

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BEFORE THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

In re:) [AO]
) Docket No. 15-0071
)
Milk in California)
)

VOLUME XI

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

October 6, 2015

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In re:) Docket No. 15-0071
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Milk in California)
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BEFORE U.S. ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE
JILL S. CLIFTON

Tuesday, October 6, 2015
9:00 a.m.

Clovis Veterans Memorial District
808 4th Street
Clovis, California 93613

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
VOLUME 11

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WITNESSES

PAGE

ERIC ERBA

CONTINUED CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. MILTNER	2168
REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. VLAHOS	2170
CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. FRANCIS	2185
RE CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. ENGLISH	2203
RE CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. ENGLISH	2212
RE CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. FRANCIS	2213
RE CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. VETNE	2214
RE CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. SCHIEK	2222
REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. VLAHOS	2225
RE CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. FRANCIS	2227
RE CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. SCHIEK	2229

LON HATAMIYA, MBA, JD

DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON	2231
STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA	2234
DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON	2242
STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA	2243
DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON	2255
STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA	2256
DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON	2259
STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA	2260
DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON	2261
STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA	2262
DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON	2267
STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA	2268
DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON	2269
STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA	2271
DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON	2278
STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA	2284
VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION BY MR. ENGLISH	2292
DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. SCHIEK	2320
CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. VETNE	2351
CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. ENGLISH	2389
CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MS. HANCOCK	2395
CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. FRANCIS	2408

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EXHIBITS

NUMBER	DESCRIPTION	ID.	REC'D
Exhibit 54	Testimony of Lon Hatamiya The Economic Importance of of the California Dairy Quota Program, An Invaluable Assert to the Dairy Farmer and the State	2231	2306
Exhibit 55	Illustration of Dairy Institute's Proposed Quota Program	2279	2306
Exhibit 56	Specious in Seattle - Forbes	2347	

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015, 9:00 A.M.

CLOVIS, CALIFORNIA

P R O C E E D I N G S

JUDGE CLIFTON: We're back on record. It is October 6, 2015. It's a Tuesday. It's 9:00 in the morning. And this is Day 11 of the Milk Hearing. My name is Jill Clifton. I'm the United States Administrative Law Judge who's assigned to take evidence at this hearing.

There are two kinds of evidence, testimony and exhibits, and we've had a lot of each. Some witnesses have been on the witness stand for multiple days, including the witness whose testimony is expected to resume first thing this morning.

I would like to take appearances of those who are participating beginning first, please, with other employees of the United States Department of Agriculture.

MR. FRANCIS: Good morning, everyone. Welcome back. William Francis. F-R-A-N-C-I-S. United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service.

MR. CARMAN: Good morning. Clifford Carman.

1 C-A-R-M-A-N. Dairy Programs, Assistant to the Deputy
2 Administrator, USDA.

3 MS. FRISIUS: Good morning. Meredith Frisius.
4 M-E-R-E-D-I-T-H. F-R-I-S-I-U-S. And I'm a Agricultural
5 Marketing -- Dairy -- totally can't remember the title
6 right now. Anyway, I work for USDA.

7 MS. MAY: Laurel May. L-A-U-R-E-L. M-A-Y.
8 With USDA/AMS Dairy Program. I'm a Marketing Specialist
9 Rule Writer.

10 MR. MYKRANTZ: John Mykrantz. J-O-H-N.
11 M-Y-K-R-A-N-T-Z. Economist with the Pacific Northwest
12 and Arizona Orders on detail with Dairy Program.

13 MR. SCHAEFER: Henry Schaefer. H-E-N-R-Y.
14 S-C-H-A-E-F-E-R. Agricultural Economist for the Upper
15 Midwest Milk Marketing Area, Federal Order 30, on detail
16 for AMS.

17 MS. BECKER: Lauren Becker. L-A-U-R-E-N.
18 B-E-C-K-E-R. USDA Office of General Counsel.

19 MR. HILL: Brian Hill. B-R-I-A-N. H-I-L-L.
20 With the Office of General Counsel.

21 JUDGE CLIFTON: And now I'd like teams who
22 represent a proposal or oppose a proposal to assemble
23 one -- one team at a time and identify themselves.

24 MR. BESHORE: Marvin Beshore. M-A-R-V-I-N.
25 B-E-S-H-O-R-E. Representing the proponents of Proposal

1 1, California Dairies, Dairy Farmers of America, and
2 Land O'Lakes.

3 MR. VLAHOS: John Vlahos, Hanson Bridgett.
4 That's J-O-H-N. V-L-A-H-O-S. Hanson, H-A-N-S-O-N.
5 Bridgett, B-R-I-D-G-E-T-T. Also representing the co-op
6 proponents of Proposal Number 1.

7 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Good morning. My name
8 is Megan Oliver Thompson. Megan is M-E-G-A-N. Also an
9 attorney with Hanson Bridgett and co-counsel for the
10 proponents of Proposal Number 1.

11 MR. SCHAD: Good morning. Dennis Schad.
12 S-C-H-A-D. I work for Land O'Lakes.

13 DR. ERBA: Good morning. Eric Erba. E-R-I-C.
14 E-R-B-A. I work for California Dairies, Inc.

15 MR. ENGLISH: Good morning, Your Honor. Chip
16 English. C-H-I-P. E-N-G-L-I-S-H. With the law firm of
17 Davis Wright Tremaine in Washington, DC, representing
18 proponents of Proposal Number 2, the Dairy Institute of
19 California.

20 MR. VULIN: Ashley Vulin. A-S-H-L-E-Y. V, as
21 in Victor, U-L-I-N. Working for Davis Wright Tremaine,
22 also co-counsel for the Dairy Institute of California.

23 MR. SCHIEK: Good morning. William Schiek.
24 S-C-H-I-E-K. Economist with the Dairy Institute.

25 MS. KALDOR: Rachel Kaldor. R-A-C-H-E-L.

1 K-A-L-D-O-R. Executive Director, Dairy Institute.

2 MR. BLAUFUSS: Good morning. Rob Blaufuss.
3 Blaufuss, B-L-A-U-F-U-S-S. From Dean Foods Company.

4 MR. DEJONG: James Dejong. J-A-M-E-S.
5 D-E-J-O-N-G. I am with Hilmar Cheese Company, a
6 manufacturer of whey, milk powders, and cheese.

7 MS. TAYLOR: Good morning. Sue Taylor with
8 Leprino Foods. L-E-P-R-I-N-O.

9 MR. VETNE: Good morning. John Vetne,
10 V-E-T-N-E, representative for Hilmar Cheese.

11 MR. HANCOCK: Nicole Hancock, H-A-N-C-O-C-K,
12 with Stoel Rives. S-T-O-E-L. R-I-V-E-S. Representing
13 the California Producer Handlers Association and
14 Ponderosa Dairy.

15 MR. LAI: Victor Lai, last name spelled L-A-I,
16 with Producers Dairy Foods, a member of California
17 Producer Handlers Association.

18 JUDGE CLIFTON: I'd like now for other
19 participants to identify themselves even if they're not
20 part of a team that put together a proposal.

21 MS. REED: Good morning. Kristine Reed.
22 K-R-I-S-T-I-N-E. R-E-E-D. With the Miltner Law Firm,
23 M-I-L-T-E-R, representing Select Milk Producers.

24 MR. MILTNER: Good morning. Ryan Miltner with
25 Miltner Law Firm representing Select Milk Producers.

1 JUDGE CLIFTON: Is there anyone who has not
2 yet identified themselves who would like to testify this
3 morning? There is no one at this time.

4 I'd like now to address preliminary matters.
5 One is the docket number. The docket number has in
6 brackets capital A capital O. That stands for
7 Agreements and Orders. That's a designation given to
8 this kind of case by the hearing clerk of the United
9 States Department of Agriculture where the docket number
10 in the hearing clerk's office is 15 hyphen 0071.

11 With regard to the schedule this week, we are
12 not meeting all day on Friday, rather we will go off
13 record Friday no later than 12:00 noon.

14 I'd like now to take other preliminary matters
15 beginning with any that the United States Department of
16 Agriculture would like to announce.

17 MS. MAY: I feel like everybody should just
18 sort of sing along with me while I do this.

19 Welcome to our hearing. So glad you're all
20 here. As you know, we are here to take testimony and
21 receive evidence on the subject of a proposal to
22 establish a market order for milk here in California.

23 If you would like to testify in the hearing,
24 you can let us, and specifically Meredith know, and she
25 will notify the judge.

1 If anybody in the audience would like to ask
2 questions, they certainly may. You can do so by
3 approaching the microphone and the judge will
4 acknowledge you.

5 We are broadcasting this hearing session via
6 live audio feed that you can access at
7 tinyurl.com/camilkhearing.

8 The court reporter is recording the official
9 transcripts, which will be available approximately two
10 weeks after the end of each hearing week on our AMS
11 website.

12 Exhibits that are entered into the proceeding
13 are numbered in order of presentation. Copies of those
14 are available, again, on our website after the court
15 reporter scans and enters them. And there are some
16 spare copies over here on the side of the room if you'd
17 like to pick them up.

18 We do have refreshments for you in the back of
19 the room, which we hope you will enjoy.

20 And as for the order of the day, we ended
21 yesterday with the cross-examination of Dr. Erba, and
22 today because it seems like he's doing so well at it and
23 enjoys it so much, we're going to let him come back and
24 do some more.

25 That's all we have.

1 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you. Dr. Erba, you may
2 approach the witness stand. I'll see if there are any
3 other preliminary matters.

4 I do have a couple of additional. One is
5 anyone is welcome to record this proceeding, whether
6 you're listening from a remote place on the audio feed
7 or whether you're here in the room. That, of course, is
8 not the official record. The official record is being
9 created by the court reporter.

10 What we do after all of the evidence is in, we
11 invite any corrections to the transcript. I receive
12 those in particular from the personnel not only of USDA
13 but also the proponents, but anyone is welcome to
14 propose a correction. I then review those proposed
15 corrections and decide which ones to accept and whether
16 I have any of my own. The transcript plus the proposed
17 corrections then constitute the official record of the
18 oral proceeding. The other part of the evidence that I
19 certify would be the exhibits.

20 We do have a copy machine in the back of the
21 room if anyone needs to make additional copies. We did
22 very well yesterday with having copies available for the
23 participants here in the room without having to rely on
24 that copy machine, but feel free to use it if you'd like
25 to supplement the copies that you brought of any of

1 the -- of the exhibits.

2 What other preliminaries matters are there?

3 I think, Mr. Hill, you may want to read into
4 the record the statement with regard to the California
5 Department of Food and Agriculture.

6 MR. HILL: One second, Your Honor.

7 MS. MAY: While we're waiting for Mr. Hill --
8 Laurel May -- as far as the copier goes, we're kind of
9 lower on copier paper, so we'll run out today and get
10 some more, but just subtle warning don't necessarily
11 think that there's paper back there.

12 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay.

13 MS. MAY: I think we're kind of low.

14 JUDGE CLIFTON: You have -- you have some.

15 MS. MAY: We have a little, I think, but we're
16 running out.

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. Thank you.

18 MR. HILL: Okay. One second.

19 MS. MAY: Oh, yeah, one more thing. Meredith
20 reminded me that it's -- it probably would help us save
21 paper would make double-sided copies of their exhibits,
22 just to kind of save on paper. Which you -- it's a
23 choice that you can make on the copier, you can go from
24 one to two sided. Come and get us if you need help with
25 that.

1 MR. HILL: Brian Hill. I will again read the
2 statement from CDFA.

3 "CDFA will be present on October 8th for the
4 limited purpose of entering reports into the hearing
5 record developed in response to requests from interested
6 parties. CDFA will only answer questions regarding the
7 compilation of the data contained in these reports in
8 order to remain neutral and avoid being associated with
9 a particular proposal."

10 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you, Mr. Hill.

11 Are there any other preliminary matters?

12 There are none.

13 Dr. Erba, you remain sworn. Would you again
14 state and spell your name?

15 THE WITNESS: Eric Erba. E-R-I-C. E-R-B-A.

16 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you.

17 Mr. Miltner, would you like to resume your
18 cross-examination of Dr. Erba?

19 MR. MILTNER: Thank you, Your Honor.

20 CROSS-EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. MILTNER:

22 Q. Good morning, Dr. Erba.

23 A. Good morning.

24 JUDGE CLIFTON: State and spell your name.

25 MR. MILTNER: I'm -- I'm sorry. Ryan Miltner,

1 M-i-l-t-n-e-r, for Select Milk Producers.

2 BY MR. MILTNER:

3 Q. Dr. Erba, we left off yesterday and I had
4 asked if the cooperatives would be amenable to amending
5 their proposal to set up a separate producer-settlement
6 fund for out-of-state producers, and I think we left it
7 that perhaps you were going to confer or discuss among
8 the proponents of Proposal Number 1. Have you had a
9 chance to do that?

10 A. Not exactly.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. My -- my -- my response to your original
13 question was I can't give you an answer because we have
14 not talked about it, and the -- the folks that I would
15 talk about weren't here at the meeting -- at the hearing
16 at the time you asked the question, so we still have not
17 talked about it.

18 Q. Okay. That was -- as I promised, I was going
19 to finish up in ten minutes yesterday, and we carried
20 over a minute or so. I -- I don't have any further
21 questions. Thank you very much, Dr. Erba.

22 A. You're welcome.

23 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you, Mr. Miltner.

24 Who next would like to ask Dr. Erba additional
25 questions? I know there were about six of you yesterday

1 who indicated that you would.

2 So this will be some redirect at this time?

3 MR. VLAHOS: That's correct, Your Honor.

4 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. VLAHOS:

6 Q. John Vlahos on behalf of the Co-op proponents
7 of Proposal Number 1. Just a couple of questions or so,
8 Dr. Erba.

9 Last Friday on cross-examination by
10 Mr. English, he referred you to certain testimony before
11 CDFA, I believe it was on June 3rd, 19 -- I think
12 perhaps 2009, I'm not quite sure. The -- it was in
13 Exhibit 53. He referred you to a statement that you
14 made, and I'm going to read it to you, I'm going to
15 quote it.

16 JUDGE CLIFTON: You're talking about Exhibit
17 53?

18 MR. VLAHOS: I am.

19 JUDGE CLIFTON: I'd like to hand it to the
20 witness, and if you'll tell us all what page you're
21 looking at.

22 MR. VLAHOS: I'm looking -- actually, Your
23 Honor, it's only preliminary, I'm going to read an exact
24 quote and ask a question about it, so --

25 JUDGE CLIFTON: I --

1 BY MR. VLAHOS:

2 Q. It's on page 110, lines 22 to 111 at line 7.

3 A. I'm sorry, what page did you say?

4 Q. 110.

5 A. This one only goes up to 68. This must not be
6 the right one.

7 JUDGE CLIFTON: Yeah, Exhibit --

8 MR. VLAHOS: Oh, no, excuse me, I misspoke the
9 exhibit number. I meant 45. I'm very sorry. I jumped
10 ahead in my notes.

11 JUDGE CLIFTON: Now, Mr. Vlahos, Exhibit 45
12 says June 3rd, 2015, on its --

13 MR. VLAHOS: '15, correct.

14 JUDGE CLIFTON: -- top.

15 MR. VLAHOS: I misspoke my notes, Your Honor.

16 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right, then.

17 Do you have one in front of you --

18 THE WITNESS: I do.

19 JUDGE CLIFTON: -- Dr. Erba? All right.

20 So --

21 THE WITNESS: It actually says 110 on it.

22 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right.

23 BY MR. VLAHOS:

24 Q. Dr. Erba, the quote that I'm talking about,
25 it's where it says, "An acceptable level of price

1 difference exists for most of the classes of milk when
2 comparing California milk prices to Federal order
3 prices." And I believe you made a similar --

4 JUDGE CLIFTON: Mr. Vlahos, you didn't quote
5 that exactly as written. Would you do that again?

6 MR. VLAHOS: I thought I had it written down,
7 perhaps I didn't.

8 JUDGE CLIFTON: Well, would you have Dr. Erba
9 read it into the record?

10 BY MR. VLAHOS:

11 Q. Yeah. Why don't you read it?

12 A. I can do that.

13 Q. You do very well with that.

14 A. "An acceptable level of price difference
15 exists for most the classes of milk when comparing
16 California milk prices to Federal order milk prices."

17 Q. That's -- that's better than I did.

18 All right. Also, in answer to a question with
19 Mr. Vetne, you made a similar statement. In answer to
20 Mr. Vetne, you also said that I -- when you said
21 acceptable level, it didn't mean that CDI agreed with
22 those prices. Would you elaborated on that, please?

23 A. Right. So I addressed this at least to some
24 extent under cross-examination of Mr. Vetne, and the
25 explanation is that it was obviously at this point, this

1 was a 2015, 2015 hearing, we'd been through several
2 hearings with CDFA at this point, and it was obvious
3 they were not going to get to the price level that we
4 wanted to be at as a -- a proponent in those hearings.
5 And so we -- we found that there was an acceptable
6 level, not that we necessarily agreed with those levels,
7 but acceptable level on price difference with the
8 exception of the one class, and that is Class 4b,
9 California 4b, compared to Federal Class III.

10 Q. You said that you didn't agree with it, and is
11 that correct, that because we are now reviewing the
12 whole situation, you're -- the proposal is asking to
13 raise all those prices?

14 A. That's correct.

15 Q. Also in various cross-examination questions by
16 Mr. English and Mr. Vetne, there were various exhibits
17 produced that show the positions that CDI may have taken
18 in the past may not be the same as the positions taken
19 currently in these proceedings, and I believe in the
20 cross-examination you started to explain why there were
21 differences in the co-op's positions. Could you
22 elaborate on that?

23 A. Sure, I'd be happy to. The simple and I think
24 valid explanation is that conditions change over time
25 and positions and objectives of companies changed over

1 time, and that's certainly true for -- for California
2 Dairies, the company that I work for.

3 I guess I'd like to point out that California
4 Dairies didn't take this hearing lightly at all. We
5 have at least as much invested in manufacturing
6 facilities in California as any other party involved in
7 this hearing. The members of California Dairies have
8 reviewed this proposal in depth, reviewed the process in
9 depth, and have concluded that they -- they want to be
10 part of the national system of Federal order prices.
11 They want to be on the same level playing field as their
12 counterparts outside the state.

13 And we understood fully when we entered into
14 this that the decision given by USDA at the conclusion
15 of these hearings may work to the disadvantage of CDI's
16 plants, and we'd be challenged to maintain our level of
17 profitability, and we accepted that any way, that the
18 numbers, and we still have go forward with this.

19 Just like with many other companies out there,
20 we've got profit maximizing goals, but we're a
21 cooperative and we also have an additional goal, at
22 least one additional goal, and that is the goal of
23 service to members. And sometimes the goal of providing
24 service to members and the profitability goal are at
25 odds with each other.

1 So depending on the conditions, we may have a
2 situation where CDI wears its processor hat and tries to
3 maximize profits out of its plants, and other times it
4 may wear its producer hat and try to maximize the
5 benefits to its member.

6 And, again, those goals may be at odds with
7 each other. So, I guess what I'm saying, Mr. Vlahos, is
8 that the statements that were made during those CDFA
9 hearings over the last couple years, they were
10 appropriate for the time. They -- they represented
11 CDI's views for the times. They represented the
12 regulatory environment for the times. And I don't think
13 there's anything unusual or improper or maybe even
14 surprising about changing from those positions as the
15 company goals and objectives change.

16 Q. Thank you very much, Dr. Erba. That's all I
17 had.

18 JUDGE CLIFTON: Who next has questions for
19 Dr. Erba?

20 I'll -- I'll ask some questions. I hope my
21 attempt at asking these will be followed up by
22 additional questions from those of you who understand
23 milk marketing a lot better than I do.

24 Dr. Erba, I'd like you to turn to Exhibit 1.
25 Someone may need to get him a copy from the side table.

1 It's the Federal Register notice of the proposals?

2 MR. FRANCIS: I think they're gone. I'll give
3 him mine.

4 JUDGE CLIFTON: Oh, thank you, Mr. Francis.

5 THE WITNESS: Sure.

6 JUDGE CLIFTON: I'd like you to turn to page
7 47214.

8 THE WITNESS: Okay.

9 JUDGE CLIFTON: This section of the proposal
10 beginning at the very -- in the very first section has
11 what heading?

12 THE WITNESS: Are you -- are you ask -- asking
13 me?

14 JUDGE CLIFTON: Yes.

15 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure what you're talking
16 about.

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. So you're --
18 you're on 47214?

19 THE WITNESS: Yes.

20 JUDGE CLIFTON: What's the first word you see
21 on that page under the heading.

22 THE WITNESS: "Handlers."

23 JUDGE CLIFTON: "Handlers." All right. And
24 read for me that first section, please?

25 THE WITNESS: Section 1051 dot 27, is that the

1 one you're talking about?

2 JUDGE CLIFTON: Yes.

3 THE WITNESS: Okay. "Handler responsibility
4 for records and facilities."

5 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. And what reference
6 is under that heading?

7 THE WITNESS: "Section 1000.27."

8 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. And it says "see."

9 THE WITNESS: Oh, yes, "see. See Section
10 1000.27."

11 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. And then go to the
12 next -- go -- skip a section. Well, no, go ahead and
13 read it. Go ahead and read the next section for me.

14 THE WITNESS: "Section 1051.28. Termination
15 of obligations," and then it says, "See section
16 1000.28."

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. And then the next
18 section.

19 THE WITNESS: The next section says -- the
20 heading is "Reports," and then it says, "Section
21 1051.30, Reports of receipts and utilization."

22 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. And I don't want
23 you to read that whole section because it's very
24 lengthy, but I would like you to read the opening
25 paragraph of it, please.

1 THE WITNESS: "Each handler shall report
2 monthly so that the Market Administrator's office
3 receives the report on or before the sixth day after the
4 end of the month in the detail and on the prescribed
5 forms as follows."

6 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. Now, I'd like to
7 go to your testimony, please, so this is Exhibit 42.
8 And I'd like now for you to go to page 24 of Exhibit 42,
9 and I just want you to refresh your recollection of what
10 you've got on that page.

11 THE WITNESS: Okay.

12 JUDGE CLIFTON: And then turn to the following
13 page, page 25, and on page 25, I want you to read for me
14 at the bottom of the page what it is that the California
15 Department of Food and Agriculture provides to the
16 Market Administrator. So beginning with the last
17 paragraph, and read it slowly, please, beginning with
18 "As a practical matter."

19 THE WITNESS: "As a practical matter of
20 providing the Market Administrator," it says MA, "Market
21 Administrator with the information specified in Section
22 1051.61 and 1051.62, CDFA would have to determine,
23 obtain, and/or verify each month the active California
24 dairy producers, the amounts of quota owned by each
25 producer after reviewing and applying quota transactions

1 that occurred as of the 15th day of the month, of the
2 prior month, location of each producer," paren, "to
3 verify applicable RQA," close paren, "number of days of
4 eligible production, individual quota payment after
5 taking into consideration applicable RQA's and eligible
6 milk production for the month."

7 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. Now, I think from
8 your testimony before we discussed the fact that this
9 9th day was a change from the published proposal in the
10 Federal Register; is that true?

11 THE WITNESS: That is correct.

12 JUDGE CLIFTON: So do the handlers also report
13 on the 9th day following the end of the month?

14 THE WITNESS: Yes, that's when they submit the
15 reports to both CDFA and USDA.

16 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. And so until the
17 Market Administrator receives the information from the
18 California Department of Food and Agriculture, it cannot
19 yet act on what the handlers have reported; is that
20 correct?

21 THE WITNESS: They would be working
22 simultaneously, so the Market Administrator and the CDFA
23 would receive the same reports from pool handlers, and
24 they're doing their own tasks independently or in
25 parallel for a couple of days before the next step

1 occurs.

2 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay. But the Market
3 Administrator, until he knows what comes out of the pool
4 for quota, he can do no calculations; is that -- is that
5 true?

6 THE WITNESS: Well, they can aggregate the
7 pool utilization and determine each handlers'
8 obligation, which they could do without that
9 announcement. But before they announce the prices,
10 which is covered in 1051.62, which includes the quota
11 announcement, they can't do that until CDFA gets back to
12 them.

13 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay. When does the Market
14 Administrator initiated under -- under this timetable,
15 when does the Market Administrator initiate the sending
16 of money to producers?

17 THE WITNESS: Well, there's -- I'm not quite
18 sure that's exactly the way it happens, but they -- I've
19 got a table here that might be helpful if I can maybe
20 read that.

21 JUDGE CLIFTON: Would you, please?

22 THE WITNESS: Yes. Please let me just start
23 from the beginning.

24 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay.

25 THE WITNESS: So I'll read basically the

1 entity involves -- involved, the task to be completed,
2 and then the date by which they should complete that
3 task.

4 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay, good. And which exhibit
5 are you in?

6 THE WITNESS: It's my own notes.

7 JUDGE CLIFTON: Oh, okay. This table might be
8 a really valuable visual for people who are trying to
9 get their heads around all of this responsibility that
10 the Market Administrator has. But go ahead and read it,
11 we'll try to grasp it.

12 THE WITNESS: Okay. So the -- the -- the
13 entity, the first one I'm going to talk about is the
14 pool handler, and their responsibility is to report
15 milk, fat, protein, other solids to the Market
16 Administrator and to CDFA, and that would occur the 9th
17 day following the end of the prior month.

18 After receiving the reports from the pool
19 handlers, CDFA would analyze the quota holdings by
20 producer and by handler, aggregate by handler, and then
21 by the 14th day following the end of the prior month,
22 CDFA would report to the Market Administrator the
23 payment due to each producer with quota, again,
24 aggregated by handler.

25 Now, looking at the Market Administrator,

1 after they receive the pool handler reports, they would
2 aggregate for pool utilization and determine each
3 handlers' obligation.

4 And then by the -- or before the 14th day
5 following the end of the month, the Market Administrator
6 would announce the producer prices by component plus the
7 five quota prices, those would be the quota prices
8 adjusted for the RQA's, and the non-quota uniform price.

9 After the prices are announced by the Market
10 Administrator, they would -- the Market Administrator
11 would send the statements to the handlers, and then
12 after the handlers have received their statements by the
13 16th day following the end of the prior month, the pool
14 handler would either pay into the producer-settlement
15 fund if they have a debit, or by the 17th -- 17th day
16 following the end of the prior month, the
17 producer-settlement fund would pay out to handlers which
18 are due a credit.

19 JUDGE CLIFTON: I'm sorry, by what date was
20 that?

21 THE WITNESS: 17th day.

22 JUDGE CLIFTON: So if the pool handler pays
23 in, he does it by the 17th day. If he's receiving
24 money, that happens by the what day?

25 THE WITNESS: If they pay in, it's by the 16th

1 day.

2 JUDGE CLIFTON: Oh.

3 THE WITNESS: And they receive money out by
4 the 17th day. If you pay in, you pay the day before.
5 Anybody who receives money is paid out of the
6 producer-settlement fund.

7 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right.

8 THE WITNESS: Then by also the -- by the 17th
9 day following the end of the prior month, a pool handler
10 would pay cooperatives.

11 JUDGE CLIFTON: I'm sorry, say it again.

12 THE WITNESS: By the 17th following the end of
13 the prior month, a pool handler would pay cooperatives,
14 or if they're -- if they're individual producers, the
15 pool handler would pay the individual producers by the
16 18th day following the end of the prior month.

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: Now, who is the pool handler?

18 THE WITNESS: The pool handler is the one
19 that's filing the reports initially, the one that's --
20 has received the milk from the producer.

21 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay. So it's the same as a
22 handler?

23 THE WITNESS: Yes.

24 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right.

25 THE WITNESS: I'm using them interchangeably.

1 JUDGE CLIFTON: So it's not the administrator
2 of the fund?

3 THE WITNESS: Right.

4 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay.

5 THE WITNESS: That's why I wanted to walk you
6 through this because that's not the way the money flows.

7 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay, good. I mean, yes, I
8 had no idea. Thank you.

9 So do you have more on your chart?

10 THE WITNESS: That's the end of my chart.

11 JUDGE CLIFTON: Now, we know that the Market
12 Administrator audits in many Federal orders. Who
13 conducts handler audits under this scheme of things?

14 THE WITNESS: It continues to be the Market
15 Administrator.

16 JUDGE CLIFTON: Does the California Department
17 of Food and Agriculture also conduct audits of handlers?

18 THE WITNESS: We had not envisioned them
19 conducting the audit, although they may play a secondary
20 role or an advisory role to the Market Administrator.

21 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. I'm going to stop
22 there because this is over my head, and I would like
23 anybody who knows about these kind of things, and
24 practical considerations, I'm particularly concerned
25 about the practical considerations for the Market

1 Administrator, if you all would ask further questions of
2 this witness.

3 CROSS-EXAMINATION

4 BY MR. FRANCIS:

5 Q. Will Francis, USDA.

6 Thank you, Dr. Erba.

7 In your testimony, Exhibit 42, on the last
8 page, page 27, you have a reference in the very last
9 sentence to the 16th day after the end of the month.
10 Would you like to correct that? I think in your
11 response to questions from Judge Clifton, you said the
12 17th.

13 A. I think that's correct.

14 JUDGE CLIFTON: You got something on the 17th
15 and you've got something on the 18th, right? You've
16 got -- you've got co-ops by the 17th day and individuals
17 by the 18th day?

18 THE WITNESS: Right. Individual producers.

19 BY MR. FRANCIS:

20 Q. Will Francis, USDA.

21 So payments from the producer-settlement fund,
22 so that is payment by the Market Administrator to the
23 handler -- maybe I misunderstood your response
24 earlier -- did -- did you say that those payments would
25 be by the 17th?

1 A. That's what I have in my chart.

2 Q. The pay in was on the 16th?

3 A. Right.

4 Q. And the pay out would be on the 17th?

5 A. Right.

6 Q. Okay. So am I correct that that last sentence
7 should read the 17th?

8 A. I think so.

9 JUDGE CLIFTON: Unless you want to use the
10 16th and what you say is payments from the handler are
11 made into the settlement fund by the 16th.

12 THE WITNESS: I think that's already covered.

13 JUDGE CLIFTON: You've already done that?

14 Okay.

15 THE WITNESS: Yeah. I'm pretty sure that
16 should be the 17th. My counsel is nodding
17 affirmatively, so it should be the 17th.

18 MR. FRANCIS: Okay.

19 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay. But the 17th is only
20 for co-ops?

21 THE WITNESS: Right.

22 JUDGE CLIFTON: And then there needs to be
23 another sentence for individuals that says the 18th?

24 THE WITNESS: Well, there could be. It's
25 contained in the actual language, I didn't actually say

1 that in my testimony, but it's -- it is in the language
2 already.

3 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay. All right.

4 MR. FRANCIS: Is that clear? Maybe we need to
5 clarify it.

6 BY MR. FRANCIS:

7 Q. So -- so the Market Administrator receives
8 funds from the handlers based on their pool obligations
9 if they owe money to the pool?

10 A. Right.

11 Q. And that will be done by the 16th day of the
12 month. Then the Market Administrator for any handler
13 who has a credit on their billing statement is owed
14 money, and so those monies paid by the Market
15 Administrator to the handler are on the 17th, so the
16 handlers received money from the Market Administrator on
17 the 17th if they're due money out of the pool. And then
18 I believe it was your testimony that on that same day,
19 those handlers that owe money to a cooperative must pay
20 their obligation to the cooperative?

21 A. Right.

22 Q. Good so far?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. If those handlers are paying individual
25 producers, they have until the next day on the 18th? I

1 need to see a --

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. -- yes or no. Okay.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Good so far?

6 A. Yes.

7 MR. FRANCIS: So hopefully that clarifies.

8 JUDGE CLIFTON: It certainly does for me.

9 MR. FRANCIS: Okay.

10 BY MR. FRANCIS:

11 Q. A followup question: Have you made provisions
12 for holidays or weekends and how does that impact the
13 timing of the schedules?

14 A. We do not address that specifically, and we
15 would not ask for anything different than what occurs in
16 other orders.

17 Q. So we could -- we could have some liberty to
18 adjust as we do in other current Federal Milk Marketing
19 Orders --

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- to accommodate that?

22 A. We would agree with that and redo that.

23 JUDGE CLIFTON: Would you take a minute,
24 Mr. Francis, and confer with your Market Administrator
25 people who are here and see if there are any other

1 questions about this schedule or the dual administration
2 of this program, which is unique?

3 MR. FRANCIS: Yeah.

4 BY MR. FRANCIS:

5 Q. Let me just give you a preview of some of the
6 questions we're -- we're going to be asking. We're
7 interested in nailing down this payment schedule and the
8 timing issues so that we clearly understand. We're also
9 interested to know if you've had any discussions with
10 CDFR about cooperation and joint administration,
11 particularly about the exchange of information during
12 pool time, but also about the auditing question.

13 A. Okay.

14 Q. In addition, we're going to be looking to help
15 clarify some of the justification for the quota program
16 and the Regional Quota Adjusters. And we may have
17 additional questions, but if we can take a short break,
18 and we'll confer and make sure we got the pool timing,
19 the dates correct, and we've satisfied all of our
20 questions for now, that would be great.

21 JUDGE CLIFTON: Very good. Yeah, I'd -- the
22 devil is always in the details, and -- and, Dr. Erba,
23 I'm so grateful that you are here to help us with this.

24 THE WITNESS: I too am grateful that I'm here.

25 JUDGE CLIFTON: That's a good man. Let's take

1 a 15-minute break. Let's come back ready to go at
2 10:00.

3 (Whereupon a break was taken.)

4 JUDGE CLIFTON: We're back on record at 10:01.

5 Mr. Francis, you may resume your questions of
6 Dr. Erba.

7 BY MR. FRANCIS:

8 Q. Will Francis, USDA. Thank you.

9 I'm going to hand the witness a copy of
10 Exhibit 1 and also our part 1000 Code of Federal
11 Regulations, and it might help us.

12 Okay. Thank you, Dr. Erba. Maybe we can
13 start with the question I asked earlier about
14 contingencies for Federal holidays and weekends, and in
15 your submission, it was in Exhibit 1 for the Notice of
16 Hearing on page -- oops -- 47218 in the middle column,
17 "Subpart D-Miscellaneous Provisions." And it says,
18 "Section 1051.90. Dates. See Section 1000.90."

19 From the Code of Regulations book that I
20 handed you, could you just read Section 1000.90?

21 A. Sure. Heading is "Section 1000.90. Dates.
22 If a date required for a payment contained in the
23 Federal milk order falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or
24 national holiday, such payment will be due on the next
25 day that the Market Administrator's office is opened for

1 public business."

2 Q. And would that be sufficient to accommodate
3 weekends, holidays, Federal holidays like we do in the
4 other Federal marketing orders for what you're
5 proposing?

6 A. I believe so, yes.

7 Q. Thank you.

8 Okay. Now, I want to turn to the -- the
9 payment date sections, and we thought maybe the easiest
10 thing to do would go -- stick with Exhibit 1, the Notice
11 of Hearing, and look at the specific order language,
12 because there have been changes to your written
13 testimony, but I think for us it's easier for us to look
14 at the orders, the specific order language. And so we'd
15 like to start on page 47214.

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. And that first column labeled "Reports," in
18 that first paragraph makes a reference to "receives a
19 report on or before the 6th day after the end of the
20 month." Would you like to suggest a different date?

21 A. Yes. We have that -- changed that in my
22 testimony to be the 9th day, not the 6th, 9th day.

23 Q. Okay. Continuing on, the middle column,
24 "1051.31. Producer delivery and payroll reports." In
25 Section (a), "On or behalf the 6th day after the end of

1 the month," would you offer an alternative date for the
2 6th?

3 A. That would also be the 9th, 9th day of the --
4 after the end of the each month.

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. 9th day.

7 Q. Okay. That same column down below on B, and
8 this is referencing, I believe, "on or before the" --
9 or, I'm sorry, "on or before the 20th day after the end
10 of the month." Would you care to offer an alternative
11 date for that?

12 A. I think that's one we decided we could live
13 with as the 20th and we do not change that one.

14 Q. Okay. Just to point out, so the -- the -- the
15 Market Administrator will calculate the pool, and I
16 think later on we're going to address a change to, I
17 think we said the 14th?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And so between the 14th and the 20th, would
20 that be sufficient time for handlers to provide
21 information, and so it's your testimony that handlers
22 could live with that?

23 A. Yes. Yes.

24 Q. There's no need to change that date?

25 A. We did not change the 20th.

1 Q. Okay. All right. So on that same page, on
2 the third column under "Transportation credits," do you
3 see that, "1051.55"?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. "On or" -- it reads "on or before the 13th day
6 except as provided in 1000.90." Would that date need to
7 be changed?

8 A. I'm looking at my counsel who is not looking
9 at me.

10 Q. Yeah. And just -- just to let you know, we --
11 we were a little uncertain about that one, too, so if
12 you need to get back to us on that --

13 A. Probably have to get back to you on that.
14 That's not what we had discussed explicitly.

15 Q. That's fine.

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. And so the next one goes a couple more pages
18 to 47216 in the Notice of Hearing, Exhibit 1.

19 A. Okay.

20 Q. The last column, so third column on that page,
21 "1051.62. Announcement of producer prices," so "on or
22 before the 11th day," and I believe you've suggested
23 changing that to the 14th?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. Okay. That same column down below, "1051.71.

1 Payments to the producer-settlement fund. Handlers'
2 payments to the producer-settlement fund. It reads,
3 "Receipt of the funds by the Market Administrator no
4 later than the 13th day after the end of the month."
5 Would you suggest a changed dated for that?

6 A. Right, we had changed that to the 16th day.

7 Q. Okay. The next page, 47217, on the first
8 column under "Section 1051.72. Payments from the
9 producer-settlement fund." It reads, "no later than the
10 14th day after the end of the month." Would you propose
11 a change for that one?

12 A. Yes, we amended that to the 17th day.

13 Q. Okay. Good.

14 That same column down in the next section,
15 "1051.73. Payments to producers and to cooperative
16 associations." So under "(a)(2)," which is listed --
17 which is identified as "Final payment," do you see that
18 one?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Okay. "For milk received during the month,
21 payment" -- I'm reading it now. "For milk received
22 during the month, payments shall be made so that it is
23 received by each producer no later than the 15th day
24 after the end of the month." Would you propose a change
25 to that?

1 A. Yes. We would change that to the 18th.

2 Q. 18th. Okay.

3 And just to be consistent, on the next column
4 under paragraph (c), it says, "Payment for milk received
5 from cooperative association pool plants or from
6 cooperatives as handlers pursuant to Section 1000.9(c),"
7 do you see that section?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. The next sentence reads, "On or before the day
10 prior to the date specified in paragraphs (a)(1) and
11 (a)(2)," so I believe that automatically would calculate
12 that the cooperatives would receive the date -- their --
13 their money one day prior, so we've changed the date in
14 number (2) to the 18th so that would suggest that
15 cooperatives would be paid on the 17th?

16 A. Yes. And that's the amount we made --

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. -- as well.

19 Q. Good.

20 JUDGE CLIFTON: Mr. -- Mr. Francis, there --
21 Mr. Francis, there is a date -- maybe it doesn't change
22 at all.

23 MR. FRANCIS: The partial payment?

24 JUDGE CLIFTON: Yes. Does that stay so far as
25 you know just like it is?

1 MR. FRANCIS: I'll -- I'll ask the witness if
2 he agrees with us, but we didn't see it -- we didn't see
3 that there would be a need to change the partial
4 payment.

5 THE WITNESS: No, neither did we.

6 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay. Good. Thanks.

7 MR. FRANCIS: Thanks for pointing that out. I
8 believe that's all we have to cover on clarifying the
9 payment dates.

10 BY MR. FRANCIS:

11 Q. Yeah. So just if we could clarify on that
12 "Transportation, 1051.55," it's -- it's currently
13 reading "on or before the 13th day," if there's a need
14 to change that.

15 A. Right.

16 Q. If you can get back to us on that.
17 Can we move onto a different topic?

18 A. Absolutely.

19 Q. Okay. So --

20 MR. SCHIEK: Your Honor.

21 JUDGE CLIFTON: Dr. Schiek.

22 MR. SCHIEK: Just while we're on this, could
23 I --

24 JUDGE CLIFTON: Could you go to a mic? I know
25 it will just take a second, but then everyone can hear

1 you.

2 MR. SCHIEK: Bill Schiek with the Dairy
3 Institute.

4 Just while we're on that, you've talked about
5 partial payment, and maybe I'm not reading maybe mine
6 incorrectly, but what happens in February when there's
7 no 30th day of the month. It's not really a holiday,
8 either. For partial payment, 1851.73(a)(1). Is that
9 something that needs to be addressed? I just bring it
10 up.

11 MR. FRANCIS: I believe it's interpreted as
12 the last -- again, this is Will Francis, USDA.

13 I believe it's interpreted as the last day of
14 the month, so whether it's 29 days or 28 days. Is that
15 sufficient?

16 JUDGE CLIFTON: Not without a cite. Do you
17 know where that's found?

18 MR. FRANCIS: We'll get back to you on that.

19 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay. Great.

20 MR. FRANCIS: Okay. Any other?

21 BY MR. FRANCIS:

22 Q. Okay. Now we're ready to move on.

23 So we're -- we're very interested in any
24 conversations or -- or technical coordination issues
25 that you've had with CDFA. So CDFA currently operates

1 the quota program, and they receive information as
2 you've pointed out, and that is important information to
3 transmit between a potential Federal order and the state
4 operation, the quota program, and we're interested in
5 understanding a little more if there's been any
6 discussions about that. And also we -- we don't
7 understand how the current quota program works in terms
8 of auditing. So if you can elaborate a little bit on
9 that, that would help us.

10 A. Okay. We in -- in putting together the
11 proposal we submitted, we met with, that is the
12 cooperatives met with CDFA staff a number of times to
13 run through at the very least our schedules, and they
14 didn't seem to have any issue with the schedules as far
15 as the dates go.

16 We discussed with them several times about the
17 possibility of an MOU and why it was needed, and we
18 didn't get any indication that that would be a problem,
19 although -- although they didn't offer us anything in
20 writing, they just said that they would remain
21 cooperative, and that was their position in every
22 meeting we've had with them, that they would remain
23 cooperative in trying to see this Federal order through
24 if it were proposed and approved ultimately by the
25 producers.

1 So that doesn't give you a lot of maybe the
2 details you're looking for, but we've had -- never had
3 any indication this would be something that would be a
4 problem, and they would be at least open to discussions
5 about the MOU and the information exchange necessary to
6 continue administering the quota program.

7 Q. So based on your knowledge, there -- there
8 would not be any statutory -- state statutory
9 limitations or rules that would need to be modified or
10 changed or somehow be in conflict should a Federal order
11 be established with the language as proposed in Exhibit
12 1 with the modifications that we did to the payment
13 dates?

14 A. I -- when I gave my testimony, which I'm not
15 sure you were here for, there was a -- a -- out of the
16 Food and Agriculture Code, there's a section that says
17 if -- actually it goes into great detail about if a
18 Federal order were to supplant a state order, what would
19 happen to the duplicative functions, and they
20 essentially become inactive, I'm just paraphrasing, but
21 that is -- was contained in my -- my testimony. That is
22 a code section you can actually go and look up.

23 Again, in our discussions with CDFA, the
24 message we got was that's exactly how they interpret
25 the -- this is with their attorneys, they interpret that

1 code section, and that there may be some loose ends to
2 tie up, but they did not see this as being anything
3 other than just a step in the process. They did not
4 raise any flags about this being a major concern. There
5 would probably have to be some transitional period to
6 move one system out and the other system in, again, like
7 I said, tie up some loose ends, but we never got any
8 indication that would be a -- a major hurdle for them.

9 MR. VLAHOS: Your Honor, John Vlahos.

10 To assist Mr. Francis, Mr. Francis, on the
11 Exhibit 42, the code section that Dr. Erba is referring
12 to is quoted there, Section 62726 of the California Food
13 and Agricultural Code.

14 JUDGE CLIFTON: And on what page are you?

15 MR. VLAHOS: It begins on page 22 and carries
16 over to page 23.

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you.

18 MR. FRANCIS: Thank you, Mr. Vlahos.

19 BY MR. FRANCIS:

20 Q. Continuing on the quota theme, we -- we would
21 like you to elaborate a little more on the justification
22 for continuing the equivalent \$1.70 quota level based on
23 today's marketing conditions in California, and maybe
24 while you're at it, the associated Regional Quota
25 Adjusters.

1 A. Sure. The -- the \$1.70 differential, again,
2 as I covered in my testimony, that's actually held in
3 California state law and cannot be changed the way a
4 public hearing or regulatory process, it has to be done
5 through a change in state law. So that would -- that
6 has to be upheld by the Department of Food and
7 Agriculture, but as I discussed in my testimony, the
8 quota program is not something that we -- would be in
9 conflict or duplicative of what happens in the
10 California Federal order, at least as we've proposed it.
11 The RQA's are held in -- in regulation. They're part of
12 the pool plant, they're not part of state -- state law.

13 Food and Agricultural Code has a \$1.70
14 differential, and it could possibly be changed in a
15 public hearing process, but that would remain under the
16 auspices of Department of Food and Agriculture, and if
17 those changes were to be made in the RQA's, that would
18 happen through a public hearing process that they would
19 administer just as they could today.

20 JUDGE CLIFTON: What again, Dr. Erba, are the
21 two things that you just mentioned that would be within
22 the purview of CDFA? The 70 cents, but tell me again
23 what that is and what did you say just before that?

24 THE WITNESS: The \$1.70, the \$1.70
25 differential between the quota price and the overbase

1 price as it stands today is actually held in state law,
2 not in regulation. The RQA's are held in the regulation
3 and may be subject to a public hearing process where
4 they could be changed, but the \$1.70 differential, which
5 actually \$.195 a pound of solids nonfat per day, that is
6 held in state law and not subject to a public hearing
7 process.

8 JUDGE CLIFTON: And please remind me what an
9 "RQA" is.

10 THE WITNESS: Regional Quota Adjuster. It is
11 an adjustment to the quota price depending on the
12 location of the dairy farm, and that is currently done
13 by county.

14 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you very much.

15 BY MR. FRANCIS:

16 Q. Okay. We want to just move onto a couple of
17 other topics. On page 13 of your testimony, Exhibit 42,
18 at the top, first full sentence, "There are four option
19 exempt PD's," and I'm assuming you're referring to -- I
20 think you said earlier -- you used the term "option
21 exempt" to refer to the Section 70 Option -- Option 70
22 exempt producer-handlers. We just want to be sure that
23 that pounds per day reference, 57914, is that pounds of
24 nonfat solids?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Okay. And following up a little on that, you
2 reference that this equates to about five percent of the
3 Class I milk processed in the state. Is it correct to
4 conclude that the Option 70 exempt milk sales makes up
5 five percent of the Class I milk produced in California
6 or is it five percent of the total Class I of the four
7 producer dealers?

8 A. Well, I'm going to put it into maybe simpler
9 terms. It's -- the 57,914 pounds of solids nonfat per
10 day is about 20 million pounds of milk, and that's what
11 I was trying to get at.

12 Q. Okay. I think you've covered our questions.
13 That's all we have for now.

14 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you, Mr. Francis.
15 Who else has additional questions for
16 Dr. Erba?

17 CROSS-EXAMINATION
18 BY MR. ENGLISH:

19 Q. Chip English. And may I first thank Your
20 Honor and USDA for at least refocusing me on what I now
21 call trees having spent a whole lot of time on the
22 forest of policy, and I think this is very, very
23 important.

24 So -- so, Dr. Erba, let me ask you some --
25 some questions about the overall relationships here and

1 USDA and CDFA, and I want to go back to some of the
2 payment issues that were discussed. And if you still
3 have Exhibit 1 in front of you, page 47214, I'd like to
4 go back to the first paragraph that Judge Clifton
5 referred you to under 1051.30. And as in all other
6 Federal orders, the requirements of a handler to report
7 are that the handler report so that the Market
8 Administrator's office receives the report on or before
9 the 9th day. But you've also referenced the necessity
10 for the California Department of Food and Agriculture to
11 receive information. Do you envision that the
12 information would be sent to the Market Administrator
13 Office, and then pursuant to a Memorandum of
14 Understanding, paren, MOU, end paren, that the Market
15 Administrator would share that report or those portions
16 of the reports necessary for CDFA to do the quota
17 calculations?

18 A. Well, in the discussions that we've had, we
19 suggested that the reports be -- the identical reports
20 would be received at both agencies, not through one then
21 the other, but I don't see any reason why that couldn't
22 work.

23 Q. But if -- if it's the former, and I think in
24 this instance we're going to have similar issues so I
25 want to talk about this because I think that this is the

1 kind of thing where we'd want to get this clear. If
2 it's former, then in essence you would need language in
3 that first paragraph. And you've defined the CDFA
4 earlier in your language in Section 17, which is back on
5 47213, right?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. So if -- if it's going to be that the Market
8 Administrator and CDFA receive the reports from the
9 handler directly rather than having to have the Market
10 Administrator send it to CDFA, you could add that the
11 requirement be made each handler shall report monthly so
12 that the Market Administrator's Office and the CDFA
13 receive the report, correct?

14 A. I think so, yes.

15 Q. Okay. Now, turning the issue around, it's one
16 thing for a Federal regulation to require private
17 parties to report to the Federal government and/or state
18 government, but without asking your legal opinion about
19 it, it may be a little more difficult to in a Federal
20 order require a state agency to do something in return.
21 And so I want to -- I want to now get at the -- the next
22 issue, which is that on page 47216 in Section 62, which
23 is the third column, you've got the language that you've
24 changed from the 11th or the 14th, that on or before the
25 14th day after the end of each month the Market

1 Administrator shall announce the following, which
2 includes, of course, the quota premium, correct?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. So that section necessarily relies on CDFA
5 getting the information to the Market Administrator,
6 correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And -- and in your testimony, or in the
9 discussions with Judge Clifton, I think you said that
10 that would be conceivably also on or before the 14th,
11 correct?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Now, again, now that probably will have to be
14 the subject of the memorandum of understanding, correct?

15 A. That's how we envisioned it as well.

16 Q. Would it be conceivably better if that
17 information were received by the MA on the 13th or the
18 sooner rather than on the identical day and if they're
19 drafting the MOU?

20 A. I think so, but that's -- as I said, I think
21 that could be worked out in the MOU. Our -- our
22 discussion with CDFA indicated that as long as they
23 received the reports and the information, they can turn
24 that around, the information that we specify here,
25 relatively quickly, so I don't think it would be

1 difficult to do -- to do the 13th or the 14th. But,
2 again, something to be covered in the MOU.

3 Q. Now, we have in other Federal orders -- in the
4 existing Federal orders, we have provisions
5 contingencies. For instance, if a price series is not
6 available, there's an equivalent price provision within
7 the Federal orders, correct?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. What if -- what do we do with this order or is
10 the order effectively contingent on California
11 Department Food and Agriculture entering into an MOU?

12 A. I would suggest, again, in the vehicle, the
13 MOU to specify those contingencies, and just as is done
14 in California now for various things, CDFA -- or USDA,
15 the Market Administrator would use the most current
16 information that they have. If the information we're
17 expecting doesn't arrive, use the most current
18 information they have, and then true it up later in some
19 kind of a corrective procedure. But, again, something
20 to be covered in the MOU.

21 Q. And, again, I thank the USDA for asking some
22 clarifying questions and Judge Clifton as well, so I --
23 I was a little confused about some things.

24 So the RQA's, in your testimony you're
25 talking -- you discussed not changing them, correct?

1 A. At the time of transfer from state to Federal,
2 correct.

3 Q. Okay. But there won't be any Federal order
4 language with respect to the RQA's, correct?

5 A. Correct.

6 Q. Because they're completely contained in the
7 California state order, correct?

8 A. Right.

9 Q. So let's assume for a moment that a Federal
10 order is proposed, a Federal order is adopted, and part
11 of that Federal order is based upon the idea that these
12 RQA's, which you testified have at least some measure of
13 moving milk, correct?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. What happens if California on its own then
16 changes those RQA's?

17 A. I don't see that being a problem because,
18 again, in the section you just talked about, Section
19 1051.62, Responsibility of the CDFA is to report back to
20 USDA the quota premium for nonfat solids, which would
21 include, as I talked about the five prices, which is the
22 RQA adjusted prices. So if they were to change at all,
23 there would be the five prices. If they were changed to
24 different numbers, there would still be the report due
25 to -- from CDFA to USDA with those updated or current

1 prices. I don't see that being a major issues. I think
2 it could still be contained on the CDFA side, and as a
3 results of those changes or hearings or whatever
4 happens, those would be reported through to USDA.

5 Q. I guess what I'm ultimately asking, Doctor, is
6 if the Department in putting together an order --
7 however, let me change the question.

8 If USDA will ultimately have no say over the
9 existence of, level of, application of RQA's, how can
10 the Department in constructing an order with respect to
11 any questions about moving milk to the Class I market
12 rely on those RQA's?

13 A. As I discussed in my testimony, the RQA's
14 don't necessarily move the milk, the transportation
15 allowances actually do that, at least in the current
16 California system. And the Market Administrator would
17 not -- we've discussed the process and how RQA's came
18 about and some of that history, but all they are going
19 to be looking at, the market -- from the Market
20 Administrator point of view is CDFA is going to report
21 the prices that apply for the quota depending on the
22 location of dairy farms, and so whether you call them
23 RQA or you call them something else, the number or the
24 process wouldn't change at all. They each have to get
25 five different numbers, at least the way it is today,

1 five different numbers on RQA adjusted quota premium.
2 We don't rely today on RQA's moving milk.

3 Q. Okay. Getting sort of maybe to the bottom
4 line in all of this, what authority would USDA have to
5 make CDFA fulfill any responsibilities?

6 JUDGE CLIFTON: Who what authority would?

7 BY MR. ENGLISH:

8 Q. Would USDA have to make CDFA fulfill any
9 responsibilities with respect to the order, Federal
10 order?

11 A. Other than the -- what may be contained in the
12 MOU and how that's constructed, I would say that CDFA is
13 also under obligation through state law to perform
14 certain functions, and we're not changing that part,
15 that they're still under some mandate to perform
16 functions, particularly the court administration as
17 contained in state law and not necessarily in a USDA or
18 Federal law aspects.

19 Q. Well, you're not seeking to change it now, but
20 as -- the RQA's could change separately and apart from
21 the USDA having any role in that, correct?

22 A. I believe so.

23 Q. Thank you.

24 A. That is correct.

25 Q. Thank you.

1 JUDGE CLIFTON: Mr. Vetne, I -- Mr. Vetne, I
2 see your hand, but let me -- let me ask: Mr. Francis,
3 you asked a question about audit responsibility, and the
4 witness responded to you, but we didn't actually pin
5 down audit responsibility. Let us do that, but,
6 Mr. Vetne, would you like to go before or after that?

7 MR. VETNE: After.

8 JUDGE CLIFTON: After.

9 So, Dr. Erba, would you go back to what
10 provisions there are before us with regard to audit
11 responsibility or whether it will be entirely spelled
12 out within this memorandum of understanding or some
13 other method?

14 THE WITNESS: As -- as we have proposed it,
15 the audit responsibility remains entirely with the
16 Market Administrator, and although there may be an
17 aspect of the MOU that speaks to CDFA's claiming a
18 secondary role or an informational role in that, that
19 would have to be addressed in that MOU. But the
20 objective would be that the Market Administrator
21 continues to perform the audits, and they may from time
22 to time need information from CDFA to perform those
23 audits to the best of their ability.

24 JUDGE CLIFTON: Good.

25 Mr. English.

RECROSS-EXAMINATION

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BY MR. ENGLISH:

Q. Sorry, I have one. And this is more, I think, for future interpretation, I think it's largely consistent with what the Department does. But it's my understanding that with respect to California, there have been some issues with respect to one or more handlers writing checks to CDFA for which the funds are literally unavailable on the day that all the money has to work; is that correct?

A. Yes.

Q. Okay. So when "you" and "we" use the phrase that the payment shall be made in a manner that provides receipt of the funds by the Market Administrator, we mean either by electronic transfer or otherwise, the money really is physically there, correct?

A. Yes.

Q. So you can't write a check on the day on a North Dakota bank and deliver it, which might take five days to clear, correct?

A. I would hope not.

Q. Okay.

A. That would be a problem.

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RECROSS-EXAMINATION

BY MR. FRANCIS:

Q. Will Francis, USDA.

Just to follow up on the audit responsibility questions. So there are routine regular handler audits that typical Federal Milk Marketing Orders perform relating to verification of payments, producer payroll, handler utilizations, things like that. Can you elaborate on what you would envision for any auditing of quota, either producer ownership or information that is reported to a handler? Who do you envision would perform that function of auditing quota, if there is any?

A. So -- sure. We still envision that the -- that CDFA would take care of the responsibility of making sure that they verify which producers own quota and any quota transfers just as they do today. The responsibility for -- on the audit side would be on the payment side, did the -- did the handler, for example, pay a producer his full entitlement, including the payment for -- payment for quota held, and so that information would come from CDFA.

And I think what we envisioned is that the Market Administrator would audit, too, the information received from CDFA. So CDFA doesn't actually perform

1 the audit, but they're obviously providing information
2 that may -- may be very vital to the audit.

3 JUDGE CLIFTON: Mr. Vetne.

4 RECROSS-EXAMINATION

5 BY MR. VETNE:

6 Q. John Vetne, representative for Hilmar Cheese.

7 In response to a few questions by Mr. Vlahos,
8 he had directed you to testimony that you presented
9 before CDFA where you looked at California classified
10 price relationships with Federal order price
11 relationships and opined at the time that they were
12 acceptable levels except for 4b. I think your testimony
13 in response was that -- my inference of your testimony,
14 that's my question, was that when you were speaking to
15 CDFA, you had a view of what's acceptable that has since
16 changed and what's acceptable in past CDFA hearings is
17 no longer deemed acceptable by CDI or the three
18 cooperative proponents. Is my understanding of the
19 distinction correct?

20 A. I believe that's accurate.

21 Q. Now, in -- in all these questions on payments
22 by inverse, to the fund, from the fund, to cooperatives
23 and to producers, a couple of the payments happen on the
24 same day. I think the 17th members received money from
25 the fund and must pay to producers so --

1 A. To cooperatives.

2 Q. To cooperatives. So if money is owed to
3 cooperatives and the handler relies on receipt of money
4 from the fund to pay cooperatives, that would have to be
5 simultaneous, electronic and simultaneous on the same
6 day?

7 A. It says by the 17th day, so it could happen on
8 the 16th and 17th conceivably, doesn't have to be the
9 exact same day.

10 Q. The fish or cut bait date, the deadline is the
11 17th, exactly --

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. -- the same day?

14 A. That's correct.

15 Q. Do you see any problem with that given that
16 there are electronic means to do both transactions on
17 the same day, although the sequence would be first you
18 receive the money and then send it?

19 A. No, we didn't -- we didn't see any issues with
20 that.

21 Q. And with respect to those -- those payments by
22 handlers to producers, which happens on -- on the 18th,
23 in the Federal order system cooperatives are handlers,
24 9(c) handlers, correct?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Okay. And with respect to that category of
2 handler, however, you do not anticipate that USDA will
3 follow the money to producers, correct?

4 A. I don't think so, but I'm not exactly sure.

5 Q. There's -- there's -- to your understanding,
6 is there any administrative function by which USDA will
7 judge, assess, or require a payment by a cooperative
8 handler to producers?

9 A. Not to my understanding.

10 Q. Okay. And is that the way it is currently
11 with CDFA also?

12 A. That's -- yes, that's the way it is today.

13 Q. So for, let's see, the three cooperatives,
14 according to Mr. Hollon, represent over 75 percent of
15 producers or milk, I'm not sure which in the market.

16 A. I believe it's supposed to be milk.

17 Q. Okay. Are there other cooperative
18 associations operating within California that are not
19 proponents?

20 A. That are not proponents?

21 Q. Yes.

22 A. Oh, boy. That one I couldn't tell you. There
23 are other cooperative associations, but I don't know
24 that I've heard that they're supportive or not
25 supportive.

1 Q. Throughout -- so there are other cooperatives
2 associations in -- in California?

3 A. There's at least one that I'm thinking of, but
4 I don't know if they are supportive or not.

5 Q. Okay. And there was the one listed in boards
6 for a while called Security Milk Producers; are they no
7 longer around?

8 A. Security Milk Producers was acquired by my
9 company, California Dairies, a few years back.

10 Q. All right. So for over 75 percent of the
11 milk, no one follows the money to producers, correct?

12 A. I wouldn't say nobody.

13 Q. I'm sorry. No -- no government --

14 A. The facility does.

15 Q. No government agency currently follows or if a
16 Federal order is adopted will follow the money to
17 producers?

18 A. I -- yes, I believe that's an accurate
19 statement, that -- that function doesn't extend beyond
20 monitoring the co-ops themselves.

21 Q. Okay. And its that circumstance that the
22 agency doesn't follow money to producers that allows the
23 co-ops to accommodate what you call challenging
24 marketing if the milk for certain classes for which you
25 have to account requires you to operate at a loss, for

1 example, making butter powder?

2 A. Yes, with a qualification. There may be -- we
3 may be challenged to be profitable in some of those
4 operations that we maintain, but that doesn't mean we
5 would necessarily be operating a loss as an entire
6 entity. We have other enterprises, other functions that
7 may -- may very well have showed profits that at least
8 outweigh the pay losses we may have done if we did not
9 expect to operate at a loss -- at a loss for the entire
10 cooperative.

11 Q. The quota prices fixed by statute you
12 testified, but the Regional Quota Adjusters are -- is
13 established by state rule-making. Is there, to your
14 understanding, any requirement in the statute that the
15 \$1.70 or 19.5 cents per pound solids nonfat apply in any
16 particular county? We've talked about counties in the
17 south where there currently is no adjustment. Is -- is
18 that fixed forever or can that be changed
19 administratively?

20 A. A \$.195 is in state law, so that could only be
21 changed by a change or amendment to state law.

22 Q. Yes.

23 A. The -- whatever it applies by county is --
24 well, you already said that it's adjusted by the
25 Regional Quota Adjusters, which is not held in state

1 law, it's -- it would be part of the -- subject -- it's
2 part of the pooling plant, it would be subject to the
3 public hearing and potentially changed through that
4 process.

5 Q. So is it your understanding that CDFA may by
6 rule expand or contract the area at which the full \$1.70
7 or \$.195 applies?

8 A. It -- it could do that, it would be subject,
9 again, to not only the public hearing process, but in
10 this case because it's a substantive change to the
11 pooling plant, it would have to go through a producer
12 referendum before it was implemented.

13 Q. Okay. Is it your understanding that there
14 were -- would exist side by side with a Federal Milk
15 Marketing Order, which classifies prices and pools, a
16 state pooling plan that would continue to operate
17 simultaneously?

18 A. That is a -- a good question. There are parts
19 of the pooling plan that would be duplicative, so it
20 would be -- if you're going to maintain something like
21 RQA's, how do you do that, there's got to be some body
22 that would do that. I'm not quite sure how that plays
23 out, but at least the idea is that if there was going to
24 be a change in the Regional Quota Adjusters, that would
25 have to be somehow approved by a vote of the producers

1 as it is today.

2 Q. All right. We spoke earlier, I don't know if
3 it was yesterday or Friday, about the -- the concept
4 underlying the adjustment, Regional Quota Adjustment,
5 being a reflection of the fact that by location milk
6 has -- has value, greater value as opposed to demand
7 consumer markets, lower value where production is high
8 and there's surplus. Do you recall that?

9 A. Yes, it's -- yes.

10 Q. Okay.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Assume with me for a moment that -- that USDA
13 determines that a price relationship for producer milk
14 in Tulare compared to Los Angeles as currently exists or
15 as even proposed in Proposal 1 is such that the value
16 spread between Tulare and Los Angeles should be greater,
17 so it does something to reflect that in blend prices
18 payable to producers. Now, in that eventuality, if USDA
19 believes the market should have a lower blend price in
20 Tulare to reflect location value compared to Los
21 Angeles, could not CDFA come in and amend its Regional
22 Quota Adjusters so that the price in Tulare is -- is
23 higher thereby negating whatever USDA has done?

24 A. I suppose it could do to some extent, but
25 you've got one instance talking about -- essentially you

1 talked about the blend price change, or perhaps it's a
2 class price change, which would apply to all milk, and
3 the RQA's would apply to quota, which is not anywhere
4 close to all the milk that's produced in the state. So
5 I guess to some degree there possibly could be that, but
6 they're operating at two different levels of influence,
7 one being much smaller than the other one.

8 Q. Okay. And -- and quota is concentrated in the
9 Central Valley as opposed to the South, correct?

10 A. It's -- in the Central Valley, but that's
11 where most of the milk is produced --

12 Q. Yes.

13 A. -- as well.

14 Q. Okay. Thank you very much.

15 JUDGE CLIFTON: Dr. Erba, several participants
16 have questioned you on the money in and the money out
17 both on the 17th, and you've repeatedly said your team
18 doesn't see a problem with that. I see a problem with
19 that. In order to be timely on paying in, you can pay
20 up to the last minute of the 17th. How can a handler
21 possibly make payments out on that same day?

22 THE WITNESS: Well, again, the -- our language
23 is by the 17th, and I believe that's consistent with --
24 basically our entire program that we've got for the
25 reports and the payments are -- are consistent with the

1 other Federal orders, although they may not be
2 identical, but they're consistent. And we've got
3 basically a nine-day spread between when the reports are
4 due and when this money starts to move around, and
5 that's consistent with other Federal orders, so we
6 haven't deviated, we're not asking for anything
7 different than what the other Federal are doing -- other
8 Federal orders are doing in general. The dates may not
9 line up exactly, but we're consistent.

10 JUDGE CLIFTON: I thought that normally
11 payments go out the day following the deadline for
12 payments in. And that's a rocket docket, to -- to get
13 the money out the day after you get it in is enormously
14 fast. What -- I just ask that you meet with your team
15 and -- and revisit this issue after our next break, I
16 just -- why would you want to put that pressure on the
17 handlers?

18 THE WITNESS: I'd be happy to meet with the
19 team to discuss that.

20 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay. Thank you.

21 All right. Other questions for Dr. Erba?

22 Dr. Schiek.

23 CROSS-EXAMINATION

24 BY MR. SCHIEK:

25 Q. Bill Schiek.

1 Dr. Erba, just -- I was just wondering as I
2 look at this, am I correct with my assumption that if a
3 Federal order were in place in California, the
4 California Department of Food and Agriculture milk
5 pooling branch, dairy marketing branch would no longer
6 be operating a producer-settlement fund; is that
7 correct?

8 A. I believe that's correct.

9 Q. Have you given any thought -- maybe you
10 mentioned it and I missed it -- on how CDFA's activities
11 with regard to quota under the MOU would be funded?

12 A. We have discussed that, and I couldn't tell
13 you exactly what we concluded, but there would be the
14 responsibility -- I mean basically the CDFA would be
15 paid, their staff would be paid by the pool for that
16 administrative function.

17 Q. So the money would come from the MA in some
18 form, is that what --

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. -- you're thinking?

21 A. Although I don't remember the exact details of
22 how we thought that might work, but that was the idea.

23 Q. Okay. Well, and it was just a clarification
24 question, it's something that kind of popped into my
25 mind as we were having these discussions, so I was just

1 curious if you guys had given that some thought.

2 But it kind of brings on another question is
3 we're -- we're talking about a lot of movement of
4 information back and forth, responsibilities of CDFA,
5 responsibilities of the Market Administrator. Did you
6 ever consider or why -- why -- why not just have the
7 whole book, all the records, everything transferred to
8 the MA and just let the MA run the quota program under
9 your proposal?

10 A. Very earlier on we said we would not -- we
11 would attempt not to do that just from -- we thought we
12 were making the process simpler, but now I have to
13 wonder a little bit.

14 Q. So --

15 A. To not have quota be under the auspices of the
16 MA, to leave quota under the auspices of CDFA where it
17 resides and has -- CDFA has responsibility under state
18 law to administer that program. So we did talk about it
19 very early on but decided this would be the better way
20 to go.

21 Q. For efficiency reasons? You mentioned you
22 thought you were making it simpler by doing it that way;
23 is that right?

24 A. Because we didn't necessarily want to talk
25 about moving the quota program from a state function to

1 a Federal function, that was the way we had set up
2 was -- the way it is now with the state function was
3 the -- the preference.

4 Q. Okay. Thank you very much.

5 JUDGE CLIFTON: Dr. Erba, are you having
6 seconds thoughts about that?

7 THE WITNESS: Me personally?

8 JUDGE CLIFTON: Yes.

9 THE WITNESS: No.

10 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay. All right. Thank you.
11 Who else has questions for Dr. Erba?

12 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. VLAHOS:

14 Q. John -- John Vlahos.

15 Dr. Erba, the judge has raised questions about
16 the problems of simultaneous payment, money in, money
17 out. In formulating the program as proposed by the
18 proponents, did you track on those issues what is done
19 in other Federal orders?

20 A. Well, the -- the original dates were set up,
21 not the ones we amended, but the original dates
22 contained in -- in this case, 72 and 70 -- I shouldn't
23 say -- sorry -- Sections 1051.72, 1051.73, those
24 actually speak to a simultaneous -- simultaneous
25 functions as -- as the judge has questioned. I believe

1 those are, again, consistent with what's done in other
2 Federal orders. I -- again, we didn't request anything
3 out of the ordinary for the dates.

4 Q. Are you aware of what is provided in, example,
5 Sections 1030.72, 1030.73, concerning payments from the
6 producer-settlement fund, payments to producers and to
7 cooperative associations?

8 A. 1030?

9 Q. Yeah, 1030, speaking of another Federal order.

10 MR. CARMAN: Page 125.

11 JUDGE CLIFTON: Page 125 of the book you have,
12 Dr. Erba.

13 THE WITNESS: Mr. Vlahos, could you repeat
14 what you were saying --

15 BY MR. VLAHOS:

16 Q. Yes.

17 A. -- since I have the appropriate reference
18 numbers.

19 Q. Yes. The numbers I was referring to were
20 1030.72 and 1030.73. In particular, if you look at
21 1030.73 -- get my subdivisions right here -- (b), which
22 is on the next page, page 126 --

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. -- under the heading it says, "Payments for
25 milk received from cooperative association members," it

1 seems to me it has very similar, if not identical
2 language. It says, "On or before the date -- the day
3 prior to the date specified in paragraphs (a)(1) and
4 (a)(2) of this section except as provided in Section
5 1090. Each member shall pay to a cooperative
6 association," and so on. Isn't that the same language
7 that's in the cooperative proposal?

8 A. That appears to be very close to the same if
9 not identical.

10 Q. And perhaps the USDA representatives can point
11 out if there are any -- really any differences in the
12 way that the cooperative's proposal sets forth those
13 payment in and payment out dates as opposed to those as
14 set forth in the cooperative's proposal.

15 Thank you, Doctor.

16 JUDGE CLIFTON: Who else has questions of
17 Mr. -- of Dr. Erba? All right. There are none now.

18 Dr. Erba --

19 Ah, Mr. Francis, thank you.

20 RE-CROSS-EXAMINATION

21 BY MR. FRANCIS:

22 Q. Will Francis, USDA.

23 I just wanted to get back to you on the
24 partial payment date being the 30th, and thank you,
25 Dr. Schiek, for pointing this out to us. So the

1 language in your proposal, if you go to Exhibit 1 on
2 page 47217, the first column, under Section 1051.73
3 under (a)(1), "Partial payment," it reads, "Payment
4 shall be made so that it is received by each producer on
5 or before the 30th day of the month." I did check each
6 of our current marketing areas and we do not have dates
7 that reference the 30th. The latest date we have is the
8 27th, and so we don't face the issue of a month not
9 having 30 days. But I believe you could read that
10 language on or before the 30th day of the month, if a
11 30th day or a 29th day does not exist, would it be
12 logical to make the payment on the last day, the 28th?

13 A. If it's a question to me, I'd say yes.

14 Q. Or perhaps you'd want to suggest some
15 alternative language to -- to clarify that.

16 A. Okay.

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: I'd -- I'd invite some Market
18 Administrator testimony, if you would, just to address
19 whether my concern about money in and money out on the
20 same day has any practical validity to it.

21 MR. HILL: Brian Hill. Brian Hill.

22 I think we'd like to have some time to look at
23 that and prepare our statement of some sort, some
24 testimony of some sort if we're going to do that.

25 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. That sounds great.

1 RE-CROSS-EXAMINATION

2 BY MR. SCHIEK:

3 Q. Dr. Erba, Dr. Schiek again, just another
4 question. For clarification, when you were talking
5 about -- this is on page 22 of your statement, Exhibit
6 42.

7 A. Yes, go ahead.

8 Q. You reference Section 62726 of the Food and
9 Agriculture Code and -- and you cite the language in the
10 code. Isn't that language also in section 61893
11 earlier? Does it appear twice in the Food and Ag code?
12 Do you have a recollection of that?

13 A. I don't.

14 Q. Okay. Thank you.

15 JUDGE CLIFTON: Dr. Schiek, would you make a
16 representation you believe it does?

17 MR. SCHIEK: I believe it does, similar
18 language. And the issue is dairy pricing under dairy --
19 the dairy marketing branch is in one section of the
20 code, milk pooling appears later because they didn't
21 come in at the same time, and there's a -- there's a
22 section like this in both places.

23 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you.

24 All right. Are there any other questions of
25 Dr. Erba at this time?

1 All right. Subject to being recalled,
2 Dr. Erba, you may step down. The recalling would just
3 be about those loose ends with transportation being one
4 of them. All right. Thank you.

5 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

6 JUDGE CLIFTON: Oh, did you want to add
7 anything for clarification?

8 THE WITNESS: No, thank you.

9 JUDGE CLIFTON: Who will be the next witness?

10 MR. VLAHOS: We're going to shift chairs here,
11 Your Honor.

12 MR. BESHORE: Ms. Thompson will -- will
13 present the next witness for Proponents, Your Honor.

14 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Good morning. Megan
15 Oliver Thompson.

16 Your Honor, our next witness is Mr. Lon
17 Hatamiya. L-O-N. H-A-T-A-M-I-Y-A.

18 JUDGE CLIFTON: I'll answer you in in a seated
19 position. Would you raise your right hand, please?

20 Do you solemnly swear or affirm under penalty
21 of perjury that the evidence you will present will be
22 the truth?

23 THE WITNESS: I do.

24 JUDGE CLIFTON: Please state and spell your
25 name.

1 THE WITNESS: My first name is Lon, L-O-N.
2 Last name is Hatamiya, H-A-T-A-M-I-Y-A.

3 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you.

4 And I see a document being distributed. Let's
5 see, would this number be 54?

6 MS. FRISIUS: It will be.

7 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. We'll mark this as
8 Exhibit 54. That's 54.

9 (Whereupon Exhibit 54 was marked for
10 identification.)

11 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

12 JUDGE CLIFTON: Please raise your hand if you
13 do not yet have a copy of Exhibit 54. Everyone has one.
14 Good. There are some left over. That's good.

15 All right. Ms. Oliver Thompson, you may
16 begin.

17 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Thank you.

18 DIRECT EXAMINATION

19 BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON:

20 Q. Good morning, Mr. Hatamiya.

21 A. Good morning.

22 Q. Would you tell us what is your current
23 occupation?

24 A. I am the president and CEO of The Hatamiya
25 Group, which is an economics and strategic advisory

1 consulting firm in Davis, California.

2 Q. And what is your -- the primary business that
3 you do there?

4 A. Again, the economic analysis and strategic
5 business advisory services for my clients.

6 Q. Okay. And how long have you been doing that?

7 A. I've been engaged in this for about the last
8 11 years.

9 Q. Now, will you be providing a description of
10 your relevant background, experience, and education as
11 part of your testimony here today?

12 A. Yes, I will.

13 Q. Okay. And have you also provided with your
14 written testimony a copy -- copy of your current CV?

15 A. Yes, my extensive CV is attached.

16 Q. Okay. Terrific.

17 Now, are you testifying today regarding your
18 analysis of the economic value of the quota program in
19 the California dairy industry?

20 A. I am.

21 Q. And did you prepare written testimony for this
22 hearing on this topic?

23 A. I did.

24 Q. Okay. And is that contained in what has been
25 marked as Exhibit 54?

1 A. I believe it has.

2 Q. Okay.

3 A. It is.

4 Q. With that, would you please go ahead and
5 proceed with reading your written testimony.

6 A. I most certainly will. And, first of all, let
7 me thank Dr. Erba for warming the seat for me for the
8 last three days.

9 MR. ENGLISH: Your Honor.

10 JUDGE CLIFTON: Mr. English.

11 MR. ENGLISH: I'm not sure if this witness is
12 being offered as an expert, and I think maybe under the
13 circumstances, it's better to go ahead and let him give
14 all the testimony, and then if we have voir dire about
15 it afterwards, but I wanted to reserve that right and
16 not waive it by following this particular procedure.
17 But I -- I don't have an objection to doing it this way,
18 but I want to make sure that we for our side have not
19 waived our right to any voir dire, and if necessary
20 object with respect to any purported expert analysis.

21 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you, Mr. English.

22 Ms. Oliver Thompson, you may proceed.

23 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Okay. Thank you.

24 BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON:

25 Q. Mr. Hatamiya, please go ahead with your --

1 with your prepared statement.

2 STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA, MBA, JD

3 A. If -- if I may, I'll proceed with my written
4 testimony. It's entitled "The Economic Importance of
5 the California Dairy Quota Program," with a subtitle, An
6 Invaluable Asset to the Dairy Farmer and the state.

7 Again, my name is Lon Hatamiya. I'm the
8 President and CEO of The Hatamiya Group, an economics
9 and strategic advisory consulting firm located in Davis,
10 California. I was retained by the California Dairies,
11 Incorporated, the Dairy Farmers of America,
12 Incorporated, and Land O'Lakes, Incorporated, paren, in
13 quote, "Cooperatives," end quote and end paren, to
14 provide an independent and objective economic analysis
15 of the dairy industry to the State of California and to
16 examine the economic value of California's dairy quota
17 program.

18 JUDGE CLIFTON: Let me stop. This is
19 wonderful. You're an excellent presenter. I just want
20 to check the pace. Okay. We're okay. Don't go any
21 faster than that.

22 THE WITNESS: Absolutely.

23 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right.

24 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.

25 First section, Roman Numeral I, Introduction,

1 Overview of the California Economy, the California
2 Agricultural Economy, and the Dairy Industry's Important
3 Contribution to the Economy.

4 The dairy industry in California is an
5 important and vital component to the economy -- economy
6 of the State of California. At the end of 2014,
7 California's economy had grown to over \$2.3 trillion in
8 Gross Domestic Product, paren, GDP, end paren. And I
9 have it footnoted 1, and this is from the -- the website
10 [http --](http://www.economicanalysis.ca.gov/) and I think on the written copy, it may be
11 difficult to see because it's in -- in yellow, but it's
12 from the Bureau of Economic Analysis dot gov, and I
13 downloaded that on September 7th, 2015, but it shows
14 the -- the various economies of the states of the United
15 States.

16 If California were a country, it would have
17 the eighth largest economy in the world -- and, again,
18 the second footnote, that comes from World Development
19 Indicators from the World Bank, April 14th, 2015 --
20 slightly behind Brazil and strongly ahead of Italy,
21 India, Russia, and Canada. Moreover, the agricultural
22 industry is a major component of the California economy
23 providing over \$56.2 billion in economic output in 2014.
24 Again, footnoted number 3, and that's from the ERS USDA
25 website which I downloaded in September of this year.

1 That's from their state fact sheets for every state in
2 the country.

3 This multi-billion dollar industry is arguably
4 the backbone of California's globally-aligned economy,
5 with a long-established international network of
6 producers, consumers, and service providers.

7 More specifically, dairy products are the
8 number one agricultural commodity in California with
9 over \$9.3 billion in farm receipts in 2014, making up
10 17.3% percent of all California farm receipts -- and,
11 again, that's from the same source, from ERS, footnoted
12 4. The state of California is also the largest dairy
13 producing state in the country with over 20% of national
14 production. In addition, California is the leading
15 exporter of dairy products with nearly \$1.3 billion in
16 2013. By any measure, the dairy industry is an
17 important contributor to the overall and agricultural
18 economy of the State of California.

19 Through my extensive professional experience
20 and expertise, I believe I bring a unique perspective to
21 this analysis. From 1993 to 1997, I proudly served as
22 Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service of
23 the United States Department of Agriculture, paren,
24 USDA, close paren, where I oversaw over 50 federal
25 programs, including the Federal Milk Marketing Order,

1 paren, FMMO, close paren, system. I also served as
2 Administrator of the Foreign Agricultural Service at
3 USDA from 1997 to 1999, and then I returned to my native
4 California to serve as Secretary of the Technology,
5 Trade and Commerce Agency from 1999 to 2003, where I
6 oversaw the promotion of statewide economic develop, job
7 creation, and business retention.

8 Prior to my service at USDA, I practiced law
9 and I worked with my three-generation family farm in
10 Yuba and Butte counties, which is the northern part of
11 the state, Your Honor. Since 2003, I have been a
12 consulting economists analyzing local, regional, state,
13 national, and international economic impacts, trends,
14 and economic development opportunities on various
15 industries including agriculture, energy, high
16 technology, real estate, retail, professional sports,
17 transportation, tourism, and higher education. I have
18 also extensive expertise in determining economic
19 valuations of various industries from agriculture to
20 biotechnology, and alternative energy to medical device
21 companies, utilizing appropriate valuation
22 methodologies. I have testified over a hundred times
23 before the World Trade Organization, the United States
24 Congress, the California State Legislature, and federal,
25 state, and local courts, boards, and commissions on a

1 wide variety of relevant issues.

2 I will add to the -- for the record, this is
3 my first time testifying before this type of hearing.

4 In addition, as an academic, I previously
5 served as Executive-in-Residence and Adjunct Professor
6 at the US Davis Graduate School of Management, and was
7 also selects a Senior Fellow as the UCLA Luskin School
8 of Public Affairs. I also currently serve as a
9 part-time lecturer at the International Masters in Law
10 program at the UC Davis School of Law, and as a Senior
11 Fellow at the University of Denver International Career
12 Advancement Program. I received my bachelor's in
13 economics from Harvard University; my Master's of
14 Business Administration from the Anderson Graduate
15 School of Management at UCLA; and my juris doctorate
16 from the UCLA School of Law. Please also find attached
17 my full CV for your reference, which is attached to the
18 back of my testimony.

19 Throughout my professional career, I have
20 acquired and maintained an international, national,
21 regional, as well as a statewide and local perspective
22 with regard to agriculture and its pertinent economic
23 impact upon all communities. For this analysis, I have
24 relied upon that experience to determine the economic
25 importance of the dairy industry to California, and most

1 specifically, the unique economic value of dairy quota.

2 My second section under Roman Numeral II,
3 "Overview of the California Dairy Quota Program." I
4 know Dr. Erba touched upon this, but I'm going to go
5 briefly summarize my understanding of that program.

6 The state of California has operated the
7 Dairy -- a Dairy Quota Program since adopting a Milk
8 Pooling Plan in 1969. The Gonzalves Milk Pooling Act,
9 California Food and Agricultural Code Section 62700,
10 either et seq., authorizes the Secretary of the
11 California Department of Food and Agriculture, parens,
12 CDFA, close paren, to operate a statewide pooling system
13 under specified guidelines. These statutes provide for
14 the formulation and adoption of Milk Pooling Plans for
15 Market Milk, paren, Pool Plan, close paren. Under the
16 California Pooling Plan for Market Milk, the producer is
17 paid based upon his or her allocated quota, base, and
18 overbase at prices that reflect the pool-wide usage of
19 all classes. The monthly quota and base amounts are
20 computed for each producer to the extent these amounts
21 are produced. The maximum monthly quota amount is
22 determined by the current quota allocation, and the
23 maximum monthly base is determined by the difference
24 between production base and quota. Any production that
25 exceeds these two figures constitutes overbase

1 production. And I have a footnote number 5, this is
2 from the California Dairy Industry, A Historical Review
3 from the California Department of Food and Agriculture,
4 July 2008.

5 Revenue from processors is distributed to
6 dairy farmers via quota, base, and overbase prices.
7 Since the CDFA Milk Pooling Branch's inception in 1969
8 until 1993, the quota price was primarily impacted by
9 Class 1, 2, and 3 farm prices -- those are Arabic 1, 2,
10 3 -- while the overbase price was primarily impacted by
11 the Class 4a and 4b farm prices -- again, Arabic 4.
12 This was changed by statute enacted in 1993 and made
13 permanent in 1994. Beginning in January 1994, a fixed
14 differential was established so that the quota price is
15 always \$1.70 per hundredweight greater than the base and
16 overbase prices. Historically from 1969 through 1993,
17 the difference between the announced quota and overbase
18 farm prices range from \$1.06 to \$2.26 per hundredweight
19 on an annual average basis. Currently, revenue above
20 that needed to maintain the \$1.70 differential is shared
21 equally among quota, base, and overbase production. The
22 announced quota price is adjusted based on farm location
23 by Regional Quota Adjusters, paren, RQA's, close paren.
24 Prices paid to individual producer depends upon his or
25 her farm location and blend of quota, base, and overbase

1 holdings. For computational purposes, the whole \$1.70
2 is assigned to the solids-not-fat, paren, SNF, close
3 paren, price. Thus, the announced quota SNF -- SNM --
4 SNF price is set at \$.195 per pound above the base and
5 overbase SNF prices. Because of RQA's, the actual quota
6 SNF price received by individual farmers may be adjusted
7 downward by up to \$.27 per hundredweight based on farm
8 location. The fat prices for quota, base, and overbase
9 are identical.

10 And I, again, footnote number 6, it comes from
11 that same California Dairy Industry, Historical Review
12 from CDFA July 2008.

13 Periodically, CDFA has issued additional quota
14 to producers from an original allocation but none since
15 1991. CDFA has issued about 2,215,978 pounds of quota
16 SNF on a daily basis, paren, about 66.2 million pounds
17 of SNF monthly, close paren. CDFA also considers milk
18 pool quota as a tradeable asset that is transferred
19 between California Grade A dairy producers. Transfers
20 occur monthly. It must be processed by the CDFA Milk
21 Pooling Branch as highlighted below.

22 And I will note this is a Table 1, which is
23 entitled "CDFA Milk Pooling Branch, Summary of
24 Transfers," and this is from 2015 through the first nine
25 months of this -- of this year so far. The sales are

1 based on quota solids-not-fat.

2 DIRECT EXAMINATION

3 BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON:

4 Q. Now, Mr. Hatamiya, this is the first of a
5 number of tables in your written testimony. Is this --
6 did you prepare this table?

7 A. Yes, I prepared this table directly from
8 information provided to me from CDFA.

9 Q. And can you just walk us through it and
10 explain what -- what's depicted here?

11 A. You know, I believe it's the similar table
12 that Dr. Erba shared in his exhibits, although he went
13 back historically.

14 I just took from 2015, the first column
15 obviously are the nine months that have occurred so far.

16 The number of sellers in the second column.

17 The number of buyers.

18 The number of sales at a hundred percent.

19 The average sales price, and this is critical
20 to this -- to this table, as I'll mention in just a
21 moment -- the average sales price without cows.

22 The next column is the average sales price
23 with cows.

24 And then the total production base fat
25 transferred among these transactions.

1 The quota fat -- quota fat transferred is the
2 following column.

3 And the next to last column is a total
4 production base SNF transferred.

5 And the last column is total quota SNF
6 transferred.

7 Q. And if you would go ahead and proceed with
8 your written testimony.

9 A. As I mentioned before, this table becomes
10 relevant as -- as I go on.

11 STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA, MBA, JD (CONT.)

12 A. Based upon the current average price of \$525
13 per pound, as noted from Table 1 of quota SNF, and,
14 again, paren, as noted in the table as I stated before,
15 close paren, multiplied by the 2,215,978 pounds of quota
16 SNF issued by CDFA, results in the total aggregate quota
17 value owned by California dairy producers of nearly
18 \$1.164 billion. This is a significant economic asset
19 with enormous value to both dairy producers and
20 communities across California.

21 Let me move to section Roman Numeral III,
22 "Examination and Quantification of the Economic Value of
23 Quota."

24 As I described above, the state of California
25 maintains a premium in payment on the milk produced and

1 covered by quota which plays an important and vital role
2 in the California dairy industry. Quota payments are an
3 integral part of revenues to many California dairy
4 farmers. In fact, paramount to any consideration of a
5 California Federal Milk Marketing Order, paren, FMMO
6 close paren, was the a assurance that the quota program
7 would not in any way be diminished or affected.

8 MR. ENGLISH: Your Honor. Chip English.

9 Before he reads the next sentence, it is our
10 view that it is interpretation of the statute designed
11 to be a legal interpretation, which is impermissible,
12 and we object to the statement being in the record at
13 all, and I have extensive legal argument to address it
14 if necessary. I object to the statement.

15 JUDGE CLIFTON: I note your objection. I'm
16 not going to keep it from becoming part of the evidence
17 in this hearing. So if --

18 MR. ENGLISH: Your Honor, may I be heard?

19 JUDGE CLIFTON: Yes. Do you want to do it now
20 or do you want to do it at the end of the reading of
21 this document? You may -- you may choose.

22 MR. ENGLISH: I'm not going to interrupt the
23 flow. I reserve the right, you know, as long as it's
24 understood that -- that by sitting down we're not --
25 we're not waiving that. I think there's one or two

1 other times in the statement I'll raise, and then I will
2 seat, and we can discuss it afterwards so that the
3 testimony can continue, but with the understanding,
4 express understanding that we reserve our right to have
5 it stricken, that it should never have been put in the
6 record.

7 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right.

8 MR. ENGLISH: If you want me to argue it now,
9 I can.

10 JUDGE CLIFTON: No, I don't want your argument
11 now, and your objection is noted.

12 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Thank you, Your Honor.
13 Obviously, we -- we disagree with the objection, and as
14 with Dr. Erba's testimony, we believe it should come in,
15 but we can deal with it at a later time.

16 Mr. Hatamiya, please proceed with your
17 testimony.

18 A. Thank you. Continuing, Congress recognized
19 this and in the 2014 Farm Bill language dealing with the
20 promulgation of a -- of a FMMO in California directed
21 that the marketing order provisions allow for the
22 continuation of the quota program in California. The
23 2014 Farm Bill, paren, section 1410, paren, small (d)
24 close paren, close paren, references the 1996 Farm Bill,
25 paren, section 143, paren, (2), close paren, close

1 paren, and I quote: "Upon the petition and approval of
2 California dairy producers in the manner provided in
3 section 8c of the Agricultural Adjustment Act, paren, 7
4 U.S.C. 608, small c, close paren, reenacted with
5 amendments by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act
6 of 1937, the Secretary shall designation the State of
7 California as a separate Federal milk marketing order.
8 The order covering California shall have the right to
9 reblend and distribute receipts to recognize quota
10 value," end quote. And I emphasize added by underlying
11 "recognized quota value."

12 Let me move on to Subsection A, In order to
13 best "Recognize Quota Value," the full economic value
14 must be determined and maintained.

15 Quote, "economic value," end quote, is defined
16 in several ways, but is commonly recognized as the value
17 of an asset calculated according to its ability to
18 produce in -- to produce income in the future. Value is
19 linked to price through the mechan -- through the
20 mechanism of exchange. When one observes an exchange,
21 two important value functions are revealed: Those of
22 the buyer and seller. Just as the buyer reveals what he
23 or she is willing to pay for a certain amount of a good,
24 so too does the seller reveal what it costs him to give
25 up that good. This definition describes California's

1 dairy quota most appropriately as it is marketable and
2 tran -- as it is a marketable and transferable asset
3 that can be bought, sold, and results in an assured
4 source of cash flow for the owner of that quota.

5 As a resort -- result, in order to best
6 determine the economic value of dairy quota, we must
7 examine the common practices in which quota is utilized,
8 traded, and accounted for in the marketplace. To best
9 achieve this I served -- surveyed a range of California
10 accounting firms that specialize in dairies -- and
11 again, I footnote number 7, these included Adair &
12 Evans; Genske, Mulder and Company LLP; M. Green and
13 Company LLP; and Moss Adams LLP; a range of financial
14 institutions that are major dairy lenders -- footnote 8,
15 this includes Citizens Business Bank, Farm Credit West,
16 Five Star Bank, Rabobank, and Wells Fargo; and a range
17 of dairy farmers of varying sizes and operations from
18 across the state -- and footnote 9, including
19 cooperative member dairies of California Dairies,
20 Incorporated, Dairy Farmers of America, Incorporated --
21 Incorporated, and Land O'Lakes, Incorporated.

22 And just to enumerate, it was about 15
23 dairymen that I spoke to.

24 Further, "Subsection 1. Characterization of
25 Dairy Quota Holdings by Accounting Firms that service

1 dairies across California."

2 A. Quota value is universally accounted at
3 the cost the dairy paid for it and booked at its
4 historical value. Therefore, all accounting firms carry
5 quota value on their dairy clients' balance sheets as a
6 "Cost Basis."

7 B. Quota value is recognized as an investment
8 and transferable intangible asset.

9 C. CPA's characterize quota value under
10 current assets, intangible assets, and/or long-term
11 assets.

12 D. Most importantly, should the California
13 Dairy Quoting -- Quota Program be eliminated, massive
14 write-offs of losses would be taken. For example,
15 several CPA's noted that many of their clients
16 write-offs would be in the millions of dollars for
17 individual dairies.

18 Let me move to "Subsection 2.
19 Characterization of Dairy Quota Holdings by Lending
20 Financial Institutions in California."

21 A. In making lending decisions and reviewing
22 debt-to-asset and other relevant ratios, all financial
23 institutions place a value on quota ownership and
24 consider it an asset, which is unencumbered and
25 marketable.

1 1. Each bank, quote, "and even within each
2 bank," close quote, utilizes different formulas
3 characterizing, quote, "quota ownership value," end
4 quote.

5 2. For Uniform Commercial Code, paren, UCC,
6 close paren, reporting requirements, financial
7 institutions refer to quota ownership as either a
8 tangible or intangible asset, placing great emphasis on
9 the following:

10 Small i, among the list. Liquidity quota
11 ownership pro -- that it provides;

12 Ii. Steady source of assured cash flow and
13 revenues slash income;

14 iii. Quota ownership as a controllable asset;

15 iv. The value of quota on dairies -- on a
16 dairy's balance sheet affects a bank's perceived risk.
17 The level of quota ownership either lessens or increases
18 the dairy's borrowing leverage, for example, the more
19 quota ownership, the better the leverage;

20 v. When considered a tangible asset, quota
21 ownership is also treated as a form of collateral with
22 an abundance of caution and reported as chattel, paren,
23 any article of tangible property other than land,
24 buildings, and other things annexed to land, close
25 paren, under the UCC, paren, not all banks take this

1 approach, close paren;

2 And vi. Other banks do not consider quota
3 ownership as collateral, but it is considered something
4 very close, and I -- paren, and I quote, "the next
5 best -- best -- best thing," close quote, close paren.

6 I'll now move on to "b" under "Section 2."
7 Excuse me.

8 Financial institutions do not lend just on
9 quota ownership value, but recognize the value of
10 regular cash flows as a factor in lending decisions and
11 deeming quota ownership as, I quote, "always a benefit,
12 useful asset tool, if deployed correctly on a
13 case-by-case basis," close quote.

14 C. Moreover, the financial institutions noted
15 that should the California Dairy Quota Program be
16 eliminated or eroded, a major financial asset would be
17 destroyed leaving dairies one less invaluable tool,
18 paren, an assured source of revenue, close paren, to
19 obtain necessary financing.

20 Let me move to "Subsection 3.
21 Characterization of Dairy Quota Holdings by Dairy
22 Farmers in California."

23 A. Dairy farmers of all sizes across
24 California consider quota ownership an invaluable liquid
25 asset that is essential to their monthly cash flow and

1 to meet the increasing cost of operations.

2 B. During difficult and challenging economic
3 periods, quota ownership and the assured source of cash
4 flow have helped dairy farmers meet the increasing
5 pressures of the higher cost of production, for example,
6 feed, label, engine, water. This is especially
7 relevant, but not exclusive, to smaller dairies with
8 quota ownership.

9 C. All dairy farmers that own quota have
10 bought and sold quota over the years and consider it a
11 solid financial investment because, unlike other assets,
12 quote, "it does not require maintenance or a
13 veterinarian over time," close quote. Its
14 transferability, marketability, and long-term assured
15 value has been a hallmark of the dairy quota's
16 existence.

17 D. Buying additional dairy quota is
18 considered a better return on investment from many dairy
19 farmers who are being priced out of the increasingly
20 exorbitant land prices across the state.

21 E. For many California dairy farmers, quota
22 ownership has allowed them to continue in the dairy
23 business, retain their family's dairy, quote, "culture,"
24 close quote, and survive in an increasingly competitive
25 global marketplace.

1 F. Lastly, should the careful -- California
2 Dairy Quota be -- Quota Program be limited, diminished,
3 or challenged from its current status, many dairy
4 farmers would suffer irreparable damages with massive
5 write-offs of their significant quota investment.

6 Let me move now to "Section B. Make-up of
7 Quota Ownership Across the State."

8 Quota ownership has changed over time. As
9 quota has been bought, sold and traded over the years,
10 and with the increasing milk production, the percentage
11 of California dairy owning quota -- dairies owning quota
12 has shifted.

13 And I've provided a Table Number 2: "Percent
14 of California Dairy Farms by Quota Ownership." Again,
15 it's footnoted 10. This is data provided by the
16 California Department of Food and Agriculture, Dairy
17 Marketing Branch.

18 Q. This is another table that you prepared using
19 that information provided by CDFA?

20 A. That's correct. Again, in quotes under Table
21 2, it's the percent of quota relevant to milk
22 production. I believe this is the same table that
23 Dr. Erba provided last week during his testimony.

24 Q. And if you could just describe briefly what
25 those tables depict.

1 A. Again, this table depicts a percentage
2 ownership of quota in the far left column, 1 to 20%, 21
3 to 40%, and on down. The last -- last two rows show the
4 number of dairies. And then the number of dairies of
5 quota. And then it goes across in five-year increments
6 from 1995 to 2015.

7 Q. Okay.

8 JUDGE CLIFTON: If -- if I might inquire, you
9 have at the top, before we get to the figures, in
10 parentheses a phrase. Would you read that into the
11 record?

12 THE WITNESS: Yes, I'm sorry, I -- Your Honor.
13 It's paren, "quota" -- a "percent of quota relative to
14 milk production."

15 JUDGE CLIFTON: So when I look at the table,
16 how do I find milk production?

17 THE WITNESS: I don't have that included here,
18 so the 17%, for example, are the -- the percentage milk
19 production of the dairies that don't have any quota.

20 JUDGE CLIFTON: I see.

21 THE WITNESS: In that first column. So it
22 just goes across. Maybe 2015 is probably better. If
23 you go across to 2015, 42% of dairies don't own any
24 quota, 20% of dairy own 1 to 20%. 13% have 21 to 40%
25 and on down. And then, again, the total percent of

1 ownership, 58% of dairies now have quota in California.
2 And so that number is a little over 832 or 800 dairies
3 in the state.

4 JUDGE CLIFTON: So this table shows us dairy
5 by dairy but does not show us the amount of milk
6 produced by quota holders; is that correct?

7 THE WITNESS: That's correct.

8 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you.

9 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Okay. If you would
10 proceed with your written testimony following the table.

11 THE WITNESS: Currently 58% of all California
12 dairies own some percentage of quota, paren,
13 approximately 832 dairies, close paren.

14 For purposes of my foregoing data analysis, I
15 also reviewed the current, paren, as of January 2015,
16 close paren, geographical distribution of quota
17 ownership across California as noted in Table 3 below.
18 I was also able to approximately calculate the
19 percentage of the county's -- of a county's milk
20 production covered by quota by utilizing the geographic
21 distribution of quota ownership and the CDFA reported
22 monthly milk production dated.

23 And, again, if I can note in footnote how I
24 calculated these number. The percentage -- and that's
25 footnote 11 the percentage of a county's milk production

1 covered by quota was approximately calculated by
2 multiplying the daily quota holdings, paren, quota SNF
3 by county -- close quote, by county by the days in the
4 month, 31 for January 2015, to get a monthly total. I
5 then divided the monthly quota SNF county total by the
6 total pounds of SNF produced in the county for the month
7 to determine the overall percentage of quota.

8 And -- and this calculation was based upon not
9 only my calculations but as a suggestion by CDFA, and so
10 I doublechecked with them to ensure that I'm doing it
11 correctly, and they -- they assured me that this is the
12 correct approximate calculation of quota per county.

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION

14 BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON:

15 Q. And are these the calculations that are
16 depicted in the next table, Table 3?

17 A. Table 3, yes. The Dairy Quota by County as of
18 January 2015.

19 And, again, footnoted 12. 12 says the most
20 recent available data provided by the California
21 Department of Food and Agriculture, Dairy Marketing
22 branch. This is what they were able to provide on a
23 county basis.

24 Again, I believe Dr. Erba provided this in a
25 different sort of form. I have re-categorized these by

1 the largest percentage holding counties down to the
2 smallest.

3 So if I can walk through this really quickly
4 with you.

5 Q. Please do. Please do.

6 STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA, MBA, JD (CONT.)

7 A. The -- the first column again is the "County."

8 The second column is the "Quota SNF," the
9 total pounds.

10 And the last is the "Percent of Total Quota
11 Allocated."

12 So, for example, out of the total allocated in
13 the State of California, Tulare County had a little over
14 18.8%. San Diego County, you go down to the bottom, had
15 about .34%.

16 JUDGE CLIFTON: Now, when you go down to the
17 bottom, I see San Bernardino. Is San Diego County
18 represented by San Bernardino? Oh, do I have to turn
19 the page?

20 THE WITNESS: Yeah, I think it goes to the
21 next page.

22 JUDGE CLIFTON: Ah, okay. Thank you. I have
23 to turn the page.

24 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: For everyone following
25 along on the actual exhibit, this table spans over two

1 pages, page 12 and 13.

2 THE WITNESS: Let me explain a couple of other
3 things, Your Honor, if I could. As you notice, there
4 are a couple of counties that are combined:

5 Merced-Monterey, Kern-Los Angeles-Santa Barbara. I
6 believe CDFA does that for proprietary reasons. There
7 are a small number of quota owners in some of these
8 small counties or -- in terms of the number of dairies,
9 so if you -- if you separated them out by separate
10 counties, you could identify who the quota holders were,
11 so in order to -- to insure the proprietary nature of
12 that information, they combined several of the counties,
13 and -- and that's what I've done here as well. I've
14 just reflected totally what they provided to me.

15 JUDGE CLIFTON: So am I to understand that it
16 is not a matter of public record published by CDFA who
17 holds the quota in any given month?

18 THE WITNESS: That's correct. Because, again,
19 it's proprietary information that's, you know, just to
20 the quota owners themselves. They do provide, again,
21 the pounds of -- of SNF that's issued every month, but
22 that's done in a generic -- a general fashion.

23 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Thank you, Dr. --
24 Mr. Hatamiya, for your explanation of that table. You
25 can proceed with your testimony.

1 THE WITNESS: As we go to the next page, San
2 Luis Obispo County is the smallest county with .03% of
3 quota, so it ranges in a large amount. These numbers
4 will become more important as I move to my following
5 tables, so I just do this as -- as an example of the
6 quota distribution throughout the state.

7 Let me move on with my -- with my testimony.

8 The top ten quota holding counties slash areas
9 make up over 90% of all quota ownership. I think that
10 reflects, again, what Dr. Erba mentioned the other day.

11 The largest quota ownership by volume is in
12 Tulare, then Merced-Monterey, Stanislaus, and Kern-Los
13 Angeles-Santa Barbara Counties. However, the highest
14 concentration of milk production covered by quota is in
15 many smaller producing counties, such as San Diego with
16 74%, Marin with 63%, Riverside with over 62%, and Sonoma
17 with 61%.

18 And I was able to calculate, if I can take a
19 moment to tell you those cancellations. Just totaling
20 the total amount of quota looking at the total amount of
21 SNF produced in that county, I could determine how much
22 was covered by quota. So even though there was some
23 counties that had as a percentage wise as smaller
24 percent for the state, a large percentage of their
25 production in their county was covered by quota. If

1 that's clear.

2 And let me move on. This compares with Tulare
3 County that has -- although they own 18 point almost
4 9 percent of all quota, only 14.8% of their milk is
5 covered by quota. Stanislaus County, 30.1%. San
6 Joaquin County at nearly 27%. And Kings County just
7 over 13%. So that just gives you a real good geographic
8 of where quota is in the State of California.

9 Let me move to sub point -- "Subsection C,"
10 the "Economic Value of Quota to the Dairy Farmer and
11 Dairy Industry." With the current, paren, qSNF as of
12 January 2015, close paren, distribution of dairy quota
13 across California, I have calculated the total economic
14 value of quota by county/area and the entire state as
15 follows:

16 So this is my "Table 4," the "Total Dairy
17 Quota Value by County and State for 2015."

18 DIRECT EXAMINATION

19 BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON:

20 Q. Okay. And, again, if you would just walk us
21 through this table.

22 A. Yes, if -- again, these are calculated as I
23 calculated the overall quota, the 1.164 billion, the
24 total amount of quota issued, I broke that down by
25 county. So in paren under the table it purports

1 "calculated at the current average market price of \$525
2 a pound," close paren. So, again, keeping it in terms
3 of the same categories in terms of the size of counties.
4 I just added a fourth column dealing with current total
5 quota value, and that's totaling the -- multiplying the
6 quota NS -- SNF times the 525 reaches the 218, for
7 example, \$985,531 worth of quota value in Tulare County.
8 And it's on down as you go down through all the rest of
9 the counties, down to a low of \$292,792.50 in San Luis
10 Obispo County.

11 And as you see in the bottom, I have the whole
12 total, and it totals out to the 1.163, 164 billion.

13 Q. Okay. Thank you for that. Please go ahead.

14 STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA, MBA, JD (CONT.)

15 A. As I noted before, at the current average
16 market price of \$525 per pound, and I emphasize, total
17 economic value of quota owned is approximately 1.164
18 billion. By any measure, this is a substantial
19 financial investment made by California dairy farmers.
20 More specifically, dairy farmers from all corners of the
21 state have an enormous investment and an invaluable
22 asset at stake from nearly \$220 million in Tulare
23 County, \$178 million in Merced and Monterey Counties,
24 and over 162 million in Stanislaus County, to over
25 \$36 million in Mendocino and Sonoma Counties, 11.1

1 million in Marine County, and nearly 4 million in San
2 Diego County.

3 JUDGE CLIFTON: And each of those that you've
4 just read us are in terms of dollars?

5 THE WITNESS: In -- yes, I'm sorry, in terms
6 of dollars, that's correct. And, again, those are
7 itemized in Table 4 in column -- the last column, column
8 four.

9 Additionally, utilizing statewide Quota
10 Premiums -- Premiums less Regional Quota Adjusters,
11 paren, RQA, close paren, per month as provided by the
12 California Department of Food and Agriculture for 2014,
13 paren, most recent calendar year available, close paren,
14 I have further calculated the annual total -- total
15 quota payments per county slash area as follows:

16 In Table 5 is the Total Quota Payments per
17 California County in 2014.

18 DIRECT EXAMINATION

19 BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON:

20 Q. And this depicts the calculations of the
21 annual total quota payments per county/area that you
22 were just discussing?

23 A. That is correct. As you can see from the
24 first column, again, it's itemized in terms of the size
25 of quota.

1 The second column is the quota premium; these
2 are the numbers that were provided to me by CDFA.

3 Then as you see as we've been discussing, and
4 I think Dr. Erba was questioned the last two days on
5 RQA's. The RQA's are listed for all of the counties
6 here, ranging from \$.03 to -- this is, again, by -- by
7 hundredweight, so it's broken down.

8 The total RQA, I totaled up, and then subtract
9 that from the quota premium.

10 And then the last column, you get the total
11 quota payment per county for the entire year of 2014.

12 Q. And the total quota payment you came to in
13 your calculations was?

14 A. \$139,329,759.23. And, again, that was the
15 number provided to me from CDFA, and I just went
16 backwards and determined what each of the payments were
17 for each of the counties. They don't break it down on a
18 county basis, they give you the overall total, so I had
19 to break it out by county, and I did it based upon the
20 percentages that I had broken out before.

21 Q. Okay. Very good. Thank you. Please proceed
22 with your testimony.

23 STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA, MBA, JD (CONT.)

24 A. The total annual quota payments, or more
25 appropriately, the total annual return on quota

1 investment to dairy farmers across California for 2014
2 was over \$139.3 million. These total annual returns on
3 quota investments are significant across the state and
4 from county to county, and are important in determining
5 the total economic impact upon the state and local
6 communities that dairy production and quota ownership
7 exists across California.

8 Let me now move to "Section IV," Roman Numeral
9 IV of my testimony: "Examination of the Economic Impact
10 of Changing the California Dairy Quota Program."

11 A. Economic Impact that Quota has upon the
12 State, Region, County, and Dairy Community.

13 To better determine the total economic impact
14 of the Dairy Quota Program upon the state of California
15 and the various dairy producing counties across the
16 state, I have utilized generally recognized economic
17 impact analysis model. Economic Impact Analysis refers
18 to any number of processes that trace how changes in
19 spending, such as industry or government spending,
20 business closures, new industrial or infrastructural
21 developments, and/or natural disasters move through an
22 economy. An impact study measures the cumulative
23 effects on that spending on a defined geographic region.

24 Economic Impact Analysis can also provide
25 information about the effects of policy and employment

1 changes such as reports on job creation estimates
2 related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of
3 2009, for example, to the effects of local business'
4 opening or closing, the impacts of job exportation to
5 other countries, or the tax revenue associated to
6 certain policy decisions made by local, state, or
7 federal governments. Typically, whenever the phrase
8 the, quote, "estimated impact on the economy slash
9 community is that X jobs are created," close quote, is
10 used, these are the results of an economic impact
11 analysis report.

12 Identifying and quantification of direct,
13 indirect, and induced economic contributions of the
14 dairy quota payments was accomplished by analyzing the
15 most recently available Dairy Quota Premium less
16 Regional Quota Adjusters, paren, from calendar year
17 2014, footnote 13.

18 Again, it's monthly totals from January 2009
19 from July 2015 were provided by the California
20 Department of Food and Agriculture, Dairy Marketing
21 Branch. However, for purposes of this analysis, I
22 relied upon data from calendar year 2014, being the most
23 recent period available.

24 Let me continue there, I -- let me start on
25 that -- that paragraph again because it continues.

1 Identification and, again, quantification of
2 direct, indirect, and induced economic contributions of
3 dairy quota payments was accomplished by analyzing the
4 most recently available Dairy -- Dairy Quota Premium
5 less Regional Quota Adjusters, again, paren, from
6 calendar year 2014, close paren, and applying that data
7 to the appropriate economic input-output model. The
8 model utilized in this study is called Impact Analysis
9 for Planning, paren, IMPLAN, close paren.

10 IMPLAN is spelled I-M-P-L-A-N. That's all in
11 capital letters. Economic input-output models like
12 IMPLAN are the primary tool to measure the total
13 economic impact of a policy or event, in this case the
14 annual payment of a dairy quota. The theory behind
15 economic impact analysis is that the total economic
16 impact of an existing entity within a geographic region
17 is not merely limited to the number of employees that
18 the entity hires or lays off, the payroll associated
19 with these employees, or the operational or capital
20 expenditures it annually makes. The total economic
21 impact also includes additional multiplicative impacts.
22 Additional impacts occur as the entity foregoes spending
23 money on goods and services as the wages of their
24 employees find their way through the local and regional
25 economy or conversely as an entity fails to spend and

1 the impact that this lack of spending has upon the
2 economy.

3 Input-output accounting describes commodity
4 flows from producers to intermediate and final
5 consumers. Excuse me. The total industry purchases of
6 commodities, services, employment compensation, value
7 added, and imports are equal to the value of the
8 commodities produced. Purchases for the final use,
9 paren, final demand, close paren, drive the IMPLAN
10 model. Industries produced goods and services for the
11 final demand and purchased goods and services from other
12 producers. These other producers in turn purchase goods
13 and services. This buying of goods and services, paren,
14 indirect purchases, close paren, continues until
15 leakages from the region, paren, imports and value
16 added, close paren, stop the cycle. Moreover, any
17 direct expenditure associated with an entity will have
18 ripple effects through the economy. In other words,
19 each dollar of direct expenditure generates more than
20 one dollar in the economy, thus the resulting multiplier
21 effect.

22 For purposes of this analysis, direct --
23 direct impacts on the -- are the direct result of dairy
24 expenditures as a result of dairy quota payments. Their
25 indirect payments are generated from expenditures of the

1 person who benefit from the direct impacts, paren,
2 suppliers, contractors, service providers to the
3 dairies, et cetera -- et cetera, close paren. The
4 induced impacts are the result of increased household
5 income and related spending which is driven by the
6 direct and indirect impacts. From these inputs, the
7 IMPLAN model was used to calculate direct, indirect, and
8 induced changes to employment, gross domestic product,
9 paren, output, close paren, and state and local tax
10 revenues. I measured all of these impacts based upon
11 their economic gains to the various dairy-producing
12 counties and regions of California. Additionally, I
13 have analyzed economic -- economic impacts of the
14 California Quota Dairy Program upon the entire state of
15 California. The following Table 6 summarizes my
16 findings.

17 DIRECT EXAMINATION

18 BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON:

19 Q. Okay. So now we're into this Table 6, which
20 for those with the exhibit starts on page 18 and spills
21 over onto page 19. And is this a table that you
22 prepared, Mr. Hatamiya?

23 A. Yes, it is. It's a table I prepared utilizing
24 the IMPLAN calculator model.

25 Q. Okay. If you could just walk us through this.

1 A. I would be pleased to do that.

2 Again, Table 6 is entitled, "Economic Impact
3 of Annual Return on Dairy Quota Investments for
4 California and the Various Counties, the year 2014."

5 Again --

6 JUDGE CLIFTON: Let me stop you.

7 THE WITNESS: Yes, Your Honor.

8 JUDGE CLIFTON: This is an important part of
9 your testimony. I want all of us to at least stand and
10 take a little stretch break.

11 THE WITNESS: Please.

12 JUDGE CLIFTON: It's -- it's now 12:03. We
13 can take a longer break than five minutes if anybody
14 needs it. I'm thinking about five minutes would work.
15 Okay? Let's just take about five minutes. Please, be
16 back and ready to go at 12:09.

17 (Whereupon a break was taken.)

18 JUDGE CLIFTON: We are back on record now.
19 It's 12:09.

20 Mr. Hatamiya, you may resume. Would you start
21 over again at the bottom of page 18, just talking about
22 what the table title is?

23 STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA, MBA, JD (CONT.)

24 THE WITNESS: Yes. As I started, Table 6 is
25 entitled "Economic Impact of Annual Return on Dairy

1 Quota Investments for California in the Various
2 Counties, 2014."

3 DIRECT EXAMINATION

4 BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON:

5 Q. Okay. And, Mr. Hatamiya, I think before we
6 took a break, you were going to also walk us through
7 this Table 6.

8 A. Yes. And I apologize for the small nature of
9 these numbers. I wanted to make sure that they were all
10 put into one table, so I'm going to take my glasses off
11 so I can actually read them.

12 Again, the first column is the region, and
13 that includes the state of California and all the
14 various counties, again, ranked by the size of their
15 quota ownership.

16 Second column -- column is the Annual Return
17 on Quota Investment. That comes from Table 5.

18 Third column is output, gross domestic
19 product.

20 And, again, 14, that comes from the IMPLAN
21 model, and if I can read in my footnote for 14, Output
22 represents the value of industry production. In IMPLAN
23 these are annual production estimates for the year of
24 the data set and are in producer prices. For
25 manufacturers this would be sales plus slash minus

1 change in inventory. For service sectors, production
2 equals sales. For retail and wholesale trade, output
3 equals gross margin and not gross sales. More
4 generally, Output is also considered in real terms, I
5 think most people know it as Gross Domestic Product.

6 The fourth -- fourth column here is
7 employment, another number generated by the IMPLAN
8 calculations.

9 The fifth column is state and local taxes,
10 again generated by the IMPLAN model.

11 The sixth column federal taxes, generated by
12 the IMPLAN model.

13 And then the last two are the -- the various
14 multipliers, output GDP multiplier and employment
15 multiplier.

16 And if you go down each one of the lists, you
17 see, again, the total annual investment. Let's take the
18 first line, California. The 139,358,870 quota
19 investment for 2014 resulted in \$278,901,240 of
20 additional state output. And, you know, I'll get to
21 that in the rest of my -- my testimony. But hopefully
22 this is self-explanatory from there.

23 Q. Right. So the first row shows the numbers for
24 California as a whole, and then the following rows,
25 it's -- it's separated by county?

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. Okay. And --

3 A. And they're not additive, by the way. The
4 state entitles every -- there's not dairy production in
5 every county, so, again, I just handled the ones that
6 there are dairy production, but California -- there's an
7 impact upon California generally, and so that's why
8 there are more numbers of employment of -- of greater
9 output.

10 Q. Okay. Thank you.

11 I believe as you go on in your testimony, you
12 provide more explanation regarding this table --

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. -- and your findings?

15 A. Yes, if I could continue.

16 Q. Please do.

17 STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA, MBA, JD (CONT.)

18 A. The Total Annual Return on Quota Investment to
19 dairy farmers across California for 2014 of \$139,358,870
20 has a dramatic impact upon the state's economy. The
21 cumulative effect of that expenditure alone results in
22 \$278,901,240 to the state's Gross Domestic Product. So
23 essentially there's a multiplier in effect here.
24 Moreover, just dairy quota payments alone, and let me
25 emphasize that, just dairy quota payments alone result

1 in the creation of 1,269 jobs with over 11 million added
2 to local and state coffers, and over \$16.7 million paid
3 to the federal government.

4 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: And those millions are
5 dollars?

6 THE WITNESS: Yes, I'm sorry I didn't say
7 that. For the counties, that's exactly -- \$11 million.

8 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Thank you.

9 THE WITNESS: Simply put, for every dollar of
10 return on quota investment in California, another 2
11 dollar -- \$2 is added to the total GDP, paren,
12 multiplier of 1.98, close paren. In addition, for every
13 job created by quota investment return, another 2.5 jobs
14 are created across the state. Dairy quota payments also
15 add significantly -- significantly to the state, local,
16 and federal tax base.

17 The economic impact of total annual quota
18 payments is no less significant to individual counties
19 in regions across California. For example, the dairy
20 quota owners in Tulare County, paren, approximately 42
21 dairies, close paren, in 15, footnote 15, I derived --
22 this number was derived from previous calculation of
23 total milk production covered by quota, 14.8%, and the
24 number of total dairies in -- in Tulare County, 281, as
25 reported by CDFA in California Dairy Statistics Annual,

1 2014 Annual Data. So that's how I came up with that
2 number.

3 Particular -- let me start that sentence
4 again.

5 For example, the dairy quota owners in Tulare
6 County, paren, approximately 42 dairies, close paren,
7 add solely from their annual quota payments, and, again,
8 I emphasize solely from their annual quota payments,
9 nothing else, over \$34 million to the counties GDP, 149
10 additional jobs, and over 1.1 million to local and state
11 tax revenues, and nearly \$2 million -- I'm sorry --
12 \$1.1 million to total -- to local and state tax
13 revenues, and nearly \$2 million to the federal
14 government. A smaller producing county with a higher
15 percentage of quota ownership, and this example is
16 Marin, paren, with 63% quota ownership equaling
17 approximately 16 dairies, close paren, adds over
18 1.8 million to the counties GDP, ten additional jobs,
19 over 64,000 to the local and state governments, and
20 11 -- \$112,800 to the federal government. By every
21 measure, California's Dairy Quota Program has a positive
22 impact upon the state and local economies.

23 "Subsection B. Impact of Changing the
24 California Quota Program via the Federal Regulatory
25 Process and the Conversion to a Federal Milk Marketing

1 Order," paren, "FMMO," close paren.

2 Based upon my economic valuation and economic
3 impact analysis to the California Dairy Quota Program as
4 I have just presented, I submit the following
5 observations on the potential impact of changing the
6 Quota Program.

7 MR. ENGLISH: Your Honor, I'd object to the
8 inclusion of the clause, as you're going to have a
9 second part, but the -- what's following here with
10 respect to a legal conclusion, and I reserve my rights.

11 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you, Mr. English. Your
12 objection is noted.

13 And, Mr. Hatamiya, you may resume. Please
14 start again --

15 THE WITNESS: With that paragraph?

16 JUDGE CLIFTON: Yes, please.

17 THE WITNESS: Yes, Your Honor.

18 Again, based upon my economic valuation and
19 economic impact analysis of the California Dairy Quota
20 Program as I have just presented, I submit the following
21 observations on the potential impact of changing the
22 quota program.

23 1. To the extent that the FMMO maintains the
24 current -- current quota system and it recognizes its
25 full value as directed by Congressional language, dairy

1 quota ownership continues to have the same significant
2 and positive role in the California dairy farm economy.

3 2. Any tinkering with the quota terms will
4 create regulatory uncertainty which will diminish the
5 economic value of quota, thereby eroding the invaluable
6 financial investments that dairy farmers across the
7 state have previously made.

8 And 3. To the extent that any regulatory
9 action would threaten the value of quota or directly
10 diminish its value, it would be materially disruptive to
11 the individual quota owners and to the producer side of
12 the industry more broadly. Writing off over \$1.16
13 billion in quota value would be disastrous not -- for
14 not only the individual dairy farmer, but also to the
15 state and local economies.

16 Now I'll move to, again, Roman Numeral V,
17 "Section V. Comparative Analysis of Quota between the
18 FMMO Proposals."

19 Once again, based upon my economic valuation
20 and economic impact analysis of the California Dairy
21 Quota Program as well as my review and analysis of the
22 Agricultural Marketing Service's Preliminary Economic
23 Impact Analysis, I submit the following comparative
24 observations between FMMO Proposals:

25 A. The Dairy Institute's Proposal does not

1 recognize the economic value of quota, but quickly
2 diminishes the economic and financial value to the dairy
3 farmer, wreaking substantial economic losses and
4 financial harm.

5 To determine that the Dairy Institute's FMMO
6 proposal does not recognize the economic value of quota,
7 I need not go further than AMS' Preliminary Economic
8 Impact Analysis, which clearly states -- and, again, I
9 footnote 16, quote, "Preliminary Regulatory Impact
10 Analysis Proposals to establish a California FMMO,"
11 close quote, page 21, United States Department of
12 Agriculture, Agricultural Marketing Service, Dairy
13 Division, August 2015.

14 And again -- again, clearly states --

15 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: We're leading into a big
16 quote --

17 THE WITNESS: Into a big quote.

18 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: -- so if you could
19 indicate when you've reached the end of --

20 THE WITNESS: Yes.

21 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: -- that quote.

22 THE WITNESS: Beginning quote, "Under the
23 Institutes' proposal, the CDFA administered quota
24 program would continue to exist, although participation
25 would be optional.

1 "In order to determine the potential impact of
2 optional quota program participation under the
3 Institute's proposal, the volume of milk that would
4 potentially not participate in the California quota
5 program, and the point at which the decision would be
6 made to participate had to be determined. To do so,
7 this analysis relies on current CDFA quota ownership
8 data, California FMMO blend prices forecasted starting
9 in 2017, the California quota price and the California
10 overbase price. The analysis assumes that quota holders
11 will compare their weighted quota blend price against
12 the California FMMO blend price and will choose to
13 receive whichever is higher.

14 "Since the California FMMO blend price would
15 be higher than the weighted quota blend price, if a
16 producer only owns small amounts of quota, they would
17 most likely choose not to participate in the quota pool.
18 Under the" -- and I put in parens, "Dairy Institute's,"
19 close parens, "proposal, the decision would be
20 irrevocable. As more quota holders currently exit, the
21 value of the quota pool decreases lending to larger
22 quota holders choosing the California FMMO blend price
23 over their weighted quota blend price.

24 "The analysis observed that after the 1st
25 decision point," paren, "which would be considered one

1 month," close paren, "quota holders -- holders with less
2 than or equal to 25% of their production under quota
3 will choose the California FMMO blend. After the 2nd
4 decision point, quota holders with less than or equal to
5 85 percent of their production under quota will choose
6 the California FMMO blend. After the 3rd decision
7 point, the analysis predicts that all California
8 producers would choose the California FMMO blend price
9 over the weighted quota blend price," end quote.

10 Again, I'm quoting directly from AMS' impact
11 study.

12 DIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON:

14 Q. Thank you.

15 Now, in addition to reviewing that Preliminary
16 Impact Analysis regarding the Dairy Institute's proposed
17 quota program, did you also perform some analysis of the
18 proposed proposal?

19 A. Yes, I did. I tried to -- I couldn't
20 duplicate completely AMS' analysis because I didn't have
21 access to forecasted prices, but I did set up an example
22 and went through it and came up with essentially the
23 same results that AMS came up with.

24 Q. Okay.

25 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: So I'd like to mark

1 another exhibit, Your Honor.

2 JUDGE CLIFTON: Yes.

3 MR. HILL: I believe we are at Exhibit 55.

4 MS. FRISIUS: That's correct.

5 JUDGE CLIFTON: Yes. We'll mark this Exhibit
6 as Exhibit 55, F -- excuse me, 55.

7 (Whereupon Exhibit 55 was marked for
8 identification.)

9 JUDGE CLIFTON: And for the court reporter and
10 the judge.

11 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Oh, Your Honor, I handed
12 you one.

13 JUDGE CLIFTON: I've already got one.

14 Does the court reporter have one?

15 We've already got ours, thank you.

16 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: May I proceed?

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: If you -- if you do not yet
18 have a copy of Exhibit 55, would you raise your hand?

19 Everyone has one, and there are extras.

20 Continue.

21 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Thank you.

22 BY MS. OLIVER THOMPSON:

23 Q. Now, Mr. Hatamiya, you have in front of you
24 what's been marked as Exhibit 55, and is this the
25 analysis of the Dairy Institute's proposed quota program

1 that you were just discussing?

2 A. Yeah, yes, it is. I prepared this attached
3 flow chart trying to match completely my understanding
4 of what their proposal outlines in terms of the quota
5 program.

6 Q. Okay. And -- and in doing that, you've kind
7 of plugged in some hypothetical numbers in order to --
8 to show how it would work?

9 A. I did. In order to simplify this, if I would
10 walk -- maybe walk us through this so you can follow,
11 and -- and I -- again, I think it reflects what AMS came
12 up with their own analysis.

13 In month one, let's just say, for example,
14 there's \$100 in the overall blend pool, just for
15 simplification matters, and there's dairy farmers each
16 with a hundredweight of production at \$10 per
17 hundredweight.

18 And reflecting what's the reality, about
19 40 percent of farms don't own quota and 60 percent that
20 do, I have four farmers with no quota; one farmer with
21 100% quota; one farmer with 90% quota; one farmer with
22 85% quota; one farmer with 75; one with 50; and one with
23 25. Again, it could have been any numbers, but it was
24 just a spread that I chose. So there's six farmers with
25 quota, four with none.

1 So then you go down to the next -- next step
2 in the flow chart. Four farmers with no quota obviously
3 will opt out and will receive \$40 out of the pool
4 immediately. So there's \$60 remaining in that \$100,
5 which now the quota pool. And assuming that the \$1.70 a
6 hundredweight quota premium that exists by law, the
7 first farmer with a hundred percent gets \$1.70.

8 And you add that to 90%, the farmer with 90%
9 gets \$1.53. \$1.53 is 90 percent of \$1.70.

10 Farmer with are 85% gets \$1.45. Again, 85% of
11 \$1.70 is \$1.45 and so on.

12 And if you go through all six farmers, they
13 receive a total of \$7.24. So you -- you subtract that
14 from the \$60 that's left in the quota pool, and you get
15 a total of 52.76, \$52.76. Divide that by the six number
16 of dairy farmers with quota, and it's 8.79 per
17 hundredweight that's left.

18 So in order to get what price the farmer would
19 get during this first decision period, I just added
20 their quota premium plus that 8.79. The farmer with
21 100% gets 10.49. The farmer with 90% gets 10.32. The
22 farmer with 85% gets 10.24. The farmer with 75% gets
23 \$10.07. And then the farmers 50 and 25 get less than
24 the \$10, they get 9.64 and 9.22.

25 So then you head into the second month, and as

1 you see, the four farmers who opted out will remain
2 opted out. The two farmers that drop below that \$10
3 price, the 50% and 25% decide to opt out as well. So
4 now you have six farmers in that blend pool, so they
5 receive \$60 off the top. So there's \$40 remaining in
6 the quota pool in the second month.

7 Again, the farmer with -- we go through the
8 same calculation, farmer with a 100% gets \$1.70, farmer
9 with 90 gets \$1.53, on down. And that totals 5.96.
10 Those are the farmers down through 75 percent.

11 \$40, the total in the quota pool, minus the
12 5.96 equals 34.04. Divide that by four gets you a price
13 of \$8.51.

14 You add that to the -- the quota premium. The
15 farmer with 100% gets 10.21. The farmer with 90% gets
16 10.04, and the two farmers, 85 and 75, get less than
17 ten, they get 9.96 and 9.79.

18 So we move to the third month. The six
19 farmers who already opted out who joined by the two
20 farmers that dropped under \$10, so now you have eight
21 farmers in the blend pool that receive 80. And this
22 goes on again, there's 20 remaining in the quota pool,
23 and with 100% gets \$1.70, the dollar gets \$1.53. As it
24 turns out, the only one that benefits from joining that
25 opting in is the farmer with 100%, and the 90% loses --

1 falls under 10.

2 So by the fourth month, again, as the AMS, and
3 I think it's the third decision point as AMS has noted
4 it, all farmers will opt out because you can do no
5 better than \$10, so that's my month four.

6 So hopefully you can follow the -- the
7 progression that I've outlined. I tried to make it as
8 simple as possible so you could follow through with what
9 was happening to quota and how people decide to opt out
10 and opt in.

11 Q. Okay. Thank you.

12 And so the bottom line of your illustration
13 here is that by -- by the fourth month, it would -- it
14 would appear that all quota owners would have opted out
15 of the program?

16 A. At least by the fourth month. It could be
17 sooner. Some of the smaller quota owners in the first
18 month may decide to opt out if -- you know, they -- they
19 do the calculations, they know how the market works, so
20 they may opt out. And I think AMS' analysis reflected
21 that, too, the smaller percentage owners would
22 potentially opt out immediately. So this is the -- at
23 the -- at the outside would be four months, it could be
24 even shorter.

25 Q. Okay. Thank you. I think we left off in your

1 testimony on the paragraph just above Subsection B.

2 STATEMENT OF LON HATAMIYA, MBA, JD (CONT.)

3 A. Let me continue that, it's ending my analysis.

4 Again, repeating, as the AMS analysis
5 undoubtedly predicts, the Dairy Institute's proposal
6 would quickly diminish, then complete destroy the quota
7 program and its long-held value. Within the short
8 period of time, dairy farmers with quota ownership would
9 experience massive write-offs not only on their balance
10 sheets, but would sustain disastrous losses to their
11 invaluable investment. The devaluation and ultimate
12 elimination of their liquid asset would have negative
13 impacts upon lending decisions, their access to capital,
14 and their ability to purchase inputs for production,
15 such as feed, labor, energy, and water. As I stated
16 before, writing off over \$1.16 billion in quota value
17 would be disastrous not only for the individual dairy
18 farmer, but also to the state and local economies. This
19 is not a recognition of the value of quota, but simply a
20 repudiation of any value.

21 Let me turn to "Section B. The Cooperative's
22 Proposal fully honors the authorizing Congressional
23 legislation to," quote, "recognize quota value," end
24 quote.

25 In stark contrast, the proposal submitted by

1 the California Dairies, Incorporated, Dairy Farmers of
2 America, and Land O'Lakes, fully recognizes the history
3 of quota, the financial investment made -- made by dairy
4 producers in quota --

5 MR. ENGLISH: Your Honor, I object to any
6 language following the comma that he's about to read for
7 the same reason, that it is a legal conclusion,
8 impermissible, and should not be in the record, and
9 again, I preserve my rights to argue and allow the
10 statement to continue.

11 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you, Mr. English. Your
12 objection is noted.

13 Pick up where you left off, please,
14 Mr. Hatamiya.

15 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.

16 And the federal directive to preserve
17 California quota's program. Therefore, the Cooperatives
18 propose that the quota program be left intact without
19 significant modifications and continue to be
20 administered by the California Department of Food and
21 Agriculture through a memorandum of understanding with
22 the United States Department of Agriculture.

23 The Cooperative's FMMO proposal recognizes
24 that the significant value that California dairy farmers
25 have invested in their quota ownership over the years.

1 Over 800 dairy farmers from across the state own over
2 \$1.16 billion in quota value that benefits their
3 operations and contributes to overall state and local
4 economies.

5 MR. ENGLISH: Your Honor. Again, I object to
6 the following sentence and the first word of the
7 following sentence after that full, which tends to
8 interpret the statute and is impressible legal
9 conclusion, and I move to strike and reserve my rights
10 to discuss it after the statement.

11 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you, Mr. English. Your
12 objection is noted.

13 Mr. Hatamiya, you may resume.

14 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 Moreover, the Coops' FMMO proposal fully
16 honors the authorizing Congressional legislation by
17 maintaining the status quo in the California Dairy Quota
18 Program. Full quota value can only be recognized with
19 this approach.

20 Roman Numeral IV in the conclusion.

21 The dairy industry is an important and vital
22 contributor to the agricultural and overall economy of
23 the great state of California. As my economic analysis
24 of the California Dairy Quota Program Has shown, quota
25 ownership is an invaluable, liquid asset that is a

1 long-term financial investment in the viability of the
2 California dairy industry. Not only has quota ownership
3 allowed dairy farmers to continue in the dairy business
4 and survive in an increasingly competitive global
5 marketplace, but annual return on quota ownership
6 investment has also related in positive economic impacts
7 and contributions to the state and local economies due
8 to the increases to the GDP, job creation, and tax
9 revenue generation.

10 And that concludes my statement.

11 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Hatamiya.

12 Your Honor, we tender Mr. Hatamiya as an
13 expert witness in economic analysis and valuation, both
14 general and in agriculture. As demonstrated in his
15 testimony and in his supporting CV attached to his
16 written statement, he's well qualified to testify as an
17 expert in this area. He has extensive relevant
18 experience in both economics and agriculture, including
19 both through his educational background with the BA in
20 economics and an MBA, and his professional experience,
21 including both his public service with the USDA, as an
22 Administrator of AMS, and the Administrator of Foreign
23 Agricultural Service, plus his service with the State of
24 California as the Secretary of Technology, Trade, and
25 Commerce Agency, plus his professional experience in the

1 private sector as a consulting economist in many areas
2 as described more fully in his testimony and his CV.
3 I'm happy to speak more on that as necessary, but for
4 now we tender him as an expert.

5 JUDGE CLIFTON: Let me read back to you what I
6 think you asked that he be found to be expert in.
7 Economic analysis and evaluation, both in agriculture
8 and generally.

9 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: That's right, although I
10 said valuation not evaluation.

11 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you.

12 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Yes.

13 JUDGE CLIFTON: Economic analysis and
14 valuation, both in agriculture and generally.

15 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: That's correct,
16 Your Honor.

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: Is there anyone who would like
18 to question Dr. Hatamiya before determining whether you
19 object to his being qualified as an expert as stated.

20 Mr. Vetne, you may go first.

21 MR. VETNE: Actually, Your Honor, I raised my
22 hand not to respond to the invitation you just
23 presented, but a more fundamental and practical
24 logistical problem that I find, and here it is: The --
25 the last two exhibits have pretty colors and -- and

1 highlights which will not reproduce in most copying
2 machines and will be found to be less useless when --
3 when USDA eventually copies and posts, or when the media
4 copies and posts. So my question is to Mr. Hatamiya, as
5 well as counsel for the proponents, Cooperatives, can we
6 get these two exhibits in pure black and white format,
7 number one? And number two, frosting on the cake would
8 be can we get a PDF version in black and white? Thank
9 you.

10 JUDGE CLIFTON: Let's -- let's deal with that
11 issue first because that's miniscule compared with the
12 other issue.

13 I'd just like to note that it's a pleasure to
14 see the color. I think PDF's, I don't know, they can be
15 in color. The only part that I have trouble with is on
16 page two, the yellow doesn't show up well enough to
17 read, but I think that could be easily remedied just by,
18 I don't know exactly how, but -- so any response to what
19 Mr. Vetne said?

20 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Well, Your Honor, like
21 you, we also thought the colors were very nice and --
22 and assisted in the -- in the presentation, but I don't
23 think we have a problem with reproducing it in black and
24 white. Or perhaps we could change the color of those
25 lighter links so that they can be copied more readily

1 into black and white and not be lost.

2 MR. VETNE: I'm sorry to approach when you're
3 on the podium.

4 Especially the first page, Your Honor. Any
5 place where there are -- there's white typewriting with
6 a pastel background will not reproduce, such as page 15,
7 the counties, and the common headings. I don't think
8 that will produce on most copiers, and when you go
9 around to reproducing it and then posterizing it, it will
10 be invisible, and I don't think this testimony, this --
11 this exhibit ought to be presented to the public in
12 invisible ink.

13 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Well, we're certainly
14 not trying to hide anything.

15 MR. VETNE: Wait a minute --

16 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Well, you're right.

17 MR. VETNE: -- Chip has another point of view.

18 THE WITNESS: Mr. English may have a different
19 point of view.

20 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: I'm sure he does.

21 THE WITNESS: Can I address that issue?

22 Your Honor, it's very simple to convert this
23 to a black and white document, all of this document, I
24 can easily do that, and we can easily --

25 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: We can -- we can work on

1 providing a copy -- a version that can be copied more
2 readily, that's fine.

3 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right.

4 Let me persist in calling Exhibit 54 and the
5 other one Exhibit 55, and ask that the black and whites
6 be provided to us as Exhibit 54A and Exhibit 55A. Those
7 will be the black and white versions.

8 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Yes, Your Honor.

9 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right.

10 Thank you, Mr. Vetne.

11 That part was so readily solved, and I
12 appreciate very much your cooperation in doing that.

13 Now, with regard to whether anyone would like
14 to question Mr. Hatamiya before determining whether to
15 object to my considering him as an expert in economic
16 analysis and valuation, both in agriculture and
17 generally.

18 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Your Honor, I -- just
19 before we go forward, I don't know how long Mr. English
20 has in terms of questions, but it is 12:40, so I don't
21 know if --

22 MR. ENGLISH: I have -- I have -- for the
23 convenience of you and the witness, I'll do what you
24 want. And the judge, however you want to proceed.

25 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: It really comes down to

1 how many questions you have.

2 MR. ENGLISH: I think it might be, an example,
3 we're having lunch, questions could be few after I
4 consult with my people, but they might not be.

5 MR. VETNE: They also might be longer.

6 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: That's the first time
7 you've said that.

8 I'd be happy with taking a lunch break now, if
9 that works for everyone else.

10 JUDGE CLIFTON: Great. All right. It's
11 12:42. Please be back and ready to go at 2:00 p.m.

12 (Whereupon a lunch break was taken.)

13 JUDGE CLIFTON: We're back on record at 2:05.

14 Let's see, we're about to have Mr. English
15 question the witness.

16 MR. ENGLISH: Voir dire.

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: You may do so.

18 MR. ENGLISH: Chip English. And to be clear,
19 Your Honor, this is voir dire, not questions on the
20 substance.

21 VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

22 BY MR. ENGLISH:

23 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Hatamiya.

24 A. Good afternoon, Mr. English.

25 Q. So going to -- I'm going to spend most of my

1 time on your curriculum vitae, which is attached to --
2 is a part of Exhibit 54, so if you could go to that
3 please, and let's start on page one.

4 And partly for clarity of the record and
5 otherwise, I do want to go over the professional history
6 for which there are no dates, so I want to start, you
7 were attorney at Orrick, Herrington, but before that you
8 were a Marketing Analyst for Sony and a Purchasing
9 Manager at Proctor and Gamble Company, and you also went
10 to law school. So I guess what I want to start is were
11 you a Marketing Analyst at Sony and a Purchasing Manager
12 at Procter and Gamble prior to going to law school?

13 A. That -- that's correct.

14 JUDGE CLIFTON: And for the transcript, all
15 these names are on page 1 of the curriculum vitae, which
16 is attached at the end of Exhibit 54.

17 MR. ENGLISH: Thank you, Your Honor.

18 THE WITNESS: And, Mr. English, further
19 clarification, I was in the joint JD/MBA program at
20 UCLA, so I was getting my master's in business
21 administration as well as my law degree.

22 BY MR. ENGLISH:

23 Q. I see that now. I -- I get that. Thank you,
24 that helps.

25 So let's -- let's go back, then, to the

1 education, and you got your BA in economics at Harvard
2 University. For a Bachelor of Arts, did you specialize
3 in any particular subject of economics?

4 A. No, it was general economics, some
5 developmental economics. I think I took the only
6 agricultural economics class that they had at Harvard at
7 the time.

8 Q. They had an aggie-con program?

9 A. They did have an aggie-con class.

10 Q. I hesitate to ask who taught it.

11 MR. SCHIEK: Ray Goldberg?

12 THE WITNESS: That's right, Ray Goldberg. You
13 got it.

14 BY MR. ENGLISH:

15 Q. See, I always learn something at a dairy
16 hearing. I didn't know that Harvard had an ag program.

17 You didn't -- you didn't attend the University
18 of Virginia, the other University of Virginia?

19 A. There's another university in Virginia?

20 Q. Right answer.

21 For your Bachelor of Arts in Economics, did
22 you take any classes in valuation?

23 A. In valuation? I took accounting classes. I
24 took macro economics and micro economic classes that all
25 related to valuation.

1 Q. In the joint MBA/JD program, did you take
2 economic classes?

3 A. Yes, I did.

4 Q. Do you remember which ones?

5 A. Again, those were all related to financial
6 economics, micro economics, macro economics with some
7 consideration of valuation, again, on many different
8 areas. Also, finance classes that related to valuation
9 as well.

10 Q. Did you say they offer a program in ag -- ag
11 economics?

12 A. They did not, unfortunately.

13 Q. Since obtaining your joint MBA and JD degree,
14 have you taken any other classes in economics?

15 A. No, I have not.

16 Q. Since your joint MBA and JD degree, have you
17 taken any other classes in valuation?

18 A. I've -- I believe I've taken some courses in
19 valuation over that time as I have been consulting for
20 the last 11 years, I -- and I can't recall off the top
21 of my head, I think they were related to university
22 level areas.

23 Q. What do you mean "university level areas"?

24 A. You know, again, I can't remember exactly, but
25 they were related seminars on valuation.

1 And to clarify, most of my valuation
2 experience has not only come from my academic experience
3 but from my professional experience. I'm glad to expand
4 upon that if you like.

5 Q. We'll get there.

6 So after your joint MBA/JD, you were an
7 attorney for was it four years at Orrick, Herrington?

8 A. No, I was only at Orrick, Herrington for a
9 couple years --

10 Q. Couple of years.

11 A. -- before I went back to my family farming
12 business.

13 Q. And at some point in time, perhaps for
14 administrative convenience or maybe even avoid the
15 wonderful part of continuing legal education, did you
16 allow your bar membership to become inactive?

17 A. That's correct.

18 Q. Back in 1993?

19 A. I think that's about right.

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. And you hit it right on the head, it's the
22 continuing education I didn't want to continue with.

23 Q. Many of us, we enjoy that opportunity.

24 A. I would imagine you would, Mr. English.

25 Q. So you were -- you were at Orrick for a couple

1 years, and then yes, as you indicated in your testimony,
2 you went back to assist with the family farm?

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. Did you during that time also found -- was
5 that also when BHP Associates with founded?

6 A. Yes, that was corresponding to my -- BHP was
7 a -- also kind of an economics firm, consulting -- more
8 of a management consulting firm in Sacramento, but that
9 overlapped with my activity with my family farm.

10 Q. So, yeah, on page two of your CV, you call BHP
11 an international management consulting firm.

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. But you're saying it also did economics?

14 A. Yeah, we did a little economics. My partners
15 are both economists as well.

16 Q. So it was your partners who did the economics?

17 A. I was also engaged with economics as well.

18 Q. And then you were appointed and confirmed in
19 the position of Administrator by Agricultural Marketing
20 Service; is that correct?

21 A. That's correct, in 1993 I believe it was.

22 Q. And you were in that position from 1993 until?

23 A. The end of 1997. I think, I believe that I'm
24 the longest-serving AMS administrator in the last 40
25 years.

1 Q. There's nothing I can say.

2 And then you moved over, so to speak, to a
3 similar position at the Foreign Ag Service?

4 A. That's correct, where I spent about almost two
5 years.

6 Q. When you say almost two years, is it sort of
7 then you left in 1999?

8 A. I -- I came back to California, I was
9 appointed by Governor Gray Davis to become the Secretary
10 of the Technology, Trade and Commerce Agency of
11 California.

12 Q. And for those of us from the Northeast, what
13 exactly is the Technology, Trade and Commerce agency.

14 A. Well, it's similar to the Department of
15 Commerce on the federal side, so it deals with -- you're
16 working with directly with businesses across the state,
17 job creation, job development opportunities, and it
18 encompassed all sectors of -- of the economy, including
19 agriculture, but also high technology, biotechnology,
20 entertainment, tourism.

21 Q. Not directly agriculture, but would it
22 indirectly touch agriculture?

23 A. Absolutely indirectly touch agriculture. With
24 agriculture being, obviously, one of the largest sectors
25 in California as well as one of the largest exporting

1 sectors, it touched upon California, so I worked very
2 closely with my colleague at CDFA.

3 Q. And so how long were you secretary of the
4 California Technology, Trade and Commerce Agency?

5 A. I was there from 1999 until 2003.

6 Q. Was it directly after that that you became
7 director of LECG?

8 A. LECG, that's right, the Law and Economics
9 Consulting Group.

10 Q. And how long were you at LECG?

11 A. I think I was at LECG for two and a half,
12 three years, I can't remember the exact dates.

13 Q. And what role did you have at LECG?

14 A. I -- I was a director, which was a senior
15 manager at LECG, and dealing with economic analysis,
16 valuation, assisting clients as an expert witness.

17 Q. Did you appear as an expert witness?

18 A. I did.

19 Q. In approximately how many matters?

20 A. For LECG, I don't know, it was a handful of
21 matters during the two and a half years I was there.

22 Q. What were the topics, if you can recall?

23 A. The topics I -- I appeared in court were on
24 professional sports. I represented the -- the Los
25 Angeles of Anaheim in their naming rights case with the

1 City of Anaheim.

2 Q. Anything else you can recall from those two
3 and a half years?

4 A. I did a couple of others that I can't really
5 mention because they never went to court, so they're --
6 they're --

7 Q. Confidential?

8 A. They're confidential, that's correct.

9 Q. They --

10 A. They were -- they were agriculture, a couple
11 were agriculture related, that's correct.

12 Q. Did they involve dairy?

13 A. They did not involve dairy. One was a cotton
14 industry issue, and I can't remember the other at this
15 time.

16 Q. And then you went to Navigant Consulting?

17 A. That's correct, I moved over to Navigant.

18 Q. In what? Mid '06 or mid '05 or was it --

19 A. It was approximately that date, I'm sorry, I
20 don't have those in front of me.

21 Q. That's fine, I don't think we have to have
22 them.

23 A. I was there, again, for two and a half -- I
24 was there from I think it was 2008 to the beginning of
25 2011. So mid 2008 to 2000 -- the beginning of 2011.

1 Q. All right. I -- I may have misunderstood or
2 miswrote things down. I thought you said that you
3 left -- left the position as Secretary of California
4 Technology, Trade and Commerce --

5 A. 2003.

6 Q. 2003. And then I thought you said two and a
7 years at LECG --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- which would put --

10 A. I was there from 2003 to 2006.

11 Q. And then you said you -- did you start at
12 Navigant at 2008 or did you -- I'm just --

13 A. No, it was a clear transition, so I -- no, I
14 don't have those dates in front me.

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. I wish I could remember exactly. I didn't
17 bring that CV that has all the dates on it, so I
18 apologize. But it was a clear transition.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. There were no gaps in my career at that point.

21 Q. So when did you start Hatamiya Group?

22 A. That was at the beginning of 2011.

23 Q. So as you testified at the beginning of this,
24 this is the first type of proceeding of this -- of this
25 kind that you've appeared at?

1 A. That's correct.

2 Q. Now --

3 A. I don't think there have been many of those
4 hearings over our lifetime, have there, Chip?

5 Q. More -- more than some of us would like to
6 say, but --

7 A. Yeah, I'm just thinking back, promulgation
8 hearings --

9 Q. Oh, promulgations hearings, yes, I think
10 you're -- you're absolutely correct, that -- that I
11 think there may be one person, maybe two people here in
12 this room who have attended a promulgation hearing
13 before, and I'm not one of them.

14 A. And neither am I.

15 Q. But would you also say that you've never
16 appeared at -- at -- at any dairy hearings before?

17 A. No, I have not.

18 Q. Now, as the Administrator of AMS, you -- you
19 did testify before Congress on at least a couple of
20 occasions with respect to farm programs and dairy,
21 correct?

22 A. Many times, that's correct, during my tenure
23 both at AMS and at FAS, at least twice a year if not
24 more.

25 Q. Okay. Now, I couldn't find all those

1 transcripts, but at least in a couple of those, you
2 would appear, with among others, Keith Collins, and
3 perhaps Kent Clayton, correct?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. And would it be fair to say is that when the
6 issues got technical about dairy, you referred those
7 questions to -- to Keith Clayton -- Keith Collins?

8 A. Not necessarily.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. I think that out of my predecessors and my
11 successors, I probably had more economics background to
12 deal with a lot of the dairy issues, you would probably
13 have to ask the folks at AMS how well I understood
14 those, but I certainly was prepared to answer those as a
15 trained economist. Certainly it's helpful to have
16 Dr. Collins and Dr. Clayton along with me, but I think
17 as the transcripts probably note, I answered most of the
18 questions that were posed to AMS at that time.

19 Q. Have you otherwise testified about dairy in
20 any way other than as an Administrator of AMS?

21 A. Not that I can recall.

22 Q. And to be fair, you said also when you were in
23 FAS?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. Let me turn for a few minutes to your

1 "Selected Publications, Reports, and Studies," and I
2 realize it's selected, but are any of your publications,
3 reports, and studies, have they been peer reviewed?

4 A. I believe they have. I know for the -- for --
5 for example, the first five or six of these that I list
6 on page three have been peer reviewed.

7 Q. Can you say who reviewed them?

8 A. They were other economists, the Contra Costa
9 Food System Analysis, there were other agricultural
10 economists that -- that took a look in our -- at my
11 work. The SACOG Regional Agricultural Infrastructure
12 Project, that's ongoing; there are ag economists
13 throughout the state that I think have looked at that as
14 well. And I know for a fact that the work that I've
15 done for Wal-Mart has been scrutinized publicly many
16 times over.

17 Q. Since you've mentioned it, what work did you
18 do for Wal-Mart?

19 A. I've done a number of different studies for
20 them looking at the comparative impacts of the presence
21 of their stores in various communities throughout
22 California, looking at a -- the -- the taxable retail
23 sales, retail business permits. I've done probably
24 three or four of those studies. I've also done some
25 economic impact studies and utilizing the IMPLAN model

1 to determine what the impacts on GDP as well as -- as
2 well as employments, and the contributions to local,
3 state, and federal tax revenues.

4 MR. ENGLISH: Just give me one minute,
5 Your Honor. I don't know whether anybody has any
6 questions. I do not object, Your Honor.

7 MR. VLAHOS: I couldn't get the last part.

8 MR. ENGLISH: I do not object.

9 JUDGE CLIFTON: Does anyone object to my
10 accepting Mr. Hatamiya as an expert in economic analysis
11 and valuation, both in agriculture and generally? There
12 is no one.

13 I accept Mr. Hatamiya as an expert in economic
14 analysis and valuation, both in agriculture and
15 generally.

16 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Your Honor, I'd like to
17 at this time move for admission of the Exhibits, 54 and
18 55, I believe, Mr. Hatamiya's testimony and the
19 additional flow chart.

20 JUDGE CLIFTON: I'll -- I'll do them one at a
21 time.

22 Does anyone wish to question the witness about
23 Exhibit 54 before determining whether you have any
24 objection? There is no one.

25 Does anyone object to the admission into

1 evidence of Exhibit 54? There is no one.

2 Exhibit 54 is admitted into evidence.

3 (Whereupon Exhibit 54 was admitted
4 into evidence.)

5 JUDGE CLIFTON: Does anyone wish to question
6 Mr. Hatamiya about Exhibit 55 before determining whether
7 you have an objection? There is no one.

8 Is there any objection to the admission into
9 evidence of Exhibit 55? There is none.

10 Exhibit 55 is admitted into evidence.

11 (Whereupon Exhibit 55 was admitted
12 into evidence.)

13 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Thank you, Your Honor.

14 MR. ENGLISH: Your Honor, Chip English. And I
15 would like now to address the issue that I reserved
16 during testimony so as to permit the testimony to be
17 given without interrupting for argument on a number of
18 occasions I objected.

19 So, Your Honor, first I would note that
20 Mr. Hatamiya was qualified as an economist, in economics
21 and valuation in agriculture and generally, and more
22 appropriate -- more appropriately, he was not qualified
23 nor would it have been appropriate to call him as an
24 expert in law.

25 JUDGE CLIFTON: You mean because he let his

1 bar membership lapse?

2 MR. ENGLISH: No, no, because nobody -- I -- I
3 can't get on the stand and do that either, Your Honor.

4 JUDGE CLIFTON: As an expert in law?

5 MR. ENGLISH: Your Honor, the well settled law
6 is -- the well settled law is that expert testimony may
7 be admitted where it will help the trier of fact to
8 understand the evidence or determine a fact in issue.
9 And that's from the Federal Rule of Evidence 702.
10 However, when a purported expert or any witness attempts
11 to go beyond that and undertakes to tell the trier of
12 fact what the law is or what the result they must reach
13 in the law, that does not aid the trier of fact in
14 making that determination, and it rather attempts to
15 substitute an expert's judgment for the trier of fact's
16 judgment, which in this case ultimately -- well, at
17 least initially will be the agency and ultimately may be
18 yet another trier of fact.

19 JUDGE CLIFTON: Well, let -- let me stop you
20 there and ask this: Is it not helpful to the ultimately
21 trier of fact to have different people opine as to what
22 the law does or does not require?

23 MR. ENGLISH: No, Your Honor. Actually, the
24 clear law is, and I can cite cases, is that testimony on
25 legal issues is "not only superfluous but mischievous,"

1 and that quotes from the United States versus Brodie,
2 858 F.2nd 492, pin cite 497, Ninth Circuit, 1988. The
3 case was overruled on other grounds. US versus Morales,
4 108 F.3d 1031, Ninth Circuit, 1997.

5 The -- the underlying issue, Your Honor, is
6 that it is the judge's job, we actually have it in the
7 courtroom, whether it's a courtroom or whether it's
8 USDA, we already come equipped with that legal expert,
9 and it's called the judge or it's called USDA, or it's
10 ultimately called court if this case -- if this matter
11 is reviewed in a court. And it is that person's
12 province alone to make those legal determinations.

13 So going back to my very first citation,
14 Your Honor, about when an expert undertakes to describe
15 a legal issue, that cite I had was US versus Duncan, 42
16 F.3d 97, pin cite 101, Second Circuit, 1994. And also
17 in accorded, United States versus Scholl, S-C-H-O-L-L,
18 166 F.3d 964, pin cite 973, Ninth Circuit, 1999. And in
19 that case, it was determined that experts may not
20 testify about the law because the judge's special legal
21 knowledge is presumed to be sufficient.

22 In this case, I'm going to go to some very
23 specific issues as it has to deal with statutes and
24 legislative history. And the Ninth Circuit, which we
25 are in a jurisdiction where the Ninth Circuit presides,

1 Your Honor, the Ninth Circuit has said that an expert
2 may not analyze case law or legislative history in order
3 to make legal arguments about the meaning of a statute.
4 And that is G.F., Capital G period F period, Company
5 versus Pan Ocean Shipping Company, 23rd F.3d 149, pin
6 cite 1507, footnote 6, the Ninth Circuit, 1994. And
7 that's particular important because what the Ninth
8 Circuit did was it struck from the record affidavits
9 that interpreted legislative history because the
10 interpretation of legislative history is uniquely a
11 question for the court.

12 But what we can go beyond that, Your Honor,
13 and indeed, cases from the DC Circuit and Ninth Circuit
14 go to exactly what is happening here. Tracking the
15 language of the applicable statute, particularly if the
16 terms have specialized legal meaning, is one indication
17 that an expert's opinions are improper legal testimony,
18 Burkhardt, B-U-R-K-H-A-R-T, versus Washington Metro Area
19 Transit Authority, 112 F.3d 1207, pin cite 1212, D.C.
20 Circuit, 1997.

21 And please also see Maffei, I'm not sure if
22 that's correct, M-A-F-F-E-I, versus Northern Insurance
23 Company of New York, 12 F.3d 892, pin cite 898 and 899,
24 Ninth Circuit, 1993. An expert declaration stating
25 under the law that vapor could constitute a hostile fire

1 was properly excluded as a legal conclusion.

2 Furthermore, the word "lottery" under
3 California law was to be determined, and in the case of
4 Crow Tribe of Indians versus Racicot, R-A-C-I-C-O-T, 87
5 F.3d 1039, 1045, the Ninth Circuit, 1996, held that
6 expert testimony may not be used to determine what is
7 defined as the term "lottery" in the statute in a
8 contract between two native American tribes.

9 And there's good reason why legal conclusions
10 are left to judges or the ultimate trier of fact and why
11 expert testimony on legal issues is in fact dangerous.
12 Because it can be wrong. That's Nationwide
13 Transportation Finance, 523 F.3d at 1059, striking the
14 expert's testimony and noting a similar problem when the
15 expert's legal conclusions not only invaded the province
16 of the judge but constituted erroneous statements of
17 law.

18 Also see Torres versus County of Oakland,
19 758 F.2nd 147, Sixth Circuit, 1985, over the one problem
20 with expert -- expert testimony on legal issues occurs
21 when an expert conveys erroneous legal standards or
22 interpretations.

23 Your Honor, the Ninth Circuit strictly
24 enforces the prohibition on expert testimony. It is
25 well known in these administrative proceedings that the

1 laws of evidence are somewhat relaxed, especially when
2 it comes to hearsay, which is why I think very early in
3 this proceedings, Your Honor, you said something could
4 go to the weight that is given, but that's not the rule
5 here, not the rule with 702, where the issue is whether
6 it can come in at all. And in all these cases, these
7 uniform cases, the testimony has to be excluded. It
8 cannot be included at all.

9 The Ninth Circuit strictly enforces that rule.
10 Aguilar, A-G-U-I-L-A-R, versus International
11 Longshoremen's Union Local #10, 966 F.2nd 443, pin cite
12 447, Ninth Circuit, 1992, striking expert testimony.
13 Going through the statute definition and dealing with
14 the reasonableness and foreseeability of the employees'
15 reliance -- reliance being a specific term within the
16 law -- on the employer's promises.

17 And I would note that this is generally
18 accepted, if you look at 31(a) Amper 2nd, Expert Opinion
19 Testimony, Section 119, "It is well settled principles
20 that experts may not interpret or apply relevant law to
21 a case."

22 So what's happening here, Your Honor? What's
23 happening here is we have a statute, and it's quoted,
24 and I don't object when the statute is quoted, that is
25 what the statute says. And the critical sentence, I can

1 exclude the rest of it, but the critical sentence is,
2 "The order covering California shall have the right to
3 reblend and distribute order receipts to recognize quota
4 value." And, yes, Mr. Beshore and Mr. Vlahos and I'm
5 Ms. Thompson are going to say we're going to have a big
6 fight about what that means, but that fight is among the
7 lawyers in non-evidentiary setting.

8 When I used the discussion, it was in my
9 opening statement, which isn't evidence, nor should it
10 be evidence. And the Department is ultimately the one
11 that determines that.

12 The problem we have here, Your Honor, is in
13 multiple occasions, starting on page 7 of Exhibit 54, I
14 guess it starts over on page 6, there's the phrase,
15 "Congress recognized this and in 2014 Farm Bill language
16 dealing with the promulgation of a FMMO in California
17 directed that the marketing order provisions allow for
18 the continuation of the quota program in California."
19 That's this witness' interpretation of what a statutory
20 means.

21 Now, there is a lot of order on statutory
22 construction, and within statutory construction,
23 ultimately -- first of all, we know there are some
24 justices who say, no, the legislative history, we never
25 go beyond looking at the statute, and nothing is

1 relevant at all. But beyond that, at a bare minimum,
2 legislative history is generally looked at from the
3 legislature, and the legislature speaks, and if there's
4 legislative history, it is legislative history from,
5 say, committee reports or other statements of Congress.

6 The very reason, however, it's called
7 legislative history is what legislature is doing it, and
8 so when courts look beyond the plain meaning of the
9 statute, they go to legislative history.

10 A witness who's not part of the legislature --
11 and I'll get to somebody who's a part of legislature --
12 can't give legislative history, can't testify about what
13 a statute means because a statute means what a court
14 says it means and not what any witness says it means.

15 So there's a whole section on post enactment
16 subsequent legislative history, and right now I'm
17 recording to congressional -- I'm referring to the
18 Congressional Research Service Report for Congress,
19 which is a well-known material called Statutory
20 Interpretation, General Principles and Recent Trends.
21 And I thought there was a more recent updated one, but
22 the one I found down here in Fresno was updated
23 August 31st, 2008. And there's a whole section on post
24 enactment of subsequent legislative history. And within
25 that discussion, the Supreme Court has held that the

1 statements of future committees or individual members of
2 Congress of what a statutory means is irrelevant.

3 If -- if a statement of an individual member
4 of Congress who's a legislature cannot be admitted for
5 evidence for the purpose of interpreting a statute,
6 we're way down past that here. And it's -- this is
7 not -- this is not about Mr. Hatamiya, this is about
8 anybody else, and we've already had some who have tried
9 to testify about what the statute means or says. It's
10 just simply not permissible.

11 So the witness on page 7 has effectively
12 paraphrased in his words what the statute means. We
13 object. That is inadmissible under the case law that I
14 have cited.

15 We go further. On page 20, the statement is
16 on the bottom of page 20, "To the extent that the FMMO
17 maintains the current quota system and recognizes its
18 full value as directed by Congressional language." That
19 statement is a direct effort to interpret the statute.
20 And, again, if what a member of Congress says
21 post-passage of legislation is not admissible, and if
22 you look at all these cases in the Ninth Circuit and the
23 D.C. circuit and the Sixth, this statement is not
24 admissible. It is an attempt to explain to the trier of
25 fact this witness' interpretation. And Your Honor may

1 think it's help, but that was not what the courts have
2 said. The courts have said it's mischievous, it's
3 wrong, it must be excluded.

4 We go to page 23, and now there's two more
5 statements. And by the way, I know they all use
6 different words, so, you know, they don't all say the
7 same thing; they're all effectively I think the same
8 meaning. But the first one is, and I objected for
9 cause, and the federal directive to preserve California
10 quota program, you can look in vain for the word
11 "preserve" or the word "program" in the statutory.
12 Therefore there is an interpretation, which is improper
13 and should be stricken.

14 And finally -- maybe not finally -- yes,
15 finally, there is the statement at the bottom of page
16 23, "Moreover, the Coops' FMMO proposal fully honors the
17 authorizing Congressional legislation by maintaining the
18 status quo in the California Dairy Quota Program."
19 Again, find the word "maintain," which is not in the
20 statute.

21 Your Honor, I understand the desire to have as
22 much information in the record as possible, but there
23 are limits under Rule 702, under the case law holdings
24 which don't simply say, oh, it can be ignored, what they
25 say is those statements must be stricken. Recognizing

1 that even if this were an attempt by a Congressman to
2 interpret a statute after the fact, that it would be
3 invalid.

4 For all those reason, I renew my motion to
5 strike those statements.

6 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you, Mr. English.
7 You've made your point very clearly, and I appreciate
8 it.

9 I'll allow other people to speak if they'd
10 like to. Going into it, though, I want all of you to
11 know I will not strike and I will not prevent witnesses
12 from offering their opinions about what they understand
13 the law to require or to allow, whether those witnesses
14 are experts or lay.

15 What we have here is akin to a town hall
16 meeting. I believe Mr. English's cautions are very
17 helpful. It means when the Agricultural Marketing
18 Service weighs all the presentations, at their peril
19 they would swallow whole an idea based on the fact that
20 it came from a witness and tells them how to interpret
21 the law.

22 So I use your objection, Mr. English, not to
23 exclude anything, not to strike anything, but as
24 caution.

25 Now, I'll be happy to hear from anybody else

1 about this issue if you would like to be heard.

2 MR. ENGLISH: Let me just note my exception,
3 Your Honor.

4 JUDGE CLIFTON: Exception noted.

5 MR. BESHORE: Marvin Be -- Marvin Beshore.

6 I just want to make two -- two quick notes,
7 and in support of the testimony and, of course,
8 Your Honor's ruling.

9 First of all, we've -- there's been a lot of
10 testimony already in this hearing about what people
11 understand this or that law or either, you know, federal
12 law, such as the one Mr. Hatamiya has testified about,
13 or state statute, which Mr. English and/or his team
14 asked a number of questions just today of Dr. Erba about
15 what this or that California statute meant or how it
16 applied or whatever. So that -- testimony of that sort
17 is part of the hearing process, and properly so, and --
18 and I think Your Honor has -- has noted that in the
19 ruling.

20 The other thing I would say is that there's
21 nothing in the Rules of Practice that say the Federal
22 Rules of Evidence apply in this proceeding, and I --
23 they do not. And I just looked at it to be triple sure.
24 I didn't hear any of these cases coming out of the --
25 the rules for this proceeding either. So the rules say,

1 to paraphrase, that, you know, the presiding judge may
2 exclude it to the extent possible, something to that
3 effect, practical, I think, irrelevant, immaterial, or
4 unduly repetitious testimony. I'm not quite literally
5 quoting it, but not too far off.

6 And -- but, you know, I think Your Honor has
7 followed and applied the rules with an even hand, and
8 let's go forward.

9 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you, Mr. Beshore.

10 Mr. Vetne.

11 MR. VETNE: I think Your Honor's inclinations
12 are correct, but I -- I do have a concern. Rule 702 in
13 the Federal Rules of Evidence relates to use of expert
14 testimony in court, not -- not in administrative
15 proceeding, and the -- the only function that serves in
16 courts is to allow a witness to express opinions based
17 on facts and research, but to express an opinion that a
18 lay person might not otherwise express. It does not
19 require that that -- that testimony is weighed any more
20 heavily than other testimony, it's simply the opinion,
21 it's treated like a fact like any facts of any other
22 witness.

23 I think Your Honor has correctly stated the
24 practice in administrative proceedings is that we will
25 allow people to express their opinions based on what

1 they see, whether they are expert or not. I question
2 the usefulness in this proceeding of qualifying anybody
3 as an expert. We can know what their qualifications
4 are, they can give their curriculum vitae, but to ask
5 for a person to be qualified as an expert and then to
6 rule on that seems to suggest to USDA that they should
7 weigh that more heavily. I think that is not the case
8 in administrative proceedings or in federal court
9 proceedings.

10 What the -- the Rules of Practice say, the
11 concluding para -- sentence of that is to exclude
12 evidence of the type which a reasonable and prudent
13 person might not rely. And the reasonable and prudent
14 is the standard in administrative proceedings.

15 That's it. Thank you.

16 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. Thank you. I'll
17 continue to determine whether people are experts if I'm
18 asked to do so. The reason is that ordinary fact
19 witnesses are generally expected to give testimony about
20 those things with which they have personal familiarity
21 or an ordinary person could estimate. Experts are
22 allowed to go further, and based on theory, construct a
23 model, for example.

24 Now, I've accepted some expert testimony from
25 AMS without necessarily identifying who the experts were

1 who put it together, but that whole model is something
2 that is provided as, quote, "expert testimony." So
3 clearly it has its place here, whether or not I
4 acknowledge the authors as experts.

5 And as -- of course I'm relying on all of you
6 to help me because you all have so much more familiarity
7 with the intricacies of dairy marketing, so I pretty
8 much consider you all experts, whether I acknowledge
9 that or not on the record.

10 All right. Now, we turn to cross-examination
11 of Mr. Hatamiya. Who would like to go first?

12 MR. SCHIEK: I guess it's me.

13 DIRECT EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. SCHIEK:

15 Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Hatamiya. Bill Schiek
16 with the Dairy Institute of California.

17 I just want to start out, you've given us a
18 lot of testimony today regarding the value of quota as
19 an asset, and I was wondering if you were here, if you
20 were present during Dr. Erba's testimony when he first
21 entered his written statement or entered his statement
22 in the record?

23 A. I believe I was, if that was last -- last
24 week, either Thursday or Friday, I was here for his --

25 Q. Okay.

1 A. -- initial testimony, that's correct.

2 Q. If I could, Your Honor, give the witness a
3 copy of Exhibit 42, which is Dr. Erba's statement. And
4 I just have a -- page 19 of Dr. Erba's statement,
5 there's a graph entitled "Average Selling Price for
6 Quota 1969 to 2015," and is that the graph I've marked
7 on the page right?

8 A. That's correct, Dr. Schiek.

9 Q. Okay. So would you agree that -- that at
10 least through that time period, there's been a lot of
11 variability in that selling price for quota. It's been
12 as high as, I don't know, I can't read the number, but
13 maybe 550 at the top end, back in the late '90's it was
14 as low as 300.

15 A. That's correct. There's been variability but
16 with an upward trend.

17 Q. Right. From your perspective, what are some
18 of the factors you considered that affect how that
19 selling price moves through time?

20 A. Dr. Schiek, that's a good question. I mean, I
21 think there are many different economic factors that
22 certainly impact the selling price of quota. It could
23 be the current economic conditions; the production of
24 milk at that given time; the legislative content --
25 intent and debate that may be going on about quota

1 during some of these periods of time, about the
2 consideration of a move to a Federal Milk Marketing
3 Order. There are many different considerations that
4 would impact, up or down, that price of quota.

5 Q. Okay. Thank you.

6 If I could para -- paraphrase, or just kind of
7 zero in with you a little on a couple of things that you
8 said. So you talk about sort of economic conditions:
9 Would one of those be dairy farm profits, for example,
10 the idea that if it's been a -- recently a very good
11 year for dairymen, they've gotten more essentially
12 disposable income or money at their disposal to invest
13 in an asset like quota, kind of a money supply argument,
14 would that be one reason?

15 A. I believe it would be.

16 Q. You mentioned things that are going on
17 legislatively, so that kind of gets to the expectations
18 about the sustainability or continuability of the
19 program, and you're saying that would be something that
20 would affect it, correct?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. Correct.

23 So would one of the things affecting those
24 expectations be maybe this proceeding? Like you
25 mentioned the Federal order hearing, so this hearing

1 might have an impact on going forward whether there is
2 an expectation that the system, quota system is
3 sustainable?

4 A. That is also correct.

5 Q. Okay. Would another factor be -- I guess I
6 would call this the buy cows or buy quota decision, that
7 is if there are -- we've had some testimony about base
8 plants in place, cooperatives, we've had maybe some
9 testimony referring to limits on processing plant
10 capacity, so if -- if those make buying cows a less
11 attractive use for money, would buying -- would that
12 tend to drive more quota purchases?

13 A. There's certainly a possibility, as well as I
14 think the increasing cost of land in California --

15 Q. You mentioned that.

16 A. -- would also have a -- an impact as well.

17 Q. Okay. Very good.

18 Do you know an answer to this: Did all
19 producers have to purchase the quota that they hold?

20 A. No. At the beginning, they were allocated
21 quota, but over the years, I believe, if not all, a vast
22 majority of quota has been bought and sold, so there's
23 very little quota that was initially allocated. And I
24 base that upon discussion was folks in the dairy
25 industry. I talked to the -- to the largest dairy quota

1 broker in California, and he shared with me that over --
2 in his opinion, over 90 percent of quota has been bought
3 and sold over the last 20 years, 30 years.

4 Q. Okay. So then it would be your contention
5 that maybe only about 10 percent of the quota is in the
6 hands of the original holders or --

7 A. If that.

8 Q. -- or families of the original holders?

9 A. Probably less than that. And I will say that
10 CDFR doesn't provide that information, either, so it's
11 anecdotal in providing discussions with dairymen across
12 the state that have brought me to that conclusion.

13 Q. Okay. Thank you. That's helpful.

14 Do you know or could you calculate or tell me
15 how you might calculate in terms of how much revenue or
16 money income, extra income a quota holder receives for a
17 pound of quota, a pound of SNF quota, how much that
18 might be worth in a year in terms of dollars?

19 A. I think it depends upon the amount of quota
20 that they actually have, so --

21 Q. Let's -- let's just talk about one pound --

22 A. One --

23 Q. -- one pound of S -- of quota.

24 A. A year from now, your -- your guess is
25 probably as good as mine.

1 Q. What if --

2 A. I mean, we're talking 525 today, there's an
3 upward trend, but many different factors are going to
4 affect what that cost will be.

5 Q. Okay. I think I didn't phrase the question
6 appropriate. I'm talking about the stream of income,
7 not the asset selling price, but the actual quota
8 differential or quota premium they receive. Over the
9 course of the year, do you know how much money that
10 would amount to, one pound of quota?

11 A. That's a good question. I would have to
12 factor that out. I think it's been pretty stead --
13 pretty steady over the last number of years. I think I
14 can certainly factor that out, but I don't have that --

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. -- in front of me. If I had a calculator, I
17 could give it to you.

18 Q. Yeah. So let me just say if -- if premium on
19 quota for a pound of SNF is a 19 and half?

20 A. \$.195, that's correct.

21 Q. And a unit of quota is a pound per day, that
22 would be \$.195 times --

23 A. 30.

24 Q. -- 365.

25 A. Well --

1 Q. 30 for a month, but --

2 A. Right, 356 for a year.

3 Q. 356 for a year?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. Okay. When you were looking at quota value,
6 did you do -- did you undertake any kind of net present
7 value analysis of this stream of income that they
8 received --

9 A. No, I did not.

10 Q. -- as holding quota?

11 A. I did not. Because, again, what I was looking
12 at was a point in time, and I was looking at just 2014,
13 what that stream of income was for that given year. And
14 as my subsequent analysis has shown, that's what I was
15 looking at, for the economic impact just of that year.

16 Q. I -- I'm asking that because you -- you've
17 made a statement on page 7 of your testimony, Exhibit
18 54, and you say, "Economic value is defined in several
19 ways, but is commonly recognized as the value of an
20 asset calculated according to its ability to produce
21 income in the future," so -- so what that -- as I
22 understand that, that the basic underlying factor that's
23 generating value is that stream of income. I mean, if
24 there wasn't a stream of income, what would the asset
25 price be, probably zero? Right? You -- you agree with

1 that?

2 A. That's probably correct, right.

3 Q. Okay. So it's the stream of income that's the
4 source of value?

5 A. That's correct.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. And let me just add, and I think this is where
8 you're going, there are many different ways to do
9 valuations. Net present value is one, fair market value
10 currently is another, and a third is what somebody is
11 willing to pay currently for an asset is a third. I use
12 all forms of those, and in this case, I used just the
13 fair market value.

14 Q. Okay. Thank you.

15 Would you agree, maybe I -- this may be -- I
16 don't know, I'm going to say it. Would you agree that
17 this idea of the net present value might be a way people
18 might judge whether the actual selling price is over
19 valued, under valued at a point in time if they looked
20 at the discounted net present value?

21 A. That's -- that's -- that's a difficult
22 question to answer because there's so many different
23 factors as we've already discussed, Dr. Schiek, about
24 what drives the price of quota, and so it would be
25 difficult just to rely purely upon the net present value

1 calculation. We have to take a look at all these other
2 factors and what drives it to 525 today. I don't think
3 it tells the full story, and I think the price that's
4 reflected today is a better measure of that.

5 Q. Okay. Thank you.

6 I want to turn now to Exhibit 55, and just
7 some questions for clarification. So at the top of the
8 first page of Exhibit 55, you give an example of \$100 in
9 a pool with ten dairy farmers each with a hundredweight
10 at \$10 per hundredweight. How would you characterize
11 that \$10 of hundredweight? Is that -- kind of what
12 price is that? Is that the quota price?

13 A. No, that's -- I -- I would characterize it as,
14 I think Dr. Erba called it the non quota premium price
15 or the blend price.

16 Q. Okay. So is it a blend price or is it a non
17 quota price? In other words, if --

18 A. It's the blend price.

19 Q. It's the blend price.

20 A. It's the blend price, that's right, it's
21 what's available for total.

22 Q. Okay. So the next question I have is in the
23 second step, or the first -- I guess I would call it the
24 first green bubble, I don't know if that's the --
25 that's -- I guess that's still month one technically,

1 right?

2 A. That's correct.

3 Q. Okay. Why do the farmers with lower
4 percentages of quota receive monies or receive a net
5 price that's under \$10? How does that happen?

6 A. Well, it just presumes that they opted into
7 the quota not knowing what the full blend pool would be.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. As I mentioned, I think, in my comments as
10 well, dairy farmers are quite -- quite sophisticated,
11 they understand, you know, what the market bears, and
12 many in the lower quota, and I think AMS's analysis
13 shows this, many of those that are lesser percentages of
14 quota may decide to opt out early on. I use this just
15 as an example if all quota owners decided to opt in the
16 first month, this is what the results would be.

17 Q. Okay. And I think I understand that. But my
18 question is more specific in terms of mechanically
19 what's going on in this green, I guess I would call this
20 a quota pool, you identified it as a quota pool?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. What is going on there that -- that causes a
23 farmer with 25% quota to end up with a price of 9.22
24 rather than the \$10 that a blend price would be?

25 A. Well, I think I walked through that before.

1 I'll be glad to walk you through that again.

2 A farmer with 25% quota gets \$.43 as his quota
3 premium, because it's 25% of the \$1.70, so you total up
4 all of the quota premium, you deduct that from the total
5 quota pool of \$60, and you get 52.76. You divide that
6 by the six number of farmers that are in the quota, you
7 get 8.79. So if it's 8.79 plus the \$.43 equals 9.22.

8 Q. So just based on that mechanics, and assume
9 for a minute that instead of four farmers opting out,
10 these farmers with no quota stayed in the quota pool,
11 would they receive \$10 a hundredweight or would they
12 receive something less?

13 A. I don't know why they have would have an
14 incentive to take -- to opt into the quota pool.

15 Q. Okay. Let's -- let's assume that they just
16 super -- that they -- that they did, that they were
17 forced to or for whatever reason they were obligated to,
18 would they receive \$10 or would they receive something
19 else?

20 A. I don't know, I'd have to -- I'd have do that
21 calculation, I don't know --

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. -- without -- off the top my head, I can't
24 answer that question.

25 Q. Okay. Let me maybe ask it a different way.

1 So \$10 is a straight blend price?

2 A. That's correct.

3 Q. And these farmers have no quota and they're in
4 a pool with farmers who have quota?

5 A. That's correct.

6 Q. They would probably receiver something less
7 than \$10; would that be accurate? Because \$10 is a
8 blend, that's -- that's simply a weighted average price,
9 or in this case an average price?

10 A. Again, I get back to my -- the premise, why
11 would they decide to opt in if it's less than \$10?

12 Q. All right.

13 A. It's not a logical choice.

14 Q. I --

15 A. And that's the point that I was making with
16 this analysis, that this is the choice you give them in
17 your proposal, and it is what it is.

18 Q. Okay. Under Proposal 1, producers do not have
19 the option to opt in or out now, so if I'm an overbase
20 shipper, overbase producer, no -- no quota, non-quota
21 producer, I guess the point I'm asking is would they
22 receive the market wide blend or something lower than
23 the market wide blend?

24 A. You know, I don't know the answer to that
25 question without doing the calculation. I -- I don't

1 know.

2 Q. Are you aware that CDFA in some of their
3 statistical publications on a monthly basis, they list
4 the quota price, the overbase price, and a blend price?
5 Have you -- have you ever seen any of that analysis?

6 A. I believe I have, but I did not use that in
7 this calculation.

8 Q. If I told you that in all those cases the
9 blend price is higher than the quota price or the
10 overbase price, just a mathematical thing, you're --
11 you're taking some money out and giving it to a few, and
12 those who don't have that privilege end up with less
13 money to be divided, would you accept that? Does that
14 sound like your understanding of how the quota system
15 works in California today?

16 A. I think I would accept that, yes.

17 Q. Okay. So you would, agree, then even in your
18 analysis, if everybody was in the pool, in the quota
19 pool, and I'm not talking about Dairy's proposal
20 specifically, I'm talking about just in general, that
21 producers with no quota --

22 JUDGE CLIFTON: Let me have you start again.

23 MR. SCHIEK: Okay.

24 JUDGE CLIFTON: So are they all in the quota
25 pool or are they all in the pool?

1 BY MR. SCHIEK:

2 Q. Okay. So as in the case of the Proposal 1
3 where there is no option to be outside the quota pool,
4 basically every producer is in the quota pool, would you
5 agree that producers with no quota would receive under
6 that system a lower average price than under a system
7 where federal order blend is calculated?

8 A. Lower price -- please, if you could repeat
9 that question, I was trying to do some figures in my
10 head.

11 Q. Okay. I guess I'm asking if your analysis
12 suggests, and if this would be the case in Proposal 1 as
13 well, that producers with no quota receive a lower price
14 than they would receive if they were under a blend
15 pricing system?

16 A. You know, I'm not certain I -- I -- I have
17 enough information I can answer that question. I
18 probably could figure that out for you, but off the top
19 of my head I -- I can't answer that for you.

20 Q. But you would -- you would accept that under
21 the California system as it's currently constructed, the
22 overbase price is lower than a market wide blend price?

23 A. If that's exactly what it says, and I don't
24 recall that from the analysis, the data.

25 Q. Okay. So I'm, again, staying with this

1 exhibit, you're analyzing a producer's decision on
2 whether they stay in the quota pool or go into this red
3 box, which is what I would call it, non-quota pool, is
4 that appropriate way --

5 A. Or an opt-out pool --

6 Q. Or a blend pool --

7 A. -- price.

8 Q. -- or --

9 A. A blend pool, that's correct.

10 Q. Blend pool.

11 So in this analysis, the decision of whether
12 producers stay in the quota pool or in the non-quota
13 pool, the analysis you present here is based on the
14 producer's evaluation of the price that they would
15 receive, correct?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. Okay. So as I look at that, I'm a little
18 confused given the importance you've attached to the
19 whole asset value, and I'm talking about the balance
20 sheet value of quota and banks lending out and the need
21 to avoid massive write-offs, why would producers not
22 consider the cost of abandoning that balance sheet value
23 in their decision to stay in or leave the pool? Why is
24 strictly the current income?

25 A. Because I think it's the -- it's the return

1 that they're receiving, and they're going to try to
2 get -- dairy farmers are just like anybody else in the
3 economy, they're trying to maximize, obviously, their
4 return, and in this case, they're not given an
5 opposition to receive that full value of their quota.

6 Q. Okay. So it sounds like you're saying that
7 a -- in your analysis and in your view, that producers
8 really view that decision, and in the sense view the
9 value of holding quota or not holding quota, based on
10 the income stream?

11 A. That's one of the major factors, correct.

12 Q. They're not -- they're not really looking at
13 their asset value in making their decision?

14 A. No, they're also looking -- I said it's one of
15 the factors. They're also looking at their asset value.
16 That asset value as I've related also relates to their
17 operational costs, their ability to pay for their
18 operational costs, their leverage with their lending and
19 capital investments.

20 Q. But you didn't include any specific asset
21 value, looking at the asset value or weighting of that
22 asset value in this example --

23 A. No, I did not.

24 Q. -- in Exhibit 55?

25 A. No, I did not. Again, as I mentioned to you

1 earlier, this is just a simplified approach that I took
2 using an example of what potentially could occur.

3 Q. Okay. Returning to your testimony on Exhibit
4 54, or statement. I think I'm looking at Table 2. Let
5 me find it. Table 2 is the percent of California dairy
6 farms by Quota -- Quota Ownership. I'm just wondering
7 if you did any calculation here for each of the years or
8 for any of the years, really, regarding the number of
9 dairymen or percentage of dairymen who would be better
10 off in terms of the price they receive under a blend
11 price versus a quota, non-quota pool? Did you look at
12 that at all?

13 A. No, I did not.

14 Q. Okay. What about on a -- on a basis of
15 production, in terms of how much production would
16 receive a higher price --

17 A. No, I did not.

18 Q. -- of blend versus --

19 A. This table was -- was -- was purely for the
20 breakdown of quota versus non-quota ownership.

21 Q. Okay. On Table 6, which I think is page 19 of
22 your testimony. Actually it starts on 18, but the
23 numbers are all on 19.

24 A. And I apologize, I attribute this to different
25 Word documents from -- I have 2016 on my computer and I

1 think we were working off of an older version, so things
2 got shifted.

3 Q. That's not a problem as far as I'm concerned.
4 The numbers are there.

5 A. Yeah, I'm sorry, that makes it harder to read
6 it, though.

7 Q. So page 19, so -- I think you list the total
8 quota premium pay out under the category investment, is
9 that right, the 139,358,870, \$135,358,870?

10 A. Dr. Schiek, that's correct, that's the --

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. -- total quota premium paid in 2014.

13 Q. Okay. And is that -- maybe I'm wrong here. I
14 thought that was the same number, it's close, to the one
15 on page 16 where you have the total by county, maybe
16 there's some rounding or something?

17 A. Yeah, there's some rounding, rounding errors
18 that -- that didn't completely coincide. The number
19 that I'm using here is the number that CDFA gave me --

20 Q. Okay.

21 A. -- so --

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. And then I tried to break it down as close as
24 I could, but with percentages it just wasn't exactly the
25 same.

1 Q. Okay. So conceptually, though, that's what
2 that is, that's --

3 A. That's exactly --

4 Q. -- the total premium --

5 A. It's the total premium paid during 2014.

6 Q. And -- and so you calculate, as I understand
7 it, using the IMPLAN model an economic impact which
8 would -- I guess in terms of following these numbers
9 across, I'm not -- I'm not sure I understand, but
10 let's -- let's -- let's go through that, if you would.

11 So -- so just looking at the top line in
12 California as a whole, you then have a -- a GDP number.
13 Is -- am I right in interpreting that as the -- the 139
14 million investment equates out to an impact of 270,
15 almost 279 million in -- in GDP?

16 A. That is the impact to the state, that's
17 correct.

18 Q. Okay. And the multiplier is 1. --

19 A. 1.98.

20 Q. 1.98. What's the 2.44 that's listed?

21 A. That's the employment multiplier, so that's
22 the -- the number of jobs that the annual quota premium
23 would create to the total, so the number of jobs in the
24 dairy industry plus the 1269.

25 Q. Okay. And so the third column, again, looking

1 at total California impact of 1269, what is that?

2 A. That's a total employment created by that
3 investment.

4 Q. Okay. And the column next to it, 11,087,718
5 is what?

6 A. State and local taxes to local and state
7 government.

8 Q. Okay. Next to that is the 16 million 729,
9 what -- what does that represent?

10 A. Federal tax.

11 Q. Federal tax.

12 A. As the header describes.

13 Q. I'm sorry?

14 A. As the --

15 Q. Oh.

16 A. -- header describes. I'm sorry.

17 Q. I'm sorry.

18 A. And that's why I apologize --

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. -- it's on the table in front.

21 Q. Okay. I -- I apologize, I should have seen
22 that.

23 A. This is the table that's important to keep it
24 consistent, so I apologize.

25 Q. Okay. So, you know, going back to the

1 previous table, Table 5 where you have the impacts.
2 First, I -- I think I remember from your -- when you
3 were discussing the history of quota, but maybe it was
4 Dr. Erba, so you can correct me if I'm wrong, but did
5 you say that no new quota had been issued since 1991?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. You said that?

8 A. I said it as well as I think Dr. Erba said it
9 as well, too.

10 Q. So when we look at this impact, you've got the
11 benefit by county of -- of what's essentially -- oh, I'm
12 sorry. Where am I looking here? Table 5, I meant, of
13 page 15.

14 So you've got the quota premium and you've got
15 the total quota payment.

16 A. The quota premium less the RQA.

17 Q. RQA.

18 A. Equals the total quota payment for 2013 --
19 '14.

20 Q. For those counties?

21 A. For those counties during that year, that's
22 correct.

23 Q. So that would be the benefit of quota premium
24 essentially on each of those counties?

25 A. Well, I'm not sure if you call it a benefit,

1 it's the --

2 Q. It's the paid money.

3 A. It's the paid money into those counties --

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. -- based upon their quota ownership, that's
6 correct.

7 Q. Okay. So that's the total payments for
8 California county, but I mean, is this -- is this really
9 new money since there's been no new quota issued since
10 1991?

11 A. What do you mean by "new money"?

12 Q. Well, what I'm saying is somebody has been
13 getting this quota premium all along?

14 A. That's correct.

15 Q. Okay. Isn't it also --

16 A. That's the return on investment that they make
17 each year.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. So this is the return that they receive each
20 year.

21 Q. But it -- it -- it assumes that there's this
22 system that generates this premium, this quota system
23 that generates the premium?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. Okay. Isn't it also true that without that

1 premium, there would be a lot of other producers who
2 would get more money than they do under the current
3 system?

4 A. Yeah, there's always a converse to that --

5 Q. Okay.

6 A. -- that's correct.

7 Q. So -- so this doesn't include any of the lost
8 revenue by producers, lost revenue that producers who
9 have either no quota or low quota holdings by county?

10 A. I'm not certain your characterization of "loss
11 quota" is a fair --

12 Q. Lost --

13 A. -- definition.

14 Q. -- revenue.

15 A. Lost revenue? It's revenue that they didn't
16 gain because they didn't have quota, so I'm not sure
17 that it's lost revenue, it's just the revenue that they
18 received.

19 Q. I guess I don't understand the distinction
20 between not looking at loss of revenue that some
21 producers experienced when we're looking at revenue
22 gained that other producers experienced.

23 Would you agree, though, that in aggregate, if
24 I were to sum up all the pounds of milk and all the
25 quota and compare it to the prices that those folks

1 would receive -- she's laughing. We've got our fly
2 problem again.

3 A. You've got your fly back again it looks like.

4 MR. BESHORE: Trying to tell you something.

5 BY MR. SCHIEK:

6 Q. Relative to a blend price in aggregate, if you
7 summed up all of the monies received by producers who
8 hold quota versus all of the revenue lost relative to a
9 blend price system by producers who don't own quota, the
10 pounds of quota that aren't -- the pounds of milk
11 production that aren't covered by quota, wouldn't those
12 equate to zero, the pluses and the minuses? Because
13 we're starting from a pool that has a set amount of
14 money; is that correct?

15 A. That's correct.

16 Q. Okay. So --

17 A. But if you can clarify, I'm not certain what
18 you mean by the pluses and minuses equate to zero.

19 Q. So in order to pay --

20 A. I think I know where you're getting, you're
21 talking about in aggregate?

22 Q. Yeah.

23 A. In terms of the total pool of available funds;
24 is that what you're asking?

25 Q. Yeah, what I'm -- I'm making -- would you

1 agree that the revenue generated in the system, the
2 total revenue generated in the system, regardless of
3 quota and overbase, the pool has a revenue, and that
4 doesn't change by the existence of quota, the total
5 revenue of the pool?

6 A. That's correct. That is correct.

7 Q. So if you're going to pay a premium to quota
8 holders, isn't it also true that relative to some kind
9 of equal sharing, producers without quota get paid less
10 than they would?

11 A. That is also true.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. But they didn't put the investment. I mean, I
14 think we need to take it a step further. The value that
15 I'm calculating is based upon the investment made by
16 those quota holders, and there is a value to that that I
17 have obviously analyzed and have laid -- laid forth. So
18 it doesn't come without cost, that cost of 1.164 billion
19 is the value of that total quota, that has been
20 invested, it may not be that total amount because of the
21 fluctuating numbers that we had talked about in your
22 earlier question, but there is an investment, that
23 capital investment that these quota holders have made
24 over that period of time. So they do have that, and
25 that's a distinction here.

1 So, yes, in aggregate, it's a zero sum as
2 you're talking about, but quota holders benefit because
3 they have that investment.

4 Q. I don't disagree, but what I'm pointing out is
5 that there are producers who get paid less money by the
6 existence of the quota program than those -- than they
7 would otherwise get under a blend price system that is
8 typically in most Federal orders?

9 A. I don't think I would disagree with that,
10 that's -- that's correct.

11 Q. So when you look at your economic impact, I
12 mean, it would be fair to say, would it not, that if you
13 included the lost revenue that the non-quota holders
14 receive, it would change the numbers in terms of the
15 total -- total economic value of the quota system?

16 A. No. Because, again, it's the point in time,
17 it's the impact that that quota itself has provided, and
18 so, you know, and it's a yearly -- it's, again, it's a
19 point in time, it's 2014. We took -- I took a look at
20 what that impact of those quota payments were for that
21 given year, and it's the benefits that they provide. I
22 didn't look at the other side of it, but again, I was --
23 I was asked to look at the value and look at the
24 benefits that that value brought.

25 Q. So -- so you're saying that in your view, we

1 can simply ignore the lost revenue to non-quota holders?

2 A. No, that's not what I'm saying. What I'm
3 saying is we should highlight the value that quota
4 holders provide to the -- to the economy. That's the
5 distinction I think that I'm trying to draw from.

6 Q. So you used the -- the term zero sum gain
7 earlier in this discussion. What does that refer to,
8 when you say "zero sum gain"?

9 A. I'm not certain exactly why I mentioned it,
10 but you agreed to it, so I mentioned it.

11 Q. Okay. Would you agree that that typically is
12 used in the case of a situation where the gains to one
13 party are fully offset by the losses to another party?

14 A. That's generally the characterization, that's
15 right.

16 Q. I just -- I need to ask this: Has your -- has
17 any of your prior work on impact analysis ever been
18 criticized for failure to recognize the zero sum gain?

19 A. Not that I can recall.

20 Q. Was there some work you did for the City of
21 Seattle regarding the Super Sonics 2008 where that
22 criticism was made?

23 A. Not that I recall. As I recall, the City of
24 Seattle benefited from my analysis by about a hundred
25 million dollars if we look at the outcome of that case.

1 JUDGE CLIFTON: Will we be marking this
2 Exhibit as five six, 56?

3 MS. FRISIUS: Yes.

4 JUDGE CLIFTON: I'm marking my copy as Exhibit
5 56.

6 (Whereupon Exhibit 56 was marked for
7 identification.)

8 BY MR. SCHIEK:

9 Q. Okay. Mr. Hatamiya, have you ever seen this
10 article from Forbes Magazine?

11 A. I have.

12 Q. You have, okay.

13 I was wondering if you would look on the
14 second page, and starting on the second full paragraph
15 where it says, "To get to 1200 or 1300 jobs," would you
16 read the next three paragraphs?

17 A. The next three paragraphs?

18 Q. Yes.

19 A. Starting at, "To get" -- okay. "To get to
20 1200 or 1300 jobs, Hatamiya, who declined to comment for
21 this article," and I'll -- I'll debate that in a
22 minute -- "has to count every person who sold a bottle
23 of water to a Sonics fan during a game or a beer to a
24 fan after a game, and even then you're just talking
25 about a few hours a week, hardly the difference between

1 an existing or nonexisting job. There can be no doubt
2 that if the Sonics leave, bars and restaurants around
3 KeyArena will suffer on the 41 nights the Sonics would
4 have played in their neighborhood, but it's hard to see
5 how the city stands to lose 188 million as Hatamiya
6 complains.

7 "The existence of the Sonics does not change
8 disposable family income in Seattle. The residents of
9 the city and the surrounding suburbs will still have
10 money to spend. They might spend it on groceries or a
11 Seattle Mariners game, on a new suit or a new -- a few
12 more movies a year. Seattle residents will spend the
13 same amount of money with or without the Sonics; it'll
14 just be in different parts of town.

15 "The theory of disposable income as a zero sum
16 gain with regards to sports has been empirically, again
17 and again, in peer-reviewed economics studies, most
18 notably by Andrew Zimbalist, an economist at Smith
19 College, and Roger Noll, an economist at Stanford."

20 Q. Okay. So getting back to the notion of --
21 that there are losses to producers who don't have quota,
22 lost income, first, relative to a blend system, isn't it
23 the case that while there can be quota holders who have
24 more income to spend, there are also dairy farmers with
25 less income to spend than they might otherwise have?

1 A. That's a possibility, that's correct.

2 Q. So aren't -- we are talking about a zero sum
3 gain?

4 A. In some instances, possibly, but, again,
5 without doing the analysis, I couldn't answer that. The
6 correlation, though, to this argument I'm questioning,
7 how does this apply -- how does Sonics apply to cows?

8 And if you like me to go on, this is a --
9 this -- this article was never given a chance to respond
10 to, he never called me, for one thing. And, two, he's a
11 known anti-sports economist, or not even an economist,
12 he's I think a -- a -- a writer for Forbes Magazine,
13 so -- and I would also say Professor Zimbalist was the
14 opposing economist in this, and, you know, we prevailed.

15 So, you know, again, it's a matter of opinion,
16 and so I -- I don't know why you brought this forward.
17 This doesn't prove one point over another.

18 Q. What I'm wanting to demonstrate, though, is
19 that it's not necessarily adequate to only look at the
20 impacts, in a situation where there are winners and
21 losers, to only look at the impacts of the winners;
22 would you agree?

23 A. In this instance, no, I would not agree. In
24 this instance, I was looking primarily focused at the
25 benefit of quota holders. And that's exactly what I

1 produced, that's what my testimony, that's what the
2 exhibit lays out, so I don't necessarily --

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. -- agree with that. I haven't done the
5 numbers on the other side, so I don't know the answer to
6 that question.

7 Q. So you were -- you were -- were you asked to
8 demonstrate the benefits to quota holders?

9 A. I was asked to benefit -- to demonstrate the
10 value of quota and to determine what that is.

11 Q. Okay. I don't have any further questions.
12 Thank you.

13 JUDGE CLIFTON: Mr. Hatamiya, did you want to
14 make any further remarks about Exhibit 56?

15 THE WITNESS: No. I just will say it's
16 specious article, so --

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. So I would
18 imagine --

19 THE WITNESS: I wouldn't give it any more
20 credibility than the paper it's written on, so --

21 JUDGE CLIFTON: I would imagine that Seattle's
22 gain would be Oklahoma City's loss.

23 THE WITNESS: It depends upon what you think
24 about the basketball team, but it -- but it -- but the
25 outcome of that case, I helped Seattle return a hundred

1 million dollars when they would have only had
2 \$20 million, so the results speaks for themselves.

3 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you.

4 Mr. Vetne, you may come forward.

5 MR. VETNE: Thank you, Your Honor. I'm John
6 Vetne, representative for Hilmar Cheese Company, a
7 California dairy farmer owned cheese, whey and products
8 processing facility.

9 CROSS-EXAMINATION

10 BY MR. VETNE:

11 Q. I'm not sure I quite followed the question and
12 answer between you and Bill Schiek, so maybe I can put
13 it in terms that I can understand.

14 Quota and overbase revenues, which you
15 analyzed, are the product of classified prices charged
16 to handlers times the pounds of milk used by those
17 handlers in each class, correct?

18 A. I believe that's true, that's correct.

19 Q. That is correct. So you start out with a unit
20 of money generated by sales of milk of dairy farms,
21 correct?

22 A. That's correct.

23 Q. Okay. Now, let's take it to the next step.
24 All of that money generated by the sale of milk at
25 classified prices times the volume of milk is then

1 transferred to dairy farmers one way or another,
2 correct?

3 A. I believe so, that's correct.

4 Q. Okay. So each month, those total proceeds
5 contribute to the California gross domestic product,
6 correct?

7 A. That's correct, the total, that's right.

8 Q. The total does?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. And if you take that total and give an even
11 share per hundredweight to all California dairy farmers,
12 the same total amount of money is spent in California,
13 the same gross domestic product flows from processors to
14 farmers to local economies, correct?

15 A. That's correct.

16 Q. Okay. And if you take that money and divvy it
17 up in different proportions than evenly to everybody,
18 the net result is the same total amount of money flows
19 from processors to farmers to local economies, correct?

20 A. Not correct.

21 Q. Not correct?

22 A. Because it would be different -- if you're
23 divvying it up differently into different counties, the
24 impacts would be different in the different counties,
25 depending upon what the distribution is.

1 Q. I didn't get there yet, Mr. Hatamiya.

2 A. Well --

3 Q. I asked you the question about the total
4 California economy.

5 A. The total you're correct.

6 Q. The total. So --

7 A. That's correct.

8 Q. -- whether it's divvied up quota, overbase,
9 blend, or whatever, the gross domestic product
10 contribution from the sale of milk to California, it
11 makes no difference whether there's quota or not, but it
12 does make a difference within specific counties?

13 A. That's correct.

14 Q. That's correct.

15 And so look at that difference in -- in
16 specific counties. You have -- in order to get the
17 county level gross domestic product or addition in
18 value, you have essentially assumed for each county that
19 if you didn't have quota, all of the revenue in that
20 county would be overbase and therefore quota is an
21 expression of additional revenue in that county?

22 A. No, that's an incorrect characterization.

23 Q. That is incorrect.

24 A. That's incorrect.

25 Q. Why is that incorrect?

1 A. It's incorrect because what I did, and -- and
2 I'll point this out again very specifically, what I took
3 a look at was a point in time in 2014, what did the
4 quota payments provide to the specific counties? I'm
5 not taking a look at anything else beyond that. And so
6 that was just the impacts of those quota payments, the
7 quota payment investments. So that's exactly what it
8 was, no more, no less.

9 Q. Okay. But I -- tell me where my thinking is
10 wrong. If I'm thinking in terms of job creation, my
11 mind turns to, oh, we got new money, let's create some
12 jobs, and thinking in terms of spending, oh, there's
13 more money flowing in from some source, it's going to
14 local drugstores and farm supply. So -- so why is your
15 analysis not an analysis of the kind of thing you would
16 do with new money?

17 A. Well, because, again, it's -- it's the
18 constant ability for quota owners to receive those
19 payments, and if you take a look at probably
20 historically just with the shift of quota ownership as
21 we've seen, but if you take a look at what it currently
22 is, that value is going to those counties specifically,
23 and so those benefits -- if you take quota away, the
24 benefits of that quota payment into that county could go
25 away. Let me -- let me -- let me focus specifically --

1 Q. Let me --

2 A. Please, Mr. Vetne, please.

3 Q. Could go away. Let's say it does go away,
4 let's just say it goes away because those farmers are
5 receiving a market wide, state wide blend price.

6 A. Well, that's presuming that they're still in
7 business after the quota goes away and they write off
8 the losses that are on their books. Let's not forget
9 that quota, again, is an investment, a capital
10 investment that provides a steady stream of income, but
11 in addition to that, it provides the ability for them to
12 leverage that for lending capabilities, for operational
13 benefits to run their dairies.

14 And I've had many dairy farmers that own
15 significant amounts of quota who I've talked to, they
16 said -- who have told me that if quota goes away, they
17 go out of business. And so in those dairies in high
18 quota owning countries, that could have a huge impact
19 upon that specific country.

20 Now, collectively in aggregate, does that
21 impact the state? Maybe not. But to that county, it
22 certainly does.

23 Q. Okay. I -- we may talking apples and oranges,
24 or as Gilbert and Sullivan once said, "Things are seldom
25 as they seem, skim milk masquerades as cream."

1 A. You lost me there.

2 Q. Okay. Apples and oranges. I just had to get
3 Gilbert and Sullivan.

4 A. Okay. So in the aggregate, there is no added
5 GDP, and then you said, yeah, but it has an effect in
6 counties, and I think you said that in -- in some
7 counties, it does add more than a blend price would add?

8 A. It would add more than a blend price? I don't
9 know if I said that.

10 Q. Okay. It affects counties differently?

11 A. It affects counties differently because of the
12 percentage of quota of their production as its owned.
13 We can go back to there are a number of counties, San
14 Diego, for example, even though it's a small dairy
15 producing county has over 75% of their milk is covered
16 by quota. I think Marin County was over 60%. So some
17 of these counties could have a very highly negative
18 impact if quota went away.

19 Q. Exactly.

20 A. Now, collectively, I would agree with you.
21 Maybe collectively the aggregate GDP doesn't change, but
22 in some of the counties it does, but in this state,
23 having been the Secretary of Commerce in the State of
24 California, this is where we have our major problems, in
25 our local, especially rural communities. And I think

1 that that's part of the point I was trying to drive home
2 is that quota has a very important value to some of
3 these communities.

4 Q. Okay. In order to identify those counties or
5 communities where quota has a net positive impact on the
6 economy that would not exist if it were simply a blend
7 price, would it be fair to say that you would look to
8 see whether producers in that county owned quota in
9 greater proportion to the statewide average of producers
10 to production?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. That would be one way of looking at it,
14 absolutely.

15 Q. Okay. And -- and -- and then, you can take
16 that one step further and say here is a contribution to
17 the economy of that state, say San Diego, that county?

18 A. County, right.

19 Q. San Diego that would go away if everybody got
20 a blend price instead of quota and overbase?

21 A. Well, again, you're presuming that all they do
22 is accept the blend price and they stay in business. It
23 gets away from the point that I was making of the value
24 of the quota investment, and that's -- that -- that
25 cannot be ignored through this whole progress, and

1 that's why I made the argument up front and I had the
2 economic impact at the end. So I just want to drive
3 that point home, it's the investment component of quota
4 that's important to many dairy farmers across the state.

5 Q. Okay. My question asked about contributions
6 to the local economy, which is the point you make, the
7 table on page 18 and 19, and your answer instead of
8 contributions to the local economy shifted to investment
9 value, and I'll get to that, but let's get to my
10 question.

11 If you want to measure the contribution --

12 A. Sorry, I'm not waving you away, I've got a fly
13 flying around, sorry.

14 Q. Okay. I won't take it personally.

15 JUDGE CLIFTON: Let's -- let's take just a
16 five-minute stretch break. It's 3:40. Please be ready
17 to go again at 3:45. And I'm hoping that the great
18 hunter, Dr. Schiek --

19 THE WITNESS: Dr. Schiek.

20 JUDGE CLIFTON: -- would help me with this
21 fly.

22 All right. Be back at 3:45.

23 (Whereupon a break was taken.)

24 JUDGE CLIFTON: We're back on record at 3:48.

25 Mr. Vetne, you may resume.

1 BY MR. VETNE:

2 Q. Okay. Is there anything in Exhibit 54, the
3 analysis, your prepared analysis, that will help a
4 decision-maker to identify those communities, those
5 counties, one relative to another, that get a net
6 benefit from the existence of quota versus no quota
7 plan?

8 A. I made reference to that just in the -- I
9 think, let me turn to that page. It's a section that I
10 speak about, the counties that have larger percentages
11 of quota ownership. I can't recall exactly where that
12 is. I think it's after -- it's after Table -- after
13 Table 3, and I'm not certain if it's on your page 11 or
14 12. It's actually later than that. It's on page 13,
15 middle of the page. Again, I just made reference to it,
16 I didn't highlight it any further than to go on to take
17 a look at the economic impacts per county.

18 Q. Okay. But so far we're in agreement that some
19 counties have a -- a net benefit from the existence of
20 quota and some counties have not a net benefit?

21 A. No, I think all counties that have quota
22 have -- have a net benefit.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. So your -- I'm not certain on your
25 characterization, but if you have quota, you have a

1 benefit.

2 Q. Okay. All counties where there is one quota
3 holder, and that's the extra stream produced -- income
4 stream produced by those quota holders?

5 A. That's correct. And, Mr. Vetne, I'm glad
6 you -- you characterized that way, because it is -- it's
7 an extra income stream. It's an asset investment, and
8 that extra stream of income allows that dairy quota
9 owner to not only -- he could have better leverage
10 because of that income stream for -- for bank lending if
11 it allows him to pay his supplier of feed, it allows him
12 to pay his veterinarian, it allows him to do a lot of
13 things with that money that he gets by that added income
14 stream.

15 Q. I understand. And I'm -- I'm still sort of
16 referring to page 18 and 19 of your statement, which
17 asserts gross domestic product -- product benefit per
18 county, not asset value and income stream to the farmer,
19 county benefit, and I expect that response to a lot of
20 my questions, but try to listen carefully to the subject
21 of my questions, and I'll get to the asset value at some
22 point.

23 Other than identifying some counties, you have
24 nothing in your paper that would help provide an
25 objective and quantitative analysis of those counties to

1 their local gross domestic product product, positive or
2 neglect, by the existence of quota in those counties?

3 A. No. I disagree with that characterization. I
4 believe Table 6 outlines that very specifically as to
5 the impacts of quota ownership.

6 Q. As to the impact of quota ownership versus
7 there being no quota in that county at all? Is that
8 right? Basically the comparison --

9 A. There is no comparison. It's the statement of
10 economic impact of annual return on dairy quota
11 investment in California and the various counties in
12 2014. So there's not versus anything, it's a statement
13 of what occurs with quota payments in those counties.

14 Q. If nobody in those counties owned quota, there
15 would be zero --

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. -- zero economic impact?

18 A. That's correct. But all of those counties do
19 own some quota.

20 Q. All own some?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. So the comparison is here's -- here's what
23 happened because there's quota in this county versus no
24 quota in this county?

25 A. There's no comparison.

1 Q. There is no comparison.

2 A. Again, there's no comparison. It's a
3 statement of this is what happens with quota.

4 Q. So quota is not added revenue over overbase?

5 A. Added revenue?

6 Q. Over overbase?

7 A. I guess you could characterize it as that --

8 Q. Okay. So --

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. -- overbase would be the zero starting point,
11 and you're analyzing in -- in that table on page 18 and
12 19 the revenue added by quota?

13 A. The revenue provided by quota, that's
14 corrected. And, again, I don't characterize it the way
15 you did. It's provided by that quota investment. Let
16 me go back to the -- the title of that table, Mr. Vetne,
17 it's very clear what it states.

18 Q. Exhibit 55. Exhibit 55 simply illustrates
19 over time, fairly short period of time the -- the
20 revenue change to farmers with and without quota,
21 correct?

22 A. That's one way of characterizing it, that's
23 correct.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. It's the decision process, it's a flow chart

1 of decision making of just one example of a mix of a
2 blend price and where it would get you.

3 Q. Okay. Would you agree with -- with me that in
4 most counties other than those where there's a
5 disproportionately large percentage of production
6 represented by quota, that in most counties the gross
7 domestic product would increase if everybody received a
8 milk blend price?

9 A. That's a possibility.

10 Q. Isn't it -- isn't it an absolute certainty?

11 A. Nothing is an absolute certainty when it comes
12 to economics.

13 Q. If -- if the prices everybody gets paid on
14 average for a unit of milk is greater as it would be in
15 Exhibit 55, a blend price, except for a few counties,
16 wouldn't the gross domestics product of those countries
17 improve over that which you have represented on page 18
18 and 19?

19 A. There's certainly a possibility, that's
20 certainly right.

21 Q. Well, why is it just a possibility?

22 A. Because --

23 Q. Tell me why it's not.

24 A. Because, Mr. Vetne, in economics there are
25 many different factors that -- that -- that ultimately

1 impact a final outcome. And if you're asking me to
2 forecast what's happening, I would not be sitting here
3 today because I'd be a billionaire living on -- on -- on
4 the coast if I knew how to do that. So there are a lot
5 of different factors, so I can't with precisely say it's
6 going to be larger because there are going to be
7 negative impacts. What happens to those farms that have
8 a large percentage of quota ownership --

9 Q. Yes.

10 A. -- let's say in Tulare County.

11 Q. Yes.

12 A. They may go out of business.

13 Q. Yes, they may. And where do their cows go?

14 A. I don't know where the cows go.

15 Q. Where do the cows go mostly now when farms go
16 out of business? They go to other farmers, correct?

17 A. That's one -- one aspect, certainly.

18 Q. Do you know? Do you know what -- what happens
19 to farmers in California?

20 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Your Honor, I'm just
21 going to object to Mr. Vetne's manner of questioning at
22 this point. I think he's getting a little argumentative
23 with the witness. There's a lot of interrupting. And I
24 I'm sure the court reporter would also appreciate it if
25 everyone would slow it down.

1 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you.

2 MR. VETNE: I agree.

3 JUDGE CLIFTON: Yeah.

4 THE WITNESS: Thank you. Thank you.

5 JUDGE CLIFTON: I -- I do think your
6 hypothetical did not have enough variables, but I'm not
7 asking you to supply them. I'd like you to ask a whole
8 different question.

9 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 MR. VETNE: And, Your Honor, I apologize.

11 BY MR. VETNE:

12 Q. I always instruct people don't -- there's only
13 one instruction, pause between the question and answer.
14 Think of nothing else, just pause. And I forgot my own
15 instruction. I'm sorry.

16 In your Exhibit 54, you use the word
17 "investment" several times, and you appear to equate,
18 make synonymous the terms "investment" and "value." Am
19 I reading that incorrectly?

20 A. They're not equated to -- together. It's
21 certainly a part of -- the value of quota is its
22 investment, that's for certain.

23 Q. Well, for example, bottom of page 14, you're
24 using current quota value per SNF pound, underscored,
25 the total value of quota owned it 1.164 billion. And

1 then you conclude, underscored, again, "By any measure,
2 this is a substantial financial investment." Am I wrong
3 in attributing to you an effort to make synonymous the
4 words "value" and "investment"?

5 A. No, I think in this instance that is correct.

6 Q. Okay. But you would agree with me that the
7 current quota price for most quota out there is not the
8 value paid for it?

9 A. Please restated that again. I'm not --

10 Q. You would --

11 A. -- sure I would agree with that statement.

12 Q. Well --

13 A. Because people have paid \$525.

14 Q. That's why I said most. Most --

15 A. I don't know -- that's not calculated, so I
16 can't make that judgment at this point.

17 Q. You would agree to me that there is
18 substantial quota out there that is owned for which the
19 holders paid less than \$525 per pound?

20 A. That's a possibility. I don't know the answer
21 to that.

22 Q. You don't know that?

23 A. I didn't calculate that, no, I did not.

24 Q. Did you look at CDFA data to determine
25 historical prices?

1 A. I looked at the historical prices, but it
2 doesn't track completely because of the proprietary
3 nature of that quota ownership, so it's -- it's
4 virtually impossible to determine what folks pay for it
5 over time, because much of that quota may have been sold
6 again, bought again, sold again, so it's impossible to
7 determine what that value is.

8 Q. So you don't know what the investment was?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. Okay. You do agree that at least some of it
11 out there, maybe a small percentage, there was zero
12 investment because it was given originally?

13 A. That's correct. If anything is out there that
14 was initially allocated back in 1969, it had zero value
15 at that time. I'm sorry, zero cost, it shouldn't say
16 zero value. It has value because it provides a steady
17 stream of income.

18 Q. Zero -- the investment, that was my question.

19 A. That's right. The investment was zero.

20 Q. I didn't use word "value" at the beginning, I
21 used "investment" at zero.

22 A. Yes, you did.

23 Q. Okay.

24 JUDGE CLIFTON: I think something -- that
25 there was a cost. There was a compromise. People did

1 agree to a blend price instead of the higher price they
2 were getting for their Class I milk, so I'm not sure you
3 can say there was no cost to the beginning of quota.

4 MR. VETNE: The word was "investment."

5 BY MR. VETNE:

6 Q. The -- the quota, which I believe had value
7 from its inception, was provided to some producers
8 without having to pay for it, and that was a result of
9 comprise in the process of legislation. Would you agree
10 with that?

11 A. Yes, I would agree with that.

12 Q. The purchase the quota entire -- entitles the
13 owner thereof to a steady stream of income of 19.5 cents
14 per SNM -- F pound held, correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. In that respect, it's much like an annuity,
17 you pay a certain amount for a certain stream of income;
18 is that correct?

19 A. Similar to annuity, it's a little different
20 than that, but you do get a steady stream of income,
21 that's correct.

22 Q. It's a little bit different in -- in the risks
23 and conditions of payments, correct?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. One of the conditions for that payment of a

1 steady stream of income is that you operate a dairy farm
2 and produce milk containing SNF at least equal to the
3 volume of quota you own?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. And if you don't do so for a period of time,
6 you lose your quota?

7 A. That's correct.

8 Q. And the risk factor would -- would -- would be
9 considered in any investment is some of the things you
10 talked about before, golly, is there going to be a quota
11 program in the future if a Federal order comes in,
12 that's -- that's a risk analysis, that makes it
13 different from a straight annuity?

14 A. I would agree, yes.

15 Q. Given that quota provides a predictable and
16 steady stream of income, and you noted that the value of
17 quota has gone up in recent years, would it not be
18 rational to conclude or at least look to see whether the
19 value of quota is directly related or inversely related
20 to interest rates?

21 A. That would be one factor, yes.

22 Q. Would it not be true that the cost of an
23 annuity for a steady stream of income is higher when
24 interest rates are lower?

25 A. I believe that's true.

1 Q. Okay. And you referred to quota as being
2 sometimes treated as a tangible and sometimes intangible
3 asset by financial institutions.

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. All right. An annuity falls into which
6 category, tangible or intangible?

7 A. I don't know, that's a good question.
8 Probably a tangible asset.

9 Q. By the way, do you know whether the income
10 stream from quota is treated the same way annuity income
11 is?

12 A. I don't know that.

13 Q. You don't know that.

14 I meant for tax purposes, if -- if --

15 A. That's a question for the CPA. That was not
16 one I raised with them.

17 Q. Okay. But you did testify as to the local,
18 state, and federal tax revenue impacts of quota
19 ownership, you should have some knowledge of how it's
20 taxed.

21 A. Aside from the -- those are resulting
22 expenditures, Mr. Vetne, that's not about quota
23 ownership itself. That's what -- that's the dollar
24 that's spent paying for the feed, paying for the water,
25 paying for the energy, and that's what -- the way it

1 works through the economy.

2 Q. Okay. So none of -- none of your analysis,
3 then, includes the extra for the producer in work
4 herself, the -- the income reported as a result of
5 quota --

6 A. No.

7 Q. -- and the expenditure from quota as taxed to
8 that quota holder?

9 A. Yes, it does include that.

10 Q. It does include that?

11 A. It does include that.

12 Q. But you don't know how it's taxed?

13 A. I don't know exactly how it's taxed, no, I do
14 not.

15 Q. Do you know when quota is used to leverage or
16 encourage a bank loan and maybe offer it as collateral
17 how a bank might look to that collateral to satisfy its
18 loan if there's a problem with the loan?

19 A. As I think I mentioned in my testimony, each
20 financial institute has a different aspect, even within
21 financial institutions they take a look at quota
22 ownership differently, so it varies from bank to bank,
23 so I would imagine you'd have to ask a specific bank
24 allow they look at that.

25 Q. I'm not asking how they looked at when they

1 loan money, I'm asking how they look at when they have
2 to collect an overdue account. The -- the bank can't
3 take the quota and hold it because they're not a farmer,
4 correct?

5 A. That's correct. That's correct.

6 Q. So do you know whether they would have, like,
7 power of attorney to be able to sell that to another
8 farmer?

9 A. One of the things that the banks did mention
10 to me, that quota ownership is traceable, and so that
11 they -- they can follow it, they know if a farmer
12 decides to sell it, that it's a traceable asset, so in
13 that sense, they're able to follow it. And it's not
14 exact -- some -- some consider it collateral, in that
15 case, they'll be able to be repaid, and others don't
16 consider it collateral, but they say it's next to
17 collateral, it's close, so they can follow that -- that
18 income stream. So, again, it varies from -- from -- I
19 don't want to speak on behalf of the banks, that's why I
20 gave a wide range of how they -- they handle it.

21 Q. Okay. Would you agree with me that if
22 California did not have a quota/overbase system but
23 instead had simply a market wide blend price as happens
24 in month four or five of your Exhibit 55, that a lot of
25 the dairy farmers that borrow from financial

1 institutions would have a better stream of income to
2 present to their bank because their -- their market wide
3 blend price would be higher than their overbase price or
4 a low combination of quota and overbase?

5 A. That -- that may be the case in the short
6 term, but in the long term, let's keep in mind they lose
7 that capital asset. That asset is a stream of income
8 that's assured today. That's not -- what you're talking
9 about is not assured tomorrow. So that long-term
10 investment of -- of quota is assured in perpetuity if it
11 continues, and so that is that what they rely upon and
12 that, again, is the capital investment that's so
13 important to the borrowing leverage, so important to
14 their operational costs. I hate to keep repeating these
15 factors, but these are very important that not only
16 dairy farmers have shared with me, but financial
17 institutions have also shared with me.

18 Q. It's a stream of income that overlays a blend
19 price or a market price for milk which goes up and down
20 and the quota portion goes up and down with it, correct?

21 A. Quota portion moves up and down with it?
22 Isn't it -- it's usually constant.

23 Q. No, the quota portion is constant --

24 A. Right.

25 Q. -- it moves and up down with variable

1 marketplaces. There are times when -- when the market
2 wide blend, and therefore the overbase price is -- is
3 low, and there are times when cheese prices go up way
4 high, and everybody's price goes way high like it did in
5 2014. The -- the quota portions moves in and down with
6 underlying overbase price or market price?

7 A. I would agree, that's true.

8 Q. Okay. And it's the total income stream that
9 banks look to?

10 A. That's one factor, but again, a major factor
11 is the steady stream that's provided by quota. And
12 that -- if that's gone, that's one factor that's -- that
13 is a factor that the quota owner will not have, and so
14 that has a major impact.

15 Q. If a bank could look at Exhibit 55 and see
16 based on your analysis that this producer who owns 25%
17 quota is going to have an improved price in the future,
18 whatever that up and down movement of the market is, in
19 perpetuity that blend will be better than it would have
20 been with quota, isn't a bank going to look at that as a
21 better income stream?

22 A. I can't answer you what --

23 Q. You don't know.

24 A. -- the bank is going to look at.

25 Q. Again, I forgot to pause.

1 Mr. Hatamiya, you -- you prepared your -- your
2 paper, which is marked as Exhibit 54, at the request of
3 the proponents, the three cooperatives, correct?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. When were you retained to do this work?

6 A. I believe it was in August of this year.

7 Q. And what is the remuneration you are being
8 paid for preparing this report and preparing the
9 exhibits?

10 A. I am being paid by an hourly rate of \$350 an
11 hour.

12 Q. Okay. And how many hours have you put in so
13 far?

14 A. I'm not certain exactly.

15 Q. How much have you been paid so far?

16 A. I've been paid a little over \$10,000.

17 Q. Do you have an estimate of what you will be
18 paid before the --

19 A. I do not have an estimate.

20 Q. Did representatives of the -- any
21 representative or representatives of the -- the
22 individual or representative of the three proponent
23 cooperatives make any suggestions in any draft
24 portion -- draft version of Exhibit 54?

25 A. Any suggestions?

1 Q. Suggestions for additions?

2 A. No.

3 Q. I may be almost done here.

4 Oh, Exhibit 55 is your intention to provide an
5 illustration using simple numbers of the decision points
6 and how they get there in USDA's preliminary economic
7 analysis, correct?

8 A. That is correct.

9 Q. And your analysis includes a pool with ten
10 individual dairy farmers making individual decisions on
11 whether to remain in the quota pool, correct?

12 A. That is correct.

13 Q. Now, with respect to, say, eight of those ten
14 dairy farmers, we'll further assume that they -- they
15 represent a membership and cooperative associations of
16 dairy farmers who own quota. Are you aware that
17 cooperatives in their relations with dairy farmers may
18 decide to pay those farmers on the basis of quota
19 ownership, non-quota ownership, or any method they
20 choose?

21 A. Am I aware? No, I'm not aware of that.

22 Q. You're not aware of that?

23 A. No.

24 Q. Okay. So you're not aware of whether
25 cooperative associations may have an influence, great or

1 small, in the decision purported to be exemplified in
2 Exhibit 55 of departure from quota?

3 A. Can you restate that question?

4 Q. The question is you're not aware of
5 cooperatives having any influence, great or small, in
6 those decision points?

7 A. No, I am not aware.

8 Q. And you're not aware of how money flows from
9 the pool through cooperatives to their dairy farmer
10 members?

11 A. No, I am not.

12 Q. Okay. Go with me once more to Exhibit --
13 Table 6, which is on my pages 18 and 19 of my version of
14 Exhibit 54. Now, the second column, which is labeled
15 "investment," see that?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. Uh-huh.

19 Q. That investment represents roughly the current
20 value of quota times the -- the amount of quota at 19.5
21 cents per pound?

22 A. Mr. Vetne, I'm -- I apologize again, it goes
23 across. That column should say "Annual Return on Quota
24 Investment," just not "investment." If you go back to
25 page 18, that's the full title.

1 Q. Oh, "Annual Return on Quota Investment," I
2 see.

3 A. That's correct.

4 Q. Okay. So that's not the investment, the
5 investment is not on here?

6 A. That's right, it's not on here.

7 Q. It's not on here. The investment is \$.195,
8 and the first column with numbers is \$.195 times the
9 amount of quota SNF in each county?

10 A. That's correct, on an annual basis.

11 Q. Okay. So let's say the legislature in its
12 wisdom were to decide that \$.195 isn't enough, let's
13 double it to \$.39, you would agree that if the
14 legislature so did, the -- the -- the numbers in the
15 investment column would go up?

16 A. That's correct.

17 Q. And gross --

18 MR. VLAHOS: Excuse me. Excuse me. The
19 investment column?

20 JUDGE CLIFTON: Actually the "Annual Return on
21 Quota Investment."

22 MR. VETNE: "Annual Return on Quota
23 Investment," that's correct.

24 THE WITNESS: That's what I thought
25 Mr. Vetne --

1 BY MR. VETNE:

2 Q. Yeah.

3 A. -- was referring to. Yeah, I was. Yeah.

4 Q. The first column with numbers.

5 And correspondingly, the overbase payments
6 would have to go down because you have a finite pool of
7 revenue, correct?

8 A. That's correct, too.

9 Q. Okay. And by -- by your approach, the -- the
10 gross domestic product represented by quota, then,
11 would -- the counties would benefit from that, wouldn't
12 they, by their analysis?

13 A. Would they benefit from that?

14 Q. Yeah. Because there's more quota revenue.

15 A. Directly just to the quota, yes, they would
16 benefit just from quota payments.

17 Q. Okay. But there would be -- there would be --
18 if you look at the total pictures, sometimes counties
19 would -- would lose, because the overbase price would be
20 so much lower?

21 A. That's -- that's a possibility. I mean,
22 again, we have to look at it in aggregate as well.

23 Q. Or -- or CDFA, without asking the legislature,
24 could double the amount, the volume of quota, and still
25 fix statutorily at 19.5 cents per pound, same -- same

1 thing would happen, the investment or money would
2 double, overbase would go down, but you would still show
3 a benefit?

4 A. I'm not certain that that's that simple. I
5 believe CDFA would increase the amount of quota, they
6 haven't since 1991 for, I think, obvious reasons. So I
7 think your hypothetically is not realistic.

8 Q. It's how the numbers would work, whether
9 realistic or not, correct?

10 A. Well, I guess if you're asking
11 unrealistically, yeah, I guess that's correct, yeah.

12 Q. Other than the documents that you mentioned in
13 footnotes and resources, CDFA, did you decide what to
14 look for in CDFA on your own or -- or were some
15 suggested to you? Did you talk to CDFA people or to
16 proponents?

17 A. No, these are all direct questions I had for
18 CDFA, and I went back and forth with them on what
19 available data there was. I had an idea in mind what I
20 wanted to -- to analyze, and they were very helpful in
21 providing that data.

22 Q. Okay. Can you refer to something that lets us
23 know what the Cooperatives exactly asked you to do?

24 A. What did they ask me to do?

25 Q. Yes, specifically. Is there -- is there

1 here -- here is your charge, here's what we request you
2 to do?

3 A. My charge, I think I stated upfront, is to
4 provide an independent analysis of the economic
5 importance of the dairy industry in California, I laid
6 this out in my testimony, as well as the value of quota.
7 Those are -- that was my charge, and how I got there was
8 my approach.

9 Q. On page 7 to 8, sentence beginning at the
10 bottom of page seven, "To best achieve this I surveyed a
11 range of California accounting firms, financial
12 institutions, and dairy farmers." Did you engage --

13 JUDGE CLIFTON: Now, if you're going to call
14 our attention to the statement at the bottom of page 7,
15 please don't leave out words.

16 MR. VETNE: Okay.

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: Either have him look at it and
18 then ask him a question or --

19 BY MR. VETNE:

20 Q. Okay. "To achieve this I surveyed a range of
21 California accounting firms that specialize in dairies;
22 a range of financial institutions that are major dairy
23 lenders; and a range of dairy farmers of varying sizes
24 and operations from across the state." And I gave
25 verbal emphasis to the three things that I presented in

1 my shortened version of the question.

2 Did you engage in any kind of statistical
3 survey as we -- do you understand the process of
4 surveying to get a statistical representative sampling?

5 A. I -- I did. I mean, I do. But in this case,
6 you know, I took the information of CPA firms that would
7 return my calls. And the banks, I talked to I believe
8 most of the major dairy lenders. It just so happens I
9 know many of the senior vice-presidents of those banks.

10 Q. Okay. So you talked to the people that would
11 talk to you?

12 A. That's correct.

13 Q. Okay. And you said about 20 farmers?

14 A. Yeah, about 20 farmers.

15 Q. How did you choose those?

16 A. I had some -- a list suggested by all the
17 dairy cooperatives as well as dairymen that I know from
18 longstanding relationships.

19 Q. Were the farmers you talked to members of
20 cooperatives?

21 A. That's what I just said.

22 Q. Okay. I mean, was that it? Were they all
23 members of cooperatives?

24 A. I'm not certain all of them were, but most --
25 I would say the majority were.

1 Q. You don't know if any were nonmembers?

2 A. No, I don't.

3 Q. Oh, yeah. On page 10 under subparagraph c,
4 you have some characterizations of quota holdings. You
5 said quota does not require maintenance or veterinarian
6 over time. I think we already discussed the condition
7 of -- of that. To -- to maintain quota and receive the
8 income stream, you must milk cows and solid nonfat from
9 those cows must be marketed so that they're included in
10 the pool, correct?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. So to that extent, you need both maintenance
13 and vets to keep that asset alive?

14 A. That is correct. I -- I use that as you see
15 in quotes because that was a quote from one of my good
16 friends who's a dairy farmer.

17 Q. Okay. That's what the dairy farmer told you?

18 A. He told me that.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. That's exactly right.

21 Q. And you would agree with me that maybe there
22 are a few conditions involving vets and maintenance
23 involved?

24 A. There are many more conditions in that, that's
25 true.

1 Q. Among others?

2 A. Among others.

3 Q. That's all I have. Thank you.

4 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you, Mr. Vetne.

5 Before we decide what's next, I'd like to
6 inquire, it's 4:25. I know we have to leave this room
7 because tomorrow we'll be in a different room. Do we
8 have a timetable as to when I should stop to enable that
9 to happen?

10 MR. FRANCIS: Will Francis from USDA. I don't
11 think we have a hard deadline today to get out of this
12 room, so I think we have some flexibility. It's just
13 tomorrow 9:00 o'clock we're in the other room, so we
14 have some flexibility today.

15 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. Very good.

16 Then let me ask is there any more
17 cross-examination of Mr. Hatamiya? Yes, there will be.
18 Yeah, a couple of you. Okay.

19 So before we go there, is there anything else
20 that's also on the table that anyone wants to do today
21 to, for example, mop up some things that were left open,
22 and then -- and then also let me ask one more question.
23 Are we hoping to finish Mr. Hatamiya's testimony today?

24 MR. BESHORE: Yes.

25 JUDGE CLIFTON: We're hoping to do that also.

1 All right, then.

2 Mr. Vlahos, if you would take the microphone.

3 MR. VLAHOS: Yes, Your Honor. John Vlahos.

4 There have been questions raised during Mr. --
5 Mr. Erba's testimony about certain time limits contained
6 in Sections 1051.55 and 1051.73, and through Dr. Erba,
7 or I could make representations to the proceedings
8 myself, there is some agreement that those time limits,
9 the questions that were raised can be handled and
10 modified.

11 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay. Good. Great. Some
12 agreement, I love that part.

13 MR. VLAHOS: Yeah.

14 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. Good.

15 And then about the transportation issue, did
16 you also work on that?

17 MR. VLAHOS: Yes. John Vlahos.

18 That's one of the sections I was referring to.

19 JUDGE CLIFTON: Oh, okay. Good. So then
20 we'll address that tomorrow. Do you want to?

21 MR. VLAHOS: Unfortunately Dr. Erba will not
22 be here tomorrow, so I would like to do that today if we
23 could.

24 MR. BESHORE: You can't do both. You're not
25 going to get both. You're not going to get both. It's

1 4:30.

2 JUDGE CLIFTON: Well, if I -- if I
3 interrupt --

4 MR. VLAHOS: It takes two minutes.

5 JUDGE CLIFTON: If I interrupt Dr. Hatamiya so
6 that I can just deal with those leftover issues with
7 Dr. Erba, I mean -- yes, Dr. Erba, that would be a good
8 thing because I may not finish with Mr. Hatamiya today
9 even if I try very hard. So I think -- I think what I'd
10 like to do right now is interrupt Mr. Hatamiya, have
11 Dr. Erba come back to the stand -- or does he need to be
12 on the stand for you to tell us what the agreement is?

13 MR. VLAHOS: I don't really think so. If it's
14 all right, we can just make the representation what he
15 would be willing to do.

16 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. Dr. Erba, will you
17 listen to Mr. Vlahos' representations so you can alert
18 me if you want to add anything.

19 DR. ERBA: Very carefully.

20 JUDGE CLIFTON: Very fine.

21 And, Mr. Vlahos, you may proceed.

22 MR. VLAHOS: Yes, all right, Your Honor.

23 The first question arose as to Section 1051.55
24 sub (a) and sub sub (1). A question was raised when the
25 words there appear, "On or before the 13th day" with --

1 can we make that change to add three days, make it "on
2 and before the 16th day," and the answer to that is yes.

3 The second question relates to Section
4 1051.73, Payments to producers and to cooperative
5 associations, and there we're talking about subsection
6 (a) and subsection (1), which is dealing with partial
7 payment. And the language there talked about receiving
8 by each producer on or before the 30th day of the month,
9 and it was pointed out that February does not have 30
10 days, so to handle that, we have -- we suggest and are
11 willing to live with, "On or before the 30th day of the
12 month or the end of the month, whichever is sooner."
13 That covers February. And that -- that is something we
14 would agree to.

15 JUDGE CLIFTON: Is "shorter" the right word or
16 "earlier"?

17 MR. VLAHOS: Earlier is better.

18 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay. All right. Good.
19 Does that deal with the transportation?

20 MR. VLAHOS: No, we did that with 1051.55.

21 JUDGE CLIFTON: With the 16th day? Okay. You
22 dealt with that.

23 MR. VLAHOS: Yes. Yes.

24 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. And do you have
25 any agreement on my concern about the poor handler

1 having to send money out on the same day it comes in?

2 MR. VLAHOS: All we can say is we handle it in
3 the same way that's already done in the same existing
4 orders. If it's a problem here, then it's a problem
5 everywhere, I think.

6 JUDGE CLIFTON: Mr. Francis.

7 MR. FRANCIS: Will Francis, USDA.

8 We have a witness that will introduce a table
9 that explains that, and we can do that at any time.

10 JUDGE CLIFTON: Oh, great. Excellent.

11 MR. VLAHOS: Great.

12 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. Good.

13 Thank you very much, Mr. Vlahos.

14 MR. VLAHOS: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right. That's very
16 helpful.

17 Dr. Erba, since you may not be here tomorrow,
18 do you want to add anything at this point about what
19 Mr. Vlahos gave us?

20 DR. ERBA: Eric Erba. Eric. Eric Erba.
21 There we go. Eric Erba, California Dairies.

22 Mr. Vlahos represented those, the two points
23 that I was going to speak to perfectly.

24 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you. All right. I
25 appreciate that.

1 Let's return, then, to cross-examination of
2 Mr. Hatamiya. Who would like to go next?

3 MR. ENGLISH: Thank you. Chip English. And
4 I'm hoping to keep this to two subjects, and I'm
5 certainly not trying to keep Mr. Hatamiya here past 4:55
6 when I think we normally quit.

7 CROSS-EXAMINATION

8 BY MR. ENGLISH:

9 Q. So I think you've been lucky or unlucky enough
10 to have attended several days of this proceeding,
11 correct?

12 A. That is correct. Lucky, lucky enough.

13 Q. And during that time, I think you heard some
14 of my examination of Dr. Erba on Friday; is that
15 correct?

16 A. I believe so, yes.

17 Q. And are you aware that in Co-op Proposal 1
18 that, as opposed to how the system works today, under
19 their proposal for a Federal order, milk from out of
20 state that is pooled under this order would receive this
21 non-quota blend price?

22 A. To the extent of Dr. Erba' testimony on, I
23 believe it was Friday, yes, I'm aware of his testimony,
24 that's correct.

25 Q. All right. And to the extent that those

1 producers today receive a price that is higher than
2 that, assume that that's the case, has your analysis
3 taken into consideration the economic impacts on, say,
4 the economies of Arizona or Nevada resulting from that
5 change?

6 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Your Honor, just to
7 interject and raise an objection. This issue of the
8 impact of -- to out-of-state producers is not -- it's
9 beyond the scope of what Mr. Hatamiya's statement and
10 testimony was today. I think he can answer probably
11 this question, but I just want to say, you know, going
12 beyond that would be inappropriate.

13 MR. ENGLISH: I wasn't -- I wasn't going to go
14 beyond that.

15 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: Sure? Because I don't
16 know what his answer is.

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: Wait a minute now. I don't
18 want you talking and walking away from the microphone,
19 it's too hard to capture. What did you say?

20 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: I just -- I believe I
21 know what his answer will be. And if examination is not
22 going to go beyond that, then I think we're good.

23 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right.

24 MR. ENGLISH: Stay here just in case, but I
25 don't think it's going to be.

1 BY MR. ENGLISH:

2 Q. So assuming the answer is what we think it is.

3 A. Mr. English, in answer to your question, no, I
4 did not.

5 Q. Okay. Thank you.

6 And as promised, I am going to change
7 subjects.

8 So I'm going to try to -- I'm going to try one
9 last time to get an issue that both Dr. Schiek and
10 Mr. Vetne tried to get at, and I'm trying to just do it
11 a slightly different way. And this is the underlying
12 question of looking at Table 6, which starts on page 18
13 and goes over to 19, and I'm going to try to fold it up
14 here so that I can get the headings correct. And -- but
15 I also want to compare it to your statement on pages 12
16 and 13 in Table 3.

17 And let me start with I think in response to a
18 question from Mr. Vetne, and I may -- it may have been
19 Dr. Schiek at the end -- that you did agree that as to
20 California, ignore the county data just for a moment,
21 I'm not saying it's not important, that as to
22 California, you would agree that the number of -- for
23 annual return on quota of 139,358,870 would match the
24 revenue stream less than a blend price available on
25 overbase, correct?

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. Okay. But then you indicated that
3 nonetheless, there would be county-to-county impacts
4 within that that wouldn't necessarily match up either to
5 zero, correct?

6 A. That is also correct.

7 Q. But you would agree that since mathematically
8 they all have to add up -- I take it that subject to
9 some rounding and -- and I assume all the counties are
10 included, that all the county data from Tulare -- I'm
11 now looking at Table 6 on pages 18 and 19 -- that the
12 county data below the 139,358,870 all add up to
13 139,358,870 subject to rounding errors?

14 A. That is correct.

15 Q. Okay.

16 JUDGE CLIFTON: I don't remember your
17 testimony that way. It -- isn't there also some quota
18 that's not in the counties that you have in this table?

19 THE WITNESS: No, this is inclusive,
20 Your Honor, of all quota.

21 JUDGE CLIFTON: Okay. All right.

22 MR. ENGLISH: And I think, Your Honor, you are
23 thinking about the top ten counties.

24 BY MR. ENGLISH:

25 Q. But just to be clear, Mr. Hatamiya, this

1 actually does include all the counties because some of
2 them have been combined, but otherwise all the counties
3 are included, correct?

4 A. That -- that is correct, Mr. English.

5 JUDGE CLIFTON: All right.

6 THE WITNESS: That's right.

7 JUDGE CLIFTON: Good. Thank you.

8 MR. ENGLISH: Thank you, Your Honor.

9 BY MR. ENGLISH:

10 Q. All right. So let me just look at Tulare for
11 a moment, and -- and I'm actually -- I'm going to ask --
12 I'm not going to ask you to run the math, I'm not going
13 to hand you to calculator and ask you to do it, I'm just
14 going to sort of run through the theory of what one
15 would do if I was interested in looking at, for the
16 County of Tulare, what the difference between a state
17 blend and overbase would be relative to your annual
18 return on quota. Okay? All right. You're nodding yes.

19 A. Yes. Yes.

20 Q. Okay. Thank you.

21 So looking at page 12 for a moment for the
22 month of January 2015, you show 417,068.87 pounds of
23 quota SNF, correct?

24 A. That's correct.

25 Q. Okay. And on page 13, you've got these

1 percentages for San Diego, Marin, Riverside, Sonoma,
2 which are well above 50%, and then you've got some
3 counties below 50, and that's Tulare. Was this 14.8%
4 for Tulare also for January of 2015?

5 A. No. That was for -- yeah, I guess it was for
6 20 -- 2015, that's correct.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. It was, yes.

9 Q. So it -- it's apples to apples?

10 A. It's apples to apples, that's correct.

11 Q. Or skim milk to skim milk or cream to cream?

12 A. Cream to cream, that's right.

13 Q. So if you were to divide the line on page 12
14 for Tulare Quote SNF for 400 -- divide 417,068.67 by
15 14.8% on page 13 --

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. -- you could calculate the total pounds of
18 SNF, correct?

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. And then if you do the total pounds SNF, you
21 could subtract from that the 417,068.87 to come up with
22 the overbase pounds?

23 A. I believe that's correct, yes.

24 Q. And then if you knew the blend price, the
25 state wide blend price for the month of January, you

1 could take that difference between the blend price and
2 the overbase price, and multiply that by the overbase
3 pounds that you calculated to find the number I was
4 trying to get, correct?

5 A. That's correct.

6 You are a mathematician as well, Mr. English.

7 Q. Not an economist. Accounting.

8 All right. And that's all I have. Thank you.

9 CROSS-EXAMINATION

10 BY MS. HANCOCK:

11 Q. Nicole Hancock for the California Producer
12 Handlers Association and Ponderosa Dairy.

13 Mr. Hatamiya, in your analysis in Exhibit 54,
14 your state -- prepared statement, it says that you
15 conducted an independent and objective economic analysis
16 of the dairy industry to the state of California and to
17 examine the economic value of California's dairy quota
18 program. That's what you've done here in this report?

19 A. Yes, that's correct.

20 Q. And did you evaluate any of the exempt quota?

21 A. I did not.

22 Q. Okay. So when you report on the volumes of
23 quota that are contained in your report, it wouldn't
24 include any of the exempt quota in those calculations?

25 A. That -- that is correct unless some of those

1 producers also had quota that was included among the
2 number provided to me by CDFA.

3 Q. Okay. So if they were holding regular quota,
4 it would have been included, but the exempt quota was
5 not included?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. Okay. Would you agree with me that many of
8 the conclusions in your report would also apply to
9 exempt quota?

10 A. Yes. Without knowing the full volume of
11 exempt quota, I would agree that depending upon where
12 that's held in the state that -- that -- that certainly
13 could be true.

14 Q. Okay. Are you familiar with how exempt quota
15 works under the California state order system?

16 A. No, not familiar.

17 Q. Okay. You were here for Dr. Erba' testimony
18 on Friday?

19 A. I was.

20 Q. Did you hear my cross-examination of him?

21 A. I -- I did.

22 Q. Okay. And in that examination, I asked him
23 some questions about how regular quota -- how he
24 considered regular quota to be valuable under the
25 California state order system. Did you hear that

1 discussion?

2 A. I believe I did.

3 Q. And if I'm understanding your testimony
4 correctly, I think that it's consistent with what
5 Dr. Erba said, that there is for regular quota a value
6 that is attributed to the premium -- premium pricing
7 that's received if you hold regular quota, that's one of
8 the -- the values; is that right?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. And another one of the values would be the --
11 the transferability valuation, the 525 is where it's
12 priced at today?

13 A. That's also correct, right.

14 Q. And then for exempt quota, he said that there
15 was actually an additional layer of economic value
16 because it's -- it's quota that was not subjected to the
17 pool. Did you hear that?

18 A. I do recall that, yes.

19 Q. Okay. If -- if there were -- if there was
20 exempt quota that would not be subjected to the pool,
21 would you agree that that would still hold an additional
22 layer of value as Dr. Erba testified?

23 A. I believe so, yes.

24 Q. And on page 6 of your report, on Exhibit 54,
25 the very last complete sentence says, "In fact,

1 paramount to any consideration of a California Federal
2 Milk Marketing Order, FMMO, was the assurance that the
3 quota program would not in any way be diminished or
4 affected." Do you see that?

5 A. I do.

6 Q. Do you understand that the exempt quota is
7 part of that quota program?

8 A. I don't have a full understanding of that, no.

9 Q. Okay. And that's why you haven't included it
10 in --

11 A. That --

12 Q. -- this?

13 A. That's correct.

14 Q. I'm going to turn to page 10 of Exhibit 54,
15 your statement. And you're talking about some
16 "Characterizations of Dairy Quota Holdings by Dairy
17 Farmers in California" under Section 3. And just so I
18 can -- in sum you're, talking about that quota owners in
19 California consider their quota to be an invaluable
20 asset because it gives them the ability to met their
21 cash flow and increasing -- meet cash flow requirements
22 and increasing costs of operation and some additional
23 pressures such as feed, labor, energy, water. Do you
24 see that?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Would you agree with me that if -- if -- if a
2 producer was not allowed to participate in the quota
3 system but was forced to receive only the blend price
4 for shipping milk into California, that they would
5 suffer a disproportionate effect on being able to
6 satisfied those increase pressures that you mentioned
7 here on page 10?

8 A. I'm not -- you know, again, it's a
9 hypothetical, I'm not certain about the cost, so if it's
10 a disproportionate share, I'm not certain. They
11 certainly would have, you know, would have to deal with
12 that added cost, but a disproportionate share, I'm not
13 sure I can characterize it that way.

14 Q. Okay. That's -- that's fair. I wasn't trying
15 to give you a loaded term in there.

16 A. No, right. I just don't have the numbers in
17 front of me to make that determination.

18 Q. That's fair. Let me say it a little bit
19 differently.

20 Are you -- is it fair to say that what you're
21 saying in subsection 3a and b is that the ability to
22 participate in the quota program gives the producers an
23 opportunity to help offset some of the increasing
24 challenges that they face under the current market
25 conditions, such as increasing feed, labor, energy,

1 water costs, cash flow needs, and costs, overall costs
2 of operations?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Okay.

5 JUDGE CLIFTON: Mr. Hatamiya -- Hatamiya, will
6 you please define for me "ability" as used in that
7 statement.

8 THE WITNESS: Ms. Hancock's --

9 JUDGE CLIFTON: "Ability to participate." Are
10 you talking about participation or are you talking about
11 an ability to participate? And if you're talking about
12 ability, how do you define it?

13 THE WITNESS: That's a very good question,
14 Your Honor. I would define it as quota ownership or the
15 potential to own quota. Because, again, as you look at
16 my characterization, this is based upon quota ownership
17 and investment in that quota.

18 BY MS. HANCOCK:

19 Q. Thank you for that clarification.

20 And just to be clear, so when you -- when I
21 say ability to participate, I'm -- you're also talking
22 about non-quota holders that have the opportunity to
23 purchase or acquire quote -- quota, correct?

24 A. That's correct, yes.

25 Q. So even if they're not a quota holder today,

1 just having the ability to purchase that quota is what
2 gives them an advantage to address some of the increased
3 pressures in -- in the market today?

4 A. If in fact they can buy the quota at some
5 future date, that's right.

6 Q. And then the corollary to that would be true
7 as well, that if they could not purchase that additional
8 quota but if the quota system remained in place, they
9 wouldn't have that opportunity to meet some of those
10 rising needs?

11 A. That's correct. To some extent, again, based
12 upon the different factors we just talked about before,
13 I don't have it all in front of me, but absolutely that
14 would be part of that outcome.

15 Q. I want to turn to page 13 of Exhibit 54, your
16 statement. And I'm under subsect -- subsection C now,
17 the "Economic Value of Quota to the Dairy Farmer and the
18 Dairy Industry." And in there you stated, "I have
19 calculated the total economic value of quota by county
20 and area and the entire state as follows," and then you
21 go on to have your Table IV chart. Do you see where I'm
22 at?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Okay. Would you agree with me that there
25 are -- there are values of quota that you cannot

1 quantify?

2 A. Values of quota that you can't quantify. I
3 would potentially agree to that, that's right, in terms
4 of the value -- can you -- can you quantify the value
5 that quota brings to a farmer in its leverage with
6 lending institutions? Can you quantify that value in
7 its ability to -- to pay for inputs later on? That's a
8 very good question. No, you don't quantify it
9 completely there, that's right.

10 Q. So in addition to the values that you've
11 calculated, you would agree that there are additional
12 values that you cannot add into your chart here?

13 A. That's right, they may not be intangible
14 values, that's exactly right.

15 Q. And then on page 14, I've moved over now,
16 you -- you have a concluding sentence that says, "By any
17 measure, this is a substantial financial investment made
18 by California dairy farmers," and there was some
19 discussion about what investment was actually made.
20 Would you agree with me that when quota was initially
21 assigned to -- to producers, that it was assigned based
22 on their historical production of Class I milk or
23 their -- let me say that differently -- it was assigned
24 based on their historical sales of -- of Class I milk?

25 A. I believe that's correct.

1 Q. Okay. So would you agree that there -- I
2 thought you said something.

3 Would you agree that there was an investment
4 in their businesses back in the, let's say the 1960 to
5 1967 time period in which those producers had to create
6 markets for their Class I milk, create relationships,
7 create quality programs that allowed them to put in
8 place their historical numbers that was then used to
9 assign that quota?

10 A. I believe that's also true.

11 Q. And then the same would be true if exempt
12 quota was assigned based on their historical production
13 and sales of Class I milk, that that would be an
14 investment in their quota program that was recognized by
15 the assignment of their quota numbers?

16 A. I would also presume that would be true, yes.

17 Q. Would you agree, then, if there were
18 restrictions for the exempt quota holders on the fact
19 that they could not transfer the exempt quota without it
20 being converted into regular quota, that that would be
21 an additional cost on them as -- as -- or an additional
22 investment that was required on those exempt holders in
23 order to preserve that exemption?

24 A. I believe that's a good characterization, yes.

25 Q. Okay. If you can turn to page 20 of your

1 report, Exhibit 54, and I'm under subsection B where
2 you're talking about if a Federal Milk Marketing Order
3 were put in place in -- in California, it's in your
4 concluding comments that you submit your following
5 observations on the potential impact of this changing
6 the quota program. Under subsection 1 there, you state,
7 "To the extent that the Federal" -- or let me say that
8 different. "To the extent that the FMMO maintains the
9 current quota system and recognizes its full value as
10 directed by Congressional language, dairy quota
11 ownership continues to have the same significant and
12 positive role in the California dairy farm economy." Do
13 you see that?

14 A. Yes.

15 MR. ENGLISH: Objection. Just to be keep the
16 record clear, same objection.

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: Yes. The objection is noted,
18 Mr. English. Thank you.

19 MR. ENGLISH: Thank you.

20 BY MS. HANCOCK:

21 Q. Would you agree with me that exempt quota
22 having an investment characteristic and a value
23 characteristic above and beyond that of regular quota,
24 that your conclusion that you draw here would equally
25 apply to the exempt quota as well?

1 A. I believe that's -- would be true, yes.

2 Q. And if we turn to page 21, subsection 2 there
3 at the top of the page, "Any tinkering with the quota
4 terms" -- I think that's a first time I've ever said
5 that into a record before, by the way -- "Any tinkering
6 with the quota terms will create regulatory uncertainty
7 which will diminish the economic value of quota, thereby
8 eroding the invaluable financial investments that dairy
9 farmers across the state have previously made." Do you
10 see that?

11 A. Yes, I do.

12 Q. Would you agree with me that with the
13 investment and the value for exempt quota, that this
14 conclusion would equally apply to any tinkering with the
15 exempt quota as well?

16 A. I believe it would.

17 Q. Okay. And then the same for number 3 there
18 where you talk about threatening the value of quota or
19 directly -- directly diminishing its value would
20 materially be disruptive to the individual quota holders
21 and the producer side of the industry more broadly,
22 would you agree that that conclusion would equally apply
23 to exempt quota holders as well?

24 A. Yes, I believe that's true.

25 Q. Okay. So if turn it page 23 of your report,

1 Exhibit 54, under section B there, "The Cooperative's
2 Proposal fully honors authorizing Congressional
3 legislation to recognize quota value."

4 MR. ENGLISH: I have to get up and make --
5 repeat my objection, Your Honor, so it's not waived.

6 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you, Mr. English.

7 He could have a standing objection, but I
8 actually think it's more useful if he interjects at the
9 point in the record where the objectionable language is
10 found, so I appreciate it.

11 MR. ENGLISH: And I appreciate the offer
12 standing, but I think given the nature of my significant
13 concerns about this being anywhere in the statement, I'm
14 going to make it every single time.

15 JUDGE CLIFTON: But to the extent he may have
16 missed one --

17 MR. ENGLISH: It stands.

18 JUDGE CLIFTON: He's entitled to a standing
19 objection.

20 MR. ENGLISH: I'm standing.

21 MR. HANCOCK: I would like the same concession
22 made if I've missed an objection somewhere along the
23 way.

24 BY MS. HANCOCK:

25 Q. So with Mr. English's objection, I'm under

1 subsection B there on page 23 of Exhibit 54.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Would you agree with me, then, in the -- the
4 same justifications that are used to conclude that the
5 Cooperative's proposal that the quota program be left
6 enact without significant modifications and continue to
7 be administered by the CDFA through a memorandum of
8 understanding, the same conclusion would, then, apply to
9 the exempt quota as well?

10 A. I believe that would be so.

11 Q. Okay. And then under the last paragraph you
12 mention maintaining the status quo in the California
13 dairy quota program. Same question, that that would,
14 again, apply to the preserving of the status quo of the
15 exempt quota program as well?

16 A. That --

17 MR. ENGLISH: And, again, maintaining that
18 quote in middle in the phrase that we object as being
19 included, Your Honor, so we object.

20 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you. Your objection is
21 noted.

22 THE WITNESS: That would be yes.

23 BY MS. HANCOCK:

24 Q. Okay. And then lastly on the last page, 24,
25 of your report, Exhibit 54, your final conclusions and

1 recommendations with respect to "quota ownership as an
2 invaluable, liquid asset that is a long-term financial
3 investment in the viability of the California dairy
4 industry," would you agree with me that that would
5 equally apply to the exempt quota treatment as well?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Thank you. I have no further questions.

8 JUDGE CLIFTON: Thank you, Mr. Hancock.

9 Because it is one minute to 5:00, I'm hoping
10 there's no more cross-examination. Am I correct?

11 There's no more cross-examination.

12 Ah, Mr. Francis.

13 CROSS-EXAMINATION

14 BY MR. FRANCIS:

15 Q. Will -- Will Francis, USDA.

16 Hopefully this will be quick, but I want to
17 clarify Exhibit 55.

18 A. Yes, sir.

19 Q. And Dr. Schiek tried to walk through an
20 example, and I think the math is going to be pretty
21 simple, so I -- I want to followup on that, and
22 hopefully it won't take long.

23 So your example shows four farmers that are
24 opting out of the quota pool, but he wanted to know
25 what's the impact if those four farmers despite it may

1 not be rational economically remain in the pool. So if
2 you take that \$40 and put it back into the quota pool --

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. -- the green box?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. You keep \$100. And the quota payments don't
7 change, I believe?

8 A. I believe they stay all the time, that's
9 correct, the folks with quota.

10 Q. So you end up with \$100 minus \$7.24, or you
11 can just add the \$40 to the 52.76?

12 A. That's what I was trying to do quickly, and I
13 wasn't able to get --

14 Q. And you get \$92.76, and because made it easy
15 for us, you've got ten participants --

16 A. Ten divided by ten.

17 Q. -- in the pool.

18 A. Right.

19 Q. So the resulting per hundredweight price would
20 be nine dollars 27.6 cents?

21 A. That's correct.

22 Q. Okay. And then we can follow through the
23 math?

24 A. Right.

25 Q. Okay. That's all I have. Thank you.

1 JUDGE CLIFTON: No wonder he gets paid the big
2 bucks. Thank you, Mr. Francis. That's helpful.

3 THE WITNESS: I thought she was talking to
4 you.

5 JUDGE CLIFTON: No, I met Mr. Francis.

6 All right. Ms. Oliver Thompson, do you have
7 any redirect?

8 MS. OLIVER THOMPSON: No, I do not.

9 JUDGE CLIFTON: He did all right by himself,
10 didn't he, Mr. Hatamiya.

11 Mr. Hatamiya, I thank you so much. You've
12 practical -- practically been roasted in this witness
13 seat, and this is the first time I've had the
14 opportunity to meet you, and it's been a pleasure.

15 THE WITNESS: Your Honor, thank you very much.
16 It's been my pleasure as well. Thank you.

17 JUDGE CLIFTON: You may step down.

18 All right. I will see you all in the
19 Independence Room.

20 MS. MAY: Yes.

21 JUDGE CLIFTON: Independence Room tomorrow
22 morning. You can come as early as 8:00. We'll go on
23 record at 9:00. We now go off record.

24 (Whereupon the proceedings recessed
25 at 5:01 p.m.)

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State of California)
County of Fresno) ss.

I, SHELLY A. DAVIS, a Certified Shorthand Reporter of the State of California, do hereby certify that the within transcript contains a full, true, and accurate record of the proceedings had in the matter and on the date as stated on the first page hereof, and that the said proceedings were taken in shorthand by myself, a Certified Shorthand Reporter, and under my direction transcribed into the foregoing typewritten transcript.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have subscribed my name on October 19, 2015.

Shelly A Davis
SHELLY A. DAVIS, C.S.R. 8947, RPR

	2202:5;2218:20; 2219:7;2241:4; 2325:20,22;2378:7, 8,12	2195:10;2227:3; 2228:3	accounting (8) 2247:10,25; 2248:4;2266:3; 2294:23;2381:11,21; 2395:7	2238:2;2272:15; 2273:7;2281:8; 2282:14;2327:7; 2356:7,7,8;2386:18; 2387:1;2388:18; 2392:8,12;2402:12; 2409:11
#		a2 (3) 2194:16;2195:11; 2227:4	accurate (3) 2214:20;2217:18; 2331:7	added (13) 2246:10;2260:4; 2266:7,16;2272:1, 11;2281:19;2356:4; 2360:13;2362:4,5, 12;2399:12
#10 (1) 2311:11	\$2 (3) 2272:11;2273:11, 13	abandoning (1) 2334:22	achieve (3) 2247:9;2381:10, 20	addition (8) 2189:14;2236:14; 2238:4;2272:12; 2278:15;2353:17; 2355:11;2402:10
\$	\$2.26 (1) 2240:18	ability (16) 2211:23;2246:17; 2284:14;2326:20; 2335:17;2354:18; 2355:11;2398:20; 2399:21;2400:6,9, 11,12,21;2401:1; 2402:7	acknowledge (3) 2165:4;2320:4,8	additional (24) 2166:4,21; 2169:24;2174:21,22; 2175:22;2189:17; 2203:15;2241:13; 2251:17;2265:21,22; 2270:20;2273:10,18; 2305:19;2353:21; 2397:15,21;2398:22; 2401:7;2402:11; 2403:21,21
\$03 (1) 2262:6	\$2.3 (1) 2235:7	able (8) 2254:18;2255:22; 2258:18;2372:7,13, 15;2399:5;2409:13	acquire (1) 2400:23	additionally (2) 2261:9;2267:12
\$1.06 (1) 2240:18	\$20 (1) 2351:2	above (6) 2240:19;2241:4; 2243:24;2284:1; 2394:2;2404:23	acquired (2) 2217:8;2238:20	additions (1) 2376:1
\$1.1 (1) 2273:12	\$220 (1) 2260:22	absolute (2) 2363:10,11	across (27) 2243:20;2247:18; 2248:1;2250:23; 2251:20;2252:7; 2253:5,22,23; 2254:17;2259:13; 2263:1,3,7,15; 2271:19;2272:14,19; 2275:6;2286:1; 2298:16;2324:11; 2338:9;2358:4; 2377:23;2381:24; 2405:9	additive (1) 2271:3
\$1.16 (3) 2275:12;2284:16; 2286:2	\$27 (1) 2241:7	absolutely (6) 2196:18;2234:22; 2298:23;2302:10; 2357:14;2401:13	act (5) 2179:19;2239:8; 2246:3,5;2264:2	address (9) 2164:4;2188:14; 2192:16;2228:18; 2244:13;2290:21; 2306:15;2385:20; 2401:2
\$1.164 (1) 2243:18	\$278,901,240 (2) 2270:19;2271:22	abundance (1) 2249:22	action (1) 2275:9	addressed (3) 2172:23;2197:9; 2211:19
\$1.3 (1) 2236:15	\$292,792.50 (1) 2260:9	academic (2) 2238:4;2296:2	active (1) 2178:23	adds (1) 2273:17
\$1.45 (2) 2281:10,11	\$34 (1) 2273:9	accept (6) 2166:15;2305:13; 2332:13,16;2333:20; 2357:22	activities (1) 2223:10	adequate (1) 2349:19
\$1.53 (4) 2281:9,9;2282:9, 23	\$350 (1) 2375:10	acceptable (9) 2171:25;2172:14, 21;2173:5,7; 2214:12,15,16,17	activity (1) 2297:9	Adjunct (1) 2238:5
\$1.70 (18) 2200:22;2201:1, 13,24,24;2202:4; 2218:15;2219:6; 2240:15,20;2241:1; 2281:5,7,9,11; 2282:8,23;2330:3	\$36 (1) 2260:25	accepted (3) 2174:17;2311:18; 2319:24	actual (5) 2186:25;2241:5; 2256:25;2325:7; 2327:18	adjusted (6) 2182:8;2208:22; 2210:1;2218:24; 2240:22;2241:6
\$10 (15) 2280:16;2281:24; 2282:2,20;2283:5; 2328:10,11;2329:5, 24;2330:11,18; 2331:1,7,7,11	\$39 (1) 2378:13	accepting (1) 2305:10	actually (25) 2170:22;2171:21; 2186:25;2199:17,22; 2201:2;2202:1,5; 2209:15;2211:4; 2213:25;2225:24; 2269:11;2288:21; 2307:23;2308:6; 2324:20;2336:22; 2359:14;2378:20; 2393:1,11;2397:15; 2402:19;2406:8	adjuster (1) 2202:10
\$10,000 (1) 2375:16	\$40 (5) 2281:3;2282:5,11; 2409:2,11	access (3) 2165:6;2278:21; 2284:13	Adair (1) 2247:11	Adjusters (10) 2189:16;2200:25; 2218:12,25;2219:24; 2220:22;2240:23; 2261:10;2264:16;
\$10.07 (1) 2281:23	\$43 (2) 2330:2,7	accommodate (3) 2188:21;2191:2; 2217:23	Adams (1) 2247:13	
\$100 (5) 2280:14;2281:4; 2328:8;2409:6,10	\$52.76 (1) 2281:15	accomplished (2) 2264:14;2265:3	add (18) 2205:10;2230:6;	
\$11 (1) 2272:7	\$525 (5) 2243:12;2260:1, 16;2366:13,19	accorded (1) 2308:17		
\$112,800 (1) 2273:20	\$56.2 (1) 2235:23	according (3) 2216:14;2246:17; 2326:20		
\$135,358,870 (1) 2337:9	\$60 (4) 2281:4,14;2282:5; 2330:5	account (2) 2217:25;2372:2		
\$139,329,759.23 (1) 2262:14	\$7.24 (2) 2281:13;2409:10	accounted (2) 2247:8;2248:2		
\$139,358,870 (1) 2271:19	\$8.51 (1) 2282:13			
\$139.3 (1) 2263:2	\$9.3 (1) 2236:9			
\$16.7 (1) 2272:2	\$92.76 (1) 2409:14			
\$178 (1) 2260:23	\$985,531 (1) 2260:7			
\$195 (9)	a1 (3)			

<p>2265:5 adjustment (5) 2202:11;2218:17; 2220:4,4;2246:3 administer (2) 2201:19;2224:18 administered (3) 2276:23;2285:20; 2407:7 administering (1) 2199:6 administration (5) 2189:1,10; 2210:16;2238:14; 2293:21 Administrative (9) 2160:10;2216:6; 2223:16;2296:14; 2310:25;2318:14,24; 2319:8,14 administratively (1) 2218:19 Administrator (52) 2161:2;2178:16, 20,21;2179:17,22; 2180:3,14,15; 2181:10,16,22,25; 2182:5,10,10; 2184:1,12,15,20; 2185:1,22;2187:7, 12,15,16;2188:24; 2192:15;2194:3; 2204:12,15;2205:8, 10;2206:1,5; 2207:15;2209:16,20; 2211:16,20;2212:14; 2213:24;2224:5; 2228:18;2236:22; 2237:2;2287:22,22; 2297:19,24;2302:18; 2303:20 Administrator's (4) 2178:2;2190:25; 2204:8;2205:12 admissible (2) 2314:21,24 admission (3) 2305:17,25; 2306:8 admitted (6) 2306:2,3,10,11; 2307:7;2314:4 adopted (2) 2208:10;2217:16 adopting (1) 2239:7 adoption (1) 2239:14 Advancement (1) 2238:12 advantage (1) 2401:2 advisory (4)</p>	<p>2184:20;2231:25; 2232:5;2234:9 Affairs (1) 2238:8 affect (3) 2321:18;2322:20; 2325:4 affected (2) 2244:7;2398:4 affecting (1) 2322:23 affects (3) 2249:16;2356:10, 11 affidavits (1) 2309:8 affirm (1) 2230:20 affirmatively (1) 2186:17 afternoon (3) 2292:23,24; 2320:15 afterwards (2) 2233:15;2245:2 Ag (6) 2229:11;2294:16; 2295:10,10;2298:3; 2304:12 again (129) 2165:14;2168:1, 13;2172:5;2175:6; 2181:23;2183:11; 2197:12;2199:23; 2200:6;2201:1,20, 22;2206:13;2207:2, 12,19,21;2208:18; 2219:9;2221:22; 2226:1,2;2229:3; 2232:4;2234:7; 2235:17,24;2236:11; 2240:11;2241:10; 2243:14;2247:11; 2252:14,20;2253:1, 25;2254:23;2255:19, 24;2256:7;2257:18, 20;2258:10;2259:20, 22;2260:2;2261:6, 24;2262:6,14; 2264:18,25;2265:1, 5;2268:2,5,21; 2269:12,14,20; 2270:10,17;2271:5; 2273:4,7;2274:14, 18;2275:16,19; 2276:8,14,14; 2278:10;2280:11,23; 2281:10;2282:7,22; 2283:2;2284:4; 2285:9;2286:5; 2295:5,7,24; 2300:23;2314:20; 2315:19;2326:11;</p>	<p>2330:1;2331:10; 2332:22;2333:25; 2335:25;2338:25; 2343:2,3;2345:16, 18,22;2348:16,17; 2349:4,15;2354:2, 17;2355:9;2357:21; 2358:17;2359:15; 2362:2,14;2366:1,9; 2367:6,6,6;2372:18; 2373:12;2374:10,25; 2377:22;2379:22; 2399:8;2400:15; 2401:11;2407:14,17 against (1) 2277:11 agencies (1) 2204:20 agency (9) 2205:20;2217:15, 22;2237:5;2287:25; 2298:10,13;2299:4; 2307:17 aggie-con (2) 2294:8,9 aggregate (12) 2180:6;2181:20; 2182:2;2243:16; 2342:23;2343:6,21; 2345:1;2355:20; 2356:4,21;2379:22 aggregated (1) 2181:24 agree (49) 2173:10;2188:22; 2321:9;2326:25; 2327:15,16;2332:17; 2333:5;2342:23; 2344:1;2346:11; 2349:22,23;2350:4; 2356:20;2363:3; 2365:2;2366:6,11, 17;2367:10;2368:1, 9,11;2369:14; 2372:21;2374:7; 2378:13;2383:21; 2387:14;2391:19,22; 2392:7;2396:7,11; 2397:21;2399:1; 2401:24;2402:3,11, 20;2403:1,3,17; 2404:21;2405:12,22; 2407:3;2408:4 agreed (3) 2172:21;2173:6; 2346:10 Agreement (6) 2246:5;2359:18; 2385:8,12;2386:12; 2387:25 Agreements (1) 2164:7 agrees (1)</p>	<p>2196:2 Agricultural (23) 2160:23;2161:4, 14;2200:13; 2201:13;2235:2,21; 2236:8,17,22; 2237:2;2239:9; 2246:3,5;2275:22; 2276:12;2286:22; 2287:23;2294:6; 2297:19;2304:9,11; 2316:17 Agriculture (43) 2160:20,23; 2164:9,16;2167:5; 2178:15;2179:18; 2184:17;2199:16; 2201:7,16;2204:10; 2207:11;2223:4; 2229:9;2236:23; 2237:15,19;2238:22; 2239:11;2240:3; 2252:16;2255:21; 2261:12;2264:20; 2276:12;2285:21,22; 2287:14,18;2288:7, 14;2291:16;2298:19, 21,22,23,24; 2300:10,11;2305:11, 14;2306:21 Aguilar (1) 2311:10 A-G-U-I-L-A-R (1) 2311:10 Ah (3) 2227:19;2256:22; 2408:12 ahead (11) 2171:10;2177:12, 13;2181:10;2229:7; 2233:4,13,25; 2235:20;2243:7; 2260:13 aid (1) 2307:13 akin (1) 2316:15 alert (1) 2386:17 alive (1) 2383:13 allocated (6) 2239:17;2256:11, 12;2323:20,23; 2367:14 allocation (2) 2239:22;2241:14 allow (9) 2245:21;2285:9; 2296:16;2312:17; 2316:9,13;2318:16, 25;2371:24 allowances (1)</p>	<p>2209:15 allowed (5) 2251:22;2287:3; 2319:22;2399:2; 2403:7 allows (5) 2217:22;2360:8, 11,11,12 almost (5) 2259:3;2298:4,6; 2338:15;2376:3 alone (4) 2271:21,24,25; 2308:12 along (5) 2164:18;2256:25; 2303:16;2341:13; 2406:22 alternative (4) 2192:1,10; 2228:15;2237:20 although (11) 2184:19;2198:19, 19;2211:16; 2215:17;2222:1; 2223:21;2242:12; 2259:3;2276:24; 2288:9 always (6) 2189:22;2240:15; 2250:11;2294:15; 2342:4;2365:12 amenable (1) 2169:4 amend (1) 2220:21 amended (2) 2194:12;2225:21 amending (1) 2169:4 amendment (1) 2218:21 amendments (1) 2246:5 America (4) 2162:1;2234:11; 2247:20;2285:2 American (2) 2264:2;2310:8 among (9) 2169:7;2240:21; 2242:25;2249:10; 2303:2;2312:6; 2384:1,2;2396:1 amount (20) 2195:16;2239:21; 2246:23;2254:5; 2258:3,20,20; 2259:24;2324:19; 2325:10;2343:13; 2344:20;2348:13; 2352:12,18;2368:17; 2377:20;2378:9;</p>
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<p>2379:24;2380:5 amounts (5) 2178:24;2239:19, 20;2277:16;2355:15 Amper (1) 2311:18 AMS (15) 2161:16;2165:10; 2278:23;2280:11; 2283:2,3;2284:4; 2287:22;2297:24; 2302:18,23;2303:13, 18,20;2319:25 AMS' (4) 2276:7;2278:10, 20;2283:20 AMS's (1) 2329:12 Anaheim (2) 2299:25;2300:1 analysis (74) 2232:4,18; 2233:20;2234:14; 2235:12;2236:21; 2238:23;2254:14; 2263:17,17,24; 2264:11,21;2265:8, 15;2266:22;2274:3, 19;2275:17,20,21, 23;2276:8,10; 2277:7,10,24; 2278:7,16,17,20; 2279:25;2280:12; 2283:20;2284:3,4; 2286:23;2287:13; 2288:7,13;2291:16; 2299:15;2304:9; 2305:10,14;2326:7, 14;2329:12; 2331:16;2332:5,18; 2333:11,24;2334:11, 13;2335:7;2346:17, 24;2349:5;2354:15, 15;2359:3,3; 2360:25;2369:12; 2371:2;2374:16; 2376:7,9;2379:12; 2381:4;2390:2; 2395:13,15 Analyst (2) 2293:8,11 analyze (3) 2181:19;2309:2; 2380:20 analyzed (3) 2267:13;2344:17; 2351:15 analyzing (5) 2237:12;2264:14; 2265:3;2334:1; 2362:11 and/or (5) 2178:23;2205:17;</p>	<p>2248:10;2263:21; 2317:13 Anderson (1) 2238:14 Andrew (1) 2348:18 anecdotal (1) 2324:11 Angeles (4) 2220:14,16,21; 2299:25 Angeles-Santa (2) 2257:5;2258:13 annexed (1) 2249:24 announce (4) 2164:16;2180:9; 2182:6;2206:1 announced (4) 2182:9;2240:17, 22;2241:3 announcement (3) 2180:9,11; 2193:21 annual (28) 2240:19;2261:14, 21;2262:24,25; 2263:2;2265:14; 2268:3,25;2269:16, 23;2270:17; 2271:18;2272:17,25; 2273:1,7,8;2287:5; 2338:22;2361:10; 2377:23;2378:1,10, 20,22;2391:23; 2393:17 annually (1) 2265:20 annuity (6) 2368:16,19; 2369:13,23;2370:5, 10 answered (1) 2303:17 anticipate (1) 2216:2 anti-sports (1) 2349:11 apart (1) 2210:20 apologize (8) 2269:8;2301:18; 2336:24;2339:18,21, 24;2365:10;2377:22 appear (6) 2229:11;2283:14; 2299:17;2303:2; 2365:17;2386:25 appearances (1) 2160:17 appeared (3) 2299:23;2301:25; 2302:16</p>	<p>appears (2) 2227:8;2229:20 apples (6) 2355:23;2356:2; 2394:9,9,10,10 applicable (3) 2179:3,5;2309:15 application (1) 2209:9 applied (2) 2317:16;2318:7 applies (2) 2218:23;2219:7 apply (15) 2209:21;2218:15; 2221:2,3;2311:20; 2317:22;2349:7,7; 2396:8;2404:25; 2405:14,22;2407:8, 14;2408:5 applying (2) 2178:25;2265:6 appointed (2) 2297:18;2298:9 appreciate (6) 2291:12;2316:7; 2364:24;2388:25; 2406:10,11 approach (7) 2166:2;2250:1; 2286:19;2290:2; 2336:1;2379:9; 2381:8 approaching (1) 2165:3 appropriate (8) 2175:10;2226:17; 2237:21;2265:7; 2306:22,23;2325:6; 2334:4 appropriately (3) 2247:1;2262:25; 2306:22 approval (1) 2246:1 approved (2) 2198:24;2219:25 approximate (1) 2255:12 approximately (10) 2165:9;2254:13, 18;2255:1;2260:17; 2272:20;2273:6,17; 2299:19;2300:19 April (1) 2235:19 Arabic (2) 2240:9,11 Area (6) 2161:15;2219:6; 2261:15;2287:17; 2309:18;2401:20 areas (6)</p>	<p>2228:6;2258:8; 2288:1;2295:8,22,23 arguably (1) 2236:3 argue (2) 2245:8;2285:9 argument (6) 2244:13;2245:10; 2306:17;2322:13; 2349:6;2358:1 argumentative (1) 2364:22 arguments (1) 2309:3 Arizona (2) 2161:12;2390:4 arose (1) 2386:23 around (8) 2181:9;2205:15; 2206:24;2217:7; 2222:4;2290:9; 2348:2;2358:13 arrive (1) 2207:17 article (5) 2249:23;2347:10, 21;2349:9;2350:16 Arts (2) 2294:2,21 Ashley (1) 2162:20 A-S-H-L-E-Y (1) 2162:20 Aside (1) 2370:21 aspect (3) 2211:17;2364:17; 2371:20 aspects (1) 2210:18 assemble (1) 2161:22 asserts (1) 2360:17 assess (1) 2216:7 Asset (40) 2234:6;2241:18; 2243:18;2246:17; 2247:2;2248:8,24; 2249:8,14,20; 2250:12,16,25; 2260:22;2284:12; 2286:25;2320:19; 2322:13;2325:7; 2326:20,24;2327:11; 2334:19;2335:13,15, 16,20,21,22;2360:7, 18,21;2370:3,8; 2372:12;2373:7,7; 2383:13;2398:20; 2408:2</p>	<p>assets (4) 2248:10,10,11; 2251:11 assign (1) 2403:9 assigned (6) 2160:10;2241:2; 2402:21,21,23; 2403:12 assignment (1) 2403:15 assist (2) 2200:10;2297:2 Assistant (1) 2161:1 assisted (1) 2289:22 assisting (1) 2299:16 associated (5) 2168:8;2200:24; 2264:5;2265:18; 2266:17 Associates (1) 2297:5 Association (6) 2163:13,17; 2195:5;2226:25; 2227:6;2395:12 associations (8) 2194:16;2216:18, 23;2217:2;2226:7; 2376:15,25;2387:5 assume (7) 2208:9;2220:12; 2330:8,15;2376:14; 2390:2;2392:9 assumed (1) 2353:18 assumes (2) 2277:10;2341:21 assuming (3) 2202:19;2281:5; 2391:2 assumption (1) 2223:2 assurance (2) 2244:6;2398:2 assured (9) 2247:3;2249:12; 2250:18;2251:3,14; 2255:11;2373:8,9,10 attached (8) 2232:15;2238:16, 17;2280:2;2287:15; 2293:1,16;2334:18 attempt (4) 2175:21;2224:11; 2314:24;2316:1 attempts (2) 2307:10,14 attend (1) 2294:17</p>
--	--	--	---	---

<p>attended (2) 2302:12;2389:10 attention (1) 2381:14 attorney (4) 2162:9;2293:7; 2296:7;2372:7 attorneys (1) 2199:25 attractive (1) 2323:11 attribute (1) 2336:24 attributed (1) 2397:6 attributing (1) 2366:3 audience (1) 2165:1 audio (2) 2165:6;2166:6 audit (10) 2184:19;2211:3,5, 10,15;2213:4,18,24; 2214:1,2 auditing (4) 2189:12;2198:8; 2213:9,12 audits (6) 2184:12,13,17; 2211:21,23;2213:5 August (3) 2276:13;2313:23; 2375:6 auspices (3) 2201:16;2224:15, 16 authority (3) 2210:4,6;2309:19 authorizes (1) 2239:10 authorizing (4) 2284:22;2286:16; 2315:17;2406:2 authors (1) 2320:4 automatically (1) 2195:11 available (13) 2165:9,14; 2166:22;2207:6; 2255:20;2261:13; 2264:15,23;2265:4; 2328:21;2343:23; 2380:19;2391:24 average (13) 2240:19;2242:19, 21,22;2243:12; 2260:1,15;2321:5; 2331:8,9;2333:6; 2357:9;2363:14 avoid (3) 2168:8;2296:14;</p>	<p>2334:21 aware (12) 2226:4;2332:2; 2376:16,21,21,22, 24;2377:4,7,8; 2389:17,23 away (12) 2354:23,25; 2355:3,3,4,7,16; 2356:18;2357:19,23; 2358:12;2390:18</p> <p style="text-align: center;">B</p> <p>BA (2) 2287:19;2294:1 Bachelor (2) 2294:2,21 bachelor's (1) 2238:12 back (50) 2160:6,22; 2165:18,23;2166:20; 2167:11;2180:11; 2190:1,4;2193:12, 13;2196:16; 2197:18;2204:1,4; 2205:4;2208:19; 2211:9;2217:9; 2224:4;2227:23; 2238:18;2242:13; 2268:16,18;2288:5; 2292:11,13;2293:25; 2296:11,18;2297:2; 2298:8;2302:7; 2308:13;2321:13; 2331:10;2339:25; 2343:3;2348:20; 2356:13;2358:22,24; 2362:16;2367:14; 2377:24;2380:18; 2386:11;2403:4; 2409:2 backbone (1) 2236:4 background (4) 2232:10;2287:19; 2290:6;2303:11 backwards (1) 2262:16 bait (1) 2215:10 balance (5) 2248:5;2249:16; 2284:9;2334:19,22 bank (17) 2212:19;2235:19; 2247:15,16;2249:1, 2;2360:10;2371:16, 17,22,22,23;2372:2; 2373:2;2374:15,20, 24 banks (8)</p>	<p>2249:25;2250:2; 2334:20;2372:9,19; 2374:9;2382:7,9 bank's (1) 2249:16 bar (2) 2296:16;2307:1 Barbara (2) 2257:5;2258:13 bare (1) 2313:1 bars (1) 2348:2 base (15) 2239:17,19,23,24; 2240:6,15,21,25; 2241:4,8;2242:24; 2243:4;2272:16; 2323:7,24 based (30) 2187:8;2199:7; 2200:22;2208:11; 2239:17;2240:22; 2241:7;2242:1; 2243:12;2255:8; 2262:19;2267:10; 2274:2,18;2275:19; 2316:19;2318:16,25; 2319:22;2330:8; 2334:13;2335:9; 2341:5;2344:15; 2374:16;2400:16; 2401:11;2402:21,24; 2403:12 basic (1) 2326:22 basically (6) 2180:25;2221:24; 2222:3;2223:14; 2333:4;2361:8 basis (10) 2240:19;2241:16; 2248:6;2250:13; 2255:23;2262:18; 2332:3;2336:14; 2376:18;2378:10 basketball (1) 2350:24 bears (1) 2329:11 became (1) 2299:6 Becker (2) 2161:17,17 B-E-C-K-E-R (1) 2161:18 become (4) 2199:20;2258:4; 2296:16;2298:9 becomes (1) 2243:9 becoming (1) 2244:16</p>	<p>beer (1) 2347:23 begin (1) 2231:16 beginning (16) 2160:18;2164:15; 2176:10;2178:16,17; 2180:23;2240:13; 2276:22;2300:24,25; 2301:22,23;2323:20; 2367:20;2368:3; 2381:9 begins (1) 2200:15 behalf (3) 2170:6;2191:25; 2372:19 behind (2) 2235:20;2265:14 believes (1) 2220:19 below (7) 2192:7;2193:25; 2241:21;2254:17; 2282:2;2392:12; 2394:3 benefit (19) 2250:11;2267:1; 2340:11,23,25; 2345:2;2349:25; 2350:9;2359:6,19, 20,22;2360:1,17,19; 2379:11,13,16; 2380:3 benefited (1) 2346:24 benefits (9) 2175:5;2282:24; 2286:2;2345:21,24; 2350:8;2354:23,24; 2355:13 Bernardino (2) 2256:17,18 Beshore (10) 2161:24,24; 2230:12;2312:4; 2317:5,5;2318:9; 2343:4;2384:24; 2385:24 B-E-S-H-O-R-E (1) 2161:25 best (8) 2211:23;2246:13; 2247:5,8;2250:5,5,5; 2381:10 better (17) 2172:17;2175:23; 2206:16;2224:19; 2233:13;2249:19; 2251:18;2253:22; 2263:13;2283:5; 2328:4;2336:9; 2360:9;2373:1;</p>	<p>2374:19,21;2387:17 beyond (12) 2217:19;2307:11; 2309:12;2312:25; 2313:1,8;2354:5; 2390:9,12,14,22; 2404:23 BHP (3) 2297:5,6,10 big (4) 2276:15,17; 2312:5;2410:1 Bill (8) 2197:2;2222:25; 2245:19,23,24; 2312:15;2320:15; 2351:12 billing (1) 2187:13 billion (12) 2235:23;2236:9, 15;2243:18; 2259:23;2260:12,18; 2275:13;2284:16; 2286:2;2344:18; 2365:25 billionaire (1) 2364:3 biotechnology (2) 2237:20;2298:19 bit (4) 2198:8;2224:13; 2368:22;2399:18 black (7) 2289:6,8,23; 2290:1,23;2291:5,7 Blaufuss (3) 2163:2,2,3 B-L-A-U-F-U-S-S (1) 2163:3 blend (66) 2220:17,19; 2221:1;2240:25; 2277:8,11,12,14,15, 22,23;2278:3,6,8,9; 2280:14;2282:4,21; 2328:15,16,18,19, 20;2329:7,24; 2331:1,8,22,23; 2332:4,9;2333:7,14, 22;2334:6,9,10; 2336:10,18;2343:6, 9;2345:7;2348:22; 2353:9;2355:5; 2356:7,8;2357:6,20, 22;2363:2,8,15; 2368:1;2372:23; 2373:3,18;2374:2, 19;2389:21; 2391:24;2393:17; 2394:24,25;2395:1; 2399:3 boards (2)</p>
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<p>2217:5;2237:25 body (1) 2219:21 book (3) 2190:19;2224:7; 2226:11 booked (1) 2248:3 books (1) 2355:8 borrow (1) 2372:25 borrowing (2) 2249:18;2373:13 both (22) 2179:15;2204:20; 2215:16;2221:17; 2229:22;2243:19; 2287:13,18,19,21; 2288:7,14;2291:16; 2297:15;2302:23; 2305:11,14;2383:12; 2385:24,25,25; 2391:9 bottle (1) 2347:22 bottom (12) 2178:14;2210:3; 2256:14,17;2260:11; 2268:21;2283:12; 2314:16;2315:15; 2365:23;2381:10,14 bought (6) 2247:3;2251:10; 2252:9;2323:22; 2324:2;2367:6 box (2) 2334:3;2409:4 boy (1) 2216:22 brackets (1) 2164:6 branch (8) 2223:5,5;2229:19; 2241:21,23;2252:17; 2255:22;2264:21 Branch's (1) 2240:7 Brazil (1) 2235:20 break (15) 2189:17;2190:1,3; 2222:15;2262:17,19; 2268:10,13,17; 2269:6;2292:8,12; 2337:23;2358:16,23 breakdown (1) 2336:20 Brian (4) 2161:19;2168:1; 2228:21,21 B-R-I-A-N (1) 2161:19</p>	<p>Bridgett (3) 2162:3,5,9 B-R-I-D-G-E-T-T (1) 2162:5 briefly (2) 2239:5;2252:24 bring (3) 2197:9;2236:20; 2301:17 brings (2) 2224:2;2402:5 broadcasting (1) 2165:5 broadly (2) 2275:12;2405:21 Brodie (1) 2308:1 broke (1) 2259:24 broken (2) 2262:7,20 broker (1) 2324:1 brought (4) 2166:25;2324:12; 2345:24;2349:16 bubble (1) 2328:24 bucks (1) 2410:2 buildings (1) 2249:24 Bureau (1) 2235:12 Burkhart (1) 2309:18 B-U-R-K-H-A-R-T (1) 2309:18 business (17) 2191:1;2232:2,5; 2237:7;2238:14; 2247:15;2251:23; 2263:20;2287:3; 2293:20;2296:12; 2304:23;2355:7,17; 2357:22;2364:12,16 business' (1) 2264:3 businesses (2) 2298:16;2403:4 Butte (1) 2237:10 butter (1) 2218:1 buy (3) 2323:6,6;2401:4 buyer (2) 2246:22,22 buyers (1) 2242:17 Buying (4) 2251:17;2266:13; 2323:10,11</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">C</p> <p>cake (1) 2289:7 calculate (10) 2192:15;2195:11; 2254:18;2258:18; 2267:7;2324:14,15; 2338:6;2366:23; 2394:17 calculated (14) 2246:17;2254:24; 2255:1;2259:13,22, 23;2260:1;2261:14; 2326:20;2333:7; 2366:15;2395:3; 2401:19;2402:11 calculating (1) 2344:15 calculation (9) 2255:8,12; 2272:22;2282:8; 2328:1;2330:21; 2331:25;2332:7; 2336:7 calculations (9) 2180:4;2204:17; 2255:9,15;2261:20; 2262:13;2270:8; 2283:19;2395:24 calculator (3) 2267:24;2325:16; 2393:13 calendar (4) 2261:13;2264:16, 22;2265:6 CALIFORNIA (198) 2160:2;2162:1,14, 19,22;2163:13,16; 2164:22;2167:4; 2172:2,16;2173:9; 2174:1,3,6,7; 2178:14,23;2179:18; 2184:16;2200:12,23; 2201:3,10;2203:5; 2204:10;2207:10,14; 2208:7,15;2209:16; 2212:6;2214:9; 2216:18;2217:2,9; 2223:3,4;2232:1,19; 2234:5,10,10,15; 2235:1,1,4,6,16,22; 2236:8,10,12,14,18; 2237:4,24;2238:25; 2239:3,6,9,11,16; 2240:2,3;2241:11, 19;2243:17,20,24; 2244:2,3,5;2245:20, 22;2246:2,7,8; 2247:9,19;2248:1, 12,20;2250:15,22, 24;2251:21;2252:1,</p>	<p>11,14,16;2254:1,11, 17;2255:20; 2256:13;2259:8,13; 2260:19;2261:12,17; 2263:1,7,10,14; 2264:19;2267:12,14, 15;2268:4;2269:1, 13;2270:18,24; 2271:6,7,19; 2272:10,19,25; 2273:24;2274:3,19; 2275:2,20;2276:10; 2277:4,8,9,9,12,14, 22;2278:3,6,7,8; 2285:1,17,20,24; 2286:17,23,24; 2287:2,24;2298:8, 11,25;2299:1,4; 2301:3;2304:22; 2310:3;2312:2,16, 18;2315:9,18; 2317:15;2320:16; 2323:14;2324:1; 2332:15;2333:21; 2336:5;2338:12; 2339:1;2341:8; 2351:7;2352:5,11, 12;2353:4,10; 2356:24;2361:11; 2364:19;2372:22; 2381:5,11,21; 2388:21;2391:20,22; 2395:11,16;2396:15, 25;2398:1,17,19; 2399:4;2402:18; 2404:3,12;2407:12; 2408:3 California's (6) 2234:16;2235:7; 2236:4;2246:25; 2273:21;2395:17 call (12) 2203:21;2209:22, 23;2217:23; 2297:10;2306:23; 2323:6;2328:23; 2329:19;2334:3; 2340:25;2381:13 called (9) 2217:6;2265:8; 2308:9,9,10;2313:6, 19;2328:14;2349:10 calling (1) 2291:4 calls (1) 2382:7 came (8) 2209:17;2262:12; 2273:1;2278:22,23; 2280:11;2298:8; 2316:20 can (102) 2164:24;2165:2,6;</p>	<p>2167:23,23;2172:12; 2180:4,6,19; 2189:17;2190:12; 2196:16,17,25; 2198:8;2199:22; 2206:23;2209:9; 2213:8;2218:18; 2221:19,20;2227:10; 2242:9;2245:2,3,9, 15;2247:3;2254:23; 2256:3;2257:25; 2258:18;2261:23; 2263:24;2268:13; 2269:11,21;2280:10; 2283:4,6;2286:18; 2289:5,8,14,25; 2290:21,24,24,25, 25;2291:1;2298:1; 2299:22;2300:2; 2303:21;2304:7; 2307:24;2309:12; 2310:12;2311:6,25; 2315:10,24;2319:3, 4;2325:14;2333:17; 2340:4;2343:17; 2346:1,19;2348:1, 23;2351:12,13; 2356:13;2357:15; 2368:3;2372:11,17; 2377:3;2380:22; 2385:9;2386:6,14, 17;2387:1;2388:2,9; 2390:10;2391:14; 2398:18;2399:13; 2401:4;2402:4,4,6; 2403:25;2409:11,22; 2410:22 Canada (1) 2235:21 cancellations (1) 2258:19 capabilities (1) 2355:12 capacity (1) 2323:10 capital (11) 2164:6,6;2265:11, 19;2284:13;2309:4; 2335:19;2344:23; 2355:9;2373:7,12 capture (1) 2390:19 care (2) 2192:10;2213:15 Career (3) 2238:11,19; 2301:20 careful (1) 2252:1 carefully (2) 2360:20;2386:19 Carman (3) 2160:25,25;</p>
---	---	---	---	---

<p>2226:10 C-A-R-M-A-N (1) 2161:1 carried (1) 2169:19 carries (1) 2200:15 carry (1) 2248:4 case (30) 2164:8;2219:10; 2225:22;2265:13; 2299:25;2307:16; 2308:3,10,19,22; 2309:2;2310:3; 2311:21;2314:13; 2315:23;2319:7; 2327:12;2331:9; 2333:2,12;2335:4; 2346:12,25;2348:23; 2350:25;2372:15; 2373:5;2382:5; 2390:2,24 case-by-case (1) 2250:13 cases (7) 2307:24;2309:13; 2311:6,7;2314:22; 2317:24;2332:8 cash (8) 2247:4;2249:12; 2250:10,25;2251:3; 2398:21,21;2400:1 categories (1) 2260:3 category (3) 2216:1;2337:8; 2370:6 cause (1) 2315:9 causes (1) 2329:22 caution (2) 2249:22;2316:24 cautions (1) 2316:16 CDFA (84) 2168:2,3,6; 2170:11;2173:2; 2175:8;2178:22; 2179:15,22;2180:11; 2181:16,19,22; 2189:10;2197:25,25; 2198:12;2199:23; 2201:22;2204:1,16; 2205:3,8,10,12; 2206:4,22;2207:14; 2208:19,25;2209:2, 20;2210:5,8,12; 2211:22;2212:8; 2213:15,22,25,25; 2214:9,15,16; 2216:11;2219:5;</p>	<p>2220:21;2223:14; 2224:4,16,17; 2239:12;2240:7; 2241:12,13,15,17,20, 23;2242:8;2243:16; 2252:19;2254:21; 2255:9;2257:6,16; 2262:2,15;2272:25; 2276:23;2277:7; 2299:2;2324:10; 2332:2;2337:19; 2366:24;2379:23; 2380:5,13,14,15,18; 2396:2;2407:7 CDFA's (2) 2211:17;2223:10 CDI (4) 2172:21;2173:17; 2175:2;2214:17 CDI's (2) 2174:15;2175:11 Central (2) 2221:9,10 cents (6) 2201:22;2218:15; 2368:13;2377:21; 2379:25;2409:20 CEO (2) 2231:24;2234:8 certain (20) 2170:10;2210:14; 2217:24;2246:23; 2264:6;2333:16; 2342:10;2343:17; 2346:9;2359:13,24; 2365:22;2368:17,17; 2375:14;2380:4; 2382:24;2385:5; 2399:9,10 certainly (18) 2165:2;2174:1; 2188:8;2233:6; 2290:13;2303:14,15; 2321:22;2323:13; 2325:14;2355:22; 2363:19,20;2364:17; 2365:21;2389:5; 2396:12;2399:11 certainty (2) 2363:10,11 certify (1) 2166:19 cetera (2) 2267:3,3 chairs (1) 2230:10 challenged (3) 2174:16;2218:3; 2252:3 challenges (1) 2399:24 challenging (2) 2217:23;2251:2</p>	<p>chance (2) 2169:9;2349:9 change (35) 2173:24;2175:15; 2179:9;2192:13,16, 24,25;2194:11,24; 2195:1,21;2196:3, 14;2201:5;2208:22; 2209:7,24;2210:19, 20;2218:21;2219:10, 24;2221:1,2;2270:1; 2289:24;2344:4; 2345:14;2348:7; 2356:21;2362:20; 2387:1;2390:5; 2391:6;2409:7 changed (18) 2173:25;2191:21; 2193:7;2194:5,6; 2195:13;2199:10; 2201:3,14;2202:4; 2205:24;2208:23; 2214:16;2218:18,21; 2219:3;2240:12; 2252:8 changes (7) 2191:12;2201:17; 2208:16;2209:3; 2263:18;2264:1; 2267:8 changing (9) 2175:14;2193:23; 2207:25;2210:14; 2263:10;2273:23; 2274:5,21;2404:5 characteristic (2) 2404:22,23 Characterization (10) 2247:24;2248:19; 2250:21;2342:10; 2346:14;2353:22; 2359:25;2361:3; 2400:16;2403:24 characterizations (2) 2383:4;2398:16 characterize (6) 2248:9;2328:10, 13;2362:7,14; 2399:13 characterized (1) 2360:6 characterizing (2) 2249:3;2362:22 charge (3) 2381:1,3,7 charged (1) 2351:15 chart (9) 2184:9,10;2186:1; 2280:3;2281:2; 2305:19;2362:25; 2401:21;2402:12 chattel (1)</p>	<p>2249:22 check (3) 2212:18;2228:5; 2234:20 checks (1) 2212:8 Cheese (7) 2163:5,6,10; 2214:6;2351:6,7; 2374:3 Chip (8) 2162:15;2203:19; 2244:8;2290:17; 2292:18;2302:4; 2306:14;2389:3 C-H-I-P (1) 2162:16 choice (3) 2167:23;2331:13, 16 choose (8) 2244:21;2277:12, 17;2278:3,5,8; 2376:20;2382:15 choosing (1) 2277:22 chose (1) 2280:24 Circuit (20) 2308:2,4,16,18,24, 25;2309:1,6,8,13,13, 20,24;2310:5,19,23; 2311:9,12;2314:22, 23 circumstance (1) 2217:21 circumstances (1) 2233:13 citation (1) 2308:13 cite (11) 2197:16;2229:9; 2307:24;2308:2,15, 16,18;2309:6,19,23; 2311:11 cited (1) 2314:14 Citizens (1) 2247:15 City (5) 2300:1;2346:20, 23;2348:5,9 City's (1) 2350:22 claiming (1) 2211:17 clarification (6) 2223:23;2229:4; 2230:7;2293:19; 2328:7;2400:19 clarifies (1) 2188:7 clarify (7)</p>	<p>2187:5;2189:15; 2196:11;2228:15; 2296:1;2343:17; 2408:17 clarifying (2) 2196:8;2207:22 clarity (1) 2293:4 class (18) 2173:8,8,9;2203:3, 5,6;2209:11;2221:2; 2240:9,11;2294:6,9; 2351:17;2368:2; 2402:22,24;2403:6, 13 classes (11) 2172:1,15; 2217:24;2239:19; 2294:22,23,24; 2295:2,8,14,17 classified (3) 2214:9;2351:15, 25 classifies (1) 2219:15 clause (1) 2274:8 Clayton (3) 2303:3,7,16 clear (12) 2187:4;2205:1; 2212:20;2259:1; 2292:18;2301:13,18; 2307:24;2362:17; 2392:25;2400:20; 2404:16 clearly (5) 2189:8;2276:8,14; 2316:7;2320:3 clerk (1) 2164:8 clerk's (1) 2164:10 clients (3) 2232:5;2248:15; 2299:16 clients' (1) 2248:5 Clifford (1) 2160:25 CLIFTON (222) 2160:6,9;2161:21; 2163:18;2164:1; 2166:1;2167:12,14, 17;2168:10,16,24; 2169:23;2170:16,19, 25;2171:7,11,14,16, 19,22;2172:4,8; 2175:18;2176:4,6,9, 14,17,20,23;2177:2, 5,8,11,17,22;2178:6, 12;2179:7,12,16; 2180:2,13,21,24;</p>
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<p>2181:4,7;2182:19, 22;2183:2,7,11,17, 21,24;2184:1,4,7,11, 16,21;2185:11,14; 2186:9,13,19,22; 2187:3;2188:8,23; 2189:21,25;2190:4; 2195:20,24;2196:6, 21,24;2197:16,19; 2200:14,17;2201:20; 2202:8,14;2203:14; 2204:4;2206:9; 2207:22;2210:6; 2211:1,8,24;2214:3; 2221:15;2222:10,20; 2225:5,8,10; 2226:11;2227:16; 2228:17,25;2229:15, 23;2230:6,9,18,24; 2231:3,7,12; 2233:10,21;2234:18, 23;2244:15,19; 2245:7,10;2253:8, 15,20;2254:4,8; 2256:16,22;2257:15; 2261:3;2268:6,8,12, 18;2274:11,16; 2279:2,5,9,13,17; 2285:11;2286:11; 2288:5,11,13,17; 2289:10;2291:3,9; 2292:10,13,17; 2293:14;2305:9,20; 2306:5,25;2307:4, 19;2316:6;2317:4; 2318:9;2319:16; 2332:22,24;2347:1, 4;2350:13,17,21; 2351:3;2358:15,20, 24;2365:1,3,5; 2367:24;2378:20; 2381:13,17;2384:4, 15,25;2385:11,14, 19;2386:2,5,16,20; 2387:15,18,21,24; 2388:6,10,12,15,24; 2390:17,23;2392:16, 21;2393:5,7;2400:5, 9;2404:17;2406:6, 15,18;2407:20; 2408:8;2410:1,5,9, 17,21 close (54) 2179:3;2221:4; 2227:8;2236:24; 2237:1;2239:12,15; 2240:23;2241:2,17; 2243:15;2244:6; 2245:24,24,25,25; 2246:4;2249:2,6,24; 2250:1,4,5,5,13,18; 2251:13,24;2254:13, 16;2255:3;2259:12;</p>	<p>2260:2;2261:11,13; 2264:9;2265:6,9; 2266:9,14,16; 2267:3,9;2272:12, 21;2273:6,17; 2274:1;2276:11; 2277:19;2278:1; 2337:14,23;2372:17 closely (1) 2299:2 closing (1) 2264:4 closures (1) 2263:20 CLOVIS (1) 2160:2 coast (1) 2364:4 co-counsel (2) 2162:9,22 Code (14) 2190:10,19; 2199:16,22;2200:1, 11,13;2201:13; 2229:9,10,11,20; 2239:9;2249:5 coffers (1) 2272:2 coincide (1) 2337:18 collateral (7) 2249:21;2250:3; 2371:16,17;2372:14, 16,17 colleague (1) 2299:2 collect (1) 2372:2 collectively (3) 2355:20;2356:20, 21 College (1) 2348:19 Collins (3) 2303:2,7,16 color (3) 2289:14,15,24 colors (2) 2288:25;2289:21 column (45) 2190:16;2191:17, 23;2192:7;2193:2, 20,20,25;2194:8,14; 2195:3;2205:23; 2228:2;2242:14,16, 22;2243:2,3,5; 2253:2,21;2256:7,8; 2260:4;2261:7,7,7, 24;2262:1,10; 2269:12,16,16,18; 2270:6,9,11; 2338:25;2339:4; 2377:14,23;2378:8,</p>	<p>15,19;2379:4 combination (1) 2373:4 combined (3) 2257:4,12;2393:2 coming (1) 2317:24 comma (1) 2285:6 comment (1) 2347:20 comments (2) 2329:9;2404:4 Commerce (8) 2237:5;2287:25; 2298:10,13,15; 2299:4;2301:4; 2356:23 Commercial (1) 2249:5 commissions (1) 2237:25 committee (1) 2313:5 committees (1) 2314:1 commodities (2) 2266:6,8 commodity (2) 2236:8;2266:3 common (2) 2247:7;2290:7 commonly (2) 2246:16;2326:19 communities (8) 2238:23;2243:20; 2263:6;2304:21; 2356:25;2357:3,5; 2359:4 Community (2) 2263:12;2264:9 companies (3) 2173:25;2174:19; 2237:21 Company (12) 2163:3,5;2174:2; 2175:15;2217:9; 2247:12,13;2293:9; 2309:4,5,23;2351:6 Comparative (3) 2275:17,23; 2304:20 compare (3) 2277:11;2342:25; 2391:15 compared (4) 2173:9;2220:14, 20;2289:11 compares (1) 2259:2 comparing (2) 2172:2,15 comparison (6)</p>	<p>2361:8,9,22,25; 2362:1,2 compensation (1) 2266:6 competitive (2) 2251:24;2287:4 compilation (1) 2168:7 complains (1) 2348:6 complete (3) 2181:2;2284:6; 2397:25 completed (1) 2181:1 completely (6) 2208:6;2278:20; 2280:3;2337:18; 2367:2;2402:9 component (4) 2182:6;2235:5,22; 2358:3 comprise (1) 2368:9 compromise (1) 2367:25 computational (1) 2241:1 computed (1) 2239:20 computer (1) 2336:25 conceivably (3) 2206:10,16; 2215:8 concentrated (1) 2221:8 concentration (1) 2258:14 concept (1) 2220:3 conceptually (1) 2338:1 concern (4) 2200:4;2228:19; 2318:12;2387:25 concerned (2) 2184:24;2337:3 concerning (1) 2226:5 concerns (1) 2406:13 concession (1) 2406:21 conclude (4) 2203:4;2366:1; 2369:18;2407:4 concluded (2) 2174:9;2223:13 concludes (1) 2287:10 concluding (3) 2319:11;2402:16;</p>	<p>2404:4 conclusion (11) 2174:14;2274:10; 2285:7;2286:9,20; 2310:1;2324:12; 2404:24;2405:14,22; 2407:8 conclusions (4) 2310:9,15;2396:8; 2407:25 condition (1) 2383:6 conditions (10) 2173:24;2175:1; 2200:23;2321:23; 2322:8;2368:23,25; 2383:22,24;2399:25 conduct (1) 2184:17 conducted (1) 2395:15 conducting (1) 2184:19 conducts (1) 2184:13 confer (3) 2169:7;2188:24; 2189:18 Confidential (2) 2300:7,8 confirmed (1) 2297:18 conflict (2) 2199:10;2201:9 confused (2) 2207:23;2334:18 Congress (9) 2237:24;2245:18; 2302:19;2312:15; 2313:5,18;2314:2,4, 20 Congressional (9) 2274:25;2284:22; 2286:16;2313:17,18; 2314:18;2315:17; 2404:10;2406:2 Congressman (1) 2316:1 consider (10) 2224:6;2248:24; 2250:2,24;2251:10; 2320:8;2334:22; 2372:14,16;2398:19 consideration (6) 2179:5;2244:4; 2295:7;2322:2; 2390:3;2398:1 considerations (3) 2184:24,25; 2322:3 considered (8) 2249:20;2250:3; 2251:18;2270:4;</p>
--	--	---	---	--

2277:25;2321:18; 2369:9;2396:24 considering (1) 2291:15 considers (1) 2241:17 consistent (10) 2195:3;2212:5; 2221:23,25;2222:2, 5,9;2226:1;2339:24; 2397:4 constant (3) 2354:18;2373:22, 23 constitute (2) 2166:17;2309:25 constituted (1) 2310:16 constitutes (1) 2239:25 construct (1) 2319:22 constructed (2) 2210:12;2333:21 constructing (1) 2209:10 construction (2) 2312:22,22 consult (1) 2292:4 consulting (10) 2232:1;2234:9; 2237:12;2288:1; 2295:19;2297:7,8, 11;2299:9;2300:16 consumer (1) 2220:7 consumers (2) 2236:6;2266:5 CONT (7) 2243:11;2256:6; 2260:14;2262:23; 2268:23;2271:17; 2284:2 contained (12) 2168:7;2186:25; 2190:22;2199:21; 2208:6;2209:2; 2210:11,17;2225:22; 2232:24;2385:5; 2395:23 containing (1) 2369:2 content (1) 2321:24 contention (1) 2324:4 contingencies (3) 2190:14;2207:5, 13 contingent (1) 2207:10 continuability (1)	2322:18 continuation (2) 2245:22;2312:18 continue (15) 2199:6;2219:16; 2245:3;2251:22; 2264:24;2271:15; 2276:24;2279:20; 2284:3;2285:10,19; 2287:3;2296:22; 2319:17;2407:6 continues (7) 2184:14;2211:21; 2264:25;2266:14; 2275:1;2373:11; 2404:11 Continuing (6) 2191:23;2200:20, 22;2245:18;2296:15, 22 Contra (1) 2304:8 contract (2) 2219:6;2310:8 contractors (1) 2267:2 contrast (1) 2284:25 contribute (1) 2352:5 contributors (1) 2286:3 Contribution (4) 2235:3;2353:10; 2357:16;2358:11 contributions (6) 2264:13;2265:2; 2287:7;2305:2; 2358:5,8 contributor (2) 2236:17;2286:22 controllable (1) 2249:14 convenience (2) 2291:23;2296:14 conversations (1) 2197:24 converse (1) 2342:4 conversely (1) 2265:25 Conversion (1) 2273:25 convert (1) 2290:22 converted (1) 2403:20 conveys (1) 2310:21 co-op (3) 2162:5;2170:6; 2389:17 cooperation (2)	2189:10;2291:12 cooperative (20) 2174:21;2187:19, 20;2194:15;2195:5; 2198:21,23;2214:18; 2216:7,17,23; 2218:10;2226:7,25; 2227:5,7;2247:19; 2376:15,25;2387:4 cooperatives (28) 2169:4;2183:10, 13;2195:6,12,15; 2198:12;2214:22; 2215:1,2,3,4,23; 2216:13;2217:1; 2234:13;2285:17; 2289:5;2323:8; 2375:3,23;2376:17; 2377:5,9;2380:23; 2382:17,20,23 cooperative's (6) 2227:12,14; 2284:21;2285:23; 2406:1;2407:5 Coops' (2) 2286:15;2315:16 co-ops (4) 2185:16;2186:20; 2217:20,23 co-op's (1) 2173:21 coordination (1) 2197:24 copied (2) 2289:25;2291:1 copier (3) 2167:8,9,23 copiers (1) 2290:8 Copies (8) 2165:13,16; 2166:21,22,25; 2167:21;2289:3,4 copy (12) 2166:20,24; 2175:25;2190:9; 2231:13;2232:14,14; 2235:10;2279:18; 2291:1;2321:3; 2347:4 copying (1) 2289:1 corners (1) 2260:20 corollary (1) 2401:6 corrected (1) 2362:14 correction (1) 2166:14 corrections (3) 2166:11,15,17 corrective (1)	2207:19 correctly (4) 2250:12;2255:11; 2318:23;2397:4 correlation (1) 2349:6 corresponding (1) 2297:6 correspondingly (1) 2379:5 cost (16) 2248:3,6;2251:1, 5;2323:14;2325:4; 2334:22;2344:18,18; 2367:15,25;2368:3; 2369:22;2399:9,12; 2403:21 Costa (1) 2304:8 costs (8) 2246:24;2335:17, 18;2373:14; 2398:22;2400:1,1,1 cotton (1) 2300:13 Counsel (5) 2161:18,20; 2186:16;2193:8; 2289:5 count (1) 2347:22 counterparts (1) 2174:12 counties (69) 2218:16;2237:10; 2256:1;2257:4,8,10, 12;2258:8,13,15,23; 2260:3,9,23,25; 2262:5,17;2263:15; 2267:12;2268:4; 2269:2,14;2272:7, 18;2273:9,18; 2290:7;2340:20,21, 24;2341:3;2352:23, 24;2353:12,16; 2354:4,22;2356:6,7, 10,11,13,17,22; 2357:4;2359:5,10, 19,20,21;2360:2,23, 25;2361:2,11,13,14, 18;2363:4,6,15; 2379:11,18;2392:9, 18,23;2393:1,2; 2394:3 countries (3) 2264:5;2355:18; 2363:16 country (4) 2235:16;2236:2, 13;2355:19 county (73) 2202:13;2218:16, 23;2255:3,3,5,6,12,	17,23;2256:7,13,14, 17;2258:2,2,21,25; 2259:3,5,6,6,17,25; 2260:7,10,23,24; 2261:1,2,15,17; 2262:11,18,19; 2263:4,4,12; 2270:25;2271:5; 2272:20,24;2273:6, 14;2310:18; 2337:15;2340:11; 2341:8;2342:9; 2353:17,18,20,21; 2354:24;2355:21; 2356:15,16;2357:8, 17,18;2359:17; 2360:18,19;2361:7, 23,24;2364:10; 2378:9;2391:20; 2392:10,12;2393:16; 2401:19 county/area (2) 2259:14;2261:21 county's (3) 2254:19,19,25 county-to-county (1) 2392:3 couple (18) 2166:4;2170:7; 2175:9;2179:25; 2193:17;2202:16; 2214:23;2257:2,4; 2296:9,10,25; 2300:4,10;2302:19; 2303:1;2322:7; 2384:18 course (5) 2166:7;2206:2; 2317:7;2320:5; 2325:9 courses (1) 2295:18 court (16) 2165:8,14;2166:9; 2210:16;2279:9,14; 2299:23;2300:5; 2308:10,11;2309:11; 2313:13,25;2318:14; 2319:8;2364:24 courtroom (2) 2308:7,7 courts (5) 2237:25;2313:8; 2315:1,2;2318:16 cover (1) 2196:8 covered (16) 2180:10;2186:12; 2201:2;2203:12; 2207:2,20;2244:1; 2254:20;2255:1; 2258:14,22,25; 2259:5;2272:23;
--	---	--	---	---

<p>2343:11;2356:15 covering (2) 2246:8;2312:2 covers (1) 2387:13 cows (10) 2242:21,23; 2323:6,10;2349:7; 2364:13,14,15; 2383:8,9 CPA (2) 2370:15;2382:6 CPA's (2) 2248:9,15 cream (5) 2355:25;2394:11, 11,12,12 create (7) 2275:4;2338:23; 2354:11;2403:5,6,7; 2405:6 created (5) 2166:9;2264:9; 2272:13,14;2339:2 creation (6) 2237:7;2264:1; 2272:1;2287:8; 2298:17;2354:10 credibility (1) 2350:20 credit (3) 2182:18;2187:13; 2247:15 credits (1) 2193:2 critical (3) 2242:19;2311:25; 2312:1 criticism (1) 2346:22 criticized (1) 2346:18 cross-examination (20) 2165:21;2168:18, 20;2170:9;2172:24; 2173:15,20;2185:3; 2203:17;2222:23; 2320:10;2351:9; 2384:17;2389:1,7; 2395:9;2396:20; 2408:10,11,13 Crow (1) 2310:4 culture (1) 2251:23 cumulative (2) 2263:22;2271:21 curious (1) 2224:1 current (30) 2188:18;2198:7; 2207:15,17;2208:25; 2209:15;2228:6;</p>	<p>2231:22;2232:14; 2239:22;2243:12; 2248:10;2252:3; 2254:15;2259:11; 2260:1,4,15; 2274:24,24;2277:7; 2314:17;2321:23; 2334:24;2342:2; 2365:24;2366:7; 2377:19;2399:24; 2404:9 currently (16) 2173:19;2196:12; 2197:25;2202:12; 2216:10;2217:15; 2218:17;2220:14; 2238:8;2240:19; 2254:11;2277:20; 2327:10,11;2333:21; 2354:21 curriculum (3) 2293:1,15;2319:4 cut (1) 2215:10 CV (7) 2232:14,15; 2238:17;2287:15; 2288:2;2297:10; 2301:17 cycle (1) 2266:16</p>	<p>25;2248:3,5,13,19; 2250:15,21,21,23; 2251:4,9,15,17,18, 21,22,23;2252:2,3, 11,14,16;2253:24; 2254:4,5;2255:17, 21;2259:10,11,12, 16;2260:19,20; 2263:1,6,10,12,14, 15;2264:14,15,20; 2265:3,4,4,14; 2266:23,24;2267:14; 2268:3,25;2271:4,6, 19,24,25;2272:14, 19,25;2273:5,21; 2274:3,19,25; 2275:2,6,14,20,25; 2276:2,5,12; 2277:18;2278:16; 2279:25;2280:15; 2281:16;2284:5,8, 17;2285:1,3,24; 2286:1,17,21,24; 2287:2,3,3;2294:15; 2300:12,13;2302:16, 20;2303:6,12,19; 2315:18;2320:7,16; 2322:9;2323:24,25; 2328:9;2329:10; 2335:2;2336:5; 2338:24;2348:24; 2351:7,20;2352:1, 11;2355:14; 2356:14;2358:4; 2360:8;2361:10; 2369:1;2372:25; 2373:16;2376:10,14, 16,17;2377:9; 2381:5,12,22,23; 2382:8,17;2383:16, 17;2395:12,16,17; 2398:16,16;2401:17, 18;2402:18;2404:10, 12;2405:8;2407:13; 2408:3 dairymen (6) 2247:23;2322:11; 2324:11;2336:9,9; 2382:17 dairy-producing (1) 2267:11 dairy's (3) 2249:16,18; 2332:19 Dakota (1) 2212:19 damages (1) 2252:4 dangerous (1) 2310:11 data (16) 2168:7;2252:15; 2254:14;2255:20;</p>	<p>2264:22;2265:6; 2269:24;2273:1; 2277:8;2333:24; 2366:24;2380:19,21; 2391:20;2392:10,12 date (20) 2181:2;2182:19; 2190:22;2191:9,20; 2192:1,11,24; 2193:6;2195:10,12, 13,21;2215:10; 2227:2,3,24;2228:7; 2300:19;2401:5 dated (2) 2194:5;2254:22 dates (16) 2189:19;2190:18, 21;2196:9;2198:15; 2199:13;2222:8; 2225:20,21;2226:3; 2227:13;2228:6; 2293:6;2299:12; 2301:14,17 Davis (7) 2162:17,21; 2232:1;2234:9; 2238:6,10;2298:9 Day (78) 2160:8;2164:12; 2165:20;2178:3; 2179:1,9,13; 2181:17,21;2182:4, 13,15,21,23,24; 2183:1,4,4,9,16; 2185:9,16,17; 2187:11,18,25; 2190:25;2191:19,22, 22,25;2192:3,6,9; 2193:5,22;2194:4,6, 10,12,23;2195:9,13; 2196:13;2197:7,13; 2202:5,23;2203:10; 2204:9;2205:25; 2206:18;2212:9,18; 2214:24;2215:6,7,9, 13,17;2221:21; 2222:11,13;2227:2; 2228:5,10,11,11,12, 20;2258:10; 2325:21;2386:25; 2387:2,8,11,21; 2388:1 days (13) 2160:14;2179:3, 25;2197:14,14; 2212:20;2228:9; 2233:8;2255:3; 2262:4;2387:1,10; 2389:10 DC (4) 2162:17;2309:13, 19;2314:23 deadline (3)</p>	<p>2215:10;2222:11; 2384:11 deal (7) 2245:15;2289:10; 2303:12;2308:23; 2386:6;2387:19; 2399:11 dealers (1) 2203:7 dealing (6) 2245:19;2260:4; 2299:15;2311:13; 2312:16;2387:6 deals (1) 2298:15 dealt (1) 2387:22 Dean (1) 2163:3 debate (2) 2321:25;2347:21 debit (1) 2182:15 debt-to-asset (1) 2248:22 decide (10) 2166:15;2282:3; 2283:9,18;2329:14; 2331:11;2376:18; 2378:12;2380:13; 2384:5 decided (3) 2192:12;2224:19; 2329:15 decides (1) 2372:12 decision (19) 2174:14;2277:5, 19,25;2278:4,6; 2281:19;2283:3; 2323:6;2334:1,11, 23;2335:8,13; 2362:25;2363:1; 2376:5;2377:1,6 decision-maker (1) 2359:4 decisions (5) 2248:21;2250:10; 2264:6;2284:13; 2376:10 declaration (1) 2309:24 declined (1) 2347:20 decreases (1) 2277:21 deduct (1) 2330:4 deemed (1) 2214:17 deeming (1) 2250:11 define (3)</p>
	D			
	<p>daily (2) 2241:16;2255:2 Dairies (35) 2162:1,14;2174:2, 4,7;2217:9;2234:10; 2247:10,19,19; 2248:1,17;2249:15; 2250:17;2251:7; 2252:11;2253:4,4, 19,23;2254:1,2,12, 13;2257:8;2267:3; 2272:21,24;2273:6, 17;2285:1;2355:13, 17;2381:21;2388:21 Dairy (198) 2161:1,5,8,12; 2162:1,18,22,24; 2163:1,14,16; 2178:24;2197:2; 2202:12;2209:22; 2223:5;2229:18,18, 19;2232:19;2234:5, 6,11,15,16;2235:2,4; 2236:7,12,15,16; 2238:25;2239:1,3,7, 7;2240:2,6;2241:11, 19;2243:17,19; 2244:2,3;2246:2; 2247:1,6,14,17,20,</p>			

2400:6,12,14 defined (5) 2205:3;2246:15; 2263:23;2310:7; 2326:18 definition (3) 2246:25;2311:13; 2342:13 degree (4) 2221:5;2293:21; 2295:13,16 Dejong (2) 2163:4,4 D-E-J-O-N-G (1) 2163:5 deliver (1) 2212:19 delivery (1) 2191:24 demand (3) 2220:6;2266:9,11 demonstrate (3) 2349:18;2350:8,9 demonstrated (1) 2287:14 Dennis (1) 2162:11 Denver (1) 2238:11 Department (28) 2160:19,23; 2164:9,15;2167:5; 2178:15;2179:18; 2184:16;2201:6,16; 2204:10;2207:11; 2209:6,10;2212:5; 2223:4;2236:23; 2239:11;2240:3; 2252:16;2255:21; 2261:12;2264:20; 2276:11;2285:20,22; 2298:14;2312:10 departure (1) 2377:2 depending (5) 2175:1;2202:11; 2209:21;2352:25; 2396:11 depends (3) 2240:24;2324:19; 2350:23 depict (1) 2252:25 depicted (2) 2242:10;2255:16 depicts (2) 2253:1;2261:20 deployed (1) 2250:12 depth (2) 2174:8,9 Deputy (1) 2161:1	derived (2) 2272:21,22 describe (2) 2252:24;2308:14 described (2) 2243:24;2288:2 describes (4) 2246:25;2266:3; 2339:12,16 description (1) 2232:9 designation (2) 2164:7;2246:6 designed (1) 2244:10 desire (1) 2315:21 despite (1) 2408:25 destroy (1) 2284:6 destroyed (1) 2250:17 detail (4) 2161:12,15; 2178:4;2199:17 details (3) 2189:22;2199:2; 2223:21 determination (2) 2307:14;2399:17 determinations (1) 2308:12 determine (18) 2178:22;2180:7; 2182:2;2238:24; 2247:6;2255:7; 2258:21;2263:13; 2276:5;2277:1; 2305:1;2307:8; 2310:6;2319:17; 2350:10;2366:24; 2367:4,7 determined (7) 2239:22,23; 2246:14;2262:16; 2277:6;2308:19; 2310:3 determines (2) 2220:13;2312:11 determining (6) 2237:18;2263:4; 2288:18;2291:14; 2305:23;2306:6 devaluation (1) 2284:11 develop (1) 2237:6 developed (1) 2168:5 Development (3) 2235:18;2237:14; 2298:17	developmental (1) 2294:5 developments (1) 2263:21 deviated (1) 2222:6 device (1) 2237:20 devil (1) 2189:22 Diego (8) 2256:14,17; 2258:15;2261:2; 2356:14;2357:17,19; 2394:1 difference (11) 2172:1,14;2173:7; 2239:23;2240:17; 2347:25;2353:11,12, 15;2393:16;2395:1 differences (2) 2173:21;2227:11 different (39) 2188:15;2191:20; 2196:17;2208:24; 2209:25;2210:1; 2221:6;2222:7; 2249:2;2255:25; 2290:18;2295:7; 2304:19;2307:21; 2315:6;2321:21; 2322:3;2325:3; 2327:8,22;2330:25; 2336:24;2348:14; 2352:17,22,23,24, 24;2363:25;2364:5; 2365:8;2368:19,22; 2369:13;2371:20; 2384:7;2391:11; 2401:12;2404:8 differential (7) 2201:1,14,25; 2202:4;2240:14,20; 2325:8 differently (6) 2352:23;2356:10, 11;2371:22; 2399:19;2402:23 difficult (6) 2205:19;2207:1; 2235:11;2251:2; 2327:21,25 diminish (4) 2275:4,10;2284:6; 2405:7 diminished (3) 2244:7;2252:2; 2398:3 diminishes (1) 2276:2 diminishing (1) 2405:19 dire (5)	2233:14,19; 2292:16,19,21 DIRECT (21) 2231:18;2242:2; 2255:13;2259:18; 2261:18;2264:12; 2265:2;2266:17,19, 22,23,23;2267:1,6,7, 17;2269:3;2278:12; 2314:19;2320:13; 2380:17 directed (6) 2214:8;2245:20; 2274:25;2312:17; 2314:18;2404:10 directive (2) 2285:16;2315:9 directly (11) 2205:9;2242:7; 2275:9;2278:10; 2298:16,21;2299:6; 2369:19;2379:15; 2405:19,19 Director (3) 2163:1;2299:7,14 disadvantage (1) 2174:15 disagree (4) 2245:13;2345:4,9; 2361:3 disasters (1) 2263:21 disastrous (3) 2275:13;2284:10, 17 discounted (1) 2327:20 discuss (4) 2169:7;2222:19; 2245:2;2286:10 discussed (11) 2179:8;2193:14; 2198:16;2201:7; 2204:2;2207:25; 2209:13,17;2223:12; 2327:23;2383:6 discussing (4) 2261:22;2262:3; 2280:1;2340:3 discussion (7) 2206:22;2312:8; 2313:25;2323:24; 2346:7;2397:1; 2402:19 discussions (8) 2189:9;2198:6; 2199:4,23;2204:18; 2206:9;2223:25; 2324:11 disposable (3) 2322:12;2348:8, 15 disposal (1)	2322:12 disproportionate (3) 2399:5,10,12 disproportionately (1) 2363:5 disruptive (2) 2275:10;2405:20 distinction (4) 2214:19;2342:19; 2344:25;2346:5 distribute (2) 2246:9;2312:3 distributed (2) 2231:4;2240:5 distribution (5) 2254:16,21; 2258:6;2259:12; 2352:25 Divide (5) 2281:15;2282:12; 2330:5;2394:13,14 divided (3) 2255:5;2332:13; 2409:16 Division (1) 2276:13 divvied (1) 2353:8 divvy (1) 2352:16 divvying (1) 2352:23 D-Miscellaneous (1) 2190:17 docket (4) 2164:5,5,9; 2222:12 Doctor (2) 2209:5;2227:15 doctorate (1) 2238:15 document (4) 2231:4;2244:21; 2290:23,23 documents (2) 2336:25;2380:12 dollar (7) 2236:3;2266:19, 20;2272:9,11; 2282:23;2370:23 dollars (8) 2248:16;2261:4,6; 2272:5;2324:18; 2346:25;2351:1; 2409:20 Domestic (13) 2235:8;2267:8; 2269:18;2270:5; 2271:22;2352:5,13; 2353:9,17;2360:17; 2361:1;2363:7; 2379:10 domestics (1)
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<p>2363:16 done (19) 2186:13;2187:11; 2201:4;2202:12; 2207:13;2218:8; 2220:23;2225:18; 2226:1;2257:13,22; 2304:15,19,23,24; 2350:4;2376:3; 2388:3;2395:18 dot (2) 2176:25;2235:12 double (3) 2378:13;2379:24; 2380:2 doublechecked (1) 2255:10 double-sided (1) 2167:21 doubt (1) 2348:1 down (39) 2172:6;2189:7; 2192:7;2193:25; 2194:14;2211:5; 2230:2;2244:24; 2253:3,25;2256:1, 14,16;2259:24; 2260:8,8,9;2262:7, 17;2270:16;2281:1; 2282:9,10;2291:25; 2301:2;2313:22; 2314:6;2322:4; 2337:23;2364:25; 2373:19,20,21,25; 2374:5,18;2379:6; 2380:2;2410:17 downloaded (2) 2235:13,25 downward (1) 2241:7 DR (85) 2162:13;2165:21; 2166:1;2168:13,18, 22;2169:3,21,24; 2170:8;2171:19,24; 2172:8;2175:16,19, 24;2185:6;2189:22; 2190:6,12;2196:21; 2200:11;2201:20; 2203:16,24;2211:9; 2221:15;2222:21,22; 2223:1;2225:5,11, 15;2226:12;2227:17, 18,25;2229:3,3,15, 25;2230:2;2233:7; 2239:4;2242:12; 2245:14;2252:23; 2255:24;2257:23; 2258:10;2262:4; 2288:18;2303:16,16; 2317:14;2320:20; 2321:3,4,8,20;</p>	<p>2327:23;2328:14; 2337:10;2340:4,8; 2358:18,19;2385:6, 21;2386:5,7,7,11,16, 19;2388:17,20; 2389:14,22;2391:9, 19;2396:17;2397:5, 22;2408:19 draft (2) 2375:23,24 drafting (1) 2206:19 dramatic (1) 2271:20 draw (2) 2346:5;2404:24 drive (4) 2266:9;2323:12; 2357:1;2358:2 driven (1) 2267:5 drives (2) 2327:24;2328:2 drop (1) 2282:2 dropped (1) 2282:20 drugstores (1) 2354:14 dual (1) 2189:1 due (7) 2181:23;2182:18; 2187:17;2190:24; 2208:24;2222:4; 2287:7 Duncan (1) 2308:15 duplicate (1) 2278:20 duplicative (3) 2199:19;2201:9; 2219:19 during (18) 2175:8;2189:11; 2194:20,22;2251:2; 2252:23;2281:19; 2297:4;2299:21; 2302:22;2306:16; 2320:20;2322:1; 2338:5;2340:21; 2347:23;2385:4; 2389:13</p>	<p>early (4) 2224:19;2311:2; 2329:14;2410:22 easier (1) 2191:13 easiest (1) 2191:9 easily (3) 2289:17;2290:24, 24 easy (1) 2409:14 economic (91) 2232:4,18;2234:4, 14,16;2235:12,23; 2237:6,13,14,18; 2238:22,24;2239:1; 2243:18,22;2246:13, 15;2247:6;2251:2; 2259:10,13;2260:17; 2263:5,9,11,13,16, 17,24;2264:10,13; 2265:2,7,11,13,15, 15,20;2267:11,13, 13;2268:2,25; 2272:17;2274:2,2, 18,19;2275:5,19,20, 22;2276:1,2,3,6,7; 2286:23;2287:6,13; 2288:7,13;2291:15; 2294:24;2295:2; 2299:15;2304:25; 2305:10,13;2321:21, 23;2322:8;2326:15, 18;2338:7;2345:11, 15;2358:2;2359:17; 2361:10,17;2376:6; 2381:4;2390:3; 2395:15,17;2397:15; 2401:17,19;2405:7 economically (1) 2409:1 economics (28) 2231:25;2234:8; 2238:13;2287:18,20; 2294:1,3,4,5,6,21,24; 2295:6,6,6,11,14; 2297:7,13,14,16,17; 2299:8;2303:11; 2306:20;2348:17; 2363:12,24 economies (9) 2235:14;2273:22; 2275:15;2284:18; 2286:4;2287:7; 2352:14,19;2390:4 Economist (12) 2161:11,14; 2162:24;2288:1; 2303:15;2306:20; 2348:18,19;2349:11, 11,14;2395:7 economists (5)</p>	<p>2237:12;2297:15; 2304:8,10,12 Economy (29) 2235:1,2,3,5,5,7, 17,22;2236:4,18; 2263:22;2264:8; 2265:25;2266:2,18, 20;2271:20;2275:2; 2286:22;2298:18; 2335:3;2346:4; 2353:4;2357:6,17; 2358:6,8;2371:1; 2404:12 education (5) 2232:10;2237:17; 2294:1;2296:15,22 educational (1) 2287:19 effect (6) 2266:21;2271:21, 23;2318:3;2356:5; 2399:5 effectively (3) 2207:10;2314:11; 2315:7 effects (4) 2263:23,25; 2264:3;2266:18 efficiency (1) 2224:21 effort (2) 2314:19;2366:3 eight (2) 2282:20;2376:13 eighth (1) 2235:17 either (15) 2182:14;2197:8; 2212:15;2213:10; 2239:10;2249:7,17; 2307:3;2317:11,25; 2320:24;2324:10; 2342:9;2381:17; 2392:4 elaborate (4) 2173:22;2198:8; 2200:21;2213:9 elaborated (1) 2172:22 electronic (3) 2212:15;2215:5, 16 eligible (2) 2179:4,5 eliminated (2) 2248:13;2250:16 elimination (1) 2284:12 else (14) 2203:15;2209:23; 2225:11;2227:16; 2273:9;2292:9; 2300:2;2314:8;</p>	<p>2316:25;2330:19; 2335:2;2354:5; 2365:14;2384:19 emphasis (2) 2249:8;2381:25 emphasize (4) 2246:10;2260:16; 2271:25;2273:8 empirically (1) 2348:16 employees (4) 2160:19;2265:17, 19,24 employees' (1) 2311:14 employer's (1) 2311:16 employment (8) 2263:25;2266:6; 2267:8;2270:7,14; 2271:8;2338:21; 2339:2 employments (1) 2305:2 enable (1) 2384:8 enact (1) 2407:6 enacted (1) 2240:12 enactment (2) 2313:15,24 encompassed (1) 2298:18 encourage (1) 2371:16 end (42) 2165:10;2178:4; 2179:13;2181:17,21; 2182:5,13,16; 2183:9,12,16; 2184:10;2185:9; 2191:19,25;2192:4, 9;2194:4,10,24; 2204:14;2205:25; 2234:13,13;2235:6, 8;2244:20;2246:10, 15;2249:3;2276:19; 2278:9;2284:23; 2293:16;2297:23; 2321:13;2329:23; 2332:12;2358:2; 2387:12;2391:19; 2409:10 ended (1) 2165:20 ending (1) 2284:3 ends (3) 2200:1,7;2230:3 energy (6) 2237:15,20; 2284:15;2370:25;</p>
	E			
	<p>earlier (12) 2185:24;2190:13; 2202:20;2205:4; 2220:2;2224:10; 2229:11;2336:1; 2344:22;2346:7; 2387:16,17</p>			

<p>2398:23;2399:25 enforces (2) 2310:24;2311:9 engage (2) 2381:12;2382:2 engaged (2) 2232:7;2297:17 engine (1) 2251:6 ENGLISH (72) 2162:15,16; 2170:10;2173:16; 2203:18,19;2210:7; 2211:25;2212:2; 2233:9,10,11,21; 2244:8,8,18,22; 2245:8;2274:7,11; 2285:5,11;2286:5, 11;2290:18;2291:19, 22;2292:2,14,16,18, 18,22,24;2293:17, 18,22;2294:14; 2296:24;2305:4,8; 2306:14,14;2307:2, 5,23;2316:6,22; 2317:2,13;2389:3,3, 8;2390:13,24; 2391:1,3;2392:22, 24;2393:4,8,9; 2395:6;2404:15,18, 19;2406:4,6,11,17, 20;2407:17 E-N-G-L-I-S-H (1) 2162:16 English's (2) 2316:16;2406:25 enjoy (2) 2165:19;2296:23 enjoys (1) 2165:23 enormous (2) 2243:19;2260:21 enormously (1) 2222:13 enough (6) 2289:16;2333:17; 2365:6;2378:12; 2389:9,12 ensure (1) 2255:10 entered (4) 2165:12;2174:13; 2320:21,21 entering (2) 2168:4;2207:11 enterprises (1) 2218:6 enters (1) 2165:15 entertainment (1) 2298:20 entire (8) 2218:5,9;2221:24;</p>	<p>2259:14;2262:11; 2267:14;2368:12; 2401:20 entirely (2) 2211:11,15 entitled (6) 2234:4;2241:23; 2268:2,25;2321:5; 2406:18 entitlement (1) 2213:20 entitles (2) 2271:4;2368:12 entity (8) 2181:1,13;2218:6; 2265:16,18,22,25; 2266:17 enumerate (1) 2247:22 environment (1) 2175:12 envision (4) 2204:11;2213:9, 11,14 envisioned (3) 2184:18;2206:15; 2213:23 equal (5) 2266:7;2278:2,4; 2344:9;2369:2 equaling (1) 2273:16 equally (5) 2240:21;2404:24; 2405:14,22;2408:5 equals (5) 2270:2,3;2282:12; 2330:7;2340:18 equate (3) 2343:12,18; 2365:17 equated (1) 2365:20 equates (2) 2203:2;2338:14 equipped (1) 2308:8 equivalent (2) 2200:22;2207:6 ERBA (65) 2162:13,13; 2165:21;2166:1; 2168:13,15,18,22; 2169:3,21,24; 2170:8;2171:19,24; 2172:8;2175:16,19, 24;2185:6;2189:22; 2190:6,12;2200:11; 2201:20;2203:16,24; 2211:9;2221:15; 2222:21;2223:1; 2225:5,11,15; 2226:12;2227:17,18;</p>	<p>2229:3,25;2230:2; 2233:7;2239:4; 2242:12;2252:23; 2255:24;2258:10; 2262:4;2317:14; 2328:14;2340:4,8; 2385:6,21;2386:7,7, 11,16,19;2388:17, 20,20,20,21; 2389:14;2397:5,22 Erba' (2) 2389:22;2396:17 E-R-B-A (2) 2162:14;2168:15 Erba's (5) 2245:14;2320:20; 2321:3,4;2385:5 Eric (6) 2162:13;2168:15; 2388:20,20,20,21 E-R-I-C (2) 2162:13;2168:15 eroded (1) 2250:16 eroding (2) 2275:5;2405:8 erroneous (2) 2310:16,21 errors (2) 2337:17;2392:13 ERS (2) 2235:24;2236:11 especially (4) 2251:6;2290:4; 2311:1;2356:25 essence (1) 2205:2 essential (1) 2250:25 essentially (8) 2199:20;2220:25; 2271:23;2278:22; 2322:11;2340:11,24; 2353:18 establish (2) 2164:22;2276:10 established (3) 2199:11;2218:13; 2240:14 estate (1) 2237:16 estimate (3) 2319:21;2375:17, 19 estimated (1) 2264:8 estimates (2) 2264:1;2269:23 et (3) 2239:10;2267:3,3 evaluate (1) 2395:20 evaluation (3)</p>	<p>2288:7,10; 2334:14 Evans (1) 2247:12 even (17) 2163:19;2175:13; 2220:15;2249:1; 2258:22;2283:24; 2296:14;2316:1; 2318:7;2332:17; 2347:24;2349:11; 2352:10;2356:14; 2371:20;2386:9; 2400:25 evenly (1) 2352:17 event (1) 2265:13 eventuality (1) 2220:18 eventually (1) 2289:3 everybody (6) 2164:17;2332:18; 2352:17;2357:19; 2363:7,13 everybody's (1) 2374:4 everyone (7) 2160:21;2196:25; 2231:13;2256:24; 2279:19;2292:9; 2364:25 everywhere (1) 2388:5 evidence (22) 2160:10,12; 2164:21;2166:10,18; 2230:21;2244:16; 2306:1,2,4,9,10,12; 2307:8,9;2311:1; 2312:9,10;2314:5; 2317:22;2318:13; 2319:12 exact (5) 2170:23;2215:9; 2223:21;2299:12; 2372:14 exactly (27) 2169:10;2172:5; 2180:18;2199:24; 2215:11;2216:4; 2222:9;2223:13; 2272:7;2289:18; 2295:24;2298:13; 2301:16;2309:14; 2333:23;2337:24; 2338:3;2346:9; 2349:25;2354:7; 2356:19;2359:11; 2371:13;2375:14; 2380:23;2383:20; 2402:14</p>	<p>EXAMINATION (17) 2170:4;2225:12; 2231:18;2242:2; 2243:22;2255:13; 2259:18;2261:18; 2263:9;2267:17; 2269:3;2278:12; 2292:21;2320:13; 2389:14;2390:21; 2396:22 examine (3) 2234:16;2247:7; 2395:17 example (30) 2213:19;2218:1; 2226:4;2248:14; 2249:18;2251:5; 2253:18;2256:12; 2258:5;2260:7; 2264:3;2272:19; 2273:5,15;2278:21; 2280:13;2292:2; 2304:5;2319:23; 2322:9;2328:8; 2329:15;2335:22; 2336:2;2356:14; 2363:1;2365:23; 2384:21;2408:20,23 exceeds (1) 2239:25 excellent (2) 2234:19;2388:10 except (4) 2193:6;2214:12; 2227:4;2363:15 exception (3) 2173:8;2317:2,4 exchange (4) 2189:11;2199:5; 2246:20,20 exclude (4) 2312:1;2316:23; 2318:2;2319:11 excluded (3) 2310:1;2311:7; 2315:3 exclusive (1) 2251:7 excuse (6) 2171:8;2250:7; 2266:5;2279:6; 2378:18,18 Executive (1) 2163:1 Executive-in-Residence (1) 2238:5 exemplified (1) 2377:1 exempt (25) 2202:19,21,22; 2203:4;2395:20,24; 2396:4,9,11,14; 2397:14,20;2398:6;</p>
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<p>2403:11,18,19,22; 2404:21,25;2405:13, 15,23;2407:9,15; 2408:5 exemption (1) 2403:23 Exhibit (83) 2170:13,16; 2171:7,9,11; 2175:24;2178:7,8; 2181:4;2185:7; 2190:10,15;2191:10; 2193:18;2199:11; 2200:11;2202:17; 2204:3;2228:1; 2229:5;2231:8,9,13; 2232:25;2256:25; 2267:20;2279:1,3,5, 6,7,18,24;2290:11; 2291:4,5,6,6;2293:2, 16;2305:23;2306:1, 2,3,6,9,10,11; 2312:13;2321:3; 2326:17;2328:6,8; 2334:1;2335:24; 2336:3;2347:2,4,6; 2350:2,14;2359:2; 2362:18,18;2363:15; 2365:16;2372:24; 2374:15;2375:2,24; 2376:4;2377:2,12, 14;2395:13; 2397:24;2398:14; 2401:15;2404:1; 2406:1;2407:1,25; 2408:17 exhibits (11) 2160:13;2165:12; 2166:19;2167:1,21; 2173:16;2242:12; 2288:25;2289:6; 2305:17;2375:9 exist (4) 2219:14;2228:11; 2276:24;2357:6 existence (8) 2209:9;2251:16; 2344:4;2345:6; 2348:7;2359:6,19; 2361:2 existing (4) 2207:4;2265:16; 2348:1;2388:3 exists (5) 2172:1,15; 2220:14;2263:7; 2281:6 exit (1) 2277:20 exorbitant (1) 2251:20 expand (2) 2219:6;2296:3</p>	<p>expect (2) 2218:9;2360:19 expectation (1) 2323:2 expectations (2) 2322:17,24 expected (2) 2160:15;2319:19 expecting (1) 2207:17 expenditure (4) 2266:17,19; 2271:21;2371:7 expenditures (4) 2265:20;2266:24, 25;2370:22 experience (10) 2232:10;2236:19; 2238:24;2284:9; 2287:18,20,25; 2296:2,2,3 experienced (2) 2342:21,22 expert (34) 2233:12,20; 2287:13,17;2288:4, 6,19;2291:15; 2299:16,17;2305:10, 13;2306:24;2307:4, 6,10;2308:8,14; 2309:1,24;2310:6, 11,20,20,21,24; 2311:12,18;2318:13; 2319:1,3,5,24; 2320:2 expertise (2) 2236:20;2237:18 experts (8) 2308:19;2311:20; 2316:14;2319:17,21, 25;2320:4,8 expert's (4) 2307:15;2309:17; 2310:14,15 explain (4) 2173:20;2242:10; 2257:2;2314:24 explains (1) 2388:9 explanation (4) 2172:25;2173:24; 2257:24;2271:12 explicitly (1) 2193:14 exportation (1) 2264:4 exporter (1) 2236:15 exporting (1) 2298:25 express (5) 2245:4;2318:16, 17,18,25</p>	<p>expression (1) 2353:21 extend (1) 2217:19 extensive (5) 2232:15;2236:19; 2237:18;2244:13; 2287:17 extent (14) 2172:24;2220:24; 2239:20;2274:23; 2275:8;2314:16; 2318:2;2383:12; 2389:22,25;2401:11; 2404:7,8;2406:15 extra (5) 2324:16;2360:3,7, 8;2371:3 extras (1) 2279:19</p>	<p>2346:18 fair (10) 2303:5,22;2327:9, 13;2342:11; 2345:12;2357:7; 2399:14,18,20 fairly (1) 2362:19 falls (3) 2190:23;2283:1; 2370:5 familiar (2) 2396:14,16 familiarity (2) 2319:20;2320:6 families (1) 2324:8 family (5) 2237:9;2296:11; 2297:2,9;2348:8 family's (1) 2251:23 fan (2) 2347:23,24 far (13) 2167:8;2187:22; 2188:5;2195:24; 2198:14;2241:25; 2242:15;2253:2; 2318:5;2337:3; 2359:18;2375:13,15 Fargo (1) 2247:16 farm (23) 2202:12;2236:9, 10;2237:9;2240:9, 11,18,22,25;2241:7; 2245:19,23,24; 2247:15;2275:2; 2297:2,9;2302:20; 2312:15;2322:9; 2354:14;2369:1; 2404:12 Farmer (35) 2234:6;2259:10; 2275:14;2276:3; 2280:20,21,21,22; 2281:7,8,10,18,20, 21,22,22;2282:7,8,8, 15,15,25;2284:18; 2329:23;2330:2; 2351:7;2360:18; 2372:3,8,11;2377:9; 2383:16,17;2401:17; 2402:5 Farmers (77) 2162:1;2234:11; 2240:6;2241:6; 2244:4;2247:17,20; 2250:22,23;2251:4, 9,19,21;2252:4; 2260:19,20;2263:1; 2271:19;2275:6;</p>	<p>2280:15,20,24; 2281:2,12,16,23; 2282:1,2,4,10,16,19, 20,21;2283:4; 2284:8;2285:1,24; 2286:1;2287:3; 2328:9;2329:3,10; 2330:6,9,10;2331:3, 4;2335:2;2348:24; 2352:1,11,14,19; 2355:4,14;2358:4; 2362:20;2364:16,19; 2372:25;2373:16; 2376:10,14,16,17, 18;2381:12,23; 2382:13,14,19; 2398:17;2402:18; 2405:9;2408:23,25 farming (1) 2296:11 farms (7) 2209:22;2252:14; 2280:19;2336:6; 2351:20;2364:7,15 FAS (2) 2302:23;2303:23 fashion (1) 2257:22 fast (1) 2222:14 faster (1) 2234:21 fat (5) 2181:15;2241:8; 2242:24;2243:1,1 February (3) 2197:6;2387:9,13 Federal (81) 2161:15;2172:2, 16;2173:9;2174:10; 2176:1;2179:10; 2184:12;2188:18; 2190:10,14,23; 2191:3,4;2198:3,23; 2199:10,18;2201:10; 2204:6;2205:16,17, 19;2207:3,4,7; 2208:1,3,9,10,11; 2210:9,18;2213:6; 2214:10;2215:23; 2217:16;2219:14; 2222:1,5,7,8;2223:3; 2225:1,19;2226:2,9; 2236:24,25;2237:24; 2244:5;2246:7; 2264:7;2270:11; 2272:3,16;2273:13, 20,24,25;2285:16; 2298:15;2305:3; 2307:9;2315:9; 2317:11,21;2318:13; 2319:8;2322:2,25; 2333:7;2339:10,11;</p>
		F		
		<p>F2nd (3) 2308:2;2310:19; 2311:11 F3d (8) 2308:4,16,18; 2309:5,19,23; 2310:5,13 face (2) 2228:8;2399:24 facilities (2) 2174:6;2177:4 facility (2) 2217:14;2351:8 fact (21) 2179:8;2220:5; 2236:1;2244:4; 2304:14;2307:7,8, 12,13,18,21; 2310:10,11;2314:25; 2316:2,19;2318:21; 2319:18;2397:25; 2401:4;2403:18 factor (11) 2250:10;2323:5; 2325:12,14;2326:22; 2369:8,21;2374:10, 10,12,13 factors (11) 2321:18,21; 2325:3;2327:23; 2328:2;2335:11,15; 2363:25;2364:5; 2373:15;2401:12 facts (2) 2318:17,21 fact's (1) 2307:15 fails (1) 2265:25 failure (1)</p>		

<p>2345:8;2369:11; 2370:18;2389:19; 2398:1;2404:2,7 feed (8) 2165:6;2166:6; 2251:6;2284:15; 2360:11;2370:24; 2398:23;2399:25 feel (2) 2164:17;2166:24 Fellow (2) 2238:7,11 few (9) 2214:7;2217:9; 2292:3;2303:25; 2332:11;2347:25; 2348:11;2363:15; 2383:22 field (1) 2174:11 fifth (1) 2270:9 fight (2) 2312:6,6 figure (1) 2333:18 figures (3) 2239:25;2253:9; 2333:9 filing (1) 2183:19 Final (7) 2194:17;2266:4,8, 9,11;2364:1;2407:25 finally (3) 2315:14,14,15 finance (2) 2295:8;2310:13 financial (26) 2247:13;2248:20, 22;2249:6;2250:8, 14,16;2251:11; 2260:19;2275:6; 2276:2,4;2285:3; 2287:1;2295:5; 2366:2;2370:3; 2371:20,21;2372:25; 2373:16;2381:11,22; 2402:17;2405:8; 2408:2 financing (1) 2250:19 find (8) 2238:16;2253:16; 2265:24;2288:24; 2302:25;2315:19; 2336:5;2395:3 findings (2) 2267:16;2271:14 fine (4) 2193:15;2291:2; 2300:21;2386:20 finish (3)</p>	<p>2169:19;2384:23; 2386:8 finite (1) 2379:6 fire (1) 2309:25 firm (8) 2162:16;2163:22, 25;2232:1;2234:9; 2297:7,8,11 firms (6) 2247:10,25; 2248:4;2381:11,21; 2382:6 first (56) 2160:16,18; 2176:10,20,24; 2181:13;2191:17,18; 2194:7;2202:18; 2203:19;2204:4; 2205:3;2215:17; 2228:2;2231:1; 2233:6;2234:25; 2238:3;2241:24; 2242:4,14;2253:21; 2256:7;2261:24; 2269:12;2270:18,23; 2281:7,19;2283:17; 2286:6;2288:20; 2289:11;2290:4; 2292:6;2301:24; 2304:5;2306:19; 2308:13;2312:23; 2315:8;2317:9; 2320:11,20;2328:8, 23,24;2329:16; 2340:2;2348:22; 2378:8;2379:4; 2386:23;2405:4; 2410:13 fish (1) 2215:10 five (16) 2182:7;2203:2,5, 6;2208:21,23; 2209:25;2210:1; 2212:19;2247:16; 2268:13,14,15; 2304:5;2347:2; 2372:24 five-minute (1) 2358:16 five-year (1) 2253:5 fix (1) 2379:25 fixed (3) 2218:11,18; 2240:13 flags (1) 2200:4 flexibility (2) 2384:12,14</p>	<p>flow (12) 2244:23;2247:4; 2249:12;2250:25; 2251:4;2280:3; 2281:2;2305:19; 2362:25;2398:21,21; 2400:1 flowing (1) 2354:13 flows (6) 2184:6;2250:10; 2266:4;2352:13,18; 2377:8 fluctuating (1) 2344:21 fly (4) 2343:1,3;2358:12, 21 flying (1) 2358:13 FMMO (23) 2237:1;2244:5; 2245:20;2274:1,23; 2275:18,24;2276:5, 10;2277:8,12,14,22; 2278:3,6,8;2285:23; 2286:15;2312:16; 2314:16;2315:16; 2398:2;2404:8 focus (1) 2354:25 focused (1) 2349:24 fold (1) 2391:13 folks (6) 2169:14;2303:13; 2323:24;2342:25; 2367:4;2409:9 follow (11) 2213:4;2216:3; 2217:16,22;2280:10; 2283:6,8;2372:11, 13,17;2409:22 followed (3) 2175:21;2318:7; 2351:11 following (30) 2178:12;2179:13; 2181:17,21;2182:5, 13,16;2183:9,12,16; 2203:1;2206:1; 2222:11;2233:16; 2243:2;2249:9; 2254:10;2256:24; 2258:4;2267:15; 2270:24;2274:4,9, 20;2275:23;2285:6; 2286:6,7;2338:8; 2404:4 follows (6) 2178:5;2217:11, 15;2259:15;</p>	<p>2261:15;2401:20 followup (2) 2188:11;2408:21 Food (23) 2167:5;2178:15; 2179:18;2184:17; 2199:16;2200:12; 2201:6,13,16; 2204:10;2207:11; 2223:4;2229:8,11; 2239:9,11;2240:3; 2252:16;2255:21; 2261:12;2264:20; 2285:20;2304:9 Foods (3) 2163:3,8,16 footnote (13) 2235:18;2240:1; 2241:10;2247:11,14, 18;2254:23,25; 2264:17;2269:21; 2272:21;2276:9; 2309:6 footnoted (5) 2235:9,24; 2236:11;2252:15; 2255:19 footnotes (1) 2380:13 Forbes (2) 2347:10;2349:12 forced (2) 2330:17;2399:3 forecast (1) 2364:2 forecasted (2) 2277:8;2278:21 foregoes (1) 2265:22 foregoing (1) 2254:14 Foreign (3) 2237:2;2287:22; 2298:3 foreseeability (1) 2311:14 forest (1) 2203:22 forever (1) 2218:18 forget (1) 2355:8 forgot (2) 2365:14;2374:25 form (3) 2223:18;2249:21; 2255:25 format (1) 2289:6 former (2) 2204:23;2205:2 forms (2) 2178:5;2327:12</p>	<p>formulas (1) 2249:2 formulating (1) 2225:17 formulation (1) 2239:14 forth (5) 2224:4;2227:12, 14;2344:17;2380:18 forward (6) 2174:18;2291:19; 2318:8;2323:1; 2349:16;2351:4 found (7) 2173:5;2197:17; 2288:6;2289:2; 2297:4;2313:22; 2406:10 founded (1) 2297:5 four (16) 2202:18;2203:6; 2261:8;2280:20,25; 2281:2;2282:1,12; 2283:5,23;2296:7; 2304:24;2330:9; 2372:24;2408:23,25 fourth (6) 2260:4;2270:6,6; 2283:2,13,16 FRANCIS (53) 2160:21,22; 2176:2,4;2185:4,5, 19,20;2186:18; 2187:4,6;2188:7,9, 10,24;2189:3,4; 2190:5,7,8;2195:20, 21,23;2196:1,7,10; 2197:11,12,18,20, 21;2200:10,10,18, 19;2202:15; 2203:14;2211:2; 2213:2,3;2227:19, 21,22;2384:10,10; 2388:6,7,7;2408:12, 14,15;2410:2,5 F-R-A-N-C-I-S (1) 2160:22 free (1) 2166:24 Fresno (1) 2313:22 Friday (8) 2164:12,13; 2170:9;2220:3; 2320:24;2389:14,23; 2396:18 friends (1) 2383:16 FRISIUS (5) 2161:3,3;2231:6; 2279:4;2347:3 F-R-I-S-I-U-S (1)</p>
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<p>2161:4 front (10) 2171:17;2204:3; 2279:23;2300:20; 2301:14;2325:16; 2339:20;2358:1; 2399:17;2401:13 frosting (1) 2289:7 fulfill (2) 2210:5,8 full (17) 2202:18;2213:20; 2219:6;2238:17; 2246:13;2274:25; 2286:7,18;2314:18; 2328:3;2329:7; 2335:5;2347:14; 2377:25;2396:10; 2398:8;2404:9 fully (8) 2174:13;2284:22; 2285:2;2286:15; 2288:2;2315:16; 2346:13;2406:2 function (8) 2213:12;2216:6; 2217:19;2223:16; 2224:25;2225:1,2; 2318:15 functions (6) 2199:19;2210:14, 16;2218:6;2225:25; 2246:21 fund (16) 2169:6;2182:15, 17;2183:6;2184:2; 2185:21;2186:11; 2194:1,2,9;2214:22, 22,25;2215:4; 2223:6;2226:6 fundamental (1) 2288:23 funded (1) 2223:11 funds (5) 2187:8;2194:3; 2212:8,14;2343:23 further (15) 2169:20;2185:1; 2247:24;2261:14; 2276:7;2293:18; 2314:15;2319:22; 2344:14;2350:11,14; 2357:16;2359:16; 2376:14;2408:7 Furthermore (1) 2310:2 future (7) 2212:4;2246:18; 2314:1;2326:21; 2369:11;2374:17; 2401:5</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">G</p> <p>gain (7) 2342:16;2346:6,8, 18;2348:16;2349:3; 2350:22 gained (1) 2342:22 gains (2) 2267:11;2346:12 Gamble (2) 2293:9,12 game (3) 2347:23,24; 2348:11 gaps (1) 2301:20 gave (5) 2199:14;2337:19; 2372:20;2381:24; 2388:19 GDP (11) 2235:8;2270:14; 2272:11;2273:9,18; 2287:8;2305:1; 2338:12,15;2356:5, 21 General (8) 2161:18,20; 2222:8;2257:22; 2287:14;2294:4; 2313:20;2332:20 generally (13) 2263:16;2270:4; 2271:7;2288:8,14; 2291:17;2305:11,15; 2306:21;2311:17; 2313:2;2319:19; 2346:14 generated (8) 2266:25;2270:7, 10,11;2344:1,2; 2351:20,24 generates (3) 2266:19;2341:22, 23 generating (1) 2326:23 generation (1) 2287:9 generic (1) 2257:22 Genske (1) 2247:12 geographic (4) 2254:20;2259:7; 2263:23;2265:16 geographical (1) 2254:16 gets (21) 2180:11;2281:7,9, 10,21,21,22,22;</p>	<p>2282:8,9,12,15,15, 23,23;2322:17; 2330:2;2357:23; 2360:13;2363:13; 2410:1 GF (1) 2309:4 Gilbert (2) 2355:24;2356:3 given (18) 2164:7;2174:14; 2215:15;2223:9; 2224:1;2257:17; 2306:17;2311:4; 2320:17;2321:24; 2326:13;2334:18; 2335:4;2345:21; 2349:9;2367:12; 2369:15;2406:12 gives (4) 2259:7;2398:20; 2399:22;2401:2 giving (1) 2332:11 glad (4) 2164:19;2296:3; 2330:1;2360:5 glasses (1) 2269:10 global (2) 2251:25;2287:4 globally-aligned (1) 2236:4 goal (5) 2174:21,22,22,23, 24 goals (3) 2174:20;2175:6, 15 goes (16) 2167:8;2171:5; 2193:17;2199:17; 2253:5,22;2256:20; 2282:22;2355:4,7, 16;2373:19,20; 2374:4;2377:22; 2391:13 Goldberg (2) 2294:11,12 golly (1) 2369:10 Gonzalves (1) 2239:8 Good (58) 2160:21,25; 2161:3;2162:7,11, 13,15,23;2163:2,7,9, 21,24;2168:22,23; 2181:4;2184:7; 2187:22;2188:5; 2189:21,25;2194:13; 2195:19;2196:6; 2211:24;2219:18;</p>	<p>2230:14;2231:14,14, 20,21;2246:23,25; 2259:7;2262:21; 2292:23,24;2310:9; 2320:15;2321:20; 2322:10;2323:17; 2324:25;2325:11; 2370:7;2383:15; 2384:15;2385:11,14, 19;2386:7;2387:18; 2388:12;2390:22; 2393:7;2400:13; 2402:8;2403:24 goods (5) 2265:23;2266:10, 11,12,13 gov (1) 2235:12 government (9) 2205:17,18; 2217:13,15;2263:19; 2272:3;2273:14,20; 2339:7 governments (2) 2264:7;2273:19 Governor (1) 2298:9 Grade (1) 2241:19 Graduate (2) 2238:6,14 graph (2) 2321:5,6 grasp (1) 2181:11 grateful (2) 2189:23,24 Gray (1) 2298:9 great (13) 2189:20;2197:19; 2199:17;2228:25; 2249:8;2286:23; 2292:10;2358:17; 2376:25;2377:5; 2385:11;2388:10,11 greater (6) 2220:6,16; 2240:15;2271:8; 2357:9;2363:14 Green (4) 2247:12;2328:24; 2329:19;2409:4 groceries (1) 2348:10 Gross (17) 2235:8;2267:8; 2269:18;2270:3,3,5; 2271:22;2352:5,13; 2353:9,17;2360:17; 2361:1;2363:6,16; 2378:17;2379:10 grounds (1)</p>	<p>2308:3 Group (4) 2231:25;2234:8; 2299:9;2301:21 grown (1) 2235:7 guess (20) 2174:3;2175:7; 2209:5;2221:5; 2293:10;2312:14; 2320:12;2323:5; 2324:24;2328:23,25; 2329:19;2331:21; 2333:11;2338:8; 2342:19;2362:7; 2380:10,11;2394:5 guidelines (1) 2239:13 guys (1) 2224:1</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">H</p> <p>half (5) 2299:11,21; 2300:3,23;2325:19 hall (1) 2316:15 hallmark (1) 2251:15 HANCOCK (10) 2163:11,11; 2395:10,11;2400:18; 2404:20;2406:21,24; 2407:23;2408:8 H-A-N-C-O-C-K (1) 2163:11 Hancock's (1) 2400:8 hand (9) 2170:19;2190:9; 2211:2;2230:19; 2231:12;2279:18; 2288:22;2318:7; 2393:13 handed (2) 2190:20;2279:11 handful (1) 2299:20 handle (3) 2372:20;2387:10; 2388:2 handled (2) 2271:5;2385:9 Handler (33) 2177:3;2178:1; 2181:14,20,20,24; 2182:1,14,22; 2183:9,13,15,17,18, 22;2184:13; 2185:23;2186:10; 2187:12,15;2204:6, 7;2205:9,11;2213:5,</p>
--	--	--	---	---

<p>8,11,19;2215:3; 2216:2,8;2221:20; 2387:25</p> <p>Handlers (27) 2163:13,17; 2176:22,23;2179:12, 19,23;2181:19; 2182:11,12,17; 2184:17;2187:8,16, 19,24;2192:20,21; 2195:6;2212:8; 2215:22,23,24; 2222:17;2351:16,17; 2395:12</p> <p>handlers' (3) 2180:7;2182:3; 2194:1</p> <p>hands (1) 2324:6</p> <p>Hanson (3) 2162:3,4,9</p> <p>H-A-N-S-O-N (1) 2162:4</p> <p>happen (7) 2199:19;2201:18; 2214:23;2215:7; 2329:5;2380:1; 2384:9</p> <p>happened (1) 2361:23</p> <p>happening (5) 2283:9;2309:14; 2311:22,23;2364:2</p> <p>happens (12) 2180:18;2182:24; 2197:6;2201:9; 2208:15;2209:4; 2215:22;2362:3; 2364:7,18;2372:23; 2382:8</p> <p>happy (5) 2173:23;2222:18; 2288:3;2292:8; 2316:25</p> <p>hard (4) 2348:4;2384:11; 2386:9;2390:19</p> <p>harder (1) 2337:5</p> <p>hardly (1) 2347:25</p> <p>harm (1) 2276:4</p> <p>Harvard (4) 2238:13;2294:1,6, 16</p> <p>hat (2) 2175:2,4</p> <p>Hatamiya (58) 2230:17;2231:2, 20,24;2233:25; 2234:2,7,8;2242:4; 2243:11;2245:16;</p>	<p>2256:6;2257:24; 2260:14;2262:23; 2267:22;2268:20,23; 2269:5;2271:17; 2274:13;2279:23; 2284:2;2285:14; 2286:13;2287:11,12; 2288:18;2289:4; 2291:14;2292:23; 2301:21;2305:10,13; 2306:6,20;2314:7; 2317:12;2320:11,15; 2347:9,20;2348:5; 2350:13;2353:1; 2375:1;2384:17; 2386:5,8,10;2389:2, 5;2392:25;2395:13; 2400:5,5;2410:10,11</p> <p>H-A-T-A-M-I-Y-A (2) 2230:17;2231:2</p> <p>Hatamiya's (3) 2305:18;2384:23; 2390:9</p> <p>hate (1) 2373:14</p> <p>head (7) 2184:22;2281:25; 2295:21;2296:21; 2330:23;2333:10,19</p> <p>header (2) 2339:12,16</p> <p>heading (6) 2176:11,21; 2177:6,20;2190:21; 2226:24</p> <p>headings (2) 2290:7;2391:14</p> <p>heads (1) 2181:9</p> <p>hear (6) 2196:25;2316:25; 2317:24;2396:20,25; 2397:17</p> <p>heard (4) 2216:24;2244:18; 2317:1;2389:13</p> <p>Hearing (32) 2160:8,11;2164:8, 10,19,23;2165:5,10; 2168:4;2169:15; 2173:1;2174:4,7; 2190:16;2191:11; 2193:18;2201:4,15, 18;2202:3,6;2219:3, 9;2232:22;2238:3; 2244:17;2294:16; 2302:12;2317:10,17; 2322:25,25</p> <p>hearings (10) 2173:2,4;2174:15; 2175:9;2209:3; 2214:16;2302:4,8,9, 16</p>	<p>hearsay (1) 2311:2</p> <p>heavily (2) 2318:20;2319:7</p> <p>held (11) 2201:2,11;2202:1, 2,6;2213:21; 2218:25;2310:5; 2313:25;2368:14; 2396:12</p> <p>help (13) 2167:20,24; 2189:14,23;2190:11; 2198:9;2307:7; 2315:1;2320:6; 2358:20;2359:3; 2360:24;2399:23</p> <p>helped (2) 2251:4;2350:25</p> <p>helpful (8) 2180:19;2303:15; 2307:20;2316:17; 2324:13;2380:20; 2388:16;2410:2</p> <p>helps (1) 2293:24</p> <p>Henry (1) 2161:13</p> <p>H-E-N-R-Y (1) 2161:13</p> <p>here's (3) 2361:2,22; 2381:1</p> <p>Herrington (3) 2293:7;2296:7,8</p> <p>herself (1) 2371:4</p> <p>hesitate (1) 2294:10</p> <p>hide (1) 2290:14</p> <p>high (7) 2220:7;2237:15; 2298:19;2321:12; 2355:17;2374:4,4</p> <p>higher (12) 2220:23;2237:17; 2251:5;2273:14; 2277:13,15;2332:9; 2336:16;2368:1; 2369:23;2373:3; 2390:1</p> <p>highest (1) 2258:13</p> <p>highlight (2) 2346:3;2359:16</p> <p>highlighted (1) 2241:21</p> <p>highlights (1) 2289:1</p> <p>highly (1) 2356:17</p> <p>Hill (13)</p>	<p>2161:19,19; 2167:3,6,7,18; 2168:1,1,10; 2228:21,21,21; 2279:3</p> <p>H-I-L-L (1) 2161:19</p> <p>Hilmar (4) 2163:5,10;2214:6; 2351:6</p> <p>himself (1) 2410:9</p> <p>hires (1) 2265:18</p> <p>Historical (9) 2240:2;2241:11; 2248:4;2366:25; 2367:1;2402:22,24; 2403:8,12</p> <p>Historically (3) 2240:16;2242:13; 2354:20</p> <p>history (17) 2209:18;2285:2; 2293:5;2308:24; 2309:2,9,10; 2312:24;2313:2,4,4, 7,9,12,16,24;2340:3</p> <p>hit (1) 2296:21</p> <p>hold (5) 2323:19;2343:8; 2372:3;2397:7,21</p> <p>holder (4) 2324:16;2360:3; 2371:8;2400:25</p> <p>holders (27) 2254:6;2257:10; 2277:10,20,22; 2278:1,1,4;2324:6,8; 2344:8,16,23; 2345:2,13;2346:1,4; 2348:23;2349:25; 2350:8;2360:4; 2366:19;2400:22; 2403:18,22;2405:20, 23</p> <p>holding (6) 2256:1;2258:8; 2326:10;2335:9,9; 2396:3</p> <p>holdings (10) 2181:19;2241:1; 2247:25;2248:19; 2250:21;2255:2; 2315:23;2342:9; 2383:4;2398:16</p> <p>holds (1) 2257:17</p> <p>holiday (2) 2190:24;2197:7</p> <p>holidays (4) 2188:12;2190:14;</p>	<p>2191:3,3</p> <p>Hollon (1) 2216:14</p> <p>home (2) 2357:1;2358:3</p> <p>Honor (78) 2162:15;2167:6; 2168:19;2170:3,23; 2171:15;2196:20; 2200:9;2203:20; 2230:11,13,16; 2233:9;2234:24; 2237:11;2244:8,18; 2245:12;2253:12; 2257:3;2268:7; 2274:7,17;2279:1, 11;2285:5,15; 2286:5,14;2287:12; 2288:16,21;2289:20; 2290:4,22;2291:8, 18;2292:19; 2293:17;2305:5,6, 16;2306:13,14,19; 2307:3,5,23;2308:5, 14;2309:1,12; 2310:23;2311:3,22; 2312:12;2314:25; 2315:21;2317:3,18; 2318:6,23;2321:2; 2351:5;2364:20; 2365:9,10;2385:3; 2386:22;2388:14; 2390:6;2392:20,22; 2393:8;2400:14; 2406:5;2407:19; 2410:15</p> <p>honors (4) 2284:22;2286:16; 2315:16;2406:2</p> <p>Honor's (2) 2317:8;2318:11</p> <p>hope (3) 2165:19;2175:20; 2212:21</p> <p>hopefully (5) 2188:7;2270:21; 2283:6;2408:16,22</p> <p>hoping (5) 2358:17;2384:23, 25;2389:4;2408:9</p> <p>hostile (1) 2309:25</p> <p>hour (1) 2375:11</p> <p>hourly (1) 2375:10</p> <p>hours (2) 2347:25;2375:12</p> <p>household (1) 2267:4</p> <p>http (1) 2235:10</p> <p>huge (1)</p>
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<p>2355:18 hundred (5) 2237:22;2242:18; 2281:7;2346:24; 2350:25 hundredweight (14) 2240:15,18; 2241:7;2262:7; 2280:16,17;2281:6, 17;2328:9,10,11; 2330:11;2352:11; 2409:19 hunter (1) 2358:18 hurdle (1) 2200:8 hyphen (1) 2164:10 hypothetical (3) 2280:7;2365:6; 2399:9 hypothetically (1) 2380:7</p>	<p>21;2371:23 immaterial (1) 2318:3 immediately (2) 2281:4;2283:22 impact (64) 2188:12;2238:23; 2263:5,9,11,13,17, 17,22,24;2264:8,10; 2265:8,13,15,16,21; 2266:1;2268:2,25; 2271:7,20;2272:17; 2273:22,23;2274:3, 5,19,21;2275:20,23; 2276:8,9;2277:1; 2278:10,16;2304:25; 2321:22;2322:4; 2323:1,16;2326:15; 2338:7,14,16; 2339:1;2340:10; 2345:11,17,20; 2346:17;2355:18,21; 2356:18;2357:5; 2358:2;2361:6,10, 17;2364:1;2374:14; 2390:8;2404:5; 2408:25 impacted (2) 2240:8,10 impacts (25) 2237:13;2264:4; 2265:21,22;2266:23; 2267:1,4,6,10,13; 2284:13;2287:6; 2304:20;2305:1; 2340:1;2349:20,21; 2352:24;2354:6; 2359:17;2361:5; 2364:7;2370:18; 2390:3;2392:3 impermissible (2) 2244:11;2285:8 IMPLAN (13) 2265:9,10,12; 2266:9;2267:7,24; 2269:20,22;2270:7, 10,12;2304:25; 2338:7 I-M-P-L-A-N (1) 2265:10 implemented (1) 2219:12 Importance (4) 2234:4;2238:25; 2334:18;2381:5 important (19) 2198:2;2203:23; 2235:2,5;2236:17; 2244:1;2246:21; 2258:4;2263:4; 2268:8;2286:21; 2309:7;2339:23; 2357:2;2358:4;</p>	<p>2373:13,13,15; 2391:21 importantly (1) 2248:12 imports (2) 2266:7,15 impossible (2) 2367:4,6 impressible (1) 2286:8 improper (3) 2175:13;2309:17; 2315:12 improve (1) 2363:17 improved (1) 2374:17 inactive (2) 2199:20;2296:16 inadmissible (1) 2314:13 inappropriate (1) 2390:12 Inc (1) 2162:14 incentive (1) 2330:14 inception (2) 2240:7;2368:7 inclinations (1) 2318:11 include (8) 2208:21;2335:20; 2342:7;2371:9,10, 11;2393:1;2395:24 included (12) 2247:11;2253:17; 2311:8;2345:13; 2383:9;2392:10; 2393:3;2396:1,4,5; 2398:9;2407:19 includes (7) 2180:10;2206:2; 2247:15;2265:21; 2269:13;2371:3; 2376:9 including (8) 2160:15;2213:20; 2236:25;2237:15; 2247:18;2287:18,21; 2298:18 inclusion (1) 2274:8 inclusive (1) 2392:19 income (44) 2246:18;2249:13; 2267:5;2322:12; 2324:16,16;2325:6; 2326:7,13,21,23,24; 2327:3;2334:24; 2335:10;2348:8,15, 22,24,25;2355:10;</p>	<p>2360:3,7,8,10,13,18; 2367:17;2368:13,17, 20;2369:1,16,23; 2370:9,10;2371:4; 2372:18;2373:1,7, 18;2374:8,21;2383:8 Incorporated (8) 2234:11,12,12; 2247:20,20,21,21; 2285:1 incorrect (5) 2353:22,23,24,25; 2354:1 incorrectly (2) 2197:6;2365:19 increase (3) 2363:7;2380:5; 2399:6 increased (2) 2267:4;2401:2 increases (2) 2249:17;2287:8 increasing (8) 2251:1,4;2252:10; 2323:14;2398:21,22; 2399:23,25 increasingly (3) 2251:19,24; 2287:4 increments (1) 2253:5 indeed (1) 2309:13 Independence (2) 2410:19,21 independent (3) 2234:14;2381:4; 2395:15 independently (1) 2179:24 India (1) 2235:21 Indians (1) 2310:4 indicate (1) 2276:19 indicated (4) 2170:1;2206:22; 2297:1;2392:2 indication (4) 2198:18;2199:3; 2200:8;2309:16 Indicators (1) 2235:19 indirect (6) 2264:13;2265:2; 2266:14,25;2267:6,7 indirectly (2) 2298:22,23 individual (18) 2179:4;2183:14, 15;2185:18; 2187:24;2240:24;</p>	<p>2241:6;2248:17; 2272:18;2275:11,14; 2284:17;2314:1,3; 2375:22;2376:10,10; 2405:20 individuals (2) 2185:16;2186:23 induced (4) 2264:13;2265:2; 2267:4,8 industrial (1) 2263:20 industries (3) 2237:15,19; 2266:10 industry (25) 2232:19;2234:15; 2235:4,22;2236:3, 16;2238:25;2240:2; 2241:11;2244:2; 2259:11;2263:19; 2266:5;2269:22; 2275:12;2286:21; 2287:2;2300:14; 2323:25;2338:24; 2381:5;2395:16; 2401:18;2405:21; 2408:4 Industry's (1) 2235:2 inference (1) 2214:13 influence (3) 2221:6;2376:25; 2377:5 information (31) 2178:21;2179:17; 2189:11;2192:21; 2198:1,2;2199:5; 2204:11,12;2206:5, 17,23,24;2207:16, 16,18,22;2211:22; 2213:10,22,24; 2214:1;2224:4; 2242:8;2252:19; 2257:12,19;2263:25; 2315:22;2324:10; 2333:17;2382:6 informational (1) 2211:18 infrastructural (1) 2263:20 Infrastructure (1) 2304:11 initial (1) 2321:1 initially (5) 2183:19;2307:17; 2323:23;2367:14; 2402:20 initiate (1) 2180:15 initiated (1)</p>
I				
<p>idea (8) 2184:8;2208:11; 2219:23;2223:22; 2316:19;2322:10; 2327:17;2380:19 identical (6) 2204:19;2206:18; 2222:2;2227:1,9; 2241:9 identification (4) 2231:10;2265:1; 2279:8;2347:7 identified (3) 2164:2;2194:17; 2329:20 identify (5) 2161:23;2163:19; 2257:10;2357:4; 2359:4 Identifying (3) 2264:12;2319:25; 2360:23 ignore (2) 2346:1;2391:20 ignored (2) 2315:24;2357:25 II (2) 2239:2;2249:12 III (3) 2173:9;2243:21; 2249:14 illustrates (1) 2362:18 illustration (2) 2283:12;2376:5 imagine (4) 2296:24;2350:18,</p>				

<p>2180:14 ink (1) 2290:12 input-output (3) 2265:7,11;2266:3 inputs (3) 2267:6;2284:14; 2402:7 inquire (2) 2253:8;2384:6 instance (6) 2204:24;2207:5; 2220:25;2349:23,24; 2366:5 instances (1) 2349:4 instead (5) 2330:9;2357:20; 2358:7;2368:1; 2372:23 Institute (7) 2162:18,22,24; 2163:1;2197:3; 2320:16;2371:20 Institutes' (1) 2276:23 Institute's (7) 2275:25;2276:5; 2277:3,18;2278:16; 2279:25;2284:5 institutions (13) 2247:14;2248:20, 23;2249:7;2250:8, 14;2370:3;2371:21; 2373:1,17;2381:12, 22;2402:6 instruct (1) 2365:12 instruction (2) 2365:13,15 Insurance (1) 2309:22 insure (1) 2257:11 intact (1) 2285:18 intangible (6) 2248:8,10;2249:8; 2370:2,6;2402:13 integral (1) 2244:3 intent (1) 2321:25 intention (1) 2376:4 interchangeably (1) 2183:25 interest (2) 2369:20,24 interested (6) 2168:5;2189:7,9; 2197:23;2198:4; 2393:15</p>	<p>interject (1) 2390:7 interjects (1) 2406:8 intermediate (1) 2266:4 international (7) 2236:5;2237:13; 2238:9,11,20; 2297:11;2311:10 interpret (7) 2199:24,25; 2286:8;2311:20; 2314:19;2316:2,20 interpretation (8) 2212:4;2244:10, 11;2309:10; 2312:19;2313:20; 2314:25;2315:12 interpretations (1) 2310:22 interpreted (3) 2197:11,13; 2309:9 interpreting (2) 2314:5;2338:13 interrupt (4) 2244:22;2386:3,5, 10 interrupting (2) 2306:17;2364:23 into (39) 2165:12;2167:3; 2168:4;2172:9; 2174:13;2179:5; 2182:14;2186:11; 2199:17;2203:8; 2207:11;2223:24; 2253:10;2267:19; 2269:10;2276:15,17; 2281:25;2290:1; 2305:25;2306:2,4,8, 10,12;2316:10; 2329:6;2330:14; 2334:2;2341:3; 2352:23;2354:24; 2370:5;2390:3; 2399:4;2402:12; 2403:20;2405:5; 2409:2 intricacies (1) 2320:7 introduce (1) 2388:8 Introduction (1) 2234:25 invaded (1) 2310:15 invalid (1) 2316:3 Invaluable (10) 2234:6;2250:17, 24;2260:21;2275:5;</p>	<p>2284:11;2286:25; 2398:19;2405:8; 2408:2 inventory (1) 2270:1 inverse (1) 2214:22 inversely (1) 2369:19 invest (1) 2322:12 invested (3) 2174:5;2285:25; 2344:20 investment (70) 2248:7;2251:11, 18;2252:5;2260:19, 21;2263:1;2269:17; 2270:17,19;2271:18; 2272:10,13;2284:11; 2285:3;2287:1,6; 2337:8;2338:14; 2339:3;2341:16; 2344:13,15,22,23; 2345:3;2355:9,10; 2357:24;2358:3,8; 2360:7;2361:11; 2362:15;2365:17,18, 22;2366:2,4;2367:8, 12,18,19,21;2368:4; 2369:9;2373:10,12; 2377:15,19,24,24; 2378:1,4,5,7,15,19, 21,23;2380:1; 2400:17;2402:17,19; 2403:3,14,22; 2404:22;2405:13; 2408:3 investments (7) 2263:3;2268:3; 2269:1;2275:6; 2335:19;2354:7; 2405:8 invisible (2) 2290:10,12 invitation (1) 2288:22 invite (2) 2166:11;2228:17 involve (2) 2300:12,13 involved (3) 2174:6;2181:1; 2383:23 involves (1) 2181:1 involving (1) 2383:22 irrelevant (2) 2314:2;2318:3 irreparable (1) 2252:4 irrevocable (1)</p>	<p>2277:20 issue (19) 2198:14;2205:15, 22;2222:15;2228:8; 2229:18;2289:11,12; 2290:21;2300:14; 2306:15;2307:8; 2308:5,15;2311:5; 2317:1;2385:15; 2390:7;2391:9 issued (7) 2241:13,15; 2243:16;2257:21; 2259:24;2340:5; 2341:9 issues (16) 2189:8;2197:24; 2204:2,24;2209:1; 2212:7;2215:19; 2225:18;2238:1; 2303:6,12;2307:25; 2308:23;2310:11,20; 2386:6 Italy (1) 2235:20 itemized (2) 2261:7,24 iv (5) 2249:15;2263:8,9; 2286:20;2401:21</p>	<p>2354:12 John (11) 2161:10;2162:3; 2163:9;2170:6; 2200:9;2214:6; 2225:14,14;2351:5; 2385:3,17 J-O-H-N (2) 2161:10;2162:4 joined (1) 2282:19 joining (1) 2282:24 joint (6) 2189:10;2293:19; 2295:1,13,16;2296:6 JUDGE (233) 2160:6,10; 2161:21;2163:18; 2164:1,25;2165:3; 2166:1;2167:12,14, 17;2168:10,16,24; 2169:23;2170:16,19, 25;2171:7,11,14,16, 19,22;2172:4,8; 2175:18;2176:4,6,9, 14,17,20,23;2177:2, 5,8,11,17,22;2178:6, 12;2179:7,12,16; 2180:2,13,21,24; 2181:4,7;2182:19, 22;2183:2,7,11,17, 21,24;2184:1,4,7,11, 16,21;2185:11,14; 2186:9,13,19,22; 2187:3;2188:8,23; 2189:21,25;2190:4; 2195:20,24;2196:6, 21,24;2197:16,19; 2200:14,17;2201:20; 2202:8,14;2203:14; 2204:4;2206:9; 2207:22;2210:6; 2211:1,8,24;2214:3; 2216:7;2221:15; 2222:10,20;2225:5, 8,10,15,25;2226:11; 2227:16;2228:17,25; 2229:15,23;2230:6, 9,18,24;2231:3,7,12; 2233:10,21;2234:18, 23;2244:15,19; 2245:7,10;2253:8, 15,20;2254:4,8; 2256:16,22;2257:15; 2261:3;2268:6,8,12, 18;2274:11,16; 2279:2,5,9,10,13,17; 2285:11;2286:11; 2288:5,11,13,17; 2289:10;2291:3,9, 24;2292:10,13,17; 2293:14;2305:9,20;</p>
J				
<p>James (1) 2163:4 J-A-M-E-S (1) 2163:4 January (9) 2240:13;2254:15; 2255:4,18;2259:12; 2264:18;2393:22; 2394:4,25 JD (10) 2234:2;2243:11; 2256:6;2260:14; 2262:23;2268:23; 2271:17;2284:2; 2295:13,16 JD/MBA (1) 2293:19 Jill (1) 2160:9 Joaquin (1) 2259:6 job (10) 2237:6;2264:1,4; 2272:13;2287:8; 2298:17,17;2308:6; 2348:1;2354:10 jobs (10) 2264:9;2272:1,13; 2273:10,18;2338:22, 23;2347:15,20;</p>				

2306:5,25;2307:4, 19;2308:9;2310:16; 2316:6;2317:4; 2318:1,9;2319:16; 2327:18;2332:22,24; 2347:1,4;2350:13, 17,21;2351:3; 2358:15,20,24; 2365:1,3,5;2367:24; 2378:20;2381:13,17; 2384:4,15,25; 2385:11,14,19; 2386:2,5,16,20; 2387:15,18,21,24; 2388:6,10,12,15,24; 2390:17,23;2392:16, 21;2393:5,7;2400:5, 9;2404:17;2406:6, 15,18;2407:20; 2408:8;2410:1,5,9, 17,21	Kern-Los (2) 2257:5;2258:12 KeyArena (1) 2348:3 kind (20) 2164:8;2167:8,13, 22;2184:23;2205:1; 2207:19;2223:24; 2224:2;2280:6; 2297:7;2301:25; 2322:6,13,17; 2326:6;2328:11; 2344:8;2354:15; 2382:2 kinds (1) 2160:12 Kings (1) 2259:6 knew (2) 2364:4;2394:24 knowing (2) 2329:7;2396:10 knowledge (3) 2199:7;2308:21; 2370:19 known (2) 2310:25;2349:11 knows (2) 2180:3;2184:23 Kristine (1) 2163:21 K-R-I-S-T-I-N-E (1) 2163:22	2229:9,10,18; 2245:19;2274:25; 2285:6;2309:15; 2312:15;2314:18; 2387:7;2404:10; 2406:9 lapse (1) 2307:1 large (4) 2258:3,24;2363:5; 2364:8 largely (1) 2212:4 larger (3) 2277:21;2359:10; 2364:6 largest (7) 2235:17;2236:12; 2256:1;2258:11; 2298:24,25;2323:25 last (37) 2163:15;2170:9; 2175:9;2178:16; 2185:7,8;2186:6; 2193:20;2197:12,13; 2221:20;2228:12; 2231:2;2232:7; 2233:8;2243:3,5; 2252:23;2253:3,3; 2256:10;2261:7; 2262:4,10;2270:13; 2288:25;2295:20; 2297:24;2305:7; 2320:23,23;2324:3; 2325:13;2391:9; 2397:25;2407:11,24 Lastly (2) 2252:1;2407:24 late (1) 2321:13 later (10) 2164:13;2192:16; 2194:4,9,23; 2207:18;2229:20; 2245:15;2359:14; 2402:7 latest (1) 2228:7 laughing (1) 2343:1 Laurel (2) 2161:7;2167:8 L-A-U-R-E-L (1) 2161:7 Lauren (1) 2161:17 L-A-U-R-E-N (1) 2161:17 Law (46) 2160:10;2162:16; 2163:22,25;2201:3, 5,12;2202:1,6; 2210:13,17,18;	2218:20,21;2219:1; 2224:18;2237:8; 2238:9,10,16; 2281:6;2293:10,12, 21;2299:8;2306:24; 2307:4,5,6,12,13,22, 24;2308:20;2309:2, 25;2310:3,17; 2311:16,20;2314:13; 2315:23;2316:13,21; 2317:11,12 laws (1) 2311:1 lawyers (1) 2312:7 lay (2) 2316:14;2318:18 layer (2) 2397:15,22 lays (2) 2265:18;2350:2 leading (2) 2236:14;2276:15 leakages (1) 2266:15 learn (1) 2294:15 least (23) 2172:23;2174:5, 22;2198:13;2199:4; 2201:10;2203:20; 2208:12;2209:15,25; 2217:3;2218:7; 2219:23;2268:9; 2283:16;2302:19,23; 2303:1;2307:17; 2321:10;2367:10; 2369:2,18 leave (5) 2224:16;2334:23; 2348:2;2381:15; 2384:6 leaving (1) 2250:17 LECG (8) 2299:7,8,10,11,13, 15,20;2301:7 lecturer (1) 2238:9 left (15) 2169:3,6;2231:14; 2253:2;2281:14,17; 2283:25;2285:13,18; 2298:7;2301:3,3; 2310:10;2384:21; 2407:5 leftover (1) 2386:6 legal (21) 2205:18;2244:11, 13;2274:10;2285:7; 2286:8;2296:15; 2307:25;2308:8,12,	15,20;2309:3,16,17; 2310:1,9,11,15,20,21 legislation (6) 2284:23;2286:16; 2314:21;2315:17; 2368:9;2406:3 legislative (14) 2308:24;2309:2,9, 10;2312:24;2313:2, 4,4,7,9,12,16,24; 2321:24 legislatively (1) 2322:17 Legislature (10) 2237:24;2313:3,3, 7,10,11;2314:4; 2378:11,14;2379:23 lend (1) 2250:8 lenders (3) 2247:14;2381:23; 2382:8 Lending (10) 2248:19,21; 2250:10;2277:21; 2284:13;2334:20; 2335:18;2355:12; 2360:10;2402:6 lengthy (1) 2177:24 Leprino (1) 2163:8 L-E-P-R-I-N-O (1) 2163:8 less (23) 2250:17;2261:10; 2264:15;2265:5; 2272:18;2278:1,4; 2281:23;2282:16; 2289:2;2323:10; 2324:9;2330:12; 2331:6,11;2332:12; 2340:16;2344:9; 2345:5;2348:25; 2354:8;2366:19; 2391:24 lessens (1) 2249:17 lesser (1) 2329:13 lets (1) 2380:22 letters (1) 2265:11 level (14) 2171:25;2172:14, 21;2173:3,6,7; 2174:11,16;2200:22; 2209:9;2249:17; 2295:22,23;2353:17 levels (3) 2173:6;2214:12; 2221:6	
judges (1) 2310:10 judge's (2) 2308:6,20 judgment (3) 2307:15,16; 2366:16 July (3) 2240:4;2241:12; 2264:19 jumped (1) 2171:9 June (2) 2170:11;2171:12 juris (1) 2238:15 jurisdiction (1) 2308:25 justices (1) 2312:24 justification (2) 2189:15;2200:21 justifications (1) 2407:4	L	label (1) 2251:6 labeled (2) 2191:17;2377:14 labor (3) 2284:15;2398:23; 2399:25 lack (1) 2266:1 LAI (2) 2163:15,15 L-A-I (1) 2163:15 laid (3) 2344:17,17; 2381:5 Land (9) 2162:2,12; 2234:12;2247:21; 2249:23,24;2251:20; 2285:2;2323:14 language (27) 2186:25;2187:1; 2191:11,14;2199:11; 2205:2,4,23;2208:4; 2221:22;2227:2,6; 2228:1,10,15;	lastly (2) 2252:1;2407:24 late (1) 2321:13 later (10) 2164:13;2192:16; 2194:4,9,23; 2207:18;2229:20; 2245:15;2359:14; 2402:7 latest (1) 2228:7 laughing (1) 2343:1 Laurel (2) 2161:7;2167:8 L-A-U-R-E-L (1) 2161:7 Lauren (1) 2161:17 L-A-U-R-E-N (1) 2161:17 Law (46) 2160:10;2162:16; 2163:22,25;2201:3, 5,12;2202:1,6; 2210:13,17,18;	laws (1) 2311:1 lawyers (1) 2312:7 lay (2) 2316:14;2318:18 layer (2) 2397:15,22 lays (2) 2265:18;2350:2 leading (2) 2236:14;2276:15 leakages (1) 2266:15 learn (1) 2294:15 least (23) 2172:23;2174:5, 22;2198:13;2199:4; 2201:10;2203:20; 2208:12;2209:15,25; 2217:3;2218:7; 2219:23;2268:9; 2283:16;2302:19,23; 2303:1;2307:17; 2321:10;2367:10; 2369:2,18 leave (5) 2224:16;2334:23; 2348:2;2381:15; 2384:6 leaving (1) 2250:17 LECG (8) 2299:7,8,10,11,13, 15,20;2301:7 lecturer (1) 2238:9 left (15) 2169:3,6;2231:14; 2253:2;2281:14,17; 2283:25;2285:13,18; 2298:7;2301:3,3; 2310:10;2384:21; 2407:5 leftover (1) 2386:6 legal (21) 2205:18;2244:11, 13;2274:10;2285:7; 2286:8;2296:15; 2307:25;2308:8,12,	less (23) 2250:17;2261:10; 2264:15;2265:5; 2272:18;2278:1,4; 2281:23;2282:16; 2289:2;2323:10; 2324:9;2330:12; 2331:6,11;2332:12; 2340:16;2344:9; 2345:5;2348:25; 2354:8;2366:19; 2391:24 lessens (1) 2249:17 lesser (1) 2329:13 lets (1) 2380:22 letters (1) 2265:11 level (14) 2171:25;2172:14, 21;2173:3,6,7; 2174:11,16;2200:22; 2209:9;2249:17; 2295:22,23;2353:17 levels (3) 2173:6;2214:12; 2221:6
K					
KALDOR (2) 2162:25,25 K-A-L-D-O-R (1) 2163:1 keep (9) 2244:16;2339:23; 2373:6,14;2383:13; 2389:4,5;2404:15; 2409:6 keeping (1) 2260:2 Keith (3) 2303:2,7,7 Kent (1) 2303:3					

<p>leverage (8) 2249:18,19; 2335:18;2355:12; 2360:9;2371:15; 2373:13;2402:5</p> <p>liberty (1) 2188:17</p> <p>lifetime (1) 2302:4</p> <p>lighter (1) 2289:25</p> <p>lightly (1) 2174:4</p> <p>likely (1) 2277:17</p> <p>limitations (1) 2199:9</p> <p>limited (3) 2168:4;2252:2; 2265:17</p> <p>limits (4) 2315:23;2323:9; 2385:5,8</p> <p>line (7) 2171:2;2210:4; 2222:9;2270:18; 2283:12;2338:11; 2394:13</p> <p>lines (1) 2171:2</p> <p>linked (1) 2246:19</p> <p>links (1) 2289:25</p> <p>liquid (4) 2250:24;2284:12; 2286:25;2408:2</p> <p>Liquidity (1) 2249:10</p> <p>list (5) 2249:10;2304:5; 2332:3;2337:7; 2382:16</p> <p>listed (4) 2194:16;2217:5; 2262:5;2338:20</p> <p>listen (2) 2360:20;2386:17</p> <p>listening (1) 2166:6</p> <p>lists (1) 2270:16</p> <p>literally (2) 2212:9;2318:4</p> <p>little (21) 2167:15;2193:11; 2198:5,8;2200:21; 2203:1;2205:19; 2207:23;2224:13; 2254:2;2256:13; 2268:10;2297:14; 2322:7;2323:23; 2334:17;2364:22;</p>	<p>2368:19,22;2375:16; 2399:18</p> <p>live (4) 2165:6;2192:12, 22;2387:11</p> <p>living (1) 2364:3</p> <p>LLP (3) 2247:12,13,13</p> <p>loaded (1) 2399:15</p> <p>loan (4) 2371:16,18,18; 2372:1</p> <p>local (31) 2237:12,25; 2238:21;2263:5; 2264:3,6;2265:24; 2267:9;2270:9; 2272:2,15;2273:10, 12,19,22;2275:15; 2284:18;2286:3; 2287:7;2305:2; 2311:11;2339:6,6; 2352:14,19;2354:14; 2356:25;2358:6,8; 2361:1;2370:17</p> <p>located (1) 2234:9</p> <p>location (8) 2179:2;2202:12; 2209:22;2220:5,20; 2240:22,25;2241:8</p> <p>logical (2) 2228:12;2331:13</p> <p>logistical (1) 2288:24</p> <p>Lon (11) 2230:16;2231:1; 2234:2,7;2243:11; 2256:6;2260:14; 2262:23;2268:23; 2271:17;2284:2</p> <p>L-O-N (2) 2230:17;2231:1</p> <p>long (8) 2206:22;2232:6; 2244:23;2291:19; 2299:3,10;2373:6; 2408:22</p> <p>longer (5) 2214:17;2217:7; 2223:5;2268:13; 2292:5</p> <p>long-established (1) 2236:5</p> <p>longest-serving (1) 2297:24</p> <p>long-held (1) 2284:7</p> <p>Longshoremen's (1) 2311:11</p> <p>longstanding (1)</p>	<p>2382:18</p> <p>long-term (5) 2248:10;2251:14; 2287:1;2373:9; 2408:2</p> <p>look (48) 2191:11,13; 2199:22;2223:2; 2226:20;2228:22; 2253:15;2304:10; 2311:18;2313:8; 2314:22;2315:10; 2328:1;2334:17; 2336:11;2340:10; 2345:11,19,22,23, 23;2346:25; 2347:13;2349:19,21; 2353:15;2354:3,5, 19,21;2357:7; 2359:17;2366:24; 2369:18;2371:17,21, 24;2372:1;2374:9, 15,20,24;2379:18, 22;2380:14; 2381:17;2393:10; 2400:15</p> <p>looked (7) 2214:9;2304:13; 2313:2;2317:23; 2327:19;2367:1; 2371:25</p> <p>looking (32) 2170:21,22; 2181:25;2189:14; 2193:8,8;2199:2; 2209:19;2258:20; 2304:20,22;2312:25; 2326:5,11,12,15; 2335:12,14,15,21; 2336:4;2338:11,25; 2340:12;2342:20,21; 2349:24;2357:13; 2391:12;2392:11; 2393:15,21</p> <p>looks (1) 2343:3</p> <p>loose (3) 2200:1,7;2230:3</p> <p>Los (4) 2220:14,16,20; 2299:24</p> <p>lose (4) 2348:5;2369:6; 2373:6;2379:19</p> <p>losers (1) 2349:21</p> <p>loses (1) 2282:25</p> <p>loss (7) 2217:25;2218:5,9, 9;2342:10,20; 2350:22</p> <p>losses (7)</p>	<p>2218:8;2248:14; 2276:3;2284:10; 2346:13;2348:21; 2355:8</p> <p>lost (11) 2290:1;2342:7,8, 12,15,17;2343:8; 2345:13;2346:1; 2348:22;2356:1</p> <p>lot (16) 2160:13;2175:23; 2199:1;2203:21; 2224:3;2303:12; 2312:21;2317:9; 2320:18;2321:10; 2342:1;2360:12,19; 2364:4,23;2372:24</p> <p>lottery (2) 2310:2,7</p> <p>love (1) 2385:12</p> <p>low (6) 2167:13;2260:9; 2321:14;2342:9; 2373:4;2374:3</p> <p>lower (12) 2167:9;2220:7,19; 2329:3,12;2331:22; 2333:6,8,13,22; 2369:24;2379:20</p> <p>lucky (3) 2389:9,12,12</p> <p>Luis (2) 2258:2;2260:9</p> <p>lunch (3) 2292:3,8,12</p> <p>Luskin (1) 2238:7</p>	<p>2286:17;2315:17; 2407:12,17</p> <p>maintains (4) 2243:25;2274:23; 2314:17;2404:8</p> <p>maintenance (4) 2251:12;2383:5, 12,22</p> <p>major (12) 2200:4,8;2209:1; 2235:22;2247:14; 2250:16;2335:11; 2356:24;2374:10,14; 2381:22;2382:8</p> <p>majority (2) 2323:22;2382:25</p> <p>makes (6) 2191:18;2203:4; 2265:20;2337:5; 2353:11;2369:12</p> <p>Make-up (1) 2252:6</p> <p>making (13) 2213:16;2218:1; 2224:12,22;2236:9; 2248:21;2307:14; 2331:15;2335:13; 2343:25;2357:23; 2363:1;2376:10</p> <p>man (1) 2189:25</p> <p>Management (4) 2238:6,15;2297:8, 11</p> <p>Manager (3) 2293:9,11; 2299:15</p> <p>mandate (1) 2210:15</p> <p>manner (3) 2212:13;2246:2; 2364:21</p> <p>manufacturer (1) 2163:6</p> <p>manufacturers (1) 2269:25</p> <p>manufacturing (1) 2174:5</p> <p>many (30) 2174:19;2184:12; 2244:3;2248:15; 2251:18,21;2252:3; 2258:15;2288:1; 2292:1;2295:7; 2296:23;2299:19; 2302:3,22;2304:15; 2321:21;2322:3; 2325:3;2327:8,22; 2329:12,13;2355:14; 2358:4;2363:25; 2375:12;2382:9; 2383:24;2396:7</p> <p>margin (1)</p>
M				
		<p>MA (6) 2178:20;2206:17; 2223:17;2224:8,8,16</p> <p>machine (2) 2166:20,24</p> <p>machines (1) 2289:2</p> <p>macro (2) 2294:24;2295:6</p> <p>Maffei (1) 2309:21</p> <p>M-A-F-F-E-I (1) 2309:22</p> <p>Magazine (2) 2347:10;2349:12</p> <p>maintain (6) 2174:16;2218:4; 2219:20;2240:20; 2315:19;2383:7</p> <p>maintained (2) 2238:20;2246:14</p> <p>maintaining (4)</p>		

<p>2270:3 Marin (4) 2258:16;2273:16; 2356:16;2394:1 Marine (1) 2261:1 Mariners (1) 2348:11 mark (3) 2231:7;2278:25; 2279:5 marked (7) 2231:9;2232:25; 2279:7,24;2321:6; 2347:6;2375:2 market (71) 2164:22;2178:2, 16,20,20;2179:17, 22;2180:2,13,15; 2181:10,15,22,25; 2182:5,9,10; 2184:11,14,20,25; 2185:22;2187:7,12, 14,16;2188:24; 2190:25;2192:15; 2194:3;2204:7,12, 14;2205:7,9,12,25; 2206:5;2207:15; 2209:11,16,19,19; 2211:16,20;2212:14; 2213:24;2216:15; 2220:19;2224:5; 2228:17;2239:15,16; 2260:1,16;2283:19; 2327:9,13;2329:11; 2331:22,23;2333:22; 2355:5;2372:23; 2373:2,19;2374:1,6, 18;2399:24;2401:3 marketability (1) 2251:14 marketable (3) 2247:1,2;2248:25 marketed (1) 2383:9 Marketing (35) 2160:23;2161:5,8, 15;2175:23; 2188:18;2191:4; 2200:23;2213:6; 2217:24;2219:15; 2223:5;2228:6; 2229:19;2236:22,25; 2244:5;2245:21; 2246:5,7;2252:17; 2255:21;2264:20; 2273:25;2275:22; 2276:12;2293:8,11; 2297:19;2312:17; 2316:17;2320:7; 2322:2;2398:2; 2404:2 marketplace (3)</p>	<p>2247:8;2251:25; 2287:5 marketplaces (1) 2374:1 markets (2) 2220:7;2403:6 marking (2) 2347:1,4 Marvin (3) 2161:24;2317:5,5 M-A-R-V-I-N (1) 2161:24 masquerades (1) 2355:25 massive (4) 2248:13;2252:4; 2284:9;2334:21 Masters (1) 2238:9 Master's (2) 2238:13;2293:20 match (3) 2280:3;2391:23; 2392:4 material (1) 2313:19 materially (2) 2275:10;2405:20 math (3) 2393:12;2408:20; 2409:23 mathematical (1) 2332:10 mathematically (1) 2392:7 mathematician (1) 2395:6 matter (5) 2178:18,19; 2257:16;2308:10; 2349:15 matters (8) 2164:4,14;2166:3; 2167:2;2168:11; 2280:15;2299:19,21 maximize (3) 2175:3,4;2335:3 maximizing (1) 2174:20 maximum (2) 2239:21,23 MAY (90) 2161:7,7;2164:17; 2165:2;2166:1; 2167:3,7,8,13,15,19; 2173:17,18;2174:15; 2175:1,4,6,25; 2184:19;2189:16; 2190:5;2200:1; 2202:3;2203:19; 2205:19;2210:11; 2211:16,21;2214:2, 2;2218:2,3,7,7,8;</p>	<p>2219:5;2222:1,8; 2230:2;2231:15; 2233:22;2234:3; 2235:10;2241:6; 2244:18,21,21; 2268:20;2274:13; 2279:16;2283:18,20; 2286:13;2288:20; 2290:18;2292:17; 2301:1;2302:11; 2307:6,17;2308:19; 2309:2;2310:6; 2311:20;2314:25; 2318:1;2321:25; 2327:15;2329:14; 2344:20;2351:4; 2355:23;2358:25; 2364:12,13;2367:5; 2373:5;2376:3,17, 25;2386:8,21; 2388:17;2391:18,18; 2402:13;2406:15; 2408:25;2410:17,20 M-A-Y (1) 2161:7 maybe (35) 2175:13;2180:19; 2185:23;2187:4; 2190:12;2191:9; 2195:21;2197:5,5; 2199:1;2200:23; 2203:8;2210:3; 2223:9;2233:12; 2253:22;2280:10; 2296:14;2302:11; 2315:14;2321:13; 2322:24;2323:8; 2324:5;2327:15; 2330:25;2337:13,15; 2340:3;2351:12; 2355:21;2356:21; 2367:11;2371:16; 2383:21 MBA (11) 2234:2;2243:11; 2256:6;2260:14; 2262:23;2268:23; 2271:17;2284:2; 2287:20;2295:13,16 MBA/JD (2) 2295:1;2296:6 mean (19) 2172:21;2184:7; 2212:15;2218:4; 2223:14;2295:23; 2306:25;2321:20; 2325:2;2326:23; 2341:8,11;2343:18; 2344:13;2345:12; 2379:21;2382:5,22; 2386:7 meaning (4) 2309:3,16;2313:8;</p>	<p>2315:8 means (11) 2215:16;2312:6, 20;2313:13,13,14, 14;2314:2,9,12; 2316:17 meant (4) 2171:9;2317:15; 2340:12;2370:14 measure (9) 2208:12;2236:16; 2260:18;2265:12; 2273:21;2328:4; 2358:11;2366:1; 2402:17 measured (1) 2267:10 measures (1) 2263:22 mechan (1) 2246:19 mechanically (1) 2329:18 mechanics (1) 2330:8 mechanism (1) 2246:20 media (1) 2289:3 medical (1) 2237:20 meet (7) 2222:14,18; 2251:1,4;2398:21; 2401:9;2410:14 meeting (4) 2164:12;2169:15; 2198:22;2316:16 Megan (3) 2162:8,8;2230:14 M-E-G-A-N (1) 2162:8 member (6) 2163:16;2175:5; 2227:5;2247:19; 2314:3,20 members (9) 2174:7,23,24; 2214:24;2226:25; 2314:1;2377:10; 2382:19,23 membership (3) 2296:16;2307:1; 2376:15 Memorandum (5) 2204:13;2206:14; 2211:12;2285:21; 2407:7 Mendocino (1) 2260:25 mention (4) 2242:20;2300:5; 2372:9;2407:12</p>	<p>mentioned (16) 2201:21;2223:10; 2224:21;2243:9; 2258:10;2304:17; 2322:16,25;2323:15; 2329:9;2335:25; 2346:9,10;2371:19; 2380:12;2399:6 Merced (1) 2260:23 Merced-Monterey (2) 2257:5;2258:12 Meredith (3) 2161:3;2164:24; 2167:19 M-E-R-E-D-I-T-H (1) 2161:4 merely (1) 2265:17 message (1) 2199:24 met (4) 2198:11,12; 2398:20;2410:5 method (2) 2211:13;2376:19 methodologies (1) 2237:22 Metro (1) 2309:18 mic (1) 2196:24 micro (2) 2294:24;2295:6 microphone (3) 2165:3;2385:2; 2390:18 Mid (3) 2300:18,18,25 middle (4) 2190:16;2191:23; 2359:15;2407:18 Midwest (1) 2161:15 might (19) 2180:19;2181:7; 2190:11;2212:19; 2223:22;2253:8; 2292:2,4,5;2318:18; 2319:13;2323:1; 2324:15,18;2327:17, 18;2348:10,25; 2371:17 Milk (99) 2160:8;2161:15; 2163:6,23,25; 2164:22;2169:1; 2172:1,2,15,16,16; 2175:23;2179:6; 2181:15;2183:20; 2188:18;2190:23; 2194:20,21;2195:4; 2203:3,4,5,10;</p>
--	--	--	---	--

2208:13;2209:11,14; 2210:2;2213:6; 2216:15,16;2217:6, 8,11,24;2219:14; 2220:5,13;2221:2,4, 11;2223:4;2226:25; 2229:20;2236:25; 2239:7,8,14,15,16; 2240:7;2241:17,20, 23;2243:25;2244:5; 2246:7;2252:10,21; 2253:14,16,18; 2254:5,19,22,25; 2258:14;2259:4; 2272:23;2273:25; 2277:3;2321:24; 2322:2;2342:24; 2343:10;2351:16,20, 24,25;2353:10; 2355:25;2356:15; 2363:8,14;2368:2; 2369:2;2373:19; 2383:8;2389:19; 2394:11,11;2398:2; 2399:4;2402:22,24; 2403:6,13;2404:2	2305:4;2330:9; 2347:22;2390:17; 2408:9 minutes (6) 2169:19;2268:13, 14,15;2303:25; 2386:4 mischievous (2) 2307:25;2315:2 missed (3) 2223:10;2406:16, 22 misspoke (2) 2171:8,15 misunderstood (2) 2185:23;2301:1 miswrote (1) 2301:2 mix (1) 2363:1 model (13) 2263:17;2265:7,8; 2266:10;2267:7,24; 2269:21;2270:10,12; 2304:25;2319:23; 2320:1;2338:7 models (1) 2265:11 modifications (3) 2199:12;2285:19; 2407:6 modified (2) 2199:9;2385:10 moment (7) 2208:9;2220:12; 2242:21;2258:19; 2391:20;2393:11,21 money (60) 2180:16;2182:24; 2183:3,5;2184:6; 2187:9,14,16,17,19; 2195:13;2212:9,16; 2214:24;2215:2,3, 18;2216:3;2217:11, 16,22;2221:16,16; 2222:4,13;2223:17; 2225:16,16;2228:19, 19;2265:23;2322:12, 13;2323:11; 2324:16;2325:9; 2332:11,13;2341:2, 3,9,11;2342:2; 2343:14;2345:5; 2348:10,13;2351:20, 24;2352:12,16,18; 2354:11,13,16; 2360:13;2372:1; 2377:8;2380:1; 2388:1 monies (3) 2187:14;2329:4; 2343:7 monitoring (1)	2217:20 Monterey (1) 2260:23 month (56) 2178:4,23;2179:1, 2,6,13;2181:17,21; 2182:5,13,16; 2183:9,13,16; 2185:9;2187:12; 2191:20;2192:1,4, 10;2194:4,10,20,22, 24;2197:7,14; 2205:25;2228:5,8, 10;2255:4,6; 2257:17,21;2261:11; 2278:1;2280:13; 2281:25;2282:6,18; 2283:2,5,13,16,18; 2326:1;2328:25; 2329:16;2352:4; 2372:24;2387:8,12, 12;2393:22;2394:25 monthly (13) 2178:2;2205:11; 2239:19,21,23; 2241:17,20;2250:25; 2254:22;2255:4,5; 2264:18;2332:3 months (3) 2241:25;2242:15; 2283:23 mop (1) 2384:21 Morales (1) 2308:3 more (58) 2165:24;2167:10, 19;2184:9;2193:17; 2198:5;2200:21; 2205:19;2212:3,7; 2236:7;2249:18; 2258:4;2260:20; 2262:24;2266:19; 2270:3;2271:8,12; 2275:12;2277:20; 2288:2,3,23; 2289:25;2291:1; 2297:7;2302:5,5,24; 2303:11;2306:21,22; 2313:21;2315:4; 2318:19;2319:7; 2320:6;2322:11; 2323:12;2329:18; 2342:2;2348:12,24; 2350:19;2354:8,13; 2356:7,8;2377:12; 2379:14;2383:24; 2384:16,22;2405:21; 2406:8;2408:10,11 Moreover (6) 2235:21;2250:14; 2266:16;2271:24; 2286:15;2315:16	morning (22) 2160:8,16,21,25; 2161:3;2162:7,11, 13,15,23;2163:2,7,9, 21,24;2164:3; 2168:22,23;2230:14; 2231:20,21;2410:22 Moss (1) 2247:13 most (30) 2172:1,15; 2207:15,17;2221:11; 2233:6;2238:25; 2247:1;2248:12; 2255:19;2261:13; 2264:15,22;2265:4; 2270:5;2277:17; 2289:1;2290:8; 2292:25;2296:1; 2303:17;2345:8; 2348:17;2363:4,6; 2366:7,14,14; 2382:8,24 mostly (1) 2364:15 motion (1) 2316:4 MOU (13) 2198:17;2199:5; 2204:14;2206:19,21; 2207:2,11,13,20; 2210:12;2211:17,19; 2223:11 move (23) 2196:17;2197:22; 2200:6;2202:16; 2209:14;2222:4; 2243:21;2246:12; 2248:18;2250:6,20; 2252:6;2258:4,7; 2259:2,9;2263:8,21; 2275:16;2282:18; 2286:9;2305:17; 2322:2 moved (3) 2298:2;2300:17; 2402:15 movement (2) 2224:3;2374:18 moves (4) 2321:19;2373:21, 25;2374:5 movies (1) 2348:12 moving (4) 2208:13;2209:11; 2210:2;2224:25 much (24) 2165:23;2169:21; 2174:5;2175:16; 2202:14;2221:7,14; 2225:4;2258:21; 2291:12;2315:22;	2320:6,8;2324:15, 17;2325:9;2336:15; 2367:5;2368:16; 2375:15;2379:20; 2388:13;2410:11,15 Mulder (1) 2247:12 multi-billion (1) 2236:3 multiple (2) 2160:14;2312:13 multiplicative (1) 2265:21 multiplied (1) 2243:15 multiplier (7) 2266:20;2270:14, 15;2271:23; 2272:12;2338:18,21 multipliers (1) 2270:14 multiply (1) 2395:2 multiplying (2) 2255:2;2260:5 must (11) 2171:5;2187:19; 2214:25;2241:20; 2246:14;2247:6; 2307:12;2315:3,25; 2383:8,9 MYKRANTZ (2) 2161:10,10 M-Y-K-R-A-N-T-Z (1) 2161:11 myself (1) 2385:8
N				
				nailing (1) 2189:7 name (9) 2160:9;2162:7; 2163:15;2168:14,24; 2230:25;2231:1,2; 2234:7 names (1) 2293:15 naming (1) 2299:25 national (5) 2174:10;2190:24; 2236:13;2237:13; 2238:20 Nationwide (1) 2310:12 native (2) 2237:3;2310:8 natural (1) 2263:21 nature (4) 2257:11;2269:8;

<p>2367:3;2406:12 Navigant (3) 2300:16,17; 2301:12 nearly (7) 2236:15;2243:17; 2259:6;2260:22; 2261:1;2273:11,13 necessarily (12) 2167:10;2173:6; 2206:4;2209:14; 2210:17;2218:5; 2224:24;2303:8; 2319:25;2349:19; 2350:2;2392:4 necessary (6) 2199:5;2204:16; 2233:19;2244:14; 2250:19;2288:3 necessity (1) 2204:9 need (18) 2167:24;2175:25; 2187:4;2188:1; 2192:24;2193:6,12; 2196:3,13;2199:9; 2205:2;2211:22; 2276:7;2334:20; 2344:14;2346:16; 2383:12;2386:11 needed (2) 2198:17;2240:20 needs (6) 2166:21;2186:22; 2197:9;2268:14; 2400:1;2401:10 negating (1) 2220:23 negative (3) 2284:12;2356:17; 2364:7 neglect (1) 2361:2 neighborhood (1) 2348:4 neither (2) 2196:5;2302:14 net (12) 2326:6;2327:9,17, 20,25;2329:4; 2352:18;2357:5; 2359:5,19,20,22 network (1) 2236:5 neutral (1) 2168:8 Nevada (1) 2390:4 new (10) 2263:20;2309:23; 2340:5;2341:9,9,11; 2348:11,11;2354:11, 16</p>	<p>next (38) 2169:24;2175:18; 2177:12,13,17,19; 2179:25;2187:25; 2190:24;2193:17; 2194:7,14;2195:3,9; 2205:21;2222:15; 2226:22;2230:9,13, 16;2242:22;2243:3; 2244:9;2250:4; 2255:16;2256:21; 2258:1;2281:1,1; 2328:22;2339:4,8; 2347:16,17;2351:23; 2372:16;2384:5; 2389:2 nice (1) 2289:21 Nicole (2) 2163:11;2395:11 nights (1) 2348:3 nine (3) 2241:24;2242:15; 2409:20 nine-day (1) 2222:3 Ninth (15) 2308:2,4,18,24,25; 2309:1,6,7,13,24; 2310:5,23;2311:9, 12;2314:22 nobody (3) 2217:12;2307:2; 2361:14 nodding (2) 2186:16;2393:18 Noll (1) 2348:19 non (2) 2328:14,16 none (7) 2168:12;2227:17; 2241:14;2280:25; 2306:9;2371:2,2 nonetheless (1) 2392:3 non-evidentiary (1) 2312:7 nonexisting (1) 2348:1 nonfat (6) 2202:5,24;2203:9; 2208:20;2218:15; 2383:8 nonmembers (1) 2383:1 non-quota (11) 2182:8;2331:20; 2334:3,12;2336:11, 20;2345:13;2346:1; 2376:19;2389:21; 2400:22</p>	<p>noon (1) 2164:13 nor (2) 2306:23;2312:9 normally (2) 2222:10;2389:6 North (1) 2212:19 Northeast (1) 2298:12 northern (2) 2237:10;2309:22 Northwest (1) 2161:11 notably (1) 2348:18 note (8) 2241:22;2244:15; 2254:23;2289:13; 2303:17;2306:19; 2311:17;2317:2 noted (16) 2243:13,14; 2245:11;2248:15; 2250:14;2254:17; 2260:15;2274:12; 2283:3;2285:12; 2286:12;2317:4,18; 2369:16;2404:17; 2407:21 notes (4) 2171:10,15; 2181:6;2317:6 notice (5) 2176:1;2190:15; 2191:10;2193:18; 2257:3 notify (1) 2164:25 noting (1) 2310:14 notion (1) 2348:20 NS (1) 2260:6 Number (58) 2162:6,10,18; 2164:5,5,9;2169:8; 2170:7;2171:9; 2179:3;2195:14; 2198:12;2209:23; 2231:5;2235:24; 2236:8;2240:1; 2241:10;2242:5,16, 17,18;2247:11; 2252:13;2253:4,4; 2254:2,24;2257:7,8; 2262:15;2263:18; 2265:17;2270:7; 2272:22,24;2273:2; 2281:15;2289:7,7; 2304:19;2306:17; 2317:14;2321:12;</p>	<p>2325:13;2330:6; 2336:8;2337:14,18, 19;2338:12,22,23; 2356:13;2391:22; 2395:3;2396:2; 2405:17 numbered (1) 2165:13 numbers (27) 2174:18;2208:24; 2209:25;2210:1; 2226:18,19;2258:3; 2262:2;2269:9; 2270:23;2271:8; 2280:7,23;2336:23; 2337:4;2338:8; 2344:21;2345:14; 2350:5;2376:5; 2378:8,14;2379:4; 2380:8;2399:16; 2403:8,15 Numeral (6) 2234:25;2239:2; 2243:21;2263:8; 2275:16;2286:20</p>	<p>obligations (2) 2177:15;2187:8 observations (4) 2274:5,21; 2275:24;2404:5 observed (1) 2277:24 observes (1) 2246:20 obtain (2) 2178:23;2250:19 obtaining (1) 2295:13 obvious (2) 2173:2;2380:6 obviously (8) 2172:25;2214:1; 2242:15;2245:13; 2281:2;2298:24; 2335:3;2344:17 occasions (3) 2302:20;2306:18; 2312:13 occupation (1) 2231:23 occur (4) 2181:16;2241:20; 2265:22;2336:2 occurred (2) 2179:1;2242:15 occurs (4) 2180:1;2188:15; 2310:20;2361:13 Ocean (1) 2309:5 o'clock (1) 2384:13 OCTOBER (3) 2160:1,7;2168:3 odds (2) 2174:25;2175:6 off (17) 2164:12;2169:3; 2265:18;2269:10; 2275:12;2282:5; 2283:25;2284:16; 2285:13;2295:20; 2318:5;2330:23; 2333:18;2336:10; 2337:1;2355:7; 2410:23 offer (6) 2192:1,10; 2198:19;2295:10; 2371:16;2406:11 offered (1) 2233:12 offering (1) 2316:12 Office (8) 2161:18,20; 2164:10;2178:2; 2190:25;2204:8,13;</p>
O				
			<p>Oakland (1) 2310:18 Obispo (2) 2258:2;2260:10 object (17) 2233:20;2244:12, 14;2274:7;2285:5; 2286:5;2288:19; 2291:15;2305:6,8,9, 25;2311:24; 2314:13;2364:21; 2407:18,19 objected (2) 2306:18;2315:8 objection (21) 2233:17;2244:15; 2245:11,13;2274:12; 2285:12;2286:12; 2305:24;2306:7,8; 2316:22;2390:7; 2404:15,16,17; 2406:5,7,19,22,25; 2407:20 objectionable (1) 2406:9 objective (4) 2211:20;2234:14; 2360:25;2395:15 objectives (2) 2173:25;2175:15 obligated (1) 2330:17 obligation (4) 2180:8;2182:3; 2187:20;2210:13</p>	

<p>2205:12 official (4) 2165:8;2166:8,8, 17 offset (2) 2346:13;2399:23 Oklahoma (1) 2350:22 O'Lakes (5) 2162:2,12; 2234:12;2247:21; 2285:2 older (1) 2337:1 OLIVER (52) 2162:7,8;2230:14, 15;2231:15,17,19; 2233:22,23,24; 2242:3;2245:12; 2254:9;2255:14; 2256:24;2257:23; 2259:19;2261:19; 2267:18;2269:4; 2272:4,8;2276:15, 18,21;2278:13,25; 2279:11,16,21,22; 2287:11;2288:9,12, 15;2289:20;2290:13, 16,20,25;2291:8,18, 25;2292:6;2305:16; 2306:13;2364:20; 2390:6,15,20; 2410:6,8 Once (3) 2275:19;2355:24; 2377:12 one (121) 2161:23,23; 2164:3,5;2166:4; 2167:6,18,19,24; 2171:5,6,17;2173:8; 2174:22;2177:1; 2181:13;2183:18,19; 2192:12,13;2193:11, 17;2194:11,18; 2195:13;2200:6; 2204:20;2205:15; 2212:3,7;2216:22; 2217:3,5,11; 2220:25;2221:7,7; 2229:19;2230:3; 2231:13;2236:8; 2244:25;2246:20; 2250:17;2266:20; 2269:10;2270:16; 2277:25;2279:12,13, 14,19;2280:13,20, 21,21,22,22,22; 2282:24;2289:7; 2291:5;2293:3; 2298:24,25;2300:13; 2302:11,13;2305:4, 12,20,24;2306:1,7;</p>	<p>2309:16;2310:19; 2312:10;2313:21,22; 2315:8;2317:12; 2322:9,14,23; 2324:21,22,23; 2325:10;2327:9; 2328:25;2335:11,14; 2337:14;2346:12; 2349:10,17;2352:1; 2357:13,16;2359:5; 2360:2;2362:22; 2363:1;2364:17,17; 2365:13;2368:25; 2369:21;2370:16; 2372:9;2374:10,12; 2383:15;2384:22; 2385:18;2391:8; 2393:14;2397:7,10; 2406:16;2408:9 ones (4) 2166:15;2225:21; 2271:5;2295:4 ongoing (1) 2304:12 only (31) 2166:12;2168:6; 2170:23;2171:5; 2186:19;2218:20; 2219:9;2255:9; 2259:4;2275:14; 2277:16;2282:24; 2284:9,17;2286:18; 2287:2;2289:15; 2294:5;2296:2,8; 2307:25;2310:15; 2318:15;2324:5; 2349:19,21;2351:1; 2360:9;2365:12; 2373:15;2399:3 onto (3) 2196:17;2202:16; 2267:21 oops (1) 2190:16 open (2) 2199:4;2384:21 opened (1) 2190:25 opening (3) 2177:24;2264:4; 2312:9 operate (5) 2217:25;2218:9; 2219:16;2239:12; 2369:1 operated (1) 2239:6 operates (1) 2197:25 operating (4) 2216:18;2218:5; 2221:6;2223:6 operation (2)</p>	<p>2198:4;2398:22 operational (5) 2265:19;2335:17, 18;2355:12;2373:14 operations (6) 2218:4;2247:17; 2251:1;2286:3; 2381:24;2400:2 opine (1) 2307:21 opined (1) 2214:11 opinion (6) 2205:18;2311:18; 2318:17,20;2324:2; 2349:15 opinions (4) 2309:17;2316:12; 2318:16,25 opportunities (2) 2237:14;2298:17 opportunity (5) 2296:23;2399:23; 2400:22;2401:9; 2410:14 oppose (1) 2161:22 opposed (4) 2220:6;2221:9; 2227:13;2389:18 opposing (1) 2349:14 opposition (1) 2335:5 opt (13) 2281:3;2282:3; 2283:4,9,10,18,20, 22;2329:14,15; 2330:14;2331:11,19 opted (5) 2282:1,2,19; 2283:14;2329:6 opting (3) 2282:25;2330:9; 2408:24 option (7) 2202:18,20,21,21; 2203:4;2331:19; 2333:3 optional (2) 2276:25;2277:2 opt-out (1) 2334:5 oral (1) 2166:18 oranges (2) 2355:23;2356:2 Order (68) 2161:15;2164:22; 2165:13,20;2168:8; 2172:2,16;2174:10; 2190:23;2191:11,14; 2198:3,23;2199:10,</p>	<p>18,18;2201:10; 2205:20;2207:9,10; 2208:3,7,10,10,11; 2209:6,10;2210:9, 10;2214:10; 2215:23;2217:16; 2219:15;2221:19; 2223:3;2226:9; 2236:25;2244:5; 2245:21;2246:7,8, 12;2247:5;2257:11; 2274:1;2277:1; 2280:7,9;2281:18; 2309:2;2312:2,3,17, 21;2322:3,25; 2333:7;2343:19; 2353:16;2357:4; 2369:11;2389:19,20; 2396:15,25;2398:2; 2403:23;2404:2 Orders (19) 2161:12;2164:7; 2184:12;2188:16,19; 2191:4,14;2204:6; 2207:3,4,7;2213:6; 2222:1,5,8;2225:19; 2226:2;2345:8; 2388:4 ordinary (3) 2226:3;2319:18, 21 Organization (1) 2237:23 original (6) 2169:12;2225:20, 21;2241:14;2324:6,8 originally (1) 2367:12 Orrick (4) 2293:7;2296:7,8, 25 others (5) 2300:4;2303:2; 2372:15;2384:1,2 otherwise (7) 2212:15;2293:5; 2303:19;2318:18; 2345:7;2348:25; 2393:2 ought (1) 2290:11 ours (1) 2279:15 out (79) 2167:9,16;2174:3, 19;2175:3;2180:3; 2182:17;2183:3,5; 2186:4;2187:17; 2192:14;2196:7; 2198:2;2199:15; 2200:6;2206:21; 2211:12;2219:23; 2221:16,21;2222:11,</p>	<p>13;2225:17;2226:3; 2227:11,13,25; 2228:19;2251:19; 2256:12;2257:9; 2260:12;2262:19,20; 2281:3,3;2282:1,2,3, 19,24;2283:4,9,14, 18,20,22;2303:10; 2317:24;2320:17; 2325:12,14;2329:14; 2330:9;2331:19; 2332:11;2333:18; 2334:20;2337:8; 2338:14;2345:4; 2350:2;2351:19; 2354:2;2355:17; 2364:12,16;2366:7, 18;2367:11,13; 2381:6,15;2384:11; 2387:9;2388:1; 2389:19;2408:24 outcome (4) 2346:25;2350:25; 2364:1;2401:14 outlined (1) 2283:7 outlines (2) 2280:4;2361:4 out-of-state (2) 2169:6;2390:8 output (9) 2235:23;2267:9; 2269:18,21;2270:2, 4,14,20;2271:9 outside (3) 2174:12;2283:23; 2333:3 outweigh (1) 2218:8 over (73) 2165:16;2169:20; 2173:24,25;2175:9; 2184:22;2200:16; 2209:8;2216:14; 2217:10;2231:14; 2235:7,23;2236:9, 13,24;2237:22; 2251:10,13;2252:8, 9;2254:2;2256:13, 25;2258:9,16; 2259:7;2260:24,24; 2263:2;2267:21; 2268:21;2272:1,2; 2273:9,10,17,19; 2275:12;2277:23; 2278:9;2284:16; 2285:25;2286:1,1; 2293:5;2295:19; 2298:2;2300:17; 2302:4;2304:16; 2310:19;2312:14; 2323:21;2324:1,2,3; 2325:8,13;2327:18;</p>
---	---	---	---	---

<p>2344:24;2349:17; 2356:15,16;2362:4, 6,19;2363:17; 2367:5;2375:16; 2383:6;2391:13; 2402:15 overall (9) 2203:25;2236:17; 2255:7;2259:23; 2262:18;2280:14; 2286:3,22;2400:1 overbase (37) 2201:25;2239:18, 25;2240:6,10,16,17, 21,25;2241:5,8; 2277:10;2331:19,20; 2332:4,10;2333:22; 2344:3;2351:14; 2353:8,20;2357:20; 2362:4,6,10;2373:3, 4;2374:2,6;2379:5, 19;2380:2;2391:25; 2393:17;2394:22; 2395:2,2 overdue (1) 2372:2 overlapped (1) 2297:9 overlays (1) 2373:18 overruled (1) 2308:3 oversaw (2) 2236:24;2237:6 Overview (2) 2235:1;2239:3 owe (2) 2187:9,19 owed (2) 2187:13;2215:2 own (22) 2166:16;2179:24; 2181:6;2208:15; 2213:16;2251:9; 2253:23,24;2254:12; 2259:3;2280:12,19; 2286:1;2343:9; 2355:14;2361:19,20; 2365:14;2369:3; 2376:16;2380:14; 2400:15 owned (9) 2178:24;2243:17; 2260:17;2351:7; 2356:12;2357:8; 2361:14;2365:25; 2366:18 owner (4) 2247:4;2360:9; 2368:13;2374:13 owners (11) 2257:7,20; 2272:20;2273:5;</p>	<p>2275:11;2283:14,17, 21;2329:15; 2354:18;2398:18 ownership (55) 2213:10;2248:23; 2249:3,7,11,14,17, 19,21;2250:3,9,11, 24;2251:3,8,22; 2252:7,8,14;2253:2; 2254:1,17,21; 2258:9,11;2263:6; 2269:15;2273:15,16; 2275:1;2277:7; 2284:8;2285:25; 2286:25;2287:2,5; 2336:6,20;2341:5; 2354:20;2359:11; 2361:5,6;2364:8; 2367:3;2370:19,23; 2371:22;2372:10; 2376:19,19;2400:14, 16;2404:11;2408:1 owning (3) 2252:11,11; 2355:18 owns (2) 2277:16;2374:16</p>	<p>2398:14;2399:7; 2401:15;2402:15; 2403:25;2405:2,3, 25;2407:1,24 pages (5) 2193:17;2257:1; 2377:13;2391:15; 2392:11 paid (25) 2183:5;2187:14; 2195:15;2223:15,15; 2239:17;2240:24; 2248:3;2272:2; 2337:12;2338:5; 2341:2,3;2344:9; 2345:5;2363:13; 2366:8,13,19; 2375:8,10,15,16,18; 2410:1 Pan (1) 2309:5 paper (7) 2167:9,11,21,22; 2350:20;2360:24; 2375:2 para (2) 2319:11;2322:6 paragraph (11) 2177:25;2178:17; 2191:18;2195:4; 2204:4;2205:3; 2264:25;2274:15; 2284:1;2347:14; 2407:11 paragraphs (4) 2195:10;2227:3; 2347:16,17 parallel (1) 2179:25 paramount (2) 2244:4;2398:1 paraphrase (2) 2318:1;2322:6 paraphrased (1) 2314:12 paraphrasing (1) 2199:20 paren (86) 2179:2,3;2204:14, 14;2234:12,13; 2235:8,8;2236:23, 24;2237:1,1; 2239:12,15,15; 2240:23,23;2241:2, 3,16,17;2243:14,15; 2244:5,6;2245:23, 23,24,24,25,25,25; 2246:1,3,4;2249:5,6, 22,25,25;2250:1,4,5, 18,18;2253:13; 2254:12,13,15,16; 2255:2;2259:11,12, 25;2260:2;2261:11,</p>	<p>11,13,13;2264:16; 2265:5,6,9,9;2266:9, 9,13,14,15,16; 2267:1,3,9,9; 2272:11,12,20,21; 2273:6,6,16,17; 2274:1,1;2277:25; 2278:1 parens (3) 2239:11;2277:18, 19 parentheses (1) 2253:10 part (29) 2163:20;2166:18; 2174:10;2190:10; 2201:11,12;2208:10; 2210:14;2219:1,2; 2232:11;2237:10; 2244:3,16;2268:8; 2274:9;2289:15; 2291:11;2293:2; 2296:15;2305:7; 2313:10,11;2317:17; 2357:1;2365:21; 2385:12;2398:7; 2401:14 partial (7) 2195:23;2196:3; 2197:5,8;2227:24; 2228:3;2387:6 participants (4) 2163:19;2166:23; 2221:15;2409:15 participate (8) 2277:4,6,17; 2399:2,22;2400:9, 11,21 participating (1) 2160:18 participation (3) 2276:24;2277:2; 2400:10 particular (8) 2166:12;2168:9; 2218:16;2226:20; 2233:16;2273:3; 2294:3;2309:7 particularly (4) 2184:24;2189:11; 2210:16;2309:15 parties (2) 2168:6;2205:17 partly (1) 2293:4 partners (1) 2297:14 parts (2) 2219:18;2348:14 part-time (1) 2238:9 party (3) 2174:6;2346:13,</p>	<p>13 past (4) 2173:18;2214:16; 2314:6;2389:5 pastel (1) 2290:6 patterns (1) 2297:16 pause (3) 2365:13,14; 2374:25 pay (30) 2182:14,17,25; 2183:4,4,10,13,15; 2186:2,4;2187:19; 2213:20;2214:25; 2215:4;2218:8; 2221:19;2227:5; 2246:23;2327:11; 2335:17;2337:8; 2343:19;2344:7; 2360:11,12;2367:4; 2368:8,17;2376:18; 2402:7 payable (1) 2220:18 paying (5) 2187:24;2221:19; 2370:24,24,25 payment (39) 2179:4;2181:23; 2185:22;2189:7; 2190:22,24;2191:9; 2194:17,21;2195:4, 23;2196:4,9;2197:5, 8;2199:12;2204:2; 2212:13;2213:19,21, 21;2216:7;2225:16; 2227:13,13,24; 2228:3,3,12; 2243:25;2262:11,12; 2265:14;2340:15,18; 2354:7,24;2368:25; 2387:7 payments (46) 2185:21,24; 2186:10;2194:1,2,8, 15,22;2213:7; 2214:21,23;2215:21; 2221:21,25;2222:11, 12;2226:5,6,24; 2244:2;2261:15,16, 21;2262:16,24; 2264:14;2265:3; 2266:24,25;2271:24, 25;2272:14,18; 2273:7,8;2341:7; 2345:20;2354:4,6, 19;2361:13; 2368:23;2379:5,16; 2387:4;2409:6 payroll (3) 2191:24;2213:7;</p>
	P			
	<p>pace (1) 2234:20 Pacific (1) 2161:11 page (92) 2170:20;2171:2,3; 2176:6,21;2178:8, 10,13,13,13,14; 2185:8,8;2190:16; 2191:15;2193:1,20; 2194:7;2200:14,15, 16;2202:17;2204:3; 2205:22;2226:10,11, 22,22;2228:2; 2229:5;2256:19,21, 23;2257:1;2258:1; 2267:20,21;2268:21; 2276:11;2289:16; 2290:4,6;2293:3,15; 2297:10;2304:6; 2312:13,14;2314:11, 15,16;2315:4,15; 2321:4,7;2326:17; 2328:8;2336:21; 2337:7,15;2340:13; 2347:14;2358:7; 2359:9,13,14,15; 2360:16;2362:11; 2363:17;2365:23; 2377:25;2381:9,10, 14;2383:3;2391:12; 2393:21,25;2394:13, 15;2397:24;</p>			

<p>2265:18 pays (1) 2182:22 PDF (1) 2289:8 PDF's (1) 2289:14 PD's (1) 2202:19 peer (2) 2304:3,6 peer-reviewed (1) 2348:17 penalty (1) 2230:20 people (17) 2181:8;2188:25; 2270:5;2283:9; 2292:4;2302:11; 2307:21;2316:9; 2317:10;2318:25; 2319:17;2327:17; 2365:12;2366:13; 2367:25;2380:15; 2382:10 per (29) 2202:5,23;2203:9; 2218:15;2240:15,18; 2241:4,7;2243:13; 2255:12;2260:16; 2261:11,15,16,21; 2262:11;2280:16; 2281:16;2325:21; 2328:10;2352:11; 2359:17;2360:17; 2365:24;2366:19; 2368:14;2377:21; 2379:25;2409:19 perceived (1) 2249:16 percent (23) 2203:2,5,6; 2216:14;2217:10; 2236:10;2242:18; 2252:13,21;2253:13, 25;2256:10; 2258:24;2259:4; 2278:5;2280:19,19; 2281:7,9;2282:10; 2324:2,5;2336:5 percentage (18) 2252:10;2253:1, 18;2254:12,19,24, 25;2255:7;2256:1; 2258:23,24;2273:15; 2283:21;2336:9; 2356:12;2363:5; 2364:8;2367:11 percentages (6) 2262:20;2329:4, 13;2337:24; 2359:10;2394:1 perfectly (1)</p>	<p>2388:23 perform (8) 2210:13,15; 2211:21,22;2213:6, 12,25;2278:17 perhaps (9) 2169:7;2170:12; 2172:7;2221:1; 2227:10;2228:14; 2289:24;2296:13; 2303:3 peril (1) 2316:18 period (11) 2200:5;2264:23; 2281:19;2284:8; 2309:4,4;2321:10; 2344:24;2362:19; 2369:5;2403:5 Periodically (1) 2241:13 periods (2) 2251:3;2322:1 perjury (1) 2230:21 permanent (1) 2240:13 permissible (1) 2314:10 permit (1) 2306:16 permits (1) 2304:23 perpetuity (2) 2373:10;2374:19 persist (1) 2291:4 person (7) 2267:1;2302:11; 2318:18;2319:5,13, 21;2347:22 personal (1) 2319:20 personally (2) 2225:7;2358:14 personnel (1) 2166:12 person's (1) 2308:11 perspective (3) 2236:20;2238:21; 2321:17 pertinent (1) 2238:22 petition (1) 2246:1 phrase (6) 2212:12;2253:10; 2264:7;2312:14; 2325:5;2407:18 physically (1) 2212:16 pick (2)</p>	<p>2165:17;2285:13 pictures (1) 2379:18 pin (8) 2211:4;2308:2,16, 18;2309:5,19,23; 2311:11 place (9) 2166:6;2223:3; 2248:23;2290:5; 2320:3;2323:8; 2401:8;2403:8; 2404:3 places (1) 2229:22 placing (1) 2249:8 plain (1) 2313:8 plan (6) 2219:16,19; 2239:8,15,16;2359:7 Planning (1) 2265:9 Plans (1) 2239:14 plant (4) 2201:12;2219:2, 11;2323:9 plants (4) 2174:16;2175:3; 2195:5;2323:8 play (1) 2184:19 played (1) 2348:4 playing (1) 2174:11 plays (2) 2219:22;2244:1 please (36) 2160:18;2172:22; 2176:24;2177:25; 2178:7,17;2180:21, 22;2202:8;2230:19, 24;2231:12;2233:4, 25;2238:16; 2245:16;2256:5,5; 2260:13;2262:21; 2268:11,15;2271:16; 2274:13,16;2285:13; 2292:11;2293:3; 2309:21;2333:8; 2355:2,2;2358:16; 2366:9;2381:15; 2400:6 pleased (1) 2268:1 pleasure (3) 2289:13;2410:14, 16 plugged (1) 2280:7</p>	<p>plus (8) 2166:16;2182:6; 2269:25;2281:20; 2287:23,25;2330:7; 2338:24 pluses (2) 2343:12,18 pm (2) 2292:11;2410:25 podium (1) 2290:3 point (37) 2172:25;2173:2; 2174:3;2192:14; 2209:20;2227:10; 2259:3,9;2277:5,25; 2278:4,7;2283:3; 2290:17,19;2296:13; 2301:20;2316:7; 2326:12;2327:19; 2331:15,21;2345:16, 19;2349:17;2354:2, 3;2357:1,23;2358:3, 6;2360:22;2362:10; 2364:22;2366:16; 2388:18;2406:9 pointed (2) 2198:2;2387:9 pointing (3) 2196:7;2227:25; 2345:4 points (3) 2376:5;2377:6; 2388:22 policy (4) 2203:22;2263:25; 2264:6;2265:13 Ponderosa (2) 2163:14;2395:12 pool (75) 2179:23;2180:3,7; 2181:14,18;2182:1, 2,13,22;2183:9,13, 15,17,18;2187:8,9, 17;2189:12,18; 2192:15;2195:5; 2201:12;2223:15; 2239:15;2241:18; 2277:17,21;2280:14; 2281:3,5,14;2282:4, 6,11,21,22;2328:9; 2329:7,20,20; 2330:5,10,14; 2331:4;2332:18,19, 25,25;2333:3,4; 2334:2,3,5,6,9,10,12, 13,23;2336:11; 2343:13,23;2344:3, 5;2376:9,11;2377:9; 2379:6;2383:10; 2397:17,20;2408:24; 2409:1,2,17 pooled (1)</p>	<p>2389:20 pooling (14) 2219:2,11,16,19; 2223:5;2229:20; 2239:8,8,12,14,16; 2240:7;2241:21,23 pools (1) 2219:15 pool-wide (1) 2239:18 poor (1) 2387:25 popped (1) 2223:24 portion (4) 2373:20,21,23; 2375:24 portions (2) 2204:15;2374:5 posed (1) 2303:18 position (6) 2198:21;2230:19; 2297:19,22;2298:3; 2301:3 positions (5) 2173:17,18,21,25; 2175:14 positive (6) 2273:21;2275:2; 2287:6;2357:5; 2361:1;2404:12 possibility (8) 2198:17;2323:13; 2349:1;2363:9,19, 21;2366:20;2379:21 possible (3) 2283:8;2315:22; 2318:2 possibly (4) 2201:14;2221:5, 21;2349:4 post (2) 2313:15,23 postering (1) 2290:9 post-passage (1) 2314:21 posts (2) 2289:3,4 potential (6) 2198:3;2274:5,21; 2277:1;2400:15; 2404:5 potentially (5) 2219:3;2277:4; 2283:22;2336:2; 2402:3 pound (18) 2202:5;2218:15; 2241:4;2243:13; 2260:2,16;2324:17, 17,21,23;2325:10,</p>
--	---	--	--	---

<p>19,21;2365:24; 2366:19;2368:14; 2377:21;2379:25 pounds (19) 2202:23,23; 2203:9,10;2241:15, 16;2243:15;2255:6; 2256:9;2257:21; 2342:24;2343:10,10; 2351:16;2393:22; 2394:17,20,22; 2395:3 powder (1) 2218:1 powders (1) 2163:6 power (1) 2372:7 practical (8) 2178:18,19; 2184:24,25;2228:20; 2288:23;2318:3; 2410:12 practically (1) 2410:12 Practice (3) 2317:21;2318:24; 2319:10 practiced (1) 2237:8 practices (1) 2247:7 precisely (1) 2364:5 predecessors (1) 2303:10 predictable (1) 2369:15 predicts (2) 2278:7;2284:5 preference (1) 2225:3 preliminaries (1) 2167:2 preliminary (10) 2164:4,14;2166:3; 2168:11;2170:23; 2275:22;2276:7,9; 2278:15;2376:6 premise (1) 2331:10 premium (31) 2206:2;2208:20; 2210:1;2243:25; 2262:1,9;2264:15; 2265:4;2281:6,20; 2282:14;2325:8,18; 2328:14;2330:3,4; 2337:8,12;2338:4,5, 22;2340:14,16,23; 2341:13,22,23; 2342:1;2344:7; 2397:6,6</p>	<p>Premiums (2) 2261:10,10 prepare (3) 2228:23;2232:21; 2242:6 prepared (10) 2234:1;2242:7; 2252:18;2267:22,23; 2280:2;2303:14; 2359:3;2375:1; 2395:14 preparing (2) 2375:8,8 prescribed (1) 2178:4 presence (1) 2304:20 present (11) 2168:3;2230:13, 21;2320:20;2326:6; 2327:9,17,20,25; 2334:13;2373:2 presentation (2) 2165:13;2289:22 presentations (1) 2316:18 presented (6) 2214:8;2274:4,20; 2288:23;2290:11; 2381:25 presenter (1) 2234:19 preserve (5) 2285:9,16;2315:9, 11;2403:23 preserving (1) 2407:14 president (2) 2231:24;2234:8 presides (1) 2308:25 presiding (1) 2318:1 pressure (1) 2222:16 pressures (4) 2251:5;2398:23; 2399:6;2401:3 presume (1) 2403:16 presumed (1) 2308:21 presumes (1) 2329:6 presuming (2) 2355:6;2357:21 pretty (6) 2186:15;2288:25; 2320:7;2325:12,13; 2408:20 prevailed (1) 2349:14 prevent (1)</p>	<p>2316:11 preview (1) 2189:5 previous (2) 2272:22;2340:1 previously (3) 2238:4;2275:7; 2405:9 price (120) 2171:25;2172:14; 2173:3,7;2182:8; 2201:25;2202:1,11; 2207:5,6;2214:10, 10;2220:13,19,22; 2221:1,2;2240:8,10, 14,22;2241:3,4,6; 2242:19,21,22; 2243:12;2246:19; 2260:1,16;2277:9, 10,11,12,14,15,22, 23;2278:8,9; 2281:18;2282:3,12; 2321:5,11,19,22; 2322:4;2325:7; 2326:25;2327:18,24; 2328:3,12,12,14,15, 16,17,18,19,20; 2329:5,23,24; 2331:1,8,9;2332:4,4, 4,9,9,10;2333:6,8,13, 22,22;2334:7,14; 2336:10,11,16; 2343:6,9;2345:7; 2355:5;2356:7,8; 2357:7,20,22; 2363:2,8,15;2366:7; 2368:1,1;2372:23; 2373:3,3,19,19; 2374:2,4,6,6,17; 2379:19;2389:21; 2390:1,2;2391:24; 2394:24,25;2395:1, 2;2399:3;2409:19 priced (2) 2251:19;2397:12 prices (41) 2172:2,3,16,16,22; 2173:13;2174:10; 2180:9;2182:6,7,7,9; 2193:21;2208:21,22, 23;2209:1,21; 2218:11;2219:15; 2220:17;2239:18; 2240:6,9,11,16,18, 24;2241:5,8; 2251:20;2269:24; 2277:8;2278:21; 2342:25;2351:15,25; 2363:13;2366:25; 2367:1;2374:3 pricing (3) 2229:18;2333:15; 2397:6</p>	<p>primarily (3) 2240:8,10; 2349:24 primary (2) 2232:2;2265:12 principles (2) 2311:19;2313:20 prior (14) 2179:2;2181:17, 21;2182:13,16; 2183:9,13,16; 2195:10,13;2227:3; 2237:8;2293:12; 2346:17 private (2) 2205:16;2288:1 privilege (1) 2332:12 pro (1) 2249:11 probably (18) 2167:20;2193:13; 2200:5;2206:13; 2253:22;2303:11,12, 17;2304:23;2324:9, 25;2326:25;2327:2; 2331:6;2333:18; 2354:19;2370:8; 2390:10 problem (18) 2198:18;2199:4; 2208:17;2212:23; 2215:15;2221:18,18; 2288:24;2289:23; 2310:14,19;2312:12; 2337:3;2343:2; 2360:17;2371:18; 2388:4,4 problems (2) 2225:16;2356:24 procedure (2) 2207:19;2233:16 proceed (11) 2233:5,22;2234:3; 2243:7;2245:16; 2254:10;2257:25; 2262:21;2279:16; 2291:24;2386:21 proceeding (10) 2165:12;2166:5, 18;2301:24;2317:22, 25;2318:15;2319:2; 2322:24;2389:10 proceedings (9) 2173:19;2310:25; 2311:3;2318:24; 2319:8,9,14;2385:7; 2410:24 proceeds (1) 2352:4 process (17) 2174:8;2200:3; 2201:4,15,18;</p>	<p>2202:3,7;2209:17, 24;2219:4,9; 2224:12;2273:25; 2317:17;2362:25; 2368:9;2382:3 processed (2) 2203:3;2241:20 processes (1) 2263:18 processing (2) 2323:9;2351:8 processor (1) 2175:2 processors (3) 2240:5;2352:13, 19 Procter (1) 2293:12 Proctor (1) 2293:9 produce (5) 2246:18,18; 2290:8;2326:20; 2369:2 produced (14) 2173:17;2203:5; 2221:4,11;2239:21; 2243:25;2254:6; 2255:6;2258:21; 2266:8,10;2350:1; 2360:3,4 Producer (34) 2163:13,17; 2175:4;2178:25; 2179:2;2181:20,23; 2182:6;2183:20; 2191:24;2193:21; 2194:23;2203:7; 2213:7,10,20; 2219:11;2220:13; 2228:4;2239:16,20; 2240:24;2269:24; 2275:11;2277:16; 2331:20,21;2333:4; 2371:3;2374:16; 2387:8;2395:11; 2399:2;2405:21 producer-handlers (1) 2202:22 Producers (67) 2163:16,23,25; 2169:1,6;2178:24; 2180:16;2183:14,15; 2185:18;2187:25; 2194:15;2198:25; 2213:16;2214:23,25; 2215:22;2216:3,8, 15;2217:6,8,11,17, 22;2219:25; 2220:18;2226:6; 2236:6;2241:14,19; 2243:17,19;2246:2; 2266:4,12,12;</p>
---	---	--	--	---

<p>2278:8;2285:4; 2323:19;2331:18; 2332:21;2333:5,13; 2334:12,21;2335:7; 2342:1,8,8,21,22; 2343:7,9;2344:9; 2345:5;2348:21; 2357:8,9;2368:7; 2387:4;2390:1,8; 2396:1;2399:22; 2402:21;2403:5 producer's (2) 2334:1,14 producer-settlement (10) 2169:5;2182:14, 17;2183:6;2185:21; 2194:1,2,9;2223:6; 2226:6 producing (5) 2236:13;2258:15; 2263:15;2273:14; 2356:15 Product (16) 2235:8;2267:8; 2269:19;2270:5; 2271:22;2351:15; 2352:5,13;2353:9, 17;2360:17;2361:1, 1;2363:7,16;2379:10 production (41) 2179:4,6;2220:7; 2236:14;2239:24,24; 2240:1,21;2242:24; 2243:4;2251:5; 2252:10,22;2253:14, 16,19;2254:20,22, 25;2258:14,25; 2263:6;2269:22,23; 2270:1;2271:4,6; 2272:23;2278:2,5; 2280:16;2284:14; 2321:23;2336:15,15; 2343:11;2356:12; 2357:10;2363:5; 2402:22;2403:12 products (3) 2236:7,15;2351:7 professional (8) 2236:19;2237:16; 2238:19;2287:20,25; 2293:5;2296:3; 2299:24 Professor (2) 2238:5;2349:13 profit (1) 2174:20 profitability (2) 2174:17,24 profitable (1) 2218:3 profits (3) 2175:3;2218:7; 2322:9</p>	<p>Program (70) 2161:8,12;2189:2, 15;2198:1,4,7; 2199:6;2201:8; 2221:24;2224:8,18, 25;2225:17; 2232:18;2234:5,17; 2238:10,12;2239:3, 5,7;2244:6;2245:22; 2248:13;2250:15; 2252:2;2263:10,14; 2267:14;2273:21,24; 2274:3,6,20,22; 2275:21;2276:24; 2277:2,5;2278:17; 2279:25;2280:5; 2283:15;2284:7; 2285:17,18;2286:18, 24;2293:19;2294:8, 16;2295:1,10; 2312:18;2315:10,11, 18;2322:19;2345:6; 2369:11;2395:18; 2398:3,7;2399:22; 2403:14;2404:6; 2407:5,13,15 Programs (4) 2161:1;2236:25; 2302:20;2403:7 progress (1) 2357:25 progression (1) 2283:7 prohibition (1) 2310:24 Project (1) 2304:12 promised (2) 2169:18;2391:6 promises (1) 2311:16 promotion (1) 2237:6 promulgation (4) 2245:20;2302:7, 12;2312:16 promulgations (1) 2302:9 properly (2) 2310:1;2317:17 property (1) 2249:23 proponent (2) 2173:4;2375:22 proponents (15) 2161:25;2162:6, 10,18;2166:13; 2169:8;2170:6; 2214:18;2216:19,20; 2225:18;2230:13; 2289:5;2375:3; 2380:16 proportion (1)</p>	<p>2357:9 proportions (1) 2352:17 proposal (45) 2161:22,22,25; 2162:6,10,18; 2163:20;2164:21; 2168:9;2169:5,8; 2170:7;2173:12; 2174:8;2176:9; 2179:9;2198:11; 2220:15;2224:9; 2227:7,12,14; 2228:1;2275:25; 2276:6,23;2277:3, 19;2278:18;2280:4; 2284:5,22,25; 2285:23;2286:15; 2315:16;2331:17,18; 2332:19;2333:2,12; 2389:17,19;2406:2; 2407:5 proposals (4) 2176:1;2275:18, 24;2276:10 propose (4) 2166:14;2194:10, 24;2285:18 proposed (12) 2166:14,16; 2198:24;2199:11; 2201:10;2208:10; 2211:14;2220:15; 2225:17;2278:16,18; 2279:25 proposing (1) 2191:5 proprietary (4) 2257:6,11,19; 2367:2 protein (1) 2181:15 proudly (1) 2236:21 prove (1) 2349:17 provide (14) 2192:20;2234:14; 2239:13;2255:22; 2257:20;2263:24; 2271:12;2324:10; 2345:21;2346:4; 2354:4;2360:24; 2376:4;2381:4 provided (25) 2193:6;2226:4; 2227:4;2232:13; 2242:8;2246:2; 2252:13,15,19,23; 2255:20,24;2257:14; 2261:11;2262:2,15; 2264:19;2291:6; 2320:2;2345:17;</p>	<p>2362:13,15;2368:7; 2374:11;2396:2 providers (2) 2236:6;2267:2 provides (7) 2178:15;2212:13; 2249:11;2355:10,11; 2367:16;2369:15 providing (8) 2174:23;2178:20; 2214:1;2232:9; 2235:23;2291:1; 2324:11;2380:21 province (2) 2308:12;2310:15 provision (1) 2207:6 provisions (6) 2188:11;2190:17; 2207:4;2211:10; 2245:21;2312:17 prudent (2) 2319:12,13 public (12) 2191:1;2201:4,15, 18;2202:3,6;2219:3, 9;2238:8;2257:16; 2287:21;2290:11 Publications (3) 2304:1,2;2332:3 publicly (1) 2304:15 published (2) 2179:9;2257:16 purchase (7) 2266:12;2284:14; 2323:19;2368:12; 2400:23;2401:1,7 purchased (1) 2266:11 purchases (4) 2266:5,8,14; 2323:12 Purchasing (2) 2293:8,11 pure (1) 2289:6 purely (2) 2327:25;2336:19 purported (3) 2233:20;2307:10; 2377:1 purports (1) 2259:25 purpose (2) 2168:4;2314:5 purposes (5) 2241:1;2254:14; 2264:21;2266:22; 2370:14 pursuant (2) 2195:6;2204:13 purview (1)</p>	<p>2201:22 put (15) 2163:20;2203:8; 2222:16;2245:5; 2269:10;2272:9; 2277:18;2301:9; 2320:1;2344:13; 2351:12;2375:12; 2403:7;2404:3; 2409:2 putting (2) 2198:10;2209:6 <hr/>Q<hr/>qSNF (1) 2259:11 qualification (1) 2218:2 qualifications (1) 2319:3 qualified (5) 2287:16;2288:19; 2306:20,22;2319:5 qualifying (1) 2319:2 quality (1) 2403:7 Quantification (3) 2243:22;2264:12; 2265:1 quantify (5) 2402:1,2,4,6,8 quantitative (1) 2360:25 quick (2) 2317:6;2408:16 quickly (5) 2206:25;2256:3; 2276:1;2284:6; 2409:12 quit (1) 2389:6 quite (7) 2170:12;2180:17; 2219:22;2318:4; 2329:10,10;2351:11 quo (4) 2286:17;2315:18; 2407:12,14 quota (601) 2178:24,25; 2179:4;2180:4,10; 2181:19,23;2182:7, 7;2189:15,16; 2198:1,4,7;2199:6; 2200:20,22,24; 2201:8,25;2202:10, 11;2204:16;2206:2; 2208:20;2209:21; 2210:1;2213:10,12, 16,17,21;2218:11, 12,25;2219:24;</p>
---	---	--	---	--

2220:4,22;2221:3,8; 2223:11;2224:8,15, 16,25;2232:18; 2234:5,16;2239:1,3, 7,17,19,21,22,24; 2240:6,8,14,17,21, 22,23,25;2241:3,5,8, 13,15,18;2242:1; 2243:1,1,5,13,15,16, 23;2244:1,2,6; 2245:22;2246:9,11, 13;2247:1,4,6,7,25; 2248:2,5,7,9,13,19, 23;2249:3,7,10,14, 15,17,19,20;2250:2, 9,11,15,21,24; 2251:3,8,9,10,17,21; 2252:2,2,5,7,8,9,11, 11,14,21;2253:2,5, 13,13,19,24;2254:1, 6,12,16,20,21; 2255:1,2,2,5,7,12,17; 2256:8,10;2257:7, 10,17,20;2258:3,6,8, 9,11,14,20,22,25; 2259:4,5,8,10,12,14, 17,23,24;2260:5,6,7, 17;2261:9,10,15,16, 21,25;2262:1,9,11, 12,24,25;2263:3,6, 10,11,14;2264:14, 15,16;2265:3,4,5,14; 2266:24;2267:14; 2268:3;2269:1,15, 17;2270:18;2271:18, 24,25;2272:10,13, 14,17,20,23;2273:5, 7,8,15,16,21,24; 2274:3,6,19,22,24; 2275:1,3,5,9,11,13, 17,21;2276:1,6,23; 2277:2,4,7,9,10,11, 15,16,17,20,21,22, 23;2278:1,2,4,5,9, 17;2279:25;2280:4, 19,20,21,21,22,25; 2281:2,5,6,14,16,20; 2282:6,11,14,22; 2283:9,14,17; 2284:6,8,16,19,23; 2285:3,4,18,25; 2286:2,17,18,24,24; 2287:2,5;2312:3,18; 2314:17;2315:10,18; 2320:18;2321:6,11, 22,25;2322:4,13; 2323:2,6,12,19,21, 22,23,25;2324:2,5, 16,17,17,19,23; 2325:7,8,10,19,21; 2326:5,10;2327:24; 2328:12,14,17; 2329:4,7,12,14,15,	20,20,23;2330:2,2,4, 5,6,10,10,14;2331:3, 4,20;2332:4,9,14,18, 21,24;2333:3,4,5,13; 2334:2,12,20; 2335:5,9,9;2336:6,6, 11,20;2337:8,12; 2338:22;2340:3,5, 14,15,16,18,23; 2341:5,9,13,22; 2342:9,9,11,16,25; 2343:8,9,10,11; 2344:3,4,7,9,16,19, 23;2345:2,6,15,17, 20;2346:3;2348:21, 23;2349:25;2350:8, 10;2351:14;2353:8, 11,19,20;2354:4,6,7, 18,20,23,24;2355:7, 9,15,16,18;2356:12, 16,18;2357:2,5,8,20, 24;2358:3;2359:6,6, 11,20,21,25;2360:2, 4,8;2361:2,5,6,7,10, 13,14,19,23,24; 2362:3,4,12,13,15, 20;2363:6;2364:8; 2365:21,24,25; 2366:7,7,18;2367:3, 5;2368:3,6,12; 2369:3,6,10,15,17, 19;2370:1,10,18,22; 2371:5,7,8,15,21; 2372:3,10;2373:4, 10,20,21,23;2374:5, 11,13,17,20; 2376:11,16,18; 2377:2,20,20,23; 2378:1,9,21,22; 2379:10,14,15,16, 24;2380:5;2381:6; 2383:4,5,7;2391:23; 2392:17,20;2393:18, 23;2395:17,20,23, 24;2396:1,3,4,9,11, 14,23,24;2397:5,7, 14,16,20;2398:3,6,7, 16,18,19;2399:2,22; 2400:14,15,16,17,23, 25;2401:1,4,8,8,17, 19,25;2402:2,5,20; 2403:9,12,14,15,18, 19,20;2404:6,9,10, 21,23,25;2405:3,6,7, 13,15,18,20,23; 2406:3;2407:5,9,13, 15;2408:1,5,24; 2409:2,6,9	2170:15,24; 2171:24;2172:4; 2234:13,13;2246:1, 10,15,15;2249:1,2,3, 4;2250:4,5,11,13; 2251:12,13,23,24; 2255:3;2264:8,9; 2276:9,11,16,17,21, 22;2278:9;2284:23, 24;2320:2;2383:15; 2394:14;2400:23; 2407:18 quoted (3) 2200:12;2311:23, 24 quotes (3) 2252:20;2308:1; 2383:15 Quoting (3) 2248:13;2278:10; 2318:5	R Rabobank (1) 2247:16 Rachel (1) 2162:25 R-A-C-H-E-L (1) 2162:25 Racicot (1) 2310:4 R-A-C-I-C-O-T (1) 2310:4 raise (7) 2173:13;2200:4; 2230:19;2231:12; 2245:1;2279:18; 2390:7 raised (6) 2225:15;2288:21; 2370:16;2385:4,9; 2386:24 range (9) 2240:18;2247:9, 13,16;2372:20; 2381:11,20,22,23 ranges (1) 2258:3 ranging (1) 2262:6 ranked (1) 2269:14 rate (1) 2375:10 rates (2) 2369:20,24 rather (5) 2164:12;2205:9; 2206:18;2307:14; 2329:24 rational (2) 2369:18;2409:1	ratios (1) 2248:22 Ray (2) 2294:11,12 reach (1) 2307:12 reached (1) 2276:19 reaches (1) 2260:6 read (29) 2167:3;2168:1; 2170:14,23;2172:9, 11;2176:24;2177:13, 13,23,24;2178:13, 17;2180:20,25; 2181:10;2186:7; 2190:20;2228:9; 2253:10;2261:4; 2269:11,21;2285:6; 2288:5;2289:17; 2321:12;2337:5; 2347:16 readily (3) 2289:25;2291:2, 11 reading (6) 2194:21;2196:13; 2197:5;2233:5; 2244:20;2365:19 reads (6) 2193:5;2194:2,9; 2195:9;2228:3; 2244:9 ready (5) 2190:1;2197:22; 2268:16;2292:11; 2358:16 real (3) 2237:16;2259:7; 2270:4 realistic (2) 2380:7,9 reality (1) 2280:18 realize (1) 2304:2 really (12) 2181:8;2197:7; 2212:16;2227:11; 2256:3;2291:25; 2300:4;2335:8,12; 2336:8;2341:8; 2386:13 reason (8) 2204:21;2285:7; 2310:9;2313:6; 2316:4;2319:18; 2322:14;2330:17 reasonable (2) 2319:12,13 reasonableness (1) 2311:14	reasons (3) 2224:21;2257:6; 2380:6 reblend (2) 2246:9;2312:3 recall (11) 2220:8;2295:20; 2299:22;2300:2; 2303:21;2333:24; 2346:19,23,23; 2359:11;2397:18 recalled (1) 2230:1 recalling (1) 2230:2 re-categorized (1) 2255:25 Receipt (3) 2194:3;2212:14; 2215:3 receipts (5) 2177:21;2236:9, 10;2246:9;2312:3 receive (39) 2164:21;2166:11; 2179:23;2182:1; 2183:3;2195:12; 2198:1;2204:11; 2205:8,13;2215:18; 2277:13;2281:3,13; 2282:5,21;2325:8; 2329:4,4;2330:11, 12,18,18;2331:22; 2333:5,13,14; 2334:15;2335:5; 2336:10,16;2341:19; 2343:1;2345:14; 2354:18;2383:7; 2389:20;2390:1; 2399:3 received (21) 2182:12;2183:20; 2187:16;2194:20,21, 23;2195:4;2204:20; 2206:17,23;2213:25; 2214:24;2226:25; 2228:4;2238:12; 2241:6;2326:8; 2342:18;2343:7; 2363:7;2397:7 receiver (1) 2331:6 receives (7) 2178:3;2179:17; 2183:5;2187:7; 2191:18;2204:8; 2324:16 receiving (5) 2181:18;2182:23; 2335:1;2355:5; 2387:7 recent (6) 2255:20;2261:13;
--	--	--	--	---	---

<p>2264:23;2313:20,21; 2369:17 recently (3) 2264:15;2265:4; 2322:10 recessed (1) 2410:24 recognition (1) 2284:19 recognize (9) 2246:9,13;2250:9; 2276:1,6;2284:23; 2312:3;2346:18; 2406:3 recognized (9) 2245:18;2246:11, 16;2248:7;2263:16; 2286:18;2312:15; 2326:19;2403:14 recognizes (5) 2274:24;2285:2, 23;2314:17;2404:9 Recognizing (1) 2315:25 recollection (2) 2178:9;2229:12 recommendations (1) 2408:1 record (29) 2160:6;2164:13; 2166:5,8,8,17; 2167:4;2168:5; 2172:9;2190:4; 2238:2;2244:12; 2245:6;2253:11; 2257:16;2268:18; 2285:8;2292:13; 2293:4;2309:8; 2315:22;2320:9,22; 2358:24;2404:16; 2405:5;2406:9; 2410:23,23 recording (2) 2165:8;2313:17 records (2) 2177:4;2224:7 Recovery (1) 2264:2 RE-CROSS-EXAMINATION (5) 2212:1;2213:1; 2214:4;2227:20; 2229:1 red (1) 2334:2 redirect (4) 2170:2,4;2225:12; 2410:7 redo (1) 2188:22 REED (2) 2163:21,21 R-E-E-D (1) 2163:22</p>	<p>reenacted (1) 2246:4 refer (4) 2202:21;2249:7; 2346:7;2380:22 reference (11) 2177:5;2185:8; 2191:18;2202:23; 2203:2;2226:17; 2228:7;2229:8; 2238:17;2359:8,15 referenced (1) 2204:9 references (1) 2245:24 referencing (1) 2192:8 referendum (1) 2219:12 referred (5) 2170:10,13; 2204:5;2303:6; 2370:1 referring (8) 2200:11;2202:19; 2226:19;2313:17; 2323:9;2360:16; 2379:3;2385:18 refers (1) 2263:17 reflect (3) 2220:17,20; 2239:18 reflected (3) 2257:14;2283:20; 2328:4 reflecting (1) 2280:18 reflection (1) 2220:5 reflects (2) 2258:10;2280:11 refocusing (1) 2203:20 refresh (1) 2178:9 refreshments (1) 2165:18 regard (6) 2164:11;2167:4; 2211:10;2223:11; 2238:22;2291:13 regarding (7) 2168:6;2232:17; 2271:12;2278:16; 2320:18;2336:8; 2346:21 regardless (1) 2344:2 regards (1) 2348:16 Region (5) 2263:12,23;</p>	<p>2265:16;2266:15; 2269:12 Regional (16) 2189:16;2200:24; 2202:10;2218:12,25; 2219:24;2220:4,21; 2237:12;2238:21; 2240:23;2261:10; 2264:16;2265:5,24; 2304:11 regions (2) 2267:12;2272:19 Register (2) 2176:1;2179:10 regular (9) 2213:5;2250:10; 2396:3,23,24; 2397:5,7;2403:20; 2404:23 regulation (4) 2201:11;2202:2,2; 2205:16 Regulations (2) 2190:11,19 regulatory (7) 2175:12;2201:4; 2273:24;2275:4,8; 2276:9;2405:6 Reinvestment (1) 2264:2 related (12) 2264:2;2267:5; 2287:6;2294:25; 2295:5,8,21,25; 2300:11;2335:16; 2369:19,19 relates (3) 2318:13;2335:16; 2387:3 relating (1) 2213:7 relations (1) 2376:17 relationship (1) 2220:13 relationships (5) 2203:25;2214:10, 11;2382:18;2403:6 relative (7) 2253:13;2343:6,8; 2344:8;2348:22; 2359:5;2393:17 relatively (1) 2206:25 relaxed (1) 2311:1 relevant (9) 2232:10;2238:1; 2243:10;2248:22; 2251:7;2252:21; 2287:17;2311:20; 2313:1 reliance (2)</p>	<p>2311:15,15 relied (2) 2238:24;2264:22 relies (3) 2206:4;2215:3; 2277:7 rely (6) 2166:23;2209:12; 2210:2;2319:13; 2327:25;2373:11 relying (1) 2320:5 remain (8) 2168:8,13; 2198:20,22;2201:15; 2282:1;2376:11; 2409:1 remained (1) 2401:8 remaining (3) 2281:4;2282:5,22 remains (1) 2211:15 remarks (1) 2350:14 remedied (1) 2289:17 remember (9) 2161:5;2223:21; 2295:4,24;2299:12; 2300:14;2301:16; 2340:2;2392:16 remind (1) 2202:8 reminded (1) 2167:20 remote (1) 2166:6 remuneration (1) 2375:7 renew (1) 2316:4 repaid (1) 2372:15 repeat (3) 2226:13;2333:8; 2406:5 repeatedly (1) 2221:17 repeating (2) 2284:4;2373:14 repetitious (1) 2318:4 report (27) 2178:1,3;2179:12; 2181:14,22;2191:19; 2204:6,7,8,15; 2205:11,13,17; 2208:19,24;2209:20; 2264:11;2313:18; 2375:8;2395:18,22, 23;2396:8;2397:24; 2404:1;2405:25;</p>	<p>2407:25 reported (7) 2179:19;2209:4; 2213:11;2249:22; 2254:21;2272:25; 2371:4 reporter (6) 2165:8,15;2166:9; 2279:9,14;2364:24 reporting (1) 2249:6 reports (22) 2168:4,7;2177:20, 21;2179:15,23; 2181:18;2182:1; 2183:19;2191:17,24; 2204:16,19,19; 2205:8;2206:23; 2221:25;2222:3; 2264:1;2304:1,3; 2313:5 represent (4) 2161:22;2216:14; 2339:9;2376:15 representation (2) 2229:16;2386:14 representations (2) 2385:7;2386:17 representative (6) 2163:10;2214:6; 2351:6;2375:21,22; 2382:4 representatives (3) 2227:10;2375:20, 21 represented (8) 2175:10,11; 2256:18;2299:24; 2363:6,17;2379:10; 2388:22 Representing (6) 2161:25;2162:5, 17;2163:12,23,25 represents (2) 2269:22;2377:19 reproduce (2) 2289:1;2290:6 reproducing (2) 2289:23;2290:9 repudiation (1) 2284:20 request (3) 2226:2;2375:2; 2381:1 requests (1) 2168:5 require (8) 2205:16,20; 2216:7;2251:12; 2307:22;2316:13; 2318:19;2383:5 required (2) 2190:22;2403:22</p>
---	--	---	--	--

requirement (2) 2205:11;2218:14	2270:19	2241:11;2275:21	rising (1) 2401:10	2319:6
requirements (3) 2204:6;2249:6; 2398:21	resulting (4) 2266:20;2370:21; 2390:4;2409:19	reviewed (7) 2174:8,8;2254:15; 2304:3,6,7;2308:11	risk (3) 2249:16;2369:8, 12	rule-making (1) 2218:13
requires (1) 2217:25	results (8) 2209:3;2243:16; 2247:3;2264:10; 2271:21;2278:23; 2329:16;2351:2	reviewing (4) 2173:11;2178:25; 2248:21;2278:15	risks (1) 2368:22	rules (8) 2199:9;2317:21, 22,25,25;2318:7,13; 2319:10
Research (2) 2313:18;2318:17	resume (7) 2160:16;2168:17; 2190:5;2268:20; 2274:13;2286:13; 2358:25	revisit (1) 2222:15	Riverside (2) 2258:16;2394:1	ruling (2) 2317:8,19
reserve (5) 2233:15;2244:23; 2245:4;2274:10; 2286:9	retail (4) 2237:16;2270:2; 2304:22,23	right (129) 2161:6;2167:17; 2171:6,16,19,22; 2172:18,23;2176:17, 23;2177:5,8,11,17, 22;2178:6;2179:7, 16;2183:7,24; 2184:3,21;2185:15, 18;2186:3,5,21; 2187:3,10,21; 2193:1;2194:6; 2196:15;2205:5; 2208:8;2217:10; 2220:2;2222:21; 2224:23;2225:10; 2226:21;2227:17; 2228:25;2229:24; 2230:1,4,19;2231:7, 15;2233:15,19; 2234:23;2244:23; 2245:4,7;2246:8; 2270:23;2288:9; 2290:16;2291:3,9; 2292:10;2294:12,20; 2296:19,21;2299:8; 2301:1;2312:2; 2313:16;2319:16; 2320:10;2321:7,17; 2326:2,25;2327:2; 2328:20;2329:1; 2331:12;2337:9; 2338:13;2346:15; 2350:17;2352:7; 2357:18;2358:22; 2361:8;2363:20; 2367:19;2370:5; 2373:24;2378:6; 2383:20;2384:15; 2385:1,14;2386:10, 14,16,22;2387:15, 18,24;2388:12,15, 24;2389:25; 2390:23;2392:21; 2393:5,6,10,18; 2394:12;2395:8; 2397:8,13;2399:16; 2401:5;2402:3,9,13, 14;2409:18,24; 2410:6,9,18	Rives (1) 2163:12	run (6) 2167:9;2198:13; 2224:8;2355:13; 2393:12,14
reserved (1) 2306:15	retain (1) 2251:23	rights (4) 2274:10;2285:9; 2286:9;2299:25	R-I-V-E-S (1) 2163:12	running (1) 2167:16
residents (2) 2348:8,12	retained (2) 2234:10;2375:5	ripple (1) 2266:18	roasted (1) 2410:12	rural (1) 2356:25
resides (1) 2224:17	retention (1) 2237:7		Rob (1) 2163:2	russian (1) 2235:21
resort (1) 2247:5	return (24) 2205:20;2251:18; 2262:25;2268:3,25; 2269:16;2271:18; 2272:10,13;2287:5; 2334:25;2335:4; 2341:16,19;2350:25; 2361:10;2377:23; 2378:1,20,22; 2382:7;2389:1; 2391:23;2393:18		rocket (1) 2222:12	Ryan (2) 2163:24;2168:25
resources (1) 2380:13	returned (1) 2237:3		Roger (1) 2348:19	
respect (13) 2208:4;2209:10; 2210:9;2212:6,7; 2215:21;2216:1; 2233:20;2274:10; 2302:20;2368:16; 2376:13;2408:1	Returning (1) 2336:3		role (9) 2184:20,20; 2210:21;2211:18,18; 2244:1;2275:2; 2299:13;2404:12	S
respond (2) 2288:22;2349:9	returns (1) 2263:2		Roman (6) 2234:25;2239:2; 2243:21;2263:8; 2275:16;2286:20	SACOG (1) 2304:11
responded (1) 2211:4	reveal (1) 2246:24		room (12) 2165:16,19; 2166:7,21,23; 2302:12;2384:6,7, 12,13;2410:19,21	Sacramento (1) 2297:8
response (9) 2168:5;2169:12; 2185:11,23;2214:7, 13;2289:18; 2360:19;2391:17	reveals (1) 2246:22		roughly (1) 2377:19	sale (2) 2351:24;2353:10
responsibilities (4) 2210:5,9;2224:4,5	Revenue (33) 2240:5,19; 2250:18;2264:5; 2287:9;2324:15; 2342:8,8,14,15,15, 17,17,20,21;2343:8; 2344:1,2,3,5; 2345:13;2346:1; 2353:19,21;2362:4, 5,12,13,20;2370:18; 2379:7,14;2391:24		rounding (5) 2337:16,17,17; 2392:9,13	sales (13) 2203:4;2241:25; 2242:18,19,21,22; 2269:25;2270:2,3; 2304:23;2351:20; 2402:24;2403:13
responsibility (13) 2177:3;2181:9,14; 2208:19;2211:3,5, 11,15;2213:4,15,18; 2223:14;2224:17	rest (3) 2260:8;2270:21; 2312:1		routine (1) 2213:5	same (49) 2173:18;2174:11; 2179:23;2183:21; 2187:18;2192:7; 2193:1,25;2194:14; 2214:24;2215:5,9, 13,17;2221:21; 2227:6,8;2228:20; 2229:21;2236:11; 2241:11;2252:22; 2260:3;2275:1; 2278:23;2282:8; 2285:7;2315:7,7; 2337:14,25;2348:13; 2352:12,13,18; 2370:10;2379:25,25; 2388:1,3,3;2403:11; 2404:11,16;2405:17; 2406:21;2407:4,8,13
restate (1) 2377:3	restated (1) 2366:9		rows (2) 2253:3;2270:24	sampling (1) 2382:4
restaurants (1) 2348:2	restrictions (1) 2403:18		RQA (9) 2179:3;2202:9; 2208:22;2209:23; 2210:1;2261:11; 2262:8;2340:16,17	San (13) 2256:14,17,17,18; 2258:1,15;2259:5; 2260:9;2261:1; 2356:13;2357:17,19; 2394:1
result (9) 2247:5;2266:23, 24;2267:4;2271:25; 2307:12;2352:18; 2368:8;2371:4	revenues (7) 2244:3;2249:13; 2267:10;2273:11,13; 2305:3;2351:14		RQA's (21) 2179:5;2182:8; 2201:11,17;2202:2; 2207:24;2208:4,12, 16;2209:9,12,13,17; 2210:2,20;2219:21; 2221:3;2240:23; 2241:5;2262:5,5	
resulted (1)	review (4) 2166:14;2240:2;		Rule (9) 2161:9;2219:6; 2307:9;2311:4,5,9; 2315:23;2318:12;	

<p>satisfied (2) 2189:19;2399:6</p> <p>satisfy (1) 2371:17</p> <p>Saturday (1) 2190:23</p> <p>save (2) 2167:20,22</p> <p>saying (11) 2175:7;2226:14; 2297:13;2322:19; 2335:6;2341:12; 2345:25;2346:2,3; 2391:21;2399:21</p> <p>scans (1) 2165:15</p> <p>SCHAD (2) 2162:11,11</p> <p>S-C-H-A-D (1) 2162:12</p> <p>SCHAEFER (2) 2161:13,13</p> <p>S-C-H-A-E-F-E-R (1) 2161:14</p> <p>schedule (3) 2164:11;2189:1,7</p> <p>schedules (3) 2188:13;2198:13, 14</p> <p>scheme (1) 2184:13</p> <p>SCHIEK (33) 2162:23,23; 2196:20,21,22; 2197:2,2;2222:22, 24,25;2227:25; 2229:2,3,15,17; 2294:11;2320:12,14, 15;2321:8,20; 2327:23;2332:23; 2333:1;2337:10; 2343:5;2347:8; 2351:12;2358:18,19; 2391:9,19;2408:19</p> <p>S-C-H-I-E-K (1) 2162:24</p> <p>Scholl (1) 2308:17</p> <p>S-C-H-O-L-L (1) 2308:17</p> <p>School (7) 2238:6,7,10,15,16; 2293:10,12</p> <p>scope (1) 2390:9</p> <p>scrutinized (1) 2304:15</p> <p>seat (3) 2233:7;2245:2; 2410:13</p> <p>seated (1) 2230:18</p> <p>Seattle (6)</p>	<p>2346:21,24; 2348:8,11,12; 2350:25</p> <p>Seattle's (1) 2350:21</p> <p>second (18) 2167:6,18; 2196:25;2235:18; 2239:2;2242:16; 2256:8;2262:1; 2269:16;2274:9; 2281:25;2282:6; 2308:16;2328:23; 2347:14,14;2377:14; 2387:3</p> <p>secondary (2) 2184:19;2211:18</p> <p>seconds (1) 2225:6</p> <p>Secretary (8) 2237:4;2239:10; 2246:6;2287:24; 2298:9;2299:3; 2301:3;2356:23</p> <p>section (62) 2176:9,10,24,25; 2177:7,9,12,13,14, 15,18,19,20,23; 2178:21;2190:18,18, 20,21;2191:25; 2194:8,14;2195:6,7; 2199:16,22;2200:1, 11,12;2202:21; 2205:4,22;2206:4; 2208:18,18;2227:4, 4;2228:2;2229:8,10, 19,22;2234:25; 2239:2,9;2243:21; 2245:23,25;2246:3; 2250:6;2252:6; 2263:8;2275:17; 2284:21;2311:19; 2313:15,23;2359:9; 2386:23;2387:3; 2398:17;2406:1</p> <p>sections (5) 2191:9;2225:23; 2226:5;2385:6,18</p> <p>sector (1) 2288:1</p> <p>sectors (4) 2270:1;2298:18, 24;2299:1</p> <p>Security (2) 2217:6,8</p> <p>seeking (1) 2210:19</p> <p>seem (2) 2198:14;2355:25</p> <p>seems (3) 2165:22;2227:1; 2319:6</p> <p>seldom (1)</p>	<p>2355:24</p> <p>Select (3) 2163:23,25; 2169:1</p> <p>Selected (2) 2304:1,2</p> <p>selects (1) 2238:7</p> <p>self-explanatory (1) 2270:22</p> <p>sell (2) 2372:7,12</p> <p>seller (2) 2246:22,24</p> <p>sellers (1) 2242:16</p> <p>Selling (6) 2321:5,11,19,22; 2325:7;2327:18</p> <p>seminars (1) 2295:25</p> <p>send (4) 2182:11;2205:10; 2215:18;2388:1</p> <p>sending (1) 2180:15</p> <p>Senior (4) 2238:7,10; 2299:14;2382:9</p> <p>sense (2) 2335:8;2372:13</p> <p>sent (1) 2204:12</p> <p>sentence (15) 2185:9;2186:6,23; 2195:9;2202:18; 2244:9;2273:3; 2286:6,7;2311:25; 2312:1;2319:11; 2381:9;2397:25; 2402:16</p> <p>separate (3) 2169:5;2246:7; 2257:9</p> <p>separated (2) 2257:9;2270:25</p> <p>separately (1) 2210:20</p> <p>September (2) 2235:13,25</p> <p>seq (1) 2239:10</p> <p>sequence (1) 2215:17</p> <p>series (1) 2207:5</p> <p>serve (2) 2237:4;2238:8</p> <p>served (4) 2236:21;2237:1; 2238:5;2247:9</p> <p>serves (1) 2318:15</p>	<p>Service (18) 2160:24;2174:23, 24;2236:6,22; 2237:2,8;2247:25; 2267:2;2270:1; 2276:12;2287:21,23, 23;2297:20;2298:3; 2313:18;2316:18</p> <p>services (7) 2232:5;2265:23; 2266:6,10,11,13,13</p> <p>Service's (1) 2275:22</p> <p>session (1) 2165:5</p> <p>set (8) 2169:5;2225:1,20; 2227:14;2241:4; 2269:24;2278:21; 2343:13</p> <p>sets (1) 2227:12</p> <p>setting (1) 2312:7</p> <p>settled (3) 2307:5,6;2311:19</p> <p>settlement (1) 2186:11</p> <p>seven (1) 2381:10</p> <p>several (9) 2173:1;2198:16; 2221:15;2246:16; 2248:15;2257:12; 2326:18;2365:17; 2389:10</p> <p>shall (10) 2178:1;2194:22; 2205:11;2206:1; 2212:13;2227:5; 2228:4;2246:6,8; 2312:2</p> <p>share (4) 2204:15;2352:11; 2399:10,12</p> <p>shared (5) 2240:20;2242:12; 2324:1;2373:16,17</p> <p>sharing (1) 2344:9</p> <p>sheet (3) 2249:16;2334:20, 22</p> <p>sheets (3) 2236:1;2248:5; 2284:10</p> <p>shift (2) 2230:10;2354:20</p> <p>shifted (3) 2252:12;2337:2; 2358:8</p> <p>shipper (1) 2331:20</p>	<p>Shipping (2) 2309:5;2399:4</p> <p>short (4) 2189:17;2284:7; 2362:19;2373:5</p> <p>shortened (1) 2382:1</p> <p>shorter (2) 2283:24;2387:15</p> <p>show (7) 2173:17;2253:3; 2254:5;2280:8; 2289:16;2380:2; 2393:22</p> <p>showed (1) 2218:7</p> <p>shown (2) 2286:24;2326:14</p> <p>shows (5) 2235:13;2254:4; 2270:23;2329:13; 2408:23</p> <p>side (12) 2165:16;2175:25; 2209:2;2213:18; 2219:14,14;2233:18; 2275:11;2298:15; 2345:22;2350:5; 2405:21</p> <p>sided (1) 2167:24</p> <p>significant (11) 2243:18;2252:5; 2263:3;2272:18; 2275:1;2285:19,24; 2355:15;2404:11; 2406:12;2407:6</p> <p>significantly (2) 2272:15,15</p> <p>similar (10) 2172:3,19; 2204:24;2227:1; 2229:17;2242:11; 2298:3,14;2310:14; 2368:19</p> <p>simple (6) 2173:23;2283:8; 2290:22;2376:5; 2380:4;2408:21</p> <p>simpler (3) 2203:8;2224:12, 22</p> <p>simplification (1) 2280:15</p> <p>simplified (1) 2336:1</p> <p>simplify (1) 2280:9</p> <p>Simply (10) 2272:9;2284:19; 2314:10;2315:24; 2318:20;2331:8; 2346:1;2357:6;</p>
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<p>2362:18;2372:23 simultaneous (5) 2215:5,5;2225:16, 24,24 simultaneously (2) 2179:22;2219:17 sing (1) 2164:18 single (1) 2406:14 sitting (2) 2244:24;2364:2 situation (4) 2173:12;2175:2; 2346:12;2349:20 six (9) 2169:25;2280:24; 2281:12,15;2282:4, 18;2304:5;2330:6; 2347:2 sixth (4) 2178:3;2270:11; 2310:19;2314:23 size (3) 2260:3;2261:24; 2269:14 sizes (3) 2247:17;2250:23; 2381:23 skim (3) 2355:25;2394:11, 11 skip (1) 2177:12 slash (5) 2249:13;2258:8; 2261:15;2264:8; 2269:25 slightly (2) 2235:20;2391:11 slow (1) 2364:25 slowly (1) 2178:17 small (11) 2245:23;2246:4; 2249:10;2257:7,8; 2269:8;2277:16; 2356:14;2367:11; 2377:1,5 smaller (7) 2221:7;2251:7; 2258:15,23;2273:14; 2283:17,21 smallest (2) 2256:2;2258:2 Smith (1) 2348:18 SNF (27) 2241:2,3,4,5,6,16, 17;2243:4,5,13,16; 2255:2,5,6;2256:8; 2257:21;2258:21;</p>	<p>2260:6;2324:17; 2325:19;2365:24; 2369:2;2378:9; 2393:23;2394:14,18, 20 SNM (2) 2241:3;2368:14 sold (8) 2247:3;2251:10; 2252:9;2323:22; 2324:3;2347:22; 2367:5,6 solely (2) 2273:7,8 solemnly (1) 2230:20 solid (2) 2251:11;2383:8 solids (6) 2181:15;2202:5, 24;2203:9;2208:20; 2218:15 solids-not-fat (2) 2241:2;2242:1 solved (1) 2291:11 somebody (3) 2313:11;2327:10; 2341:12 somehow (2) 2199:10;2219:25 Someone (1) 2175:25 sometimes (4) 2174:23;2370:2,2; 2379:18 somewhat (1) 2311:1 somewhere (1) 2406:22 Sonics (7) 2346:21;2347:23; 2348:2,3,7,13; 2349:7 Sonoma (3) 2258:16;2260:25; 2394:1 Sony (2) 2293:8,11 sooner (2) 2206:18;2283:17 sophisticated (1) 2329:10 sorry (24) 2168:25;2171:3,9; 2182:19;2183:11; 2192:9;2212:3; 2217:13;2225:23; 2253:12;2261:5; 2272:6;2273:11; 2290:2;2300:19; 2337:5;2339:13,16, 17;2340:12;2358:12,</p>	<p>13;2365:15;2367:15 sort (10) 2164:18;2210:3; 2228:23,24;2255:25; 2298:6;2317:16; 2322:8;2360:15; 2393:14 sorter (1) 2387:12 sound (1) 2332:14 sounds (2) 2228:25;2335:6 source (7) 2236:11;2247:4; 2249:12;2250:18; 2251:3;2327:4; 2354:13 south (2) 2218:17;2221:9 spans (1) 2256:25 spare (1) 2165:16 speak (7) 2225:24;2288:3; 2298:2;2316:9; 2359:10;2372:19; 2388:23 speaking (2) 2214:14;2226:9 speaks (3) 2211:17;2313:3; 2351:2 special (1) 2308:20 Specialist (1) 2161:8 specialize (3) 2247:10;2294:2; 2381:21 specialized (1) 2309:16 specific (11) 2191:11,14; 2308:23;2311:15; 2329:18;2335:20; 2353:12,16;2354:4; 2355:19;2371:23 specifically (11) 2164:24;2188:14; 2236:7;2239:1; 2260:20;2332:20; 2354:2,22,25; 2361:4;2380:25 specified (4) 2178:21;2195:10; 2227:3;2239:13 specify (2) 2206:24;2207:13 specious (1) 2350:16 spell (3)</p>	<p>2168:14,24; 2230:24 spelled (3) 2163:15;2211:11; 2265:10 spend (7) 2265:25;2292:25; 2348:10,10,12,24,25 spending (7) 2263:19,19,23; 2265:22;2266:1; 2267:5;2354:12 spent (4) 2203:21;2298:4; 2352:12;2370:24 spills (1) 2267:20 spoke (2) 2220:2;2247:23 sports (3) 2237:16;2299:24; 2348:16 spread (3) 2220:16;2222:3; 2280:24 staff (2) 2198:12;2223:15 stake (1) 2260:22 stand (6) 2160:14;2166:2; 2268:9;2307:3; 2386:11,12 standard (1) 2319:14 standards (1) 2310:21 standing (4) 2406:7,12,18,20 stands (4) 2164:6;2202:1; 2348:5;2406:17 Stanford (1) 2348:19 Stanislaus (3) 2258:12;2259:5; 2260:24 Star (1) 2247:16 stark (1) 2284:25 start (16) 2180:22;2190:13; 2191:15;2264:24; 2268:20;2273:3; 2274:14;2293:3,6, 10;2301:11,21; 2320:17;2332:22; 2351:19;2391:17 started (2) 2173:20;2268:24 starting (6) 2277:8;2312:13;</p>	<p>2343:13;2347:14,19; 2362:10 starts (5) 2222:4;2267:20; 2312:14;2336:22; 2391:12 state (109) 2168:14,24; 2174:12;2198:3; 2199:8,18;2201:3,5, 12,12;2202:1,6; 2203:3;2205:17,20; 2208:1,7;2210:13, 17;2218:13,20,21, 25;2219:16;2221:4; 2224:17,25;2225:2; 2230:24;2234:6,15; 2235:6;2236:1,1,12, 13,18;2237:11,12, 24,25;2239:6; 2243:24;2246:6; 2247:18;2251:20; 2252:7;2254:3; 2256:13;2258:6,24; 2259:8,14,17; 2260:21;2263:3,5, 12,14,16;2264:6; 2267:9,14;2269:13; 2270:9,20;2271:4; 2272:2,14,15; 2273:10,12,19,22; 2275:7,15;2284:18; 2286:1,3,23;2287:7, 23;2298:16; 2304:13;2305:3; 2317:13;2324:12; 2338:16;2339:6,6; 2355:5,21;2356:22, 23;2357:17;2358:4; 2370:18;2381:24; 2389:20;2393:16; 2394:25;2395:14,16; 2396:12,15,25; 2401:20;2404:6; 2405:9 stated (6) 2243:14;2284:15; 2288:19;2318:23; 2381:3;2401:18 statement (49) 2167:4;2168:2; 2170:13;2172:19; 2187:13;2217:19; 2228:23;2229:5; 2234:1,2;2243:11; 2244:12,14;2245:1; 2256:6;2260:14; 2262:23;2268:23; 2271:17;2284:2; 2285:10;2286:10; 2287:10,16;2312:9; 2314:3,15,19,23; 2315:15;2320:21,21;</p>
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2321:3,4;2326:17; 2336:4;2360:16; 2361:9,12;2362:3; 2366:11;2381:14; 2390:9;2391:15; 2395:14;2398:15; 2400:7;2401:16; 2406:13 statements (9) 2175:8;2182:11, 12;2310:16;2313:5; 2314:1;2315:5,25; 2316:5 States (16) 2160:9,19,22; 2164:9,15;2235:14, 15;2236:23; 2237:23;2276:8,11, 14;2285:22;2308:1, 17;2362:17 state's (2) 2271:20,22 statewide (5) 2237:6;2238:21; 2239:12;2261:9; 2357:9 stating (1) 2309:24 statistical (3) 2332:3;2382:2,4 Statistics (1) 2272:25 status (5) 2252:3;2286:17; 2315:18;2407:12,14 statute (24) 2218:11,14; 2240:12;2244:10; 2286:8;2309:3,15; 2310:7;2311:13,23, 24,25;2312:25; 2313:9,13,13; 2314:5,9,12,19; 2315:20;2316:2; 2317:13,15 statutes (2) 2239:13;2308:23 statutorily (1) 2379:25 statutory (8) 2199:8,8;2312:19, 21,22;2313:19; 2314:2;2315:11 stay (7) 2195:24;2334:2, 12,23;2357:22; 2390:24;2409:8 stayed (1) 2330:10 staying (1) 2333:25 stead (1) 2325:12	Steady (10) 2249:12;2325:13; 2355:10;2367:16; 2368:13,20;2369:1, 16,23;2374:11 step (9) 2179:25;2200:3; 2230:2;2281:1; 2328:23;2344:14; 2351:23;2357:16; 2410:17 stick (1) 2191:10 still (14) 2169:16;2174:18; 2204:2;2208:24; 2209:2;2210:15; 2213:14;2328:25; 2348:9;2355:6; 2360:15;2379:24; 2380:2;2397:21 Stoel (1) 2163:12 S-T-O-E-L (1) 2163:12 stop (6) 2184:21;2234:18; 2266:16;2268:6; 2307:19;2384:8 stores (1) 2304:21 story (1) 2328:3 straight (2) 2331:1;2369:13 strategic (3) 2231:25;2232:4; 2234:9 stream (32) 2325:6;2326:7,13, 23,24;2327:3; 2335:10;2355:10; 2360:3,4,7,8,10,14, 18;2367:17;2368:13, 17,20;2369:1,16,23; 2370:10;2372:18; 2373:1,7,18;2374:8, 11,21;2383:8; 2391:24 stretch (2) 2268:10;2358:16 stricken (3) 2245:5;2315:13, 25 strictly (3) 2310:23;2311:9; 2334:24 strike (4) 2286:9;2316:5,11, 23 striking (2) 2310:13;2311:12 strongly (1)	2235:20 struck (1) 2309:8 Studies (6) 2304:1,3,19,24,25; 2348:17 study (3) 2263:22;2265:8; 2278:11 sub (4) 2259:9;2386:24, 24,24 subdivisions (1) 2226:21 subject (12) 2164:21;2202:3,6; 2206:14;2219:1,2,8; 2230:1;2294:3; 2360:20;2392:8,13 subjected (2) 2397:16,20 subjects (2) 2389:4;2391:7 submission (1) 2190:15 submit (5) 2179:14;2274:4, 20;2275:23;2404:4 submitted (2) 2198:11;2284:25 subparagraph (1) 2383:3 Subpart (1) 2190:17 subset (1) 2401:16 Subsection (15) 2246:12;2247:24; 2248:18;2250:20; 2259:9;2273:23; 2284:1;2387:5,6; 2399:21;2401:16; 2404:1,6;2405:2; 2407:1 subsequent (3) 2313:16,24; 2326:14 substance (1) 2292:20 substantial (5) 2260:18;2276:3; 2366:2,18;2402:17 substantive (1) 2219:10 substitute (1) 2307:15 subtitle (1) 2234:5 subtle (1) 2167:10 subtract (3) 2262:8;2281:13; 2394:21	suburbs (1) 2348:9 successors (1) 2303:11 Sue (1) 2163:7 suffer (3) 2252:4;2348:3; 2399:5 sufficient (4) 2191:2;2192:20; 2197:15;2308:21 suggest (7) 2191:20;2194:5; 2195:14;2207:12; 2228:14;2319:6; 2387:10 suggested (4) 2193:22;2204:19; 2380:15;2382:16 suggestion (1) 2255:9 suggestions (3) 2375:23,25; 2376:1 suggests (1) 2333:12 suit (1) 2348:11 Sullivan (2) 2355:24;2356:3 sum (8) 2342:24;2345:1; 2346:6,8,18; 2348:15;2349:2; 2398:18 summarize (1) 2239:5 summarizes (1) 2267:15 Summary (1) 2241:23 summed (1) 2343:7 Sunday (1) 2190:23 super (2) 2330:16;2346:21 superfluous (1) 2307:25 supplant (1) 2199:18 supplement (1) 2166:25 supplier (1) 2360:11 suppliers (1) 2267:2 supply (3) 2322:13;2354:14; 2365:7 support (1) 2317:7	supporting (1) 2287:15 supportive (3) 2216:24,25; 2217:4 suppose (1) 2220:24 supposed (1) 2216:16 Supreme (1) 2313:25 sure (31) 2170:12;2173:23; 2176:5,15;2180:18; 2186:15;2189:18; 2190:21;2199:15; 2201:1;2202:22; 2213:14,16;2216:4, 15;2219:22;2233:11, 18;2269:9;2290:20; 2309:21;2317:23; 2338:9;2340:25; 2342:16;2351:11; 2364:24;2366:11; 2368:2;2390:15; 2399:13 surplus (1) 2220:8 surprising (1) 2175:14 surrounding (1) 2348:9 survey (1) 2382:3 surveyed (3) 2247:9;2381:10, 20 surveying (1) 2382:4 survive (2) 2251:24;2287:4 sustain (1) 2284:10 sustainability (1) 2322:18 sustainable (1) 2323:3 swallow (1) 2316:19 swear (1) 2230:20 sworn (1) 2168:13 synonymous (2) 2365:18;2366:3 system (33) 2174:10;2200:6,6; 2209:16;2215:23; 2237:1;2239:12; 2274:24;2304:9; 2314:17;2323:2,2; 2332:14;2333:6,6, 15,21;2341:22,22;
---	---	---	---	---

2342:3;2343:9; 2344:1,2;2345:7,15; 2348:22;2372:22; 2389:18;2396:15,25; 2399:3;2401:8; 2404:9	2249:8,20,23; 2370:2,6,8 task (2) 2181:1,3 tasks (1) 2179:24 taught (1) 2294:10 tax (11) 2264:5;2267:9; 2272:16;2273:11,12; 2287:8;2305:3; 2339:10,11;2370:14, 18 taxable (1) 2304:22 taxed (4) 2370:20;2371:7, 12,13 taxes (3) 2270:9,11;2339:6 TAYLOR (2) 2163:7,7 team (7) 2161:23;2163:20; 2221:17;2222:14,19; 2317:13;2350:24 teams (1) 2161:21 technical (2) 2197:24;2303:6 technically (3) 2328:25 Technology (8) 2237:4,16; 2287:24;2298:10,13, 19;2299:4;2301:4 tells (2) 2316:20;2328:3 ten (11) 2169:19;2258:8; 2273:18;2282:17; 2328:9;2376:9,13; 2392:23;2409:15,16, 16 tend (1) 2323:12 tender (2) 2287:12;2288:4 tends (1) 2286:7 tenure (1) 2302:22 term (7) 2202:20;2310:7; 2311:15;2346:6; 2373:6,6;2399:15 Termination (1) 2177:14 terms (28) 2198:7;2203:9; 2257:8;2260:2,3; 2261:4,5,24;2270:4;	2275:3;2280:4; 2291:20;2309:16; 2324:15,18;2329:18; 2336:10,15;2338:8; 2343:23;2345:14; 2351:13;2354:10,12; 2365:18;2402:3; 2405:4,6 Terrific (1) 2232:16 testified (7) 2208:12;2218:12; 2237:22;2301:23; 2303:19;2317:12; 2397:22 testify (8) 2164:2,23; 2287:16;2302:19; 2308:20;2313:12; 2314:9;2370:17 testifying (2) 2232:17;2238:3 testimony (94) 2160:12,15; 2164:20;2170:10; 2178:7;2179:8; 2185:7;2187:1,18; 2191:13,22;2192:21; 2199:14,21;2201:2, 7;2202:17;2206:8; 2207:24;2209:13; 2214:8,12,13; 2228:18,24;2232:11, 14,21;2233:5,14; 2234:4;2238:18; 2242:5;2243:8; 2245:3,14,17; 2252:23;2254:10; 2257:25;2258:7; 2262:22;2263:9; 2268:9;2270:21; 2271:11;2284:1; 2287:15;2288:2; 2290:10;2297:1; 2305:18;2306:16,16; 2307:6,24;2309:17; 2310:6,11,14,20,24; 2311:7,12,19; 2317:7,10,16; 2318:4,14,19,20; 2319:19,24;2320:2, 18,20;2321:1; 2323:7,9;2326:17; 2336:3,22;2350:1; 2371:19;2381:6; 2384:23;2385:5; 2389:22,23;2390:10; 2392:17;2396:17; 2397:3 Thanks (2) 2196:6,7 theme (1) 2200:20	theory (4) 2265:14;2319:22; 2348:15;2393:14 thereby (3) 2220:23;2275:5; 2405:7 Therefore (5) 2248:4;2285:17; 2315:12;2353:20; 2374:2 thereof (1) 2368:13 thinking (8) 2217:3;2223:20; 2268:14;2302:7; 2354:9,10,12; 2392:23 third (9) 2193:2,20; 2205:23;2269:18; 2282:18;2283:3; 2327:10,11;2338:25 THOMPSON (54) 2162:7,8;2230:12, 14,15;2231:15,17, 19;2233:22,23,24; 2242:3;2245:12; 2254:9;2255:14; 2256:24;2257:23; 2259:19;2261:19; 2267:18;2269:4; 2272:4,8;2276:15, 18,21;2278:13,25; 2279:11,16,21,22; 2287:11;2288:9,12, 15;2289:20;2290:13, 16,20,25;2291:8,18, 25;2292:6;2305:16; 2306:13;2312:5; 2364:20;2390:6,15, 20;2410:6,8 though (8) 2258:22;2316:10; 2337:6;2338:1; 2342:23;2349:6,18; 2356:14 thought (16) 2172:6;2191:9; 2222:10;2223:9,22; 2224:1,11,22; 2289:21;2301:2,6; 2313:21;2337:14; 2378:24;2403:2; 2410:3 thoughts (1) 2225:6 threaten (1) 2275:9 threatening (1) 2405:18 three (12) 2214:17;2216:13; 2233:8;2299:12;	2304:6,24;2347:16, 17;2375:3,22; 2381:25;2387:1 three-generation (1) 2237:9 Throughout (5) 2217:1;2238:19; 2258:6;2304:13,21 Thursday (1) 2320:24 Thus (2) 2241:3;2266:20 tie (2) 2200:2,7 timely (1) 2221:19 times (18) 2175:3,11,12; 2198:12,16;2237:22; 2245:1;2260:6; 2302:22;2304:16; 2325:22;2351:16,25; 2365:17;2374:1,3; 2377:20;2378:8 timetable (2) 2180:14;2384:8 timing (3) 2188:13;2189:8, 18 tinkering (4) 2275:3;2405:3,5, 14 tinyurlcom/camilkhearing (1) 2165:7 title (4) 2161:5;2268:22; 2362:16;2377:25 today (31) 2165:22;2167:9; 2201:19;2202:1; 2209:25;2210:2; 2213:17;2216:12; 2220:1;2232:11,17; 2317:14;2320:18; 2325:2;2328:2,4; 2332:15;2364:3; 2373:8;2384:11,14, 20,23;2385:22; 2386:8;2389:18; 2390:1,10;2397:12; 2400:25;2401:3 today's (1) 2200:23 together (5) 2163:20;2198:10; 2209:6;2320:1; 2365:20 told (4) 2332:8;2355:16; 2383:17,18 tomorrow (7) 2373:9;2384:7,13; 2385:20,22;2388:17;
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T

<p>2410:21 took (11) 2242:14;2269:6; 2294:5,23,24; 2304:10;2336:1; 2345:19,19;2354:2; 2382:6 tool (3) 2250:12,17; 2265:12 top (13) 2171:14;2202:18; 2253:9;2258:8; 2282:5;2295:20; 2321:13;2328:7; 2330:23;2333:18; 2338:11;2392:23; 2405:3 topic (2) 2196:17;2232:22 topics (3) 2202:17;2299:22, 23 Torres (1) 2310:18 total (83) 2203:6;2242:24; 2243:3,5,16; 2253:25;2255:4,5,6; 2256:9,10,12; 2258:20,20;2259:13, 16,24;2260:4,12,16; 2261:14,14,16,21; 2262:8,10,12,18,24, 25;2263:2,5,13; 2265:12,15,20; 2266:5;2270:17; 2271:18;2272:11,17, 23,24;2273:12; 2281:13,15;2282:11; 2328:21;2330:3,4; 2337:7,12,15; 2338:4,5,23;2339:1, 2;2340:15,18; 2341:7;2343:23; 2344:2,4,19,20; 2345:15,15;2352:4, 7,8,10,12,18;2353:3, 5,6;2365:25;2374:8; 2379:18;2394:17,20; 2401:19 totaled (1) 2262:8 totaling (2) 2258:19;2260:5 totally (2) 2161:5;2257:14 totals (3) 2260:12;2264:18; 2282:9 touch (2) 2298:22,23 touched (2)</p>	<p>2239:4;2299:1 tourism (2) 2237:17;2298:20 town (2) 2316:15;2348:14 trace (1) 2263:18 traceable (2) 2372:10,12 track (2) 2225:18;2367:2 Tracking (1) 2309:14 Trade (8) 2237:5,23;2270:2; 2287:24;2298:10,13; 2299:4;2301:4 tradeable (1) 2241:18 traded (2) 2247:8;2252:9 trained (1) 2303:15 tran (1) 2247:2 transactions (3) 2178:25;2215:16; 2242:25 transcript (3) 2166:11,16; 2293:14 transcripts (3) 2165:9;2303:1,17 transfer (3) 2208:1;2212:15; 2403:19 transferability (2) 2251:14;2397:11 transferable (2) 2247:2;2248:8 transferred (7) 2224:7;2241:18; 2242:25;2243:1,4,6; 2352:1 transfers (3) 2213:17;2241:19, 24 Transit (1) 2309:19 transition (2) 2301:13,18 transitional (1) 2200:5 transmit (1) 2198:3 Transportation (8) 2193:2;2196:12; 2209:14;2230:3; 2237:17;2310:13; 2385:15;2387:19 treated (4) 2249:21;2318:21; 2370:2,10</p>	<p>treatment (1) 2408:5 trees (1) 2203:21 Tremaine (2) 2162:17,21 trend (2) 2321:16;2325:3 trends (2) 2237:13;2313:20 Tribe (1) 2310:4 tribes (1) 2310:8 tried (6) 2278:19;2283:7; 2314:8;2337:23; 2391:10;2408:19 trier (8) 2307:7,11,13,15, 18,21;2310:10; 2314:24 tries (1) 2175:2 trillion (1) 2235:7 triple (1) 2317:23 trouble (1) 2289:15 true (1) 2174:1;2179:10; 2180:5;2207:18; 2341:25;2344:8,11; 2351:18;2369:22,25; 2374:7;2383:25; 2396:13;2401:6; 2403:10,11,16; 2405:1,24 truth (1) 2230:22 try (8) 2175:4;2181:11; 2335:1;2360:20; 2386:9;2391:8,8,13 trying (15) 2181:8;2198:23; 2203:11;2280:3; 2290:14;2333:9; 2335:3;2343:4; 2346:5;2357:1; 2389:5;2391:10; 2395:4;2399:14; 2409:12 TUESDAY (2) 2160:1,7 Tulare (19) 2220:14,16,20,22; 2256:13;2258:12; 2259:2;2260:7,22; 2272:20,24;2273:5; 2364:10;2392:10; 2393:10,16;2394:3,</p>	<p>4,14 turn (18) 2175:24;2176:6; 2178:12;2191:8; 2206:23;2256:18,23; 2266:12;2284:21; 2303:25;2320:10; 2328:6;2359:9; 2398:14;2401:15; 2403:25;2405:2,25 turning (1) 2205:15 turns (2) 2282:24;2354:11 twice (2) 2229:11;2302:23 two (36) 2160:12;2165:9; 2167:24;2201:21; 2221:6;2239:25; 2244:25;2246:21; 2253:3;2256:25; 2262:4;2270:13; 2282:2,16,19; 2288:25;2289:6,7, 16;2297:10;2298:4, 6;2299:11,21; 2300:2,23;2301:6; 2302:11;2310:8; 2315:4;2317:6,6; 2319:10;2386:4; 2388:22;2389:4 type (3) 2238:3;2301:24; 2319:12 typewriting (1) 2290:5 typical (1) 2213:6 Typically (3) 2264:7;2345:8; 2346:11</p>	<p>uncertain (1) 2193:11 uncertainty (2) 2275:4;2405:6 under (69) 2172:24;2176:21; 2177:6;2180:14,14; 2184:13;2193:2; 2194:8,16;2195:4; 2201:15;2204:5; 2210:13,15;2223:11; 2224:8,15,16,17; 2226:24;2228:2,3; 2229:18;2230:20; 2233:12;2239:2,13, 15;2248:9;2249:25; 2250:6;2252:20; 2259:25;2276:22; 2277:2,18;2278:2,5; 2282:20;2283:1; 2309:25;2310:2; 2314:13;2315:23,23; 2327:19;2329:5; 2331:18;2333:5,6, 14,20;2336:10; 2337:8;2342:2; 2345:7;2383:3; 2389:18,20;2396:15, 24;2398:17; 2399:24;2401:16; 2404:1,6;2406:1,25; 2407:11 underlying (6) 2220:4;2246:10; 2308:5;2326:22; 2374:6;2391:11 underscored (2) 2365:24;2366:1 understood (3) 2174:13;2244:24; 2303:13 undertake (1) 2326:6 undertakes (2) 2307:11;2308:14 undoubtedly (1) 2284:5 unduly (1) 2318:4 unencumbered (1) 2248:24 unfortunately (2) 2295:12;2385:21 uniform (3) 2182:8;2249:5; 2311:7 Union (1) 2311:11 unique (3) 2189:2;2236:20; 2239:1 uniquely (1) 2309:10</p>
U				
			<p>UC (1) 2238:10 UCC (2) 2249:5,25 UCLA (4) 2238:7,15,16; 2293:20 U-L-I-N (1) 2162:21 ultimate (2) 2284:11;2310:10 ultimately (10) 2198:24;2209:5,8; 2307:16,17,20; 2308:10;2312:10,23; 2363:25 unavailable (1) 2212:9</p>	

<p>unit (3) 2325:21;2351:19; 2363:14</p> <p>United (12) 2160:9,19,22; 2164:8,15;2235:14; 2236:23;2237:23; 2276:11;2285:22; 2308:1,17</p> <p>universally (1) 2248:2</p> <p>University (8) 2238:11,13; 2294:2,17,18,19; 2295:21,23</p> <p>Unless (2) 2186:9;2395:25</p> <p>unlike (1) 2251:11</p> <p>unlucky (1) 2389:9</p> <p>unrealistically (1) 2380:11</p> <p>unusual (1) 2175:13</p> <p>up (55) 2165:17;2169:5, 19;2171:5;2175:21; 2197:10;2199:22; 2200:2,7;2203:1,4; 2207:18;2213:4; 2221:20;2222:9; 2225:1,20;2236:9; 2241:7;2246:25; 2258:9;2262:8; 2273:1;2278:21,22, 23;2280:12; 2285:13;2289:16; 2322:4;2329:23; 2330:3;2332:12; 2342:24;2343:7; 2352:17,23;2353:8; 2358:1;2369:17; 2373:19,20,21,25; 2374:3,18;2378:15; 2384:21;2391:13; 2392:4,8,12; 2394:21;2406:4; 2409:10</p> <p>updated (3) 2208:25;2313:21, 22</p> <p>upfront (1) 2381:3</p> <p>upheld (1) 2201:6</p> <p>upon (38) 2208:11;2238:23, 24;2239:4,17; 2240:24;2243:12; 2246:1;2255:8; 2262:19;2263:5,11, 14;2264:22;2266:1;</p>	<p>2267:10,14;2271:7, 20;2273:22;2274:2, 18;2275:19; 2284:13;2296:4; 2299:1;2323:24; 2324:19;2327:25; 2341:5;2344:15; 2350:23;2352:25; 2355:19;2373:11; 2396:11;2400:16; 2401:12</p> <p>Upper (1) 2161:14</p> <p>upward (2) 2321:16;2325:3</p> <p>usage (1) 2239:18</p> <p>USC (1) 2246:4</p> <p>USDA (42) 2161:2,6,18; 2166:12;2174:14; 2179:15;2185:5,20; 2190:8;2197:12; 2203:20;2204:1; 2207:14,21;2208:20, 25;2209:4,8;2210:4, 8,17,21;2213:3; 2216:2,6;2220:12, 18,23;2227:10,22; 2235:24;2236:24; 2237:3,8;2287:21; 2289:3;2308:8,9; 2319:6;2384:10; 2388:7;2408:15</p> <p>USDA/AMS (1) 2161:8</p> <p>USDA's (1) 2376:6</p> <p>use (16) 2166:24;2186:9; 2207:15,17;2212:12; 2266:8;2315:5; 2316:22;2318:13; 2323:11;2327:11; 2329:14;2332:6; 2365:16;2367:20; 2383:14</p> <p>used (14) 2202:20;2264:10; 2267:7;2310:6; 2312:8;2327:12; 2346:6,12;2351:16; 2367:21;2371:15; 2400:6;2403:8; 2407:4</p> <p>useful (2) 2250:12;2406:8</p> <p>usefulness (1) 2319:2</p> <p>useless (1) 2289:2</p> <p>using (7)</p>	<p>2183:25;2252:18; 2336:2;2337:19; 2338:7;2365:24; 2376:5</p> <p>usually (1) 2373:22</p> <p>utilization (3) 2177:21;2180:7; 2182:2</p> <p>utilizations (1) 2213:8</p> <p>utilized (3) 2247:7;2263:16; 2265:8</p> <p>utilizes (1) 2249:2</p> <p>utilizing (5) 2237:21;2254:20; 2261:9;2267:23; 2304:25</p>	<p>2327:4,9,9,13,17,20, 25;2334:19,20,22; 2335:5,9,13,15,16, 21,21,22;2344:14, 16,19;2345:15,23, 24;2346:3;2350:10; 2353:18;2354:22; 2357:2,23;2358:9; 2360:18,21;2365:18, 21,24,25;2366:4,8; 2367:7,14,16,16,20; 2368:6;2369:16,19; 2377:20;2381:6; 2395:17;2397:5,15, 22;2401:17,19; 2402:4,4,6;2404:9, 22;2405:7,13,18,19; 2406:3</p> <p>valued (2) 2327:19,19</p> <p>values (7) 2397:8,10; 2401:25;2402:2,10, 12,14</p> <p>vapor (1) 2309:25</p> <p>variability (2) 2321:11,15</p> <p>variable (1) 2373:25</p> <p>variables (1) 2365:6</p> <p>varies (2) 2371:22;2372:18</p> <p>variety (1) 2238:1</p> <p>various (14) 2173:15,16; 2207:14;2235:14; 2237:14,19;2263:15; 2267:11;2268:4; 2269:1,14;2270:13; 2304:21;2361:11</p> <p>varying (2) 2247:17;2381:23</p> <p>vast (1) 2323:21</p> <p>vehicle (1) 2207:12</p> <p>verbal (1) 2381:25</p> <p>verification (1) 2213:7</p> <p>verify (3) 2178:23;2179:3; 2213:16</p> <p>version (6) 2289:8;2291:1; 2337:1;2375:24; 2377:13;2382:1</p> <p>versions (1) 2291:7</p> <p>versus (18)</p>	<p>2308:1,3,15,17; 2309:5,18,22; 2310:4,18;2311:10; 2336:11,18,20; 2343:8;2359:6; 2361:6,12,23</p> <p>veterinarian (3) 2251:13;2360:12; 2383:5</p> <p>VETNE (48) 2163:9,9;2172:19, 20,24;2173:16; 2211:1,1,6,7;2214:3, 5,6;2288:20,21; 2289:19;2290:2,15, 17;2291:10;2292:5; 2318:10,11;2351:4, 5,6,10;2355:2; 2358:25;2359:1; 2360:5;2362:16; 2363:24;2365:2,10, 11;2368:4,5; 2370:22;2377:22; 2378:22,25;2379:1; 2381:16,19;2384:4; 2391:10,18</p> <p>V-E-T-N-E (1) 2163:10</p> <p>Vetne's (1) 2364:21</p> <p>vets (2) 2383:13,22</p> <p>vi (1) 2250:2</p> <p>via (3) 2165:5;2240:6; 2273:24</p> <p>viability (2) 2287:1;2408:3</p> <p>vice-presidents (1) 2382:9</p> <p>Victor (2) 2162:21;2163:15</p> <p>view (9) 2209:20;2214:15; 2244:10;2290:17,19; 2335:7,8,8;2345:25</p> <p>views (1) 2175:11</p> <p>Virginia (3) 2294:18,18,19</p> <p>virtually (1) 2367:4</p> <p>visual (1) 2181:8</p> <p>vitae (3) 2293:1,15;2319:4</p> <p>vital (4) 2214:2;2235:5; 2244:1;2286:21</p> <p>VLAHOS (50) 2162:3,3;2170:3,5, 6,18,22;2171:1,8,11,</p>
--	---	--	--	---

13,15,23;2172:4,6, 10;2175:7;2200:9,9, 15,18;2214:7; 2225:13,14;2226:13, 15;2230:10;2305:7; 2312:4;2378:18; 2385:2,3,3,13,17,17, 21;2386:4,13,21,22; 2387:17,20,23; 2388:2,11,13,14,19, 22	water (6) 2251:6;2284:15; 2347:23;2370:24; 2398:23;2400:1	weren't (1) 2169:15	2301:16;2305:22; 2306:5	15
Vlahos' (1) 2386:17	waving (1) 2358:12	West (1) 2247:15	within (13) 2201:21;2207:6; 2211:12;2216:18; 2249:1;2265:16; 2284:7;2311:15; 2312:22;2313:24; 2353:12;2371:20; 2392:4	witness' (2) 2312:19;2314:25
V-L-A-H-O-S (1) 2162:4	way (39) 2174:17;2180:18; 2184:6;2201:3; 2209:25;2216:10,12; 2224:19,22;2225:1, 2;2227:12;2233:17; 2244:7;2265:24; 2271:3;2303:20; 2314:6;2315:5; 2327:17;2330:25; 2334:4;2352:1; 2357:13;2360:6; 2362:14,22;2370:9, 10,25;2374:3,4; 2388:3;2391:11; 2392:17;2398:3; 2399:13;2405:5; 2406:23	What's (17) 2176:20;2214:15, 16;2226:1;2242:10; 2274:9;2279:24; 2280:18;2311:22,22; 2328:21;2329:19; 2338:20;2340:11; 2364:2;2384:5; 2408:25	wonder (2) 2224:13;2410:1	witnesses (4) 2160:13;2316:11, 13;2319:19
voir (5) 2233:14,19; 2292:16,19,21	ways (3) 2246:16;2326:19; 2327:8	Whenever (1) 2264:7	wonderful (2) 2234:19;2296:15	wondering (4) 2223:1;2320:19; 2336:6;2347:13
volume (6) 2258:11;2277:3; 2351:25;2369:3; 2379:24;2396:10	wear (1) 2175:4	Whereupon (10) 2190:3;2231:9; 2268:17;2279:7; 2292:12;2306:3,11; 2347:6;2358:23; 2410:24	without (21) 2166:23;2180:8; 2197:16;2205:18; 2242:21;2285:18; 2306:17;2319:25; 2330:23;2331:25; 2341:25;2344:9,18; 2348:13;2349:5; 2362:20;2368:8; 2379:23;2396:10; 2403:19;2407:6	word (11) 2176:20;2286:6; 2310:2;2315:10,11, 19;2336:25; 2365:16;2367:20; 2368:4;2387:15
volumes (1) 2395:22	wears (1) 2175:2	when (2) 2163:6;2351:7	witness (131) 2160:14,15; 2166:2;2168:15; 2170:20;2171:18,21; 2176:5,8,12,15,19, 22,25;2177:3,7,9,14, 19;2178:1,11,19; 2179:11,14,21; 2180:6,17,22,25; 2181:6,12;2182:21, 25;2183:3,8,12,18, 23,25;2184:3,5,10, 14,18;2185:2,18; 2186:12,15,21,24; 2189:24;2190:9; 2196:1,5;2201:24; 2202:10;2211:4,14; 2221:22;2222:18; 2225:7,9;2226:13; 2230:5,8,9,13,16,23; 2231:1,11;2233:11; 2234:22,24;2253:12, 17,21;2254:7,11; 2256:20;2257:2,18; 2258:1;2261:5; 2268:7,11,24; 2272:6,9;2274:15, 17;2276:17,20,22; 2285:15;2286:14; 2287:13;2290:18,21; 2291:23;2292:15; 2293:18;2294:12; 2299:16,17;2305:22; 2307:10;2313:10,14; 2314:11;2316:20; 2318:16,22;2321:2; 2350:15,19,23; 2358:19;2364:23; 2365:4,9;2378:24; 2388:8;2392:19; 2393:6;2400:8,13; 2407:22;2410:3,12,	words (7) 2266:18;2314:12; 2315:6;2328:17; 2366:4;2381:15; 2386:25
vote (1) 2219:25	website (4) 2165:11,14; 2235:9,25	whenever (1) 2277:13;2387:12	work (20) 2161:6;2162:12, 14;2174:2,15; 2204:22;2212:10; 2223:22;2268:14; 2280:8;2290:25; 2304:11,14,17; 2346:17,20;2371:3; 2375:5;2380:8; 2385:16	work (20) 2161:6;2162:12, 14;2174:2,15; 2204:22;2212:10; 2223:22;2268:14; 2280:8;2290:25; 2304:11,14,17; 2346:17,20;2371:3; 2375:5;2380:8; 2385:16
VULIN (2) 2162:20,20	week (5) 2164:11;2165:10; 2252:23;2320:24; 2347:25	white (7) 2289:6,8,24; 2290:1,5,23;2291:7	worked (3) 2206:21;2237:9; 2299:1	Working (4) 2162:21;2179:21; 2298:16;2337:1
W	weekends (3) 2188:12;2190:14; 2191:3	whites (1) 2291:5	works (7) 2198:7;2283:19; 2292:9;2332:15; 2371:1;2389:18; 2396:15	world (4) 2235:17,18,19; 2237:23
wages (1) 2265:23	weeks (1) 2165:10	whole (15) 2173:12;2177:23; 2203:21;2224:7; 2241:1;2260:11; 2270:24;2313:15,23; 2316:19;2320:1; 2334:19;2338:12; 2357:25;2365:7	working (4) 2162:21;2179:21; 2298:16;2337:1	worth (2) 2260:7;2324:18
Wait (2) 2290:15;2390:17	weigh (1) 2319:7	wholesale (1) 2270:2	wreaking (1) 2276:3	writing (4)
waiting (1) 2167:7	weighed (1) 2318:19	who's (5) 2160:10;2313:10, 11;2314:4;2383:16	wright (2) 2162:17,21	write (2) 2212:18;2355:7
waive (1) 2233:16	weighs (1) 2316:18	whose (1) 2160:15	write-offs (5) 2248:14,16; 2252:5;2284:9; 2334:21	Writer (2) 2161:9;2349:12
waived (2) 2233:19;2406:5	weight (1) 2311:4	wide (11) 2238:1;2331:22, 23;2333:22;2355:5, 5;2372:20,23; 2373:2;2374:2; 2394:25	writing (4)	
waiving (1) 2244:25	weighted (5) 2277:11,15,23; 2278:9;2331:8	William (2) 2160:22;2162:23		
walk (10) 2184:5;2242:9; 2256:3;2259:20; 2267:25;2269:6; 2280:10,10;2330:1; 2408:19	weighting (1) 2335:21	willing (4) 2246:23;2327:11; 2386:15;2387:11		
walked (1) 2329:25	Welcome (5) 2160:21;2164:19; 2166:5,13;2169:22	winner (2) 2349:20,21		
walking (1) 2390:18	well-known (1) 2313:19	wisdom (1) 2378:12		
Wal-Mart (2) 2304:15,18	Wells (1) 2247:16	wise (1) 2258:23		
wants (1) 2384:20		wish (3)		
warming (1) 2233:7				
warning (1) 2167:10				
Washington (2) 2162:17;2309:18				

2198:20;2212:8; 2275:12;2284:16 written (14) 2172:5,6;2191:12; 2232:14,21;2233:5; 2234:3;2235:10; 2242:5;2243:8; 2254:10;2287:16; 2320:21;2350:20 wrong (6) 2310:12;2315:3; 2337:13;2340:4; 2354:10;2366:2	0	2282:8,15,23,25 1000 (1) 2190:10 1000.27 (2) 2177:7,10 1000.28 (1) 2177:16 1000.90 (4) 2190:18,20,21; 2193:6 1000.9c (1) 2195:6 101 (1) 2308:16 1030 (2) 2226:8,9 1030.72 (2) 2226:5,20 1030.73 (3) 2226:5,20,21 1031 (1) 2308:4 1039 (1) 2310:5 1045 (1) 2310:5 1051 (1) 2176:25 1051.28 (1) 2177:14 1051.30 (2) 2177:21;2204:5 1051.31 (1) 2191:24 1051.55 (5) 2193:3;2196:12; 2385:6;2386:23; 2387:20 1051.61 (1) 2178:22 1051.62 (4) 2178:22;2180:10; 2193:21;2208:19 1051.71 (1) 2193:25 1051.72 (2) 2194:8;2225:23 1051.73 (5) 2194:15;2225:23; 2228:2;2385:6; 2387:4 1051.90 (1) 2190:18 1059 (1) 2310:13 108 (1) 2308:4 1090 (1) 2227:5 11 (7) 2160:8;2232:8; 2254:25;2272:1; 2273:20;2295:20;	2359:13 11,087,718 (1) 2339:4 11.1 (1) 2260:25 110 (3) 2171:2,4,21 111 (1) 2171:2 112 (1) 2309:19 119 (1) 2311:19 11th (2) 2193:22;2205:24 12 (8) 2255:19,19; 2257:1;2309:23; 2359:14;2391:15; 2393:21;2394:13 12:00 (1) 2164:13 12:03 (1) 2268:12 12:09 (2) 2268:16,19 12:40 (1) 2291:20 12:42 (1) 2292:11 1200 (2) 2347:15,20 1207 (1) 2309:19 1212 (1) 2309:19 125 (2) 2226:10,11 126 (1) 2226:22 1269 (2) 2338:24;2339:1 13 (8) 2202:17;2257:1; 2264:17;2359:14; 2391:16;2393:25; 2394:15;2401:15 13% (2) 2253:24;2259:7 1300 (2) 2347:15,20 139 (1) 2338:13 139,358,870 (5) 2270:18;2337:9; 2391:23;2392:12,13 13th (6) 2193:5;2194:4; 2196:13;2206:17; 2207:1;2386:25 14 (5) 2269:20,21; 2340:19;2365:23;	2402:15 14.8% (4) 2259:4;2272:23; 2394:3,15 1410 (1) 2245:23 143 (1) 2245:25 147 (1) 2310:19 149 (2) 2273:9;2309:5 14th (11) 2181:21;2182:4; 2192:17,19;2193:23; 2194:10;2205:24,25; 2206:10;2207:1; 2235:19 15 (7) 2164:10;2171:13; 2247:22;2272:21,21; 2290:6;2340:13 1507 (1) 2309:6 15-minute (1) 2190:1 15th (2) 2179:1;2194:23 16 (4) 2273:17;2276:9; 2337:15;2339:8 162 (1) 2260:24 164 (1) 2260:12 166 (1) 2308:18 16th (11) 2182:13,25; 2185:9;2186:2,10, 11;2187:11;2194:6; 2215:8;2387:2,21 17 (1) 2205:4 17% (1) 2253:18 17.3% (1) 2236:10 17th (27) 2182:15,15,21,23; 2183:4,8,12; 2185:12,14,16,25; 2186:4,7,16,17,19; 2187:15,17;2194:12; 2195:15;2214:24; 2215:7,8,11; 2221:17,20,23 18 (12) 2259:3;2267:20; 2268:21;2336:22; 2358:7;2360:16; 2362:11;2363:17; 2377:13,25;2391:12;
Y	1 (33) 2162:1,6,10; 2169:8;2170:7; 2175:24;2190:10,15; 2191:10;2193:18; 2199:12;2204:3; 2220:15;2228:1; 2235:9;2240:9,9; 2241:22;2243:13; 2247:24;2249:1; 2253:2,24;2274:23; 2293:15;2331:18; 2333:2,12;2338:18; 2386:24;2387:6; 2389:17;2404:6			
year (24) 2235:25;2241:25; 2261:13;2262:11; 2264:16,22;2265:6; 2268:4;2269:23; 2302:23;2322:11; 2324:18,24;2325:9; 2326:2,3,13,15; 2340:21;2341:17,20; 2345:21;2348:12; 2375:6 yearly (1) 2345:18 years (25) 2175:9;2217:9; 2232:8;2251:10; 2252:9;2285:25; 2295:20;2296:7,9, 10;2297:1,25; 2298:5,6;2299:12, 21;2300:3;2301:7; 2323:21;2324:3,3; 2325:13;2336:7,8; 2369:17 yellow (2) 2235:11;2289:16 yesterday (6) 2165:21;2166:22; 2169:3,19,25;2220:3 York (1) 2309:23 Yuba (1) 2237:10	1,269 (1) 2272:1 1.1 (1) 2273:10 1.163 (1) 2260:12 1.164 (4) 2259:23;2260:17; 2344:18;2365:25 1.8 (1) 2273:18 1.98 (3) 2272:12;2338:19, 20 10 (6) 2252:15;2283:1; 2324:5;2383:3; 2398:14;2399:7 10.04 (1) 2282:16 10.21 (1) 2282:15 10.24 (1) 2281:22 10.32 (1) 2281:21 10.49 (1) 2281:21 10:00 (1) 2190:2 10:01 (1) 2190:4 100% (6) 2280:21;2281:21;			
Z				
zero (21) 2322:7;2326:25; 2343:12,18;2345:1; 2346:6,8,18; 2348:15;2349:2; 2361:15,17;2362:10; 2367:11,14,15,16,18, 19,21;2392:5 Zimbalist (2) 2348:18;2349:13				

2392:11 18.8% (1) 2256:14 1851.73a1 (1) 2197:8 188 (1) 2348:5 18th (9) 2183:16;2185:15, 17;2186:23; 2187:25;2195:1,2, 14;2215:22 19 (14) 2170:11;2267:21; 2321:4;2325:19; 2336:21,23;2337:7; 2358:7;2360:16; 2362:12;2363:18; 2377:13;2391:13; 2392:11 19.5 (4) 2218:15;2368:13; 2377:20;2379:25 1937 (1) 2246:6 1960 (1) 2403:4 1967 (1) 2403:5 1969 (5) 2239:8;2240:7,16; 2321:6;2367:14 1985 (1) 2310:19 1988 (1) 2308:2 1991 (4) 2241:15;2340:5; 2341:10;2380:6 1992 (1) 2311:12 1993 (8) 2236:21;2240:8, 12,16;2296:18; 2297:21,22;2309:24 1994 (4) 2240:13,13; 2308:16;2309:6 1995 (1) 2253:6 1996 (2) 2245:24;2310:5 1997 (5) 2236:21;2237:3; 2297:23;2308:4; 2309:20 1999 (5) 2237:3,5;2298:7; 2299:5;2308:18 1st (1) 2277:24	2	2242:14;2253:6,22, 23;2254:15;2255:4, 18;2259:12,17; 2264:19;2276:13; 2321:6;2393:22; 2394:4,6 2016 (1) 2336:25 2017 (1) 2277:9 20th (4) 2192:9,13,19,25 21 (4) 2253:2,24; 2276:11;2405:2 218 (1) 2260:6 22 (3) 2171:2;2200:15; 2229:5 23 (5) 2200:16;2315:4, 16;2405:25;2407:1 23rd (1) 2309:5 24 (2) 2178:8;2407:24 25 (4) 2178:13,13; 2280:23;2281:23 25% (6) 2278:2;2282:3; 2329:23;2330:2,3; 2374:16 27 (2) 2176:25;2185:8 27% (1) 2259:6 27.6 (1) 2409:20 270 (1) 2338:14 279 (1) 2338:15 27th (1) 2228:8 28 (1) 2197:14 281 (1) 2272:24 28th (1) 2228:12 29 (1) 2197:14 29th (1) 2228:11 2nd (2) 2278:3;2311:18	10;2250:20; 2254:17;2255:16,17; 2275:8;2359:13; 2391:16;2398:17; 2405:17 3:40 (1) 2358:16 3:45 (2) 2358:17,22 3:48 (1) 2358:24 30 (6) 2161:15;2228:9; 2324:3;2325:23; 2326:1;2387:9 30.1% (1) 2259:5 300 (1) 2321:14 30th (8) 2197:7;2227:24; 2228:5,7,10,11; 2387:8,11 31 (1) 2255:4 31a (1) 2311:18 31st (1) 2313:23 34% (1) 2256:15 34.04 (1) 2282:12 356 (2) 2326:2,3 365 (1) 2325:24 3a (1) 2399:21 3rd (3) 2170:11;2171:12; 2278:6	2394:14 417,068.87 (2) 2393:22;2394:21 42 (10) 2178:7,8;2185:7; 2200:11;2202:17; 2229:6;2272:20; 2273:6;2308:15; 2321:3 42% (1) 2253:23 443 (1) 2311:11 447 (1) 2311:12 45 (2) 2171:9,11 47213 (1) 2205:5 47214 (4) 2176:7,18; 2191:15;2204:3 47216 (2) 2193:18;2205:22 47217 (2) 2194:7;2228:2 47218 (1) 2190:16 492 (1) 2308:2 497 (1) 2308:2 4a (1) 2240:11 4b (4) 2173:8,9;2214:12; 2240:11
			5	
			5 (5) 2240:1;2261:16; 2269:17;2340:1,12 5.96 (2) 2282:9,12 5:00 (1) 2408:9 5:01 (1) 2410:25 50 (4) 2236:24;2280:22; 2281:23;2394:3 50% (2) 2282:3;2394:2 52.76 (3) 2281:15;2330:5; 2409:11 523 (1) 2310:13 525 (4) 2260:6;2325:2; 2328:2;2397:11 53 (2)	
			4	
			4 (5) 2236:12;2240:11; 2259:16;2261:1,7 4:25 (1) 2384:6 4:30 (1) 2386:1 4:55 (1) 2389:5 40 (2) 2280:19;2297:24 40% (2) 2253:3,24 400 (1) 2394:14 41 (1) 2348:3 417,068.67 (1)	
		3		
	2015 (23) 2160:1,7;2171:12; 2173:1,1;2235:13, 19;2241:24;	3 (12) 2235:24;2240:9,		

2170:13,17 54 (30) 2231:5,8,8,9,13; 2232:25;2291:4; 2293:2,16;2305:17, 23;2306:1,2,3; 2312:13;2326:18; 2336:4;2359:2; 2365:16;2375:2,24; 2377:14;2395:13; 2397:24;2398:14; 2401:15;2404:1; 2406:1;2407:1,25 54A (1) 2291:6 55 (23) 2279:3,6,6,7,18, 24;2291:5;2305:18; 2306:6,9,10,11; 2328:6,8;2335:24; 2362:18,18;2363:15; 2372:24;2374:15; 2376:4;2377:2; 2408:17 550 (1) 2321:13 55A (1) 2291:6 56 (4) 2347:2,5,6; 2350:14 57,914 (1) 2203:9 57914 (1) 2202:23 58% (2) 2254:1,11 <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">6</p> <hr/> 6 (16) 2160:1,7;2241:10; 2267:15,19;2268:2, 24;2269:7;2309:6; 2312:14;2336:21; 2361:4;2377:13; 2391:12;2392:11; 2397:24 60 (1) 2280:19 60% (1) 2356:16 608 (1) 2246:4 61% (1) 2258:17 61893 (1) 2229:10 62 (1) 2205:22 62% (1) 2258:16 62700 (1)	2239:9 62726 (2) 2200:12;2229:8 63% (2) 2258:16;2273:16 64,000 (1) 2273:19 66.2 (1) 2241:16 68 (1) 2171:5 6th (4) 2191:19,22,25; 2192:2 <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">7</p> <hr/> 7 (8) 2171:2;2246:3; 2247:11;2312:13; 2314:11;2326:17; 2381:9,14 70 (5) 2201:22;2202:21, 21;2203:4;2225:22 702 (4) 2307:9;2311:5; 2315:23;2318:12 72 (1) 2225:22 729 (1) 2339:8 74% (1) 2258:16 75 (5) 2216:14;2217:10; 2280:22;2282:10,16 75% (2) 2281:22;2356:15 758 (1) 2310:19 7th (1) 2235:13 <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">8</p> <hr/> 8 (2) 2247:14;2381:9 8.79 (4) 2281:16,20; 2330:7,7 8:00 (1) 2410:22 80 (1) 2282:21 800 (2) 2254:2;2286:1 832 (2) 2254:2,13 85 (2) 2278:5;2282:16 85% (4) 2280:22;2281:10,	10,22 858 (1) 2308:2 87 (1) 2310:4 892 (1) 2309:23 898 (1) 2309:23 899 (1) 2309:23 8c (1) 2246:3 8th (1) 2168:3 <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">9</p> <hr/> 9 (2) 2247:18;2259:4 9.22 (3) 2281:24;2329:23; 2330:7 9.64 (1) 2281:24 9.79 (1) 2282:17 9.96 (1) 2282:17 9:00 (4) 2160:1,7;2384:13; 2410:23 90 (3) 2281:9;2282:9; 2324:2 90% (7) 2258:9;2280:21; 2281:8,8,21; 2282:15,25 90's (1) 2321:13 964 (1) 2308:18 966 (1) 2311:11 97 (1) 2308:16 973 (1) 2308:18 9c (1) 2215:24 9th (9) 2179:9,13; 2181:16;2191:22,22; 2192:3,3,6;2204:9
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