1	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
2	FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
3 4	SPRING STREET COURTHOUSE
5	DEPT 10 HON. WILLIAM H. HIGHBERGER, JUDGE PRESIDING
6	
7	SANTA BARBARA CHANNELKEEPER, A )
	CALIFORNIA NON-PROFIT CORPORATION, )
8	
9	PLAINTIFF, )
5	V. ) NO. 19STCP01176
10	)
	STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD,)
11	ET AL.,
12	DEFENDANTS. )
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15 16	
ΤŪ	REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
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	MONDAY, JULY 19, 2021, 3:00 P.M.
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<i> '</i>	ALEXANDER T. JOKO, CSR NO. 12272
28	COURT REPORTER PRO TEM

1 2	IN-PERSON APPEARANCES OF COUNSEL:
3	FOR CITY OF VENTURA:
4	BEST BEST & KRIEGER LLP BY: SHAWN D. HAGERTY
5	CHRISTOPHER M. PISANO 300 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE, 25TH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90071
6 7	
8	FOR WOOD-CLAEYSSENS FOUNDATION:
9	BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK BY: BRADLEY J. HERREMA 2049 CENTURY PARK EAST
10	SUITE 3550 LOS ANGELES, CA 90067
11 12	
13 14	REMOTE LA COURT CONNECT APPEARANCES OF COUNSEL:
15	FOR STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD:
16	OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BY: MARC N. MELNICK
17 18	FOR CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE:
19 20	OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL BY: NOAH GOLDEN-KRASNER
20 21 22	FOR THE CITY OF OJAI: BARTKIEWICZ, KRONICK & SHANAAN BY: HOLLY JACOBSON
23 24 25	FOR CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT: RUTAN & TUCKER, LLP BY: DOUGLAS DENNINGTON
26 27 28	

APPEARANCES (CONTINUED): 1 2 FOR CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION: 3 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BY: SOPHIE WENZLAU 4 5 FOR SANTA BARBARA CHANNELKEEPER: 6 BROWNSTEIN HYATT FARBER SCHRECK, LLP 7 BY: SCOTT S. SLATER 8 FOR THE THACHER SCHOOL: 9 MUSICK, PEELER & GARRETT LLP BY: GREGORY J. PATTERSON 10 11 FOR JEFFREY S. BACON: 12 ALLEN MATKINS BY: DAVID L. OSIAS 13 ALSO PRESENT: 14 LOA E. BLISS 15 CLAUDE R. BAGGERLY ANDREW K. WHITMAN 16 GREGG GARRISON 17 18 19 20 21 2.2 23 24 25 26 27 28

1	INDEX
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1 CASE NUMBER: 19STCP01176 1 2 SANTA BARBARA CHANNELKEEPERS CASE NAME: 3 VS. STATE WATER RESOURCES 4 CONTROL BOARD, ET AL. 5 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA MONDAY, JULY 19, 2021 JUDGE WILLIAM H. HIGHBERGER 6 DEPARTMENT 10 7 APPEARANCES: (AS HERETOFORE NOTED.) 8 REPORTER: ALEXANDER JOKO, CSR NO. 12272 9 TIME: 3:00 P.M. 10 11 (THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDINGS WERE HELD 12 IN OPEN COURT:) 13 THE COURT: WE'RE ON THE RECORD IN 14 15 19STCP01176, SANTA BARBARA CHANNELKEEPER VERSUS STATE 16 WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD. 17 AND WE HAVE SEVERAL THINGS ON CALENDAR. 18 THE FIRST THING I'M GOING TO DEAL WITH IS THE CONTINUED 19 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE REGARDING THE CITY OF SAN 20 BUENAVENTURA'S REQUEST FOR AUTHORITY TO SERVE CERTAIN 21 CROSS-DEFENDANTS VIA PUBLICATION. IT'S BEEN TRAILED TO 22 TODAY. AND I NOW HAVE A SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF 23 MS. MARNIE PROCK FILED JULY 15TH AND A SECOND 24 SUPPLEMENTAL DECLARATION OF MS. PROCK FILED JULY 16 25 HAVING TO DO WITH EFFORTS MADE TO GIVE ADVANCE NOTICE 26 OF THIS ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE TO A LIST OF 44 PERSONS 27 VARIOUSLY DESCRIBED AS PERSONS EVADING SERVICE, PERSONS 28 LIVING IN A GATED OR FENCED LOCATION THAT PUTS THEM

BEYOND THE PRACTICAL REACH OF A PROCESS SERVER AND THE 1 2 FOUR PERSONS IDENTIFIED AS DECEASED WITH, AT LEAST AT 3 THIS JUNCTURE, NO KNOWN SUCCESSOR. 4 IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE CITY HAS 5 NOW RECEIVED SOME RESPONSE FROM THE 28TH PERSON LISTED, RONALD L. R. HILL, SUED AS TRUSTEE OF THE R&D HILL 6 7 FAMILY TRUST SUCH THAT YOU WISH TO HAVE THE NAME 8 DELETED FROM THE PROPOSED ORDER. 9 CORRECT, MR. PISANO? 10 MR. PISANO: CORRECT, YOUR HONOR. 11 THE COURT: WE HAD A MORE EXTENDED DISCUSSION OF SOME OF THE LIMITATIONS IN THE ORIGINAL ORGANIZATION 12 13 OF THE PAPERS AND THE DILIGENCE EFFORTS, BUT I BELIEVE 14 MS. PROCK, WITH YOUR SUPERVISION, HAS ADDRESSED ALL OF 15 THOSE. 16 AS AN OFFICER OF THE COURT, ARE YOU 17 SATISFIED AT THIS TIME THAT YOU HAVE MADE A PROPER 18 SHOWING AS TO THE OTHER 43? 19 MR. PISANO: YES, YOUR HONOR. 20 THE COURT: ANYBODY WISH TO BE HEARD TO OPPOSE 21 THE ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE REGARDING SERVICE OF PUBLICATION OF THESE 43 PERSONS NET OF MR. HILL WHO HAS 22 23 BEEN ELIMINATED FROM THE LIST? 24 HEARING NO OBJECTION, THE ORDER IS 25 I'VE SIGNED THE ORDER. WE'LL GET IT FILED GRANTED. 26 AND CONFORMED, AND YOU CAN PROCEED ACCORDINGLY. 27 IT'S MY UNDERSTANDING THAT YOU STILL HAVE 28 PROBABLY A HALF DOZEN OR LESS ADDITIONAL NAMES,

INCLUDING, PERHAPS, WHEN YOU FIND WHO YOU BELIEVE TO BE
 THE HEIRS OF THE FOUR PEOPLE, HOW YOU ADD THEM IN AS
 ROES AND THEN TRY TO SERVE THEM IF YOU CAN'T FIND
 BETTER CONTACT INFORMATION?

5

MR. PISANO: THAT'S CORRECT, YOUR HONOR.

3

6 THE COURT: OKAY. SO WE'RE ON FOR A STATUS 7 CONFERENCE, AND WE ALSO HAVE MOTION PRACTICE REGARDING 8 THE PHASING AND SEQUENCING AND TIMING OF DISCOVERY AND 9 THE RESETTING OF MR. CLAUDE BAGGERLY'S MOTION FOR THE 10 APPOINTMENT OF A COURT-APPOINTED EXPERT.

AND I ALSO HAVE NOW RECEIVED, BUT CANDIDLY HAVEN'T HAD A CHANCE TO DO MORE THAN BARELY SCRATCH THE SERVICE, THE 91-PAGE DRAFT OF A STIPULATED PHYSICAL SOLUTION AND JUDGMENT WITH THE VOLUMINOUS ATTACHMENTS CLEARLY MARKED "DRAFT" AND WITH CERTAIN PROPOSED FINDINGS REDACTED PURSUANT TO THE ORDER OF THE COURT.

AND I AM AWARE THAT, SINCE THAT WAS LODGED ON OR ABOUT JULY 12TH, VARIOUS OBJECTIONS THERETO AND PERHAPS RESPONSE TO THE OBJECTIONS HAVE COME IN.

I HAVE NOT ATTEMPTED TO ORGANIZE THEM.
AND I CERTAINLY HAVE NOT EVEN ATTEMPTED TO READ EVERY
ONE OF THEM. SO THAT'S HOMEWORK FOR ME IN THE NOT TOO
DISTANT FUTURE.

I'M ALSO AWARE THAT THERE WERE OBJECTIONS
TO THE DRAFT PHYSICAL SOLUTION WHICH WERE LODGED AND
FILED PRIOR TO JULY 12TH BY PARTIES WHO WERE THEN

INFORMED OF ITS CONTENTS BEFORE THE COURT GOT IT AND, 1 2 THEREFORE, SAW FIT TO SUBMIT TO THE COURT OBJECTIONS. 3 I HAVEN'T ATTEMPTED TO GET THOSE TOGETHER; BUT AT SOME 4 POINT, I'LL WANT THE CITY OF VENTURA'S HELP IN 5 ORGANIZING PAPERWORK OF EITHER WHAT I'M IN RECEIPT OF OR WHAT CAN BE GENERATED SO I HAVE A FULL SET OF THE 6 7 OBJECTIONS WHETHER THEY'RE EARLIER THAN JULY 12TH OR 8 POST JULY 12TH WHEN MY FORMAT REQUIREMENT WAS IMPOSED 9 WHEREAS, PRIOR TO JULY 12TH, THERE WAS NO EXPRESSED 10 FORMAT REOUIREMENT.

11 COUNSEL FOR THE STATE, ANY PROGRESS ON 12 GETTING YOUR MODELING OUT OR PROMISES THAT YOUR 13 CONTRACTOR WILL REALLY, REALLY, REALLY GET US SOMETHING 14 BEFORE LABOR DAY?

MR. MELNICK: YOUR HONOR, MARK MELNICK FROMTHE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE.

17 I HAVE PERIODICALLY CHECKED IN WITH MY
18 FOLKS, AND THEY STILL ASSURE ME THEY'RE ON TRACK FOR
19 THE MIDDLE OF AUGUST. SO IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE EARLIER
20 OR LATER, BUT AUGUST SEEMS VERY REAL.

THE COURT: OKAY. HERE'S HOPING. IT SEEMS TO BE IMPORTANT. IT'S DESCRIBED AS IMPORTANT. AND IF IT IS AS IMPORTANT AS YOU DESCRIBE IT TO ME, THEN IT'S ESSENTIAL THAT IT BE SHARED WITH THE PARTIES AND THE COURT JUST AS SOON AS POSSIBLE FOR OBVIOUS REASONS, MR. MELNICK.

27 MR. MELNICK: YES, I COMPLETELY AGREE, YOUR28 HONOR.

THE COURT: OKAY. STAYING WITH STATUS 1 2 CONFERENCE ISSUES. I CONGRATULATE THE CITY OF 3 SAN BUENAVENTURA THAT YOU HAVE MANAGED TO SUBMIT A 4 LARGE NUMBER OF DEFAULTS, MANY OF WHICH HAVE BEEN 5 PROCESSED IN THE ORDINARY COURSE. AND DEFAULTS HAVE TO BE PRETTY MUCH LETTER PERFECT. SO, APPARENTLY, YOUR 6 7 STAFF IS GETTING PRETTY GOOD AT DOING THE PAPERWORK. 8 AND I HAVE NOT HEARD ANY COMPLAINTS FROM MANAGEMENT. 9 AND I ASSUME THAT IF WE WERE GIVEN A BUNCH OF BAD 10 PAPERWORK, THEY WOULD COME TO ME AND CRY ON MY 11 SHOULDER. 12 IS THERE ANYTHING MORE YOU WANT ME TO 13 TEND TO OR JUST BE PASSIVE WHILE YOU WORK WITH THE 14 CLERK'S OFFICE ON THE DEFAULTS? 15 MR. HAGERTY: SHAWN HAGERTY FOR THE CITY OF 16 SAN BUENAVENTURA. 17 WE HAVE A GOOD SYSTEM IN PLACE, AND WE'RE 18 WORKING THROUGH THE DEFAULTS. AND IF THERE ARE ANY 19 ISSUES, WE'LL, OF COURSE, LET THE COURT KNOW. BUT WE 20 BELIEVE WE'LL CONTINUE TO PROCESS THEM AS THEY HAVE 21 BEEN DONE, AND WE HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFUL AS THE COURT HAS 22 NOTED. 23 THE COURT: WHAT ELSE DO YOU WANT TO DISCUSS 24 SPECIFIC TO THE STATUS CONFERENCE, MR. HAGERTY, 25 RECOGNIZING THAT WE HAVE TO TALK ABOUT THE DISCOVERY 26 SCHEDULING AND WE HAVE TO TALK ABOUT MR. BAGGERLY'S 27 MOTION? 28 MR. HAGERTY: YOUR HONOR, I DON'T THINK

THERE'S MUCH. MAYBE TWO ISSUES JUST TO -- WE WANT TO 1 2 LET THE COURT KNOW AND THE PARTIES KNOW, WHEN WE WERE 3 HERE ON THE 6TH, WE HAD MENTIONED WE WERE PUTTING 4 TOGETHER A MAP THAT WOULD SHOW WHERE ALL OF THE PARTIES 5 WHO HAVE APPEARED ARE LOCATED. WE HAVE THAT -- YOU KNOW, IT'S IN DRAFT FORM RIGHT NOW. WE HOPE TO HAVE 6 7 THAT IN ABOUT A WEEK OR SO, AND WE WILL LET THE PARTIES 8 KNOW. WE'LL POST IT ON THE WEBSITE.

9 AND SO AT LEAST THE PARTIES CAN SEE, FOR 10 THE PARTIES WHO HAVE APPEARED, WHO IS IN THE SAME BASIN 11 WITH THEM. AND THEY CAN HAVE SOME DISCUSSION, BUT THAT 12 WILL BE -- THAT SHOULD BE DONE SOON, YOUR HONOR. AND 13 WE'LL LET THE PARTIES AND THE COURT KNOW ABOUT THAT. 14 AND THEN I THINK THE ONLY OTHER ISSUE --15 WILL THAT BE A SINGLE MAP THAT THE COURT: 16 WOULD BE UPLOADED TO PDF OR WOULD IT BE A LINK TO A 17 WEBSITE WITH MULTIPLE MAPS OR SUBMAPS TO REFLECT THE 18 LEVEL OF DETAIL THAT YOU'VE GOT TO SHOVE ON THE MAP? 19 MR. HAGERTY: IT'S A SINGLE MAP, YOUR HONOR; BUT I THINK IT'S USEABLE. WE'LL MAKE SURE IT'S -- YOU 20 21 KNOW, PEOPLE CAN GO AND SEE, OKAY, IF I'M IN THE UPPER 22 OJAI BASIN, THERE ARE X-NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO HAVE 23 APPEARED AND HERE'S WHERE THEY ARE AND HERE'S WHO THEY 24 ARE. 25 SO WE UNDERSTOOD --26 THE COURT: HOPEFULLY NAME AND APN WILL SHOW FOR A GIVEN PERSON. 27 28 MR. HAGERTY: I THINK THAT'S HOW IT'S DONE,

YOUR HONOR. 1

2 AT LEAST THE FACT THAT THOSE PARTIES WHO 3 HAVE APPEARED WHO ARE ADJACENT TO OTHER PARTIES CAN --4 THAT INFORMATION WILL BE DISPLAYED FOR THEM.

5

THE COURT: CONTINUE.

6 MR. HAGERTY: I THINK THE ONLY OTHER ISSUE FOR 7 STATUS CONFERENCE PURPOSES, YOUR HONOR, THAT WAS 8 PENDING WAS JUST CLARIFICATION ON THE INITIAL 9 DISCLOSURES.

10 WE'VE INDICATED IN OUR STATUS CONFERENCE 11 REPORT THAT WE BELIEVE IT'S APPROPRIATE TO EXTEND THE COURT'S EXISTING ORDER THAT ONLY CURRENTLY APPLIES TO 12 13 THE PARTIES WHO HAVE STIPULATED TO ANY PARTY WHO CLAIMS TO BE DE MINIMIS. WE THINK THAT'S APPROPRIATE. 14 WE CAN 15 DEAL WITH THESE ISSUES IF WE NEED TO AFTER PHASE 1. 16 AND CERTAINLY THAT WOULD BE OUR REQUEST TO THE COURT.

17 THE COURT: WELL, SOME PEOPLE OPPOSED --18 PARTICULARLY THE STATE, AS I RECOLLECT, OPPOSED YOUR 19 REQUEST TO HAVE IT APPLY TO THOSE WHO STIPULATED.

20 MR. MELNICK, WOULD THE STATE OPPOSE 21 LETTING THE DE MINIMIS PEOPLE WAIT UNTIL MARCH 1 OF 22 2022 BEFORE I GO BACK AND ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF WHAT, 23 IF ANY, DISCLOSURES WE NEED AS OF MARCH 1 OF 2022?

24 MR. MELNICK: WE DON'T HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO I MEAN, I THINK IT'S BETTER TO TREAT ALL THE 25 THAT. 26 DE MINIMIS USERS THE SAME RATHER THAN JUST THOSE THAT 27 STIPULATED. SO WE'RE AGREEABLE TO THAT CHANGE. 28

THE COURT: THANK YOU.

8 IS THERE ANYBODY ELSE WHO IS 1 2 PARTICIPATING TODAY WHO WANTS TO BE HEARD AS TO WHY I 3 SHOULDN'T EXTEND THE DELAY IN PROVIDING INITIAL 4 DISCLOSURES BEYOND THOSE WHO SIGNED FORMAL STIPULATIONS 5 FOR JUDGMENT TO BE ALSO INCLUSIVE OF ANYBODY ELSE WHO 6 CLAIMED TO BE A DE MINIMIS USER? 7 IF SO, PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND THE 8 PARTY YOU REPRESENT AND GIVE ME THE REASONS WHY YOU 9 OPPOSE MR. HAGERTY'S REQUEST? 10 FOR THE RECORD, AFTER A SUBSTANTIAL PAUSE 11 TO ALLOW PEOPLE TO SPEAK UP VIRTUALLY, THERE'S BEEN NO 12 RESPONSE. AND, THEREFORE, I ASSUME THERE'S NO 13 OBJECTION. AND I WILL, THEREFORE, MAKE THE REQUESTED 14 ORDER. 15 AND YOU'RE TO GIVE NOTICE OF THE SAME, 16 MR. HAGERTY, FOR THE CITY OF SAN BUENAVENTURA. 17 MR. HAGERTY: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR. WILL DO. 18 THE COURT: LET'S TURN TO MR. BAGGERLY'S 19 RENEWED MOTION. 20 MR. BAGGERLY: I'M HERE, YOUR HONOR. 21 THE COURT: I STILL NEED TO MAKE SOME PRELIMINARY COMMENTS, BUT I'M GLAD TO KNOW YOU ARE WITH 22 23 US, MR. BAGGERLY. 24 MR. BAGGERLY: THE ALTERNATIVE IS NOT 25 FAVORABLE. 26 THE COURT: SO THE STATE OF THE PAPERWORK ISN'T PERFECT, BUT I'M GOING TO TRY TO DEAL WITH THIS 27 28 ON ITS MERITS AND NOT GET HUNG UP A SECOND TIME AROUND

WITH THE DEFECTIVENESS OF THE PAPERWORK. 1 2 THE FIRST TIME AROUND, MR. BAGGERLY --3 WHO IS APPARENTLY A SOPHISTICATED MAN WHO SAT ON ONE OF 4 THE RELEVANT WATER BOARDS THAT IS INVOLVED IN THIS 5 CASE. SO HE'S, OBVIOUSLY, A MAN OF SOME INTELLECT AND RESPONSIBILITY. BUT AS BEST AS I UNDERSTAND, HE DIDN'T 6 7 GO TO LAW SCHOOL OR TAKE THE BAR EXAM SO THAT HIS 8 PAPERS ARE PERHAPS NOT A MODEL OF TIDINESS IS 9 UNDERSTANDABLE. 10 THE FIRST TIME AROUND, THERE WAS A MOTION 11 SERVED AND NOT FILED. 12 THIS TIME AROUND, THERE'S A MOTION THAT 13 GOT FILED. BUT THE MOTION THAT GOT FILED WAS ONLY THREE OF THE 12 PAGES OF THE MOTION THAT WAS ORIGINALLY 14 15 SO IT'S A VERY INCOMPLETE VERSION OF THE SERVED. 16 MOTION. 17 I WILL ASK THE CLERK TO FILE, NUNC PRO 18 TUNC, THE AS-SERVED VERSION OF MR. BAGGERLY'S MOTION 19 FROM MAY 10 UNDER THE DATE OF JUNE 23, THE DAY HIS 20 MOTION WAS FILED INCOMPLETELY. 21 WE GOT MR. BAGGERLY'S FEES, SO IT'S NOT A 22 MATTER OF SQUEEZING HIM FOR \$60; BUT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN 23 NICE IF YOU FILED A COMPLETE SET OF YOUR PAPERS, 24 MR. BAGGERLY, AND NOT AN INCOMPLETE VERSION OF THEM. 25 MR. BAGGERLY: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR. 26 I DID GET A CONFIRMATION REPORT FROM THE FAX MACHINE THAT I USED, AND IT SAID 12 PAGES. 27 SO I 28 DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED.

ANYWAY, WE CAN FIX THAT. 1 THE COURT: 2 SO THEN VARIOUS OPPOSITIONS HAVE BEEN 3 FILED, MANY AS TO THE ORIGINAL SERVICE OF A MOTION 4 WHICH MR. BAGGERLY HOPED TO PUT ON CALENDAR ON JUNE 21, 5 BUT I REFUSED TO RECOGNIZE BECAUSE THE CLERICAL STEPS HADN'T BEEN TAKEN. BUT VARIOUS OPPOSITIONS WERE FILED 6 7 BY THE STATE AND BY THE CITY OF SAN BUENAVENTURA ON 8 JUNE 1 AND BY VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT AND MEINERS 9 OAKS WATER DISTRICT ON JUNE 2. 10 BUT THEN WE ALSO, AFTER THE MOTION WAS --11 NOT REFILED, BUT FILED ON JUNE 23, ALBEIT INCOMPLETELY, 12 I'VE GOT A FILED SUPPLEMENTAL OPPOSITION FROM THE CITY 13 OF SAN BUENAVENTURA. 14 AND THEN I HAD THE BENEFIT OF 15 MR. BAGGERLY'S REPLY AS TO THE ORIGINAL OPPOSITION, IN 16 WHICH CASE THAT WAS A REPLY FILED BY MR. BAGGERLY ON 17 JUNE 11. 18 AND THEN SINCE THE MOTION WAS ACTUALLY 19 FILED WITH THE CLERK, I GOT SOME PAPERWORK IN FROM A 20 GREGG GARRISON REPRESENTING HIMSELF AND WHAT I INFER TO 21 BE HIS SPOUSE. MR. GARRISON DOES APPEAR TO BE A 22 LAWYER. HE HAS A STATE BAR NUMBER, BUT HIS PAPERWORK 23 SERVED ON JULY 8 STYLED AS CROSS-DEFENDANTS, ROSANNA 24 GARRISON AND GREGG GARRISON, OBJECTIONS TO LODGEMENT OF 25 THE PROPOSED PHYSICAL SOLUTION AND JUDGMENT AND SUPPORT 26 FOR COURT-APPOINTED SCIENTIFIC EXPERT WAS NEVER FILED 27 WITH THE CLERK OF COURT. 28 AND THE SAME CAN BE SAID FOR A DOCUMENT

SERVED ON JULY 9 BY MR. GARRISON, AGAIN, BUT NEVER
 FILED WITH THE CLERK, STYLED AS CROSS-DEFENDANTS
 ROSANNA GARRISON AND GREGG GARRISON'S REPLY TO CITY OF
 SAN BUENAVENTURA'S OPPOSITION TO MOTION FOR
 COURT-APPOINTED SCIENTIFIC EXPERT.

AND THEN FOR GOOD MEASURE, A DIFFERENT 6 7 PARTY REPRESENTING HIMSELF, ATTORNEY ANDREW WHITMAN, 8 WHO IS A LAWYER, SERVED A DIFFERENT OBJECTION OF THE 9 TYPE ON JULY 15, BUT NEVER FILED THAT WITH THE CLERK OF 10 COURT. THAT IS STYLED AS CROSS-DEFENDANTS ANDREW K. 11 WHITMAN, HEIDI A. WHITMAN, NANCY L. WHITMAN AND JOHN R. AND NANCY L. WHITMAN FAMILY TRUST JOINDER AND MOTION TO 12 13 APPOINT WATER EXPERT TO ASSIST THE COURT.

14 SO I AM NOT GOING TO CAUSE THE FILING OF 15 THE DOCUMENTS THAT WERE NEVER FILED, BUT I DO POINT OUT 16 TO MR. GARRISON AND TO MR. WHITMAN THAT IT IS NOT ENOUGH TO JUST SERVE SOMETHING ON FILE & SERVEXPRESS. 17 18 IF IT'S TO BE PART OF THE RECORD OF THE COURT AND 19 CONSIDERED BY THE COURT, YOU'VE GOT TO TAKE THE STEPS 20 TO CAUSE IT TO BE FILED JUST AS MR. BAGGERLY DID TO GET 21 HIS MOTION FILED AFTER HE FORGOT TO DO SO ORIGINALLY. 22 SO ALL THAT BEING SAID, LET ME TURN TO 23 THE MERITS OF THE MOTION AND DESCRIBE A LITTLE HOMEWORK 24 THAT I HAVE DONE ON MY OWN AND THE UPSHOT OF THAT. 25 EVERYBODY SEEMS TO CONCEDE THAT IT'S 26 WITHIN MY DISCRETION AND ALLOWED BY THE EVIDENCE CODE FOR ME TO APPOINT AN INDEPENDENT EXPERT. 27 28 THE REAL QUESTION IS, WHETHER I SHOULD

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EXERCISE THAT DISCRETION. 1 2 AND, IF SO, HOW WE WOULD PICK SUCH AN 3 EXPERT AND, EVENTUALLY, HOW WE WOULD PAY THE EXPENSES 4 OF SUCH AN EXPERT. THE AUTHORITY TO HAVE A 5 COURT-APPOINTED EXPERT COMES FROM EVIDENCE CODE SECTION 6 730. 7 SOME PEOPLE SAY IT'S PREMATURE TO APPOINT 8 AN EXPERT. 9 MR. BAGGERLY AND THE PEOPLE ALIGNED WITH 10 HIM SAY, WELL, THE CITY OF SAN BUENAVENTURA AND SOME OF 11 THE OTHER CONSUMPTIVE USERS HAVE BEEN PLANNING FOR 12 THEIR LITIGATION POSITION IN THIS CASE FOR MONTHS AND, 13 THEREFORE, HAVE BEEN IDENTIFYING AND WORKING WITH 14 EXPERTS TO TRY TO IMPROVE THEIR FACTUAL ARGUMENTS WHILE 15 OTHERS ARE COMING TO THE PARTY RATHER LATER AND AREN'T NECESSARILY AS FAR ADVANCED. AND SO IN THAT SENSE, 16 17 ALTHOUGH I COULD DENY MR. BAGGERLY'S MOTION TODAY 18 WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO ENTERTAINING IT AT SOME FUTURE 19 TIME, THERE IS SOME DOWNSIDE IN NOT AT LEAST 20 CONTEMPLATING THE POSSIBILITY OF TRYING TO LOCATE AN 21 APPROPRIATE INDEPENDENT EXPERT. MR. BAGGERLY MADE A CONCRETE SUGGESTION 22 23 IN PAGES 11 AND 12 OF HIS ORIGINAL MOTION, WHICH HAD 24 NOT GOTTEN FILED WITH THE CLERK, BUT WE'RE GOING TO FIX 25 THAT SOON ENOUGH, AND HE SUGGESTS MAYBE PUT AN 26 ADVERTISEMENT LIKE A CLASSIFIED AD IN THE VENTURA 27 COUNTY STAR TO LAY OUT THE REOUIREMENTS FOR THE 28 POSITION, THAT IT BE A HYDROLOGIST NOT CURRENTLY UNDER

CONTRACT WITH ANY OF THE PARTIES IN THIS CASE. 1 TWO, THAT THAT PERSON HAVE PROPER 2 3 EDUCATION AND LICENSING. THEY BE SUBMITTED TO THE 4 COURT FOR REVIEW. 5 THREE, THAT THAT PERSON BE AVAILABLE FOR 6 CONSULTATION OF THE JUDGE ON A REGULAR BASIS. 7 FOUR, THAT THE COURT SHOULD PROVIDE THE 8 PROSPECTIVE SCIENTIFIC ADVISERS WITH A SCHEDULE OF TIME 9 AND DURATION OF CONTRACT. 10 FIVE, THAT THE PROSPECT OF A MINIMUM 11 FIVE-YEARS EXPERIENCE IN THE VENTURA RIVER WATERSHED. 12 NOT A BAD STARTING POINT. I'M NOT SURE 13 IF THAT IS THE BEST WAY TO BRING FORWARD CANDIDATES, BUT IT'S CERTAINLY AT LEAST ONE PLAUSIBLE WAY TO GO 14 15 ABOUT IT. I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN FASCINATED WITH THE 16 17 LAW AND POLITICS OF WHETHER DISPUTES IN THE WEST AS ONE 18 WHO GREW UP IN THE WETTER PART OF THE COUNTRY, NEW 19 JERSEY, WHERE WATER WAS MORE OF A PROBLEM FOR FLOODING 20 AND POLLUTION THAN IT WAS A MATTER OF SCARCITY. 21 OUT HERE, WHEN YOU GET WEST OF THE 22 ROCKIES, THE SAYING IS, WHISKEY IS FOR DRINKING AND 23 WATER IS FOR FIGHTING. AND THIS CASE IS PROBABLY AS 24 GOOD AN EXAMPLE OF THAT AS ANY. WESTERN WATER LAW 25 APPEARS TO BE DIFFERENT THAN THE WATER LAW APPLICABLE 26 EAST OF THE MISSISSIPPI. AND WHEN I GOT THIS CASE AND 27 TRIED TO SEE IF THERE WAS ANY PROFESSIONAL RESOURCE 28 AVAILABLE FOR JUDGES DEALING WITH THE WESTERN WATER

DISPUTES, IT CAME TO MY ATTENTION THAT THE NATIONAL 1 JUDICIAL COLLEGE, WHICH IS RUN OUT OF RENO AND 2 WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA HAS A PROGRAM CALLED "DIVIDING 3 4 THE WATERS," WHICH IS THEIR WAY OF HAVING PROFESSIONAL 5 INTERCHANGE AMONGST JUDGES WHO DEAL WITH WATER CASES. SO I HAD REACHED OUT AND ASKED IF I WOULD 6 7 BE ALLOWED TO JOIN THE ORGANIZATION. THEY HAPPILY 8 SAID, YES, IT'S ALL REALLY INFORMAL AND DOESN'T CHARGE 9 DUES. BUT THAT PUT ME IN TOUCH WITH THEIR EXECUTIVE 10 DIRECTOR, A FELLOW NAMED STEVE SNYDER, DESCRIBED ON THE 11 WEB PAGE AS A FORMER SPECIAL MASTER FOR THE PECOS, LOWER RIO GRANDE, SAN JUAN AND ANIMAS GENERAL STREAM 12 13 ADJUDICATIONS IN NEW MEXICO, PREVIOUSLY SERVED AS A 14 SPECIAL MASTER, HEARD A VARIETY OF DISPUTES OVER CONFLICTING CLAIMS FOR WATER USE IN NEW MEXICO, HAD 15 16 BEEN A COMMERCIAL LITIGATOR AND PART OF A MAJOR FIRM IN 17 DENVER, UNDERGRADUATE AND MBA FROM UNIVERSITY OF 18 NEW MEXICO AND A JD FROM UT. 19 AND I ALSO THEN HAD HEARD, IN THE COURSE 20 OF A FEW E-MAIL INTERCHANGES OVER THE MONTHS, NOT 21 SPECIFICALLY TO YOUR CASE, FROM A GENTLEMAN NAMED ALF 22 W. BRANDT WHO IS DESCRIBED AS THE EDITOR OF THE 23 DIVIDING THE WATERS PROGRAM RUN BY THE NATIONAL 24 JUDICIAL COLLEGE. 25 SO EARLIER TODAY, I SENT AN E-MAIL TO 26 MESSIEURS SNYDER AND BRANDT AND ASKED THE FOLLOWING: 27 "DO EITHER OF YOU HAVE A LIST OF 28 OUALIFIED HYDROLOGY EXPERTS WHO MIGHT BE CONSIDERED FOR

1 APPOINTMENT AS A COURT-APPOINTED NEUTRAL EXPERT ON HYDROLOGY ISSUES, SPECIFICALLY: (A), POTENTIAL 2 3 CONNECTION OF SURFACE WATER FLOWS TO GROUNDWATER BASINS 4 AND, B, CONNECTEDNESS (OR NOT) OF ADJACENT GROUNDWATER 5 BASINS? I HAVE A CASE INVOLVING THE VENTURA RIVER, ITS TRIBUTARIES AND FOUR GROUNDWATER BASINS LOCATED ALONG 6 7 PORTIONS OF ITS DRAINAGE. THE CONNECTEDNESS OF SERVICE 8 FLOWS TO ANY OF THE GROUNDWATER BASINS IS IN DISPUTE, 9 AS IS THE ASSERTED CONNECTEDNESS OF THE CONDITION OF 10 THE HIGHEST, MOST EASTERN GROUNDWATER BASIN, THE OTHER 11 THREE GROUNDWATER BASINS LOCATED DOWNSTREAM. THE DISPUTED WATER COURSE AND BASINS ARE ALL IN VENTURA 12 13 COUNTY, CALIFORNIA. IF THERE IS NO LIST OF POTENTIAL 14 NAMES, DO YOU HAVE ANY PROCESS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS ON 15 HOW I AND THE PARTIES DO OUR OWN SEARCH FOR THE RIGHT 16 TALENT?"

17 SO THIS PROMPTED A RESPONSE FROM 18 MR. BRANDT COPIED TO MR. SNYDER AND ALSO COPIED TO 19 JUSTICE ROBIE WHO IS A SITTING JUSTICE ON THE 20 CALIFORNIA COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE THIRD APPELLATE 21 DISTRICT BASED IN SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA. AND IT READS 22 AS FOLLOWS:

"GREAT TO HEAR FROM YOU, JUDGE
HIGHBERGER, AS YOUR E-MAIL IS SO TIMELY. I'VE COPIED
JUSTICE ROBIE WHO IS COLLABORATING WITH ME ON
DEVELOPING A WATER LAW PROGRAM AT THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL,
WHICH MIGHT ULTIMATELY INCLUDE FUNDING FOR INDEPENDENT
WATER EXPERTS WHICH THE STATE MAY PAY FOR YOU. YOUR

1 CASE MAY OFFER US A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO CONSIDER HOW TO 2 DEVELOP THE IDEA OF DEVELOPING A CADRE OF JUDICIARY 3 WATER EXPERTS. TO START WITH YOUR CASE, YES, I HAVE A 4 GREAT INDEPENDENT EXPERT ON GROUNDWATER-SURFACE WATER 5 CONNECTIONS, UC DAVIS PROFESSOR THOMAS HARTER. HE WAS ONE OF THE AUTHORS OF OUR BENCH BOOK ON ADJUDICATING 6 7 GROUNDWATER, WHICH I HAVE ATTACHED FOR YOUR REFERENCE. 8 I CAN ALSO HELP YOU IDENTIFY OTHER CANDIDATES FOR AN 9 INDEPENDENT EXPERT. IF YOU HAVE TIME THIS WEEK TO TALK 10 ABOUT YOUR VENTURA CASE AND HOW WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO 11 HELP? ALF. PS, I'M COPYING MY WORK E-MAIL HERE AND THE LEGISLATURE, FOR SCHEDULING PURPOSES." 12 13 WHEN I LOOKED FOR A BRIEF CV OF 14 MR. SNYDER AND MR. BRANDT TO SHARE WITH YOU, MY 15 RESEARCH FIRST EDUCATED ME THAT MR. BRANDT'S PRIMARY 16 CURRENT EMPLOYMENT IS ACTUALLY FUNCTIONING AS GENERAL

16

17 COUNSEL FOR SPEAKER RENDON, THE SPEAKER OF THE
18 CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY IN SACRAMENTO AT THIS TIME.
19 SO HE, APPARENTLY, DOES HAVE AN ONGOING RESPONSIBILITY
20 AS AN EDITOR FOR THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL COLLEGE DIVIDING
21 THE WATERS PROGRAM, BUT HIS DAY JOB HAS HIM INVOLVED IN
22 AFFAIRS OF THE LEGISLATURE IN SACRAMENTO.

I SHOULD ADD THAT THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT -WHICH I OPENED ONLY TO SEE HOW THEY DESCRIBED IT. I DIDN'T TRY TO READ A WORD OF IT - IS A 96-PAGE PUBLICATION OF THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL COLLEGE TITLED "ADJUDICATING GROUNDWATER: A JUDGE'S GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING GROUNDWATER AND MODELING," COPYRIGHTED

2018. AUTHORSHIP INCLUDES MR. HARTER, A DR. TARA MORAN 1 2 OF STANFORD AND THE HONORABLE ERIC WILDMAN OF IDAHO 3 DISTRICT COURT AS AUTHORS. 4 AND THEN MR. BRANDT AND A DR. MICHAEL N. 5 FIENEN, U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND A DR. JEREMY WHITE ASSOCIATED WITH GNS SCIENCE IN NEW ZEALAND AS THE 6 7 EDITORS. 8 IT LOOKS INTERESTING. I HAVEN'T READ A 9 WORD OF IT YOU, BUT I WANTED TO TELL YOU ABOUT IT. 10 I SAY THAT BECAUSE IF YOU'RE THE KIND OF 11 GOOD STUDENT WHO WORKS HARD AND DOES WELL AND GETS INTO 12 LAW SCHOOL, THAT'S OFTEN A MARK OF INITIATIVE. BUT I 13 ALSO HAVE TO RECOGNIZE THAT A JUDGE DOING INDEPENDENT FACTUAL RESEARCH IS SOMETHING THAT IS GENERALLY 14 15 CONTRAINDICATED. AND IF YOU DO ANY INDEPENDENT 16 RESEARCH, IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT YOU MAKE 17 CLEAR TO THE LAWYERS WHAT YOU'VE JUST DONE. 18 SO I HAVE NOW TOLD YOU THE FULL EXTENT OF 19 MY EFFORTS TO SEE HOW I MIGHT LOCATE AN EXPERT AND WHAT 20 I HEARD IN RESPONSE. 21 THERE'S ONE OTHER RESPONSE I'VE GOTTEN FROM SNYDER AND BRANDT, WHICH I'LL READ TO YOU IN A 22 23 SECOND. 24 AGAIN, I CAN PUT UP THIS LINK TO THIS 25 TEXT FROM THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL COLLEGE, WHICH FROM THE 26 POINT OF VIEW OF DOING INDEPENDENT RESEARCH IS SORT OF 27 LIKE READING A LAW REVIEW ARTICLE, SOMETHING ONE MIGHT 28 LOOK AT, BUT I'M NOT TRYING TO HIDE ANY OF THIS FROM

YOU BECAUSE, IF SOMETHING LIKE THIS IS JUNK SCIENCE, 1 2 BUT I'M READING IT AS IF IT IS GOOD SCIENCE, YOU WOULD 3 WANT TO TELL ME THAT IT'S JUNK SCIENCE. IF IT'S GOOD 4 SCIENCE, BUT IT SUPPORTS YOUR POSITION, YOU WOULD THEN 5 LIKEWISE WOULD WANT TO SAY, YES, SEE, LOOK AT PAGE 23, IT'S EXACTLY IN SUPPORT OF MY POSITION IF ONE WOULD 6 7 THINK IT HELPS YOUR POSITION. I DON'T BELIEVE THE 8 NATIONAL JUDICIAL CENTER WOULD NEED TO KEEP SOMETHING 9 LIKE THIS HIDDEN FROM MEMBERS OF THE BAR BECAUSE, EVEN 10 IF IT'S ORIENTED TO THE BENCH, THERE'S NO REASON WHY 11 SOMETHING USEFUL TO THE BENCH CAN'T BE USEFUL TO THE 12 BAR.

13 SO I HAD ONE OTHER RESPONSE TO WHICH I 14 HAD RESPONDED MORE RECENTLY. AND THIS WAS FROM MR. SNYDER, NOT MR. BRANDT. SO HE WROTE TODAY AT 1:10, 15 16 "WITH YOUR PERMISSION, I CAN CIRCULATE YOUR E-MAIL TO 17 DIVIDING THE WATERS CONVENERS ASKING THEM IF THEY HAVE 18 RECOMMENDATIONS ON A PARTICULAR EXPERT WITNESS OR 19 PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF IDENTIFYING A COURT-APPOINTED 20 EXPERT WITNESS."

AND MY REPLY WAS TO THE GENERAL LINE OF, "WAIT UNTIL I TALK TO THE LAWYERS." INDEED, YEAH, I WROTE BACK AT 1:22, QUOTE, "WAIT UNTIL I TALK TO THE PARTIES VIA COUNSEL THIS AFTERNOON TO OBTAIN THEIR CONSENT," END QUOTE.

26 SO BOTTOM LINE, MR. HAGERTY, MR. BAGGERLY 27 AND OTHERS INTERESTED IN THE TOPIC, I'M OPEN TO THE 28 POSSIBILITY THAT IT MIGHT BE GOOD TO HAVE A 1 COURT-APPOINTED EXPERT.

2 I AM IN SOME WAYS PERHAPS FURTHER DOWN 3 THE ROAD IN HAVING ONE OR MORE PLAUSIBLE CANDIDATES 4 BASED ON WHAT I HAVE JUST SHARED WITH YOU, PARTICULARLY 5 MR. BRANDT'S ENTHUSIASM FOR PROFESSOR HARTER. I HAVE THIS TREATISE THAT'S APPARENTLY ON POINT, ALL 96 PAGES 6 7 OF IT, BUT DON'T WANT TO READ IT OR RELY UPON IT UNTIL 8 YOU ALL HAVE A CHANCE TO LOOK AT IT AND SEE WHETHER YOU 9 THINK THAT IT'S A REASONABLE SCIENTIFIC PAPER ON WHICH 10 I COULD REASONABLY RELY OR WHETHER YOU WOULD TAKE 11 OFFENSE IF I WERE TO CONSIDER IT.

12 I'M NOT SURE IF WE WERE TO TRY TO FIND 13 SOMEONE LIKE PROFESSOR HARTER, HOW WE REASONABLY COULD 14 FUND SOMETHING LIKE THIS. BUT THAT'S SORT OF WHERE MY 15 HEAD IS AT.

16 SO LET ME HEAR FIRST FROM THE CITY OF 17 SAN BUENAVENTURA WHICH TELLS ME, HEY, THERE ARE PLENTY 18 OF GOOD EXPERTS LINED UP BY THE PARTIES WHO ARE 19 RETAINING EXPERTS. YOU DON'T NEED TO CONFUSE THINGS 20 THIS WAY. AND LET YOU BOTH COMMENT ON WHAT I'VE 21 STUMBLED ACROSS ALREADY. I HAVE NO IDEA. YOU MAY BE 22 AWARE OF THIS 96-PAGE TREATISE OR IT MAY BE NEWS TO 23 YOU. AND, MORE GENERALLY, WHERE WE MIGHT GO FROM HERE. 24 MR. HAGERTY: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR. 25 AS FAR AS THE TREATISE, I'M NOT 26 PERSONALLY AWARE OF THAT. AND MAYBE OTHERS ON THE 27 OPPOSING PARTY TEAM ARE AND CAN COMMENT ON THAT, BUT WE 28 WILL CERTAINLY TAKE A LOOK AT THAT AND --

20 THE COURT: I FOUND IT ON THE WEB. IT WAS NO 1 2 SECRET. THEY GAVE ME A LINK. MAYBE I SHOULD PUT IT UP ON FILE & SERVE TO BE SURE YOU CAN GET TO IT. 3 I KNOW I 4 HAVE IT BECAUSE THEY SENT IT TO ME AS AN ATTACHMENT. 5 MR. HAGERTY: I THINK THAT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO 6 ALL THE PARTIES --7 THE COURT: GIVE ME A SECOND. 8 DOES ANYBODY OBJECT TO MY SERVING ON FILE 9 & SERVE EXPRESS THE 96-PAGE DOCUMENT THAT I GOT FROM 10 THE NATIONAL JUDICIAL COLLEGE? 11 IF YOU DO OBJECT, THIS IS YOUR TIME TO 12 SPEAK UP. 13 MR. BAGGERLY: I HAVE NO OBJECTION. 14 THE COURT: THANK YOU, SIR. 15 OKAY. HEARING NO OBJECTION, I WILL DO 16 THAT. 17 AND BEFORE I FORGET, LET ME JUST DO IT 18 NOW AND THEN WE'LL MOVE ON. 19 DONE. MR. HAGERTY: 20 THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR. 21 WITH REGARD TO THE ISSUES YOU'VE 22 DISCUSSED, OUR POSITION, AS YOU KNOW, IS CLEAR THAT WE 23 BELIEVE THAT THE MOTION SHOULD BE DENIED EITHER NOW OR 24 DENIED WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO BE CONSIDERED LATER. 25 YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE -- WE KNOW YOU'RE 26 GOING TO HAVE AT LEAST THREE DIFFERENT SETS OF EXPERTS 27 IN THE PHASE 1 TRIAL. YOU WILL HAVE THE EXPERTS THAT 28 WILL BE REPRESENTING THE POSITION OF THE OPPOSING

PARTIES WHO HAVE INDICATED WHO THOSE EXPERTS ARE 1 2 ALREADY. YOU ALSO HAVE THE EXPERTISE OF THE STATE WHO 3 HAVE SPENT YEARS AND MILLIONS OF DOLLARS PREPARING A 4 DETAILED MODEL OF ALL OF THE INFORMATION ABOUT THE 5 WATERSHED AND ISSUES OF INTERCONNECTION. AND THEN 6 MR. PATTERSON HAS ALREADY MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE HAS AN 7 EXPERT THAT THE EAST OJAI PEOPLE WILL BE PRESENTING. 8 SO, AT A MINIMUM, YOU WILL HAVE THREE 9 DIFFERENT EXPERTS ON HYDROLOGY WHO HAVE BEEN WORKING IN 10 THE WATERSHED FOR MANY YEARS TO DEVELOP THEIR OPINIONS. 11 AND THAT WILL BE MORE THAN SUFFICIENT TO PROVIDE THE 12 COURT WITH THE INFORMATION IT WILL NEED AS THE 13 FACTFINDER TO MAKE A DECISION WITH REGARD TO THE PHASE 14 1 ISSUES. 15 WE DON'T BELIEVE THAT THE -- YOU KNOW, 16 THERE ARE CERTAIN SITUATIONS WHERE THERE'S AN ABSENCE 17 OF INFORMATION OR THE COURT REALLY NEEDS AN EXPERT 18 BECAUSE NONE OF THE PARTIES ARE BRINGING IT TO THE 19 TABLE. THIS IS CLEARLY NOT THE CASE. AND NO ONE HAS 20 MADE A SHOWING THAT THAT IS THE CASE. 21 AND, REALLY, APPOINTING AN EXPERT AT THIS 22 POINT IN TIME, AN ADDITIONAL EXPERT, IN ADDITION TO THE 23 THREE YOU WILL HEAR FROM, WILL DELAY AND INCREASE COSTS 24 THAT CERTAINLY WE DON'T WANT TO HAVE INCREASED COSTS. 25 THE COURT: ALTHOUGH MY FRIEND, MR. BRANDT, IS 26 SUGGESTING THAT, MAGICALLY, THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL MIGHT COVER THE COSTS FOR WATER CASES. 27 28 MR. HAGERTY: IT WOULD STILL INCREASE THE

COSTS OVERALL, YOUR HONOR, BECAUSE, AS YOU KNOW, THIS 1 2 EXPERT WILL NOT BE ANY DIFFERENT THAN THE OTHER EXPERTS THAT WILL BE PRESENTING. ALL THE PARTIES WILL HAVE THE 3 4 OPPORTUNITY TO DO DEPOSITIONS OF THIS EXPERT. AND SO 5 IT IS JUST GOING TO DELAY AND ADD COSTS TO THE PROCESS. AND, REALISTICALLY, I DON'T SEE A WAY TO 6 7 BRING IN THAT EXPERT AND KEEP WITH THE SCHEDULE THAT 8 YOU HAVE SET OUT FOR US.

9 SO WE HAVE NO PROBLEM IF THE COURT WANTS 10 TO DENY IT WITHOUT PREJUDICE AND CONSIDER IT LATER. 11 THERE MAY BE SOME OTHER ISSUES THAT MIGHT COME OUT OF 12 THE PHASE 1 TRIAL. THERE CERTAINLY WILL BE FUTURE 13 ISSUES. AND EITHER THROUGH THE EVIDENCE CODE OR UNDER 845, THERE'S CLEARLY A SPECIAL MASTER PROCESS THAT THE 14 15 BUT OUR REQUEST IS FOR THE COURT TO COURT CAN USE. 16 HEAR THE EVIDENCE OF AT LEAST THE THREE PARTIES THAT 17 WILL PROVIDE THAT EXPERT TESTIMONY. AND IF THERE'S A 18 NEED OR IF THERE'S SOME DEFICIENCY, THE COURT CAN 19 ADDRESS IT AT THAT TIME. BUT IT'S JUST GOING TO CLOUD 20 THE ISSUES AND DELAY THE MATTER. IT IS JUST GOING TO 21 INCREASE COSTS FOR EVERYONE.

I DON'T WANT TO JUST REPEAT WHAT I'VE PUT
IN THE PAPERS, BUT THAT IS OUR POSITION. AND,
CERTAINLY, IF THE MOTION ISN'T DENIED, WE WOULD WANT
TIME TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THE PROCESS WOULD BE LIKE, HOW
WE'RE GOING TO PICK SOMEONE WHO CAN BE TRULY NEUTRAL IN
THIS SITUATION AND HOW THAT PERSON CAN GET UP TO SPEED.
BUT OUR REQUEST IS TO JUST DENY THE

MOTION AT THIS TIME EITHER WITH PREJUDICE OR WITHOUT.
 AND YOU WILL HAVE PLENTY OF INFORMATION FROM THE
 VARIOUS EXPERTS. SO THE FULL RANGE OF ISSUES WILL BE
 WELL DEVELOPED FOR YOU BASED UPON WHO IS ALREADY AT THE
 TABLE. AND YOU'LL BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE A DECISION
 BASED UPON THAT INFORMATION.

7 THE COURT: DO YOU HAVE ANY OBJECTION TO MY 8 LIMITED OVERTURES TO THE DIVIDING THE WATERS PEOPLE?

9 MR. HAGERTY: I CERTAINLY DON'T -- THANK YOU 10 FOR DISCLOSING WHAT YOU HAVE DONE ALREADY. I DIDN'T 11 HEAR ANYTHING THAT CAUSED ME A CONCERN IN THAT PROCESS. 12 IF -- YOU KNOW, AGAIN, IT'S SORT OF A THRESHOLD ISSUE. 13 IF THE COURT DENIED THE MOTION, WE WOULD MOVE ON TO 14 OTHER ISSUES. IF THE COURT IS OPEN OR WANTS TO EXPLORE 15 A FUTURE PROCESSES, MY RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE FOR THE -- TO LET THE PARTIES AND MEET AND CONFER ABOUT 16 17 THAT AND BRING BACK SUGGESTIONS AND --

18 THE COURT: THE ONLY ONE IT SEEMS SO FAR FROM 19 THE PARTIES IS MR. BAGGERLY'S SUGGESTION TO PUT IN AN 20 AD IN THE PAPER. I DON'T MEAN TO BE CRITICAL, BUT WERE 21 THERE ANY OTHER SUGGESTIONS IN THE PAPERS? I DIDN'T 22 NOTICE ANY.

MR. HAGERTY: NO, BECAUSE I THINK THE PARTIES
ON THE OPPOSING PARTY SIDE DON'T SUPPORT THE MOTION.
SO WE DIDN'T COME UP WITH ANY IDEAS ABOUT HOW YOU WOULD
GO ABOUT IT.

27 THE COURT: BUT I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING FROM THE 28 FANS OF THE PROPOSAL, ANOTHER WAY TO FIND AN EXPERT

BEYOND MR. BAGGERLY'S SUGGESTION. 1 2 MR. HAGERTY: I BELIEVE THAT'S TRUE, YOUR 3 HONOR. 4 THE COURT: OKAY. ANYTHING ELSE, MR. HAGERTY? 5 MR. HAGERTY: NO, YOUR HONOR. THE COURT: MR. MELNICK OR WHOEVER WANTS TO 6 7 SPEAK FOR THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA OR PERHAPS EACH OF 8 THE LAWYERS FOR THE STATE WANTS TO BE HEARD SERIATIM? 9 MR. MELNICK: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR. 10 FIRST, I WANT TO SAY WE'RE FULLY 11 SUPPORTIVE OF THE DIVIDING THE WATERS PROJECT. SO I'M 12 ACTUALLY OUITE HAPPY THAT YOU REACHED OUT TO THEM. THEY DO SOME REALLY GOOD WORK. AND THE PUBLICATION --13 14 I DIDN'T SEE WHAT THEY SENT YOU, BUT IT MAY BE THE SAME 15 THING THAT WE HAD BEEN CONTEMPLATING GIVING TO YOU AT 16 SOME POINT IN THIS PROCEEDING. THE COURT: WELL, IT'S THERE FOR YOUR READING 17 18 BEFORE YOU GO TO SLEEP TONIGHT, SO --19 MR. MELNICK: RIGHT. IF IT'S THE SAME THING I'VE READ BEFORE, THEN IT WON'T TAKE ME THAT LONG. 20 21 I MEAN, I THINK AS FAR AS WHETHER TO 22 APPOINT SOMEONE, IT'S REALLY YOUR COMFORT LEVEL THAT'S 23 IMPORTANT. IF YOU FEEL LIKE YOU NEED SOMEONE THAT YOU 24 CAN RELY ON BECAUSE THESE ISSUES ARE COMPLEX AND NEW TO YOU, THEN I CAN SEE WHY YOU MIGHT APPOINT PROFESSOR 25 26 HARTER OR SOMEBODY LIKE THAT. 27 WE AGREE WITH MR. HAGERTY THAT I'M NOT 28 SURE THAT'S THIS CASE. THERE ARE GOING TO BE SEVERAL

1 EXPERTS. THE FOLKS THAT ARE WORKING ON THE STATE WATER 2 BOARD'S MODEL ARE DOING A LOT OF WORK, AND I THINK 3 THEY'LL BE ABLE TO GIVE YOU A PRETTY, YOU KNOW, 4 NON-ADVOCATE POINT OF VIEW ABOUT WHAT THE FACTS ARE 5 HERE, SO --

6 MR. HAGERTY: YOUR HONOR, MAY I MAKE ONE 7 COMMENT IN RESPONSE?

THE COURT: GO AHEAD.

8

9 MR. HAGERTY: I AGREE WITH HIS SECOND PART OF 10 THE EOUATION IN TERMS OF THE STATE'S EXPERTISE IN THIS 11 AREA AND WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO BRING. IT WILL BE, YOU 12 KNOW -- AGAIN, THE THREE EXPERTS WILL PROVIDE MORE THAN 13 SUFFICIENT INFORMATION BASED ON SCIENCE. AND THIS IS 14 VERY -- THIS IS SCIENTIFICALLY DRIVEN. THIS IS ALL 15 ABOUT THE DETAILS OF HYDROLOGY. AS YOU KNOW IN SCIENCE, THERE ARE DIFFERENCES OF OPINION; BUT, YOU 16 17 KNOW, IT'S BASED ON SCIENCE. SO THAT INFORMATION IS 18 GOING TO BE PRESENTED CLEARLY TO YOU.

19 I TAKE -- I WANT TO NOTE THE COMMENT 20 ABOUT YOUR -- THE COURT RELYING UPON AN EXPERT. AGAIN, 21 YOU WOULDN'T BE RELYING UPON HIM. ALL YOU WOULD BE 22 DOING IS APPOINTING ANOTHER EXPERT WHO WOULD PREPARE AN 23 OPINION, EXPRESS THAT OPINION. AND WE WOULD ALL BE 24 ABLE TO CROSS-EXAMINE OR COMMENT ON THAT OPINION. SO I DON'T HEAR THE COURT, AT LEAST THE MOTION ISN'T PHRASED 25 26 AS SOME FORM OF A TRUE SPECIAL MASTER TO GO OUT AND DO 27 SOME FACTFINDING. IT'S REALLY JUST A REOUEST FOR AN 28 ADDITIONAL EXPERT. AND THAT EXPERT WOULD HAVE WHATEVER

CREDIBILITY ANY OF THE OTHER EXPERTS HAVE. SO I JUST 1 2 WANTED TO NOTE THAT ONE POINT, YOUR HONOR. 3 THE COURT: THANK YOU. 4 MR. GOLDEN-KRASNER, DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING 5 SEPARATE FROM WHAT MR. MELNICK SAID FOR HIS STATE 6 AGENCY CLIENT? 7 MR. GOLDEN-KRASNER: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR. 8 I-DON'T REALLY HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD, YOUR 9 HONOR. WE AGREE WITH BOTH MR. MELNICK AND MR. HAGERTY. 10 WE DON'T BELIEVE THAT AN ADDITIONAL EXPERT IS NECESSARY 11 FOR THIS FIRST PHASE OF TRIAL. 12 THE COURT: AND, MS. WENZLAU, FOR YET ANOTHER 13 STATE AGENCY SEPARATELY REPRESENTED THROUGH THE AG, DO YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS YOU WISH TO MAKE? 14 15 MS. WENZLAU: THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR. NO, I AGREE WITH WHAT'S BEEN SAID BY 16 17 MR. MELNICK AND MR. GOLDEN-KRASNER AS WELL. THANK YOU. 18 THE COURT: OKAY. I'M GOING TO GET TO YOU IN 19 A MINUTE, MR. BAGGERLY, BUT BE PATIENT. 20 MR. PATTERSON, YOU APPEAR TO BE THE ONE 21 MOST LIKELY TO BE SETTING UP A CONTRARY POSITION FROM 22 AN EXPERT POINT OF VIEW, AT LEAST FOR PEOPLE WHO SHARE 23 THE INTERESTS OF THOSE WITH PROPERTY IN THE EAST OJAI 24 BASIN. 25 DO YOU HAVE ANY THOUGHTS OR COMMENTS ON 26 WHAT THE COURT HAS OBSERVED SO FAR AS TO WHETHER I 27 OUGHT TO GO AHEAD AND CONSIDER AN EXPERT OR NOT? A 28 NEUTRAL EXPERT, THAT IS?

MR. PATTERSON: YOUR HONOR, I TEND TO BE OF 1 THE OPINION THAT PERHAPS, YOU KNOW, THE COURT SHOULD 2 3 HAVE A COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THE PROPOSED 4 PHYSICAL SOLUTION -- DRAFT PHYSICAL SOLUTION LOOKS LIKE 5 AND WHAT SOME OF THESE REPORTS LOOK LIKE, AND THEN THE COURT MIGHT BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO DECIDE WHETHER 6 7 IT NEEDS SOME INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF THE INFORMATION 8 THAT'S BEEN PROVIDED TO IT.

9 THE STATE FISH & WILDLIFE AND THE CITY 10 ALL HAVE -- AND, FRANKLY, MY CLIENTS ALL HAVE THEIR 11 PARTICULAR PERSPECTIVE, AND IN PARTICULAR WITH RESPECT TO THE STATE AGENCIES IN PARTICULAR A REGULATORY 12 13 AGENDA. SO IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IT MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR 14 THE COURT TO GET SOME OF THAT INFORMATION AND THEN MAKE 15 A DECISION LATER AS TO WHETHER IT NEEDS SOME 16 INDEPENDENT REVIEW OF WHAT'S BEEN PRESENTED TO IT.

17

THE COURT: THANK YOU.

18 MR. BAGGERLY, A HELPFUL HINT. AT LEAST 19 THROUGH WHAT MR. BRANDT HAS SAID, YOU'RE BEING GIVEN A 20 FREE LEAD FOR A POTENTIAL EXPERT IF YOU WANT TO GO HIRE 21 HIM, IF THE COURT DOESN'T AT THE RISK OF STATING THE 22 OBVIOUS. I'M NOT CLEAR IF PROFESSOR HARTER IS 23 AVAILABLE OR CAN WORK FOR A PRICE YOU CAN AFFORD, BUT 24 AT LEAST THAT GIVES YOU A POSSIBILITY OF THE NAME OF A 25 FRESH EXPERT WHO IS NOT OTHERWISE HIRED IN THE CASE, AS 26 BEST WE KNOW.

27 MR. BAGGERLY: YOUR HONOR, THANK YOU FOR THAT.
28 I DO KNOW AN EXPERT WHO ISN'T OTHERWISE

ENGAGED OR CONTRACTED. I DON'T KNOW IF IT WOULD BE
 APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO GIVE YOU HIS NAME OR HIS LICENSE
 NUMBER.

BUT JUST LET ME SAY, FIRST OF ALL, THAT 4 5 OUR GEOLOGY AND THE HYDROGEOLOGY IN THIS TRANSVERSE RANGE IS VERY, VERY UNIQUE. IT'S NOT JUST 6 7 RUN-OF-THE-MILL SCIENCE. IT IS EXTRAORDINARY SCIENCE, AND IT'S DIFFERENT THAN MOST PLACES. AND SOMEONE WHO 8 9 IS GOING TO BE LOOKING AT THIS SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE 10 NEEDS TO HAVE LOCAL SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE AVAILABLE TO 11 IT.

AND WITHOUT QUESTION, I BELIEVE THAT WE SHOULD ALL BE ABLE TO AGREE THAT ADVOCACY IS ONE-SIDED. AND IF YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE THREE EXPERTS PROVIDING INFORMATION, EVEN ON A SCIENTIFIC BASIS, FACTS CAN BE BROUGHT FORWARD AND FACTS CAN BE HELD BEHIND YOUR BACK TO MAKE IT APPEAR TO BE ON THE ONE-SIDED NATURE OF YOUR CLIENT.

19 I THINK THAT THE COURT DOES REALLY NEED A 20 NEUTRAL PERSON WHO IS REALLY FAMILIAR WITH THIS GEOLOGY 21 AND HYDROGEOLOGY HOWEVER YOU GET IT. AND YOU HAVE THAT 22 AUTHORITY, YOUR HONOR. AND I WOULD LIKE YOU TO HAVE 23 THAT.

I GUESS THAT'S ALL I NEED TO SAY. THE COURT: WHY CAN'T YOU AND YOUR SIMILARLY-ALIGNED PLAINTIFFS HIRE THAT EXPERT IF YOU THINK THERE'S SOMEBODY THAT'S NEEDED TO OFFSET THE SOFISTRY OF THE CITY OF VENTURA'S EXPERT?

29 1 MR. BAGGERLY: BECAUSE I'M POOR. 2 THE COURT: THAT'S A DIFFERENT ARGUMENT. 3 THAT'S BASICALLY ASKING YOU TO BE SUBSIDIZED DURING 4 YOUR LITIGATION, NOT BECAUSE I OTHERWISE NEED A WATER 5 EXPERT. MR. BAGGERLY: THIS IS FOR YOU, YOUR HONOR, 6 7 NOT FOR ME. YOUR ADMISSION THAT YOU DON'T KNOW MUCH 8 ABOUT GEOLOGY, HYDROGEOLOGY MAKES IT REALLY IMPORTANT 9 THAT YOU HAVE SOMEONE WHO CAN BE CLEAR ENOUGH AND 10 RATIONAL ENOUGH TO GIVE YOU THE HELP YOU NEED, THE AID 11 YOU NEED TO GET THROUGH THIS AVALANCHE OF 30 SOMETHING 12 DIFFERENT REPORTS, THREE DIFFERENT EXPERTS COMING AT 13 YOU FROM ALL SIDES. YOU NEED SOME HELP. AND THAT'S 14 WHAT MY MOTION WAS FOR, WAS TO GET YOU SOME HELP. 15 THAT'S ALL. 16 THE COURT: THANK YOU. 17 OTHERS WISH TO BE HEARD? 18 MR. HERREMA: WE JOINED IN THE CITY'S 19 OPPOSITION TO THE MOTION. 20 WE DO THINK THAT THERE WILL BE MORE THAN 21 ENOUGH INFORMATION PRESENTED BY AT LEAST THREE 22 DIFFERENT GROUPS OF EXPERTS THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED 23 ALREADY. 24 I AND MY PARTNERS IN OUR FIRM HAVE BEEN 25 REPRESENTING PARTIES IN ADJUDICATIONS WHERE THIS PHASE 26 1 IS THE STANDARD FIRST PHASE OF THESE ADJUDICATIONS. 27 AND MANY, MANY JUDGES HAVE MADE THESE DETERMINATIONS 28 BASED ON THE EXPERTS THAT HAVE BEEN TESTIFYING BEFORE

THEM, AND THEY HAVE NOT NEEDED THIS TYPE OF NEUTRAL 1 2 EXPERT IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES. 3 I THINK MR. PATTERSON POINTED OUT THAT, 4 IF YOU GET TO THE POINT WHERE YOU HAVE SEEN WHAT'S 5 THERE AND YOU THINK YOU NEED ASSISTANCE IN DIGESTING IT, THAT MIGHT BE A MORE APPROPRIATE TIME. BUT WE 6 7 AGREE WITH THE CITY AND WITH THE STATE ATTORNEYS, IT'S 8 NOT NECESSARY AT THIS TIME. THANK YOU. 9 THE COURT: THANK YOU. 10 OTHERS WISH TO BE HEARD AS TO THIS 11 MOTION? MR. WHITMAN: YES, YOUR HONOR. 12 13 FOR THE RECORD, WE DID GET OUR JOINDER 14 FILED. I'M NOT SURE WHY IT DIDN'T GET TO YOU, BUT IT 15 HAS BEEN FILED. 16 THE COURT: WHAT'S THE FILING DATE? Τ'Τ.Τ. 17 CHECK OUR RECORDS. WHAT'S THE DATE YOU THINK IT WAS 18 FILED? 19 MR. WHITMAN: LAST FRIDAY. 20 THE COURT: OKAY. LET ME SEE. 21 IT'S CONCEIVABLE SOMETHING FROM FRIDAY IS 22 STILL WAITING AS OF MONDAY MORNING IN OUR CLERICAL MILL 23 TO BE PROCESSED BECAUSE, IF IT WAS PUT IN THE DROPBOX 24 ON FRIDAY, IT WOULD BE PROCESSED TODAY, BUT ONLY WHEN 25 IT'S PROCESSED WOULD IT THEN CREATE A REFERENCE IN OUR 26 DOCKET. AND AFTER THE FIRST REFERENCE IN OUR DOCKET 27 HAS BEEN CREATED, IT WOULD BE SENT OFF TO SCANNING, AT 28 WHICH POINT AN IMAGE MIGHT BE AVAILABLE.

31 BUT AS OF THIS HOUR ON MONDAY, THERE'S 1 2 STILL NO NOTATIONS IN THE DOCUMENTS THAT WOULD INDICATE 3 THAT ANYTHING OF THIS TYPE WAS RECEIVED. 4 BUT IT COULD BE TRUE, MR. WHITMAN, THAT 5 IT WAS SUBMITTED --MR. WHITMAN: I'M SORRY, I'M NOT SURE IT'S 6 7 IMPORTANT ANYWAY, BUT MY COMMENT IS THAT --8 THE COURT: GO AHEAD. 9 MR. WHITMAN: SINCE I'VE BEEN INVOLVED IN THIS 10 CASE, I'VE BEEN KIND OF PERPLEXED BY THE IDEA THAT IT 11 SEEMS LIKE WE'VE ALREADY GOT THE STATE AGENCIES, 12 INCLUDING GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICTS, THAT ARE 13 CHARGED WITH PROTECTING THE GROUNDWATER RESOURCE. AND IN THE TYPE OF LITIGATION THAT I'M FAMILIAR WITH, WHICH 14 15 HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH WATER, YOU KNOW, VERY FREQUENTLY 16 WHEN THERE'S A REGULATORY ISSUE INVOLVED, THERE'S A 17 REQUEST THAT THE COURT ABSTAIN SO AS TO NOT INTERFERE 18 WITH THE AGENCY'S EXPERTISE AND CONTROL OVER THE ISSUE. 19 AND I DO UNDERSTAND FROM READING THE LAW 20 THAT YOU'RE GOING TO BE IN A POSITION OF USURPING WHAT 21 THE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT MIGHT DO IF BEING 22 PRESENTED WITH THE SAME ISSUES. 23 AND SO MY CONCERN ABOUT THAT IS THAT THE 24 GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT HAS A STAFF, HAS THE 25 ABILITY TO HIRE EXPERTS TO DO THEIR UNBIASED DUTY OF 26 ASSESSING THE INFORMATION AND COMING TO THE CORRECT 27 DECISION. AND YOU DO NOT HAVE A STAFF AT YOUR 28 DISPOSAL. AND FOR THAT REASON, I THINK IT'S EXTREMELY

IMPORTANT THAT YOU HAVE THE INFORMATION, YOU HAVE THE
 EXPERTISE AVAILABLE TO YOU.

3 IF IT TURNS OUT THAT, DURING THE FIRST
4 PHASE, YOU DON'T FEEL LIKE YOU HAVE A SPECIFIC QUESTION
5 THAT YOU WANT TO RAISE WITH THE EXPERT, THEN THERE'S
6 NOT GOING TO BE ANY EXPENSE TO ANYONE.

7 IF YOU DECIDE THAT YOU DO, YOU'RE GOING
8 TO BE IN A MUCH BETTER POSITION IF YOU HAVE THAT PERSON
9 AVAILABLE TO YOU TO ASK THAT SCIENTIFIC QUESTION OF.

10 THE OTHER COMMENT THAT I WAS GOING TO 11 MAKE IS THAT, OUT OF THE OTHER ALTERNATIVES OF METHOD OF SELECTION -- AND IT COMES UP IN THE CASE OF NEEDING 12 13 TO APPOINT AN ARBITRATOR FAIRLY FREOUENTLY. THERE'S 14 ALL KINDS OF METHODS OF SELECTING ARBITRATORS. BUT, 15 YOU KNOW, THE MOST COMMON ONE IS TO SUBMIT -- EACH PARTY TO SUBMIT A NAME OF A QUALIFIED EXPERT, AND LET 16 17 THE COURT ASSESS THE QUALIFICATIONS AND PICK OUT THE 18 ONE WHO SEEMS TO BE MOST QUALIFIED TO HANDLE THE 19 SITUATION.

20 AND AS FAR AS THE EXPENSE OF THIS, I 21 THINK THE COURT CAN RESOLVE HOW AND IF TO CHARGE THE PARTIES AT A LATER POINT. BUT I DON'T SEE ANY PROBLEM 22 23 WITH CHARGING THE PERSONS WHO ARE ALREADY IN A POSITION 24 OF HAVING OVERDRAFTED THE VENTURA RIVER TO BE THE ONES 25 WHO ARE -- AND NOW SEEKING RELIEF FROM PEOPLE WHO HAVE 26 NEVER OVERDRAFTED THE VENTURA RIVER, I DON'T SEE ANY 27 PROBLEM WITH THEM HAVING THE FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY 28 FOR PAYING FOR YOU TO HAVE THE STAFF THAT YOU NEED TO

BE ABLE TO DECIDE THESE ISSUES. 1 2 THANK YOU, SIR. THE COURT: 3 ANYBODY ELSE WISH TO BE HEARD AS TO THIS 4 MOTION BEFORE THE COURT AT THIS TIME? 5 MR. SLATER: YES. 6 I HAVE SERVED IN THE CAPACITY AS A 7 COUNSEL TO THE WATER MASTER FOR OVER 20 YEARS AND 8 PARTICIPATED IN GROUNDWATER ADJUDICATIONS ACROSS 9 CALIFORNIA. 10 AND I WOULD JUST SAY THAT, FOR THE 11 REASONS THAT WERE ARTICULATED IN THE PROPOSING PARTY'S 12 BRIEF, IT IS NOT TIMELY. IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO DO 13 THIS YET. 14 AND WITH ALL DUE RESPECT TO THE DIVIDING 15 THE WATERS GROUP AND THEIR GREAT PRODUCT - LOTS OF 16 PEOPLE PARTICIPATED - WHEN A JUDGE IN YOUR POSITION 17 SELECTS A TECHNICAL EXPERT TO INTERFACE, DIGEST AND 18 REVIEW OTHER TECHNICAL INFORMATION, FOR BETTER OR 19 WORSE, THE GRINDING, THE IN-DEPTH ANALYSIS THAT A JUDGE 20 IN YOUR POSITION AND WITH YOUR HISTORY IN COMPLEX CASES 21 IS MORE CUSTOMARY TO DO BY THEMSELVES IS SOMEWHAT 22 ABDICATED TO THE TECHNICAL EXPERT WHO THEN MEETS WITH, 23 LISTENS TO AND ASSUMES THAT PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY. 24 THERE IS RISK IN TRANSLATION. THERE IS, IN MY OPINION, NOT MUCH DIFFICULTY FOR THE PARTIES TO 25 26 COME TO AN AGREEMENT FROM COMPETENT EXPERTS. THE STATE HAS PLENTY OF PEOPLE, MANY WHO ARE NOT IN THIS CASE. 27 28 THEY ARE THROUGHOUT THE WEST. THEY HAVE BEEN ENGAGED

IN SPECIAL MASTER FUNCTIONS WHERE THEY ENGAGE IN 1 TECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS, LEAD THEM, TAKE ON 2 EVIDENTIARY HEARINGS. IT IS ALWAYS USED AS -- FOR THE 3 4 BENEFIT OF THE COURT AND THE BENEFIT OF YOUR HONOR. 5 IN THIS CASE, THERE ARE EXPERTS. AND IF AT ANY POINT IN TIME YOUR HONOR FINDS THAT IT WOULD BE 6 7 HELPFUL, THEN IF YOUR HONOR FEELS IT'S HELPFUL, THEN WE 8 WILL BE SUPPORTIVE. AND THEN IN THAT CONDITION OR THAT 9 CIRCUMSTANCE, WE WOULD RECOMMEND SOMETHING IN THE 10 NATURE OF AN AGREEMENT AMONG THE PARTIES FROM A LONG 11 LAUNDRY LIST OF COMPETENT PROFESSIONALS WHO HAVE 12 APPEARED IN THESE TYPES OF CASES IN THE PAST RATHER 13 THAN GETTING A GRAB BAG AND HAVING AN INABILITY TO 14 RESPOND TO THE OUALIFICATIONS OF SOMEBODY WHO IS 15 RECOMMENDED BY A THIRD PARTY. 16 THE COURT: THANK YOU. 17 I BELIEVE THERE WAS A LADY WHO WISHED TO 18 BE HEARD? 19 YES, YOUR HONOR. MS. BLISS: 20 THE COURT: GO AHEAD, MA'AM. 21 MS. BLISS: I ONLY WANT TO POINT OUT THAT, IN 22 TERMS OF -- I THINK MR. HAGERTY TALKED ABOUT THERE WAS 23 NO ABSENCE OF INFORMATION REGARDING THE SCIENCE BEHIND 24 THE CITY'S REQUEST. 25 I WOULD ONLY SAY THAT I HAVE TAKEN A LOOK 26 AT ALL 34 OF THE PUBLICATIONS THAT THE CITY HAS SUBMITTED, AND I HAVE FOUND AN AMAZING SCARCITY OF ANY 27 28 INFORMATION ON THE UPPER OJAI BASIN OR THE GROUNDWATER.

34

AND I KNOW THAT THE PUBLICATIONS COVERED ALL FOUR
 BASINS; BUT EVEN TAKING THAT INTO ACCOUNT, THERE WAS
 VERY LITTLE MENTION OF THE UPPER OJAI BASIN AND
 ALMOST -- AND VERY LITTLE MENTION OF LION CREEK AND HOW
 THAT AFFECTS THIS LITIGATION.

SO IT IS UNKNOWN RIGHT NOW, OBVIOUSLY, 6 7 WHAT THE EXPERTS ARE GOING TO PROVIDE FROM THE CITY AND 8 FROM THE STATE. BUT SPEAKING FOR THE TRUST, IF IT WERE 9 USEFUL TO THE COURT EITHER NOW OR LATER, I THINK IT 10 WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE AN INDEPENDENT EXPERT AS A 11 BACKSTOP TO THE CITY'S, WHATEVER IT MAY BE, ASSERTIONS 12 ON THE GROUNDWATER IN THE UPPER OJAI BASIN BECAUSE, 13 AGAIN, WE ARE JUST A COLLECTION OF INDIVIDUALS.

14 IT'S TRUE, WE'RE NOT ASKING FOR HELP IN
15 THE LITIGATION OR FUNDING FOR OUR OWN EXPERT, SIMPLY A
16 NEUTRAL BACKSTOP TO OBSERVE WHAT IS BEING PRESENTED BY
17 THESE OTHER AGENCIES SINCE THERE'S VERY LITTLE
18 INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO DATE.

THE COURT: THANK YOU, MA'AM.

19

20

ANYBODY ELSE WISH TO BE HEARD?

21 MR. OSIAS: YOUR HONOR, AS WE ALL KNOW IN THIS 22 CASE, EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED TO EVERYTHING. SO LATER 23 ON ON YOUR AGENDA IS THE DISCOVERY SCHEDULE REGARDING 24 EXPERTS. AND THE DIFFICULTY IS, MY CLIENT IS A SINGLE 25 PROPERTY OWNER WITH A WELL, A HOUSE, LANDSCAPE AJAR. 26 AND PART OF THE DISPUTE IN THE DISCOVERY PORTION OF 27 THIS DAY IS HOW MUCH TIME IS NEEDED TO FIND AN EXPERT 28 IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE MEANINGFULLY IN THE UPCOMING

PHASE 1? AND WHAT WILL THE CITY'S EXPERT SAY SO WE CAN 1 2 MAKE A DECISION WHETHER WE NEED AN EXPERT OR NOT? 3 AND IN THIS MOTION, THE OPPOSITION, BOTH 4 IN WRITING BY THE VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT AND 5 MEINERS OAKS WATER DISTRICT, IN WRITING AND IN SIMILAR 6 COMMENTS MADE BEFORE YOU TODAY IS, IF YOU GET AN 7 EXPERT, BY THE TIME YOU HIRE ONE AND GET UP TO SPEED, 8 IT WILL CAUSE DELAY AND WE'LL LOSE THE TRIAL SCHEDULE 9 THAT'S SET. AND, YET, OTHERS IN THAT BOAT ARE SUPPOSED 10 TO WAIT UNTIL LATE AUGUST OR SEPTEMBER VERSUS NOW WE 11 ARE IN JULY. SO IF YOUR HONOR CHOOSES NOT TO GET AN 12 EXPERT, BUT YOU CAN GET A GOOD LIST, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN YOU SHARING IT. WE DON'T KNOW WHETHER WE 13 14 WILL NEED AN EXPERT OR NOT. I HEARD MR. SLATER SAY HE 15 KNEW A LOT OF PEOPLE. I WILL REACH OUT TO GET SOME 16 WE ARE TRYING TO BE PREPARED. BUT FOR A NAMES. 17 HOMEOWNER TO FUND AN EXPERT, WE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE 18 REPORT FIRST SO WE KNOW WHETHER WE NEED TO. SO IT'S 19 RELATED A LITTLE BIT IN TERMS OF TIMING, WHICH IS, I 20 KNOW, THE SECOND THING COMING UP TODAY VERSUS THIS, BUT 21 I WANTED TO -- SINCE WE'RE ON THAT TOPIC, I THOUGHT IT 22 WOULD BE HELPFUL TO POINT THAT OUT.

THE COURT: LET ME DO A LITTLE DRAMATIC FORESHADOWING ON THE QUESTION OF THE NEXT ISSUE ON THE AGENDA AND WHETHER WE'RE DEALING WITH IT TODAY. I HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO SPEND THE TIME TO PREPARE ON YOUR BATTLE ABOUT THE DISCOVERY SCHEDULE. AND I INTEND TO CONTINUE THAT ASPECT TO FRIDAY OF THIS WEEK, THE 23RD,

UNLESS KEY PLAYERS ARE UNAVAILABLE BECAUSE, BETWEEN NOW 1 2 AND FRIDAY, I DO EXPECT TO BE ABLE TO DO MY HOMEWORK SO 3 THAT I CAN DEAL WITH IT WITH ENOUGH THOROUGHNESS. 4 WHEN IT COMES TO THIS FRIDAY, I CAN DO IT 5 AT EITHER 10:00 A.M. OR AT 2:00 P.M. MR. HAGERTY FOR THE CITY OF 6 7 SAN BUENAVENTURA, ARE YOU AVAILABLE FRIDAY MORNING OR 8 AFTERNOON? 9 MR. HAGERTY: AFTERNOON WOULD BE BETTER FOR 10 US, YOUR HONOR. 11 THE COURT: OKAY. LET'S SEE OTHER PEOPLE WHO FILED BRIEFS IN REGARD TO THIS INCLUDE MR. OSIAS. 12 13 ARE YOU AVAILABLE FRIDAY AFTERNOON? 14 MR. OSIAS: YOUR HONOR, AS I PREVIOUSLY WROTE 15 TODAY TO THE CITY BECAUSE WE'RE TRYING TO HAVE A MEET AND CONFER, I HAVE A VACATION SCHEDULED FROM FRIDAY TO 16 17 TUESDAY. BUT SINCE I'M PARTICIPATING BY PHONE, I CAN 18 MAKE MYSELF AVAILABLE AT 2:00 P.M. 19 THE COURT: MR. MELNICK FOR THE STATE? MR. MELNICK: YOUR HONOR, I'M OPEN ON FRIDAY. 20 21 THE COURT: I GOT PAPERWORK FROM COUNSEL FOR 22 ROBERT MARTIN, DO I HAVE A LAWYER FROM THAT FIRM WITH 23 US THIS AFTERNOON? 24 NO RESPONSE FOR THE RECORD. 25 WHAT ABOUT COUNSEL FOR CITY OF OJAI, 26 MS. JACOBSON? 27 MS. JACOBSON: YES, YOUR HONOR. I WILL BE 28 AVAILABLE FRIDAY AFTERNOON TO PARTICIPATE IN THAT

37

1 DISCUSSION. 2 THE COURT: MR. PATTERSON? 3 MR. PATTERSON: YOUR HONOR, I'M AVAILABLE 4 ANYTIME FRIDAY. 2:00 P.M. IS FINE. 5 THE COURT: ANYBODY ELSE WISH TO BE HEARD TO OBJECT TO CONTINUING THE DISCOVERY ISSUES TO FRIDAY AT 6 7 2:00 P.M.? 8 MR. DENNINGTON: FRIDAY AFTERNOON WOULD BE 9 BETTER IN THE AFTERNOON. I HAVE AN MSC THAT MORNING. 10 THE COURT: I'M PROPOSING 2:00 P.M. 11 IS THAT LATE ENOUGH? 12 MR. DENNINGTON: THAT WOULD BE GREAT. THE COURT: OKAY. ANYBODY ELSE WISH TO BE 13 HEARD TO OBJECT TO HAVING THE MATTER HEARD THIS FRIDAY 14 15 AFTERNOON? 16 HEARING NO FURTHER OBJECTION, THE 17 DISCOVERY ISSUES OTHERWISE ON CALENDAR FOR TODAY WILL 18 BE HEARD THIS FRIDAY, JULY 23 AT 2:00 P.M. 19 YOU CAN APPEAR IN PERSON OR VIA L.A. 20 COURT CONNECT. LET'S GO BACK TO MR. BAGGERLY'S MOTION. 21 22 ANYBODY ELSE WISH TO BE HEARD? 23 MR. GARRISON: I DO, YOUR HONOR. 24 JUST LIKE PLAYING CHESS, YOU ALWAYS BEGIN WITH, WHERE DO I WIND UP IN YOUR END GAME? 25 26 THE COURT: THERE'S NO CHESS PLAYERS ON THE 27 MAP BEHIND YOUR HEAD? I SEE --28 MR. GARRISON: THERE ARE. I'M A NATIONALLY

38

RANKED CHESS PLAYER. THANK YOU. 1 2 CHESS AND LAW HAVE A LOT DO WITH EACH 3 OTHER. THERE'S LOGIC. THEY'RE FAIR. EVERYTHING IS 4 OUT IN THE OPEN. 5 THE ULTIMATE END GAME HERE IS PUBLIC 6 TRUST. HOW DO WE GO THROUGH THE WATER ADJUDICATION 7 PROCESS THAT'S FAIR, REASONABLE AND EQUITABLE TO ALL 8 THE PARTIES INVOLVED? 9 NOW, THE PROPOSED PHYSICAL SOLUTION SAYS 10 THAT IT WON'T IMPACT 10,000 PEOPLE. WELL, THAT'S NOT A 11 COLLECTION OF INDIVIDUALS. THAT'S THE PUBLIC. SO THE 12 END GAME IS, WHAT IS THE BEST METHODOLOGY THAT THE 13 COURT AND THE LITIGANTS CAN ENTER INTO TO DEVELOP THE 14 TRUST SO THAT IT'S NOT MERE ADVOCACY? MR. BAGGERLY HAS DONE AN EXCELLENT JOB, 15 16 ALONG WITH MR. WHITMAN, IN PRESENTING TO THE COURT SOME 17 SOUND FOUNDATIONS FOR AN INDEPENDENT SCIENCE EXPERT 18 THAT WOULD HELP THE COURT. IT'S NOT TO HELP THE 19 INDIVIDUALS GET REPRESENTATION OR AN EXPERT. THAT IS 20 NOT THE POINT. 21 FINALLY, IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY AT THE 22 PROPOSED PHYSICAL SOLUTION, FOR EXAMPLE, JUST PICK ONE 23 DOCUMENT, E-3, YOU HAVE A DELINEATION OF FAULT LINES 24 RELATING TO THE GROUNDWATER. NOW, FAULTS ARE 25 IMPERATIVE TO UNDERSTAND HOW HYDROGEOLOGY BECAUSE, WHEN 26 THE EARTH FOLDS, THE GROUNDWATER IS THE DIVERTED, 27 PULLED AND CANNOT CONNECT. BUT IF YOU LOOK AT EXHIBIT 28 E-3, SOME FAULTS IN THE WATERSHED AREN'T EVEN CALLED

40 OUT. OTHER FAULTS ARE ABBREVIATED SO YOU CAN'T REALLY 1 2 SEE THE INTERACTION BETWEEN THE FAULT AND THE 3 GROUNDWATER. THIS IS THE TYPE OF JUNK SCIENCE THAT WE 4 FEAR THAT REALLY OFFENDS THE PUBLIC TRUST. THANK YOU. 5 THE COURT: THANK YOU, SIR. ANYBODY ELSE WISH TO BE HEARD? 6 7 MR. BAGGERLY: YES, YOUR HONOR. 8 THE COURT: GO AHEAD, BRIEFLY. 9 MR. BAGGERLY: PLEASE TURN TO MY 12-PAGE 10 MISFILED BRIEF THAT I SENT YOU. I INCLUDED, IN A 11 PORTION OF THAT BRIEF, WITH THE WRITINGS OF A 12 HYDROGEOLOGIST TO GIVE YOU A SAMPLE. ALONG WITH THAT SAMPLE IS THE PERSON'S NAME AND HIS LICENSE. I'D LIKE 13 14 YOU TO CONSIDER HIM. 15 THANK YOU, YOUR HONOR. THE COURT: WHICH PAGE IS THAT ON, SIR? 16 17 (TECHNICAL ISSUES) 18 MR. HAGERTY: I THINK IT'S PAGE 7. 19 THE COURT: DID WE LOSE BAGGERLY? 20 OFF THE RECORD. 21 (DISCUSSION OFF THE RECORD) 22 THE COURT: BACK ON THE RECORD. 23 THIS HAS BECOME IMPOSSIBLE. ALL MATTERS 24 WILL BE TRAILED TO FRIDAY AT 2:00 P.M. 25 THE COURT IS IN RECESS. WE'LL PICK UP 26 THINGS ON FRIDAY. 27 (END OF PROCEEDINGS) 28

1	SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA				
2	FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES				
3	SPRING STREET COURTHOUSE				
4					
5	DEPT 10 HON. WILLIAM H. HIGHBERGER, JUDGE PRESIDING				
6					
7	SANTA BARBARA CHANNELKEEPER, A )				
	CALIFORNIA NON-PROFIT CORPORATION, )				
8	)				
	PLAINTIFF, )				
9	)				
	V. ) NO. 19STCP01176				
10	)				
	STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD,)				
11	ET AL., )				
	)				
12	DEFENDANTS. )				
	)				
13					
14					
15	I, ALEXANDER T. JOKO, COURT REPORTER PRO TEM,				
16	OF THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA, FOR				
17	THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE				
18	FOREGOING PAGES COMPRISE A FULL, TRUE, AND CORRECT				
19	TRANSCRIPT OF THE PROCEEDINGS HELD IN THE				
20	ABOVE-ENTITLED MATTER ON JULY 19, 2021.				
21					
22	DATED THIS 21ST DAY OF JULY, 2021.				
23					
24	IIm				
25					
26					
27					
28					

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		1	1
A	31:11 35:17	<b>APPEARANCES 2:1</b>	ATTACHMENTS
<b>A.M</b> 37:5	AGENCY 26:6,13	2:13 3:1 1:7	3:15
ABBREVIATED	AGENCY'S 31:18	<b>APPEARED</b> 6:5,10	ATTEMPTED 3:22
40:1	<b>AGENDA 27:13</b>	6:23 7:3 34:12	3:23 4:3
ABDICATED 33:22	35:23 36:25	<b>APPEARS</b> 13:25	ATTENTION 14:1
<b>ABILITY</b> 31:25	AGREE 4:27 24:27	APPELLATE 15:20	<b>ATTORNEY</b> 2:15,18
<b>ABLE</b> 16:10 25:3,24	25:9 26:9,16 28:13	<b>APPLICABLE</b> 13:25	4:16 11:7
28:13 33:1 36:26	30:7	APPLIES 7:12	ATTORNEYS 30:7
37:2	AGREEABLE 7:27	APPLY 7:19	AUGUST 4:19,20
ABOVE-ENTITLED	AGREEMENT 33:26	APPOINT 11:13,27	36:10
41:20	34:10	12:7 24:22,25 32:13	AUTHORITY 1:20
ABSENCE 21:16	AHEAD 25:8 26:27	APPOINTING 21:21	12:4 28:22
34:23	31:8 34:20 40:8	25:22	AUTHORS 16:6 17:3
ABSOLUTELY	AID 29:10	APPOINTMENT	AUTHORSHIP 17:1
17:16	AJAR 35:25	3:10 15:1	AVAILABLE 13:5,28
<b>ABSTAIN</b> 31:17	<b>AL</b> 1:11,4 41:11	APPROPRIATE 7:11	27:23 28:10 30:28
ACCOUNT 35:2	ALBEIT 10:11	7:14 12:21 28:2 30:6	32:2,9 35:18 37:7,13
<b>AD</b> 12:26 23:20	ALEXANDER 1:27,8	ARBITRATOR	37:18,28 38:3
ADD 3:2 16:23 22:5	41:15	32:13	AVALANCHE 29:11
26:8	ALF 14:21 16:11	ARBITRATORS	<b>AVENUE 2:5</b>
ADDITION 21:22	ALIGNED 12:9	32:14	AWARE 3:18,26
<b>ADDITIONAL</b> 2:28	<b>ALLEN 3:12</b>	<b>AREA</b> 25:11	19:22,26
21:22 25:28 26:10	ALLOW 8:11	ARGUMENT 29:2	
<b>ADDRESS</b> 7:22 22:19	ALLOWED 11:26	ARGUMENTS 12:14	B
ADDRESSED 2:14	14:7	<b>ARTICLE</b> 17:27	<b>B</b> 15:4
<b>ADJACENT</b> 7:3 15:4	ALTERNATIVE	ARTICULATED	BACK 7:22 18:23
ADJUDICATING	8:24	33:11	23:17 28:16 38:21
16:6,27	ALTERNATIVES	AS-SERVED 9:18	40:22 DA CKSTOD 25, 11
ADJUDICATION	32:11	<b>ASKED</b> 14:6,26	BACKSTOP 35:11
39:6	AMAZING 34:27	<b>ASKING</b> 18:17 29:3	35:16
ADJUDICATIONS	ANALYSIS 33:19	35:14	BACON 3:11
14:13 29:25,26 33:8	<b>ANDREW</b> 3:15 11:7	ASPECT 36:28	<b>BAD</b> 5:9 13:12
ADMISSION 29:7	11:10	ASPECTS 18:19	BAG 34:13 BAGGERLY 3:15
ADVANCE 1:25	ANGELES 1:2 2:5,10	ASSEMBLY 16:18	
ADVANCED 12:16	1:5 41:2,17	ASSERTED 15:9	8:20,23,24 9:2,24,25 10:4,16 11:20 12:9
ADVERTISEMENT	ANIMAS 14:12	ASSERTIONS 35:11	12:22 18:26 20:13
12:26	<b>ANYBODY</b> 2:20 8:1	ASSESS 32:17	26:19 27:18,27 29:1
ADVISERS 13:8	8:5 20:8 33:3 35:20	ASSESSING 31:26	29:6 39:15 40:7,9,19
ADVOCACY 28:13	38:5,13,22 40:6	ASSIST 11:13	<b>BAGGERLY'S</b> 3:9
39:14	<b>ANYTIME</b> 38:4	ASSISTANCE 30:5	5:26 8:18 9:18,21
AFFAIRS 16:22	<b>ANYWAY</b> 10:1 31:7 <b>APN</b> 6:26	ASSOCIATED 17:6 ASSUME 5:9 8:12	10:15 12:17 23:19
AFFORD 27:23	APN 0.20 APPARENTLY 5:6	ASSUME 5:9 8:12 ASSUMES 33:23	24:1 38:21
AFTERNOON 18:24	9:3 16:19 19:6	<b>ASSUMES</b> 35:23 <b>ASSURE</b> 4:18	<b>BAR</b> 9:7 10:22 18:9
37:8,9,13,23,28 38:8	<b>APPEALS</b> 15:20	<b>ATTACHED</b> 16:7,23	18:12
38:9,15	<b>APPEALS</b> 15:20 <b>APPEAR</b> 10:21 26:20	ATTACHED 16:7,25 ATTACHMENT	BARBARA 1:7 3:5
AG 26:13	28:17 38:19	20:4	1:2,15 41:7
AGENCIES 27:12	20.1/ 30.17	20.4	
	I	I	

<b>BARELY</b> 3:12	BRING 13:13 22:7	CHANCE 3:12 19:8	<b>CLOUD</b> 22:19
BARTKIEWICZ	23:17 25:11	CHANGE 7:27	<b>CODE</b> 11:26 12:5
2:22	BRINGING 21:18	CHANNELKEEPER	22:13
BASED 15:21 19:4	BROUGHT 28:16	1:7 3:5 1:15 41:7	COLLABORATING
23:4,6 25:13,17	BROWNSTEIN 2:8	CHANNELKEEPE	15:25
29:28	3:6	1:2	COLLECTION
BASICALLY 29:3	BUENAVENTURA	<b>CHARGE</b> 14:8 32:21	35:13 39:11
BASICALL 1 29.5 BASIN 6:10,22 15:10	5:3,16 8:16 10:7,13	CHARGED 31:13	<b>COLLEGE</b> 14:2,24
26:24 34:28 35:3,12	12:10 19:17 37:7	CHARGING 32:23	16:20,26 17:25
<b>BASINS</b> 15:3,5,6,8,11	BUENAVENTURA	CHARGING 32.23 CHECK 30:17	20:10
15:12 35:2	1:20 11:4	<b>CHECK 50.17</b> <b>CHECKED 4:17</b>	<b>COME</b> 3:21 5:10
<b>BASIS</b> 13:6 28:15	BUNCH 5:9	CHESS 38:24,26 39:1	22:11 23:25 33:26
BATTLE 36:27	BUNCH 5.9	39:2	<b>COMES</b> 12:5 32:12
<b>BELIEVE</b> 2:13 3:1	C	<b>CHOOSES</b> 36:11	37:4
	$\overline{\mathbf{CA2:10}}$		<b>COMFORT</b> 24:22
5:20 7:11 18:7 20:23	<b>CADRE</b> 16:2	CHRISTOPHER 2:4	
21:15 24:2 26:10 28:12 34:17	CADRE 10.2 CALENDAR 1:17	CIRCULATE 18:16	<b>COMING</b> 12:15 29:12 31:26 36:20
	10:4 38:17	CIRCUMSTANCE	
BENCH 16:6 18:10	<b>CALIFORNIA</b> 1:1,7	34:9	<b>COMMENT</b> 19:20,27
18:11 DENEEUE 10:14 24:4	2:5,17 3:2,3 1:5	CIRCUMSTANCES	25:7,19,24 31:7
<b>BENEFIT</b> 10:14 34:4	15:13,20,21 16:18	30:2	32:10
34:4	24:7 33:9 41:1,7,16	CITY 2:2,21 1:19 2:4	COMMENTS 8:22
<b>BEST</b> 2:3,3 9:6 13:13	<b>CALLED</b> 14:3 39:28	4:4 5:2,15 8:16 10:7	26:14,25 36:6
27:26 39:12	CALLED 14.5 39.28 CANDIDATES 13:13	10:12 11:3 12:10	COMMERCIAL
<b>BETTER</b> 3:4 7:25	16:8 19:3	19:16 27:9 28:28	14:16
27:6 32:8 33:18 37:9	<b>CANDIDLY</b> 3:12	30:7 34:26 35:7 37:6	<b>COMMON</b> 32:15
38:9	CANDIDLY 3.12 CAPACITY 33:6	37:15,25	COMPETENT 33:26
<b>BEYOND</b> 2:1 8:4		<b>CITY'S</b> 29:18 34:24	34:11
24:1	CASE 1:1,2 9:5 10:16	35:11 36:1	COMPLAINTS 5:8
<b>BIT</b> 36:19	12:12 13:1,23,26	CLAIMED 8:6	COMPLETE 9:23
BLISS 3:14 34:19,21	14:21 15:5 16:1,3,10	CLAIMS 7:13 14:15	27:3
<b>BOARD</b> 1:10 2:14 1:4	21:19,20 24:28	CLARIFICATION	COMPLETELY 4:27
1:16 41:10	27:25 31:10 32:12	7:8	COMPLEX 24:24
<b>BOARD'S</b> 25:2	33:27 34:5 35:22	CLASSIFIED 12:26	33:20
BOARDS 9:4	CASES 14:5 21:27	<b>CLAUDE</b> 3:15,9	COMPRISE 41:18
<b>BOAT</b> 36:9	33:20 34:12	CLEAR 17:17 20:22	CONCEDE 11:25
<b>BOOK</b> 16:6	CASITAS 2:24	21:6 27:22 29:9	CONCEIVABLE
<b>BOTTOM</b> 18:26	CAUSE 1:19,26 2:21	CLEARLY 3:15	30:21
BRADLEY 2:9	11:14,20 36:8	21:19 22:14 25:18	<b>CONCERN 23:11</b>
BRANDT 14:22,26	CAUSED 23:11	CLERICAL 10:5	31:23
15:18 16:14 17:4,22	CENTER 18:8	30:22	CONCRETE 12:22
18:15 21:25 27:19	CENTURY 2:9	CLERK 9:17 10:19	CONDITION 15:9
BRANDT'S 16:15	<b>CERTAIN</b> 1:20 3:15	10:27 11:2,9 12:24	34:8
19:5	21:16	CLERK'S 5:14	<b>CONFER</b> 23:16
BRIEF 16:13 33:12	CERTAINLY 3:23	CLIENT 26:6 28:18	37:16
40:10,11	7:16 13:14 19:28	35:24	<b>CONFERENCE 3:7</b>
BRIEFLY 40:8	21:24 22:12,24 23:9	<b>CLIENTS 27:10</b>	5:2,24 7:7,10
<b>BRIEFS</b> 37:12	<b>CERTIFY</b> 41:17	<b>CLOSELY 39:21</b>	CONFIRMATION

9:26	<b>CORPORATION</b> 1:7	<b>CREATE</b> 30:25	22:5,20 36:8
CONFLICTING	41:7	<b>CREATED</b> 30:27	<b>DELETED 2:8</b>
14:15	<b>CORRECT</b> 2:9,10	CREDIBILITY 26:1	DELINEATION
CONFORMED 2:26	3:5 31:26 41:18	<b>CREEK</b> 35:4	39:23
<b>CONFUSE</b> 19:19	<b>COSTS</b> 21:23,24,27	CRITICAL 23:20	<b>DENIED</b> 20:23,24
CONGRATULATE	22:1,5,21	CROSS-DEFEND	22:24 23:13
5:2	<b>COUNCIL</b> 15:26	1:21 10:23 11:2,10	<b>DENNINGTON</b> 2:25
CONNECT 2:13	21:26	CROSS-EXAMINE	38:8,12
38:20 39:27	COUNSEL 2:1,13	25:24	<b>DENVER</b> 14:17
<b>CONNECTED</b> 35:22	4:11 16:17 18:24	<b>CRY</b> 5:10	<b>DENY</b> 12:17 22:10,28
CONNECTEDNESS	33:7 37:21,25	<b>CSR</b> 1:27,8	<b>DEPARTMENT</b> 2:17
15:4,7,9	<b>COUNTRY</b> 13:18	<b>CURRENT</b> 16:16	3:2,3 1:6
CONNECTION 15:3	<b>COUNTY</b> 1:2 12:27	CURRENTLY 7:12	DEPOSITIONS 22:4
CONNECTIONS	15:13 41:2,17	12:28	<b>DEPT</b> 1:5 41:5
16:5	<b>COURSE</b> 5:5,19	<b>CUSTOMARY</b> 33:21	DESCRIBE 4:23
<b>CONSENT</b> 18:25	14:19 15:12	<b>CV</b> 16:13	11:23
CONSIDER 16:1	<b>COURT</b> 1:1,28 2:13		DESCRIBED 1:27
19:11 22:10 26:27	1:12,14 2:11,16,20	D	4:22 14:10,22 16:24
40:14	3:6,17 4:1,2,21,25	<b>D</b> 2:4 4:1	<b>DETAIL</b> 6:18
CONSIDERED 11:19	5:1,19,21,23 6:2,13	<b>DATE</b> 9:19 30:16,17	<b>DETAILED 21:4</b>
14:28 20:24	6:15,26 7:5,16,17,28	35:18	<b>DETAILS 25:15</b>
CONSULTATION	8:18,21,26 10:1,27	<b>DATED</b> 41:22	DETERMINATIO
13:6	11:10,13,18,19 13:4	<b>DAVID</b> 3:12	29:27
CONSUMPTIVE	13:7 15:20 17:3 20:1	<b>DAVIS</b> 16:5	<b>DEVELOP</b> 16:2
12:11	20:7,14 21:12,17,25	<b>DAY</b> 4:14 9:19 16:21	21:10 39:13
CONTACT 3:4	22:9,15,15,18 23:7	35:27 41:22	<b>DEVELOPED</b> 23:4
CONTEMPLATING	23:13,14,18,27 24:4	<b>DE</b> 7:14,21,26 8:6	DEVELOPING
12:20 24:15	24:6,17 25:8,20,25	<b>DEAL</b> 1:18 7:15 8:27	15:26 16:2
<b>CONTENTS 4:1</b>	26:3,12,18,26 27:2,6	14:5 37:3	DIFFERENCES
<b>CONTINUE</b> 5:20 7:5	27:14,17,21 28:19	DEALING 13:28	25:16
36:28	28:25 29:2,16 30:9	36:25	DIFFERENT 11:6,8
<b>CONTINUED 3:1</b>	30:16,20 31:8,17	<b>DECEASED</b> 2:2	13:25 20:26 21:9
1:18	32:17,21 33:2,4 34:4	<b>DECIDE</b> 27:6 32:7	22:2 28:8 29:2,12,12
<b>CONTINUING 38:6</b>	34:16,20 35:9,19	33:1	29:22
<b>CONTRACT</b> 13:1,9	36:23 37:11,19,21	DECISION 21:13	<b>DIFFICULTY</b> 33:25
CONTRACTED 28:1	38:2,5,10,13,20,26	23:5 27:15 31:27	35:24
<b>CONTRACTOR</b> 4:13	39:13,16,18 40:5,8	36:2	<b>DIGEST 33:17</b>
CONTRAINDICA	40:16,19,22,25 41:1	DECLARATION	<b>DIGESTING 30:5</b>
17:15	41:15,16	1:22,24	<b>DILIGENCE 2:13</b>
CONTRARY 26:21	<b>COURT'S</b> 7:12	<b>DEFAULTS</b> 5:4,5,14	<b>DIRECTOR</b> 14:10
<b>CONTROL</b> 1:10 2:14	COURT-APPOIN	5:18	DISCLOSING 23:10
1:4,16 31:18 41:10	3:10 10:26 11:5 12:5	DEFECTIVENESS	<b>DISCLOSURES</b> 7:9
CONVENERS 18:17	15:1 18:19 19:1	9:1	7:23 8:4
<b>COPIED</b> 15:18,18,24	COURTHOUSE 1:3	DEFENDANTS 1:12	<b>DISCOVERY</b> 3:8
<b>COPYING</b> 16:11	41:3	41:12	5:25 35:23,26 36:27
COPYRIGHTED	<b>COVER</b> 21:27	DEFICIENCY 22:18	38:6,17
16:28	COVERED 35:1	<b>DELAY</b> 8:3 21:23	DISCRETION 11:26

DISCUSS 5:23	<b>E-3</b> 39:23,28	EXERCISE 12:1	FAIR 39:3,7
DISCUSSED 20:22	<b>E-MAIL</b> 14:20,25	<b>EXHIBIT</b> 39:27	<b>FAIRLY 32:13</b>
DISCUSSION 2:11	15:24 16:11 18:16	EXISTING 7:12	<b>FAMILIAR</b> 28:20
6:11 38:1 40:21	EARLIER 4:7,19	<b>EXPECT</b> 37:2	31:14
<b>DISPLAYED</b> 7:4	14:25	<b>EXPENSE</b> 32:6,20	<b>FAMILY</b> 2:7 11:12
DISPOSAL 31:28	EARTH 39:26	<b>EXPENSES</b> 12:3	FANS 23:28
<b>DISPUTE</b> 15:8 35:26	EAST 2:9 13:26 21:7	EXPERIENCE 13:11	FAR 12:16 19:25
<b>DISPUTED</b> 15:12	26:23	<b>EXPERT</b> 3:10 10:26	23:18 24:21 26:26
<b>DISPUTES</b> 13:12 <b>DISPUTES</b> 13:17	EASTERN 15:10	11:5,13,27 12:3,4,5	32:20
14:1,14	<b>EDITOR</b> 14:22 16:20	12:8,21 15:1 16:4,9	<b>FARBER</b> 2:8 3:6
<b>DISTANT</b> 3:25	<b>EDITOR 14.22</b> 10.20 <b>EDITORS</b> 17:7	17:19 18:18,20 19:1	FASCINATED 13:16
<b>DISTRICT</b> 2:24 10:8	EDUCATED 16:15	21:7,17,21,22 22:2,4	FAULT 39:23 40:2
10:9 15:21 17:3	EDUCATED 10.13 EDUCATION 13:3	22:7,17 23:28 25:20	FAULTS 39:24,28
31:21,24 36:4,5	<b>EFFORTS</b> 1:25 2:13	25:22,28,28 26:10	40:1
<b>DISTRICTS</b> 31:12	17:19	26:22,27,28 27:20	FAVORABLE 8:25
<b>DIVERTED</b> 39:26	<b>EITHER</b> 4:5 14:27	27:25,28 28:26,28	FAX 9:27
<b>DIVERTED</b> 39.20 <b>DIVIDING</b> 14:3,23	20:23 22:13 23:1	29:5 30:2 32:5,16	FAA 9.27 FEAR 40:4
16:20 18:17 23:8	35:9 37:5	33:17,22 35:10,15	FEEL 24:23 32:4
24:11 33:14	<b>ELIMINATED</b> 2:23	35:27 36:1,2,7,12,14	<b>FEELS</b> 34:7
<b>DOCKET</b> 30:26,26	ELIMINATED 2.23 EMPLOYMENT	36:17 39:17,19	FEES 9:21
<b>DOCKET</b> 30:20,20 <b>DOCUMENT</b> 10:28	16:16	<b>EXPERTISE</b> 21:2	<b>FELLOW</b> 14:10
16:23 20:9 39:23	<b>ENGAGE</b> 34:1	25:10 31:18 32:2	<b>FENCED</b> 1:28
<b>DOCUMENTS</b> 11:15	ENGAGE 54.1 ENGAGED 28:1	EXPERTS 12:14	FIENEN 17:5
31:2	33:28	14:28 15:28 16:3	FIGHTING 13:23
<b>DOING</b> 5:7 17:13,26	<b>ENTER</b> 39:13	19:18,19 20:26,27	<b>FILE</b> 9:17 11:17 20:3
25:2,22	ENTERTAINING	21:1,9 22:2 23:3	20:8
<b>DOLLARS</b> 21:3	12:18	25:1,12 26:1 28:14	<b>FILED</b> 1:23,24 2:25
DOLLARS 21.5 DOUGLAS 2:25	ENTHUSIASM 19:5	29:12,22,28 31:25	3:28 9:11,13,13,20
<b>DOUGLAS</b> 2.25 <b>DOWNSIDE</b> 12:19	EQUATION 25:10	33:26 34:5 35:7,24	9:23 10:3,6,11,12,16
DOWNSIDE 12.19 DOWNSTREAM	EQUITABLE 39:7	<b>EXPLORE</b> 23:14	10:19,26 11:2,9,15
15:11	<b>EQUITABLE 39.7</b> <b>ERIC</b> 17:2	EXPRESS 20:9 25:23	11:20,21 12:24
<b>DOZEN</b> 2:28	ESSENTIAL 4:24	<b>EXPRESS</b> 20.9 25.25 <b>EXPRESSED</b> 4:9	30:14,15,18 37:12
	17:16	EXTEND 7:11 8:3	<b>FILING</b> 11:14 30:16
<b>DR</b> 17:1,4,5	<b>ET</b> 1:11,4 41:11	<b>EXTEND</b> 7.11 8.5 <b>EXTENDED</b> 2:11	<b>FINALLY</b> 39:21
<b>DRAFT</b> 3:13,15,27	<b>EVADING</b> 1:27		
6:6 27:4 DRAINACE 15:7	EVENTUALLY 12:3	EXTENT 17:18	FINANCIAL 32:27 FIND 3:1,3 19:12
DRAINAGE 15:7 DRAMATIC 36:23		EXTRAORDINARY	,
	EVERYBODY 11:25 EVIDENCE 11:26	28:7 EXTREMELY 31:28	23:28 35:27
DRINKING 13:22		EATRENIELY 51.28	FINDINGS 3:16
<b>DRIVEN</b> 25:14	12:5 22:13,16 28:9 28:10	F	<b>FINDS</b> 34:6
<b>DROPBOX</b> 30:23		<b>FACT</b> 7:2	FINE 38:4
<b>DUE</b> 33:14 <b>DUES</b> 14:9	EVIDENTIARY 34:3	FACT 7.2 FACTFINDER 21:13	FIRM 14:16 29:24
	EXACTLY 18:6	FACTFINDER 21.15 FACTFINDING	37:22 <b>FIDST</b> 1:18 0:2 10
DURATION 13:9	EXAM 9:7	25:27	<b>FIRST</b> 1:18 9:2,10
<b>DUTY</b> 31:25	<b>EXAMPLE</b> 13:24	<b>FACTS</b> 25:4 28:15,16	16:15 19:16 24:10
E	39:22 EXCELLENT 20:15	FACTUAL 12:14	26:11 28:4 29:26
$\frac{\mathbf{L}}{\mathbf{E} 3:14 4:1}$	EXCELLENT 39:15	17:14	30:26 32:3 36:18
	EXECUTIVE 14:9	1/.17	<b>FISH</b> 2:17 27:9
	I	l	I

<b>FIT</b> 4:2	35:15	2:19 26:4,7,17	19:5,13 24:26 27:22
<b>FIVE</b> 13:10	FURTHER 19:2	<b>GOOD</b> 5:7,17 11:6	HEAD 19:15 38:27
<b>FIVE-YEARS</b> 13:11	38:16	13:24 16:1 17:11	HEAR 15:23 19:16
<b>FIX</b> 10:1 12:24	<b>FUTURE</b> 3:25 12:18	18:2,3,28 19:18	21:23 22:16 23:11
<b>FLOODING</b> 13:19	22:12 23:15	24:13 36:12	25:25
FLOOR 2:5		<b>GOTTEN</b> 12:24	HEARD 2:20 5:8 8:2
<b>FLOWS</b> 15:3,8	G	17:21	14:14,19 17:20 24:8
<b>FOLDS</b> 39:26	GAME 38:25 39:5,12	<b>GRAB</b> 34:13	29:17 30:10 33:3
FOLKS 4:18 25:1	GARRETT 3:9	GRAND 2:5	34:18 35:20 36:14
FOLLOWING 1:11	GARRISON 3:16	<b>GRANDE</b> 14:12	38:5,14,14,18,22
14:26	10:20,21,24,24 11:1	GRANTED 2:25	40:6
<b>FOLLOWS</b> 15:22	11:3,16 38:23,28	<b>GREAT</b> 15:23 16:4	HEARING 2:24
FOREGOING 41:18	GARRISON'S 11:3	33:15 38:12	20:15 38:16
FORESHADOWI	GATED 1:28	GREGG 3:16 10:20	HEARINGS 34:3
36:24	GENERAL 2:15,18	10:24 11:3	HEIDI 11:11
<b>FORGET 20:17</b>	14:12 16:16 18:21	<b>GREGORY</b> 3:9	HEIRS 3:2
FORGOT 11:21	GENERAL'S 4:16	<b>GREW</b> 13:18	HELD 1:11 28:16
FORM 6:6 25:26	GENERALLY 17:14	GRINDING 33:19	41:19
FORMAL 8:4	19:23	GROUNDWATER	HELP 4:4 16:8,11
FORMAT 4:8,10	<b>GENERATED</b> 4:6	15:3,4,6,8,10,11	29:10,13,14 35:14
FORMER 14:11	GENTLEMAN 14:21	16:7,27,28 31:12,13	39:18,18
FORWARD 13:13	GEOLOGICAL 17:5	31:21,24 33:8 34:28	HELPFUL 20:5
28:16	GEOLOGY 28:5,20	35:12 39:24,26 40:3	27:18 34:7,7 35:10
FOUND 20:1 34:27	29:8	GROUNDWATER	36:22
<b>FOUNDATION 2:7</b>	<b>GETTING</b> 4:12 5:7	16:4	HELPS 18:7
FOUNDATIONS	34:13	<b>GROUP</b> 33:15	HERETOFORE 1:7
39:17	<b>GIVE</b> 1:25 8:8,15	<b>GROUPS</b> 29:22	HERREMA 2:9
FOUR 2:2 3:2 13:7	20:7 25:3 28:2 29:10	<b>GUESS</b> 28:24	29:18
15:6 35:1	40:12	<b>GUIDE</b> 16:27	<b>HEY</b> 19:17
FRANKLY 27:10	GIVEN 5:9 6:27		HIDDEN 18:9
<b>FREE</b> 27:20	27:19	H	<b>HIDE</b> 17:28
FREQUENTLY	<b>GIVES</b> 27:24	H 1:5,6 41:5	HIGHBERGER 1:5,6
31:15 32:13	GIVING 24:15	HAGERTY 2:4 5:15	15:24 41:5
FRESH 27:25	GLAD 8:22	5:15,24,28 6:19,28	HIGHEST 15:10
<b>FRIDAY</b> 30:19,21,24	GNS 17:6	7:6 8:16,17 18:26	HILL 2:6,6,22
36:28 37:2,4,7,13,16	<b>GO</b> 6:21 7:22 9:7	19:24 20:5,20 21:28	HINT 27:18
37:20,28 38:4,6,8,14	13:14 19:23 23:26	23:9,23 24:2,4,5,27	HIRE 27:20 28:26
38:18 40:24,26	24:18 25:8,26 26:27	25:6,9 26:9 34:22	31:25 36:7
<b>FRIEND</b> 21:25	27:20 31:8 34:20	37:6,9 40:18	<b>HIRED</b> 27:25
FULL 4:6 17:18 23:3	38:21 39:6 40:8	HAGERTY'S 8:9	HISTORY 33:20
41:18	<b>GOING</b> 1:18 8:27 11:14 12:24 20:25	HALF 2:28 HANDLE 32:18	HOLLY 2:22
FULLY 24:10	20:26 22:5,19,20,26	HANDLE 32:18 HAPPENED 9:28	HOMEOWNER
FUNCTIONING	24:28 25:11,18	HAPPILY 14:7	36:17
16:16	26:18 28:9,14 31:20	HAPPY 24:12	HOMEWORK 3:24
<b>FUNCTIONS</b> 34:1	32:6,7,10 35:7	HARD 17:11	11:23 37:2
FUND 19:14 36:17	<b>GOLDEN-KRASN</b>	HARTER 16:5 17:1	HON 1:5 41:5
FUNDING 15:27			HONOR 2:10,19 3:5
	I	I	I

			8
4:15,28 5:28 6:12,19	<b>IMPROVE</b> 12:14	<b>INTERESTED</b> 18:27	JUDICIARY 16:2
7:1,7 8:17,20 9:25	<b>INFROVE</b> 12.14 <b>IN-DEPTH</b> 33:19	36:13	JULY 1:17,5,23,24
19:24 20:20 22:1	<b>IN-DEPTH</b> 35.19 <b>IN-PERSON</b> 2:1	INTERESTING 17:8	,,,,,
24:3,5,9 25:6 26:2,7		INTERESTING 17.8 INTERESTS 26:23	3:19,28 4:7,8,9 10:23 11:1,9 36:11
	INABILITY 34:13		,
26:9,15 27:1,27	<b>INCLUDE</b> 15:27	INTERFACE 33:17	38:18 41:20,22
28:22 29:6 30:12	37:12	INTERFERE 31:17	<b>JUNCTURE</b> 2:3
34:4,6,7,19 35:21	INCLUDED 40:10	INVESTIGATIONS	JUNE 9:19 10:4,8,9
36:11 37:10,14,20	INCLUDES 17:1	34:2	10:11,17
37:27 38:3,23 40:7	INCLUDING 3:1	<b>INVOLVED</b> 9:4	<b>JUNK</b> 18:1,3 40:3
40:15	31:12	16:21 31:9,16 39:8	<b>JUSTICE</b> 3:3 15:19
HONORABLE 17:2	INCLUSIVE 8:5	INVOLVING 15:5	15:19,25
<b>HOPE</b> 6:6	<b>INCOMPLETE</b> 9:15	<b>ISSUE</b> 6:14 7:6 23:12	K
<b>HOPED</b> 10:4	9:24	31:16,18 36:24	
HOPEFULLY 6:26	INCOMPLETELY	<b>ISSUES</b> 5:2,19 6:1	<b>K</b> 3:15 11:10
<b>HOPING</b> 4:21	9:20 10:11	7:15 15:2 20:21 21:5	<b>KEEP</b> 18:8 22:7
<b>HOUR</b> 31:1	<b>INCREASE</b> 21:23,28	21:14 22:11,13,20	<b>KEY</b> 37:1
<b>HOUSE</b> 35:25	22:21	23:3,14 24:24 31:22	<b>KIND</b> 17:10 31:10
HUNG 8:28	<b>INCREASED</b> 21:24	33:1 38:6,17 40:17	<b>KINDS</b> 32:14
HYATT 2:8 3:6	INDEPENDENT		<b>KNEW</b> 36:15
HYDROGEOLOG	11:27 12:21 15:27	J	<b>KNOW</b> 5:19 6:2,2,6,8
40:12	16:4,9 17:13,15,26	<b>J</b> 2:9 3:9	6:13,21 8:22 9:28
HYDROGEOLOGY	27:7,16 35:10 39:17	JACOBSON 2:22	20:3,22,25 21:15
28:5,21 29:8 39:25	<b>INDICATE 31:2</b>	37:26,27	22:1 23:12 25:3,12
HYDROLOGIST	INDICATED 7:10	<b>JD</b> 14:18	25:15,17 27:2,26,28
12:28	21:1	<b>JEFFREY 3</b> :11	28:1 29:7 31:15
HYDROLOGY 14:28	<b>INDIVIDUALS</b> 35:13	<b>JEREMY</b> 17:5	32:15 35:1,21 36:13
15:2 21:9 25:15	39:11,19	<b>JERSEY</b> 13:19	36:18,20
	<b>INFER</b> 10:20	<b>JOB</b> 16:21 39:15	KNOWN 2:3
I	INFORMAL 14:8	<b>JOHN</b> 11:11	KRIEGER 2:3
<b>I-DON'T</b> 26:8	<b>INFORMATION 3:4</b>	<b>JOIN</b> 14:7	KRONICK 2:22
<b>IDAHO</b> 17:2	7:4 21:4,12,17 23:2	<b>JOINDER</b> 11:12	
<b>IDEA</b> 16:2 19:21	23:6 25:13,17 27:7	30:13	L
31:10	27:14 28:15 29:21	<b>JOINED</b> 29:18	L 3:12 2:6 11:11,12
<b>IDEAS</b> 23:25	31:26 32:1 33:18	<b>JOKO</b> 1:27,8 41:15	<b>L.A</b> 38:19
<b>IDENTIFIED 2:2</b>	34:23,28 35:18	<b>JUAN</b> 14:12	LA 2:13
29:22	<b>INFORMED</b> 4:1	<b>JUDGE</b> 1:5,6 13:6	<b>LABOR</b> 4:14
<b>IDENTIFY</b> 16:8	<b>INITIAL</b> 7:8 8:3	15:23 17:13 33:16	LADY 34:17
IDENTIFYING	<b>INITIATIVE</b> 17:12	33:19 41:5	LANDSCAPE 35:25
12:13 18:19	INTELLECT 9:5	JUDGE'S 16:27	LARGE 5:4
<b>IMAGE 30:28</b>	<b>INTEND</b> 36:27	<b>JUDGES</b> 13:28 14:5	LATE 36:10 38:11
<b>IMPACT 39:10</b>	INTERACTION 40:2	29:27	LAUNDRY 34:11
IMPERATIVE 39:25	INTERACTION 40.2 INTERCHANGE	JUDGMENT 3:14	LAW 9:7 13:17,24,25
IMPORTANT 4:22	14:5	8:5 10:25	15:26 17:12,27
4:22,23 24:23 29:8	INTERCHANGES	JUDICIAL 14:2,24	31:19 39:2
31:7 32:1	14:20	15:26 16:20,26	LAWYER 10:22 11:8
<b>IMPOSED</b> 4:8	INTERCONNECT	17:25 18:8 20:10	37:22
IMPOSSIBLE 40:23	21:5	21:26	<b>LAWYERS</b> 17:17
	21.3		
			<u> </u>

	1	1	1
18:22 24:8	LOOKING 28:9	37:19,20	MUNICIPAL 2:24
LAY 12:27	LOOKS 17:8 27:4	MEMBERS 18:9	MUSICK 3:9
LEAD 27:20 34:2	LOS 1:2 2:5,10 1:5	<b>MENTION 35:3,4</b>	
LEGISLATURE	41:2,17	MENTIONED 6:3	<u> </u>
16:12,22	LOSE 36:8 40:19	<b>MERE</b> 39:14	N 2:16 4:1 17:4
<b>LET'S</b> 8:18 37:11	LOT 25:2 36:15 39:2	MERITS 8:28 11:23	NAME 1:2 2:7 6:26
38:21	LOTS 33:15	MESSIEURS 14:26	8:7 27:24 28:2 32:16
LETTER 5:6	LOWER 14:12	METHOD 32:11	40:13
LETTING 7:21		METHODOLOGY	NAMED 14:10,21
LEVEL 6:18 24:22	M	39:12	NAMES 2:28 15:14
LICENSE 28:2 40:13	<b>M</b> 2:4	<b>METHODS</b> 32:14	36:16
LICENSING 13:3	MA'AM 34:20 35:19	<b>MEXICO</b> 14:13,15	NANCY 11:11,12
LIKEWISE 18:5	MACHINE 9:27	14:18	<b>NATIONAL</b> 14:1,23
LIMITATIONS 2:12	MAGICALLY 21:26	MICHAEL 17:4	16:20,26 17:25 18:8
LIMITED 23:8	<b>MAJOR</b> 14:16	<b>MIDDLE</b> 4:19	20:10
LINE 18:21,26	MAN 9:3,5	MILL 30:22	NATIONALLY
LINED 19:18	MANAGED 5:3	MILLIONS 21:3	38:28
LINES 39:23	MANAGEMENT 5:8	<b>MINIMIS</b> 7:14,21,26	<b>NATURE</b> 28:17
LINK 6:16 17:24 20:2	31:12,21,24	8:6	34:10
LION 35:4	MAP 6:4,15,18,19	MINIMUM 13:10	NECESSARILY
LIST 1:26 2:23 14:27	38:27	21:8	12:16
15:13 34:11 36:12	<b>MAPS</b> 6:17	<b>MINUTE 26:19</b>	NECESSARY 26:10
LISTED 2:5	<b>MARC</b> 2:16	MISFILED 40:10	30:8 33:12
LISTENS 33:23	MARCH 7:21,23	MISSISSIPPI 13:26	<b>NEED</b> 7:15,23 8:21
LITIGANTS 39:13	MARK 4:15 17:12	MODEL 9:8 21:4	18:8 19:19 21:12
LITIGATION 12:12	MARKED 3:15	25:2	22:18 24:23 28:19
29:4 31:14 35:5,15	MARNIE 1:23	MODELING 4:12	28:24 29:4,10,11,13
LITIGATOR 14:16	<b>MARTIN 37:22</b>	16:28	30:5 32:28 36:2,14
<b>LITTLE</b> 4:19 11:23	MASTER 14:11,14	<b>MONDAY</b> 1:17,5	36:18
35:3,4,17 36:19,23	22:14 25:26 33:7	30:22 31:1	<b>NEEDED</b> 28:27 30:1
<b>LIVING</b> 1:28	34:1	<b>MONTHS</b> 12:12	35:27
LLP 2:3,25 3:6,9	MATKINS 3:12	14:20	NEEDING 32:12
LOA 3:14	<b>MATTER</b> 9:22 13:20	MORAN 17:1	<b>NEEDS</b> 21:17 27:7,15
LOCAL 28:10	22:20 38:14 41:20	<b>MORNING</b> 30:22	28:10
<b>LOCATE</b> 12:20	<b>MATTERS</b> 40:23	37:7 38:9	NET 2:22
17:19	<b>MBA</b> 14:17	<b>MOTION</b> 3:7,9 5:27	NEUTRAL 15:1
LOCATED 6:5 15:6	MEAN 7:25 23:20	8:19 9:10,12,13,14	22:26 26:28 28:20
15:11	24:21	9:16,18,20 10:3,10	30:1 35:16
LOCATION 1:28	MEANINGFULLY	10:18 11:4,12,21,23	<b>NEVER</b> 10:26 11:1,9
LODGED 3:19,27	35:28	12:17,23 20:23	11:15 32:26
LODGEMENT 10:24	MEASURE 11:6	22:24 23:1,13,24	<b>NEW</b> 13:18 14:13,15
<b>LOGIC</b> 39:3	<b>MEET</b> 23:16 37:15	25:25 29:14,19	14:18 17:6 24:24
LONG 24:20 34:10	<b>MEETS 33:22</b>	30:11 33:4 36:3	NEWS 19:22
LOOK 17:28 18:5	<b>MEINERS</b> 10:8 36:5	38:21	NICE 9:23
19:8,28 27:5 34:25	MELNICK 2:16 4:15	<b>MOVE</b> 20:18 23:13	<b>NOAH</b> 2:19
39:21,27	4:15,26,27 7:20,24	<b>MSC</b> 38:9	NON-ADVOCATE
LOOKED 16:13	24:6,9,19 26:5,9,17	MULTIPLE 6:17	25:4

	1	1	1
NON-PROFIT 1:7	<b>OPINION</b> 25:16,23	PAPERWORK 4:5	<b>PERFECT</b> 5:6 8:27
41:7	25:23,24 27:2 33:25	5:7,10 8:26 9:1	PERIODICALLY
NOTATIONS 31:2	<b>OPINIONS</b> 21:10	10:19,22 37:21	4:17
<b>NOTE</b> 25:19 26:2	<b>OPPORTUNITY</b>	<b>PARK</b> 2:9	PERMISSION 18:16
<b>NOTED</b> 1:7 5:22	16:1 22:4	<b>PARKS 3:2</b>	PERPLEXED 31:10
<b>NOTICE</b> 1:25 8:15	<b>OPPOSE</b> 2:20 7:20	<b>PART</b> 11:18 13:18	<b>PERSON</b> 2:5 6:27
23:22	8:9	14:16 25:9 35:26	13:2,5 22:27 28:20
NUMBER 1:1 5:4	<b>OPPOSED</b> 7:17,18	PARTICIPATE	32:8 38:19
10:22 28:3	<b>OPPOSING</b> 19:27	35:28 37:28	PERSON'S 40:13
NUNC 9:17	20:28 23:24	PARTICIPATED	PERSONALLY
	<b>OPPOSITION</b> 10:12	33:8,16	19:26
0	10:15 11:4 29:19	PARTICIPATING	<b>PERSONS</b> 1:26,27,27
<b>OAKS</b> 10:9 36:5	36:3	8:2 37:17	2:2,22 32:23
<b>OBJECT</b> 20:8,11	<b>OPPOSITIONS</b> 10:2	PARTICULAR 18:18	PERSPECTIVE
38:6,14	10:6	27:11,11,12	27:11
<b>OBJECTION</b> 2:24	<b>ORDER</b> 1:19,26 2:8	PARTICULARLY	PHASE 7:15 20:27
7:24 8:13 11:8 20:13	2:21,24,25 3:16 7:12	7:18 19:4	21:13 22:12 26:11
20:15 23:7 38:16	8:14 35:28	<b>PARTIES</b> 3:28 4:24	29:25,26 32:4 36:1
<b>OBJECTIONS</b> 3:19	<b>ORDINARY</b> 5:5	6:2,4,7,9,10,13 7:2,3	PHASING 3:8
3:20,26 4:2,7 10:24	ORGANIZATION	7:13 13:1 15:15	<b>PHONE 37:17</b>
<b>OBSERVE</b> 35:16	2:12 14:7	18:24 19:18 20:6	PHRASED 25:25
<b>OBSERVED</b> 26:26	<b>ORGANIZE</b> 3:22	21:1,18 22:3,16	<b>PHYSICAL</b> 3:14,27
<b>OBTAIN</b> 18:24	<b>ORGANIZING</b> 4:5	23:16,19,23 29:25	10:25 27:4,4 39:9,22
<b>OBVIOUS</b> 4:25 27:22	<b>ORIENTED</b> 18:10	32:22 33:25 34:10	<b>PICK</b> 12:2 22:26
<b>OBVIOUSLY</b> 9:5	<b>ORIGINAL</b> 2:12 10:3	39:8	32:17 39:22 40:25
35:6	10:15 12:23	PARTNERS 29:24	<b>PISANO</b> 2:4,9,10,19
OFFENDS 40:4	ORIGINALLY 9:14	<b>PARTY</b> 7:13 8:8 11:7	3:5
<b>OFFENSE</b> 19:11	11:21	12:15 19:27 23:24	<b>PLACE 5:17</b>
<b>OFFER</b> 16:1	<b>OSIAS</b> 3:12 35:21	32:16 34:15	PLACES 28:8
<b>OFFICE</b> 2:15,18 4:16	37:12,14	PARTY'S 33:11	PLAINTIFF 1:8 41:8
5:14	<b>OUGHT</b> 26:27	PASSIVE 5:13	PLAINTIFFS 28:26
OFFICER 2:16	OVERALL 22:1	<b>PATIENT 26:19</b>	PLANNING 12:11
<b>OFFSET</b> 28:27	OVERDRAFTED	PATTERSON 3:9	PLAUSIBLE 13:14
<b>OJAI</b> 2:21 6:22 21:7	32:24,26	21:6 26:20 27:1 30:3	19:3
26:23 34:28 35:3,12	<b>OVERTURES</b> 23:8	38:2,3	PLAYER 39:1
37:25	<b>OWNER</b> 35:25	PAUSE 8:10	<b>PLAYERS</b> 37:1 38:26
<b>OKAY</b> 3:6 4:21 5:1		<b>PAY</b> 12:3 15:28	PLAYING 38:24
6:21 20:15 24:4	<u> </u>	<b>PAYING 32:28</b>	PLEASE 8:7 40:9
26:18 30:20 37:11	<b>P.M</b> 1:17,9 37:5,18	<b>PDF</b> 6:16	PLENTY 19:17 23:2
38:13	38:4,7,10,18 40:24	PECOS 14:11	33:27
ONE-SIDED 28:13	<b>PAGE</b> 14:11 18:5	PEELER 3:9	<b>POINT</b> 4:4 11:15
28:17	40:16,18	PENDING 7:8	13:12 17:26 19:6
<b>ONES</b> 32:24	<b>PAGES</b> 9:14,27 12:23	<b>PEOPLE</b> 3:2 6:21,22	21:22 24:16 25:4
ONGOING 16:19	19:6 41:18	7:17,21 8:11 12:7,9	26:2,22 30:4,28
<b>OPEN</b> 1:12 18:27	<b>PAPER</b> 19:9 23:20	21:7 23:8 26:22	32:22 34:6,21 36:22
23:14 37:20 39:4	<b>PAPERS</b> 2:13 9:8,23	32:25 33:16,27	39:20
<b>OPENED</b> 16:24	22:23 23:21	36:15 37:11 39:10	<b>POINTED 30:3</b>

<b>POLITICS</b> 13:17	PROCEDURAL	2:22 16:26 24:13	<b>REASONABLE</b> 19:9
<b>POLLUTION</b> 13:20	18:19	PUBLICATIONS	39:7
<b>POOR</b> 29:1	<b>PROCEED</b> 2:26	34:26 35:1	REASONABLY
<b>PORTION 35:26</b>	PROCEEDING	<b>PULLED</b> 39:27	19:10,13
40:11	24:16	<b>PURPOSES</b> 7:7	<b>REASONS</b> 4:25 8:8
PORTIONS 15:7	PROCEEDINGS	16:12	33:11
<b>POSITION</b> 12:12,28	1:16,11 40:27 41:19	PURSUANT 3:16	<b>RECEIPT</b> 4:5
18:4,6,7 20:22,28	<b>PROCESS</b> 2:1 5:20	<b>PUT</b> 10:4 12:25 14:9	<b>RECEIVED 2:5 3:11</b>
22:23 23:5 26:21	15:14 22:5,14,25	17:24 20:2 22:22	31:3
27:6 31:20 32:8,23	23:11 39:7	23:19 30:23	<b>RECESS</b> 40:25
33:16,20	PROCESSED 5:5	<b>PUTS</b> 1:28	RECOGNIZE 10:5
<b>POSSIBILITY</b> 12:20	30:23,24,25	<b>PUTTING</b> 6:3	17:13
18:28 27:24	PROCESSES 23:15		RECOGNIZING
<b>POSSIBLE</b> 4:25	<b>PROCK</b> 1:23,24 2:14	Q	5:25
<b>POST</b> 4:8 6:8	<b>PRODUCT</b> 33:15	QUALIFICATIONS	<b>RECOLLECT</b> 7:18
<b>POTENTIAL</b> 15:2,13	PROFESSIONAL	32:17 34:14	<b>RECOMMEND</b> 34:9
27:20	13:27 14:4	QUALIFIED 14:28	<b>RECOMMENDAT</b>
PRACTICAL 2:1	PROFESSIONALS	32:16,18	23:15
<b>PRACTICE 3:7</b>	34:11	<b>QUESTION</b> 7:22	<b>RECOMMENDAT</b>
PREJUDICE 12:18	PROFESSOR 16:5	11:28 28:12 32:4,9	15:14 18:18
20:24 22:10 23:1	19:5,13 24:25 27:22	36:24	RECOMMENDED
PRELIMINARY	<b>PROGRAM</b> 14:3,23	<b>QUITE</b> 24:12	34:15
8:22	15:26 16:21	<b>QUOTE</b> 18:23,25	<b>RECORD</b> 1:14 8:10
<b>PREMATURE</b> 12:7	PROGRESS 4:11		11:18 30:13 37:24
<b>PREPARE</b> 25:22	PROJECT 24:11	R	40:20,21,22
36:26	PROMISES 4:12	<b>R</b> 3:15 2:6 11:11	<b>RECORDS</b> 30:17
<b>PREPARED</b> 36:16	<b>PROMPTED</b> 15:17	<b>R&amp;D</b> 2:6	<b>RECREATION 3:2</b>
PREPARING 21:3	<b>PROPER</b> 2:17 13:2	RAISE 32:5	REDACTED 3:16
PRESENT 3:13	<b>PROPERTY</b> 26:23	<b>RANGE</b> 23:3 28:6	<b>REFERENCE</b> 16:7
PRESENTED 25:18	35:25	RANKED 39:1	30:25,26
27:16 29:21 31:22	PROPOSAL 23:28	RATIONAL 29:10	<b>REFILED</b> 10:11
35:16	<b>PROPOSED</b> 2:8 3:16	<b>REACH</b> 2:1 36:15	REFLECT 6:17
PRESENTING 21:7	10:25 27:3 39:9,22	<b>REACHED</b> 14:6	REFUSED 10:5
22:3 39:16	PROPOSING 33:11	24:12	<b>REGARD</b> 20:21
<b>PRESIDING</b> 1:5 41:5	38:10	<b>READ</b> 3:23 16:25	21:13 37:12
<b>PRETTY</b> 5:6,7 25:3	<b>PROSPECT</b> 13:10	17:8,22 19:7 24:20	<b>REGARDING</b> 1:19
PREVIOUSLY 14:13	<b>PROSPECTIVE</b> 13:8	<b>READING</b> 17:27	2:21 3:7 34:23 35:23
37:14	PROTECTING	18:2 24:17 31:19	REGULAR 13:6
<b>PRICE</b> 27:23	31:13	<b>READS</b> 15:21	REGULATORY
<b>PRIMARY</b> 16:15	<b>PROVIDE</b> 13:7 21:11	REAL 4:20 11:28 REALISTICALLY	27:12 31:16
33:23	22:17 25:12 35:7	22:6	<b>RELATED</b> 36:19
<b>PRIOR</b> 3:28 4:9	PROVIDED 27:8	<b>REALLY</b> 4:13,13,13	RELATING 39:24
<b>PRO</b> 1:28 9:17 41:15	<b>PROVIDING</b> 8:3	14:8 21:17,21 24:13	<b>RELEVANT</b> 9:4
PROBABLY 2:28	28:14	24:22 25:27 26:8	<b>RELIEF</b> 32:25
13:23	<b>PS</b> 16:11	28:19,20 29:8 40:1,4	<b>RELY</b> 19:7,10 24:24
<b>PROBLEM</b> 13:19	<b>PUBLIC</b> 39:5,11 40:4	<b>REASON</b> 18:10 31:28	<b>RELYING</b> 25:20,21
22:9 32:22,27	<b>PUBLICATION</b> 1:21	<b>NEASUN</b> 10.10 31.20	<b>REMOTE</b> 2:13

<b>RENDON</b> 16:17	33:23	17:12	3:13 10:3 15:7
RENEWED 8:19	<b>RETAINING</b> 19:19	<b>SCHRECK 2:8 3:6</b>	<b>SERVING</b> 20:8
<b>RENO</b> 14:2	<b>REVIEW</b> 13:4 17:27	SCIENCE 17:6 18:1	SET 4:6 9:23 22:8
<b>REPEAT</b> 22:22	27:7,16 33:18	18:2,3,4 25:13,16,17	36:9
<b>REPLY</b> 10:15,16 11:3	<b>RIGHT</b> 6:6 15:15	28:7,7 34:23 39:17	<b>SETS</b> 20:26
18:21	24:19 35:6	40:3	<b>SETTING 26:21</b>
<b>REPORT</b> 7:11 9:26	<b>RIO</b> 14:12	SCIENTIFIC 10:26	SHANAAN 2:22
36:18	<b>RISK</b> 27:21 33:24	11:5 13:8 19:9 28:9	<b>SHARE</b> 16:14 26:22
<b>REPORTED</b> 1:27	<b>RIVER</b> 10:8 13:11	28:10,15 32:9	SHARED 4:24 19:4
<b>REPORTER</b> 1:28,8	15:5 32:24,26 36:4	SCIENTIFICALLY	SHARING 36:13
41:15	<b>ROAD</b> 19:3	25:14	SHAWN 2:4 5:15
<b>REPORTER'S</b> 1:16	<b>ROBERT</b> 37:22	<b>SCOTT</b> 3:7	SHOULDER 5:11
REPORTS 27:5	<b>ROBIE</b> 15:19,25	SCRATCH 3:13	<b>SHOVE</b> 6:18
29:12	<b>ROCKIES</b> 13:22	SEARCH 15:15	SHOW 1:19,26 2:21
REPRESENT 8:8	<b>ROES</b> 3:3	SECOND 1:23 8:28	6:4,26
REPRESENTATI	RONALD 2:6	17:23 20:7 25:9	<b>SHOWING 2:18</b>
39:19	<b>ROSANNA</b> 10:23	36:20	21:20
REPRESENTED	11:3	<b>SECRET</b> 20:2	<b>SIDE</b> 23:24
26:13	<b>RUN</b> 14:2,23	SECTION 12:5	<b>SIDES</b> 29:13
REPRESENTING	RUN-OF-THE-MI	<b>SEE</b> 6:9,21 13:27	<b>SIGNED</b> 2:25 8:4
10:20 11:7 20:28	28:7	16:24 17:19 18:5	SIMILAR 36:5
29:25	<b>RUTAN</b> 2:25	19:8 22:6 23:27	SIMILARLY-ALI
<b>REQUEST</b> 1:20 7:16		24:14,25 30:20	28:26
7:19 8:9 22:15,28	S	32:22,26 36:17	<b>SIMPLY</b> 35:15
25:27 31:17 34:24	<b>S</b> 3:7,11	37:11 38:27 40:2	<b>SINGLE</b> 6:15,19
<b>REQUESTED</b> 8:13	SACRAMENTO	SEEKING 32:25	35:24
<b>REQUIREMENT</b> 4:8	15:21 16:18,22	<b>SEEN 30:4</b>	SIR 20:14 33:2 40:5
4:10	SAMPLE 40:12,13	SELECTING 32:14	40:16
REQUIREMENTS	SAN 1:19 5:3,16 8:16	<b>SELECTION 32:12</b>	SITTING 15:19
12:27	10:7,13 11:4 12:10	<b>SELECTS 33:17</b>	SITUATION 22:27
RESEARCH 16:15	14:12 19:17 37:7	SENSE 12:16	32:19
17:14,16,26	<b>SANTA</b> 1:7 3:5 1:2,15	SENT 14:25 20:4	SITUATIONS 21:16
<b>RESETTING 3:9</b>	41:7	24:14 30:27 40:10	<b>SLATER 3</b> :7 33:5
<b>RESOLVE</b> 32:21	<b>SAT</b> 9:3	SEPARATE 26:5	36:14
<b>RESOURCE</b> 13:27	SATISFIED 2:17	<b>SEPARATELY 26:13</b>	<b>SLEEP 24:18</b>
31:13	<b>SAW</b> 4:2	SEPTEMBER 36:10	SNYDER 14:10,26
<b>RESOURCES</b> 1:10	<b>SAYING</b> 13:22	<b>SEQUENCING 3:8</b>	15:18 16:14 17:22
2:14 1:3,16 41:10	<b>SAYS</b> 39:9	SERIATIM 24:8	18:15
<b>RESPECT 27:11</b>	SCANNING 30:27	<b>SERVE</b> 1:20 3:3	<b>SOFISTRY</b> 28:28
33:14	SCARCITY 13:20	11:17 20:3,9	<b>SOLUTION 3:14,27</b>
<b>RESPOND</b> 34:14	34:27	<b>SERVED</b> 9:11,15	10:25 27:4,4 39:9,22
RESPONDED 18:14	SCHEDULE 13:8	10:23 11:1,8 14:13	SOMEBODY 24:26
<b>RESPONSE</b> 2:5 3:20	22:7 35:23 36:8,27	33:6	28:27 34:14
8:12 15:17 17:20,21	SCHEDULED 37:16	SERVER 2:1	SOMEWHAT 33:21
18:13 25:7 37:24	SCHEDULING 5:26	SERVEXPRESS	SOON 4:25 6:12
RESPONSIBILITY	16:12	11:17	12:25
9:6 16:19 32:27	SCHOOL 3:8 9:7	SERVICE 1:27 2:21	SOPHIE 3:3
L			

SOPHISTICATED	<b>STREAM</b> 14:12	19:10,28 24:20	15:11 20:26 21:8,23
9:3	<b>STREET</b> 1:3 41:3	25:19 34:2	22:16 25:12 28:14
<b>SORRY</b> 31:6	<b>STUDENT</b> 17:11	<b>TAKEN</b> 10:6 34:25	29:12,21
<b>SORT</b> 17:26 19:14	STUMBLED 19:21	<b>TALENT</b> 15:16	THRESHOLD 23:12
23:12	<b>STYLED</b> 10:23 11:2	TALK 5:25,26 16:9	TIDINESS 9:8
<b>SOUND</b> 39:17	11:10	18:22,23	<b>TIME</b> 1:9 2:17 8:28
SOUTH 2:5	SUBMAPS 6:17	<b>TALKED</b> 34:22	9:2,10,12 12:19 13:8
SPEAK 8:11 20:12	<b>SUBMIT</b> 4:2 5:3	<b>TARA</b> 17:1	16:9,18 20:11 21:22
24:7	32:15,16	<b>TEAM</b> 19:27	22:19,25 23:1 30:6,8
SPEAKER 16:17,17	SUBMITTED 13:3	TECHNICAL 33:17	33:4 34:6 35:27 36:7
<b>SPEAKING 35:8</b>	31:5 34:27	33:18,22 34:2 40:17	36:26
SPECIAL 14:11,14	SUBSIDIZED 29:3	TELL 17:9 18:3	<b>TIMELY</b> 15:24 33:12
22:14 25:26 34:1	SUBSTANTIAL 8:10	TELLS 19:17	TIMING 3:8 36:19
<b>SPECIFIC</b> 5:24 32:4	SUCCESSFUL 5:21	TEM 1:28 41:15	TITLED 16:26
SPECIFICALLY	SUCCESSOR 2:3	TEND 5:13 27:1	<b>TODAY</b> 1:22 8:2
14:21 15:2	<b>SUED</b> 2:6	TERMS 25:10 34:22	12:17 14:25 18:15
<b>SPEED</b> 22:27 36:7	SUFFICIENT 21:11	36:19	30:24 36:6,20,25
<b>SPEND</b> 36:26	25:13	<b>TESTIFYING 29:28</b>	37:15 38:17
<b>SPENT</b> 21:3	SUGGESTING 21:26	TESTIMONY 22:17	<b>TOLD</b> 17:18
<b>SPOUSE</b> 10:21	SUGGESTION 12:22	<b>TEXT</b> 17:25	<b>TONIGHT</b> 24:18
<b>SPRING</b> 1:3 41:3	23:19 24:1	THACHER 3:8	<b>TOPIC</b> 18:27 36:21
SQUEEZING 9:22	SUGGESTIONS	THANK 7:28 8:17	<b>TOUCH</b> 14:9
<b>STAFF</b> 5:7 31:24,27	23:17,21	9:25 19:24 20:14,20	<b>TRACK</b> 4:18
32:28	SUGGESTS 12:25	23:9 24:9 26:3,7,15	<b>TRAILED</b> 1:21 40:24
STANDARD 29:26	<b>SUITE 2</b> :10	26:17 27:17,27	TRANSCRIPT 1:16
STANFORD 17:2	<b>SUPERIOR</b> 1:1 41:1	29:16 30:8,9 33:2	41:19
STAR 12:27	41:16	34:16 35:19 39:1	TRANSLATION
START 16:3	SUPERVISION 2:14	40:4,5,15	33:24
<b>STARTING</b> 13:12	SUPPLEMENTAL	<b>THERETO 3:20</b>	TRANSVERSE 28:5
<b>STATE</b> 1:1,10 2:14	1:22,24 10:12	<b>THING</b> 1:18 24:15,19	<b>TREAT</b> 7:25
1:3,15 4:11 7:18,20	<b>SUPPORT</b> 10:25 18:6	36:20	<b>TREATISE</b> 19:6,22
8:7,26 10:7,22 15:28	23:24	<b>THINGS</b> 1:17 19:19	19:25
16:18 21:2 24:7,8 25:1 26:5,13 27:9,12	<b>SUPPORTIVE</b> 24:11 34:8	40:26	<b>TRIAL</b> 20:27 22:12 26:11 36:8
30:7 31:11 33:26	<b>SUPPORTS</b> 18:4	<b>THINK</b> 5:28 6:14,20 6:28 7:6,14,25 18:7	<b>TRIBUTARIES</b> 15:6
35:8 37:19 41:1,10	SUPPOSED 36:9	19:9 20:5 23:23	<b>TRIED</b> 13:27
41:16	SURE 6:20 13:12	24:21 25:2 28:19,27	<b>TRUE</b> 24:2 25:26
<b>STATE'S</b> 25:10	19:12 20:3 24:28	29:20 30:3,5,17	31:4 35:14 41:18
<b>STATING 27:21</b>	30:14 31:6	31:28 32:21 34:22	<b>TRULY</b> 22:26
<b>STATUS</b> 3:6 5:1,24	<b>SURFACE</b> 15:3	35:9 40:18	TRUST 2:7 11:12
7:7,10	SURVEY 17:5	<b>THIRD</b> 15:20 34:15	35:8 39:6,14 40:4
<b>STAYING</b> 5:1	<b>SYSTEM</b> 5:17	<b>THOMAS</b> 16:5	<b>TRUSTEE</b> 2:6
<b>STEPS</b> 10:5 11:19		THOROUGHNESS	<b>TRY</b> 3:3 8:27 12:14
<b>STEVE</b> 14:10	T	37:3	16:25 19:12
STIPULATED 3:13	<b>T</b> 1:27 41:15	<b>THOUGHT</b> 36:21	<b>TRYING</b> 12:20 17:28
7:13,19,27	<b>TABLE</b> 21:19 23:5	THOUGHTS 26:25	36:16 37:15
<b>STIPULATIONS</b> 8:4	TAKE 9:7 11:19	<b>THREE</b> 9:14 13:5	TUCKER 2:25
L		•	•

<b>TUESDAY</b> 37:17	VACATION 37:16	<b>WAY</b> 13:13,14 14:4	<b>WRITING</b> 36:4,5
<b>TUNC</b> 9:18	<b>VARIETY</b> 14:14	19:20 22:6 23:28	WRITINGS 40:11
<b>TURN</b> 8:18 11:22	VARIOUS 3:19 10:2	WAYS 19:2	<b>WROTE</b> 18:15,23
40:9	10:6 23:3	WE'LL 2:25 5:19,20	37:14
<b>TURNS 32:3</b>	VARIOUSLY 1:27	6:8,13,20 20:18 36:8	
<b>TWO</b> 6:1 13:2	<b>VENTURA 2:2 10:8</b>	40:25	X
<b>TYPE</b> 11:9 30:1 31:3	12:26 13:11 15:5,12	WE'RE 1:14 3:6 5:17	<b>X</b> 4:1
31:14 40:3	16:10 32:24,26 36:4	7:27 12:24 22:26	X-NUMBER 6:22
<b>TYPES 34:12</b>	VENTURA'S 4:4	24:10 35:14 36:21	
	28:28	36:25 37:15	<u> </u>
U	<b>VERSION</b> 9:15,18,24	WE'VE 7:10 31:11	<b>YEAH</b> 18:22
<b>U.S</b> 17:5	<b>VERSUS</b> 1:15 36:10	WEB 14:11 20:1	<b>YEARS</b> 21:3,10 33:7
UC 16:5	36:20	<b>WEBSITE</b> 6:8,17	Z
ULTIMATE 39:5	<b>VIEW</b> 17:26 25:4	WEEK 6:7 16:9 36:28	
ULTIMATELY	26:22	WENZLAU 3:3 26:12	ZEALAND 17:6
15:27	VIRGINIA 14:3	26:15	0
UNAVAILABLE	VIRTUALLY 8:11	<b>WEST</b> 13:17,21 33:28	
37:1	<b>VOLUMINOUS</b> 3:14	WESTERN 13:24,28	1
UNBIASED 31:25	<b>VS</b> 1:3	WETTER 13:18	17:15,21,23 10:8
UNDERGRADUA		<b>WHISKEY</b> 13:22	20:27 21:14 22:12
14:17	W	<b>WHITE</b> 17:5	29:26 36:1
<b>UNDERSTAND</b> 9:6	<b>W</b> 14:22	WHITMAN 3:15	<b>1:10</b> 18:15
22:25 31:19 39:25	<b>WAIT</b> 7:21 18:22,23	11:7,11,11,11,12,16	<b>1:22</b> 18:23
UNDERSTANDAB	36:10	30:12,19 31:4,6,9	<b>10</b> 1:5,6 9:19 41:5
9:9	WAITING 30:22	39:16	<b>10,000</b> 39:10
UNDERSTANDING	WANT 4:4 5:12,23	WILDLIFE 2:17 27:9	10:00 37:5
2:4,27 16:28 27:3	6:1 18:3,5 19:7	WILDMAN 17:2	<b>11</b> 10:17 12:23
UNDERSTOOD 6:25	21:24 22:22,24	WILLIAM 1:5,6 41:5	<b>12</b> 9:14,27 12:23
UNIQUE 28:6	24:10 25:19 27:20	WILLIAMSBURG	<b>12-PAGE</b> 40:9
UNIVERSITY 14:17	32:5 34:21	14:3	<b>12272</b> 1:27,8
UNKNOWN 35:6	WANTED 17:9 26:2	<b>WIND</b> 38:25	<b>12TH</b> 3:19,28 4:7,8,9
UPCOMING 35:28	36:21	WISH 2:7,20 26:14	<b>15</b> 11:9
UPLOADED 6:16	WANTS 8:2 22:9	29:17 30:10 33:3	<b>15TH</b> 1:23
<b>UPPER</b> 6:21 34:28	23:14 24:6,8	35:20 38:5,13,22	<b>16</b> 1:24
35:3,12	<b>WATER</b> 1:10 2:14,24	40:6	<b>19</b> 1:17,5 41:20
<b>UPSHOT</b> 11:24	1:3,16 9:4 10:8,9	<b>WISHED</b> 34:17	<b>19STCP01176</b> 1:9,1
<b>USE</b> 14:15 22:15	11:13 13:19,23,24	WITNESS 18:18,20	1:15 41:9
<b>USEABLE</b> 6:20	13:25,28 14:5,15	WOOD-CLAEYSS	<b></b>
<b>USEFUL</b> 18:11,11 27:12 25:0	15:3,12,26,28 16:3,4 21:27 25:1 29:4	2:7	$\frac{2}{2}$
27:13 35:9 <b>USER</b> 8:6		WORD 16:25 17:9	<b>2</b> 10:9
USER 8:0 USERS 7:26 12:11	31:15 33:7 36:4,5 39:6 41:10	WORK 5:13 16:11	<b>2:00</b> 37:5,18 38:4,7,10
<b>USURPING</b> 31:20	<b>WATERS</b> 14:4,23	24:13 25:2 27:23	38:18 40:24
USURPING 51.20 UT 14:18	16:21 18:17 23:8	<b>WORKING</b> 5:18	<b>20</b> 33:7
<b>UI</b> 14.10	24:11 33:15	12:13 21:9 25:1	<b>2018</b> 17:1
V	<b>WATERSHED</b> 13:11	WORKS 17:11	<b>2021</b> 1:17,5 41:20,22
V 1:9 41:9	21:5,10 39:28	WORSE 33:19	<b>2022</b> 7:22,23
	21.3,10 37.20	<b>WOULDN'T</b> 25:21	<b>2049</b> 2:9
	I	l	l

		13
<b>21</b> 10:4		
21628,Signature		
41:25		
<b>21ST</b> 41:22		
<b>23</b> 9:19 10:11 18:5		
38:18		
<b>23RD</b> 36:28		
<b>25TH</b> 2:5		
<b>28TH</b> 2:5		
3		
<b>3:00</b> 1:17,9		
<b>30</b> 29:11		
300 2:5		
<b>34</b> 34:26		
<b>3550</b> 2:10		
4		
<b>43</b> 2:18,22		
<b>44</b> 1:26		
5		
6		
<b>60</b> 9:22		
<b>6TH</b> 6:3		
7		
7 40:18		
<b>730</b> 12:6		
8		
<b>8</b> 10:23		
<b>845</b> 22:14		
9		
911:1		
<b>90067</b> 2:10		
90071 2:5		
<b>91-PAGE</b> 3:13		
<b>96</b> 19:6		
<b>96-PAGE</b> 16:25 19:22		
20:9		
	 1	1