 13 \$45,000 110:21 \$5,000 263:17, 20; 265:17; 266:13, 13 \$50,000 110:23, 24 **\$500,000** 245:20; 246:4; 247:1 \$55,000 110:15 \$6,000-plus 253:4 \$60,000 111:2 \$65,000 110:14, 21 **\$70,000** 111:1; 206:2 **\$75,000** 110:16, 24 \$80,000 110:14, 25 \$85,000 111:1 \$90,000 110:19

2. 21. 21.

# 1

1 13:10; 75:2; 77:1, 18, 24; 78:5, 22; 80:9; 82:11, 18, 25; 83:16, 18, 24; 84:12, 18; 85:1, 6, 22; 86:7, 21,

23: 88:8. 10: 89:13: 90:19: 91:2, 9, 13, 17; 92:11; 94:4, 21, 24; 95:6, 12, 17; 96:3; 97:12; 100:7, 25; 113:1, 5, 11, 17; 123:25; 167:11, 14; 168:12, 19, 25; 169:2, 7, 18, 24; 171:22, 23; 172:3; 173:5; 174:24; 176:8; 177:17; 180:7, 11; 181:6; 182:19; 239:10, 24; 240:1, 6, 11; 247:9; 270:14; 276:25 1.400 69:18: 178:7 1-after 88:8 1-41 170:15 1-well 214:22 1.4 251:11 10 13:12; 110:21; 208:11; 224:23, 24; 225:7, 15; 226:9; 227:1; 236:24; 262:21 100 37:9, 17; 38:5; 39:3. 14; 189:16, 19, 24; 190:2; 191:4; 212:5, 10; 216:21; 217:6, 6; 228:4; 251:6 100% 216:15; 227:3, 24 1002 254:16 1011 254:14 11 230:14, 15, 21, 23; 231:3, 18, 22; 233:7; 234:7; 235:9, 12; 241:5 12 110:22; 111:2; 208:10; 235:21, 23; 236:4; 237:13; 238:6; 239:10; 241:23; 242:15 12th 244:25 13 110:13, 17; 124:1; 142:18; 144:7; 145:19; 146:8: 163:20: 212:5: 218:6, 238:12, 14, 16, 19; 239.5, 7, 15; 240:22; 241:12, 21; 249:25; 250:16: 256:12: 265:19. 13-and 247:21 13-just 251:24 13-provided 240:12 13-the 251:25 13th 173:11 14 69:18: 70:2: 110:14. 15, 18, 20; 111:1; 178:8; 254:13, 20; 255:1, 7; 256:17 14th 246:24 15 13:12: 110:15; 167:18; 168:13: 182:19; 256:21, 23; 257:1,7 150 178:9 15th 175:9, 15; 176:3; 183:6 16 183:20; 247:25; 258:16, 20; 259:4, 12 17 110:23; 184:16; 257:2; 260:8, 10, 13, 17, 19, 19,

17; 263:1, 9; 264:4 186 236:5, 8 19 203:10; 209:2; 211:9; 213:10; 267:1, 3, 7, 17; 268:8, 22; 269:25; 270:15; 271:14 193 236:5,9 197 258:21 1971 232:5 198 258:21 1984 11:4 1992 170:24 **1993** 13:2; 15:19; 16:4, 8, 24: 17:11: 19:17: 20:19: 21:2, 8, 16, 22; 22:6, 13, 20; 25:24; 26:6; 36:6, 12; 41:20; 43:4; 45:16; 46:1; 47:13; 95:6; 109:24; 110:6; 113:20, 23; 176:2; 226:14: 241:25; 250:21; 261:13 1994 5:2; 18:2; 23:7, 15, 21; 24:2, 9, 15, 22; 25:3, 9, 15: 38:6: 39:14: 40:1: 41:8: 42:22; 50:15, 22; 53:20; 54:2, 6, 10; 55:6, 10, 13, 18, 22; 60:1, 7, 22; 61:4, 11, 17, 23; 62:11, 17, 25; 63:11:64:16, 22:66:19, 20: 67:12: 68:4, 16: 70:7, 12; 71:3; 72:11, 17; 73:22; 75:2, 22; 76:19; 77:1, 13, 18, 24; 78:5, 22; 80:9; 81:4, 18; 82:2, 4, 11, 18, 25; 83:16, 18, 24; 84:7, 12, 18: 85:1, 6: 86:7, 23: 88:4, 8, 10, 14, 16, 24; 89:13; 90:19; 91:3, 10, 13, 18; 92:11, 18; 94:21, 24; 95:6, 7, 12, 17; 96:4; 97:12, 25; 99:20, 23, 25; 100:7, 20, 25; 101:24; 102:7, 10, 11, 12: 107:3, 10, 16, 24; 108:22; 110:13, 15, 15, 16, 16, 17, 17, 18, 20, 21, 21, 21, 22, 23, 23, 23, 24, 25, 25: 111:1, 1, 2; 112:16; 113:1, 5, 11, 17; 116:20; 121:12, 20; 123:25; 124:1. 3; 125:13, 22; 126:14, 24; 127:14: 129:19: 131:16; 136:21; 137:5; 139:2; 142:18; 144:7; 145:19; 146:8; 147:7; 155:6; 156:4; 157:11; 158:24; 159:22; 160:1, 7; 161:6; 162:5: 163:20: 166:1; 167:19: 168:13: 173:11; 175:9, 15; 176:3; 180:13; 182:19; 183:8, 22; 184:18; 185:13, 19; 190:3; 192:9; 193:1; 199:1, 11; 203:10; 204;9; 206:6, 9, 21; 207:14; 209:2; 211:9; 213:10; 214:1, 2, 7; 216:3; 217:5, 16; 218:6, 23; 219:21; 221:4; 224:18; 225:2; 227:5, 10; 228:11; 230:16, 18; 234:12;

236:25; 241:6, 23; 242:1, 15; 243:5, 8, 24; 244:25; 246:3; 247:9; 256:12; 257:2; 258:23; 261:13; 267:8: 270:1 1994-141:20 1994-strike 62:24 1994-that 138:15; 197:5 1994-whether 85:23 1994-would 86:21 1995 5:2; 10:7, 8; 66:12, 24; 67:24; 68:6; 93:2; 95:18; 99:4; 174:25; 175:17; 187:10, 21; 188:15; 200:21; 201:2; 210:6; 247:10; 256:5; 260:19; 263:17; 265:19, 25: 270:25: 271:2; 272:11; 273:4, 10 **1996** 5:7, 10, 25; 17:17; 18:2.7; 41:13, 19; 42:7; 45:22; 63:18; 171:19; 205:14: 262:21: 263:14: 267:19; 268:7; 269:6; 271:3 1997 94:9; 256:7, 9 1:00 108:5 1:07 111:24 1B 201:1, 4, 5 1st 54:15

### 2

2 13:10: 183:14, 16, 19; 184:22; 185:1, 1, 5, 19, 25; 186:16, 18, 22; 187:5; 188:20; 189:15; 191:2, 18, 23: 199:11; 200:24, 25; 224:12; 226:9, 10; 227:1; 240:1 20 36:10; 254:1 20th 258:22 22 110:20: 214:5 22066 8:16 225,000 245:18 23 109:24; 214:1, 2; 217:16; 219:21 25 110:23 25th 155:10 27 110:13 270,000 245:13 27th 155:14 **28** 110:6, 12, 20; 167:17 28th 155:13 29 167:17; 183:22; 184:17; 185:19; 193:1 **29th** 155:14 2:05 111:25: 112:2 2B 200:25

2F 191:25

# 3

**3** 110:24: 183:25: 184:12. 15, 22; 191:25; 200:24, 25; 201:3; 203:7; 204:22; 205:10; 214:6; 221:4; 224:18; 240:1; 247:21, 22; 249:24 **30** 110:16; 111:1; 118:17; 155:10; 198:25; 203:10; 204:9; 206:6, 9, 21; 207:14; 226:14; 252:3; 256:5 308 226:12 309 225:1 31 95:7; 100:20; 110:23; 256:7, 8; 261:13 39 5:4 3:00 178:11 3F 191:24

## 4

4 110:15; 192:23, 24; 193:6, 16, 19; 194:5, 25; 195:19; 197:17; 203:7; 240:1 42 198:25 43 198:25; 262:18

## 5

5 94:9; 110:17, 21; 198:23, 24; 199:5, 10, 13; 200:20; 201:7; 207:20; 212:2, 8; 237:13; 239:11, 22: 240:2, 6, 9, 11; 248:24; 250:17 50.000 245:13 500 206:3; 207:20; 245:9 **500,000** 245:10: 246:18 501(c)(4 74:22; 79:4; 91:6; 143:3; 219:15; 242:23; 275:23 51 267:18 53 205:25; 217:11 54 217:11 55 277:25 **59** 251:3 598 221:2 5:00 236:24

# 6

6 203:8, 9, 17, 21; 204:4, 16, 22; 205:10; 206:5, 9, 21; 208:3; 230:16; 238:7 60 252:3; 270:5 600 221:3; 222:23 600,000 245:12 676 238:18 683 238:25

22, 23; 267:19

18 110:16; 193:2; 262:13.

CONFIDENTIAL

June 30, 1997 17, 18, 25; 239:7; 240:7, 16; 254:13; 255:11; 257:4; 258:21; 260:14 bcc 209:4, 19 be--as 180:11 be--at 43:4 be--you 37:10 bear 97:19; 142:7; 148:23; 161:10; 178:24; 217:11; 264:22 bearing 142:20; 184:17; 198:24 bears 175:15; 183:20; 203:10; 222:18; 225:16; 236:4; 260:19 beat 56:1 became 79:8; 85:3; 116:14; 118:25; 163:19; 182:20, 22; 270:24; 271:2; 275:13 Becker 150:4, 7, 8; 152:19: 154:15: 162:14. 18: 164:11, 13, 13: 176:20: 177:10; 183:20; 184:4, 16; 186:2; 193:2; 195:23; 196:8; 203:10; 214:2, 5. 23; 215:2; 216:20; 217.40, 20; 219:17; 220:14; 222:6, 20; 223:20; 225:5, 20; 227:19, 22; 228:4; 229:22, 230:19; 262:18, 23; 267:17 Becker's 166:12; 214:4; 215:22; 216:22 become 71:2:85:8, 19: 123:6; 177:7; 275:21 becoming 120:22 been-he 263:6 been-167:19; 161:14 been-there 86:16 Sefore--am 79:13 began 159:19; 162:16; 277:24 begin 184:25; 210:15 beginning 41:20; 42:6; 68:16; 96:20; 172:19; 175:23; 181:10; 208:5; 239:23; 243:4, 8; 247:8 begins 18:1; 180:8; 238:16; 239:14; 243:1; 254:13 behalf 4:18; 72:4; 135:22; 157:1; 159:24; 160:4, 12; 164:23; 176:10; 210:21; 223:25; 233:19; 253:18; 266:18; 277:17, 18 behind 40:8 belief 216:20; 230:12; 241:4; 277:13 believe 5:8; 6:8, 9, 10; 18:13; 29:16; 30:7; 31:6; 36:4; 39:19; 42:10; 45:7; 47:21; 52:12; 56:5, 11; 60:15, 16; 64:2; 65:4, 9; 66:11; 70:16; 71:23, 24; 79:22; 90:9; 92:19; 93:23;

; . i

104:1, 18; 106:11; 111:14; 119:19; 133:13; 144:2; 160:16; 168:25; 169:5, 16; 173:19: 176:20: 177:9, 10, 12; 185:2; 188:1; 189:11; 191:16; 195:10; 196:11; 198:15, 21; 202:14, 20; 203:24, 25; 207:12; 210:9; 211:18; 212:9, 10; 216:11; 218:25; 221:21; 227:6; 229:22; 232:24; 233:15, 21; 234:19; 237:4, 20; 239:9, 17; 240:13, 13, 19, 20: 243:10, 14: 246:7; 249:18; 255:18; 259:13; 261:1, 1, 24; 263:22; 267:11; 268:5, 24; 273:6, 6; 275:19; 277:24 believe-and 66:10 believe-- 151:7; 182:25 **believe--1** m 76:9 believe-it 9:15 believed 155:6: 170:21; 266:5 believes 171:22, 24: 259:15; 261:16 bell 94:19; 253:8; 275:20 below 255:15, 19 Ben 150:7: 262:23 bena 205:23 beneficial 197:13 benefit 79:17; 205:18; 213:21 **Senton** 154:15; 195:23; 196:8; 214:1; 225:5; 230:19 Berkowitz 252:20 besides 124:8 best 7:16; 34:6; 60:18; 69:12; 83:4; 86:25; 102:4; 122:13; 133:22; 134:3; 153:1; 157:10; 168:17, 19. 21; 170:11, 12, 13; 171:25; 175:1; 190:8; 194:16; 232:6; 246:18; 249:12; 277:21 bet 253:8 better 38:11:65:23; 213:7 beyond 10:3; 38:21; 45:20; 78:25; 124:13; 275:9 bifurcate 59:23 big 12:10:68:8:174:10: 178:12, 24; 190:10 bill 106:24 bit 10:12; 12:11, 20: 13:5; 27:7; 81:3; 101:15; 108:5; 148:2; 164:2; 229:20; 254:14: 265:4 Blake 101:2 Blank 79:23; 80:2; 145:8; 226:15; 241:10

blend 134:1

blind 209:4: 262:23

bloody 106:22; 144:10

blue-sky 84:23 board 15:25; 26:9, 14; 44:13, 19, 21; 55:13, 19; 68:5; 80:6; 84:22; 85:2, 7, 8, 14, 15, 18, 19, 23, 25; 99:12, 14, 16; 100:1, 19; 101:1, 6; 104:25; 105:3; 113:20; 114:5; 135:14; 151:5; 236:13, 15, 18, 21; 237:3, 7, 9, 17; 238:2; 258:9 body 40:10 bold 240:9 Bolton 65:9; 69:6; 70:22; 71:6, 8; 94:2; 99:10; 263:10, 10; 264:4; 275:1 bonus 89:25 books 244:12 bore 104:15 borrowed 161:11 borrower 222:20: 241:16, 23 borrowing 123:6; 141:14 boss 149:5 both 47:10; 71:6; 98:6; 100:11; 104:17; 105:22; 132:12; 133:13; 134:3; 136:14; 153:21; 156:14; 172:10: 177:4: 182:3, 25: 184:21; 192:2; 200:24; 259:12; 277:17 both-or 76:20 bottom 174:23; 222:23; 246:10 bounds 6:17; 56:25 box 218:15 Boy 159:3 bracketed 218:14 Braden 145:4; 149:21; 150:4, 12; 162:15, 18; 165:17; 166:12; 221:7; 226:2; 230:19; 231:23; 232:19, 25; 233:25; 257:4 Braden's 232:7; 233:16; 234:1; 235:1 break 52:9; 53:7, 11; 108:12; 111:19; 220:25; 242:3; 251:1; 277:25 breathe 206:12 breezed 205:4 brick 83:2; 189:20, 22; 276:9, 24 bridge 245:17 brief 173:19 briefed 65:19; 140:3; 156:8 briefing 156:3, 10, 16, 24 briefly 10:14; 237:13; 276:25 briefs 42:12, 14 bring 16:1; 89:17; 245:16 bringing 196:19

Brothers 18:3, 12: 23:9: 31:21, 23; 48:10; 116:21; 117:5, 10, 17; 121:25; 122:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 18, 19, 19; 124:3, 15, 21, 23; 125:1, 6, 11, 14, 18; 126:2, 15, 20; 127:1, 3; 129:16, 22; 130:13, 18, 25; 131:3, 13; 133:15; 134:18, 21, 24; 135:9; 136:15, 18, 23; 137:9, 21, 24; 138:5, 11, 16; 139:9, 12, 15; 140:1, 9, 16, 22; 141:3, 22; 142:15, 19, 20, 21; 143:12, 13; 144:1, 6, 19; 146:7; 147:10; 150:22; 151:10; 152:2, 12, 24; 154:17; 155:20, 25; 160:23; 161:20; 162:13; 163:12; 164:4, 14; 194:9; 195:13. 16, 17; 198:4, 14; 199:11; 211:10, 14; 215:5, 24; 216:4; 219:2, 19; 222:13; 229:7, 21: 230:2, 6, 10: 231:12; 234:3, 5; 237:10; 242:13, 16, 17; 245:23; 254:18; 268:21; 270:7, 16; brought 109:21; 120:19; 154:19; 159:18; 162:21 Brown 44:18, 22; 85:3, 14, 17; 100:11, 18; 101:20; 103:12, 20; 237:18 Brown's 101:17 Bruce 69:21 bucks 135:13 budget 38:15; 39:5; 66:25; 67:14; 208:10 budgeted 161:13 budgeting 26:15; 68:11 budgets 38:11; 57:10 built 10:21 bunch 210:13 business 8:13; 12:7, 9; 70:7, 12; 123:15, 22; 154:25; 188:5; 192:20; 240:24; 241:3; 242:25; 245:15 businesses 206:4; 207:23 businessman 195:10 busy 34:19; 57:6; 97:20 but-l'm 168:8 by--in 174:8 bylaws 258:7, 10

## C

c)(4 123:16; 147:14 cabinet 210:2 ceiculated 214:24 calculator 251:2 call 41.21; 69:19; 92:7; 130:24, 132:13: 155:15: 158:24; 163:19; 164:9; 1 197:3, 17; 219:19: 254:3 called 4:4; 9:17; 27:1; 37:17; 140:15; 162:16; 165:14: 212:11: 221:16: 263:10 calls 166:15 came 11:24; 12:20; 19:16; 35:7; 38:12; 41:4; 73:1, 11; 75:11, 21; 80:25; 81:19; 83:17; 86:2; 104:25: 105:3: 111:15: 113:20; 114:5; 122:10; 126:9: 136:19: 152:14: 159:6; 160:15; 176:19; 179:23; 209:23; 226:22; 239:1: 244:10; 251:17; 267:13 campaign 5:10; 17:17; 41:13; 63:19; 121:11; 124:4, 12; 170:24; 171:14; 208:11, 11, 20; 232:5; 235:13 campaign-or 171:13 **campaigns** 5:8; 6:1;

can 6:1; 7:8; 8:13, 17: 12:11, 21, 23; 13:5; 18:21; 19:6; 20:10; 25:22; 26:3; 27:12: 29:10: 31:3, 11; 32:13: 34:1: 38:24: 39:8; 44:3; 45:8, 25; 52:21; 55:15, 25; 56:2, 10, 20: 63:21; 67:11; 68:3; 69:12; 73:19; 74:2, 3; 76:19; 78:16; 86:15; 88:7, 7, 11, 18; 89:4; 94:23; 95:19; 102:3, 4, 6; 103:4; 108:10, 12, 15; 110:9; 111:20; 114:17; 115:9; 119:21; 120:5; 122:22; 129:25; 133:22, 22, 23; 134:1, 2, 3; 136:24; 137:11; 140:18; 145:22, 25; 146:2, 3;

2; 253:5; 264:21 candidacies 65:22 candidate 136:22 candidates 52:14; 171:4; 205:14, 19

150:23; 157:10; 164:2, 10;

165:10, 12; 168:21;

170:13: 171:7; 175:2;

181:17; 189:4; 196:10;

211:22; 215:7, 16; 229:9;

23; 247:7; 249:12; 251:1,

232:6; 242:4, 5; 246:18,

201:8; 206:11, 17, 23;

capable 152:2 Capitol 9:5

captured 186:17; 248:22 carbon 209:4; 221:6; 230:19; 257:4; 262:22, 23: 265:12

care 28:14; 147:10; 149:14: 242:22

career 9:1 **carried** 104:23 carries 18:2: 177.17 case 114:9; 122:14:

138:5; 143:21: 156-20:

Miller Reporting Company, Inc.

94:9; 98:1; 102:9; 103:24;

**Brisky** 69 15

broad 125:8, 165:3

Brother 222:7, 224-19

18, 25: 63:2, 12: 64:17, 23; 69:8: 71:9: 74:14: 78:4: 80:6:84:13:87:4, 23: 93:20: 98:12: 101:11. 19: 103:20; 107:3; 114:2; 118:7, 8; 139:25; 143:15; 144:4, 24: 147:18, 21: 149:22: 154:3: 163:18: 169:20; 215:13, 15; 218:6; 222:11, 12, 13; 224:7; 228:3, 15: 229:5: 230:8: 237:6; 249:19; 270:11 Anvway 149:19 apart 15:4: 116:20: 132:24; 182:6; 277:25 apiece 178:9 apologize 121:16; 148:5; 184:1: 205:3: 212:7: 236:6: 259:22, 23: 276:23 apparent 36:23 apparently 44:8: 72:8; 195:21 appeals 262:1 appear 29:8: 180:4: 193:25: 222:24 appearance 83:7 appearances 4:10 appeared 192:25 appearing 199:22 appears 168:15; 169:2, 2: 185:14: 191:20: 218:20: 222:18; 252:17; 273:5 **appended 240:13** apples 218:2; 251:9 apply 79:6 appoint 237:18 appreciable 159:1 appreciate 6:21; 7:4, 10; 18:17; 26:19; 127:8 appreciation 182:3 approach 129:2, 9; 268:10; 270:18 approached 91:14, 18 approaching 128:18 appropriate 43:3; 80:18; 81:2; 82:13; 85:24; 107:12; 125:8; 233:13;

234:21; 268:25; 272:15

appropriateness 61:19,

25; 62:19; 80;7, 24; 81:5,

15; 82:20; 83:18; 128:17;

approvai 100:14; 101:17;

approximately 5:2; 36:7;

150:23; 245:17, 20; 246:4;

April 37:15; 38:22; 40:1;

92:22; 110:17, 17, 18, 20,

121:20; 122:7; 125:23, 25;

20, 20; 118:17; 119:19;

127:14; 129:18; 131:15;

137:5; 138:15; 256:5, 6

area 6:16; 12:4; 29:20;

129:7; 136:6; 144:19

approximate 253:13

approved 42:5

247:1; 277:25

237:9

<u>;</u> ;

.

Ö

i T

43

•

=

56:24: 57:2: 76:13: 122:20: 125:24: 127:14: 149:12: 155:14: 267:7 areas 178:3: 228:25 arquable 214:25 arque 70:17: 125:23; argument 34:6: 178:21 argumentative 151:19 arguments 120:8: 271:7. arises 232:2 arising 42:11:84:7: 217:22 Arizona 195:11.11 Army 8:21: 9:3 Army-I'm 8:20 arose 77:7; 80:22; 258:7 around 13:2: 16:4: 32:3: 37:7; 38:9, 14; 54:15; 73:3; 105:16: 135:7, 23: 155:9; 168:13: 194:23: 213:9, 20; 217:4; 218:16; 245:17; 248:18; 273:4 arrange 12:9; 198:13 arranged 180:9, 12 arrangement 104:12, 22; 198:17 arrangements 139:25; 154:11 arranging 180:17; 198:4 arrival 65:11, 14: 104:3, 13, 18; 277:14 arrived 40:6, 9; 43:4; 46:1:65:18:69:6 arrived-Boy 179:16 arrived-up 107:24 Arthur 260:17 article 28:17, 21: 29:3, 8, 15, 19; 30:1, 7, 13; 32:4, 8, 18; 33:10; 34:2, 12; 35:17; 94:9, 16: 116:1; 149:17, 18; 157:24; 187:10, 12; 192:17 article-do 33:16 articles 28:13, 17, 24: 34:13, 20 articulate 108:20 articulated 82:5 As-you 26:9 ascertain 16:12; 201:25 ascertained 16:11 Asia 273:23 Asian-I 188:6 aside 269:16 aspect 83:5: 233:12 assembling 249:16

Assessment 242:25;

assign 216:16; 227:25

assigned 196:20

assignments 9:19

245:19

asset 230:5, 9

assets 230:1

CONFIDENTIAL. assist 210:22: 270:3 assistance 6:19: 179:9: 263:23: 266:3: 277:3 assistant 9:23: 10:22: 43:9, 19, 25 assistants 27:19 assisted 43:19 associate 44:8: 80:2 associated 69:14, 17: 126:2 associates 167:5: 186:10 association 141:7 associations 206:1, 19 assume 8:4: 20:1: 28:5: 30:22; 47:23; 108:9; 111:5: 140:2: 212:17; 232:13:234:9 assumed 190:14: 200:3 assumes 58:7: 229:8: 246:13 assurance 175:5 assure 219:4 assured 229:22; 234:8 Atomic 9:24: 10:25 attachment 217:11 attempt 5:24 attempting 161:19 attend 187:19: 188:14; 212:5 attended 26:13 attending 187:22; 188:2 attention 75:11:82:19: 83:17; 87:6; 178:15, 24; 193:23; 204:20; 205:9; 208:4.17: 212:12: 216:13: 224:9: 226:8: 227:17: 242:12; 249:23; 250:15; 261:10 attenuated 269:7 attorney 101:13; 224:17 attorneys 150:12 audible 7:24:8:1 audit 260:24, 25 audited 261:4 August 107:24; 111:2; 155:11: 167:18; 168:13; 175:8, 11, 15; 176:3; 180:13; 182:19; 183:6, 22; 184:17; 185:14, 19; 187:13, 24; 190:3; 192:9; 193:1; 197:5; 198:25; 203:10; 204:9; 206:6, 9, 21: 207:14: 214:6 authentication 255:10 author 269:2

90:11, 16:98:12, 21: 161:4: 181:8: 182:2: 197:3, 17 available-and \$8:7 available-was 58:8 avenue 151:22 average 206:2: 244:25: 250:20 avoid 275:25 awara 34:20:62:25: 64:25:72:12:75:6,9,19: 77:6. 9. 20. 24: 83:10. 14: 90:23; 91:2, 13, 17; 94:4; 105:24; 112:13, 23; 113:5, 18: 116:14: 138:10: 142:25: 157:3: 158:7: 159:23: 160:2: 161:23: 163:1: 177:7. 9. 25: 182:4. 14, 17, 19; 183:6; 189:23; 202:25: 206:6: 217:17, 19. 21, 24; 231:10, 16; 232:24; 241:17: 242:22: 260:24: 262:7; 266:10; 270:21, 24; 271:2; 273:7, 15; 274:7; 275:21: 276:20 away 243:20 awful 153:8 awkward 137:12 B

B 4:3; 112:4; 187:18; 242:10; 255:12; 256:17 back 9:22: 10:14, 22: 11:23; 14:10; 29:24; 30:6; 31:13; 35:7; 36:5; 41:19; 47:16, 18, 22; 50:19; 51:3. 14, 15, 21; 55:1: 57:15: 59:3, 12; 74:5; 78:11, 14; 79:12, 13; 86:5; 89:4, 5; 91:6; 105:19; 127:6; 129:18; 130:9; 132:7; 133:24, 25; 135:21; 137:15; 138:8; 141:17, 19; 146:13; 150:17; 151:14; 152:14, 23; 155:16; 157:8; 159:4; 161:25; 162:6; 163:21; 165:23; 171:7, 8; 194:21; 210:4; 211:25: 212:12: 216:8: 218:4: 226:25; 227:17; 240:21; 243:18; 244:10; 259:5; 262:10; 271:25; 275:16 back-my 30:6 background 8:18; 10:14; 95:2; 103:4; 176:24 backgrounder 170:6 Backing 12:2; 231:14; 239:11 Baker 144:14; 145:5; 149:21; 150:12; 165:5; 166:11; 209:9; 215:8, 10; 219:10; 221:5, 8; 225:24, 25; 230:16; 231:5, 10; 232:8; 233:6; 257:3 balance 19:7; 222:24; 223:6, 11; 239:2, 3, 6, 23;

240.7 bank 16:18:17:21:23:8, 22: 32:9: 50:22: 53:21: 103:2: 107:2: 112:12: 116:15, 16: 123:10, 15, 21; 134:9: 135:12: 159:19: 162:24, 25: 173:8; 216:17; 221:6, 13: 223:12, 15; 224:19; 227:25; 239:19; 240:12, 17, 20: 241:8; 242:7: 247:2, 4: 249:5, 12, 17: 254:2: 257:24 Bank's 166:12 banker 163:5, 6, 7, 8 banks 123:1: 174:16 Banning 104:23; 111:16; 119:13: 120:16, 19 Barber 58:17 Barbour 11:8: 12:12; 13:1; 14:10; 15:3, 9; 17:14; 19:18; 20:21; 21:3, 10, 17, 23; 22:7, 14, 20; 23:2, 10, 22: 24:4, 10, 23: 25:10, 17; 37:3; 39:11, 23, 24; 40:15; 46:15: 47:1: 48:4, 23: 49:4; 50:16; 56:15; 58:8, 10, 23; 59:11, 18; 60:8, 24; 61:6, 13, 18, 24; 62:12, 18; 63:2; 64:18, 23; 71:6, 7, 22; 72:10: 78:23: 87:12, 16, 24, 25; 90:13, 16; 93:21; 94:25:95:14:97:13, 16; 98:9, 14: 109:9; 112:24; 113:7; 117:11, 19, 25; 122:3; 136:3; 139:24; 140:8, 9, 22; 155:24; 156:3, 10, 25; 158:5, 11; 169:23; 170:21, 25; 171:22; 174:3; 176:9, 19; 177:1, 2; 180:5; 181:11, 17; 182:7; 187:1, 6, 22; 188:14, 24; 191:11; 195:25; 199:1, 2, 20; 201:13; 203:12, 22; 209:3. 18; 211:2; 212:3, 13; 213:2, 18; 224:3, 4; 241:17: 243:6, 20; 244:7; 262:20; 265:2; 267:25; 269:9: 270:18, 21; 271:8, 15: 272:16: 273:19 Barbour's 39:12, 16, 20; 44:25: 187:11: 188:4: 203:12; 243:1, 9, 13; 261:25; 271:16 Baroody 13:14, 25; 26:8; 27:15, 25; 103:16, 20; 112:13, 23; 113:6 based 37:7; 140:7; 242:14, 20; 246:1, 15; 250:8; 269:11 basically 43:10; 164:14 basis 6:14:76:1;89:20; 98:19; 99:9; 118:2; 127:22; 162:22; 183:9, 10; Bates 167:17; 198:25;

authorize 176:12: 177:2

authorized 5:5: 141:8:

availability 181:14, 18,

authority 5:13

151:24; 162:14

21; 243:2

authorizing 5:17

ayailable 6:3; 39:2;

217:11; 221:2, 16; 222:18;

224:25; 225:16; 226:23;

61:14, 19:63:6;84:14, 19: 91:15; 128:11, 18; 262:5 Congressional 5:11, 12; 10:24; 12:6; 160:7 Congressman 9:8, 9: 181:7, 13, 21: 182:22 connected 5:10; 221:19; connection 5:7, 24; 11:1; 30:18; 31:7, 18; 143:1; 156:25; 228:24; 271:18 connections 155:1 connotation 242:21 consider 12:5; 42:11; 56:25; 72:17; 97:9 consideration 129:14: 213:3: 224:12; 270:7 considered 40:23: 124:9; 125:2; 137:22; 151:1; 172:6, 11; 234:2 considered-and 233:25 considering 129:13 consist 229:17 consistent 217:20 constant 67:1: 105:21: 246:13 constantly 105:14 constraint 102:4 construct 52:5 construed 102:17 consult 145:2 consulted 87:18: 101:20: 139:24: 273:23: 274:2.6 consulting 10:12; 143:24 consummation 166:7 contact 12:14:99:14: 100:18: 122:18: 141:5: 207:22 contacted 159:19; 206:4; 207:21 contacting 212:4 contacts 73:18: 122:17 contain 97:5 contents 71:10; 133:23 context 80:19: 103:4: 104:10: 126:5: 149:3. 8. 13; 170:18; 181:23 continue 17:5: 18:5: 27:12; 33:5; 53:2; 96:19; 123:8, 8; 126:23; 139:21; 160:14; 215:25; 243:4; 248:14; 267:14 continued 86:22; 247:17; 264:6, 17 continues 174:24; 176:9; 211:4: 260:15; 265:16 continuing 18:20; 99:19; 120:8, 13; 173:16; 176:9; 256:5; 264:9 continuum 18:1 contract 86:9; 87:2, 14; 90:8; 92:10, 13; 93:7, 11,

contrary 75:1 contribute 187:10; 217:25 contributed 206:1, 15 contribution 74:25; 75:4; 78:2; 82:12, 14 contributions 44:10: 78:9; 81:6; 90:20; 91:3, 10, 24; 92:4; 179:9; 206:7; 208:19, 22; 218:21; 277:2 contributor 77:20 control 96:7, 24; 97:21; 156:23 controlled 139:8; 147:12 controller 103:23; 202:16; 244:11 controversy 17:21 convention 9:22; 10:21; 11:3, 11 conversation 12:12: 13:2, 3, 6: 35:9, 10: 53:12, 15, 23, 24; 54:5, 25; 55:2, 22; 56:17; 78:23; 80:11; 101:2; 113:12; 121:21, 24; 126:5, 18; 127:13, 20; 128:1, 17, 25; 129:12, 24; 131:12, 15, 24; 135:2, 15; 136:13; 137:18, 23; 138:9, 13: 139:4; 140:4; 149:25; 151:14, 16; 152:11: 192:9 conversation-maybe 121:15 conversations 15:10: 21:16; 25:10; 52:20; 53:12; 57:12; 61:5, 12; 63:12, 25: 64:15, 22, 24: 70:5, 10: 74:20: 78:4; 80:5, 15: 81:5; 87:24; 117:11, 18, 24; 118:5; 119:10, 15, 16; 132:16, 23; 133:8, 23; 134:3; 135:3; 136:3, 9, 12; 137:6; 139:20; 145:14; 147:8; 149:20; 150:11; 155:7, 18, 23; 157:13; 161:3: 162:20: 165:2: 202:14; 270:21; 272:16 COO 70:20; 92:20; 102:10; 261:1 cool 111:23 cooperate 6:1 cooperative 277:20 copies 167:11; 221:6; 226:23; 236:7; 262:22 copy 29:4; 71:21, 24; 94:15: 194:6: 199:12: 209:4, 16; 230:19; 239:1; 257:4: 262:23; 265:12, 15; 268:6: 269:19 core 154:18 corner 199:9; 225:16; 239:24; 240:4, 9, 25; 249:24; 260:18 corners 239:25 corporate 139:16; 243:6

Corporation 9:13:48:11;

49:24; 61:8; 75:21; 76:9;

77:4; 91:4, 11; 122:15;

128:6: 139:8; 142:19; 175:16, 20; 222:5, 9, 15; 229:23; 230:2; 234:4; 270:17 corporations 21:4, 12, 18, 25; 23:24; 24:6, 11, 18; 49:18; 61:1; 62:7, 8; 63:5, 6: 73:25; 74:11; 76:21, 22; 89:15; 94:5, 6, 11, 12; 127:21; 128:2, 18; 218:17 correctly 80:21; 108:4; 137:2; 146:6 correspond 252:4; 253:13 cost 38:4, 11, 14, 20; 39:4.9 costs 15:25; 28:14; 114:13, 21, 25; 115:13 couldn't 15:7; 39:3; 97:22; 98:20; 123:2; 149:3; 161:21 Council 10:9; 70:3; 159:5, 8; 172:1, 2, 6, 17, 24; 173:1; 178:2, 7, 10: 179:20: 180:3 councils 37:10; 40:11; 69:14, 17, 18; 70:2; 172:10, 21, 22; 177:24; 178:8; 179:19; 204:6 counse! 4:4, 12, 15, 20; 5:14; 7:11; 14:15; 19:5, 5; 33:2; 45:13; 56:22; 72:5; 79:7, 8; 88:21; 101:8, 12; 102:8, 15: 104:10; 107:10; 111:5, 22; 112:7; 117:4; 124:22: 129:16: 130:3: 131:1; 133:12, 16, 18; 137:14, 19; 138:2; 144:16, 21, 24; 157:2; 194:20; 200:9; 213:21; 219:20; 229:5, 15; 235:14, 19; 236:6; 242:3; 251:24; 259:23; 264:25 counsel's 79:2, 16: 97:3. 7; 115:17; 136:24; 239:1 counsel-179:2 counseled 52:25; 73:18 Counselor 194:13 count 238:22 counter 8:10 country 7:17; 37:8; 73:3; 178:15; 263:2, 4 country's 178:17 couple 76:3; 89:14; 154:5; 249:2; 266:23; 276:8 course 17:25; 72:7; 92:9; 111:21, 21; 137:18; 261:6, course-the 231:4 courses 8:21 Court 5:21; 6:10; 7:23; 14:9: 31:11, 16; 207:6; 213:23; 220:25 Court's 5:15 courtroom 7:22

cover 173:21; 179:3 covered 27:20; 84:1: 172:20 crafting 204:19 create 240:22 created 192:25; 202:25; 203:1; 204:1; 230:18 creation 177:18 credit 106:23; 174:12; 239:10; 241:22; 245:18; 247:22; 248:24 criminal 69-21 **crucial** 180:9 cufflinks 198:21; 265:22 culminated 159:20 culture 11:19 current 97:6; 210:1; 216:17; 228:1; 245:21; 246:5; 252:14 currently 71:21; 134:11; 232:3 curve 17:9; 40:8 **curved** 224:9 **cushion** 174:14 custody 96:7, 23; 156:23 cut 105:20, 20; 197:25; 215:18; 236:7 cycle 12:19: 17:18, 20: 18:7; 41:19; 42:6; 45:22; 47:10, 11; 63:19; 124:4, 12 n

D.C 7:17; 153:14; 214:8; 260:20 Dallas 10:21:11:4 damn 215:9: 218:1 Dan 183:23; 184:18; 209:5; 230:20; 257:9 **DANIEL 4:3: 112:4:** 255:12; 256:17 data 120:8; 202:16; 207:3; 244:21; 246:15; 249:22 date 32:3; 40:6; 42:20; 75:14; 82:23; 96:10; 106:18: 108:11: 158:1; 161:21: 168:13: 175:15, 18; 182:18; 184:17; 185:19; 197:12; 203:6, 10; 204:9; 206:5, 9, 21; 226:17; 241:5; 242:15; 247:12; 251:17; 256:9; 257:23; 260:19; 266:4, 11; 277:11 dated 183:22: 198:25: 209:1; 213:25; 214:2; 221:4; 225:2; 230:16, 17; 257:2; 262:21; 267:18 dates 108:17; 110:2; 230:18; 250:21 dating 108:22 David 79:11; 145:7; 209:11 day 19:7; 96:19; 110:14,

18, 25; 111:25; 132:23; 152:5; 155:11; 246:16; 256:6; 265:13; 276:9; 277:19 day-to-day 57:8; 162:22 days 76:4; 92:5; 110:22. 22, 24; 118:17; 252:3 deadline 37:11; 197:10. 11: 257:10, 12, 17, 20 deal 122:22; 130:12; 178:12; 192:20 dealing 142:14; 149:14; 152:4; 164:11 dealings 140:8; 154:25 deals 217:13 dealt 149:2, 3: 226:2 Dear 257:9 debate 5:5:69:21 debt 17:3; 107:4, 4, 17; 123:18; 174:24; 175:7; 245:9: 246:6: 261:19: 262-3 debtor 123:1 December 11:24; 12:12; 13:2; 15:11, 19; 16:4, 8, 24; 17:11; 19:17; 20:19; 21:2, 8, 16, 22; 22:6, 13, 20; 25:24; 26:6; 36:6, 12; 43:4, 14; 45:16; 46:1; 47:13; 54:15; 95:6; 107:23; 109:24; 110:6, 12; 113:20; 176:2; 261:13. 263:17 decided 146:17 deciding 164:12 decision 58:5; 65:11, 13. 15; 71:19; 80:21; 87:13, 16, 17, 19, 22; 89:18; 120:19; 125:11; 139:5; 156:16; 162:12; 163:11; 165:14; 179:19, 23; 180:17 decisions 5:21; 165:9; 179:13 declarations 5:15 decline 19:4, 8, 13 declined 15:3 declines 20:6 deemed 20:12; 227:2; 228.6 default 176:12; 177:2, 5; 223:6, 10, 16 defaulted 223:12 defaults 176:16 defense 69:16: 204:6 **Defense-i** 9:23 deficit 103:11; 113:23; 115:16; 116:18; 247:17 defined 68:6; 232:4; 234:11; 244:3 defines 229:10 degree 8:19, 23 delay 105:20 delaying 40:18 delegate 57:7; 97:19

17; 198:7; 253:15; 263:23;

264:5; 266:2, 6, 7

contractor 252:23

cousin 30:9

Special Investigation 205:21; 218:2; 229:13; 233:14: 258:1 **cases** 6:6, 9 cash 57:11, 12; 103:10, 17: 105:21: 121:2, 4: 161:12; 180:22; 245:8; 247:23 cast 153:18 casting 52:13 catch-up 40:10 categories 76:23; 81:6; 250:2, 12 category 77:14; 86:15; 250:6.11 Catherine 103:25: 104:21 cause 264:6 caveat 17:6 CC 257:4 CD 224:14, 14, 15 center 170:21 certain 42:14; 66:7; 78:6; 80:7; 81:6; 88:2; 165:9; 175:21; 176:15; 214:24; 232:1; 265:8 certainly 42:17; 96:17; 97:15; 143:8; 172:15; 264:22 certificate 224:14, 21; 255:10 cetera 42:12; 52:1; 152:3, **CFR 235:9, 10** chain 140:14 chairman 15:24: 19:18. 19: 44:20, 20, 21; 56:14; 58:1; 64:12; 90:12; 97:17; 136:4, 4; 148:25; 170:25: 171:22: 176:9, 14, 19: 177:4: 181:10, 17; 214:7; 237:7; 262:20; 268:1 challenge 38:25; 39:6; 178:21 Chamber 9:11 chance 79:11; 204:24; 225:13; 231:2; 268:1 change 34:8; 46:15, 21; 47:2; 48:5, 18; 49:5; 50:16, 24; 53:13; 68:8, 10; 90:7; 217:3; 243:12 changed 43:9; 44:8; 54:12; 65:6; 69:25; 144:2; 263:6 changes 33:18, 18; 36:3; 45:17, 25; 46:9; 54:6, 11; 146:14 channel 194:18 characterization 81:21: 170:17:219:21 characterize 268:15 charge 172:23, 25; 276:21 charged 27:16 charter 5:18 Chase 173:8; 174:16, 18

check 135:22; 166:13; 193:18, 24, 25; 243:21; 244:2, 7, 9 checks 258:21; 259:3, 8; chief 5:3; 10:5, 18; 15:23; 26:25; 43:21; 45:9; 46:3; 47:2, 7: 48:6, 16; 56:11, 14; 97:15; 99:6; 225:4; 238:4; 246:2; 255:13; 256:18: 274:4, 14 China 171:25; 172:5, 20; 271:15, 16; 272:4; 273:3, 6, 12, 24 China-Taiwan 28:25; 192:17 choice 102:20; 192:13 chooses 88:12; 181:18 Christmas 14:24 **CIGNA 253:4** circulated 203:1 circumstances 5:8; 51:12; 175:22 cite 266:12 Citibank 173:8: 174:19 citing 5:18 citizen 75:5; 145:21; 146:10, 22; 147:6, 20, 25; 148:4, 18; 149:25 citizens 19:21; 20:22; 23:11, 18; 49:11; 60:10; 62:1; 63:5; 74:15, 17; 76:21;90:21;127:15; 146:17; 147:13 citizenship 146:13, 19; 148:6 civil 69:22 clarification 26:19; 41:15: 142:13; 206:25; 207:1; 276:6; 277:7 clarifies 42:8 clarify 25:25; 29:10; 79:16; 144:23; 264:13 clarity 17:18; 151:2 clean 140:18; 144:12; 258:11: 274:24 cleaned 210:13 ciear 8:1; 18:9; 78:13; 81:10, 20; 82:6; 102:18; 107:6; 121:10; 124:7; 134:12; 150:7; 151:12; 172:18; 175:14; 220:13; 221:18: 233:16; 239:13; 259:18; 265:1 clearly 6:9: 8:11: 42:6; 68:6; 134:16; 148:19; 149:10; 158:13; 172:23; 179:8; 196:9; 277:1 client 137:10; 150:16; 164:24: 194:17; 220:3 client's 6:8 close 14:24; 70:4; 98:17; 105:8: 164:21 closed-There 179:17 **closely 44:22** closer 121:6; 147:7, 7

closing 263:15 cloth 143:20 clue 161:9; 192:6; 208:13 coalesced 71:17 Cobb 69:13 Code 235:11 coffers 244:1 cognizant 179:4 coincident 261:9 coined 37:23 collaborated 169:6, 11 collaboration 169:4 collateral 216:1; 222:20: 223:13; 224:13, 20; 233:4; 241:15 colleteralize 116:22 collect 176:4; 217:1 collected 175:10, 16; 217:6; 228:13; 243:22; 244-21 collection 227:1; 244:22, 24; 245:12; 249:7, 8 college 9:2 colloguy 6:22; 221:20 column 250:17; 252:10 columns 250:19 combination 197:19 combine 62:4 come-sometimes 59:6 coming 13:23; 42:12; 75:15; 99:10, 11; 114:13, 21; 115:2, 14; 121:7; 140:19; 214:23; 218:9; 244:1: 277:18, 22 Com: ky 79:24 command 8:22; 140:14 commencement 124:4 commencing 247:25; 256:5 commented 29:3 comments 29:23, 24; 30:6: 33:15, 17; 34:24; 35:11; 121:1; 226:4 Commerce 9:11 commercial 134:9; 135:12; 239:10; 241:22; 247:22 commission 198:3; 214:7 commissioned 9:4 commit 175:21 commitment 182:9; 206:2; 211:14; 224:1, 3, 5; 227:15; 244:4; 245:3; 248:22: 261:25 commitments 227:2, 4; 228:6, 12; 243:17; 250:5, 8 committed 176:9; 181:7; 207:15 Committee 4:4, 12, 25; 5:5, 11, 14, 19; 7:12; 15:20; 17:22, 22; 19:19; 41:16, 16, 18; 42:5, 8, 10;

132:9; 136:5; 157:2; 169:8: 171:24: 177:18, 20: 178:2: 199:3: 210:22; 232:4, 15; 234:11; 241:4, committee's 5:9, 16, 18, 20, 24; 6:2, 4, 11; 7:3; 17:19: 18:4, 14, 25: 27:10: 41:25: 95:4: 96:12, 25; 176:14: 269:14 committees 5:12: 179:14; 218:18 committing 243:18 common 78:19 Commonsense 26:12: 27:18: 28:6. 18: 29:7. 8: 30:2; 33:10; 34:14, 18; 114:6; 157:23; 159:5; 187:10, 13; 192:17 communicate 58:2: 98:13, 18; 237:5 communicated 58:4; 71:7; 91:23; 93:20; 98:20; 182:7 communicating 220:2 communication 160:10; 274:10 Companies 141:12, 23; 142:5, 6, 6; 205:25; 206:3; 207:23; 213:12 companies...yet 207:21 company 9:17; 23:9; 31:25; 32:10; 125:4, 14; 139:13; 141:22; 142:20; 143:6, 12, 13; 147:11, 14; 149:14: 199:11; 206:15; 213:5; 242:14, 17; 252:19; 275:7 compare 34:22 compensated 198:19 compensation 14:19: 15:4; 66:2; 87:10; 89:18, 21, 25 competence 172:9 competent 53:2 competing 172:25 complete 52:1; 101:20; 197:8; 237:9; 257:22 completed 8:20; 38:19; 51:25; 257:21 completely 96:18; 247:12 completion 196:19 comply 219:1, 6, 7 component 43:6; 44:4 composite 221:1, 17: 254:15, 17 comprehensive 233:18 computational 223:1 computer 263:6 concentrated 26:11 concentrating 274:22 concept 125:3; 186:4 concepts 168:8, 11; 170:3, 12; 184:7; 186:3

conceptually 87:20 concern 27:9; 34:17; 57:23, 25; 58:1; 74:10, 21; 76:12; 94:1; 127:15, 20; 128:1, 6; 164:6; 173:16; 196:16: 218:11: 219:20: 232:2 concerned 160:19: 164:23: 172:14: 178:14; 254:3 concerning 49:17; 54:1; 144:18; 168:19; 176:18; 231:19: 268:9, 20 concerns 35:6 concerted 276:13 conclude 6:18; 76:7 concrete 166:19 concurrent 65:12, 14, 16: 103:17 condition 16:24: 17:2: 18:11:48:6:57:21:64:17: 117:13, 20: 118:6, 15: 119:11; 164:19; 223:21, 22; 230:5, 10 conduct 39:25; 70:6, 12; 99:15; 100:2; 215:11; 218:8 conducted 230:1; 256:12 conducting 5:6 conduit 149:4 confer 33:4; 56:20; 130:15, 16; 137:10; 194:17; 235:18 conference 132:13; 187:20, 23; 188:2, 15; 200:20, 23; 201:1; 214:6 conferences 89:15; 92:20, 24 confering 130:3; 235:19 conferring 33:2; 56:22; 88:21: 111:22; 137:14; 194:20 confess 154:22 confidante 188:23 confidence 213:6; 220:2 confident 214:16; 227:8, 12; 275:5, 8 confidential 214:17 configuration 45:21 confine 55:5: 66:19; 68:15; 92:18; 99:18; 119:22; 264:24 confined 129:21 confining 129:15 confirm 154:4; 212:4 conflicts 232:1 confused 81:3, 24; 96:11; 101:25; 121:22; 151:4; 171:5; 172:19: 272:5 confusing 196:21 Congratulations 257:10 Congress 22:7, 15; 24:24; 25:5; 42:6; 50:4;

72:3; 96:6, 16; 97:1, 1;

## CONFIDENTIAL

downsizing 237:24 dozen 164:17 draft 29:2, 23, 23; 30:5, 13: 32:4, 8: 33:16, 24; 34:11, 13; 35:7, 16, 22, 24; 36:2; 71:24; 165:18; 168:2, 3; 195:20; 196:6: 197:24; 222:19; 226:5, 5 draft-the 34:12 drafted 184:4 drafting 169:9; 195:25 drafts 36:1; 166:17, 21, dramatically 114:7; 216:7 draw 105:22: 174:12: 261:10 drawers 210:2 drawn 111:16 drew 218:15; 223:13 drift 74:1; 77:12 drive 123:21 drop-dead 197:11 dropped 246:14 drove 40:13 dual 146:17 duces 97:5 due 93:16; 104:16; 161:21, 22; 165:1; 176:22: 180:21; 222:5; 228:17, 21; 229:4, 6, 8, 17, 25; 232:3; 242:10; 245:4; 251:11, 16, 22; 263:17; 275:13 duly 4:5; 112:5; 210:23 during 15:10:18:21: 32:21: 33:8: 46:19, 25; 47:8; 48:2, 15, 22; 49:2, 8, 14, 21; 50:2, 8; 59:16; 61:4: 92:16, 24; 104:3; 144:4; 153:9; 161:18; 163:18: 165:8: 166:6: 186:5; 189:9; 220:25; 258:4; 268:7; 270:7; 274:20; 275:21; 276:8, 21

٠.

٠,١

ring Bar

## E

duties 26:5; 274:20

duty 5:20

each 18:21; 20:14; 69:16; 92:3, 3, 24; 108:10, 25; 109:3; 110:6; 118:24; 133:19: 154:1, 16: 155:7: 215:20; 256:4, 6; 266:16 earlier 15:2; 17:7; 34:17; 40:7; 54:16; 67:15; 72:2; 74:21; 77:6; 81:10, 11; 99:13; 101:15; 104:13; 121:23; 123:6; 126:7; 135:11: 145:7, 9: 148:23: 173:16; 178:13; 179:17; 180:17; 185:12; 187:15; 189:20; 198:10, 16; 199:18; 211:20, 20; 231:3, 6; 243:16; 248:21; 251:5; 259:14; 261:25; 271:19;

272:6 early 29:2; 30:4, 12; 32:4; 38:13: 53:19: 145:4: 152:6: 153:3: 169:11: 173:15; 227:10; 228:11; 234:12: 265:13: 270:25: easier 14:8; 59:24; 113:1; 191:24 East 171:25: 172:5, 20: 177:18: 178:13: 189:8. 16. 25: 190:3: 204:7, 10: 273:24 Eastern 236:24 easy 151:17; 252:5 economic 204:6 Ed 11:12: 273:18 edited 196:12 editing 36:3 edition 29:8 editor 28:23; 29:7, 15, 25, 25: 30:5 editorial 28:13; 252:21 edits 195:22 education 69:23: 76:11 educational 8:18 effect 56:12:77:13 effective 213:7 efficiency 58:2 effort 37:16; 53:5; 94:5; 98:13; 120:9; 138:20; 160:6: 171:18: 173:9: 180:9; 266:17; 276:13 efforts 116:23: 173:13: 176:10; 208:20; 211:5; 245:16; 264:6, 17; 265:20; 266:21 eight 215:24; 216:5 either 7:9; 20:1, 10, 10; 35:9, 24; 37:15; 62:19; 65:13; 67:8; 71:6; 104:6; 105:15; 106:25; 108:6; 116:7: 119:19; 120:18; 127:14; 131:12; 132:12, 13; 133:5; 134:3, 24; 136:4, 12, 13; 141:11; 146:12, 21; 149:11, 21, 24; 155:17; 159:22; 164:11; 168:11; 170:17; 172:1, 17; 173:2, 8; 174:2; 186:2; 197:18; 202:9; 213:10: 226:2; 233:21; 244:7; 253:24: 254:9 either-somebody 106:24 El 43:19

elected 22:21; 23:3;

25:11, 18; 50:10:62:13.

19; 63:7; 85:25; 91:18;

129:1,8; 237:17; 238:1

12:19; 17:17; 41:8, 13, 19;

42:6; 45:22; 47:11; 63:19;

68:8; 160:8; 171:4, 12, 13,

13; 214:7; 217:14, 18, 23,

25; 232:5; 235:13; 237:14

**election** 5:8, 10: 6:1;

elections 41:21: 42:22; 121:12:160:1:217:15: 270:1 elective 205:19 Electric 10:1:11:15, 19: 12:3:91:7:154:24 elements 225:12 eleventh 256:7 elicited 109:4 else 33:6; 44:1, 9, 11; 58:8; 59:12; 63:1; 68:19; 69:8: 71:9: 74:25; 87:4, 23; 98:13: 101:19; 103:21; 144:4, 24; 147:18, 21; 154:3; 169:17, 21; 174:15; 215:13, 15; 222:12; 230:8; 258:12: 269:19: 270:11; 272:10, 17 eise's 114:3: 123:4 else-did 222:11 embark 243:5 embodied 5:16: 166:21: 168:11 embraces 42:4: 47:6 Emory 69:15 emphasis 73:24 emphasize 192:2 employ 12:21 employed 31:20; 49:15; 55:21, 24; 56:6 employee 55:3, 8, 11: 56:18; 202:19 **employees** 36:7; 44:4; 86:10 employment 54:23 enable 171:3: 261:18 enacted 42:5 enclosing 201:9 enciosure 203:13, 14, 15: 204:16 encounter 81:13 end 13:23; 14:8; 16:1; 28:10; 38:18; 39:14; 40:1, 7; 92:2; 99:3; 110:8; 115:13: 170:20: 171:1; 175:24; 180:13; 185:24; 190:5; 197:5; 201:15; 210:16; 213:3; 231:17; 239:21; 246:24; 248:7; 251:12 ending 38:21; 240:8 energy 9:12; 69:13 engage 6:22; 91:19; 229:6 engaged 116:23; 172:12: 228:17 engaging 215:3 engines 155:3 eniov 116:6 enlist 9:2 enough 29:17; 33:7;

233:5; 244:11; 263:24; 266:6.7 entered--NPF 87-1 entering 223:23; 230:11 entertain 157:24 entire 41:19; 47:6; 59:19. 20; 231:14; 232:10; 233:23; 277:13 entirely 96:15; 105:15 entities 78:9; 125:2; 174:20: 227:7 entitled 12:19: 19:5: 27:7: 77:14:89:24:130:5: 190:15; 240:9 entity 15:23; 77:21; 78:2; 110:6, 7; 118:22; 123:16; 129:9: 135:8: 136:14; 137:22, 24; 138:17, 23; 142:15; 143:15, 15; 234:13; 235:5; 259:14 entrepreneurs 206:3: 207:23 entry 252:15, 20 environment 69:13 environmental 9:12 envisioned 13:17; 67:16 equally 67:1 equation 67:3 equivalent 203:3 Eric 221:5; 257:3; 258:9 erratic 114:18 Especially 75:14: 214:17: 228:23 essence 197:6; 245:15 essence..."-- 197:2 essentially 60:15; 115:15: 119:11: 129:20: 163:10, 14: 187:15; 209:8; 228:10 establish 218:19 established 66:15: 124:24: 163:4: 170:4, 24: 276:18; 277:12 establishment 261:17 estimate 38:19 et 42:12; 52:1; 152:2, 3 even 14:6; 17:20; 30:5; 39:3; 83:7, 10; 94:21; 123:16; 141:6; 143:9; 145:17; 147:14; 149:10; 151:12; 162:18; 164:17; 192:6: 196:12: 213:4: 218:11; 219:15; 261:2; 264:4; 274:4; 277:14 evening 184:8 event 153:5; 177:2; 198:19; 223:16 events 8:11; 54:10; 55:5; 63:18; 66:18, 20; 68:3; 82:3; 88:14, 16; 101:23; 102:6; 112:15; 122:18; 136:21: 200:15: 268:9, 11, 16, 20; 269:2 eventually 131:2; 137:20 every 20:2; 57:11; 83:5;

100:13; 114:16; 119:3; 161:25: 162:2: 163:21: 233:12; 245:20 every~| 116:3 everybody 79:5; 257:21 everybody-i 178:7 everyone 158:9 everything 121:3; 234:1 Evidently 196:2; 197:24 exact 36:1:101:7; 104:20; 135:18; 146:20 exactly 40:19:66:15: 73:6; 143:21; 164:20; 171:11: 185:18: 253:3 examination 4:4; 7:11; 112:7 examined 4:6: 112:6 example 208:9; 246:15 exceed 5:13; 114:21 exceeded 114:19:115:1. exceeds 5:19 excellent 186:23, 24: 241:15 except 66:22; 122:16; 146:21; 161:23; 265:17 exception 28:12: 148:25 exceptionally 213:5 excess 116:16; 173:9, 13; 206:2; 253:10; 270:2 Exchange 10:9: 170:22 exchanging 263:9 exclude 48:9 excluding 103:1 exclusive 20:21; 21:10. 23; 22:14; 23:2; 24:4; 25:17:48:4:49:4 Excuse 35:4 execute 103:14 executed 127:1 executive 10:9 Exhibit 167:11, 13; 168:11, 25; 169:7, 18, 24; 171:22; 172:3; 173:5; 174:24: 176:8: 177:17: 180:7, 11; 181:6; 182:18; 183:15, 19, 20; 184:11, 15. 16; 185:1, 5, 19, 25; 186:16, 18, 22; 187-5; 189:15; 191:18, 23, 25; 192:23, 24; 193:2, 5, 16. 19: 194:5, 25; 195.19; 197:16; 198:24; 199:4, 10, 13; 200:20, 25, 25; 201:3; 203:7, 7, 9, 10, 16, 21; 204:4, 16; 205:10; 206:5. 9, 21; 208:3; 209:1, 12; 211:1; 212:2, 8, 12; 213:2, 18, 24, 24; 214:4, 5, 9, 21; 216:12; 217:10, 12; 218:14; 220:21; 221:1, 1, 4, 12, 17, 17, 24; 222:1, 17: 224:24; 225:6, 15; 226:9, 11, 13; 227:1, 18, 18; 230:13, 21, 22; 231:3, 18, 22; 233:7; 234:7;

162:1: 174:10: 178:15:

ensure 116:23; 248:19

190:18

Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs
Special Investigation

delegated 5:13; 97:21; 98:8: 196:25 delegates 140:14: 155:25; 169:23 delivered 103:17: 194:6: 211:3,6 delivering 195:4, 4; 211:14 delivering-not 195:3 demand 104:16 demands 121:2 demonstrated 87:9 **DENNING 4:3, 7, 24; 5:1,** 3; 6:3, 25; 7:14; 18:21; 20:18; 39:19; 50:14; 53:11; 66:13; 72:2, 5, 13; 84:12; 86:7; 96:3, 23; 111:9; 112:4, 9; 127:12; 130:13; 137:17; 142:1; 155:9; 156:23; 165:25; 167:11, 13: 168:11, 19, 25: 169:6, 18, 24; 170:15; 171:21, 23; 172:3; 173:5; 174:23; 176:8; 177:16; 180:7, 11; 181:6; 182:18; 183:14, 15, 19, 23; 184:11, 15, 19, 21, 25; 185:1, 5, 19, 25; 186:15, 18, 22; 187:5; 189:15; 191:18, 23, 25; 192:22, 24; 193:5, 16. 19: 194:5, 23, 24; 195:19; 197:16; 198:23, 24; 199:4, 10, 12, 13; 200:8, 20, 24, 24, 25; 201:7; 203:8, 9, 16, 21, 21; 204:4, 15, 22; 205:10; 206:5, 9, 21; 208:3, 24; 209:1, 6, 7, 12; 210:19; 211:1; 212:2, 8, 12; 213:1, 18, 24; 214:9, 21; 216:12; 217:10, 12; 218:14; 220:21; 221:1, 4, 7, 10, 12, 24; 222; 1, 17, 19; 224:23, 24; 225:4, 6. 15, 17; 226:9, 25; 227:17; 230:14, 15, 20, 20, 22; 231:2, 18, 22; 233:7; 234:7, 25; 235:21, 22; 236:4, 20; 237:13; 238:6, 12, 13, 16, 19; 239:3, 7, 14; 240:12, 21; 241:12, 21; 247:21; 249:25; 250:16; 251:23, 25; 254:13, 19, 23, 25; 255:7, 13; 256:16, 17, 21, 22; 257:1, 4, 6, 7; 258:15, 20, 24; 259:3, 11; 260:8, 9, 13, 16, 18, 22, 23; 262:12, 16, 22, 25; 263:8; 264:3; 266:25; 267:2, 6, 16, 21; 268:8, 22; 269:24; 270:15; 271:13; Denning's 6:18; 130:11; 151:12; 191:17; 193:4; 236:19; 259:13; 269:5, 14 deny 154:5 Department 9:23; 43:3; 50:25; 244:17 dependent 156:14: 251:10

depending 89:25; 263:7 deposed 7:14 deposit 224:15, 21 deposition 6:19:97:5: 148:6; 167:13; 183:15; 184:11; 193:5; 199:4; 203:16; 209:12; 214:9; 220:21: 225:6; 230:22; 235:22; 238:13; 254:13, 19; 255:1, 7; 256:16, 21, 22: 257:1, 6: 258:15, 20; 259:3, 12; 260:8, 9, 13, 16, 18, 22, 23; 262:12, 17, 18; 263:1, 8; 264:3; 266:25; 267:2, 6, 16, 18; 268:4, 8, 22; 269:25; 270:15; 271:13; 276:25; 277:24 deputy 9:22, 23; 10:22 descending 252:15 describe 13:5; 25:22; 45:8, 25; 94:23; 95:7; 133:22; 157:10; 164:2; 215:7 described 79:3: 119:7: 134:17; 135:2; 136:7; 216:18; 226:11; 228:1 Description 241:24 designated 94:6; 97:23; 101:9, 11 desire 191:3 desk 210:2 detail 14:12; 66:22; 196:19; 220:10 detailed 10:18; 225:12; 260:21 details 26:13: 105:6: 158:4: 196:16 determination 113:21: 138:14 determinations 179:10; 277:3 determine 75:4, 20; 215:4 determined 242:7 develop 38:18 developed 37:22; 164:3; 261:17 developing 138:21 Development 10:17; 13:17; 18:3, 13; 23:9; 31:21, 23; 43:17; 48:10, 17, 24; 49:5, 9, 16, 22; 50:4, 9, 17, 25; 54:7; 83:5; 86:10; 90:12, 16; 109:19, 20: 116:21: 117:5, 10, 18: 121:25; 122:15; 125:1, 6, 14, 18; 126:2, 20; 129:17, 22; 130:25; 131:13; 134:18, 21, 25; 135:9; 136:15, 19, 23; 137:9, 21, 24; 138:6, 10, 11, 16; 139:10, 12, 15; 140:1, 10, 16, 22; 141:3, 22; 142:15, 21; 144:1, 6, 20; 146:8; 147:11; 151:11; 152:13.

24; 155:20, 25; 161:20;

163:13; 164:4, 14; 194:10;

198:4, 14; 199:11; 211:10; 215:5, 25; 216:5; 219:3, 19: 222:7, 13; 224:19; 229:7, 21; 230:2, 6, 10; 231:12; 234:3, 5; 237:10; 242:13, 16, 18; 245:23; 268:21; 275:7 Development-if 150:22 developments 129:16 devious 155:2 devote 243:15 devoted 105:15; 137:23; 243:16 Diane 65:3 Dick 30:10, 11: 141:8, 12; 152:9; 155:17; 169:14; 178:10; 209:5; 212:14 dictate 175:22: 179:9: 277:3 did-1152:18 didn't-Heley 11:10 didn't--1 74:10 differ 73:11:96:10 different 7:2; 11:19; 73:2; 147:24; 178:8, 19; 228:20; 261:22 difficult 114:3; 118:25; 120:10; 123:7, 14; 180:19; 263:19 difficulty 173:18 diligence 165:1; 176:22; 228:17, 21; 229:4, 6, 8, 17, 25; 242:10 Diligence—Hong 222:5 diligent 176:21 dinner 153:9, 16, 25; 154:8, 11, 22; 155:5; 156:4; 157:10; 158:24; 159:13, 15, 22; 161:6, 7; 162:5; 166:1; 170:4; 185:6. 11, 11: 186:6, 25; 187:13, 25; 189:10; 190:3; 192:9; 199:16, 17, 21, 23; 201:13, 17, 18; 202:5, 8 diplometic 34:9 direct 208:3; 226:8 directed 178:16; 276:19 directing 205:9; 224:9. 11; 242:11 direction 20:7 directly 15:6; 29:24; 58:22; 98:20; 117:25; 145:2; 150:11, 14; 217:13 director 10:9, 24; 43:17; 69:23 director-1 44:19 directors 20:20; 21:9, 23; 22:14: 23:1, 17; 24:3, 16; 25:4, 16; 44:14; 46:21; 48:4; 49:4; 50:23; 55:14, 19; 69:7, 10; 70:2; 78:24; 80:7; 84:19; 95:8; 99:12; 100:1, 19; 107:16; 109:12; 118:8; 236:13, 15, 21 disagres 246:11 disagreed 33:25

disagreement 112:23 discriminate 76:1 discuss 6:13: 7:9: 35:10; 108:16 discussed 52:16:68:22: 71:11, 15; 83:17; 84:23; 87:20; 93:18; 126:8, 11; 127:12, 25; 128:5, 10, 16; 129:6; 131:18, 25; 135:4; 156:5; 158:3; 168:4; 173:15; 179:25; 184:7; 261:25: 272:6 discusses 205:22 discussing 67:5; 174:15; 177:13; 186:11; 258:3 discussion 19:17; 22:13; 23:16: 24:23: 29:6. 18: 49:17; 50:9; 51:20; 61:23; 84:10; 85:7, 11, 23; 100:10; 107:25; 109:16, 18; 116:15; 117:9, 17; 122:8; 129:7; 130:24; 139:9, 14; 145:24; 157:7; 159:23; 160:3, 10; 173:25; 184:10; 186:25; 187:21, 24; 189:9; 190:2; 201:17; 208:5: 211:24: 220:19: 222:6; 238:11; 270:8, 11; 271:15 discussions 14:19, 21; 15:18: 20:20: 21:2, 8, 22; 22:6, 20; 23:1, 10, 22; 24:3, 10, 16; 25:4, 16; 29:14; 40:15; 46:14, 20; 47:1; 48:3, 16, 23; 49:3, 9, 15, 22; 50:3, 15, 23; 51:9; 52:3, 11, 13; 59:17; 60:2, 7, 23; 61:17; 62:11, 17; 63:1; 66:21; 68:14, 19, 24; 69:4; 73:15; 74:13; 84:13, 17; 100:1; 107:3, 16; 109:8, 10, 11, 13, 14; 112:11: 119:22: 120:14, 17; 122:2; 126:13, 24; 128:25; 133:14; 159:15, 20; 164:16; 174:2; 216:24; 219:17; 220:14; 222:12; 223:14, 17, 18; 224:18: 271:4 distinction 142:4 distinctions 259:20 distracted 178:22 distressed 265:14 division 43:3; 48:17, 24: 49:5, 9, 16, 22; 50:4, 10; 53:3:54:7 divisions 27:1, 2 document 5:17; 40:12; 72:12; 92:2; 103:16; 166:8; 167:4, 9, 10, 11, 16, 22, 24; 168:2, 2, 5, 13, 17; 169:8; 173:5; 175:14; 180:8; 181:22; 183:13, 21, 21; 184:15; 192:22, 25; 193:8, 11, 14; 198:23, 24; 199:7; 200:10, 14; 201:6; 202:24, 25; 203:19; 204:1; 205:6, 13; 207:9; 208:24;

211:21; 213:25; 214:12;

221:12; 222:21; 224:25; 225:2, 9; 226:1, 5, 6; 230:15, 25; 235:4, 20; 236:1, 12, 19; 238:19; 239:9, 19, 21; 240:14, 22; 241:1, 15; 242:15; 251:8; 253:22: 254:12, 17, 24; 255:25; 257:2; 258:20; 259:13; 260:8, 13; 261:11; 269:2, 3, 4, 16; 276:3; 277:8, 10 documentation 231:14; 239:11, 18; 249:11 documents 72:3, 5, 7; 96:2, 6, 13, 21, 23, 25; 112:10; 142:18; 144:7; 145:18; 146:7; 163:15, 20; 164:5: 165:18: 166:18, 18, 21: 167:2, 4: 169:11: 209:23; 210:1, 3, 7, 16; 218:6; 221:18; 233:3; 237:9; 253:24; 255:4 **DoD** 12:8 **DOE** 9:25; 12:8 doesn't-that 94:18 Dole 181:7, 11; 182:3, 8, 20; 199:21, 22 Dole's 181:13, 20 dollars 94:6, 12: 270:4 domestic 142:5 Don 98:18, 21; 131:25; 183:23; 184:18; 193:3; 194:6, 8, 15, 24, 25; 195:7; 209:5; 262:22 Don's 134:5 don't-1 33:21: 177:13 don't~it's 193:22 don't-there 39:7 don't-there's 52:23 donation 80:18, 22, 24; 81:13, 15; 82:20, 22; 83:16, 18; 106:16; 227:10 donations 77:3; 80:25; 89:16; 123:20; 244:2 done 36:25; 39:7; 52:7; 68:9; 110:8; 129:23; 131:21, 158:10; 162:3; 202:12, 24; 207:25 donor 17:21:77:25. 175:21: 177:25: 178:1.3. 9; 183:10, 11; 201:23; 206:15; 227:14 donor-you 106:15 donors 73:16; 75:11; 77:6; 176:5; 182:23; 183:1 door 114:16: 135:13 doubt 155:21; 169:20, 21; 170:1, 2, 17; 209:19; 255:22 down 7:23; 11:25; 71:1; 105:4; 150:18: 153:19; 154:21; 171:21; 173:4; 174:12; 183:24; 189:15; 223:13; 241:13; 250:2, 6, 11; 252:20; 275:12; 277:22 down-Do 240:25

#### CONFIDENTIAL

19:16, 18; 20:19, 21, 23; 21:1, 4, 7, 10, 11, 12; 22:1, 5, 9, 16, 22; 24:17, 25; 25:5, 19; 26:6; 33:8; 36:6; 37:17, 19:38:14; 39:13, 16:63:1:72:21:76:14: 77:10: 85:16: 86:8: 96:4: 108:21; 113:22; 115:1; 116:23: 117:11: 118:14: 126:21; 127:16; 129:3; 136:6: 140:24: 143:14: 144:25; 149:1; 155:19; 158:25; 159:25; 160:5; 167:18; 171:17; 172:7; 201:9; 202:10; 203:11, 15; 204:17; 205:11, 11; 206:20; 209:3; 210:20; 212:20; 213:13; 219:1; 222:8; 225:1; 228:12, 16, 17; 229:6; 230:9; 231:5, 11; 233:19; 236:13, 15, 22; 240:10; 241:23; 251:15; 255:10; 256:11; 258:22, 25; 261:6, 12; 262:21; 263:11; 267:9, 9; 268:11; 270:3; 271:10; 275:3; 277:5 Forum's 128:19 forums 13:9; 17:7, 13: 26:14, 18; 27:17; 37:7, 17; 38:5, 19, 20; 39:14, 25; 40:9, 11; 73:2; 89:15; 114:6 forward 18:2; 97:12; 106:17; 139:25; 163:12; 165:15; 167:6; 185:7; 197:13; 211:11; 258:2 forwarded 200:14 found 29:1; 115:25 foundation 170:22 foundational 205:13 four 38:9; 172:2; 243:22; 244:20, 23; 245:1; 247:17; 274:19; 275:4 four-paged-a 224:25 fourth 32:17: 171:21, 23; 200:19, 21; 204:20; 205:10; 265:6; 269:24 frame 18:16; 36:25; 37:3; 45:12; 66:8; 73:5; 80:13; 92:22; 95:16; 98:1; 129:18; 136:9; 235:4; 243:23 framed 136:25 framework 172:1 Francisco 185:9 Frankly 10:17; 11:19; 34:2; 70:21; 143:2; 160:18 Fred 87:1; 93:22; 126:4, 7; 134:21; 141:4, 8; 142:12; 146:25; 151:24; 154:13, 22; 155:17; 156:7; 159:17; 160:15, 22; 170:8; 186:12: 196:22: 197:25: 202:14; 209:5; 212:15; 253:9; 262:19, 19; 263:16; 265:7; 270:1

£.\*.

Fred-as 174:8 Frederick 183:22: 184:22 free 42:17; 69:19; 130:15; 160:13; 179:6; 276:13 free-up 160:6 FRENKEL 4:7, 9, 11, 22; 6:21:7:13:12:25:14:25: 15:17; 16:2, 21; 17:10; 18:9; 19:11, 15, 23; 20:9, 17, 25; 21:6, 14, 20; 22:3, 11, 18, 24; 23:6, 14, 20; 24:1, 8, 14, 21; 25:2, 8, 14, 21; 26:1, 2, 19, 20; 27:22; 28:4; 29:5, 12; 30:8; 31:5, 10, 15; 32:2, 14; 33:3, 14; 34:10, 23; 35:3, 15, 23; 36:11, 18: 37:2, 13, 21: 38:3, 17; 39:10, 18, 22; 40:14, 25; 41:5, 15; 42:16, 18, 25; 43:12; 44:6, 12, 24; 45:4, 14, 24; 46:7, 12, 18, 24; 47:8, 12, 16, 21; 48:1, 12, 14, 21; 49:1, 7, 13, 20; 50:1, 7, 13, 21; 51:8, 17; 52:6: 53:7, 10: 54:4, 13: 55:9, 17; 56:4, 13; 57:4, 19; 58:6, 13, 20; 59:2, 10, 15, 20, 23, 25, 60:5, 15, 21; 61:3, 10, 16, 22; 62:3, 6, 10, 16, 22; 63:9, 15, 24; 64:5, 14; 66:10; 67:7, 22; 68:13; 72:1, 14, 15; 73:8; 74:3, 12; 75:18, 24; 76:6, 25; 77:17; 78:12, 21; 79:21; 81:7, 9; 82:6, 10, 17, 24; 83:13, 20, 23; 84:3, 9, 11; 86:3, 5, 6, 19; 88:6; 89:1, 4, 9; 93:1; 94:17, 20; 95:5, 11, 17; 96:1, 15; 97:10, 11:98:1, 5:99:21, 24; 100:5, 9, 17, 23; 102:2, 24; 103:19; 105:2, 11; 106:6; 107:14, 20; 108:7; 109:6, 7; 110:5; 111:7, 8, 18, 21; 112:8, 17, 22; 113:4, 10; 114:10; 115:11, 22: 116:25: 117:8, 15, 22; 118:4, 12; 119:16; 120:1; 121:9, 23; 122:5; 123:12; 124:6, 17, 22; 125:16; 126:16: 127:8, 11, 18, 24; 128:4, 9, 15, 23; 129:5, 11, 18; 130:2, 7, 15, 19; 131:4, 8, 10; 133:21; 137:4, 13, 15, 16; 138:7; 139:3; 142:9; 146:5; 148:3, 12, 14; 151:6, 15; 156:20; 157:5, 8, 9; 161:1; 163:9; 165:21, 23, 24; 167:10, 16, 20; 168:23; 171:16; 179:5, 11; 181:1, 5; 183:13, 18; 184:14, 20; 188:12; 189:3; 190:21; 191:9, 16, 21; 192:22; 193:10, 13; 194:14, 19, 21, 22; 198:23; 199:8; 200:3, 18; 203:8, 20; 205:1, 8; 206:18: 207:1, 5, 18; 208:24; 209:15; 210:18, 24, 25; 211:23, 25; 212:1; 213:23;

214:15; 219:8; 220:12, 18. 24: 221:9, 20, 23: 224:23: 225:10: 226:21, 24: 229:16; 230:13; 231:1; 232:16, 22: 234:25: 235:3. 20, 25; 236:6, 9, 11; 238:10, 12, 16, 21; 253:22; 254:5, 7, 12, 22; 256:20, 25; 258:14, 18; 259:11, 21, 25; 260:7, 12; 262:8, 10, 15; 266:25; 267:5, 23, 24; 268:18: 269:18, 21, 23; 271:21, 24: 272:2, 24, 25: 276:1; 277:7, 16 frenzy 37:17, 19; 39:13, frequently 243:20 Friday 257:10 friend 11:22: 87:9: 98:17: 126:8: 149:6: 153:22, 24 friends 68:23; 92:7; 265:14 triendship 93:6 fringes 57: t from-1 145:2 from-the 18:12 From-yes 114:15 front 58:4; 160:9 full 8:6; 86:9; 93:14; 102:22; 106:1; 170:18; 211:11; 250:23; 271:14 fully 96:17: 176:10: 216:16; 227:25; 229:1; 277:21 fun 162:3 function 261:18 fund 16:15; 21:25; 22:8; 23:3, 11, 17, 24; 24:5, 11, 18: 25:6, 11, 18, 19: 43:23; 44:2, 22; 45:5; 46:9, 21; 49:11; 50:5; 53:13; 62:14; 115:2, 15: 120:13: 121:18: 124:19; 226:10, 14; 245:21; 261:18; 270:15 fund-raiser 43:8 fund-raisers 45:10; 86:8 fund-raising 16:13:17:5. 12; 25:22; 26:15; 27:4; 43:1, 2, 6; 44:4; 45:1, 3, 20; 46:3, 15; 47:3; 48:9, 19; 50:16, 24; 52:4; 53:4; 54:7: 55:2: 56:19: 57:14; 59:18: 60:3: 63:12: 64:16, 24; 66:6; 73:16; 83:3, 6; 84:6; 85:20; 86:1; 100:12, 12: 114:2, 7, 12; 124:12; 189:21; 198:19; 202:21; 208:1: 216:7 funded 16:8: 120:9: 160:20; 180:10, 12 funding 16:17; 120:22; 121:18; 124:9; 248:1, 3; 257:11: 267:10 fundraising 164:22; 176:10; 243:9, 13; 244:17; 245:16; 248:9, 13, 249:22;

263:23: 266:3 funds 5:5: 43:22: 44:2. 15; 49:17; 50:11; 52:1; 61:14, 19:74:14, 16: 75:20; 78:1, 6; 80:8; 84:15, 19: 85:3, 9: 86:11; 91:15; 92:11, 16: 93:8: 94:5: 106:15: 112:25: 122:10: 127:16: 128:7, 12, 19: 129:2, 9; 139:6, 16, 16; 161:4; 173:17; 197:12; 218:8; 222:7, 14; 245:2, 16; 262:6; 264:9 FURTHER 112:7: 129:16: 136:8: 220:10: 249:25: 276:1, 23: 277:15 furthered 160:20 Furthermore 227:1 future 34:4: 66:7: 68:17: 72:20; 73:24; 95:22; 134:11; 157:17; 244:5, 19

## G

G.E 11:17, 18 gain 160:6 game 18:3 gap 245:14, 17 garbage-in-garbageout 247:4 gather 201:19, 22 gathered 202:11 gave 83:9, 20; 141:10; 209:24 general 8:22: 10:1: 11:15, 19; 12:3; 41:8; 45:21; 67:9; 77:5; 85:17; 91:7: 100:13: 124:13: 129:22; 134:17; 154:24; 209:22; 237:24; 238:2; 254:24 generally 103:5; 189:20; 243:24; 246:3; 260:22, 24 generate 72:22, 24 generous 211:5; 213:5 genuinely 213:5 Georgetown 8:15 Geppert 149:21; 221:5; 257:3; 258:2 German-owned 76:10 get--if 180:23 giant 134:1 Ginarich 181:7; 182:8, Gingrich's 181:14, 21 given 17:20; 18:3, 16; 73:24; 102:3; 111:6; 114:24; 115:12; 151:9; 162:7; 186:10; 213:4; 229:4; 243:23; 244:7 gives 231:24 giving 8:6; 133:9; 213:12; 224:14, 20 glad 154:4; 188:16; 192:18

glad--go 144:13 global 172:25 globally 129:17 go-let 57:15 goal 6:2: 40:4, 4: 66:6: 88:2: 89:7: 105:21: 108:20; 171:3 goals 214:24 God's 123:18 goes 12:21; 41:19; 99:5; 107:9; 124:13; 125:5; 219:13: 236:14: 238:17: 248:1; 258:2; 263:17; 273:1 going-you 13:21 Goldstein 4:18 Good 4:7, 8:13:15: 73:19; 268:13; 275:3 **GOP 205:14** governance 258:3, 5 government 9:22, 25; 10:22; 12:6, 7, 10; 69:21 Governmental 4:5, 12; governors 208:19 Grace-| 65:4 grammatical 33:18, 21, graphic 252:22 grateful 211:3; 213:6 gratuitous 149:19 gravitating 56:24 gray 149:12 Great 8:15; 212:14 green 87:21; 133:10; 139:21; 140:6; 141:1; 150:21; 151:20 green-l 151:21 ground 125:8 grounds 82:5, 15; 128:21; 130:5 group 109:13, 14, 16, 18: 133:3; 154:18; 183:10; 189:24; 221:17 groups 78:8; 118:9; 172:12; 274:11 guarantee 18:1, 3, 12; 48:10; 51:25; 54:3; 116:21: 117:5, 10, 17: 118:14; 121:25; 122:3, 6, 9, 13, 19; 123:10, 23; 124:8, 16, 19, 21, 23, 25; 125:11, 20; 126:19, 25; 127:4; 131:14, 18; 132:20; 133:6, 15; 135:8; 136:16, 22; 137:8, 20; 138:4, 11, 17; 139:7, 15, 17, 22; 140:1, 10, 16, 23; 1-11:3; 144:1, 6, 19; 150:22; 152:13; 155:20; 158:3; 160:5, 24; 161:19; 162:9; 163:12; 164:4, 22; 181:25; 189:14: 194:9: 195:14, 16, 17; 196:19; 197:14; 198:4, 13; 207:4, 13, 15; 211:11; 212:20; 215:5; 216:4;

Fred's 186:17; 191:19

251:20; 261:18, 22; 262:1;

235:22: 236:4: 237:13: 238:6, 12, 13: 239:7, 14, 24: 240:1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 3, 9, 21: 241:5, 12, 21: 249:24: 250:16, 17; 251:24; 254:13, 19; 255:1, 7; 256:17, 20, 21, 22; 257:1, 6; 258:14, 15, 20; 259:4, 12; 260:8, 9, 13, 16, 18, 22, 23; 262:11, 12, 17, 17, 18; 263:1, 9; 264:4; 267:1. 1, 2, 6, 16, 18; 268; 8, 22; 269:20, 25; 270:15; 271:13; 276:25 Exhibits 184:22: 200:24: 203:5; 240:6, 11 exhortation 85:17 exist 96:1; 210:19 existed 43:7; 45:9; 189:24 existence 232:20 existing 45:17; 90:12; 172:6, 22; 232:2; 245:13 expand 229:20 expect 96:18; 164:23 expectations 17:6; 89:8, 10.11:114:2 expected 89:12; 130:12;

i.,

i. .

د. عربيّه

£4.

1 2

; •, . ·

215:23; 216:8; 227:7; 228:4; 251:6; 273:23 expects 216:16; 227:25; 243:5 expedite 129:25; 137:11 expend 5:5 expenditure 119:3: 180:22 expense 114:8; 245:8 expenses 114:13, 19; 245:9, 14. 21; 248:15 experience 119:4; 140:7; 176:2, 3; 182:6; 190:20; 227:15; 246:2; 273:22 experienced 67:17: 226:10 experiencing 145:10 expertise 11:22; 12:5, 5; 228:25; 273:22 expired 264:5 explain 51:12; 122:17; 276:12 explained 104:13; 156:12; 157:14; 265:13 explore 133:11; 140:6; 141:4,8 explored 123:25 exploring 138:19 express 1e7:22; 181:8. 14; 182:2; 225:4 expressed 94:1; 157:16, 21; 188:2 expression 155:16

extensively 263:5 extent 15:22; 45:8; 57:14; 66:17; 83:25; 88:7; 90:14, 17: 96:1, 22; 112:17; 117:3; 120:18; 122:16; 130:23; 136:18; 141:23; 147:25: 159:1: 160:20: 190:1: 210:18: 215:14: 227:6. 14: 266:22: 268:14: 272:20 extra 161:12; 251:11 extremely 211:4; 277:20

#### F

t-o-r-u-m-s 26:18 face 41:12 face-to-face 105:5 facilitate 108:24; 162:8; 171:18: 270:2 facility 245:18; 248:10 facing 178:21 fact 7:4: 74:7: 76:1.8; 86:17; 122:14; 138:5; 140:13, 15, 22; 149:7; 182:7; 190:25; 201:9; 205:20; 217:5; 219:4; 227:13: 228:13: 232:2. 8: 246:13, 19; 251:17 factor 72:20: 160:18 facts 125:12: 229:1 fair 17:23; 18:3; 48:12; 56:25; 66:15; 107:11; 111:14: 114:1; 116:12, 25; 122:21; 138:18, 22; 139:19; 140:8, 13; 143:10, 16, 17; 172:4, 8, 8; 189:1; 190:18: 224:12: 249:14: 266:22 fairly 99:8; 132:25; 134:14; 159:6; 227:14; 265:8 fall 52:2; 86:15; 121:5, 6, 11; 218:22; 238:3 Falls 8:16 tamiliar 5:14; 168:3; 170:13; 185:3; 187:2; 193:21: 207:10; 228:20; 252:2; 255:19; 259:14 families 158:13 family 32:1; 153:6; 172:13; 213:4, 11 far 35:2; 57:23; 111:9, 12, 13, 14; 117:24; 123:20; 143:13; 149:20; 158:5; 160:11, 18: 166:5; 171:25; 172:5, 20; 177:18; 178:13; 182:14, 16; 189:8, 16, 25; 190:3; 193:10; 200:17; 204:7, 10; 206:2; 210:11; 215:15; 218:7, 9; 219:12; 224:5; 231:18; 243:11; 249:20: 267:10: 269:7; 273:20, 24; 276:20 fashion 191:14 fast 16:1; 151:18; 152:4

faulty 246:9 fax 240:2: 273:13 faxed 30:14; 265:15 feasibility 134:7; 136:5 feasible 135:4, 10, 12 February 10:6; 38:12; 92:22; 110:14, 14; 247:14, 16 FEC 219:13; 234:17 federal 5:7, 10, 25; 9:14; 17:17; 41:13; 63:19; 91:19; 129:1, 8; 171:4; 214:7: 217:14, 15, 18, 23; 225:3; 232:5; 235:11, 12, FedEx 185:8 feet 6:11: 7:7: 115:5, 23 feeling 6:16 fell 173:24 felt 13:14; 15:7; 39:24; 46:2. 9: 78:1: 90:17. 17: 93:16; 137:7; 227:7, 12 festivities 190:9 few 68:25; 93:25; 123:1; 140:19; 205:16 fewer 164:17 field 98:9 Fierce 98:18; 131:25; 132:12, 19; 133:4, 5, 25; 134:6; 135:3; 136:9, 12, 13; 137:6; 138:9, 14; 139:4, 20; 141:2; 148:20; 149:6; 150:21; 151:20; 153:19; 183:23; 184:18; 193:3; 195:21; 197:19; 209:5; 262:23 Fierce's 134:7 fifth 212:13 fight 119:4 fights 119:7,9 figure 38:13; 67:4, 5, 9, 9; 78:8: 105:17: 122:23: 123:17: 135:18; 174:2, 7; 202:11 file 210:3 files 210:9, 11, 13, 19 filing 210:1 fill 241:10; 247:5 filled 36:14, 17; 241:11 filtered 155:16 final 29:4, 13; 65:15, 19; 71:25; 179:9; 180:7, 20; 181:6: 191:2: 197:1, 25; 207:19; 208:2, 18; 213:1; 214:5; 236:16; 238:17; 240:2, 15; 263:16; 267:1; 270:14: 277:3 final-I'm 208:14 finally 11:25; 109:18; 111:1; 213:2; 217:9; 251:23, 25 Finance 44:20 finances 18:6 financial 14:20; 16:23, 24; 17:1; 18:10; 48:6;

57:21:64:16:71:11:83:6; 117:13, 20; 118:6, 15; 119:11: 164:19: 179:8, 9: 189:23: 201:10, 23: 202:1, 16: 205:23: 247:23: 248:25; 249:2; 261:4, 12; 263:15: 277:2, 2 financing 123:24 find 54:22; 123:10; 151:8; 182:11; 251:15; 265:5 finding 66:14; 274:23 fine 18:25; 19:25; 20:15; 36:1; 50:20; 109:6; 110:3; 192:1; 196:14; 204:12; 253:21 finish 14:6; 108:7; 198:12 finished 32:23:40:11: 140:19; 142:11 finite 179:18 firm 30:21; 31:20; 79:23. 23; 101:13; 144:10, 14; 145:5, 8; 150:13; 218:1; 219:10; 227:2, 3, 8; 228:6, 12: 233:13 firms 144:17 first 4:5; 10:16; 11:1, 10; 12:14; 13:3; 19:16; 26:12; 32:19, 19; 33:16, 24; 34:11, 12, 13; 40:16; 51:14; 53:14, 24; 54:5; 55:2; 85:11; 98:6; 100:20; 108:14; 109:23; 116:14, 14; 118:13, 21; 121:21; 122:1, 8; 124:18; 125:3, 17; 126:1; 132:19; 133:5; 134:4; 144:5; 147:7; 149:17; 152:20; 158:1; 162:17, 18; 170:14, 20, 20; 172:15; 177:16; 185:4; 192:4: 199:9, 15; 201:8; 203:14: 204:3, 9, 16: 208:7, 9; 209:7; 213:1, 25; 214:21, 25; 221:3; 223:13; 225:1: 239:5; 240:21; 241:24; 247:24; 249:10; 252:9, 15; 257:9; 258:4; 260:16; 261:8; 263:1; 265:6; 270:19; 271:2, 14, 20: 275:14 first-hand 269:1, 7 fft 171:25 fits 77:13 five 110:22, 24; 247:18 five-paged 213:24; 224:25 fixed 245:8, 14 fiash 121:8 flat 106:5 Fiorida 48:11:141:22: 142:15, 19; 143:6, 12; 147:11; 149:14; 229:24; 230:2; 270:16 Fiorida-based 31:25 flow 105:21; 247:24 fluid 67:1 focus 173:2; 204:7, 10, 20: 205:24

focused 76:12: 159:1 focussing 212:13; 216:13 follow 19:12: 130:5: 131:2; 211:19; 232:23 follow-up 170:5, 6; 202:9 tollowed 227:16: 236:14 tollowing 9:2; 50:14, 22; 54:5; 62:23; 70:7, 12; 71:3; 72:17; 78:5, 22; 84:12, 18; 95:12:121:15:131:15: 138:8, 13; 139:4, 19; 141:1: 152:11: 159:12, 15: 162:8, 10, 11; 165:25; 182:18; 201:17; 202:8, 12; 228:8; 243:19, 22; 244:18; 245:22; 247:7, 18; 257:9 follows 4:6; 112:6 font 118:24 food 157:12 footnotes 32:25 for-1 10:21 for-not 231:4 for-they 102:21 forbidden 57:2 force 204:5, 10 forecast 249:7, 8 foreign 21:18, 25; 24:11, 18; 49:24; 62:7, 8; 63:6; 69:15; 74:25; 76:21, 22; 77:3:91:11:112:14, 25; 113:8, 13; 142:5; 172:23; 178:20; 204:6; 217:14, 18, 22, 25; 218:9, 17, 17, 19 forever 158:22 forget 40:19 forgive 271:6,9 forgiven 274:8 torgiveness 270:20, 24; 275:13 forgiving 270:22 forgotten 10:17; 44:19; 121:17; 186:7; 247:12 form 97:6; 109:1; 162:4; 233:3; 247:5; 268:13, 25; 272:22, 24 formai 27:24; 75:19; 76:18; 77:2; 85:18 formalized 75:8 formalizing 261:17 format 73:2; 240:19; 252:8 formed 113:23; 204:10; 241:25 forming 204:5 forms 26:18 formulating 71:16 forth 105:19: 127:6; 182:9 torthcoming 82:9; 244:5; 245:3 Fortune 206:3; 207:20 Forty-Niners 200:4 Forum 5:1:11:16:12:13. 15; 14:1; 15:10, 20; 18:11;

extend 96:6; 161:21;

extended 38:21

extends 5:9

218:7

248:9; 262:1 increasing 39:25; 121:3; 173:17; 248:12 increasingly 118:25; 119:3; 120:10, 10; 123:7; 180:19 incumbency 255:10 incur 245:22 incurring 107:5, 18 indebtedness 259:1 independence 276:18 independent 170:21; 196:3; 272:21 Indiana 8:19; 9:10 Indiana-from 8:24 indicate 148:1 indicated 17:16; 33:15; 39:3, 23; 51:5; 52:9; 82:7; ħ., 127:2; 138:2; 157:21; 217:1: 220:9 indicates 86:18: 244:8 indication 211:10: Įħ. 213:10: 237:15: 267:21 indicator 183:20 individual 69:25; 79:18, 20, 22; 80:1; 86:20, 22; 98:8; 125:4; 133:4; 183:9; 220:1; 252:23; 275:14 individuals 43:14; 44:7; 48:17; 49:15; 59:17; 65:3; 66:5; 69:20; 73:25; 74:11; 80:12; 86:22, 25; 117:18; 126:18, 19; 128:19; 132:19; 144:9; 146:16; 155:7; 179:13; 180:3; 184:18; 200:22; 202:10; 206:1, 6; 223:15; 228:25 induce 189:13 inducement 96:9; 191:6, 10 inducement-given 96:8 influence 41:8; 276:14 inform 142:17 informal 75:9, 20; 76:18; 77:2 information 12:20; 13:20; 46:2; 47:3; 48:5, 18; 80:3; 95:2; 98:14; 113:25; 124:13; 126:6; 134:20; 146:24; 147:1, 20; 169:1; 176:18; 181:20; 201:19, 22, 25; 202:2; 205:23; 207:2: 208:21: 214:21: 215:10; 216:2; 234:3; 240:17; 244:16; 249:17; 269:8 informed 57:21; 142:25; 148:19; 149:22; 159:16 initial 16:8; 65:17, 22, 24; 104:22 initially 43:19; 103:15; 104:18; 106:2; 131:25 initiated 37:23 innocent 220:8 input 40:10; 71:19;

186:11 inquire 137:7 inquiry 7:3; 97:1; 210:22; 220:11; 230:1, 4, 9; 269:14 inquiry-that 96:25 **inserted** 180:15 inside 78:4; 84:13 insisted 177:11 insisting 177:10 installment 32:19: 256:8 installments 256:4 instance 28:16:58:12: 74:24; 78:20; 83:9, 12; 86:15, 20; 91:14, 17; 94:3; 101:3; 105:24; 106:10; 126:1; 167:9; 177:25; 182:20 instance--i'm 28:11 instance-sort 83:14 instances 89:14:91:2; 100:15 instead 178:18 instruct 6:12, 17; 17:16, 23; 18:5; 41:11; 42:23; 45:19; 46:5; 53:25; 54:9; 55:4; 59:21; 60:11; 66:19; 76:24: 82:4, 16: 84:5, 7: 95:1; 100:21; 103:5; 107:8, 12; 108:22; 111:4; 112:20: 113:2: 117:3: 122:16; 124:4, 11; 125:9, 14: 126:15: 130:25: 136:17; 138:3; 181:3 instructed 215:14 instruction 7:8; 18:23; 19:4, 22, 24; 20:3, 12, 14; 42:1; 46:11, 17, 23; 47:5, 15; 48:8, 20, 25; 49:6, 12, 19, 25; 50:6, 12; 61:2, 9, 15, 21; 62:2, 9, 15, 21; 63:8; 95:10; 102:5; 107:19; 108:9; 109:2, 5; 111:6; 113:9; 117:14, 21; 118:3, 11; 126:22; 127:17, 23; 128:3, 8, 14, 22; 129:4, 10: 136:25: 138:25: 150:24; 151:1, 3, 19, 20 instructions 19:12: 29:14; 141:10; 142:12; 151:9 insulate 83:4 insure 214:25 integration 12:9 intellectually 34:18 intelligently 38:24 intend 6:6, 22; 143:8; 179:3, 5: 236:2, 3; 260:21 intended 41:7: 52:2; 133:16; 159:23; 160:4, 11; 177:5; 186:8; 191:14; 205:18; 207:3; 221:18; 223:1 intends 176:11, 15; 208:6 intent 102:22; 234:16 intention 7:5: 58:16;

CONFIDENTIAL intentions 176:19 interacted 57:9 interchange 158:18 intercourse 150:4 interest 58:2; 73:4; 104:15; 113:7; 152:23; 155:16, 25; 157:16, 22; 178:3; 188:3; 270:24; 274:7; 275:15 interested 11:23; 34:18; 76:10, 14; 141:13; 152:2; 160:19; 170:19; 178:25; 250:1 interested-wall 14:12 interests 6:8 interfere 206:24 interim 70:20 internal 52:13; 78:25 International 10:16; 157:16: 172:24: 263:3 interpose 84:4 interpret 115:10; 242:4, 5 interpretation 47:10: 48:13: 234:17 interpretations 200:14 interpreted 41:18 interpreting 48:9 interrogation 6:24; 31:1; 122:21; 268:25 interrogations 6:2 interrupt 20:7; 108:3; 147:22; 264:21; 268:12 interrupted 271:20 intervene 93:15 into 6:16: 9:22: 10:22: 11:21, 23; 12:20; 13:20; 34:8; 38:10; 68:17; 73:23; 87:1, 2; 107:9; 119:2; 120:20; 123:15; 135:11; 138:20: 143:4: 152:19: 159:18; 161:12, 15, 15; 162:22; 179:6, 7; 181:21; 188:16; 189:2; 194:12; 198:17; 208:11; 220:9; 229:11, 13, 19; 230:1, 5, 9; 233:5: 234:1; 263:24; 266:7; 267:6 introduce 141:4 introductory 214:22 invent 143:19 invented-I'll 174:7 investigate 5:24; 17:19; 229:1 investigating 5:19 investigation 4:13; 5:6; 218:8 investigative 5:9, 16; 6:4, 11; 27:10 investigators 142:3

involved 28:12; 30:5; 65:23; 66:4, 13; 68:14, 19; 79:12:84:14:85:3-8,15. 19: 103:21: 104:6, 21: 105:1, 16; 120:16; 144:4, 17, 25; 162:18; 168:24; 169:1; 177:23; 182:4; 195:25; 196:18; 202:20; 217:15, 18; 218:19; 249:19 involved-it 104:14 involvement 28:20: 87:13; 164:11; 217:23; 272:18 involves 68:3; 88:15 is-Can 184:8 is-- 119:19:240:18 issue 26:12; 32:19; 42:7; 81:14; 113:19; 117:7; 158:2; 173:1, 3; 177:14; 178:17; 182:15; 187:11, 21; 217:17, 21; 219:16; 220:15: 263:15. 20: 268:16; 269:8; 276:24 issued 4:25; 5:12; 237:23; 246:14; 260:25; 261:3,8 issues 5:10; 6:4; 9:12, 14; 15:5; 42:11, 15; 69:13, 14, 16, 17, 22; 73:4; 84:7; 127:7; 150:5; 157:15; 171:24, 25; 172:4, 9, 11, 20; 177:21; 184:7; 189:8; 192:3, 10, 10, 14; 258:3, 5; 274:25 it's-| 248:5 it-how 34:12 it-1 34:3; 147:14 it-it 140:19 it-no 74:19 item 135:6; 185:4, 24; 186:22; 187:4; 189:15; 191:2, 23; 201:1, 4; 214:22; 215:22; 222:3; 226:9, 10; 227:1, 19; 240:25: 241:23 items 166:13; 228:6 itinerary 272:9; 273:14, 17, 24; 274:12 itself 39:1; 72:21; 232:12; 242:7: 276:14

# 1

J 237:16 Jackie 275:1 January 5:1; 37:15; 38:21; 40:9; 54:18; 66:12; 69:6; 110:13, 13; 256:6; 273:9 Jay 104:23; 119:13; 120:16 jeopardized 275:22 job 11:16, 25; 12:13, 15; 13:15; 15:3; 16:23; 17:2; 36:25; 43:10; 44:1; 53:4;

56:8: 186:23: 274:23 John 9:10; 69:6; 263:10; 264:4 joined 9:18, 25; 10:1; 65:10:210:13 jc 'ning 13:2 Joint 5:11 jointly 26:9 Jonathan 4:11 Joseph 75:12 journal 26:13 journeyed 270:18 Jr 237:18 iudament 12:18; 27:7; 42:4; 57:20; 65:25; 66:1; 78:19; 235:1 Judy 70:6 July 28:10; 37:12; 40:7; 42:19; 106:22; 111:1; 153:3, 11; 155:6, 10, 11, 13; 156:4; 157:11; 158:24; 159:13, 22; 161:6; 162:5; 166:1; 185:13; 237:20; 250:21; 256:6, 7; 262:21; 263:14; 265:19, 25 jumps 52:24 June 110:24, 24, 25, 25; 113:23; 118:18; 119:20; 121:20; 122:8; 125:21, 25; 129:19: 131:16: 137:5: 138:15; 147:8; 152:6, 7; 153:3; 175:17; 247:13 jurisdiction 5:9, 16, 19; 6:5, 11; 18:14, 25; 27:10; 41:25:95:4 jurisdictional 17:19 just-as 28:13 just-1 108:14 just--lt's 247:4 just-not 163:1 iustice 69:22 Justification 241:14 justify 119:3; 120:4; 162:2

## K

justifying 116:4

K 241:13
keep 10:3; 52:5; 106:19; 120:9; 160:20; 210:1, 5; 244:14; 252:6; 276:13
Keller 103:25; 104:21, 25
Kelly 43:17, 20
Ken 104:19; 237:24
Kenneth 237:16
kept 103:25; 210:3
key 189:7
kick 30:22
kicked 83:1
kicking 97:18
kicks 74:20
kind 11:20; 13:16, 16;

invitation 188:4, 14;

involve 124:2; 125:13;

273:13, 16

invite 178:6

126:14.18

invited 190:9

166:12, 12; 169:4; 177:20;

208:9

217:17, 22; 218:5; 219:2; 222:8, 14; 223:11; 230:21; 231:11; 234:14; 235:7; 255:5; 256:12; 258:25; 261:5, 9; 267:8; 268:10, 20; 270:8; 275:6 guaranteed 23:9; 32:10; 141:16; 216:4 guaranteeing 137:25; 213:13 quarantor 125:2, 4; 134:9: 207:16: 216:1: 223:21; 233:11; 242:11; 257:24 quaranty 166:17; 167:3. 6; 173:7; 174:9; 176:13, 23; 177:3, 6, 10; 186:4; 237:10; 245:23; 247:8, 19; 248:11 Guesnier 43:17, 25: 44:7: 52:2; 54:12, 14, 21; 65:2; 66:11, 14; 202:20 Guesnier's 64:1 guess 16:14; 20:7, 10; 29:13; 31:1; 41:21, 23; 43:2; 44:20; 57:7; 66:14; 80:25; 81:3; 91:23; 97:2, 6, 13; 101:12; 107:6; 110:1; 111:13; 116:12; 118:8; 120:2; 122:5, 9; 132:7; 134:15, 17; 136:8, 8; 152:25; 153:1, 11; 155:15; 159:13; 164:10; 170:8, 11, 12; 175:13; 178:21; 183:5; 187:5; 188:6; 190:24; 196:25; 210:18; 217:6, 20; 224:14, 15, 16; 226:19; 238:22, 24; 240:25; 244:22; 246:1; 247:8, 22; 249:4; 251:1; 257:13; 263:14: 269:12: 273:1: 274:5, 15, 18; 275:4 guess--by 174:8 guess-you 20:9 guessing 190:17, 23 guidance 28:8; 196:24; 248:1,3 guidelines 79:4 Gulf 9:12, 15 guy 149:11; 159:3; 179:21

# H

guys 178:22

had-he 90:14 had-no 16:10 had--was 211:10 hadn't 123:20: 154:1: 158:8 Haj 43:19 Haj-whether 44:9 Haley 11:7, 22; 12:12; 13:7; 15:24; 17:6; 19:18; 20:21; 21:3, 16; 22:7, 20; 23:10, 22; 24:10, 23;

25:10: 26:9: 36:25: 44:20: 45:3; 46:14; 47:1; 48:23; 50:16; 52:22; 53:3; 56:14; 57:6; 58:1, 4; 59:17; 60:8, 24; 61:6, 12, 18, 24; 62:12, 18; 63:2; 64:1, 9; 68:5, 21; 69:1; 71:18; 73:1; 8**7**:9; 93:21, 25: 94:25; 97:20. 23; 98:20; 104:22; 109:9; 112:24; 113:7; 117:11; 120:19; 139:24; 148:20, 24; 153:19; 155:24; 157:14, 23; 158:11, 16; 169:23; 170:21; 174:15; 176:23; 177:11, 14; 178:6; 179:19; 181:24; 182:1; 186:5, 23, 24; 187:19; 188:1; 189:6, 13: 190:4; 195:5, 20; 197:24; 198:22; 199:1; 203:12; 207:25; 209:3; 229:12; 237:7; 250:8; 262:20; 267:25; 271:5; 276:15 Haley's 73:10:114:2: 187:9; 188:17; 191:3; 194:7; 248:22; 270:24; 274:7 half 164:17 halfway 183:24; 241:13 Hall 101:2,5 hand 116:3: 240:4 hand-written 193:3 handful 83:10 handing 257:1; 258:19 handle 103:24; 174:10, 24: 175:6 handled 9:11; 69:13, 15, 15, 19, 21, 23; 70:3, 3; 164:12 hands 38:9, 14 handwriting 193:17, 21; 218:15; 221:12, 25; 222:21 handwriting-"in 218:21 happen 94:15; 161:7; 244:9 happened 13:10; 34:24; 35:7: 70:18: 125:10: 129:12, 20; 151:18; 152:4; 159:12; 162:5; 190:14, 16; 244:6 happening 13:22;99:10 happens 220:2 happy 6:13; 18:4; 19:1; 33:22; 108:24; 109:3; 115:23; 179:7; 188:11 hard 39:5: 106:11; 123:22; 151:8; 153:1; 219:25; 250:5; 258:8; 270:3, 4, 8, 12 harder 120:22 Harrison 65:3, 7; 67:24 Harry 178:10 Harry's 153:13, 17;

158:25; 159:13; 170:4;

hat 64:10, 11, 12; 116:3;

199:17; 201:14

149:2; 276:15 hate 161:14: 180:24 hats 148:24 have-can 95:7 have-not 181:24 have-was 82:11 haven't 66:15; 83:25; 214:2: 246:17 having-we 162:19 he-es 35:2 ha-l 103:15 head 7:25; 11:3; 47:22; 158:13; 189:2 headed 13:15: 204:16: 226:13; 234:20; 261:12 header 230:17 heading 167:17; 203:14; 240:23; 241:22; 261:14 heads-up 149:11 hear 126:1; 140:13; 171:7; 207:7; 212:22; 271:22 heard 94:13; 125:17; 140:11: 141:18: 152:23: 182:12; 270:8 hearing 207:6 heartened 213:2 Heather 43:19 held 5:3; 13:11; 37:7; 112:13; 119:12; 214:6; 237:6 hell 188:21; 235:14 help 17:13; 19:10; 24:24; 25:18; 43:11, 22; 72:22, 24; 73:20; 93:16, 19; 98:25; 115:2; 152:16; 160:23; 162:8; 213:7; 270:2, 4; 273:14 helped 10:19; 30:7 helpful 87:10; 211:5; 264:6 helping 85:16; 198:13 Hence 114:4 here's 160:23 herein 216:18; 228:2 Hey 178:9 hierarchical 11:20 high 172:15; 246:19 Hill 9:5: 104:19, 25: 237:16, 19 himself 137:24; 181:18; 269:9 hire 36:21; 65:7, 15 hired 17:11; 20:18; 21:1, 7, 15, 21; 22:5, 12, 19, 25; 25:23; 26:6, 21; 36:6, 12, 19: 40:1, 16: 47:13: 70:15: 94:23; 116:11; 218:1, 7 hiring 66:5: 67:24; 219:10 his-1 57:6 his--|'|| 219:19

14: 274:9 history-I 201:23 hit 14:20; 172:16 hitter 97:23 Hmm-hmm 132:3; 145:16; 153:15; 256:2 hold 17:14:39:13: 161:16, 17; 192:19; 198:12; 235:16; 244:19 holding 38:5; 40:9 Holy 233:13 home 8:13, 15 honest 42:4 Hong 142:20, 25; 143:1, 12; 222:9, 15; 234:4; 242:14, 17, 20; 253:18; 270:16, 18; 272:7 honor 93:13; 135:23 honored 227:7 honoring 97:9 hope 6:1, 18; 13:8, 11; 201:10 hoped 15:14; 16:1, 14; 160:23; 164:21; 247:1 hopeful 264:19; 271:5 hoping 235:4 Hostetier 144:14; 145:5; 149:21; 150:12; 165:5; 166:11; 209:10; 215:8, 11; 219:10; 221:5, 8; 225:24; 226:1; 230:16; 231:5, 10; 232:8; 233:7; 257:3 hot 159:6 hour 246:16 hours 132:24 House 9:5, 7; 10:19; 11:4; 26:11; 171:19; 182:22; 183:9; 270:5 Howlett 70:11, 15 **hybrid** 13:16 hypothetical 42:3; 174:9; 175:19 I

1'11-1 246:23 **-88** 34:16 1-173:1:92:19 I--if 77:7 I-not 29:13 I-sorry-were 52:7 I-Time 94:8 I-vou 38:13: 116:5: 123:2 idea 73:2:83:20:141:11: 144:5; 157:25; 186:23; 188:8; 194:18; 222:25; 242:9; 252:11; 260:4; 263:4 ideas 68:24; 72:24; 90:15: 170:22; 171:15; 189:12; 258:10 ideas-strike 204:19 identical 228:6, 9

identification 167:15; 183:17; 184:13; 193:7; 199:6; 203:18; 209:14; 214:11; 220:23; 225:8; 230:24; 235:24; 238:15; 240:3; 254:21; 256:24; 258:17; 260:11; 262:14; 267:4 identified 44:7; 125:5; 172:2; 239:14, 22; 240:7; 262:19 identifies 241:24 identify 236:3 identifying 27:16 if-can 51:12 If-well 77:10 ignorant 111:16 **# 242:10** 111 242:24 ill 79:9 illegal 5:6, 25 imagine 75:14 immediate 106:12; 243:15 immediately 9:2 immigration 149:23 impair 8:10 implement 120:20 importance 178:23 important 36:13; 42:20; 142:3: 159:25; 210:4 imposed 39:1 impression 153:24; 161:13; 241:9 improper 5:7, 25 improve 117:12, 19; 118:6, 15 improved 35:8 in-l 152:4 in-well 38:21:69:1 in-house 101:12; 257:18 inappropriate 78:1, 9, 18 inc 216:14; 227:23 incentive 160:21; 161:24 include 20:12:41:19, 20: 128:11, 25; 129:7; 249:4 included 84:24: 186:16. 20, 20; 262:4, 5 includes 18:23; 20:3; 271:14 including 8:21; 27:17; 59:19:64:23: 104:16: 109:10, 19; 126:9; 135:9; 137:9; 205:23; 246:6; 256:7; 261:17; 269:8; 271:17 inclusion 189:11; 191:17 inclusive 76:20 income 123:19 incorporate 187:9 incorporated 163:3 increase 17:13; 114:7; 208:10: 243:14: 248:23 increased 216:7; 243:1;

his-when 64:11

260:2; 265:4 lot 34:17: 70:21; 119:5; 143:4: 144:11: 155:3: 156:17; 158:17; 162:21; 164:7; 176:1; 196:16, 23; 207:9; 212:7; 215:8; 253:24 lower 225:16; 239:23, 25; 240:3, 8; 249:24; 250:16; 260:18 lunch 108:12; 111:19; 277:25 luncheon 111:24 Lyons 237:18

## M

in

11

M 245:9 Magazine 94:8; 153:11 mailed 107:1 mailing 106:22, 24; 236:17 **1**74 main 12:8; 14:13; 57:9; 11 186:21 mainly 157:17; 210:16 maintain 41:25 maintained 251:20; 276:19; 277:12 Maiselle 69:19 major 14:18; 36:17; 92:20; 178:16, 20; 206:3 majority 4:16; 6:20; 7:1; 102:15; 182:21; 183:8; 277:18 make--to 91:19 makes 32:24; 140:4 making 28:15:33:17, 18: 65:25; 87:18; 110:7; 159:3; 175:17; 178:21; 179:12; 180:1; 207:22; 213:21; 217:10; 257:10, 13: 264:25: 265:1 managed-handled 69:16 management 8:25; 241:16, 18; 261:16 manager 9:22 mandate 18:4 Manhattan 174:16, 18 manner 148:1; 176:4 many 36:7; 70:1; 206:2, 6, 19; 207:20; 210:15; 231:23; 236:2 March 10:6; 38:13; 110:15, 15, 16, 16; 187:10; 247:15, 16; 260:19 margin 224:10 mark 167:10: 183:13: 192:22; 193:18, 24, 25; 198:23; 199:10; 203:8; 208:24: 213:23: 221:7: 224:23; 226:2, 2; 230:13, 19; 235:20; 238:12; 253:22; 254:12; 256:20; 257:4; 258:14; 260:7;

262:11: 266:25 marked 167:14: 183:16; 184:12, 15, 16; 193:6; 199:5, 13; 203:9, 17; 209:13; 214:5, 10; 220:22, 25; 224:24; 225:7; 230:23; 235:23; 238:14; 239:25; 249:24; 254:20, 25; 256:23; 258:16, 19; 260:10; 262:13, 16; 267:3, market-you 180:16 marketing 11:21; 12:6, 7; 180:16; 188:19; 191:5, 10; 192:15: 197:7 marketplace 172:25 Marline 9:17, 17 married 65:5 Martin-Marietta 11:18: 12:4 master's 8:19, 23 match 244:14 matched 123:20 material 141:15; 239:22; 240:11 material-by 240:11 materialized 126:25 materials 156:11, 24: 239:6 matter 6:24: 14:5: 15:7: 54:3: 74:21; 96:24; 125:12; 132;24; 133:6; 137:12; 143:2, 3, 13; 148:6; 184:21; 214:3; 220:3; 233:1; 254:9; 261:6, 7; 268:25 mattered 91:5 matters 54:1; 98:23; 99:15; 130:24 maturing 261:19 maturity 256:9 May 5:2; 6:11, 15; 15:12, 21; 16:19; 27:9, 10, 21, 24; 28:2, 22; 29:3, 9, 22; 30:3; 31:24; 32:11; 33:11; 34:6, 15, 21; 35:1, 12, 19; 36:9, 15, 22; 37:5, 18, 24; 38:7, 23; 40:2, 22; 41:3; 44:16; 45:2; 50:18; 52:12; 57:17, 24; 58:11, 18, 24; 59:8, 13; 60:13; 64:24; 65:6; 70:4; 72:9, 10; 79:12; 84:3; 87:20; 94:9; 96:10, 23; 98:4; 101:22; 106:3, 11; 110:21, 21, 22, 23, 23, 23; 111:5, 16; 113:23; 118:16; 119:20: 121:16, 19, 20: 122:7; 125:21, 25; 127:6, 14; 129:19; 130:23; 131:6, 16; 137:5; 138:15; 142:2; 145:5, 12; 147:8; 151:13, 21; 152:20; 154:21; 160:22; 162:17; 166:23; 168:18, 21: 169:6: 172:18: 185:13, 13; 186:20; 190:4, 14; 200:15; 206:14; 210:19; 226:22; 231:15;

238:23; 241:25; 244:19;

**CONFIDENTIAL** 254:3: 260:1: 265:3. 3: maybe 15:2; 36:10; 38:12:41:16:59:23: 86:20; 92:22; 110:8; 115:8; 118:16; 120:12; 125:21; 129:25; 137:10, 11; 152:6; 153:3; 157:23; 159:14: 164:17, 18: 166:16: 169:3, 4: 174:11: 189:18; 196:12, 21; 209:9; 220:13; 247:7, 8; 273:9, 10 McAdams 252:25 McAllister 98:23: 99:11 McCawlay 79:24 McHose 69:24 me-Denning 169:2 me~I'll 174:6 mean 11:9; 14:13; 16:10; 26:7; 29:10, 11; 34:3, 18; 36:23: 38:1: 39:1: 65:23: 72:19; 74:8; 75:8, 10; 79:2; 81:12; 82:2; 86:9, 17, 17; 91:6; 93:2; 95:21; 97:14, 19: 101:8, 12: 102:11: 103:1; 104:22; 105:9, 14; 106:4; 108:7, 8; 114:15; 115:18; 116:3, 3; 121:10; 147:22: 150:14: 151:7, 21: 152:4; 153:8; 154:16; 155:13; 158:12; 163:6; 164:17, 25; 165:13; 168:14; 169:7; 175:19; 176:24; 177:1, 13; 178:7; 186:3; 187:2; 191:20; 193:22: 195:17: 197:7: 201:23; 223:1, 4, 8, 9; 227:6, 11; 240:11; 242:4, 5; 246:9, 16; 247:4, 22; 248:5: 249:21: 250:2: 261:20; 266:4; 268:7; 271:12: 273:2: 275:24 mean-I'm 106:4 mean-ring 94:19 mean-The 179:23 meaning 63:4; 148:21; 163:23; 187:22; 189:17; 194:6: 195:19: 197:10: 211:3; 245:7; 263:14; 270:18 meaningful 189:17 means 19:2; 111:17; 191:18; 192:5; 223:2; 232:14: 235:15: 245:10; 248:10 meant 68:10; 102:18; 106:7: 120:7; 152:8; 169:10: 194:8: 251:25: 257:23: 276:12, 22 mechanism 25:23 mechanisms 43:1 medications 8:10 meet 57:10; 114:16; 123:8; 182:2; 191:3, 12; 213:20; 253:19; 261:19; 262:3

7. 10. 12: 154:1: 155:5: 156:4, 17, 25; 157:10, 25; 158:25; 159:13, 15, 22; 161:6, 7: 162:5, 8, 11: 166:1; 170:4, 7; 185:7, 11, 12; 186:6, 25; 187:13; 191:4; 202:6, 8, 9, 12; 212:5, 14, 16, 19; 213:19; 236:12, 16, 18, 21; 237:3. 6, 8; 238:2; 243:23; 244:9; 248:14, 19; 273:13 meeting's 178:11 meetings 85:14, 23: 94:24; 95:8, 13, 21, 24; 97:13, 16; 99:12; 105:14; 158:23; 159:19; 162:19; 163:24; 165:2; 202:15; 243:21; 249:6; 250:9, 10, 19; 258:9; 262:1 mega-conferences 73:9 member 44:18:83:10: 91:14: 101:1: 212:10 member-i 212:10 members 22:7, 15: 24:23; 25:5; 50:4, 9; 61:13, 19: 63:6: 84:14, 19, 22, 22: 85:2, 8; 99:14; 100:1, 19; 118:7; 128:11, 18; 177:19; 178:2, 8; 179:20; 213:11; 262:5 members-well 99:16 memo 71:5, 10, 21; 72:9; 131:12; 156:16; 214:24; 227:18 memorandum 72:6; 193:3; 214:1; 219:22; 239:10; 241:22; 247:23; 248:24 memory 145:3; 158:17; 162:17: 232:9 mention 124:18; 125:3; 169:13; 189:16 mentioned 11:2: 13:1: 17:7: 28:16: 29:22: 53:12: 57:22; 67:10; 126:7; 157:23; 174:16, 20, 21; 188:1: 190:4: 191:2: 194:24; 200:24; 265:10 mentions 200:21 merely 180:4 merited 87:10:89:18 met 11:11; 93:25; 97:19; 99:8: 106:12: 114:2: 152:20; 158:6; 162:17; 182:23; 183:9; 233:10, 23 metaphor 276:9, 10, 10, methods 123:24; 124:8 Michelle 69:14 mid 159:20 mid-October 166:7: 242:1; 243:23 mid-term 41:21: 42:22: 121:12:160:1 middle 149:17 might 7:1; 8:10; 52:5, 19; 53:12; 66:2; 67:1, 14;

68:22; 69:3, 24; 70:19; 71:9, 23; 72:21:80:8; 81:1; 86:15, 21; 93:21; 95:22, 22; 96:3; 98:21; 112:24; 126:19; 135:7, 9; 142:22; 143:11; 148:9; 150:11, 23; 151:8: 152:2: 155:13: 156:5, 6, 15; 169:18; 175:21, 24, 25; 186:4, 16; 201:19: 206:15: 215:4: 216:3, 6; 217:2, 17; 226:1; 241:9; 242:7; 258:6; 259:19; 261:8; 270:22; 271:17; 273:3 might-- 1 159:5 might-or 159:5 Mike 13:14, 25; 26:8, 10; 27:15: 28:3, 9: 103:16; 112:13 milieu 69:22 million 23:8: 32:9: 39:9: 62:23; 63:11; 90:4; 107:2; 116:16; 123:18; 135:13; 141:14: 173:7, 10, 14: 174:2; 175:1; 188:20; 208:10, 11; 235:7; 250:25, 25: 251:11: 270:2 million-and 135:19 mind 37:1, 3; 51:1; 52:24; 66:6; 77:20; 80:23; 81:14; 82:12; 86:21; 87:4; 91:12; 97:19: 134:1; 135:8; 142,4,7; 148:23; 161:10; 171:6; 176:7; 188:17; 191:19; 197:10, 11; 220:7; 234:1; 264:18, 22; 275:22 mind-those 228:7 minds 13:20 mine 96:10: 98:17: 126:8; 173:16: 194:2 minimize 14:21 minimum 89:11 minority 4:12, 15; 6:19; 7:1, 11: 57:1; 72:4; 112:7; 157:1; 210:21; 277:17 minus 141:14 minute 86:3; 252:9; 277:25 minutes 132:24: 236:12: 254:2 mischaracterized 259:21 mislead 190:16 misleading 141:25; 148:2: 272:20 missed 70:4 mission 68:6, 16: 69:4; 70:22; 72:11 misstated 148:5; 259:24 misunderstood 166:24 mix 72:21; 145:3 mixture 166:10 model 78:12 moment 4:20; 56:21; 130:1; 165:21 Monday 106:14; 167:18;

meeting 85:7; 131:12;

132:7, 11; 152:16; 153:6,

150:22: 155:20: 160:5:

161:19; 162:2; 163:19. 22:

164:4; 166:17, 21; 167:3,

6; 173:7, 9, 13; 176:11, 12;

191:11: 194:9: 195:13, 16:

196:19: 197:13: 198:13:

217:17, 22; 218:5; 219:2;

207:4: 211:11: 212:20:

213:14: 215:5: 216:1:

222:8, 14: 223:11, 23:

231:11: 232:3: 233:3:

10: 245:22: 247:8, 19:

228:18. 24: 230:11. 21:

234:10. 14: 235:7: 237:9.

248:10, 10, 20; 254:2, 18;

177:6: 180:9, 11, 12;

£.,

1.

ñ

Ρń

-52

25. 27.

ü

.;

تند في أ

ħij

14:23: 17:4: 26:8: 27:18:

29:1; 52:4; 53:1, 3; 68:9;

94:24; 95:7, 13; 131:23; 251:20; 274:24 Kip 70:11, 13 knew 11:9; 117:25; 134:11; 135:18; 141:6, 7; 146:21; 149:17; 158:5; 160:11; 179:24; 242:19;

knocking 135:13 know-and 66:25; 123:5 know-| 38:12

know-it 158:22 know-pick 123:17 know-we 92:7

know--l'm 106:8

273:20

knock 114:16

know-what's 122:25 knowing 191:11; 241:11 knowledge 55:11, 18; 64:19; 87:12; 90:22; 92:18; 101:23; 102:6, 8; 103:22; 122:13; 134:23;

139:24; 147:23; 148:9, 11; 168:1; 173:2; 182:7, 12; 190:8; 200:16; 215:13; 229:6; 230:12; 256:10; 260:10; 11:272:16:272:2

269:10, 11; 271:16; 272:3, 22; 274:5; 275:17 known 73:9; 87:8; 122:7; 142:19; 228:17; 235:10;

245:14; 259:15 known-1 265:3

knows 179:21; 272:16 Kolker 4:18

**Kong** 142:20, 25; 143:1, 12; 222:5, 9, 15; 234:4; 242:14, 17, 20; 253:18; 270:16, 18: 272:7

Korea 187:20, 23; 188:7, 15; 200:20; 201:1; 213:19

L

L.A 9:8 labeled 255:9, 25 labor 53:3; 76:11 lack 65:22; 91:22 laid 165:5 language 34:9: 165:12: 171:1: 176:20, 24; 192:13; 207:10: 223:4 lansa 243:25 large 89:15; 180:22 larger 173:20 last 47:16: 57:16: 67:10; 92:5: 98:7. 7: 121:5: 152:8: 155:13; 177:16: 182:9: 185:6: 191:22, 23: 197:16: 200:1: 201:6: 204:18: 205:9, 24; 212:18; 213:18; 217:9, 12; 218:13, 13; 221:11: 222:17; 224:11; 226:9; 229:19; 238:19: 250:16, 22; 251:23; 256:5. 16: 271:18 lasted 9:19 late 37:9, 12; 38:6;

lasted 9:19
late 37:9, 12; 38:6;
106:21; 153:3, 11; 155:6,
11, 11; 156:4; 157:11;
158:24; 159:12; 185:13,
14; 216:3; 217:5; 271:2
late—some 32:17
later 28:5; 32:16; 43:19;
54:17; 103:8; 110:22, 22,
24; 122:10; 182:16;
273:10

laugh 152:1 laughable 116:1 Laughter 83:21 laundry 116:1

laundry 116:1 law 79:23, 23; 101:13; 144:10, 14, 17; 145:8; 214:4, 25; 215:4; 217:25; 218:1, 22; 219:1, 6, 7, 10; 233:12 law's"—which 217:13

laws 146:14; 232:1 laws--"prohibition 217:14 lawyer 79:10, 17; 220:2; 221:7; 225:25

lawyer--i 161:17 lawyers 7:16; 159:18; 164:6, 12; 165:10; 218:7; 225:25; 228:16; 231:23 lay 58:3; 184:5, 6

laying 186:3 layout 252:22 Leader 182:21; 183:8 leaders 187:20, 23; 201:1; 213:20 leadership 172:17, 24

leading 18:19; 66:4; 122:18; 166:6 leads 169:5 learn 93:6; 118:13, 21;

140:21; 145:19; 146:8; 150:10; 222:12; 273:11 learned 80:3; 121:21; 126:6; 140:9; 146:11, 23; 147:1, 5, 19; 152:12; 208:8

least 15:2; 27:14; 35:16; 39:6; 57:11; 85:13; 96:3; 103:15; 106:1; 114:25;

115:12; 135:6, 7; 152:17; 158:22; 161:12; 168:4; 174:13; 200:17; 208:11; 219:21; 240:6; 243:15; 252:16; 276:21 leave 11:15; 54:21; 136:13; 228:19; 237:22 leaving 27:21; 99:11;

267:12 led 123:5; 133:14; 234:19 Lee 44:18, 22; 85:14;

100:11; 103:12 left 9:25; 11:3; 12:2; 28:9; 47:14; 54:24; 66:11; 70:13, 19; 77:19, 25; 78:19; 92:11, 14; 93:2, 4; 95:13, 18; 96:4; 99:2, 3; 102:14; 210:6, 12; 223:11;

237:19, 21, 24; 240:3; 247:9; 261:21; 267:8; 275:3, 11 left-hand 222:24; 239:24, 25; 240:8, 24; 249:24;

250:17; 252:10; 260:18 Leftwich 69:21 legal 42:4; 74:23; 78:6; 101:10; 143:5, 20; 144:18; 161:17, 20; 210:16; 218:3,

161:17, 20; 210:16; 218:3, 12; 225:12; 229:15; 231:3, 6, 9, 18; 233:6; 234:22; 235:1, 10; 242:21; 252:13; 259:19

legalism 81:23 legality 233:1 legality 15:23; 75:16; 229:9

Legislative 10:8, 18 legitimate 7:3; 102:16 lend 180:16 length 135:6; 157:18;

215:23 lengthy 135:20 less 137:12; 184:6;

233:18 lesser 106:2

letter 177:11, 12; 186:24; 187:1, 6, 18; 194:7, 8, 15, 24, 25; 195:5, 13; 198:25; 199:15; 203:11, 22; 204:3, 9; 209:1, 16, 18; 211:17; 212:3, 18; 221:5; 222:19; 225:3, 13, 19, 22; 226:11,

18; 230:19, 20; 232:19, 25; 233:14, 22; 262:19; 265:12; 267:18, 22; 268:2, 2, 15, 19; 269:6, 15, 25; 271:20; 272:17, 21; 273:5

letterhead 183:21; 184:17; 199:2; 203:11, 23; 209:2; 214:4; 221:5; 225:2; 230:16; 257:3;

260:17 level 77:21; 83:3; 104:24; 107:4; 182:11; 243:12, 18;

Liaison 10:23; 196:22 lieutenants 149:2;

246:13; 248:9, 23

155:24; 169:23 life 73:12; 134:12 light 87:21; 95:2; 112:19; 133:10; 139:21; 140:6; 141:1; 150:21; 151:20, 24; 211:20; 212:2 like—I 247:14 liked 157:25 likely 65:14

limit 6:3; 122:5 limitation 55:7 limited 64:3; 81:16; 142:21; 165:13; 199:11; 232:11; 233:14; 234:5; 242:14, 18; 265:21

firmits 5:15 Linda 69:15; 79:8; 144:3; 145:9; 252:11 line 27:5; 29:1; 66:9;

| line 27:5; 29:1; 66:9; | 174:11; 199:15; 213:18; | 246:10 | lines 29:18; 95:25;

174:13; 204:18

link 272:20 linked 221:21 Lisa 4:14

Lisa 4:14 list 108:25; 111:2; 154:22; 202:5, 22; 203:3; 236:14; 248:2; 251:25

listed 252:15 listen 64:8 listening 13:19: 40:5, 20

listening 13:19; 40:5, 20, 21; 41:7; 42:20; 252:21 listing 240:10

lists 172:15 literature 79:3 little 9:4; 10:12; 12:11, 19; 13:5; 27:7; 81:3, 22; 96:11; 101:15, 25; 103:4, 4; 104:10; 105:1; 108:5;

127:7; 150:17; 151:18; 164:2; 171:5; 229:20; 254:14; 265:4; 273:10 live 165:12; 246:23 LLP 260:17

loan 16:18; 17:25; 18:12, 12; 23:7, 16, 21; 32:9; 48:9; 50:14, 22; 51:24; 52:20; 54:2:60:1.6.23:

53:20; 54:2; 60:1, 6, 23; 62:24; 63:10, 11; 67:2; 102:25; 103:1, 22; 104:5, 8, 8; 106:13, 19; 107:2; 108:11, 11, 14, 21; 109:9,

11, 12, 23; 110:7, 8; 112:9, 12; 116:5, 15, 20, 22; 117:5, 10, 17; 118:14, 15,

22; 119:18, 23, 25; 120:4; 122:13, 19, 20; 123:2, 15, 23; 124:8, 16, 18, 21; 125:2, 3, 11, 19; 126:19,

20, 25; 131:14; 132:20; 133:6, 15; 134:9; 135:8, 13; 136:22; 137:8, 20, 25;

138:11, 17; 139:7, 22; 140:1, 10, 23; 141:3; 142:18; 143:25; 144:6, 19; 145:18; 146:7; 147:10;

255:5: 256:12; 257:11, 13, 13: 258:4, 24; 261:5; 267:7, 10; 268:10, 20; 270:2, 7, 9, 12, 17, 20, 22; 271:9; 274:8; 275:5, 6, 16, loaning 107:7 loans 57:13; 102:21, 21; 103:25; 105:4, 6, 12, 13; 107:21, 25; 111:15; 114:4. 18: 118:25: 119:11: 120:9: 161:21: 173:18: 180:18: 248:20; 259:5; 267:14 loans-well 111:13 local 22:21; 23:2; 25:11, 17; 50:10; 62:13, 19; 63:7; 91:19:129:1.8 location 38:16: 202:9: 260:19 locations 27:17 lodge 124:10 log 122:24 logo 209:8 lang 6:8; 28:14; 79:8, 9. 23; 87:21; 119:21; 126:8; 144:3; 145:2, 9, 11; 154:2; 174:11: 205:5; 221:20; 252:11: 274:18; 276:8; 277:19, 19, 19 long-term 134:14; 135:17; 153:24 long-time 149:7 longer 147:6: 148:4: 149:24; 244:21, 22, 25; 274:4 look 66:2: 164:22; 165:19; 189:7; 192:18; 222:25: 230:5 looked 67:14: 203:5:

(13) Kindly - lost

229:11, 13, 19; 246:17

looking 53:1; 73:22;

139:21: 140:5; 185:7;

242:25; 251:22; 252:9

looks 168:3; 169:2;

253:24; 258:2

loose 269:16

lose 153:5

Lorin-l 153:20

losing 183:24

loss 116:24; 170:23

lost 66:8; 74:1; 166:22;

#### CONFIDENTIAL

157:14; 160:20; 161:5, 15, 22: 162:23: 163:2, 11, 13, 14; 166:20; 169:17; 170:24; 171:3, 10; 173:5, 9, 10; 174:24; 175:3, 5, 10, 10; 176:2, 4, 5, 11, 12, 15; 177:4, 18; 178:1; 179:12; 181:8; 182:4, 24; 183:11, 11; 189:21, 23; 196:18; 197:11, 13; 202:19; 203:22; 204:5, 10, 18; 205:17, 24; 206:7; 207:24; 208:8; 209:18; 210:6, 12: 215:3, 10: 216:3, 13, 14, 16, 21; 217:5; 218:6; 219:14, 18; 222:12; 223:12, 16; 225:5; 226:10, 12, 14; 227:2, 4, 11, 12, 13, 22, 23, 24; 228:3, 4; 232:3; 234:9, 13; 235:6, 6; 236:5, 18; 237:19, 22; 239:2; 241:6, 18, 24; 242:1,7; 243:5,8,21; 244:1, 10; 245:20; 246:3, 25, 25; 247:9, 17, 25; 248:3, 9, 12, 18; 249:4, 10, 12, 16; 251:6, 25; 253:15; 257:14; 258:20; 259:5; 261:16, 18, 22, 23; 262:6; 263:16, 19, 24; 265:10; 266:2, 7, 14, 18, 20; 267:13; 270:23; 274:4, 14, 15; 275:5, 18, 21, 23; 276:12, 13 NPF's 66:24; 123:8; 163:6, 8; 164:19; 173:21; 176:10:227:1; 232:12; 244:21, 24; 245:7, 15, 15; 258:7; 263:15; 264:6 NPF--obviously 116:13 NPF-really 116:11 NPF-were 119:12 NPF-where 49:16 NPF-172 257:5 NPF-190 237:14 NPF-191 238:7 NPF-193 236:17 NPF305 224:25 NPF307 225:16 NRC 259:16 number 8:20, 21: 10:20: 13:8, 11: 14:19: 17:13: 18:19; 19:2; 36:1; 39:25; 68:23; 71:15; 72:10; 84:21; 87:8; 95:20; 102:17; 104:2, 17; 108:20; 126:9; 146:14, 16; 164:16, 19; 179:15, 18; 183:25; 185:4, 24; 202:14; 217:24; 218:1; 237:14; 238:7; 240:16; 243:11; 247:23; 249:5, 6; 250:19, 20: 252:6: 261:14: 263:2. 4 number-And 251:1 numbers 221:16; 223:1; 246:15, 17; 247:6; 258:21 numerous 182:3 nut 179:24

Ō

Ţ'n.

îq

0 o'clock 277:24 oath 7:21; 41:23; 264:23

object 6:6, 17; 12:17; 15:12, 21; 16:25; 17:15; 27:5; 28:2; 31:1, 3; 34:15; 39:15; 40:2; 42:17, 23; 43:5; 44:3; 45:2, 19; 50:18; 51:5; 52:21; 53:25; 59:8, 13, 21; 60:4, 11; 63:8, 16; 66:19; 76:23; 82:15;

86:12:88:11, 12:95:1; 103:3; 104:9; 107:8; 111:4; 112:20; 113:2, 9, 24; 115:7; 117:2; 120:24; 122:15: 125:9; 126:15, 23;

130:23; 136:17; 138:3; 140:15: 206:10: 219:20: 268:14, 24 objected 47:21; 60:14;

63:3; 140:10, 22 objecting 30:22; 113:14.

objection 7:6; 16:19; 18:20, 22; 19:3, 22; 20:2, 11, 14, 24; 21:5, 13, 19; 22:2, 10, 17, 23; 23:5, 13, 19, 25; 24:7, 13, 20; 25:1, 7, 13, 20; 28:22; 29:9;

30:3; 31:24; 32:11; 33:11; 34:1; 35:1, 12, 19; 36:9, 15, 22; 37:5, 18, 24; 38:7, 23; 40:22; 41:3, 10; 44:16;

46:5, 11, 17, 23; 47:5, 15, 23; 48:8, 20, 25; 49:6, 12, 19, 25; 50:6, 12; 51:22; 55:4, 15, 25; 56:2, 10, 20; 57:3, 17, 24; 58:11, 18, 24; 61:2, 9, 15, 21; 62:2, 9, 15,

21; 82:8, 8; 83:12; 84:5; 88:13; 95:10; 99:22; 100:3, 21; 101:22; 105:7;

106:3; 107:19; 108:2, 15, 23; 109:2, 5; 110:10; 117:14, 21; 118:2, 10, 11; 124:5, 11; 126:22; 127:17,

22; 128:3, 8, 14, 21; 129:4, 10; 138:24; 142:10; 181:2; 271:19; 272:19, 24 objection-an 18:23

objections 56:1; 59:24; 99:19; 108:16

obligation 93:13; 134:14; 135:17, 21, 23; 136:7;

263:15; 271:6 obligations 123:9; 176:16; 177:6; 232:3;

234:10; 245:22; 248:20; 261:19; 262:3 obliged 6:11; 112:20

observed 5:12

observer 269:2 obsession 113:7

obtain 120:22; 129:2, 9; 173:9 obtained 92:5

obtaining 16:18; 18:11; 60:6, 23; 101:21; 103:21; 104:5; 119:18, 23, 25; 123:23; 135:8; 234:14 obvious 68:9; 123:7; 154:7

obviously 41:23; 42:7; 170:16; 207:14 occasion 93:23, 24;

98:22: 183:2 occasionally 92:8

occasions 92:21: 93:25; 182:4: 266:24: 276:8, 10 occur 114:25; 115:12

occurred 89:16; 92:24; 93:4, 14; 112:18; 124:3; 125:12; 126:14; 138:5; 139:1: 273:3

occurred-it 123:7 occurring 66:20; 88:16;

112:15 October 23:7, 15, 21; 24:2, 9, 15, 22; 25:3, 9, 15;

50:15, 22; 53:20; 60:1, 7, 22; 61:4, 11, 17, 23; 62:11, 17, 24, 25; 63:11; 64:16, 22; 95:7; 100:20; 103:8; 107:3; 124:1; 142:18;

144:7; 145:19; 146:8; 147:7; 159:21; 163:20; 166:6; 173:10; 210:6; 218:6; 221:4; 224:18; 225:2; 227:4, 10; 230:16,

17; 234:12; 236:24; 239:10; 241:5, 23; 242:15: 244:25; 246:3, 24; 247:10;

250:23; 256:6, 8, 12; 257:2; 258:22; 267:8

of-and 141:5; 160:22

of-130:21 of-It 166:10

of-Reed 120:18 of-that 37:6; 40:10;

74.24 off 6:13, 16; 7:9; 31:10;

51:1, 17, 19, 20; 53:8; 84:9, 10; 86:3; 100:9, 10; 111:23; 121:5; 137:17; 145:22, 24; 147:3; 157:6,

7: 161:25; 165:21; 178:22; 184:8, 10, 14; 211:22, 24; 215:18; 216:3; 220:17, 19; 235:17; 236:7; 238:10, 11;

254:6, 10; 262:8, 16 offer 65:18; 89:18; 175:4;

187:9, 12; 188:14; 189:16 offering 135:13

offhand 121:1

Office 11:5; 79:10; 86:10; 106:23; 132:8; 205:19; 212:4: 237:15

officer 5:3:8:21:9:3: 10:6; 15:24; 26:25; 43:21; 45:9: 46:3: 47:3, 7; 48:6,

16; 225:4; 238:4; 246:2; 255:13; 256:18; 274:4, 14 officer-have 97:15

officers 20. J: 21:9, 23: 22:14; 23:1, 16; 24:3, 16; 25:4, 16; 46:20; 48:3; 49:3; 50:23; 78:24; 80:6; 84:18; 95:8; 107:17; 109:11; 118:7

offices 171:4: 214:4 official 68:24:91:18: 98:18; 129:8; 149:4;

158:17

officially 92:8 officials 22:21; 23:3; 25:11, 18; 50:10; 62:14, 19: 63:7; 83:4; 85:25;

129:1; 162:20 offshoot 241:25; 242:2, 8

often 41:22; 115:3 oh-well 9:19

Oil 9:13 **Clasky's 34:20** old 246:15

**omitted** 181:10

omnibus 109:1 on-as 73:3

on-funding 120:23 on-if 192:16

on-until 116:14

Once 7:15; 69:6; 71:16; 114:5; 131:8; 162:12; 163:11, 18, 19; 165:3; 227:15; 244:10; 276:17

one 7:16; 12:2, 3, 23; 18:18; 20:6; 28:12, 16, 24; 35:13, 21; 43:7; 44:11, 21; 55:1; 66:22; 67:1; 69:1, 16; 70:3, 4: 74:8; 75:11; 77:7;

78:18; 80:19; 83:11; 84:9, 24; 85:14; 86:14, 17, 20, 20: 94:10: 97:15: 101:9:

106:10; 110:18; 112:10; 114:20, 23, 25; 115:13; 121:14; 122:13; 126:10; 132:7; 133:5; 135:6;

138:20; 145:13; 149:16; 150:25; 151:6; 153:10, 15; 154:17; 155:24; 156:18;

158:21, 23; 159:14; 160:16; 161:10; 165:10; 166:14; 169:12, 23; 171:3,

6; 172:1, 9, 16; 173:19; 174:10; 178:18; 179:15; 183:1: 185:4, 24; 192:1; 194:1; 195:11; 198:12;

202:4; 212:18; 217:24; 230:18; 231:15; 238:10; 243:19; 244:2, 18; 250:2;

252:25; 253:9; 261:10, 14; 265:19, 21; 266:17; 267:7; 272:6; 273:3, 6, 11; 274:9; 276:5, 9, 23

one-on-one 183:10 one-page 183:21; 184:15; 236:14; 257:2

ones 103:7; 154:6; 178:5; 219:9

ongoing 57:10; 67:3, 17; 249:5, 17

only 41:24; 69:1; 71:19; 72:21: 73:19: 75:10: 83:6: 101:1; 120:18, 20; 121:1; 122:13; 124:25; 136:18, 21; 141:13; 155:21; 163:21; 166:10; 202:19; 205:25; 223:2; 231:15, 18; 232:19; 257:20; 265:19, 21; 276:2; 277:12 onto 178:22; 200:19; 244:12 open 36:13; 178:9; 179:22, 22

operate 116:17; 258:9 operated 79:5; 113:22; 115:16; 116:24; 247:25; 248:3

operating 5:3; 10:6; 15:23; 26:25; 43:21; 45:9; 46:3; 47:2, 7; 48:6, 16; 67:21; 97:15; 102:21; 114:14, 21; 115:1, 14; 173:17, 18, 22; 175:6;

225:4; 238:4; 245:21; 246:2: 248:14: 255:13: 256:18: 274:4, 14

operation 26:16; 38:10; 52:4; 67:3, 16; 83:3; 99:15; 100:2; 115:2; 116:13; 121:19; 123:14; 177:24; 189:21, 22, 23

operational 26:13; 97:21 **Operations** 5:11; 16:15; 40:18: 50:17: 54:7: 57:10: 66:24, 83:6; 100:20;

123:8; 247:25; 261:18 opinion 98:19; 200:15; 218:3; 231:3, 6, 9, 19: 232:9; 233:6; 269:15

opinions 229:2 opportunities 10:13

opportunity 33:4: 45:17; 90:18; 151:10; 167:23; 205:3 opposed 7:24; 13:16;

16:17, 18; 73:3, 25; 139:16; 162:24; 202:24; 206:15, 16; 228:16; 257:23

opposite 74:8 options 84:23; 126:9, 10, 11, 17, 24; 127:12, 19, 25; 128:5, 10, 16, 24; 129:6, 13, 20; 180:24; 181:2 or-| 132:16

or-i'm 70:23 orally 156:12 oranges 218:2; 251:10

order 37:9, 11:97:1: 120:4; 122:17; 173:21; 252:16; 254:15; 257:22

organization 11:20; 16:17; 18:7; 27:8; 36:25; 45:21; 67:4; 123:16; 153:9; 158:16; 162:1; 173:17; 176:15; 177:5; 232:3; 242:14; 261:14

262:20; 263:11; 267:9, 9;

178:11; 183:22; 185:17; 192:25 Money 13:22; 19:20; 20:22; 21:3, 11, 17, 24; 22:8, 15, 22; 23:3, 11, 17, 23; 24:4, 10, 17, 24; 25:6, 11; 43:11; 49:10, 23; 50:5; 60:9, 25; 61:6, 25; 62:14, 20; 63:4; 73:14, 14, 20, 25; 74:9, 23; 77:22; 85:16; 89:8; 90:1, 4, 11; 94:10; 106:1; 109:17; 112:14; 113:8, 13; 115:2; 118:25; 121:7; 123:2; 135:19; 143:14; 144:11; 160:6, 18; 161:11, 12, 13; 164:7; 208:6; 215:9; 218:18; 243:25: 252:3: 253:14: 263:19; 264:14; 265:9, 17; 270:3, 4, 8, 9, 12 money's 266:21 money--well 108:1 monies 88:3, 10; 93:16, 21; 105:25; 107:6, 7; 109:21; 115:14; 127:20; 128:1; 161:5; 197:12; 205:23; 234:4; 235:6; 251:6; 259:15 month 54:16, 17; 89:23; 90:4, 4; 92:3; 114:20, 24; 115:12, 13, 15, 16; 116:5; 150:23; 243:7, 12; 247:9; 250:10, 23; 275:4 month's 266:17 monthly 89:22; 249:3 months 215:24; 216:5; 240:10; 247:18, 18, 25; 250:8; 252:6; 274:19 more 11:21; 12:11, 23; 13:12, 15; 27:25; 28:5; 33:19, 20, 23; 34:9; 35:21; 40:13; 65:16; 76:13; 85:14, 15, 19; 86:20; 89:24; 92:22; 96:14; 105:1; 114:3, 20, 23, 25; 115:5, 12; 116:4; 121:6, 7; 129:22; 133:10; 134:8; 135:14; 145:13; 151:22; 154:1; 157:25; 158:4; 166:19, 25; 167:6; 179:23, 25; 180:15; 183:1, 5, 9; 184:6; 186:13; 188:6; 191:5; 197:7; 198:18; 213:4, 7; 232:11; 233:14; 247:14; 253:24, 25; 255:25; 261:1 morning 4:7, 8; 8:10; 99:13; 185:8 most 7:5; 13:12; 34:22;

moved 87:21; 145:4; 210:12 mover 160:25 moving 15:16; 139:25; 171:21; 186:22; 187:4; 189:6, 15; 192:9; 200:19; 205:22 Mr.-well 72:9 Mrs 153:20; 154:8, 19; 158:14 much 35:5, 7; 68:11; 71:16; 78:19; 93:23; 106:10; 114:3; 121:4; 150:3; 158:14; 164:20; 166:21; 167:3, 21; 182:16; 204:21; 220:10; 243:16; 269:14 multi-page 236:1 must 5:13; 134:17; 154:14: 170:7: 179:9: 245:16; 277:3 my-the 53:3 my-what 11:21 my-yes 207:8 Myers 9:10 myself 34:17; 53:6; 74:10: 153:19: 164:6: 196:16 myself-lf 169:20

### N

nailed 153:15 name 4:11; 27:2; 40:19; 65:6; 70:11; 79:10, 18; 98:7; 125:17; 126:1; 136:18; 142:21, 22, 24; 149:18; 179:23; 193:4, 18, 19, 24; 200:1; 253:2 names 43:13, 16: 69:9: 136:14: 154:4: 179:20 narrow 136:8 National 5:1; 11:16; 12:13, 14; 13:25; 15:9, 20, 20; 18:11; 19:16, 18, 19; 20:19, 21, 23; 21:1, 3, 7, 9, 10, 12, 25; 22:5, 8, 16, 22; 24:17, 25; 25:4, 19; 26:6; 33:8; 36:5; 63:1; 86:8; 96:4; 113:22; 115:1; 117:10; 118:13; 126:20; 127:16; 128:19; 129:3; 132:8; 136:5, 6; 140:23; 143:14; 144:24; 148:25; 155:19; 158:25; 159:25; 160:5; 167:17; 171:17; 172:6; 176:13; 199:2; 201:9; 202:10; 203:11, 15; 204:17; 205:11; 206:20; 209:2; 210:20; 212:20; 213:12; 217:18, 25; 219:1; 222:8; 225:1; 228:12, 15, 16; 229:5; 230:9; 231:4, 10; 233:19; 236:13, 15, 21; 240:9; 241:4, 17, 22; 251:15; 255:9; 256:11; 258:22, 25; 261:6, 12;

268:11; 271:9; 275:3; 277:5 national's 217:22 nationals 146:17: 217:15; 218:19 natural 163:4 nature 33:19; 66:23; 103:1; 210:8; 240:24; 241:3 near 244:5 meanly 178:15 nest 194:4 necessarily 29:13; 80:19; 122:2, 6; 129:21; 221:17: 236:22 **necessary 7:7, 24**; 16:14; 19:13; 28:7; 39:12, 24; 137:7; 237:2; 259:8; 260:3 need 5:22; 8:1; 19:20; 20:22; 21:3, 17, 24; 22:7, 15, 21; 23:2, 10, 17, 23; 24:4, 10, 17, 23; 25:5, 10, 17; 29:7, 15, 19; 36:20; 46:15, 21; 47:2; 48:5, 18; 49:5, 10, 17, 23; 50:4, 10, 16, 24; 53:13; 57:10, 15; 60:8, 24; 61:6, 13; 62:13; 66:6: 67:2: 89:1: 101:16, 16, 20; 109:15, 15; 114:4; 115:5, 24; 127:9; 163:17; 167:21; 180:24; 192:2, 14; 202:24; 246:4; 271:22 needed 15:15; 21:11; 36:13; 40:17; 46:2, 9: 57:20; 127:16; 128:7, 12; 129:3, 9; 169:24; 170:22; 180:11, 12; 201:19; 245:20; 267:13 needed-pick 105:17 Needless 211:2 needs 57:22; 128:20: 154:18; 173:5; 180:9 negotiate 105:9 negotiating 104:7,8 negotiation 165:8 negotiations 105:5; 142:14; 159:20; 162:16 neither 158:14; 176:15; 177:5 nephew 30:9, 11 nervous 32:24 netherworld 75:15 nevertheless 6:7 new 94:7; 245:16; 249:6, news 121:8; 211:3, 6; 214:6 next 35:7; 76:5; 110:14, 18, 25; 129:20, 23; 130:17, 18, 20; 131:5, 9, 11, 17; 138:10; 141:2; 152:12; 153:4, 5; 159:15; 178:11, 11; 180:10; 183:13; 189:6,

22; 205:24; 213:24; 230:13; 235:20; 238:6, 12; 241:12, 21; 242:24; 244:18; 245:6; 247:9; 250:6, 11; 252:20, 25; 253:22; 256:20; 258:14; 260:7; 262:11; 264:3; 265:16; 274:23; 275:12 next-to 250:15 next-to-last 173:4 next-to-the-last 208:4; 226:13 night 121:5; 185:6; 195:19; 199:16; 201:11, 13; 254:3 nebody 52:24; 176:6 nominate 237:18 nominated 237:17; 238:1 non 61:7; 74:14, 16 поп-сору 36:2 non-legal 223:4 non-sequential 221:16 non-U.S 23:11, 18; 60:9; 61:1; 75:21; 76:20; 90:20; 127:21; 128:2 non-United 19:20: 20:22; 21:4, 12; 23:23; 24:5; 49:10, 18; 61:25; 63:4, 5; 75:5; 91:4; 127:15 none 91:12; 241:20 nor 40:23; 114:2; 158:14; 178:17 Norcross 79:11, 18; 145:2, 3, 8, 12, 15; 209:11; 229:12 norm 116:4 normal 198:7; 201:24; 274:24 normaliv 245:2 Nos 198:25; 217:11; 221:2: 224:25: 257:5 not-Dick 153:21 not⊶i 33:21: 190:5 not-you 121:15 notary 4:6 note 7:5: 42:9: 67:18; 103:14; 104:14; 123:10; 160:13, 17, 24; 164:24; 179:1; 199:25; 209:8; 219:13; 221:15; 232:18; 253:23; 256:1, 9; 267:20; 268:13; 270:25 noted 210:23: 272:24 notes 71:23; 95:15; 102:22; 104:1, 3; 261:12 nothing 13:22; 34:22; 96:13; 111:17; 277:15 notica 97:5; 236:16, 17 noticed 75:12; 263:3 notifying 175:2 November 41:9; 42:7; 54:2, 10, 18; 55:5, 10, 13. 18; 66:12, 18, 20; 67:12; 68:4, 16: 70:7, 12: 71:3; 72:11, 17; 73:22; 75:2, 22;

76:19; 77:1, 13, 18, 24; 78:5, 22; 79:13; 80:9; 81:4. 16, 18; 82:2, 4, 11, 18, 24; 83:16, 18, 24: 84:7, 12, 18; 85:1, 6, 22; 86:7, 21, 23; 87:3; 88:4, 8, 8, 10, 14, 16, 24; 89:13; 90:19; 91:2, 9, 13, 17; 92:11, 18; 94:4, 21, 24; 95:6, 12, 17; 96:3; 97:12, 25; 99:17, 20, 23, 25; 100:7, 15, 25; 101:3, 23; 102:7, 11, 13; 107:10, 15; 108:17, 22; 112:16; 113:1, 5, 11, 16, 17; 119:15; 121:12; 123:25; 124:3; 125:13; 126:14, 23; 136:21; 139:2; 160:7; 228:11; 243:5, 8; 247:8 November-or 106:21 NPF 5:2; 10:2, 5; 12:21; 13:3, 9; 16:5, 9, 23; 17:2; 21:15, 18, 21, 23; 22:12, 14, 19, 25; 23:1, 4, 7, 11, 12, 17, 18, 24; 24:3, 5, 12, 19; 25:6, 12, 16, 23; 26:22; *2*7:2; 32:8, 21; 33:10; 36:8, 19, 20, 21; 37:15, 23; 38:5; 39:13, 24; 40:18; 43:4, 11, 21, 23; 44:1, 2, 9, 10, 14, 15; 45:1; 46:1, 4, 8, 10, 14, 16, 20, 21, 22; 47:1, 4; **48:3, 4, 7, 16, 19, 23, 24**; 49:3, 4, 9, 11, 15, 18, 22, 23; 50:3, 5, 9, 11, 14, 17, 24, 25; 52:5; 53:14; 54:8, 22; 55:3, 3, 8, 11, 14, 19; 56:18, 19; 57:21; 58:1; **59:16, 18: 60:3, 9, 25:** 61:7, 14, 20; 62:14, 20; 63:4, 13; 64:11, 17, 22; 65:10;66:6;67:25;68:9, 17, 25; 69:3, 5; 70:6, 12; 71:2; 72:11, 16, 18, 25; 73:9, 23; 74:18; 75:3, 21; 76:13; 77:2, 19, 21, 25; 78:1, 2, 5, 10, 24, 25; 80:6, 8; 81:1, 6, 12, 15; 82:12, 14, 19, 21; 83:7; 84:13, 15, 19, 20; 85:4, 9, 20, 25; 86:1, 10, 11, 11: 87:7, 14; 88:3; 89:12; 90:8, 12; 91:3, 11, 15, 20, 25; 92:10, 12; 93:8, 13, 17, 21; 94:5, 9, 24: 95:9, 13, 18, 22: 96:5: 97:17, 21; 98:9, 23; 99:15; 100:2, 2, 13, 19; 101:6, 6, 11, 16, 19, 21; 103:18, 21; 104:8, 25; 105:3, 24; 106:19; 107:5, 7, 17, 17, 22: 109:12, 19, 20, 22, 24; 110:8; 112:12, 14, 24; 113:6, 12, 13, 20; 114:11, 14, 20, 21; 115:14, 15, 15; 116:17; 117:13, 20; 118:7, 7, 23; 120:9, 13, 22; 121:19; 122:25; 123:2, 14, 14, 25; 124:8, 9, 19; 125:20; 128:7, 12; 129:9; 131:14; 133:6; 134:8, 13; 135:6, 22; 136:4; 137:8, 20; 140:7; 141:15; 154:17;

36:16; 39:7; 44:22; 45:3;

53:4; 115:3; 158:10, 12;

186:17; 237:11; 243:21;

mouth 140:20:143:9

move 11:21; 192:2, 14,

252:16; 274:5, 22

Mother 151:21

movable 39:1

15; 192:22; 197:22;

198:23; 202:12; 205:11,

## CONFIDENTIAL

June 30, 1997 planning 177:23; 189:25; 273:17, 24 plans 126:24; 243:8; 261:22 play 42:21 pleasant 119:4 pleasantries 263:10 please 8:2, 13, 17; 9:1; 10:4: 14:5: 43:16: 47:17: 51:2; 60:4; 69:12; 74:3; 89:3, 4; 97:20; 115:6, 9; 148:23; 160:14; 161:10; 190:23; 203:8; 208:25; 215:7; 234:24; 258:14; 262:11; 264:19; 268:16; 271:24 pleased 185:6 pledge 175:17, 18, 21; 243:25: 244:14: 249:3; **250:13, 20** pledged 205:24; 206:1; 227:6, 10; 228:5, 5; 250:3, 4, 20, 25; 251:7, 10, 15 77, pledges 92:4; 174:25; M 175:3, 9, 14; 176:5; 206:20; 216:15, 17, 22; 217:2, 6, 7; 227:2, 12, 24; 228:1.11:240:10:243:21: 244:15, 21; 245:13; 248:13: 249:6, 7, 9; **250:20, 21, 24; 251:3, 4,** aloy 180:16 plural 136:13 plus 121:4; 141:14; 245:17 point 13:11; 16:7; 18:20; 27:14; 28:1, 5; 29:20; 30:6; 34:3: 38:12, 18: 39:7: 47:13; 51:24; 52:2; 65:20; 70:14; 87:2, 18; 88:5; 91:8; 93:9, 12; 96:18, 19; 135:18; 140:5; 144:3; 146:20; 147:17; 149:13; 151:7; 152:14; 159:16; 163:10, 14, 19; 164:14, 21; 169:3; 166:14; 173:19, 21; 102:15; 200:25; 206:25; 216:13; 217:16; 219:18, 18; 224:11, 12; 229:14; 234:16, 22; 239:3; 240:17; 244:21; 246:18; 251:21; 261:2; 264:18; 265:8; 266:5; 273:20; 274:3; 276:5; 277:15 point-and 138:15 points 184:23; 186:20 Policy 5:1; 11:16; 12:13, 15; 13:17; 14:1; 15:10, 20; 18:11; 19:16, 18; 20:19, 21, 23; 21:1, 4, 7, 9, 10, 12; 22:1, 5, 8, 16, 22; 24:17, 25; 25:5, 19; 26:6, 11; 33:8; 36:5; 37:10; 38:5; 40:11; 63:1; 69:7, 9, 14, 15, 17, 23; 70:2; 73:3; 76:11, 11; 78:7; 83:2, 5;

117:10; 118:13; 126:21; 127:16: 128:19: 129:3: 136:6; 140:24; 143:14; 144:25; 148:25; 155:19; 158:25; 159:5, 8, 25; 160:5: 167:18: 171:17; 172:1, 2, 6, 7, 10, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25; 177:20, 24; 178:2, 7, 15, 20; 179:10, 14, 19, 20; 180;3; 189;22; 192:2, 10; 201:9; 202:10; 203:11, 15: 204:6, 17: 205:11, 14; 206:20; 209:2: 210:20: 212:20: 213:13: 219:1; 222:8; 225:1; 228:12, 15, 16; 229:5; 230:9; 231:5, 11; 233:19; 236:13, 15, 22; 240:9; 241:23; 251:15; 255:10; 256:11: 258:22, 25: 261:6, 12; 262:21; 263:11; 267:9, 9; 268:11; 271:9; 275:3; 277:3, 5, 5, 12 policy-period 171:15 Political 11:5, 23: 187:20, 22; 188:5; 189:8; 192:3, 10; 201:1; 218:18; 232:4, 15; 234:11 poor 31:2; 102:20; 192:13 poorly 226:22 portion 31:13; 47:18; 51:3, 15; 74:5; 78:14; 88:12; 89:5; 130:9; 141:19; 171:8; 271:25 pose 108:15; 138:23; 181:2 posit 200:6 position 5:3; 9:7; 10:15; 14:24; 18:9, 17, 24; 19:6; 42:8; 64:21; 72:1; 95:3; 96:10; 101:5; 121:4; 127:8; 136:20; 156:21; 276:20 positions 9:1; 36:13, 17 possession 30:12; 96:7, 23; 97:8; 156:23; 210:10 possibility 118:22; 131:18; 133:11; 138:19, 21; 141:5, 9; 173:20 possible 16:1; 27:17; 30:25; 39:6; 42:21; 70:14; 73:17; 84:23; 86:14; 105:23; 124:25; 125:19; 136:16; 156:5; 159:25; 185:16; 197:8 possibly 7:1; 64:2, 12; 69:7; 92:21; 132:1; 183:4; 202:14, 20; 223:7 post 47:10: 67:11; 81:4; 82:2; 92:18; 99:23; 100:15; 102:10, 11, 12, 13; 104:17; 106:23; 215:25 post-high 8:17 Post-It 209:8 postage 106:25

177:19; 178:1, 1; 200:7 potentially 272:19 Potter 214:7 practically 178:7 practice 156:10 Pratt 153:23: 155:1 pre 108:21 pre-I 82:2 pre-dating 88:14; 126:23; 136:21 pre-election 47:10 pre-November 116:20 precading 185:17 precipitously 246:14 precise 142:2: 259:18 precision 142:7 predicate 56:2; 66:23 predicted 254:1 prefer 8:14; 20:4; 73:11; 192:1 preference 20:13 preliminary 4:21; 43:6; 127:2; 180:20; 184:21 preparation 168:24; 186:9 prepare 156:5 prepared 17:25: 19:11: 42:15: 72:9: 137:25: 166:4, 5: 167:5; 168:12; 196:11; 211:15; 225:21, 22; 226:1; 236:18; 239:19 preparing 241:15 prescription 8:9 present 68:15; 87:23: 132:12: 153:16: 154:12: 166:2; 224:4, 7; 271:11 presentations 120:3, 8 presented 34:5; 120:8; 196:6 president 13:25; 95:23; 123:21: 263:11 presidential 170:24; 198:21; 205:14 press 146:15; 194:7; 219:13 presses 28:7 pressure 121:3 pressured 276:19 presumably 173:6 presume 97:14; 200:1; 245:10 presuming 190:17 pretty 35:5; 68:11; 70:3: 71:16: 78:19: 132:17: 158:8; 218:3; 275:1; 276:18 preventing 8:6 previous 60:13; 166:25; previously 17:16; 82:5, 15: 108:23; 112:5; 183:19; 184:16; 193:2; 203:9; 214:5; 239:2; 267:17 primarily 12:7; 26:11;

120:15; 166:10, 11 primary 160:25; 237:8 principally 27:15, 25; 28:3: 157:16 principals 215:1 principles 158:12 print 240:9 printing 252:19 prior 18:7, 11; 22:4; 23:7, 15, 21: 24:2, 9, 15, 22: 25:3, 9, 15; 38:18; 45:21; 53:20; 54:1; 55:13; 60:1, 6; 61:4, 11, 17, 23; 62:11, 17, 25: 65:11, 13, 21: 76:18; 78:24; 82:11; 83:16, 24; 86:7, 21: 87:18: 88:10; 94:21; 99:25; 100:20; 103:7; 104:3, 13, 17; 107:2, 15; 108:17; 112:11; 113:1, 5, 16; 117:9; 123:25, 25; 124:3, 12; 136:9; 139:2, 25; 142:10, 17; 145:18; 146:7; 147:3; 155:5: 156:4: 158:20, 24: 161:6, 7; 175:14, 18; 183:2, 3, 4; 217:16; 218:5; 223:23; 230:10; 244:25; 249:8: 250:23: 270:1: 277:14 prior-from 94:23 priorities 172:12 priority 172:15 private 126:19 probably 17:4; 35:14; 52:18, 19; 65:16; 71:8; 72:19; 85:14; 86:18; 88:10: 125:21: 131:1; 149:11; 150:25; 151:7; 152:6, 20; 154:14; 155:3; 12; 168:3; 181:24; 191:24; 216:24; 221:12; 240:19; 246:19; 249:21; 251:11; 263:3: 273:15 probative 220:5; 269:5 problem 126:9; 141:24; 178:18, 24; 180:22; 245:4, 5: 272:14, 22 problematic 160:14 problems 145:10: 146:13: 162:1 Procedurally 244:6 procedures 214:23 proceed 18:18: 19:2; 97:7; 134:19; 159:17; 162:13, 14; 211:15; 268:17 proceeded 134:16, 19 proceeding 7:21; 143:22: 156:2 PROCEEDINGS 4:1: 225:11 proceeds 109:14, 15, 16; 237:17; 258:24 process 11:23; 39:13; 42:10; 45:8, 15; 65:10; 66:4; 75:3; 76:18; 101:21;

102:25; 103:9, 21; 104:7,

7: 108:14: 120:13: 143:21: 146:12; 163:15; 164:2.5; 165:8, 15; 215:3, 3, 7; 244:13, 22, 24; 258:4, 11 procured 116:21 produce 5:22; 37:16; 40:12; 72:5; 96:13; 197:23; 276:4 produced 40:11:96:5. 25: 104:1: 157:1: 170:9; 202:15; 210:21; 226:16 producing 169:6, 8, 11 producing-And 169:7 product 40:4, 5; 169:3 production 96:21 professional 242:11 Program 9:25; 10:25; 68:6; 141:15; 243:6 progress 163:18 project 38:11; 103:10; 105:17; 181:9, 15; 275:9 projected 243:21; 262:2 projection 57:13 projections 245:8; 250:7 promises 205:12 promissory 102:22: 103:14; 104:1, 14; 256:1 pronouncing 70:11 proper 74:23; 143:25; 234:17 properly 17:22 proposal 20:16; 60:8, 25; 61:6, 13; 62:13; 84:25; 85:18; 140:9, 10; 166:1, 4, 19; 167:18 propose 18:18 proposed 165:12: 183:11 propriety 231:19 prospect 175:5 Prospecting 250:6, 13 prospective 198:18; 216:17: 228:1 prospects 202:1; 243:7 proved 114:8; 120:10 provide 8:17; 53:4; 72:3; 103:4: 139:6, 16, 156:11; 167:11; 170:18; 177:20; 207:3; 245:17; 249:5, 12, provided 29:23; 33:15; 35:18; 71:5, 22; 95:3; 107:10; 122:10; 127:21; 138:11, 156:24, 240:17, provider 222:20; 224:20 providers 224:13 providing 16:17; 104:10; 140:16; 215:10 proving 114:3 provision 97:6 public 4:6; 8:25; 27:18; 157:22; 205:13 publication 28:6; 33:10; 40:6, 18, 19; 41:7; 42:20,

86:8; 96:4; 113:22; 115:1;

potential 73:16, 17;

77:19; 90:11; 119:11;

organization's 201:25 organizational 27:8 organizational 27:8 organizational 27:8 origin 170:10; 208:16 original 207:11 originally 253:25 others 33:13; 52:17, 18; 54:22; 59:7; 64:21, 21; 70:3; 78:1; 82:19; 86:16, 17; 91:25; 94:6; 103:8; 107:23; 109:10, 20; 113:6; 117:12, 24; 145:6; 154:6; 155:19; 168:18; 186:20; 201:13; 216:20; 223:18;

230:5: 231:15: 244:3: 269:9 Otherwise 8:3; 31:2; 103:6: 226:15 ought 34:8; 190:12; 254:2 our--in 12:8 out 6:17; 13:18, 23; 19:10: 27:21: 28:8, 14: 29:1; 32:8; 37:11: 44:9; 56:25; 65:10; 73:23; 78:8; 98:25; 99:11; 104:12, 18; 105:20, 20; 121:7; 122:23; 123:21: 140:19: 143:19: 151:25; 170:23; 176:7; 180:21; 182:11; 184:5, 6; 186:3; 188:21; 198:1; 202:11; 209:9; 210:13, 14; 226:22; 232:2; 239:1; 247:5, 11; 251:1, 13, 15; 257:24, 24, 25; 263:15; 268:9, 22; 275:9 out-of-your-own-

pocket 106:19

outgo 123:20

outlines 165:3

outside 6:10: 11:21;

24; 215:23; 252:23

outstrip 114:8, 13

outstanding 234:10

over 9:4; 10:8, 14, 18;

13:8; 14:23; 43:9; 44:8;

99:6, 6; 105:5; 106:13;

116:6, 8; 144:2, 11;

58:25: 66:6: 70:25: 98:17:

148:20, 21; 155:3; 156:8;

174:11; 175:25; 177:17;

205:4; 208:19; 215:20;

216:8; 227:13; 233:12;

243:14, 17; 244:3, 11;

14; 264:19; 265:11;

over-Sanford 99:5

over-excited 251:24

Overall 39:1; 67:14;

274:25: 276:15

over-the 8:9

250:24, 25; 252:3, 3, 3, 9,

163:22, 23; 165:4; 173:22;

179:15, 20; 197:25; 198:6;

12:18; 17:17, 19; 18:13,

24; 27:9; 79:8; 80:6; 83:10;

101:10, 13; 118:9; 144:17,

196:24 oversight 27:3 overstatement 180:14 owe 164:20; 252:3 owed 93:22; 173:21; 252:11 owing 164:21 own 31:12; 68:21; 71:16; 73:12; 142:4; 144:21; 161:24; 165:6; 175:22; 177:20 owned 32:1; 143:1, 5; 147:11, 12

#### P

P 253:4 P.J 221:6 p.m 111:24, 25; 112:2; 236:24: 277:24 PAC 219:15 pace 13:7; 17:7; 114:6 pack-rat 210:14 PACs 218:18, 22; 219:13 page 177:16; 180:8; 197:16; 199:9; 201:7; 203:14: 204:4, 15, 16, 21; 205:10; 208:2, 4; 209:4, 7; 213:1; 214:21; 216:12; 217:9: 218:14; 221:2, 3, 3, 24, 25; 222:3, 17, 23; 225:1, 15; 226:8, 12, 13 17, 25; 227:18, 19; 230:17; 234:7; 236:16; 237:13; 238:6.7.17.18.19.25: 239:7, 14, 22; 240:2, 2, 7, 15, 21; 241:12, 13, 14, 21; 242:24; 247:21, 21, 22; 248:24; 250:16; 251:23; 252:10: 255:6, 9: 256:1, 16: 260:14, 14, 16; 261:11; 262:22, 25; 270:14, 14; 271:13, 14 **Dages** 213:25: 214:6; 217:12: 221:11, 19; 236:14; 238:23; 239:3, 5, 8. 10. 13; 249:25; 255:25; paid 75:10:90:3; 144:11; 175:17: 215:8; 216:8; 231:4, 5; 263:16 pain 161:25 pair 198:21 pairs 265:21 paper 71:25; 144:11; 156:16: 165:7: 184:4: 185:7, 23; 186:2, 10, 15; 195:21; 196:1, 7; 197:23; paperwork 103:24; 257:21, 22 parade 172:16 paragraph 170:14, 20; 171:2, 11, 12, 21, 23; 172:2; 173:4; 174:23; 176:8; 177:16; 179:2;

180:7; 182:9; 191:24, 25; 194:5, 24; 195:18; 197:1; 199:20; 200:21; 204:3, 17, 18, 21, 21; 205:10, 22, 25; 207:19, 20; 208:4, 10, 13; 211:1, 13; 212:3, 8, 13; 213:1; 218:14; 231:22; 234:8: 243:1: 244:8: 245:6; 248:7; 256:3; 258:4; 261:15; 263:8; 264:3; 265:6, 16; 269:24; 270:14; 271:14; 275:12 paragraphs 200:14, 19 parent 143:6: 242:20 parentheses 224:17 part 7:5; 11:17, 17; 13:17; 18:1; 20:11; 30:21; 68:7; 72:16:96:8, 9: 156:3; 160:9: 213:21: 229:25: 237:24; 239:11, 18; 248:22; 259:1; 261:4; 263:22; 269:20; 270:25; 271:6.9; 273:14; 274:7 partial 234:9 participante 201:18 participate 86:1; 189:17; 191:11:273:17 participating 236:20, 23 participation 181:9, 15 particular 65:1: 78:8; 80:17; 81:13; 83:9, 11; 111:3, 15; 125:4; 159:10: 162:23; 166:13, 14; 168:5; 172:13; 173:1; 177:24; 207:9; 208:3; 223:15; 276:20 Particularly 145:4; 147:10 parties 42:14; 162:21, 24 partner 80:2 parts 105:22 party 5:22; 171:18; 208:20; 213:20; 220:4; 223:10 pass 58:9; 151:25 passing 178:23; 190:5 past 133:19; 165:3; 182:6: 216:14: 227:23: 243:15 Pat 253:5 path 192:11, 18 paths 192;3, 16, 19 patient 263:18 pattern 276:17 Pause 63:14 paused 194:23 Day 17:13; 20:22; 106:25; 135:21; 190:19; 193:23; 216:3; 259:4; 275:15 payable 240:18; 256:8 payables 245:4; 251:25; 252:1 payee 259:12 **Dayer 224:2** 

povment 198:6.7: 234:13: 260:5; 263:17, 20, 22; 275:15, 16 payments 67:18; 175:25; 176:12; 248:11; 256:11; 259:4: 265:18: 266:13, 17; 275:6, 9, 13, 14, 18 payroll 57:11, 22; 114:17; 123:9 pending 47:20, 22; 193:9: 274:25 penny 119:3 people 11:9; 27:18, 20; 28:8; 32:24; 36:21; 43:10; 67:24; 68:23, 25; 69:3, 18; 71:15; 72:10; 73:18; 83:5; 120:3; 122:2; 126:2; 135:12; 158:15; 159:24; 160:4, 12; 170:23; 179:18, 19, 24; 236:23 people's 13:19 per 243:7, 12; 245:13; 246:4, 19; 247:1; 250:10 percent 216:21; 217:6, 7; 228:5: 251:3, 6 percentage 175:9; 227:11 perception 125:8 perfectly 74:9, 22 perfectly-it 74:9 perform 15:14 performance 48:24 performed 231:10 performing 15:14; 234:22 Perhaps 39:17; 108:25; 202:11 period 14:23; 18:21; 40:17:47:6;61:4;66:7,7, 13, 16; 69:10; 92:16, 25; 96:3; 97:16, 24; 99:19; 100:6; 107:9, 15; 112:18; 114:12, 19; 117:16, 23; 118:5; 130:18, 20; 135:20; 142:15; 144:5; 145:12; 150:18, 20; 152:6; 153:9; 155:24: 161:19: 163:18; 173:19, 22, 23; 174:11; 212:18; 243:15, 22, 25; 244:3, 20, 22; 249:8; 274:14, 18; 275:4 periods 79:9; 145:11; 252:4, 5 permissible 78:6 permission 103:13 permit 6:7, 15; 7:6; 12:17; 27:6; 43:5; 56:23; 86:12; 88:16, 22; 92:17; 103:3; 104:9: 105:7, 8: 113:24; 120:24: 206:10 permitted 124:14 permitting 51:23 PERRY 4:16, 16, 42:9, 14; 73:5; 75:15; 82:22; 83:19; 94:15; 101:25; 108:3; 137:18; 141:17, 21; 145:22; 147:22; 160:13;

167:12; 170:16; 171:5; 179:1, 7; 188:9, 25; 191:7, 13; 199:25; 200:5; 204:23; 205:5; 206:23; 207:2, 7, 14; 211:19, 22; 219:6; 221:15; 232:16, 18, 23; 234:15; 235:16; 236:8; 254:10; 267:20; 268:12; 271:18; 272:14; 276:5, 7; 277:9, 15, 18 Perry's 83:14, 15; 142:10 person 10:18: 35:10: 132:16; 136:21; 145:17; 156:12; 163:10, 14, 19; 164:14, 18; 219:18, 19; 229:2; 234:22; 241:15 person's 218:21 personal 20:13; 43:22; 106:13: 139:16: 186:24: 187:1: 200:16: 206:16: 210:7: 229:18: 269:9 personally 45:5; 136:15; 139:6: 142:5: 191:3: 195:25; 213:11; 231:4 personnel 54:12 persons 113:12 persuade 271:8 persuasive 178:14 pertain 108:16 pertinent 229:1 perusing 193:8; 199:7; 203:19; 205:6; 214:12; 225:9; 230:25 phasing 65:10 Phil 4:16 phone 35:9, 14; 145:16; 164:18; 165:17; 166:15 photocopying 226:21 phrase 170:19; 202:22 phrased 41:11; 147:25 physical 145:10 physically 132:13; 274:3 pick 17:5, 8; 270:5 **picked** 114:6 picture 134:12 piece 30:1; 36:3; 71:25; 207:12; 269:22 pieces 178:19 Pike 8:15 pitch 85:15 place 25:23; 26:7; 36:7; 45:15; 46:1; 75:3, 20; 76:18; 77:2; 78:7; 107:24; 121:19: 132:11, 23: 137:6; 153:7; 155:6; 161:6; 162:9: 187:13: 189:9; 212:16; 238:2; 248:17; 251:14: 261:21, 23: 273:12; 277:14 place-1 43:1 place-this 121:24 placed 85:18 plainly 17:17 plan 225:11; 248:17;

paying 93:13: 105:20;

164:7; 178:23

261:17, 21; 262:4; 273:14

Tune 30, 1997 248:21;258:6: 262:5: 266:2 referring 116:9; 119:14; 120:13; 121:11; 124:20, 22; 154:9; 166:17; 167:3; 185:24; 187:6; 191:24; 197:24; 203:5; 219:24; 231:6; 232:10, 15; 233:2, 4; 241:1; 244:20; 261:20. 24; 263:21; 264:16; 265:25; 266:1; 272:8; 273:8; 276:11 refers 197:21, 22; 199:15, 20; 211:13; 213:15: 271:1 reflect 97:7; 277:23 reflected 259:3 reflecting 268:15 reflection 232:7; 243:7; 256:10; 277:4 reform 34:21 refresh 171:2: 195:24 refreshed 31:16 refused 106:5, 10: 275:14 regard 117:4; 217:1; 226:10; 248:23 regarding 82:3; 84:25; 119:10, 22; 126:25; 220:3; 228:17 regular 99:9, 14 regularly 97:13 Regulations 235:11 reimbursement 253:17 reiterate 276:2 relate 18:6; 34:13; 54:10; 108:13; 109:8; 124:15; 126:24; 134:2; 157:15 related 15:6: 41:12; 72:11; 105:4; 107:5; 109:20; 137:22; 171:12; 173:23; 195:13; 200:23; 270:9.12 relates 54:2; 108:10; 112:15; 124:12; 148:10 relating 5:25; 18:10; 46:3; 55:2; 72:5; 96:5, 24; 98:9, 23; 99:15; 100:20; 117:9: 131:13: 137:20: 138:10; 139:14; 156:24; 213:22; 232:25; 254:17 relation 119:17, 18; 129:23: 131:13: 194:9: 219:2; 231:11 relations 9:14; 29:20 relationship 28:25: 34:4:

Ü

١Ū

()

ĬΫ

 $\Box$ 

relevant 47:3; 48:6; 72:7; 219:15, 23; 220:10 relied 79:2: 229:14 reluctant 220:9 remained 36:13 remains 265:19 remarkably 60:12 remember 9:16: 14:14. 16, 18; 28:11; 35:20; 52:3; 67:5, 19: 71:17: 84:24; 86:18; 88:24; 92:6, 7; 94:3; 99:9; 106:14, 17; 133:7, 8, 24; 134:16; 142:23, 24; 145:1, 13; 146:3; 149:10; 153:2, 6, 20; 154:6, 13; 156:7, 9, 18; 158:2, 22; 162:12, 16; 165:16, 16, 19; 166:5, 15; 168:4; 172:16; 173:24; 174:14, 21; 177:13, 14; 178:6; 186:1, 11; 187:21, 24; 190:13; 195:3, 4; 204:11, 12, 13, 14; 206:14, 17; 231:18; 232:12; 233:14; 253:2, 2; 257:25: 266:10: 273:14 remember-- 103:13: 195:3: 253:2 remind 187:18 renander 92:3 remonstrate 105:18 rendered 252:18 renew 271:19 repaid 102:23; 106:14; 160:17; 161:11, 22; 164:24 repay 161:5; 164:23; 176:11; 259:1 repaying 223:10 repayment 174:24: 223:7; 234:9; 256:3 repayments 104:3, 17 repeat 74:3 repeated 89:2 repeatedly 143:21 rephrase 39:17; 42:16 replace 52:4 replaced 65:2 replacement 66:14: 70:15 replacements 64:1 repiscina 270:3 report 15:24; 27:24; 37:11; 40:5; 106:22, 25; 180:20, 20; 201:23; 214:6; 229:2, 2; 237:23; 240:19; 246:14: 249:3: 252:22: 260:25; 261:3, 8 report-and 27:23 reported 26:8, 9; 27:2, 14; 28:10: 65:4: 94:8: 103:25; 117:25; 153:10 reported-everything 28:10

reporter 7:23; 14:9;

26:17; 31:11, 13, 16;

47:18; 50:19; 51:3, 15;

74:5; 78:14; 89:5; 130:9; 141:19; 153:15; 171:8; 207:6; 213:23; 220:25; 254:6; 271:25 Reporting 248:25; 249:2; 252:5 reports 45:10; 92:6; 163:18 represent 41:17; 107:22; 108:19; 221:10; 226:15; 236:9; 243:12 representation 144:18; 181:13; 251:2 Representatives 182:23 represented 216:14; 227:22; 228:4; 250:4; 266:17 representing 154:16: 258:21 represents 200:15 Republican 10:21; 11:3. 11; 15:20; 19:19; 132:8; 136:5: 160:1: 171:4, 18: 176:13; 199:2; 205:18; 241:4, 16 Republicanism 205:13 request 58:9, 16, 21: 72:4; 96:2, 6; 97:3, 8, 9; 156:25; 157:4; 180:5; 210:21, 23; 230:5; 276:3 requested 31:13; 47:18; 51:3, 15; 74:5; 78:14; 89:5; 105:25; 130:9; 141:19; 171:8: 207:3: 231:25: 232:8; 265:21; 271:25; 275:13 requesting 96:22 requests 58:14; 98:9 require 66:18; 135:20 required 29:1: 100:13. 14; 104:14; 122:17; 202:17; 215:25; 229:1, 9; 240:19 requirement 58:3; 67:4, 18; 103:10; 106:12 requirements 57:8; 67:21; 71:11; 165:6; 173:22: 174:11: 175:7: 233:11, 24; 261:5 requires 206:12 research 94:6, 12; 241:3, reserve 8:21 reshape 70:22 reshuffled 254:15 resign 52:3 resigned 9:15, 21; 10:1, 5, 20: 28:9: 54:12, 14: 70:20; 92:20; 94:1; 98:24; 99:1, 9; 102:10; 103:9; 247:14: 261:1: 274:13 Resolution 5:4, 17; 41:18:42:3 resources 39:2 respect 88:23; 136:20; 142:2; 207:3; 220:8

respond 5:20; 6:18; 20:6; 38:24; 41:14; 45:20; 88:8; 97:3:108:23:111:4: 122:16; 124:5; 125:10; 138:4 responded 18:8 responde 201:10 response 5:23; 15:1; 58:21, 22; 59:3, 6, 11; 62:4: 63:22: 92:18: 109:4: 130:12 responses 156:6 responsibilities 26:5; 70:18; 162:7; 238:3; 274:20: 275:1 responsibility 27:3; 28:6; 43:22; 44:10, 11, 14 responsible 53:6: 179:12: 223:10: 240:23: 249:16 responsive 101:24: 102:7; 119:5; 123:11; 201:19 Rest 70:6; 158:18 Rest's 255:20, 23 restate 115:9; 166:23; 272:19 restrict 276:15 restricted 276:14 result 94:22: 129:12: 170:23; 215:1, 4; 234:14; 235:6; 250:10; 262:2 resulted 165:6 results 68:7; 226:11, 14 resumed 112:5 retained 31:20; 86:9, 11; 215:8; 228:16; 229:5 retainer 89:22 return 121:23; 224:20 revenue 72:18, 22, 25; 103:10: 114:19. 21: 175:5: 245:14; 249:3; 250:3, 4, 6, 10, 12, 13, 13; 251:21; 262:2 revenues 114:13; 251:15 reversals 131:8 review 26:15; 75:3; 77:3; 97:8; 144:18; 167:21, 23: 215:11: 225:13: 231:2, 25: 233:23; 254:24; 268:1; 276:4 reviewed 7:18: 29:3, 22: 37:10; 144:21; 196:7; 251:8; 268:19 reviewing 193:11 revisit 42:7 Richard 30:9; 169:14; 267:25 Richards 30:7, 9, 10, 11, 15, 18; 31:18; 35:4, 5, 10, 18; 141:8, 12, 12; 151:25; 152:9, 9, 15; 153:21, 22; 154:15; 155:17, 17; 169:6, 13, 14, 15, 16; 185:6; 186:13; 200:6; 209:5; 212:15; 262:24; 267:25;

268:8, 16, 22; 269:6, 9, 25; 271:1 Richards's 31:7 right 30:10; 31:8; 32:6; 53:11; 54:20; 60:20; 65:8; 70:11; 72:8; 80:19; 81:22; 98:11:99:21;101:17,18; 103:13; 108:19; 112:19; 122:12; 137:3; 140:17; 144:16; 145:9, 16; 150:9; 154:9, 10: 155:12; 163:24; 164:15; 166:16; 167:1; 180:19; 185:14; 186:19; 187:17; 188:11; 191:7; 193:11, 24; 200:17; 207:17; 217:8; 219:11, 12; 223:12; 224:2; 228:14; 231:21: 233:20. 21: 239:16; 246:8; 247:10; 252:16; 264:1; 265:24; 266:13, 15; 272:12 right-hand 193:18: 199:9; 224:10; 225:16; rights 69:22 ring 253:8; 275:20 rising 17:9 risk 83:1; 97:18; 241:14; 242:24, 25; 245:15 RNC 9:21; 15:25; 16:4, 8, 10, 16; 17:3; 56:7, 18; 57:16, 20, 23, 25; 58:9; 59:17; 60:2, 8, 17, 24; 61:5, 12, 18, 24; 62:12, 18; 63:2, 12; 64:4, 12, 17, 23; 80:12: 100:14: 103:17, 22: 104:5, 6, 23, 24; 105:5, 25, 25; 106:16; 107:4, 5, 7, 18, 23: 108:21: 109:10: 111:15; 116:9; 117:19; 118:1, 8, 23; 120:3, 9, 14, 23; 121:18; 122:2; 123:18; 131:19, 24; 132:7; 148:21; 149:4; 160:6, 16; 161:4, 21, 22; 163:2, 23; 164:20, 21: 173:18, 21: 176:13, 14: 177:3, 4; 180:18; 189:23; 208:5, 6, 21; 209:8; 214:3; 222:25; 223:3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 16, 19, 23, 25; 224:1; 232:13; 235:8; 241:6, 19, 25; 242:2, 8; 248:1, 4; 259:2, 4, 8, 18; 267:10, 14; 268:1; 270:3; 276:12, 14, 15, 16 RNC's 177:3; 208:8 RNSEC 109:24: 110:7, 9: 111:9; 258:22; 259:10, 13, 15; 260:5 Robertson 253:4, 5, 9 rocket 122:24 Roger 4:17; 10:13; 74:20; 83:2; 97:18; 111:20; 254:8 Rogers 11:13; 273:18, 19 role 42:21; 45:1; 70:23; 87:16; 97:16; 99:7; 136:4; 166:8: 186:8, 9: 198:20: 274:10

104:11; 130:13, 25; 143:5,

10, 11; 149:1; 150:15;

157:17, 19, 20; 159:2;

163:2, 3; 172:14; 173:2;

178:17; 232:13; 276:11

relationships 90:15;

107:11

relative 88:18

release 219:13

reizy 92:9

ef g E gaze

=:-

Ì.,

["]

£

١,[]

2 (2) 2.

M

75

[]

21: 180:20; 217:13 publicationanticipated 40:6 Publications 27:17, 23; publish 28:24; 192:16; 205:12 published 26:13; 28:13; 30:1; 32:19; 34:13; 35:21; 114:7; 157:23 published-it 32:18 puil 257:24, 24, 25 **pulled** 207:10 purport 269:1 purpose 5:6; 76:14; 153:25; 165:2; 171:10, 17; 175:1, 4; 237:8; 271:17; 272:3 purposes 68:15; 142:6; 151:2; 161:14; 207:12 pursuant 4:24; 5:4; 19:3; 72:3; 124:5 pursue 131:19; 141:2; 151:10, 22 pursuing 139:22; 141:11; 150:21 pushing 178:25 put 10:19; 12:4; 32:3; 85:13:87:13:127:15; 143:4, 8; 158:21; 161:15; 166:1; 179:19, 22, 25; 180:1; 186:12; 193:17; 202:2, 16; 208:10; 233:13;

putting 11:2; 111:14;

121:3; 138:20

275:15

qualifications 66:1 qualified 123:1 quality 184:1; 241:16 quarter 32:17, 19; 38:20, 20, 22; 92:3; 245:13, 15, 20; 246:5, 19; 247:1 quarterback 200:4 quarterly 26:12; 67:18, 20; 175:25; 245:8, 8; 256:4 quasi-objection 234:15 questioner's 31:1 questioning 6:23; 27:6; 97:7; 267:7; 268:13 **auick** 111:20 quickly 156:13; 173:24; 275:1 quite 96:17; 214:16; 246:17; 265:3; 274:16 quote 116:1

# R

races 208:20, 21 raise 19:20: 20:22; 21:3. 11, 17, 24; 22:8, 15, 22;

23:3, 11, 17, 23; 24:4, 10, 17, 24; 25:5, 11; 43:11; 49:10, 17, 23; 50:5, 11; 60:9, 25; 61:6, 14; 62:14; 73:14, 20; 74:9; 80:8; 81:1; 82:7: 85:16: 86:11: 89:8. 12; 91:15; 92:11; 93:8; 94:5; 112:14, 25; 128:19; 143:14; 245:20; 246:4, 25; 262:6; 263:19; 264:14; 265:9 raised 74:14, 16; 75:20; 80:23:81:14:82:12; 83:12; 88:3, 9; 90:1, 4; 92:4: 102:16: 128:2; 165:20; 250:7 raiser 44:23 raising 43:22; 44:14; 45:6: 46:10, 22: 53:14; 61:19, 25; 62:20; 63:4; 73:25; 84:14, 19; 85:3, 9; 92:16, 23; 113:8, 12; 226:11, 14 ramp 36:24 range 37:8; 54:19; 63:2; 67:9, 20; 89:17, 23; 167:17; 236:5, 10 ranged 178:8 rarely-| 28:11 rate 104:15; 227:2; 254:4 rates 134:11 rather 6:23: 39:20; 116:18; 156:13; 198:19; 200:16; 204:21 ratification 176:14; 177:3 Rating 241:14 re-read 271:24 reach 39:4: 88:3; 149:3; 159:24; 160:4, 11; 170:23 reached 14:22; 139:5 reacting 168:7 reaction 76:20 read 31:13; 34:21; 42:3; 47:16, 18; 50:19; 51:1, 3, 13, 15; 74:5; 78:11, 14; 89:4, 5; 130:9; 141:17, 19; 170:15; 171:6, 8, 11; 176:18; 179:6, 7; 186:7; 191:25; 196:11; 201:8; 204:23; 232:11; 233:13; 244:18; 250:19; 254:23; 271:25: 272:17: 277:1, 4 read-134:21 readily 90:15 reading 224:12; 226:22; 235:4; 243:4 reads 234:8; 243:20 ready 162:13; 164:9 ready-I'm 111:18 Reagan 9:16, 18; 10:15; 11:1; 265:21 reai 11:19; 13:19; 73:4; 76:12: 162:22: 175:19:

realize 122:25; 123:3 realized 14:20:39:8 119:2; 121:6; 135:16 realized-you 38:10 really 11:6; 29:16; 32:12, 13; 34:16, 19, 22; 42:2; 43:18: 51:11; 53:18; 66:15; 67:13; 68:5; 70:23; 81:24; 132:10; 134:5, 12; 149:19; 153:25; 154:13; 156:14; 157:24; 158:1, 3; 164:25; 167:4; 172:21; 174:4; 178:19; 179:21, 25; 186:13; 187:2; 190:13; 193:22: 206:22; 213:17; 220:9; 226:20; 229:14; 236:2, 3; 246:9; 247:22; 254:24: 255:21, 21; 257:15; 268:25; 269:13; 271:12; 274:22; 275:19; 276:17 really-well 93:24 rearranged 275:18 reason 40:7; 57:2, 9; 77:7: 94:8: 134:19; 151:23; 160:23; 161:21; 162:23; 179:25; 209:19; 217:2: 218:25: 255:22 reasonable 6:3 reasons 12:3; 17:15; 135:7; 146:18; 160:16; 175:24; 220:8 recali 8:11; 11:7, 12, 14; 13:6; 14:11, 12; 27:23; 28:23; 29:4, 6, 16, 18; 30:4: 32:4, 7, 21; 33:9, 16, 24; 34:2; 35:5, 14, 24, 25; 36:2, 7; 37:4, 20, 22, 25; 38:13; 39:8, 23; 41:1; 43:13, 18:51:10, 11; 52:10, 14, 15, 17, 22; 53:18, 23; 54:14; 57:5; 58:12:60:18;64:13.15. 25; 65:2, 9, 16; 66:22; 67:5, 6, 8, 13; 68:2, 20; 69:1, 9, 12; 70:5, 8, 10, 13, 17; 71:5, 9, 20; 73:21; 74:13, 19, 24; 75:2; 76:15; 78:3, 4, 20, 22; 79:7, 10, 19; 80:4, 5, 11, 15; 83:11; 84:16, 17, 21; 85:1, 6, 11, 21, 24; 86:2, 25; 87:5, 23; 89:7, 14, 22; 90:5, 24; 91:1, 9; 92:19; 93:14, 20; 100:16; 101:1, 6, 7; 103:7; 113:19: 114:12; 118:16; 121:20; 124:19; 126:5; 131:17, 23; 132:6, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16; 133; 2, 22; 134:2; 136:11; 140:3; 141:10; 142:13; 143:24; 144:4, 15; 146:6, 23; 147:1, 18, 20; 148:19; 149:25; 150:2, 14, 23; 151:16; 153:7, 12, 16; 154:3: 155:7, 18, 21, 23; 157:11; 158:11; 159:8; 164:10; 165:8; 166:4, 14; 167:7, 8; 168:17; 173:8, 12, 19; 174:1, 4, 22; 175:2;

180:2, 6; 183:12; 184:25; 185:1; 186:25; 187:3, 11, 11: 189:9: 190:2; 193:14; 194:16, 25: 195:6; 196:6, 9, 12, 18; 198:15, 17; 199:12; 200:9, 11, 12; 201:12, 17; 202:3, 4, 7, 13; 206:19, 22; 209:16; 212:24, 25; 213:15; 215:16; 216:2, 25; 220:16: 222:6, 11; 223:14, 18, 20; 224:18: 225:19, 22; 226:4, 7; 227:3; 231:20; 232:6; 233:6, 9; 236:20; 237:2, 19, 21, 23; 239:24; 240:18; 247:16, 20; 248:17; 249:20; 253:10; 257:6, 12; 258:5, 12; 268:5; 270:11; 271:4, 7; 273:16; 275:19; 277:11 recal!-and 85:22 recall-1 131:20 receipt 62:23; 63:10 receivables 245:4 receive 45:9; 81:2; 123:15; 175:23; 198:3.6; 209:20; 216:16; 227:25; 228:4; 234:13; 235:5; 251:6; 253:14; 266:14; 269:3 received 33:9; 48:5, 18; 50:15: 107:22; 137:20; 139:20; 141:1; 173:10; 174:25; 175:3; 197:12; 198:21; 199:10; 216:15, 20, 21; 217;5; 227;24; 236:16; 244:15, 16; 249:7; 250:21, 24; 251:3, 11, 16: 267:21:273:13 receiving 110:7; 185:1, 7: 193:14: 209:16: 231:20: 233:9; 234:4; 257:6 receiving-Let's 184:25 receptionists 27:20 Recess 53:9: 86:4; 111:24; 165:22; 220:20; 254:11; 262:9 recognize 170:12; 193:17, 20; 221:25; 222:21; 255:15; 263:1, 18 Recognizing 150:25 recollect 249:13, 14 recollection 31:12; 34:7; 37:14:72:24;91:9;93:12; 106:18; 132:18, 22; 147:5; 152:22; 168:6, 10, 14, 19; 169:10, 14; 171:2; 174:5, 7, 19; 180:10; 192:4, 8; 195:24; 196:3; 207:9; 213:9: 217:4: 233:16; 268:9, 16, 19; 270:6 recollections 31:17: 186-14 recommend 41:1 recommendations 95:24 recommended 40:24; 117:12; 179:18

reconvene 111:25 record 4:10, 25; 6:6, 13; 7:6, 9; 18:5; 19:5, 11, 23; 20:12; 31:3, 10, 14; 37:6, 9, 11; 42:9; 47:19; 51:4, 16, 17, 19, 20, 21; 53:8; 72:2; 74:6; 78:15; 81:20; 82:6; 84:9, 10; 86:3, 5; 89:6: 96:20: 99:22: 100:9. 10; 102:18; 110:10; 111:23; 127:4, 10; 129:19; 130:10; 137:15, 17; 141:20; 145:22, 24, 25; 148:4.6; 149:16; 150:7; 156:22; 157:6, 7, 8; 165:21, 23; 167:16; 171:9; 179:2, 6, 8; 184:8, 10, 14; 192:24; 194:21; 211:22, 24, 25; 213:22; 220:17, 19, 24; 221:15; 226:20; 228:19; 233:22; 235:16, 17; 236:4; 238:10, 11, 16; 254:6, 7; 259:23; 262:8, 10, 16; 267:20; 268:14; 272:1: 276:3 record-for 20:11 record-1 151:8 record-well 226:19 recorded 259:23 records 5:22; 17:21, 21; 97:8; 247:3, 3; 251:21 recourse 223:2, 5, 9, 16, 19: 224:2 recruited 40:8 red 113:22; 151:24 redirect 277:16 redraft 35:16 reduce 215:23 **reduced** 71:17 **Reed** 51:12; 52:12, 16; 53:13, 15, 24; 54:6, 55:11, 13, 19, 21; 56:5, 17; 58:7, 14, 16: 59:4, 7, 11: 64:12, 18, 23; 71:12, 13, 14; 80:15; 81:5; 97:21; 98:10, 12, 21, 24; 99:8, 11; 104:23; 105:15; 109:10: 117:24; 119:13; 120:15; 132:1, 2, 12, 19; 133:4, 5. 24; 135:3; 136:10, 14; 137:7; 138:9, 14; 139:5, 20; 141:2; 148:19; 149:3; 150:21: 151:21: 163:24: 174:3; 180:2 Reed-at 55:1 Reed-to 55:10 Reed-wall 54:25 refer 200:15; 210:4 reference 18:16; 66:8; 166:25; 200:20; 202:23; 213:19; 214:3; 217:10; 219:12:265:5 reference--somebody 195:4 referred 38:1; \$1:22;

180:14, 14

reality 39:1; 135:22

120:19; 126:17; 127:19;

128:24; 185:11; 186:15;

some-164:25 some-my 93:12 somebody 15:15; 53:1; 83:12:97:22:140:3: 148:20: 149:4: 180:1: 189:24; 226:3; 241:10 somebody-1 209:9 someone 58:3; 83:17, 17; 101:13; 123:23; 221:13; 237:22; 244:8 someplace 218:3 something 13:21; 27:21; 30:23; 32:25; 33:19, 20; 34:5; 41:12; 77:15; 98:19; 106:9: 123:24; 152:1; 156:12; 165:11: 170:8; 174:13: 179:3, 24: 190:13. 13; 193:22; 196:11; 210:5, 15; 211:19; 220:1; 235:10: 269:19 Sometime 147:3; 155:6; 270:25

258:7, 9; 261:5; 263:25; ٠٠. اين يا ١Ď Ŭ. **Sometimes** 59:1, 3; sometimes-I'm 120:4

> 68:1; 141:24; 147:24; 149:12 somewhere 54:19: 66:11; 69:25; 89:22; 99:2; 125:24: 127:14: 145:3: 152:5, 6, 19; 155:11, 14

Ĩij.

somewhat 66:24; 67:25;

son 191:8, 12; 199:21 sons 125:19; 147:13; 154:19; 157:15; 158:14 soon 197:3, 8, 17

sorry 9:20: 12:23: 14:7; 15:6; 20:9; 28:11; 31:4; 51:1; 62:3; 64:7; 73:5, 13; 74:1; 76:7; 81:25; 90:25; 95:15; 98:24; 106:4, 8;

108:3; 113:16; 114:23; 120:4, 5, 12; 126:20; 131:20; 132:5; 139:11; 141:17; 147:22; 152:18; 168:7, 9; 171:13; 173:12;

179:1; 181:9; 184:1; 188:9; 191:14; 196:10; 201:3; 205:2; 208:14: 212:6, 22; 215:18; 220:13; 228:7; 232:16, 18; 246:19;

247:12, 16; 249:1; 260:2; 264:12, 13; 265:3; 266:9; 268:12; 271:23; 272:14

sorry-Jackie 70:23 sorry-late 106:21

sort 6:22; 9:7; 33:18; 75:9:89:25:116:12: 133:25; 142:21; 150:1; 162:4; 164:10; 165:13, 14;

191:10; 192:10; 197:11; 202:23, 24; 211:11; 222:18; 231:23; 244:16; 257:12

sound 151:25; 266:12 sounding 135:14; 151:5

sounds 60:12; 187:2; 266:15; 272:12 sounds--to 27:24 source 74:10, 23; 94:10; 106:15; 119:18; 121:18; 122:10: 123:6, 19: 124:25: 125:19; 128:7, 12; 129:2; 134:20, 24; 136:16; 137:8; 140:21, 23; 145:20; 146:9; 180:18; 218:9; 222:14 sources 72:18; 73:14, 17; 78:7, 8, 9; 80:8; 90:11; 93:7; 109:17; 112:14, 25; 113:8; 269:7 space 132:8

**SPAEDER 4:17, 17, 17,** 24; 6:22; 12:17; 14:14; 15:12, 21; 16:19, 25; 17:15; 18:10, 15, 17; 19:1, 10, 22; 20:4, 16, 24; 21:5, 13, 19; 22:2, 10, 17, 23; 23:5, 13, 19, 25; 24:7, 13,

20; 25:1, 7, 13, 20, 25; 26:17; 27:5; 28:2, 22; 29:9; 30:3, 24; 31:24; 32:11, 24; 33:5, 11; 34:1, 15; 35:1, 12, 19; 36:9, 15, 22; 37:5, 18, 24; 38:7, 23; 39:15, 21; 40:2, 22; 41:3, 10, 16;

42:2, 23; 43:5; 44:3, 16; 45:2, 12, 19; 46:5, 11, 17, 23; 47:5, 9, 15, 20, 24, 25; 48:8, 20, 25; 49:6, 12, 19, 25; 50:6, 12, 18; 51:5, 13, 19, 21; 52:21; 53:8, 25;

54:9; 55:4, 15, 25; 56:10, 20, 23; 57:17, 24; 58:11, 18, 24; 59:8, 13, 19, 21; 60:4, 11, 20; 61:2, 9, 15, 21; 62:2, 9, 15, 21; 63:3, 8,

17, 21; 64:3, 6, 8; 66:8, 17; 67:11; 68:3; 72:1, 8; 75:22; **76:2, 23; 77:11; 78:11, 16;** 79:14, 16; 80:13; 81:3;

82:1, 7, 15; 84:1, 4, 6; 86:12; 88:4, 11, 13, 20, 22; 92:17; 95:1, 10, 15, 19; 96:10, 11; 97:2, 24; 98:4; 99:18; 100:3, 21; 101:22;

102:5, 11, 15; 103:3; 104:9; 105:7; 106:3; 107:8, 19; 108:15, 19; 110:1, 4; 111:3, 7, 23;

112:15, 19; 113:1, 2, 9, 14, 24; 115:7, 17, 20; 116:19; 117:2, 14, 21; 118:2, 11;

119:14, 21; 120:24; 121:22; 122:1, 12; 124:2, 7, 10, 20; 125:7; 126:13, 22; 127:9, 17, 22; 128:3, 8, 14, 21; 129:4, 10, 15, 25;

130:4, 11, 16, 22; 131:6; 133:12, 18; 136:17; 137:3, 10; 138:2, 23; 139:1; 142:1; 143:9; 145:25;

148:8, 13; 151:3; 156:20; 157:3; 163:6; 167:12; 168:16; 170:16; 181:2, 4;

184:9; 188:11; 190:7, 12, 19, 22; 193:9; 194:17;

200:8, 13; 206:10; 210:18, 23; 219:25; 220:17; 229:8; 235:18; 253:23; 254:9; 259:10, 17; 264:21; 268:24; 269:20, 22; 276:3; 277:23

Spacder's 19:12; 76:19; 99:22; 102:3

speak 41:17:96:15: 181:17; 182:23; 207:5 **Speaker** 182:3, 22; 183:9

special 4:13: 218:16: 219:14; 236:12, 17, 21; 237:3: 273:22

specific 67:8; 74:19; 84:25; 89:7; 94:3; 140:4; 142:24; 165:19; 167:8; 168:14

specific-1 167:8 specific-this 168:4

specifically 33:12; 52:15, 60:17; 70:13; 101:1; 119:17; 121:11; 124:23; 125:6; 156:1, 7;

176:22; 181:23; 185:2; 188:6; 202:13; 233:2 **specifics** 165:16; 189:18

speculate 32:13: 54:15: 170:11; 188:16; 192:12; 223:2

speculating 14:15, 15; 190:23; 197:22

speculation 32:15: 188:18; 190:24; 216:6; 222:5

spelling 33:18 spend 39:6; 208:6 spending 17:8; 134:11;

246:13; 277:19 spent 13:22; 254:1 spoke 99:8: 100:8, 11;

101:3; 132:19; 133:3; 183:1 spoken 133:5; 150:19

souts 179:18 spread 244:3

spreadsheet 250:1 spring 37:9; 38:6, 6;

39:14: 53:19: 54:6: 55:22: 93:4; 119:1; 120:11; 205:11

square 195:11 squesky 144:12

Sr 262:20 **stable 227:15** 

staff 4:13; 6:20; 7:1, 1; 8:22; 26:7, 14; 27:16, 19; 37:25; 38:1; 39:2, 20; 43:8;

44:22; 50:3; 52:24; 53:4; 56:11, 14; 57:1; 64:21, 24; 68:25; 73:16; 83:3, 10;

90:12, 16; 97:14; 99:6; 109:19, 20; 183:1; 208:1; 249:22: 251:20: 276:14

atage 138:18 stages 145:4 Stalin 75:12 stamp 221:2; 225:16;

stamped 214:17 stamps 226:23

stand 112:5 standard 66:3: 240:18:

252:7.8 standing 19:3; 27:9;

126:8; 149:7 standpoint 178:16

stands 47:23; 176:7; 215:24; 224:15

start 26:3; 39:13; 40:3; 43:2; 45:15; 81:18; 94:21; 104:7; 108:14; 138:13; 184:3

start-up 15:25; 16:5, 9 started 26:15; 43:14; 44:8; 47:23; 92:13; 96:7; 114:6; 162:19

starting 77:12; 107:23; 170:19; 239:6

starts 260:14 state 4:9: 18:4: 22:21: 23:2; 25:10, 17; 50:10;

56:2; 62:13, 19; 63:6; 88:11; 91:19; 129:1, 8; 147:23; 208:20; 220:7;

226:19; 231:23; 233:22 stated 7:4; 15:13; 19:6; 72:2: 77:5: 82:16: 145:9: 154:21

statement 4:21: 6:21: 81:10, 11; 127:2; 232:7; 233:17; 243:24; 244:24;

246:3; 247:23; 248:2, 12; 249:11; 261:4, 11 statements 261:13;

272:21 States 5:18; 9:3; 19:20; 20:22; 21:4, 12; 23:23; 24:5; 49:10, 18; 61:8, 25;

62:7: 63:4. 5: 75:5: 76:21; 91:4; 127:15; 145:21; 146:10; 172:5; 173:5;

180:11: 181:6: 182:21: 185:5; 187:18; 195:11; 230:21; 231:25; 232:1;

248:8: 269:25 states-Well 187:5

stating 20:2 stationery 209:18 status 16:23: 136:22:

146:20; 148:9; 149:23; 275:23

**statute** 233:24; 234:18 **statutes** 233:11 stay 32:21; 46:8; 51:17, 19; 245:21; 246:5, 25

stayed 274:15 steam 211:11

step 197:22 stepped 106:17; 145:12 steps 116:16:117:12:

141:2; 159:15; 219:4, 9;

248:2

Steve 30:6, 15, 16, 17; 31:18: 34:25: 35:4, 4, 5, 18: 103:23, 24: 141:7, 11: 152:8; 153:20, 21; 154:14; 155:17: 162:15: 169:15.

16; 170:9; 185:5; 186:13; 191:3.7.12:199:21: 200:1, 2, 5; 202:18, 19; 211:3, 7, 13, 17, 17, 18;

212:4, 9, 9, 15; 215:14; 221:7: 249:18: 255:17: 262:23

Steve's 213:3

Stevens 221:6 still 8:20; 41:25; 124:10; 146:22; 178:20; 210:10, 19; 247:18; 251:7; 264:5;

273:1; 274:3, 14; 275:18 stint 11:1

stipulate 109:3: 124:25 stipulations 104:15 stop 131:9: 143:9:

161:24; 175:1; 269:12 stopped 150:18 stops 131:6

straight 192:20 stream 175:5 stress 170:10; 253:19

stretches 114:17 strictly 13:15:15:7:

232:12 strident 34:6 strike 26:3; 138:12

strikes 17:18; 269:7 stringy 121:8 strong 113:7

structure 14:5; 17:12; 27:8, 8; 36:5; 43:2; 45:17; 46:10, 15, 22; 123:13; 258:3.5

structured 11:20 struggling 78:18 study 171:24; 172:22;

stuff 164:7; 192:15 stumbling 58:25; 273:7 **sub** 187:5: 191:2

sub-council 159:9 subject 17:22; 18:15; 27:9; 29:20; 41:2; 51:22; 53:16, 17; 54:3; 57:3;

96:24; 99:19; 108:23; 112:10; 133:6; 136:25; 137:12, 23; 161:3; 172:21;

196:24; 220:3; 230:20; 233:1; 265:1 subjects 95:23

submit 28:18 submitted 28:25; 42:12, 15; 166:9

submitting 187:12 subordinates 158:15 subpoena 4:25; 5:23; 17:22; 72:4; 96:12, 20;

roll 206:24 Roman 249:1 Rome 79:24; 80:2; 145:8 room 132:14: 190:6, 10: 201:16; 210:14 rose 77:20 **ROSENBERG 4:14, 14:** 42:13 rough 38:19 rule 6:10 rules 79:5; 125:8; 218:16; 219:14 run 6:8; 26:7; 28:15; 29:7, 11, 17; 153;8; 159;4; 162:1; 177:23; 210:14; 218:18; 247:17; 250:21; 251:13 running 106:20 runa 254:14

## S

S 252:20 said-| 170:6 sake 123:18 sale 83:7 Sam 153:13, 16; 158:25; 159:13; 170:4; 199:17; 201:13 same 9:13; 19:22, 24; 22:10, 17, 23; 23:5, 13, 19, 25; 24:7, 13, 20; 25:1, 7, 13, 20; 35:6; 36:15; 46:11, 17, 23; 47:5, 15, 15; 48:8, 8, 20, 25; 49:6, 12, 19, 25; 50:6, 12; 60:16, 17; 61:2, 9, 15, 21; 62:2, 9, 15, 21; 63:8: 76:17: 79:1, 23: 80:13; 82:3; 83:24; 90:3; 91:7:95:10:100:6, 24: 107:15, 19, 19; 111:6, 25; 113:9; 117:14, 16, 21, 23; 118:2, 2, 2, 5, 11, 11; 126:22; 127:17, 22, 22, 22; 128:3, 3, 8, 8, 14, 14, 21, 21, 21; 129:4, 4, 10, 10; 132:23: 149:2; 184:17, 18. 22; 194:18; 199:17; 201:5 San 185:8 Sanders 70:24, 25; 275:2 Sandy 98:23 Sanford 98:22 sat 28:7 satisfied 13:7; 115:20; 229:14 Saturday 184:7; 185:17; 195:19; 199:16; 201:11, 13 save 14:16; 18:7; 198:20; 214:13 saw 29:2; 32:4, 8; 34:11; 35:17, 20: 168:3, 18: 169:20: 177:12: 203:25: 217:2; 261:2; 275:10

saying 7:25; 14:17; 20:10; 92:3; 133:24; 140:4: 190:16: 197:2: 217:21: 246:7 savs-again 212:3 savs-well 201:8 **scale** 66:23 scaled-down 67:16 scaled-down--1 67:15 scene 188:5 schedule 108:24; 114:18; 156:15; 262:1 scheduled 97:13 scheme 134:9 school 8:18 scientist 122:24 scope 5:13: 6:4; 7:3; 18:13, 24; 41:24; 69:21; 95:3: 233:17 Scott 51:12; 52:12; 53:13; 57:6, 12; 58:3; 64:12; 71:13, 14; 80:15; 97:23; 98:10; 109:10; 117:24; 119:12:120:15; 132:2; 180:2 scrapbook 158:22 seats 160:7; 270:5 second 12:2; 26:4; 31:11; 35:16, 22, 24; 55:1; 57:15; 84:9; 121:14; 132:7; 133:3, 4; 145:23; 171:23; 174:23; 180:8; 194:5, 24; 195:18, 18; 198:12; 199:20; 201:7, 7; 204:4, 17, 21, 23; 209:4; 211:1, 13, 22; 212:2, 8; 217:9; 221:2, 24, 25; 226:8, 25; 227:18, 19; 230:17; 231:22; 234:7, 8; 235:18; 238:10: 242:12, 25: 245:6: 248:7; 256:3; 260:14; 261:11, 14; 262:8, 22, 25; 271:13; 272:13; 273:6, 7, 9.11 second-to-last 176:8 secondly 29:2; 100:13 secretary 9:24; 10:23; 194:7: 209:23: 237:18: 238:8 Secretary-Treasurer 237:14, 15; 238:3 section 241:13: 242:10: 248:8, 25; 252:14 Security 12:8 seeing 151:24; 199:12; 200:10, 12; 239:25 seeking 135:14 seem 89:14; 103:13; 132:15; 133:7; 145:1; 186:1 seemed 123:7 seems 41:12: 42:4: 187:5; 219:22; 232:11, 12; 269:13

segregate 88:7 sell 188:19 sementics 6:24 Senate 5:4, 4: 10:23: 182:21: 183:8: 208:19 Senator 181:7, 11, 13, 20; 182:3, 20; 199:21, 22 Senators 84:22; 182:8 send 92:2: 179:20 sending 71:18; 73:23; 209:10 senior 68:25; 69:3; 83:4; 97:14: 158:16 sense 8:17; 9:1; 75:10; 78:19; 124:23; 133:8; 134:10, 15; 140:4; 163:21; 169:17, 22; 175:20; 180:1; 192:7; 197:18; 211:6; 227:9; 228:9; 257:19 sent 34:25:71:9: 169:18. 19, 25; 204:1; 225:3; 232:25; 265:12; 268:6; 273:16 sentence 108:8: 170:20: 171:23; 179:2; 181:6, 10; 185:4; 191:22; 195:18; 201:7, 8; 204:4; 205:9; 207:19; 208:9, 18; 214:22; 217:9: 232:11: 235:14; 241:24; 242:12; 243:19, 19: 244:18: 245:7: 247:24: 248:8: 257:9: 261:15: 277:1,4 sentences 176:18: 205:25; 226:9; 249:2 Secul 187:20, 23; 188:15; 201:1; 213:19; 272:9 separate 15:4, 23; 132:15; 133:7; 186:23; 187:5; 192:3, 10, 15 separately 109:4; 111:6; 197:19 September 166:6; 180:21; 187:20, 23; 188:15: 191:4: 199:11; 200:21; 201:2; 209:2; 211:9: 212:5; 213:10, 25; 214:2; 216:3; 217:5, 16; 219:21; 226:14; 250:22; 251:12: 267:19: 268:7: 269:6; 272:11; 273:4 sequence 132:25 sequential 240:16 seriatim 20:5; 108:20 series 9:19; 20:2; 39:13; 60:16, 18; 107:21; 108:1; 112:11; 138:24; 150:19; 159:19: 221:18: 263:23 serious 173:25 serve 170:22; 178:10; 179:13; 180:3 served 9:4: 157:12 service 67:2: 175:7: 245:9, 18; 246:6; 248:9; 253:1: 262:2 services 12:7, 9; 242:11; 252:13, 18, 21

**SESSION** 112:1 set 71:1; 156:17; 163:3; 165:6; 182:9; 210:16; 268:22 sets 268:9 several 40:16: 249:25 severe 145:10 shaking 7:25 shaped 165:4 share 158:9 shared 71:8, 10: 73:17; 241:18 shares 241:16 sharing 71:17, 18: 147:20 She-after 98:24 shed 211:20 Shedding 212:2 sheet 201:9; 239:2, 4, 6, 23: 240:8 short 132:25 shorten 225:11 shorthand 63:3 Shortly 69:19; 159:18; 245:3: 270:17 shot 9-16 Show 178:11 showing 213:6 shows 245:8 shuffle-why 260:3 shut 76:3; 77:10; 115:4; 147:15 sic 182:8 side 9:6, 7; 26:11; 104:6, 21, 24; 142:16; 144:22; 150:4: 154:17: 158:15, 16: 162:14: 193:18: 222:24; 241:13; 252:10; 275:16 sides 163:11 Sigmens 76:9 SIG 238:19 SIG-1009 254:14 SIG-19 260:14 SIG-231 238:18, 20; 240:16; 252:10 SIG-25 260:14 SIG-29 260:15 SIG-676 238:17 SIG-683 239:7: 240:7 SIG-782 254:16 SIG-980 254:16: 255:11 SIG-999 254:15 SIG600 222:18 SIG617 221:2 sign 103:16: 164:9 sign-off 65:19 signature 203:13; 209:4; 225:17, 21, 23; 236:19: 238:7: 255:6, 12, 15, 17, 19, 20, 23; 256:1, 17 signed 102:21; 144:7; 163:15, 20; 164:5; 199:1; 266:10

June 30, 1997 Signet 23:8, 15, 22; 32:9; 48:10; 50:14, 22; 53:21; 60:1, 6, 23; 62:23; 63:10. 11:67:2, 18: 103:2: 107:2: 112:9, 12; 116:15, 22; 119:23; 122:20; 159:19; 162:16, 20, 22, 24; 165:5, 10; 166:11; 216:16; 221:6, 13; 223:15, 17; 224:19; 227:25; 242:7; 247:2; 248:20; 249:5, 12, 17 signing 142:18; 145:18; 146:7; 147:3; 167:2; 218:5 similar 60:12; 99:7; 215:3 similarly 149:6; 189:22 **simply 7:5**; 19:4; 161:21; 170:5; 190:16; 235:2; 250:12 simultaneous 192:3, 15 simultaneously 99:10 single 28:11; 109:1; 128:6 sink 116:2 sinks 156:12 siphon 161:15 sit 72:23; 91:6; 105:4; 186:14 site 202:9 sitting 43:13; 69:10; 133:2; 232:6 situation 26:16; 81:13; 148:5; 201:10; 202:1; 274:6 situations 275:25 six 9:13; 38:9; 215:23; 216:5; 236:14; 244:23; 245:1; 265:17; 266:13 six-week 243:22: 244:20 sixth 35:22; 250:2 sixty 152:5 size 38:16; 69:20 skip 256:1: 275:15 **Skipping 173:4: 197:2:** 243:19; 253:4 siated 11:21 slightly 250:24, 25 slipping 79:12, 13 slog 19:6 slowly 254:1 small 9:16; 105:23; 183:10 smooth 30:25 Social 12:8: 158:4: 188:5 soft 270:4, 8, 12 sold 11:18: 155:3 sole 5:6.9 solicit 128:11: 264:9 solicitation 77:19, 25: 91:20:94:11:243:5: 244:8; 249:6 solicited 75:4; 90:20; 91:3, 10, 24

say-199:2

seen→i 238:22

segment 30:25

**soliciting** 44:1, 10; 85:15

solid 37:6

ultimately M

### CONFIDENTIAL

June 30, 1997 to-you 17:8 to-do 202:5, 22; 203:3 today 5:23; 6:19; 7:18; 8:7; 69:10; 72:23; 96:12; 133:2; 134:3; 138:1; 140:15: 168:20: 184:23: 194:16; 251:5; 264:1; 276:8: 277:19 Todd 252:15 together 10:19: 11:2: 26:10; 132:17; 133:9; 166:2; 186:12; 202:2, 6, 16 told 29:17; 70:16; 92:1; 147:18; 150:2; 185:5; 189:24; 233:22 Tom 178:10 tomorrow 185:8 ton 143:20 tone 33:22, 24; 34:7, 12 tone-the 34:7 took 10:8; 23:8; 32:8; 53:11; 70:23, 25; 73:12; 99:5, 7; 107:24; 121:24; **131:11; 132:11, 23; 135:21; 137:6; 140:19;** g 155:6; 161:5; 189:9; 210:9; 212:16; 219:4; 238:2; 244:25; 273:12 top 67:20; 212:13; 250:2 top-level 241:16, 18 topic 33:9; 52:16; 80:7, 16, 17; 85:12; 105:16; 113:12; 118:6; 119:10; 155:19; 157:18; 159:7, 10; 187:24:223:15 topics 156:5 total 38:19; 107:6; 110:19; 250:11, 20, 24, 25; 251:3, 10 totally 220:7 totals 107:17 touchstone 205:14 toward 13:15: 56:24 towards 185:24; 248:7 town 68:8; 156:16 track 28:14: 103:25: 244:14; 252:6; 265:4 tracked 244:17 trade 69:15; 157:17; 172:24; 204:5; 205:25; 206:19 trade-related 189:8 traditional 123:6; 180:18 train 40:13 training 76:11, 11 trains 28:15; 159:4; 177:23 transaction 51:25: 122:4, 7, 20; 133:15; 144:11; 147:3; 166:7; 192:14, 20; 197:8; 198:18, 20; 220:4, 8; 223:21, 23; 228:24; 230:11; 231:14, 19; 232:1, 10; 233:1, 3, 5, 10, 23; 237:9; 239:12, 18;

transactional 166:18: 231:13: 255:4 transactions 108:21, 25; 110:18; 111:3; 269:8 transfer 109:9, 11, 12; 270:16 transferred 52:1: 103:18 transfers 102:10 transition 65:8: 146:22: 148:10, 16: 149:24: 274:24 translate 274:11 transmitted 58:17; 196:8 transmitting 180:5; 249:17 transpired 54:1 transpires 7:18 travel 253:17 **traveled** 253:18 traveling 97:20 travelled 263:5 travelling 156:15 treasurer 237:19 tremendously 211:5 **Trevor 214:7** tried 34:21; 42:3; 94:9; 143:9: 157:15: 263:18 trilateral 157:19: 159:2 trip 118:24; 189:16, 25; 190:2; 271:1, 15, 16; 272:4, 5, 7, 13; 273:3, 6, 7, trooped 163:21 trouble 14:16; 196:15; 207:6; 226:22; 248:14 troubled 34:7; 151:18 true 156:14; 234:9; 244:19 trust 164:13 trusted 149:8 truthful 8:7 try 8:3; 14:5; 32:3, 7; 98:13; 116:17, 23; 123:9; 134:2: 140:18: 142:7: 166:23: 170:15: 175:13;

248:18; 264:24; 272:20

70:22; 80:20; 105:21, 22;

121:23; 122:23; 130:5;

151:14; 153:8; 160:19;

162:1: 182:11: 188:19:

Tung 28:18; 30:18; 31:9;

145:20; 146:9; 149:18, 23

turn 37:11; 58:4; 146:18;

197:25; 202:15; 204:15;

241:12: 249:23: 250:15;

208:2; 226:12; 227:17;

turned 11:25: 146:12;

155:9; 162:14; 163:5;

165:4; 227:13; 244:11;

255:9; 267:16

191:15; 246:1; 251:9;

264:5, 14; 265:8

tune 17:3

Tuesday 106:14

trying 14:21; 26:12;

274:25 turning 13:20; 112:9; 170:14; 212:12; 216:12; 222:17; 226:25; 234:7; 239:21: 241:21: 242:10. 24; 245:6; 247:21; 248:7, 24: 251:23: 255:25: 262:25; 269:24 turnip 121:5 turns 140:19 TV 190:10 twice 11:25; 156:22; 232:24 two 9:5, 11; 10:20; 14:22; 15:2; 28:24; 43:10, 14; 44:7; 56:1; 57:11; 65:3; 70:3, 4; 86:17; 92:21; 95:21; 99:16; 110:17, 22; 112:11; 114:16; 132:19, 23: 135:13: 141:14: 145:13; 148:24; 152:8; 158:12, 17; 161:25; 162:2, 21; 163:22; 164:17, 18; 172:12, 21, 22; 174:20; 180:10, 12; 186:22; 187:4; 205:24; 214:5; 217:12; 218:1; 221:11; 226:9; 230:18; 239:5; 247:23; 250:12: 255:25; 258:21; 259:8; 260:3; 274:11 two-page 167:10: 258:20; 262:17 two-paged 198:24; 203:13; 209:1; 217:11; 230:15 two-part 32:18; 33:9 two-week 212:17 type 78:23; 116:2; 118:15; 182:8; 253:1 typical 175:20; 245:15 typically 58:22; 59:1; 103:9; 175:17; 176:6; 209:24, 25; 210:4; 244:4; 263:6

#### U

U.S 9:10; 21:18, 24; 24:11, 18; 49:24; 61:7: 63:5; 74:15, 17; 77:3; 91:11; 128:2, 6; 142:5; 143:15; 146:17, 22; 147:6, 13, 14, 20, 25; 148:4, 17; 149:24; 157:19; 171:25; 172:17, 20, 23; 215:4; 218:16; 219:14; 229:23 U.S.-China-Taiwan 173:1 U.S.-Taiwan-China 172:14 U.S./China/Taiwan 159:1 **U.S./Taiwan** 157:17 uh 7:25; 8:1 uh-uh 209:21 ultimate 87:17, 19, 22;

133:14: 173:10: 186:19 unanticipated 121:4 unavailable 145:11 unaware 186:6: 259:20 unclear 166:16 uncomfortable 77:7.8 under 5:8, 21; 7:21; 9:24; 28:8; 41:23; 87:13; 90:8; 93:16; 96:12; 97:4; 125:7; 129:13; 130:4; 157:4; 177:6; 187:4; 191:2, 23, 23, 25; 198:7; 203:10; 214:21; 226:3; 237:14; 241:23; 242:24; 247:23; 248:20, 20, 24; 250:24; 253:9, 14; 260:25; 261:13; 264:23 Undergraduate 8:19 underscored 218:20, 20 understandable 8:3 understood 8:4; 15:1; 79:5; 80:21:98:8; 115:8, 9; 137:1; 141:5; 143:14; 146:15; 147:12; 166:24; 179:8; 195:20; 277:2 undertake 232:8: 233:19 undertaken 42:11; 109:21 ម**ndertaking** 229:17, 18 undertook 196:22, 23 underway 13:9, 13; 92:21 unexpectedly 161:15 unfair 170:17 United 5:18; 9:3; 61:8; 62:7; 76:21; 145:21; 146:10; 153:23; 172:4; 182:21; 232:1 **University 8:24, 24** uniess 54:2, 9; 74:20; 76:3; 122:7; 190:9 unofficially 92:8 unquote 116:2 unsigned 236:19 unusual 178:6 up 11:3; 12:2; 17:5, 8; 18:19; 35:25; 36:24; 39:5; 41:2, 4; 55:1; 57:1, 15; 66:4, 24, 25; 67:25; 68:1, 11; 70:19; 73:1, 11; 76:3; 77:10; 81:19, 22; 86:2; 105:25: 114:6; 115:4; 122:18; 126:10; 127:15;

132:7; 135:20; 136:15, 19;

140:18; 147:15; 156:17;

159:6; 160:14, 15; 163:3;

178:11; 179:23; 192:19;

207:5; 210:16; 211:19;

231:14: 232:23: 238:24;

239:3, 11; 241:9; 243:18;

250:12; 258:11; 264:25;

265:1; 270:5; 274:24

upcoming 121:2

214:23; 218:4; 221:1;

166:6; [69:1; 171:14;

updated 249:8 upon 156:14; 269:11 upper 199:9; 240:24 Uranium 9:17 urgency 180:17 urgent 193:1 USA 122:15; 216:14, 20; 222:7; 224:19; 227:23; 230:2, 6, 10; 234:3; 242:12, 16, 19; 270:16 use 39:16; 41:8; 59:1; 78:17:86:8:102:16: 109:13; 123:19; 151:19; 160:6; 167:5; 168:12; 174:7; 208:22; 216:23; 222:8; 227:3; 262:5 used 98:6: 139:6: 142:22: 148:22; 149:7; 151:4, 5; 160:22; 162:24; 183:19; 193:2: 202:22: 205:18: 218:18; 258:25; 262:18; 269:18; 270:4; 276:9, 10, 24 uses 160:18 using 124:18; 125:3; 149:9; 151:1 usuai 94:11 usually 105:16; 210:14 Utah 195:10.11

## V

v 5:18: 249:1

vacant 237:16 value 269:5 Van 70:6; 255:20, 23 variation 125:18 varied 38:15: 39:4: 59:1: 179:15; 244:4 variety 5:21 various 129:13; 179:13; 184:23 various-at 85:13 verbal 156:18 **verbally 233:22** versus 74:11 vetted 150:5, 5 vice 123:21 view 7:2; 18:1; 53:5; 71:2; 73:17; 96:12; 113:6; 178:18 viewed 53:3 views 7:10; 112:13; 157:21; 268:21 violation 214:25; 215:4 Virginia 8:16 virtually 74:10, 23 vision 68:21;71:1 visiting 243:6 visits 243:9, 11 Volcansek 87:1, 2, 6, 13; 88:2, 9, 14; 89:12, 24; 90:8, 20; 91:3, 10, 14, 18, 25; 92:10; 93:7, 15, 22;

257:22; 269:11

130:24; 207:15

telks 219:13; 270:15;

273:5

tank 13:16

tanks 178:16

97:4 subpoenaed 5:21 subpoenas 5:12 Subpoint 187:18: 189:6 subpoints 187:4 subsequent 36:2; 37:16; 80:8; 95:24; 113:11; 239:8; 267:12; 268:11 subsequently 65:5: 182:20 subsidiaries 21:18, 24; 24:11, 18; 49:24; 62:7; 63:5; 76:22; 128:2; 218:17:219:14 subsidiary 61:7:77:3; 91:11; 143:1, 5; 242:13, 17, 21 subsidization 17:4 subsidizing 15:25; 16:4 subsidy 100:14; 101:16, 21:102:1,17 substance 53:23; 134:2; 157:13 substantial 92:23; 135:19 substantially 36:24; 105:15 substantive 33:23 success 91:22, 22; 160:1 successful 66:1; 86:18; 90:17; 92:23; 248:12, 19; 266:23 successor 237:16; 238:1 sufficient 57:14; 175:6; 245:16; 262:2 suggest 177:19; 178:1; 189:6 suggested 237:2; 264:4 suggestion 54:22: 83:15, 19 suggestions 36:3; 180:3; 271:7 summary 116:25; 162:4 summation 249:14 summer 32:5; 119:2; 120:11.23 summer-the 119:1 summit 10:19:11:3 supervised 104:1 supervision 226:3 supervisory 36:17 supplant 190:22 supplied 141:14 support 27:19; 92:24; 181:9. 14: 206:4: 207:21. 23: 208:20 supported 53:5; 89:15; 208:1; 245:12 supporters 183:1 supporting 76:14; 77:10 supportive 182:5 suppose 27:13; 77:6; 167:8; 178:19; 181:17; 247:1; 248:10

إُر

4...

;+--; 5-∵

...

wa.

*[-)* 

ſ.

supposed 13:9; 88:3: 197:19: 249:4, 12, 15: 253:14; 266:14 Supreme 5:15, 21 sure 5:14: 6:25: 7:17; 13:1; 26:1; 32:23; 39:15, 18; 56:12; 65:5; 66:10; 69:24; 72:19; 73:15; 74:3; 76:10; 81:20; 88:20, 24; 98:7; 104:20; 105:14; 114:24; 115:8, 11; 116:17; 124:7, 24; 127:8; 130:2; 132:17; 133:19; 137:13; 140:2; 141:18; 142:10; 143:22: 144:12; 145:1; 146:6: 148:19: 153:22: 158:8; 159:6; 166:23; 178:10; 186:11; 188:18; 190:12; 194:19; 200:6, 8; 211:23; 215:9; 218:1; 220:18; 229:15; 232:19; 234:18; 238:24; 248:16; 253:19: 259:22; 271:1; 273:8; 275:8; 277:17 surfaced 144:5; 258:4 aurplus 116:18 aurprise 6.25; 70:8 surprised 83:11 aurrounding 167:2 suspect 156:18: 251:13: 253:16, 17 suspect-Let 174:6 suspected 253:25 aworn 4:5; 7:21; 112:5 avstem 46:1: 47:2: 75:6. 8, 9, 19, 25; 77:2, 13; 161:12 **systems** 12:9

### T

table 142:16; 158:9, 15; 244:19 Taiwan-China 34:4: 178:17 Taiwan-China--the 34:4 Talwan-U.S 29:19 Taiwan/China 157:19 talk 17:25; 72:12; 92:8; 97:22;98:21, 22; 103:2, 12: 125:11: 127:3: 149:4: 150:24; 151:1; 152:16 talked 64:11:67:15: 68:25: 73:18: 93:25: 119:24; 133:9; 144:3; 148:24; 149:8; 154:14, 14; 156:22: 157:18: 160:16: 173:20; 186:5; 200:6; 215:19; 251:1 talking 44:4; 52:22; 63:18; 66:12; 73:6, 7, 13; 82:24; 133:13, 19; 135:19; 158:10, 10, 14; 174:8; 192:14; 194:18; 200:2; 204:18; 218:2; 237:11; 241:11; 256:3; 272:5

target 37:8; 39:1; 66:5; targeted 74:24; 270:5 task 170:25; 204:5, 10 tasked 44:1; 202:16 tasks 36:21: 162:8 tax 146:13, 14, 18; 175:24 **Taylor 4:18** Team 189:16, 19, 24; 190:2: 191:4: 212:5. 10 technical 158:4; 257:17, technicality 64:10 technically 27:14 Technology 153:23 tecum 97:5 telecopier 225:3 telecopy 225:3 telephone 132:13; 162:19; 236:23, 24; 263:2 telephone-well 236:22 telling 28:23; 200:9; 213:3 ten 243:6, 12; 250:9; 254:5: 256:4 tendered 6:14:8:5: 80:20; 118:10 tentative 163:11; 164:3 tenure 33:8; 46:14, 19. 25: 48:2, 15, 22: 49:2, 8, 14, 21; 50:2, 8; 59:16, 19, 20; 104:4; 210:20 term 37:23; 39:16, 20, 20; 57:7; 73:10; 94:7, 18; 101:25: 102:16, 19: 111:17; 122:25; 123:19; 146:12, 18; 148:22; 151:3. 13, 13; 160:13; 161:17; 216:9, 10, 11; 224:2; 227:3; 228:20, 23; 229:10; 234:17; 252:7 terminated 93:8, 11 terminology 142:2 terms 57:8; 68:11, 24; 71:14, 15; 76:17; 88:3; 92:16; 104:5; 105:12; 134:17; 154:12; 164:11; 220:5; 228:7; 257:20; 274:11 test 152:1 testified 4:6; 39:19; 58:15; 65:21; 67:23; 72:6; 96:17; 99:13; 101:15; 112:6: 120:2: 121:16: 127:13; 131:24; 141:21, 23; 143:7, 10; 145:7; 147:23; 148:8; 162:4; 185:12; 187:15; 198:8, 15; 199:18; 219:9; 220:7; 229:18; 231:3; 232:24; 233:15; 263:25; 266:5 testify 66:18; 96:13, 16;

146:2 58:16: 269:3 testifying 129:24; 184:23 testimonial 142:7 testimony 8:7; 80:22; 81:11, 21; 88:13; 119:17, 19: 121:24; 135:5; 136:23; 172:19: 177:22: 200:13: 231:7; 251:5, 7; 259:14, 22, 22; 269:5 than-l'm 233:2 that'd 246:8 that's-or 206:11 that's-there 52:18 that-end 9:16: 151:18 that-no 87:5 that-or 37:22 that-some 95:23 that-that's 76:12 that-the 37:11 that-we 102:21 that-well 66:22 that-what 253:16 that-you 16:14; 27:13 that?~149-85 253:17 the-es 44:21 the-directing 208:17 the-giving 90:18 the--! 40:19: 101:8; 224:1; 240:25; 249:21 the-if 63:17 the-is 185:16 the-it 60:17; 135:14 the-no 205:20 the-on 105:22 the-or 41:8 the-there 154:5 the-to 25:18 the-well 104:6 the-what 25:22; 89:10 the-which 107:22 the-yes 71:14 the-you 202:5 the-your 71:2 their-from 206:16 theirs 76:12: 150:4 themselves 181:8 then-- 104:22 then-so 99:7 there-following 77:1 there-| 139:11 there.i 226:23 thereafter 256:6 thereby 169:7 Therefore 204:5 they're 12:19; 41:21; 228:8; 240:6; 246:7, 21; they-that 30:21; 43:10 thick 218:3 think-| 51:11 think-My 174:6

thinking 72:16, 20; 79:17; 118:14; 253:7 thinks-that 178:20 third 200:19; 204:3, 15; 215:22; 221:3; 222:3; 225:15; 239:14; 240:25; 255:6; 261:15; 263:8 this-things 165:12 this--was 58:15 those-the 119:7 though 12:22; 14:6; 67:1; 94:22; 119:16; 122:11; 127:5; 132:17; 159:8; 160:22; 264:5; 274:4 thought 11:22: 12:3: 15:1; 34:6, 7, 8; 66:1; 72:25; 130:21; 138:20; 149:18; 151:4, 5; 205:2 thought-end 178:19 thoughts 73:23 thoughts-had 71:16 thousands 153:18 three 9:4: 14:22: 15:2: 92:21: 95:21: 154:16: 164:17, 18; 204:18; 213:25; 221:18; 274:19; 275:4 three-and-a-haif 173:23 three-page 267:18 three-year 173:7; 216:8, 10.11 throughout 96:19: 142:14 thus 41:20 tighter 119:1, 1, 1 till 175:24; 176:3; 247:9; time-at 47:12 time-bear 264:18 time--it 44:8 time-this 197:5 time-marked 193:1 timely 176:4 times 7:7; 15:2, 3; 156:17; 205:16 timing 109:15; 180:8; 249:7, 8; 273:7 title 10:17, 24; 26:21, 24; 43:18; 44:19, 20; 56:8; 99:7; 101:7, 9; 104:20; 274:15 titled 239:9 to-again 197:21 to-could 51:1 to-give 188:20 to-he 165:4 to-1 30:24; 35:25 to--i'm 188:9 to-identified 94:10 to-or 60:8 to-Policy 27:13 to-strike 22:4 to-we 83:2 to-well 108:13

260:20

ři:

126:4, 6, 12, 18; 127:13, 20; 128:1, 6, 11, 17, 25; 129:7, 13: 131:16: 134:21, 25; 141;4, 11; 142;12, 17; 145:19; 146:9, 25; 147:2, 7, 19; 150:11, 16, 25; 151:9; 152:11, 15, 23; 153:19; 154:22; 155:18; 161:3; 169:5; 177:9; 183:22: 184:22: 185:24: 186:12; 189:12; 191:13; 192:25; 194:6; 195:20, 22, 23: 196:7: 198:3. 6: 202:11: 209:5: 212:15: 229:22; 230:4; 253:10, 14; 262:19, 20; 263:2, 9, 16, 21, 24; 264:8; 265:12, 16, 24; 266:2, 6, 8, 12; 268:5, 6; 270:2; 273:15; 274:9 Voicansek's 88:23; 89:20; 90:10; 91:22; 184:17; 193:21; 266:21 Volcansek-this 150:20 Voicansek-Richards 169:3 voluntarily 54:21, 24; 237:21 voluntary 123:19

## W

volunteer 74:20

vote 85:18

**VP 104:19** 

W 183:22: 184:22 wagon 121:5 **wait 175:24 waiting** 63:15 walk 122:23; 123:2, 15; 188:16 Walker 103:23: 162:15: 202:18, 19; 215:14, 15; 221:7; 249:18, 19; 255:17 walking 135:11 wall 83:2; 189:21, 22; 276:9, 24 want-difficult 258:8 wants 19:5; 168:16; 219:20 was-After 237:23 was-As 166:5 was-Beyond 177:12 was-he 13:15 was-his 149:23 was-- 11:10:33:21: 34:19: 101:7: 202:7 was--i've 44:19 was--if 98:25 wee-NPF 74:8 was-that's 120:12 was--Well 249:10 was-with 118:24 Washington 4:18; 7:17; 13:18; 73:3; 153:14; 158:23; 199:16; 214:8;

wasn't-it 9:20 waste 123:4 water 233:13 waterfront 84:2 Watkins 5:18 way 19:2, 6; 20:1, 10; 26:10; 32:7; 34:5; 41:10; 48:5, 18; 69:18; 84:23; 104:2: 108:6: 111:14: 123:8, 10, 15; 124:9; 131:7,8; 135:24; 136:25; 137:11; 143:22; 157:22; 159:14; 165:9, 11, 11; 166:24; 171:3; 174:12; 180:15; 181:21; 189:17; 190:22, 23; 195:13, 24; 212:14; 213:7; 226:16; 228:20; 232:10, 11, 20; 242:19; 247:7; 252:5; 254:9; 260:25; 276:16 way"-it's 218:20 way-as 90:5 way-he 13:14 way-that 90:5 **way-took** 99:6 ways 73:13; 102:17; 150:17; 189:13 wayside 173:24 we-and 162:20 We-G.E.-my-the 11:17 we-1 174:14 we-well 75:1 wealthy 146:16 Weepons 9:24; 10:25 Wednesday 262:21 week 155:13; 163:22; 180-17 **weekend** 106:13, 20 weeldy 97:15, 19; 105:14; 163:24 weeks 14:22; 26:10; 38:9; 40:16; 42:12; 57:11; 114:16; 161:25; 162:2; 180:10; 244:23; 245:1 Weinberger 10:23 Weinberger-and 9:24 welcomed 76:16 **welfare 34:20** vzere-i 74:22; 123:17 were-there 95:20 were-we 123:17 were-What 250:9 weren't 86:9, 18; 132:17; 133:19; 177:23; 179:17; 210:7: 236:22: 276:19 what's 13:19; 95:16; 160:9; 168:18; 180:10; 196:21: 199:13: 235:9, 12; 239:25; 269:15

What--excuse 121:14

whenever 92:13; 98:25;

whatsoever 128:13;

125:25; 126:13; 137:5

129:2

Whereupon 4:2; 111:24; 112:3 Wherever 132:11; 272:9 whether-he 45:5 which-we'll 99:22 whichever 8:14: 192:1 White 10:19:11:4: 171:19; 184:4; 185:7, 23; 186:2, 9, 15; 195:21; 196:1, 7; 197:23 **Whitney** 153:23; 155:1 whole 39:8; 73:2; 143:19; 144:10: 153:9: 268:2 whole-have 41:18 whole-I'm 41:17 wholly 143:5 wholly-owned 242:13, 16, 21 whomever 133:3 whose 79:18; 218:15 why-1 260:1 why-that's 125:5 wide 178:9; 179:22, 22 Wiegers 65:4, 7; 67:24 wife 154:9 willing 111:18; 159:17; 181:25 win 171:4, 18 window 152:5 wish 39:12: 124:10 with-i.e 172:14 with-vou 17:5 within 6:3, 4; 7:2; 10:15; 12:4; 27:2; 36:25; 37:14; 40:16; 63:17, 18; 169:17; 172:1, 6, 9; 177:18; 228:25; 243:22; 248:8; 251:14; 259:18 without 116:6; 125:4; 148:25; 162:2; 165:13; 221:20:274:15 without-You 246:16 WITNESS 4:8, 19: 5:20: 6:7, 12, 17; 12:18, 23; 14:18: 15:13, 22; 16:20; 17:1, 16, 23; 18:5; 19:8; 26:18; 27:12; 28:3, 23; 29:10: 30:4; 31:4, 25; 32:12; 33:2, 12; 34:2, 16; 35:2, 13, 20; 36:10, 16, 23. 37:6, 20, 25; 38:8, 25; 39:16; 40:3, 23; 41:4; 43:8; 44:11, 18; 45:3, 20; 50:20; 51:7, 22, 24; 52:22; 53:25; 54:11; 55:8, 16; 56:11, 22; 57:18, 25; 58:12, 19, 25; 59:9, 14, 21; 63:15, 20, 23; 64:7, 9; 66:21; 67:13; 68:5; 73:7; 74:7; 75:16, 25: 76:24; 77:16; 78:17; 79:15, 20; 81:8; 83:1, 22; 84:8: 86:14; 88:18, 21; 89:3, 7; 92:19; 94:18; 95:2, 20; 96:12; 98:3; 100:11; 102:9, 13, 20; 103:7; 104:12: 105:9: 106:4:

107:9-108:22:111:4, 20, 22; 112:20; 113:2; 114:1; 115:8, 10, 19, 21; 117:3; 119:24; 121:1; 122:23; 124:11, 14; 127:3; 130:3, 14, 17; 133:12, 17; 137:1, 14; 138;3; 146:1, 3; 151:4; 160:15; 163:8; 168:21; 171:10; 188:10; 190:7, 11, 18; 191:19; 193:8, 12; 194:12, 20: 199:7; 200:11, 17; 203:19; 204:25; 205:6, 7; 206:13; 207:8, 17; 214:12, 13; 219:7; 220:1, 4; 225:9; 229:11; 230:25; 235:19; 269:1, 12 wonder 254:2 wondering 155:14; 162:6 Wood 194:7, 8, 15, 24, 25: 195:7.9 Wood's 195:13 word 59:1: 65:23; 78:18; 151:3, 5, 19; 152:14; 161:14; 174:8; 180:25; 258:8 word-vour 58:25 Worded 180:15 words 33:17; 102:20; 136:20; 143:8; 168:8, 11; 169:9; 170:13, 15; 175:16; 181:11; 183:25; 192:16; 197:2, 16; 216:23; 222:24; 240:23: 245:24 wore 120:11, 23 work 11:4, 12; 45:11; 65:17, 22, 24; 68:9; 76:13; 87:10: 89:19: 149:7: 159:24; 162:21; 164:13; 166:11; 176:10; 186:4; 196:19, 24; 201:10; 205:17: 207:24; 231:13; 233:17; 264:6, 17; 266:17 worked 5:1:9:21:11:7: 26:8, 10; 27:15; 44:21; 59:7; 79:22; 98:17; 104:12, 18; 117:25; 275:24 working 104:24; 107:11; 149:22; 166:8; 186:12; 210:3. 9. 10. 19; 273:19 works 109:6; 185:8 world 13:19; 213:20 world's 78:12 **Warries** 119:5 **worry 150:6; 164:7** worrying 143:4 worth 90:18: 147:13: 152:16; 266:21 would-he 182:1 would-we'd 92:8 wouldn't-176:15 write 30:7; 154:21; 259:8 writes 211:2: 212:14; 213:2, 18; 227:22 writing 35:17; 40:12;

71:1, 17; 95:25; 156:19,

writings 96:2; 224:10 written 92:2, 6; 156:11; 166:1; 207:12; 208:16; 265:18, 25; 269:6; 277:8, wrong 31:11; 159:3; 182:25; 266:4, 9 wrong-166:12 wrote 191:14: 208:15: 244:9

21, 22; 169:1; 170:8;

186:9; 224:10, 13; 225:19;

226:17; 246:21; 265:23

#### X

x 105:18 X-Y 179:21

Y y 105:18 YBD 162:13; 169:12; 177:11; 196:23; 215:1, 24; 216:14, 20; 227:22; 242:12, 14, 19 Yeah 130:14; 142:24; 144:8; 194:11; 200:11; 201:5; 203:7; 204:25; 211:12; 261:24; 274:17 vear 9:16, 18: 10:10: 32:16; 99:3; 118:19; 175:23; 213:3; 265:11 year-Haley 264:19 veer-end-a-half 9:20 years 9:5, 5, 11, 13; 87:8; 216:14: 227:23 you're-i 124:6 you-during 46:13 you-just 121:10 you-talking 121:17 you-that 28:7 you-well 26:3 you-what 17:12 Young 18:3, 12; 23:9; 28:18; 29:25; 30:15, 18; 31:9, 19, 21, 22; 34:5, 25; 35:4, 17; 48:10; 54:2; 116:21; 117:4, 9, 17; 121:25; 122:3, 6, 9, 11, 14, 18, 19, 19; 124:3, 15, 20, 23: 125:1, 6, 11, 13, 14, 17, 19; 126:1, 2, 15, 19; 127:1, 3; 129:16, 21; 130:12, 18, 25; 131:2, 13; 133:14; 134:18, 18, 20, 21, 24, 24; 135:9; 136:15, 15, 18, 19, 23; 137:9, 21, 23, 24; 138:5, 11, 16, 16; 139:6, 9, 12, 14, 15; 140:1, 9, 16, 22; 141:3, 6, 6, 7, 12, 12, 21, 23; 142:5, 14, 19, 19, 21; 143:12, 12; 144:1, 6, 19; 145:20; 146:7, 10; 147:6, 10, 19, 24; 148:17;