BEFORE THE BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION CALIFORNIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

JULIE CABOS-OWEN, ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE

In the Matter of the Recalculation	n)		
of Benefits of:)		
) CASE	NO.	2010-0825
PAUL G. MAST,)		
) OAH	NO.	2015030996
Respondent.)		
	_)		

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

Los Angeles, California

Monday, November 30, 2015

Reported by:

CLAUDETTE A. HENRY Hearing Reporter

Job No.: 79620AH

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8) CASE NO. 2010-0825 PAUL G. MAST,				
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16	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS, taken at				
17	320 West Fourth Street, Suite 630, Los Angeles,				
18	California, commencing at 9:00 a.m.				
19	on Monday, November 30, 2015, heard before				
20	JULIE CABOS-OWEN, Administrative Law Judge,				
21	reported by CLAUDETTE A. HENRY, Hearing Reporter.				
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7				(IN PRO PER)
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E X H I B I T S (Continued)

- 1 Los Angeles, California, Monday, November 30, 2015
- 9:00 a.m.

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4

- 5 THE COURT: We are opening the record in the Matter
- of the Recalculation of Benefits of Paul G. Mast,
- 7 Agency Case 2010-0825. OAH Case Number 2015030996.
- 8 This is before the Board of Administration, California
- 9 Public Employees' Retirement System.
- 10 It is November 30, 2015. It is approximately
- 9:35 a.m. And this is the date this Matter was set for
- 12 continued hearing. My name is Julie Cabos-Owen,
- 13 Administrative Law Judge with the Office of
- 14 Administrative Hearings.
- 15 If I could please have appearance of the
- 16 parties for the record.
- 17 MR. RIEGER: Jeffrey Rieger on behalf of the Judges
- 18 Retirement System.
- 19 MR. MAST: Paul Mast appearing.
- 20 THE COURT: Thank you. All right. I did receive
- 21 copy -- I have copies of what we are going to be marking
- 22 as jurisdictional documents. The first is the Statement
- 23 of Issues that has been marked as 27 for identification,
- 24 and Exhibit 28 is Notice of the Continued Hearing.
- 25 And, Judge Mast, do you have any objection to

- 1 Exhibit 27 and 28 being received as jurisdictional
- 2 purpose only?
- 3 MR. MAST: No objection, your Honor. Do you have
- 4 the response to the Statement of Issues?
- 5 THE COURT: I don't have that particular document.
- 6 I don't believe I have it. If it was filed, I don't
- 7 have it in front of me in the binder. I will mark it.
- 8 It is marked. I don't have it in front of me at this
- 9 point.
- 10 MR. MAST: I'm sorry. I don't have another copy
- 11 with me. I didn't -- I just assumed that the Court
- 12 would have it.
- 13 THE COURT: Was that filed with OAH?
- MR. MAST: Yes. That was filed when the proceedings
- 15 was initiated.
- 16 THE COURT: All right. Why don't we go off the
- 17 record for just a minute.
- 18 (Discussion off the record)
- 19 THE COURT: We are back on the record. I got a copy
- 20 of the Notice of Defense that was filed by Judge Mast,
- 21 and that is marked as Exhibit 29 for identification.
- 22 MR. RIEGER: Wouldn't that be the letter to go with
- 23 all the pleadings?
- 24 THE COURT: All the jurisdictional documents are
- 25 typically in the Agency binder and admitted for

- 1 jurisdictional purpose only.
- 2 MR. RIEGER: I understand.
- 3 THE COURT: Okay. So Exhibit 29 is admitted for
- 4 jurisdictional purpose. Just -- we don't have these
- 5 documents in the packets, I will note for the JRS. I
- 6 have marked as Exhibit 30 an opposition to Respondent
- 7 Mast's motion to strike the prehearing brief. That is
- 8 marked as Exhibit 30.
- 9 And as Exhibits 31, JRS position statement. As
- 10 Exhibit 32, JRS response to Mast request for payment from
- 11 1992 through 1995. I will lodge this as argument in the
- 12 matter. So that is 31 and 32 are lodged. And for
- 13 Respondent's exhibits next in order from the binder
- 14 would be Exhibit Y. That is the Respondent's trial
- 15 brief.
- 16 Exhibit Z is Respondent's trial brief
- 17 declaration of Paul Mast. As Exhibit AA, I have
- 18 Respondent's trial brief declaration of Marci Mast,
- 19 M-A-R-C-I. As Exhibit BB, I have as the motion in limine
- 20 and attachment. As Exhibit CC, I have points and
- 21 authorities motion to strike.
- 22 As Exhibits DD, I have Respondent's reply to
- 23 opposition to motion to strike the declaration of Paul
- 24 Mast. As Exhibit EE, I have supplemental trial brief.
- 25 As Exhibit FF, Respondent's reply to JRS response to Mast

- 1 request for payment from 1992 to 1995.
- 2 As Exhibit GG, I have response to declaration of
- 3 Pamela Montgomery, M-O-N-T-G-O-M-E-R-Y, also a
- 4 declaration of Marci G. Mast. Those are all lodged as
- 5 argument. And I do need to make a note for the record.
- 6 We did have a prehearing conference prior to
- 7 today's hearing. And as parts of that prehearing, there
- 8 has been some motions that were addressed. And I have
- 9 those motions that were filed by Judge Mast. They are
- 10 motions to dismiss that I will mark as Exhibit HH. A
- 11 motion at issue, which I will mark as Exhibit II, and a
- 12 motion to strike, which I will mark as Exhibit J.
- 13 And I do note that the motion -- that the
- 14 motion to -- I believe I indicated during PRA issue are
- 15 assumed into the hearing. With regard to the motion to
- 16 strike, that will be considered as argument. And I know
- 17 there is a motion to strike that has been filed, and then
- 18 a motion to dismiss procedure hearing that motion had
- 19 been withdrawn.
- 20 But for completion sake, I want to make sure
- 21 that we have those all marked and included in the record.
- 22 All right. The jurisdictional documents have been
- 23 marked and admitted.
- 24 Did CalPERS have -- JRS have an opening
- 25 statement before we begin?

- 1 MR. RIEGER: Sure. Very briefly, your Honor.
- THE COURT: All right. Actually, for both parties,
- 3 keep in mind that you have been living with this for
- 4 decades, and I am coming into this just now. So if you
- 5 will lay out the steps that has gone before and the
- 6 calculation and each of the steps the party is alleging
- 7 is appropriate, that would be helpful as we go along.
- 8 MR. RIEGER: And as far as specific calculation, I
- 9 don't think we have that level of detail here today,
- 10 because I don't think the calculation of what was paid
- is disputed as calculation of what would be paid under
- 12 the statute all followed under the law. So I don't
- 13 disagree with the actual -- in terms of the Judge's
- 14 pension. But I will try to be respectful of the fact
- 15 that you are jumping into this.
- 16 THE COURT: All right. And I understand that there
- 17 may be -- you may not need to provide calculations, but
- 18 the statement of issues does anticipate some numbers
- 19 being --
- 20 MR. RIEGER: Those have been provided. I will
- 21 discuss those in the opening statement here duly. I
- 22 don't believe we are going to be arguing over
- 23 calculation and numbers. We are going to -- I think
- 24 numbers were concepts.
- 25 THE COURT: All right.

- 1 MR. RIEGER: So primarily what JRS is here today
- 2 about is that we have an agreement that is unenforceable
- 3 in the Matter. What we have is an agreement to pay
- 4 Mr. Mast more than what 800 judges in the whole state
- 5 receives, in return for his silence.
- 6 Basically, the deal was that JRS would pay
- 7 Mr. Mast according to his legal theory. The only thing
- 8 he had to do in response was to not tell other judges
- 9 about that legal theory. The idea being that -- I can't
- 10 look inside the heads of the people at JRS at the time.
- 11 Maybe they thought this theory had merit.
- 12 And they made a rather simple calculation that
- 13 it would be a large amount of money that would be owed
- 14 to these people and to pay it, I hope that was not what
- 15 they were thinking. They may have been thinking this is
- 16 just a sort of action and thought, "We don't want to spend
- 17 millions of dollars. It would be a lot easier to just
- 18 pay Mr. Mast off."
- 19 I don't really know what they were thinking.
- 20 But I do know this kind of agreement is not lawful. It
- 21 is not enforceable. It is on its face. If judges are
- 22 entitled to receive what Mr. Mast received, then all
- 23 judges should have received it. If judges are not
- 24 entitled to receive what Mr. Mast received, then no
- 25 judge should have received it. That's it. Very simple.

- 1 That's how the law works. That's a free and
- 2 open democracy the law covers. We don't make special
- 3 deals for people to cook up strange legal theories and
- 4 then pay them off. It is different when we are
- 5 government as opposed to private corporations. Private
- 6 corporations have to live with the mistake of the
- 7 employees.
- It is not so with the government, because --
- 9 and I put case law throughout my briefs about this
- 10 issue -- all the cases you can't stop government agencies
- 11 statute outright. That is the law. Because that is the
- 12 law, then the retirement benefit of other public
- 13 services would extend the errors of the people that very
- 14 -- human beings and flawed computer systems, even
- 15 sometimes, that helps administer the benefit.
- 16 It has to be governed by law, not by the extent
- 17 of error of even inside jobs where we actually have
- 18 people outside bet for a look into government agency
- 19 just because one of those employees did that. Beyond
- 20 that, the whole settlement was based on fluid
- 21 assumption.
- 22 It was based on the idea that Mr. Mast was
- 23 correct that he was entitled to something more than he
- 24 was being paid. And that is just simply not the case.
- 25 The theory that he pursued was actually raised in his

- 1 case about Olson v Cory.
- 2 This whole theory is about -- under the 1980
- 3 California Supreme Court case, Olson v Cory. This theory
- 4 was that for the rest of his life, his pension would have
- 5 to be calculated based on what a judge would have made
- 6 if the legislature never changed how salaries were
- 7 calculated.
- 8 So a judge's pension is based on a judge's
- 9 active -- active judge's salary. The salary used to be
- 10 uncapped and increased by a cost of living. Then the
- 11 legislature put in a five percent cap. And his theory
- 12 is that for the rest of his life, he would be making
- 13 retirement on an uncapped cost of living, so a
- 14 hypothetical salary, not an actual salary, but a
- 15 hypothetical salary.
- 16 So the benchmark for calculating pension is
- 17 significantly higher than the actual salary paid to sitting
- 18 judges and justices. So that -- that theory was actually
- 19 pursued in Olson v Cory by the plaintiff in the Superior
- 20 Court and was expressly rejected by the court in
- 21 Olson v Cory.
- 22 In considering in the Court of Appeals, they
- 23 literally described the theory and then rejected it.
- 24 The Superior Court was not as clear about raising up
- 25 the issue as they should have been, but they clearly did

- 1 reject it. And it is very clear throughout the opinion
- 2 that theory was rejected.
- 3 This is not a close call. This is not a
- 4 reasonable dispute. This is not the kind of thing where
- 5 a reasonable -- an attorney at the JRS looked at this
- 6 and said, "There might be something here. This is a
- 7 close call. We better -- " It is not. It was slammed
- 8 dunk wrong from the beginning.
- 9 And these kinds of -- this is -- this kind of
- 10 contract, even if it was subject to some amount of
- 11 dispute, the underlying legal theory, we still have a
- 12 situation where one judge gets something that nobody
- 13 else gets, solely in exchange for his promise not to
- 14 tell anybody. That could not possibly be the law.
- But I think it is even worse here because there
- 16 is not even legitimate basis for the claim. Mr. Mast
- 17 may still, here today, argue his version of Olson v Cory
- 18 and what he thinks it means. That left the barn a long
- 19 time ago.
- 20 We just -- in 2014 the Staniforth case, we
- 21 cited in the brief to the Fourth District Court of
- 22 Appeal, stated in no uncertain circumstance JRS was
- 23 correct in Olson v Cory. Mr. Mast is incorrect in his
- 24 Olson v Cory conclusion. But, in fact, the Court of
- 25 Appeals initially was not going to publish the opinion

- 1 because it was such an obvious conclusion.
- 2 We asked for the opinion to be published
- 3 because we had some other claims that we were battling
- 4 off, and also what we are dealing with here today.
- 5 We asked for it to be published for that reason. I
- 6 think it was worth asking the Court of Appeal. They
- 7 didn't think it was that novel or interesting.
- 8 So what we have here is -- today, I think you
- 9 have almost everything you need for the primary issue
- 10 which is before you, which is the question of -- whether
- 11 the settlement agreement is enforceable is all that is
- 12 before you.
- 13 Because the only disputed fact is the fact that
- 14 it exists, it is signed. What benefits was paid to
- 15 Mr. Mast all these years according to his theory are all
- 16 undisputed. So really, the question is just: Is it
- 17 lawful and what do we do about it now?
- 18 In terms of the numbers, what you will find in
- 19 the binder, I have a declaration from Pamela Montgomery.
- 20 And it actually -- you will find the declarations in the
- 21 front of Exhibit 20 and 21. So the declaration of
- 22 Pamela Montgomery, we have Exhibit A and Exhibit B. We
- 23 served those on Mr. Mast and in compliance with
- 24 Government Code 11514, I believe.
- 25 And he did not require Ms. Montgomery to show

- 1 up today, so I'll -- the first thing is to move
- 2 Exhibits 20 and 21 into evidence. So Exhibit 20 is just
- 3 the raw record of all the payments that were made to
- 4 Mr. Mast over the years.
- 5 This is just how we reconstructed what he was
- 6 paid for the last 20 years. Exhibit 21, which would be
- 7 Exhibit B -- so Exhibit 20 is Exhibit A to Montgomery's
- 8 declaration. Exhibit 21 is Exhibit B to Montgomery's
- 9 declaration. With this -- this is just math.
- 10 This is just comparing -- it is taking,
- 11 distilling what is in Exhibit 20 to show what he was
- 12 paid over the years. Then showing what he would have
- 13 been paid if his pension had been tied to active judges'
- 14 salary recalculated. There is also a column to show the
- 15 accumulated interest over the years.
- 16 CalPERS assumed rate of return. This is how
- 17 much CalPERS had been harmed -- the JRS, CalPERS funds
- 18 has been harmed by these payments over the years. I
- 19 don't believe these numbers in here -- obviously,
- 20 Mr. Mast disputed he had been overpaid, but I don't
- 21 believe the number of what has been paid or wasn't paid
- 22 is under the statute.
- I don't believe that is being disputed. So
- 24 that is pretty much all you need in my view and my
- 25 theory of this case. I think that is all you need. The

- 1 main reason -- well, we couldn't reach any type of
- 2 stipulation. Mr. Mast had to be here. Exhibits in.
- 3 But the other reason we are here today is
- 4 really to -- I'm going to put on some evidence about our
- 5 alternative, because there are alternative theories
- 6 that if the settlement agreement is enforceable, then
- 7 Mr. Mast breached it and materially breached it in a way
- 8 that completely defeated the consideration he provided
- 9 under the agreement.
- 10 Now, Mr. Mast said we can't have it both ways.
- 11 We can't have a nonresponsive form and breached it. Well,
- 12 I agree we can't have it both ways. That's the
- 13 alternative position, that it is not enforceable. But if
- 14 the Court disagrees, we cited the case law that explains
- 15 why you can't have a contract like this. Then at that
- 16 point, we would have signed a binding contract and he
- 17 breached it.
- 18 He breached it in the most spectacular form
- 19 imaginable. We -- he agreed not to disclose his
- 20 settlement agreement to other people. What he
- 21 ultimately ended up doing was team up with his friend,
- 22 John Rozi, to jointly represent -- first of all, they
- 23 requested the records of retired judges and justices and
- 24 then solicited them by mail and said, "We will represent
- 25 you against JRS. All you have to do is sign here. We

- 1 will cover all the cost. We will take our contingency
- 2 fees."
- This is a case he and Mr. Rozi believed was worth
- 4 possibly a billion dollars. And they were hoping to make a
- 5 large percentage of that in contingency fees. JRS had
- 6 defended against this case.
- 7 That is the Staniforth case and we prevailed on
- 8 it. So obviously, the whole point of the settlement
- 9 agreement was so we didn't have to defend a claim like
- 10 that. Hence, rounding up a bunch of retired judges and
- 11 justices and their heirs to assert those claims is
- 12 exactly the opposite of what was intended by the
- 13 settlement agreement.
- We are mostly just here to flush that out and
- 15 provide the extent of the breach. I think it is
- 16 important in the documents here, through Mr. Mast's
- 17 testimony, we will get an idea of how this went down and
- 18 what he was saying to JRS before he breached and what he
- 19 did after.
- 20 And I think that content is important. Other
- 21 than that, he filed a lot of papers recently. I have
- 22 responded. I provided a one-page response on one issue
- 23 cause. I just want to marker down on that one. It is a
- 24 very simple issue, but there was a lot of papers. Some
- 25 of them were late based on your prehearing order.

- 1 So I would certainly hope that we have a
- 2 post-hearing briefing to sort of cover all of this.
- 3 With that, that is my opening. We will move on. Thank
- 4 you.
- 5 THE COURT: All right. Judge Mast, do you have
- 6 anything in opening?
- 7 MR. MAST: Yes, your Honor. Mr. Rieger's statement
- 8 is completely a perversion of the -- what the facts are
- 9 and what has occurred in this case. In 1995, when JRS
- 10 said that my pension should begin, I inquired as to the
- amount that I would be receiving, how it would be
- 12 calculated.
- 13 At that time I discovered, very much by
- 14 surprise because of things that had occurred before
- 15 that, that they were not following the law under
- 16 Government Code 60823, which provided for cost-of-living
- 17 increases to judicial pension and what the
- 18 cost-of-living increases had been ruled in Olson against
- 19 Cory.
- 20 That it was completely vested -- vested for all
- 21 times they were earned while the judges were serving
- 22 their terms during 1970 and through -- during the 1970s
- 23 and continuing through any terms that began before
- 24 January 1977, and Olson against Cory said they were
- 25 completely and absolutely vested.

- 1 And I questioned them about that. And I wound
- 2 up filing a claim. The claim was denied. I filed an
- 3 appeal. It was referred to the Office of Administrative
- 4 Hearings. There was a Statement of Issues and a
- 5 response to the Statement of Issues was filed.
- 6 There was negotiations with the attorney for
- 7 JRS, Maureen Reilly. And as a result of those
- 8 negotiations, and as a result of her analysis and
- 9 consideration of the response to the Statement of
- 10 Issues, we entered into a settlement agreement. The
- 11 settlement agreement was entered into in 1996, and it
- 12 is in the exhibits.
- 13 The -- pursuant to the settlement agreement,
- 14 JRS unilaterally computed the retirement benefit -- the
- 15 deferred retirement benefit that were due to me based upon
- 16 Government Code 60823, as it was passed in 1969 and before
- 17 it was changed in 1976. And it was determined by them,
- 18 and they agreed that those were vested.
- 19 Now, that agreement was entered into and was a
- 20 binding agreement on both sides. The calculation that
- 21 JRS did without my input became an inherent part of the
- 22 retirement benefits, and a lump sum was paid retroactive
- 23 to January 1st, 1997. JRS established an amount of
- 24 benefit that should be paid by -- starting January 1997.
- 25 And those numbers are our starting point for

- 1 calculations. The agreement that was entered into
- 2 contained, at the request of JRS, a confidentiality
- 3 clause must be strictly interpreted. JRS wrote the
- 4 clause. I did not. I did not have any part of it.
- 5 The only part of the -- the only thing the
- 6 confidentiality clause stated was that I would not
- 7 discuss the terms of the agreement. Those were the
- 8 words -- "terms of the agreement" with any party. I did
- 9 not do that. Now, Mr. Rieger has alleged that a
- 10 confidentiality clause is against public policy when it
- is entered into by a government agency.
- He has not presented any authority for that.
- 13 Hearing his statement, I don't know whether it is or it
- 14 is not against public policy. But I know that if it is
- 15 against public policy, that is a matter between JRS and
- 16 the public, not between me. I did not violate any
- 17 policy.
- 18 Now, that was in there and I lived by the
- 19 agreement. And I did not breach the agreement. And I
- 20 did not discuss it with anybody, ever. And in the
- 21 meantime, as shown in the documents, in the declarations,
- 22 JRS, and particularly in 2006 to 2010, breached the
- 23 settlement agreement time after time, after time, after
- 24 time, particularly with Pamela Montgomery.
- 25 Starting in October 2006, she was the manager of

- 1 JRS, who gave her staff explicit direction to not make
- 2 any cost-of-living increases with me. And the
- 3 declaration, that is, the trial brief specifically lays
- 4 out when cost-of-living increases were made and when
- 5 they were not.
- 6 There came a point in 2010 after some four
- 7 years, three or four years of no cost-of-living
- 8 increases coming to pass, that Pamela Montgomery wrote a
- 9 conclusion or letter stating what she thought was true.
- 10 And she paid me a lump sum at that time of \$10,880 for
- 11 past payments, which she even admitted was due.
- Now, the effect of that \$10,880 payment was an
- 13 admission that JRS had breached the agreement over the
- 14 past four years, even though the number was wrong. It is
- 15 still an agreement. I disputed her calculations and her
- 16 conclusions. I wrote a letter, dated September 1st,
- 17 2010, and I also wrote a letter to the state controller,
- 18 John Chiang.
- 19 At that time he was also a member of the Board
- 20 of the California Public Employees' Retirement System.
- 21 And I copied the letter to every single member of the
- 22 California Public Employees' Retirement System and laid
- 23 out that I did not disclose anything about this in
- 24 accordance with the settlement agreement.
- I had not talked about the terms and conditions

- 1 of the settlement agreement or anything else with
- 2 anybody throughout the years. And I pointed out to them
- 3 that Pamela Montgomery's attitude and conclusion and her
- 4 refusal to properly analyze this, not only was a
- 5 violation of the settlement agreement and a breach of
- 6 the settlement agreement, but it left me in a position
- 7 where I had no other choice but to engage an attorney to
- 8 represent me in the Matter.
- 9 I pleaded with them in the letter to help me to
- 10 not to have to hire an attorney, because if I did hire
- 11 an attorney, everything would be out in the open and
- 12 everything that JRS wanted me not to tell other people
- 13 would be revealed. No one replied to that.
- 14 There was no response at all from anybody. I
- 15 still waited nine months after that until May of 2011
- 16 before engaging an attorney. And when I engaged an
- 17 attorney, what I expected would happen did happen. And
- 18 the attorney wanted to represent other judges. Now, it
- 19 is long after JRS had breached the agreement, but I never,
- 20 except for showing him a copy of the settlement, I never
- 21 divulged the terms of the agreement to him or anyone else.
- 22 And up to this date, I have not revealed the
- 23 terms of the agreement to anyone else. And the only thing
- 24 in the confidentiality clause that I was required to do
- 25 was not reveal the terms of the agreement.

- 1 Now, I could have discussed the law. I could
- 2 have gone to the California Judges Associations and
- 3 given a speech about the vested rights under Olson
- 4 against Cory. I could have done a lot of things and
- 5 still not be in breach of the confidentiality clause,
- 6 but I did not do any of those things.
- 7 The -- Counsel brought up the Staniforth case.
- 8 And the Staniforth case does not say what Mr. Rieger
- 9 said. It only partially states that. The Staniforth
- 10 case left open the rights of judges who retired -- what
- 11 they call the protected period.
- The protected period is, the judge who served
- 13 before January after -- excuse me -- after January 1,
- 14 1970, through January 1, 1977, and any term that started
- 15 before January 1, 1970, is the protected period. And the
- 16 Staniforth case said those judges who retired during the
- 17 protected period were entitled to COLA benefits, and
- 18 that issue remains open.
- 19 And there is a second appeal on the Staniforth
- 20 case now in that regard. The Staniforth court said that
- 21 those should be paid, unless there were some subsequent
- 22 statute of limitation which would apply. And there is
- 23 no subsequent statute of limitations that will apply.
- The issues are not what Mr. Rieger would let
- 25 this Court -- or would -- not what Mr. Rieger would

- 1 cause this Court to believe. And I have here today, and
- 2 I will submit to the Court, the Respondent's brief and
- 3 reply brief in the Staniforth appeal that is now pending
- 4 to show the Court exactly what issues are still before
- 5 the Court in the Staniforth, which is different than
- 6 what Mr. Rieger specifies.
- 7 In regard to his summary of exhibits, even if
- 8 something -- even if his theory that the agreement was
- 9 completely invalid were true, Section 20164-B-1 of the
- 10 Government Code -- all of this is in the trial brief --
- 11 Section 20164-B-1 of the Government Code restricts JRS
- 12 from re-cooping any errors, omissions, or overpayments
- 13 to a matter of three years.
- 14 So the calculations would only go back three
- 15 years from now. But the main point is that the
- 16 settlement agreement was entered into in good faith with
- 17 some lawyers representing JRS and with the settlement
- 18 agreement signed by the manager of JRS. It was an
- 19 arms-length transaction. It was negotiated.
- 20 It was based upon not only my analysis of Olson
- 21 versus Cory and the fact that the benefits were vested,
- 22 and completely vested, but also by the analysis of the
- 23 attorney -- attorneys for JRS, particularly Maureen
- 24 Reilly. I had my discussion and that agreement was
- 25 entered into, was settled, and was in effect and is

- 1 still in effect up to the present time.
- 2 If someone enters into a settlement agreement
- 3 and there was improper conduct, such as fraud, the
- 4 parties have a limited time to challenge the settlement
- 5 agreement and have it set aside. And this is all laid
- 6 out in the trial brief with the authorities. That was
- 7 not done. It was never done.
- 8 When Pamela Montgomery in 2006 decided she
- 9 didn't want to abide by the settlement agreement, the
- 10 proper action she should have taken, which would have
- 11 been unsuccessful anyway because of the passage of time
- 12 was -- was to take legal action to set aside the
- 13 settlement agreement. She didn't do that. Instead, she
- 14 just spent four years breaching the settlement agreement.
- 15 The settlement agreement was, and is, a binding agreement
- 16 between the parties.
- 17 Now, it is just not conceivable that the
- 18 agreement entered into at that time could be set aside
- 19 15 years later was of another case, in another
- 20 jurisdiction, which held contrary opinion to what the
- 21 settlement agreement was based upon.
- 22 As far as the exhibits are concerned that I
- 23 have presented to the Court, these agreements -- these
- 24 exhibits are all identified and referred to in my
- 25 declaration -- perhaps, Marci Mast's declaration, I'm not

- 1 sure of that -- but also, in the trial brief.
- 2 Most of the exhibits are documents out of the
- 3 file of JRS and are identified in the prior trial brief.
- 4 Mr. Rieger says there is calculation involved here. There
- 5 are calculations involved here, and the calculations are
- 6 in the exhibits, Exhibit I and Exhibit Q.
- 7 And as such, I would offer all the exhibits into
- 8 evidence based upon the fact that they are referred to
- 9 in the documents filed in the Court already. The other
- 10 issue before the Court that Mr. Rieger did not refer to
- 11 is the matter of the right that was not given to me to
- 12 receive retirement benefits by my 60th birthday, rather
- 13 than on my 63rd birthday.
- 14 And this is also in the declaration and the
- 15 trial brief and are specifically laid out therein. And
- 16 it is an issue in this case also.
- I would at this time offer to the Court the
- 18 Appellant briefs in the appeal pending at the present
- 19 time in the Staniforth case, which lays out exactly what
- 20 is still an issue in the Staniforth case, which includes
- 21 the issue of the interpretation of the Olson against
- 22 Cory, which is in addition to being set out in the
- 23 supplemental trial brief that has been filed with this
- 24 Court.
- 25 It was my intention that this matter would be

- 1 submitted to this Court upon the declarations and the
- 2 documents filed with this Court already and the exhibits
- 3 without further testimony, other than cross-examination
- 4 of myself, which Mr. Rieger has requested. And I think
- 5 that's all I have.
- 6 THE COURT: All right. I'm going to go ahead and
- 7 have you go ahead and present your evidence. And then I
- 8 will address the exhibits for Judge Mast.
- 9 MR. RIEGER: Your Honor, may I have just two minutes
- 10 to respond to one issue that was raised in his comments?
- 11 THE COURT: All right.
- 12 MR. RIEGER: I think this is important, as you
- 13 mentioned you just dropped into this, and we have been
- 14 involved with this for awhile. I just want to clarify
- 15 the Staniforth opinion, because it has been completely
- 16 misrepresented in Mr. Mast's statement.
- 17 His theory -- the theory of a retired
- 18 hypothetical judge is unhinged from current judges'
- 19 salary. That was absolutely, completely rejected by the
- 20 Court of Appeals, by the trial court, and the court that
- 21 deals with Staniforth. What keeps it still going is they
- 22 are -- the factual matter this is simply not true, which
- 23 I will prove someday if I have to.
- 24 They have alleged that ten of these people are
- 25 all deceased. So there are ten deceased judges,

- 1 justices, and ten of their heirs are pursuing a claim
- 2 that they were not paid the amount that was correctly
- 3 due to them under Olson v Cory.
- 4 So the reason that some amounts were under
- 5 Olson v Cory is because the Court said you cannot apply the
- 6 statute judicial salary to an existing term. So for all
- 7 the existing judicial terms, they had to finish those
- 8 terms on the old salary statute, but once those terms
- 9 ended under the new statute and the retirees fall under
- 10 the actives, the active salary -- the new statute.
- 11 And then the retirees, whose is based on the
- 12 active salary, were also tied to the new statute. That
- 13 is what Olson v Cory said. So in the Staniforth case,
- 14 Mr. Mast and Mr. Rozi are alleging that back in the '80s,
- 15 when, like, 30 years ago when Olson v Cory was decided,
- 16 they are saying these ten individuals never got the amount
- 17 that were due to them during those protected periods. One
- 18 of them was actually protected under Olson v Cory. We
- 19 have never disputed that, reading Olson v Cory.
- 20 We have always agreed that those ten people were
- 21 entitled to the amount under Olson v Cory. Actually, I
- 22 should take that back. Two of them were not because
- 23 factually they weren't. But eight of them were entitled
- 24 to those amounts under Olson v Cory.
- 25 We have never disputed that. They were paid

- 1 those amounts in the '80s. For some reason, I'm still
- 2 fighting this case. In the trial court, they sustained
- 3 our demur based on statute of limitations grounds. Now,
- 4 we are in the Court of Appeal.
- 5 If they remand it again, I will go back in and
- 6 show that these people were paid in the '80s. But the
- 7 idea that the Staniforth court in any way validated
- 8 Mr. Mast's theory is just flat wrong. The Staniforth
- 9 opinion is far more consistent with what JRS has always
- 10 said. The clean-up litigation we are doing now is based
- 11 on the false factual allegation, rather than a legal
- 12 theory.
- I just want to clear that up.
- 14 THE COURT: I understand. What is the direction?
- 15 I have your exhibit binder. Do you have any witnesses?
- 16 MR. RIEGER: Just Mr. Mast.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. Did you want to go through and
- 18 mark and offer them?
- 19 MR. RIEGER: Sure.
- 20 THE COURT: Why don't we go off the record for just
- 21 a minute.
- 22 (Recess)
- 23 THE COURT: We are back on the record after our
- 24 break. We are going to begin with Complainant's
- 25 exhibits -- of JRS exhibits.

- 1 MR. RIEGER: Did you want me to go through all the
- 2 ones that --
- 3 THE COURT: Yeah. Why don't we just go through the
- 4 ones you want to have marked. We will address their
- 5 admission. And then the ones you don't have marked, I
- 6 will go ahead and return them to you.
- 7 MR. RIEGER: I will start with the ones I expect to
- 8 mark, and then I may add more. Exhibit 1.
- 9 THE COURT: Behind tab 1, we have the settlement
- 10 agreement.
- MR. RIEGER: Yes. This might be a good time to just
- 12 stipulate. This is the settlement agreement of this
- 13 whole proceedings.
- 14 Exhibit 1, would you agree this is the
- 15 settlement agreement that we are here about?
- 16 MR. MAST: That's a duplicate of one of Respondent's
- 17 exhibits, your Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: Okay. So there is no objection to
- 19 Exhibit 1, then?
- 20 MR. MAST: Yes.
- 21 THE COURT: So Exhibit 1 is admitted.
- 22 (Complainant's Exhibit 1 was received in
- evidence by the Court.)
- MR. RIEGER: 3.
- 25 THE COURT: All right. As Exhibit 3, we have a

- 1 January 13, 1979 letter from Judge Mast. That's marked
- 2 as Exhibit 3 for identification.
- 3 (Complainant's Exhibit 3 was marked for
- 4 identification by the Court.)
- 5 MR. RIEGER: Are we going to go ahead and admit them
- 6 now if we can?
- 7 THE COURT: Yeah. You are offering that, right?
- 8 MR. RIEGER: Yes, I will offer that.
- 9 THE COURT: Any objection to Exhibit 3?
- 10 MR. MAST: No.
- 11 THE COURT: Exhibit 3 is admitted.
- 12 (Complainant's Exhibit 3 was received in
- evidence by the Court.)
- MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 5. I will offer that as well.
- 15 THE COURT: All right. This is a March 27th, 1995
- 16 letter from Jim Niehaus, N-I-E-H-A-U-S, to Judge Mast.
- 17 MR. RIEGER: It is from Judge Mast to Jim.
- 18 THE COURT: I'm sorry. Yes. Thank you. Any
- 19 objection to Exhibit 5?
- 20 MR. MAST: No.
- 21 THE COURT: Exhibit 5 is admitted.
- 22 (Complainant's Exhibit 5 was received in
- evidence by the Court.)
- 24 MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 6.
- 25 MR. MAST: There is no objection. That is also a

- 1 duplicate of one of Respondent's exhibits.
- THE COURT: And the exhibit behind tab 6 is a May 1,
- 3 1995 letter to the Judges' Retirement System. And that
- 4 is from Respondent. There being no objection, Exhibit 6
- 5 is admitted.
- 6 (Complainant's Exhibit 6 was received in
- 7 evidence by the Court.)
- 8 MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 7.
- 9 MR. MAST: That also is a copy of one of
- 10 Respondent's exhibits. There is no objection.
- 11 THE COURT: All right. And behind tab 7 is an
- 12 August 5, 1996 letter to Maureen, M-A-U-R-E-E-N; Reilly,
- 13 R-E-I-L-L-Y, from the Respondent. There being no
- 14 objection, Exhibit 7 is admitted.
- 15 (Complainant's Exhibit 7 was received in
- 16 evidence by the Court.)
- 17 MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 8.
- 18 THE COURT: Exhibit 8 is an August 5, 1996 letter.
- 19 MR. MAST: There is no objection to that and the
- 20 attachment is Respondent's response to statement of
- 21 issues is also in Respondent's exhibits.
- 22 THE COURT: All right. An attachment to the letter.
- 23 Those are marked collectively as Exhibit 8 for
- 24 identification. Is there any objection to Exhibit 8?
- MR. MAST: No.

- 1 THE COURT: Exhibit 8 is admitted.
- 2 (Complainant's Exhibit 8 was marked for
- 3 identification by the Court and received
- 4 in evidence.)
- 5 MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 9.
- 6 MR. MAST: There is no objection. And that, also,
- 7 is one of the Respondent's exhibits.
- 8 THE COURT: That is an October 8, 1996 letter to
- 9 Ms. Reilly from Respondent. There being no objection,
- 10 Exhibit 9 is admitted.
- 11 (Complainant's Exhibit 9 was received
- in evidence by the Court.)
- 13 MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 11.
- 14 THE COURT: That is a May 10, 2006 letter to JRS
- 15 from Respondent. That is marked as Exhibit 11 for
- 16 identification.
- 17 (Complainant's Exhibit 11 was marked for
- identification by the Court.)
- 19 MR. MAST: There is no objection.
- 20 THE COURT: Exhibit 11 is admitted.
- 21 (Complainant's Exhibit 11 was received in
- evidence by the Court.)
- 23 MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 12.
- 24 THE COURT: That's a June 11th, 2006 letter to JRS
- 25 from Respondent that has been marked as Exhibit 12 for

- 1 identification.
- 2 (Complainant's Exhibit 12 was marked for
- 3 identification by the Court.)
- 4 MR. MAST: No objection.
- 5 THE COURT: Exhibit 12 is admitted.
- 6 (Complainant's Exhibit 12 was received in
- 7 evidence by the Court.)
- 8 MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 13.
- 9 THE COURT: That is purportedly an E-mail from
- 10 Pamela Montgomery -- excuse me -- to Pamela Montgomery
- 11 from Respondent. It is two pages in the binder marked
- 12 as Exhibit 13 for identification.
- 13 (Complainant's Exhibit 13 was marked for
- identification by the Court.)
- 15 MR. MAST: No objection.
- 16 THE COURT: Exhibit 13 is admitted.
- 17 (Complainant's Exhibit 13 was received in
- 18 evidence by the Court.)
- 19 MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 14.
- 20 THE COURT: That is a March 25, 2008 E-mail from
- 21 Respondent to Ms. Montgomery. Any objection? Looks
- 22 like there is an E-mail at the bottom. There is also
- 23 prior E-mail exchanges to and from as well.
- MR. MAST: No objection.
- 25 THE COURT: Exhibit 14 is admitted.

- 1 (Complainant's Exhibit 14 was received in
- 2 evidence by the Court.)
- 3 MR. RIEGER: 15.
- 4 THE COURT: The document behind tab 15 is an E-mail
- from Respondent to Ms. Montgomery, dated May 7, 2008.
- 6 Any objection to Exhibit 15?
- 7 MR. MAST: No objection.
- 8 THE COURT: Exhibit 15 is admitted.
- 9 (Complainant's Exhibit 15 was received in
- 10 evidence by the Court.)
- 11 MR. RIEGER: 16.
- 12 THE COURT: Behind tab 16 is a January 7, 2009
- 13 letter to the office of the attorney for Judges'
- 14 Legislative Retirement System from Respondent. It is
- 15 marked as Exhibit 16 for identification.
- 16 (Complainant's Exhibit 16 was marked for
- identification by the Court.)
- 18 THE COURT: Is there any objection to Exhibit 16?
- 19 MR. MAST: No, your Honor.
- 20 THE COURT: Exhibit 16 is admitted.
- 21 (Complainant's Exhibit 16 was received in
- 22 evidence by the Court.)
- MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 17. Actually, I will clarify
- 24 this. Mr. Mast wrote -- he actually alluded to this in
- 25 his opening statement. He wrote this letter on the same

- 1 day and sent them to several different people. I have
- 2 included them as a single exhibit. They are very
- 3 redundant of each other. And they were all sent on the
- 4 same day. But I'd like to move them all into evidence.
- 5 THE COURT: All right. They are September 1st,
- 6 2010 letter to the state controller, John Chiang,
- 7 C-H-I-A-N-G; to Ms. Montgomery; to Bill Lockyer,
- 8 L-O-C-K-Y-E-R; looks to be another letter to the state
- 9 controller; another to Pamela Montgomery.
- 10 MR. RIEGER: That might be duplicate. I'd like to --
- 11 THE COURT: Another to the Honorable Rob, R-O-B;
- 12 last name F-E-C-K-N-E-R.
- 13 MR. RIEGER: Actually, the reason there is duplicate
- 14 -- the reason is because in discovery, Mr. Mast produced
- 15 unsigned copies of these letters. So I believe I put --
- 16 there may be duplicates because I wanted the signed copy.
- 17 But anyway, I will introduce all of them into evidence.
- 18 MR. MAST: These letters are all in the Respondent's
- 19 exhibits, your Honor.
- 20 THE COURT: All right. So they are marked as
- 21 Exhibit 17 for identification.
- 22 (Complainant's Exhibit 17 was marked for
- identification by the Court.)
- 24 THE COURT: I take it there is no objection.
- MR. MAST: No.

- 1 THE COURT: Exhibit 17 is admitted.
- 2 (Complainant's Exhibit 17 was received
- in evidence by the Court.)
- 4 MR. RIEGER: 18.
- 5 THE COURT: All right. 18 is E-mails dated
- 6 September 29, 2010, to and from Ms. Montgomery and
- 7 Respondent. Any objection to Exhibit 18?
- 8 MR. MAST: No objection.
- 9 THE COURT: Exhibit 18 is admitted.
- 10 (Complainant's Exhibit 18 was received in
- 11 evidence by the Court.)
- MR. RIEGER: 20. So this is the declaration of
- 13 Pamela Montgomery. It references Exhibit A are the
- 14 historical records to have payment to Mr. Mast. I did
- 15 serve this declaration pursuant to Government Code
- 16 Section 11514.
- 17 Mr. Mast did not request Ms. Montgomery to
- 18 appear for cross-examination. So I'd like to move
- 19 Exhibit 20 into evidence now, along with the declaration,
- 20 the declaration with Exhibit A.
- 21 THE COURT: All right. The declaration and the
- 22 attached Exhibit A are marked as Exhibit 20 for
- 23 identification.
- 24 (Complainant's Exhibit 20 was marked for
- identification by the Court.)

- 1 THE COURT: Was there any objection to Exhibit 20?
- 2 MR. MAST: Only because of the volume, your Honor.
- 3 I pointed out in one of the documents that I filed, that
- 4 JRS provided for me and attached in my exhibits, an
- 5 itemized list of each month that the amount of benefit
- 6 that were paid, which corresponds with this.
- 7 However, also, your Honor, in the document I
- 8 filed, I spot-checked -- I didn't check each one of these,
- 9 but I spot-checked, and one of them that I found had a
- 10 correct amount for a prior year, which is in a document
- 11 I filed. But it was not the correct amount for the date
- 12 that is indicated on this particular sheet.
- 13 And I say this -- I don't -- I don't really
- 14 have an objection to these payments, but I would say in
- order to save the Court time, so the Court doesn't have
- 16 to go through these 300 individual pages, that these are
- 17 all consistent with the exhibits produced by JRS, which
- 18 gave the payments up to 2010.
- 19 It is also consistent with the Excel spreadsheet
- 20 as to benefits paid, which is Exhibit Q.
- 21 THE COURT: All right.
- 22 MR. RIEGER: Your Honor, we certainly don't expect
- 23 you to go through 300 pages, either. This is a
- 24 foundational exhibit. The next Exhibit 21 actually has
- 25 the relevant data extracted from these and provides a

- 1 backup, so there is no misunderstanding. We didn't make
- 2 these documents. They came from the file.
- 3 THE COURT: There being no objection to Exhibit 20,
- 4 it is admitted.
- 5 (Complainant's Exhibit 20 was received in
- 6 evidence by the Court.)
- 7 THE COURT: Thank you for not expecting me to go
- 8 through that stack. I'm assuming 21 is Exhibit B?

9

- 10 MR. RIEGER: 21 is Exhibit B of Ms. Montgomery's
- 11 declaration, the first two pages. Now, just as Exhibit
- 12 B, this just has everything that was in Exhibit A as in
- 13 Exhibit B in terms of numbers.
- 14 And then we have also included the amount that
- 15 he would have been paid had a retirement allowance been
- 16 tied to an active judge's salary as it's supposed to. We
- 17 also included a column for assumed, that is 77.5 percent
- 18 interest.
- 19 THE COURT: That's marked as Exhibit 21 for
- 20 identification.
- 21 (Complainant's Exhibit 21 was marked for
- identification by the Court.)
- 23 THE COURT: Is there any objection to Exhibit 21?
- MR. MAST: Yes, your Honor. I object to this
- 25 exhibit as immaterial and irrelevant in that there is

- 1 no cause that the settlement agreement should be revoked
- 2 at this time. And, also, it is immaterial and irrelevant,
- 3 even if the settlement agreement were revoked.
- 4 That according to Government Code 20164-B-1,
- 5 the Judges' Retirement System can only go back three
- 6 years from the present time to correct errors and
- 7 omissions.
- 8 THE COURT: Those objections are overruled.
- 9 Exhibit 21 is admitted. Obviously, the argument just
- 10 stated, I will consider in the proposed decision. As far
- 11 as admitting 21, that is admitted.
- 12 (Complainant's Exhibit 21 was received in
- evidence by the Court.)
- 14 MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 22.
- 15 THE COURT: That is the declaration of Judge Mast.
- 16 MR. RIEGER: This was filed in the Staniforth
- 17 action.
- 18 THE COURT: That's marked as Exhibit 22 for
- 19 identification. Looks like a declaration is attached.
- 20 MR. RIEGER: Yes.
- 21 THE COURT: Any objection to Exhibit 22?
- 22 MR. MAST: Yes, your Honor. Exhibit 22 is
- 23 immaterial and irrelevant to any of the issues before
- 24 the Court at this time. And there are portions of this
- 25 that were not generated by me, but that came from other

- 1 people. I have not had a chance to study what this is.
- 2 But just looking at it, there are various attachments
- 3 that were not generated by me and were not my documents.
- 4 MR. RIEGER: Your Honor, if I may respond?
- 5 THE COURT: You may.
- 6 MR. RIEGER: This document was a declaration that
- 7 was filed and received as far as the exhibits, including
- 8 documents that were not generated by E-mails and letters
- 9 in there. He didn't write initially. He was the one
- 10 that attached the exhibits to his declaration.
- 11 So this is -- as I said, this is -- and I have
- 12 got a signature showing his proof of service that served
- 13 this declaration on the back of all the exhibits. That
- 14 is how it was received. His declaration, I believe, as
- 15 delivered to me, may have been unsigned; not really sure
- 16 why this one was signed -- I'm sorry.
- 17 Yes. This declaration, signed by proof of
- 18 service by Mr. Mast, and he attached all the attachments.
- 19 So, I mean, I think these are properly before the Court.
- 20 THE COURT: And the relevance of the declaration as
- 21 well as the attachment?
- 22 MR. RIEGER: This goes primarily to a breach, because
- 23 there is a lot of information in here explaining exactly
- 24 how he and Mr. Rozi rounded up plaintiffs in the
- 25 Staniforth matter, what they did to pursue those claims.

- 1 I believe there is also some aspect of the exhibit that
- 2 will go to Mr. Mast's credibility in general.
- I am happy to point out a couple pages that I
- 4 find relevant if that helps.
- 5 THE COURT: The objections are overruled. Exhibit 22
- 6 is admitted to show the breach of confidentiality only.
- 7 Those are the declaration and attachment. Obviously,
- 8 the weight that I will give is a whole other issue, I'm
- 9 not really sure.
- 10 (Complainant's Exhibit 22 was received in
- 11 evidence by the Court.)
- MR. MAST: I would also point out, your Honor, that
- 13 this was not on the list of exhibits. I do not believe
- 14 it is on the list of exhibits presented to me earlier in
- 15 the months when Counsel presented it.
- 16 MR. RIEGER: I have it right here. This is what I
- 17 have, a proof of service showing that I sent this to
- 18 Mr. Mast. It is the same exhibit number. It is exhibit
- 19 declaration of Paul G. Mast regarding attorney for
- 20 petition, dated August 14, 2012.
- 21 MR. MAST: I might be mistaken, your Honor. Sorry,
- 22 if I am.
- 23 THE COURT: It is on the list. All right. What was
- 24 the next?
- 25 MR. RIEGER: So 22 is in?

- 1 THE COURT: 22 is admitted.
- 2 MR. RIEGER: 23, I will just -- to explain why I
- 3 want this in. This was a declaration from Mr. Mast's
- 4 co-counsel in the Staniforth case. And I understand
- 5 obviously he's not here. I'm not -- the main -- there
- 6 is only one reason I want this in.
- 7 I think Mr. Mast is going to be able to
- 8 authenticate the document. Give me one moment. JRS
- 9 1506, it is towards the end of the exhibit. It is maybe
- 10 six pages to the end, something like that. Frankly, I
- 11 would be willing to make that an exhibit if Mr. Mast
- 12 will agree to admit it now.
- 13 THE COURT: We are looking at what is behind tab 23,
- 14 JRS 1506. This appears to be an undated letter signed
- 15 by Judge Mast.
- 16 And you want to have that marked as Exhibit 23?
- 17 MR. RIEGER: Yeah. I would like the whole
- 18 declaration to be marked. But if Mr. Mast has an
- 19 objection, I am okay with just 1506.
- 20 MR. MAST: I will not object to 1506.
- 21 THE COURT: So if that is the only thing being
- 22 marked, I'm going to pull out page 1506 and mark that
- 23 page solely as Exhibit 23. So let me just pull out the
- 24 remaining documents that are not going to be marked.
- 25 All right.

- 1 So Exhibit 23, which is a letter dated from the
- 2 Respondent -- it is paginated JRS-1506 -- is marked
- 3 Exhibit 23 for identification. And there is no objection?
- 4 MR. MAST: No.
- 5 THE COURT: Exhibit 23 is admitted.
- 6 (Complainant's Exhibit 23 was marked for
- 7 identification by the Court and received in
- 8 in evidence.)
- 9 MR. RIEGER: And Exhibit 24, which is another
- 10 declaration from Mr. Mast in the same action, essentially
- 11 replying. The declaration is on the same issue.
- 12 MR. MAST: My only objection is as to the relevancy
- 13 here.
- 14 THE COURT: That is marked as Exhibit 24 for
- 15 identification.
- 16 (Complainant's Exhibit 24 was marked for
- identification by the Court.)
- 18 THE COURT: And the relevance of Exhibit 24 is?
- 19 MR. RIEGER: This again goes to -- just as an
- 20 example, on page -- on page 1523, it says Mast and Rozi
- 21 discussed the fees. Rozi told Mast his part would be
- 22 half and half. Again, it goes to the fact of the two of
- 23 them teamed up and asserting these claims, the very
- 24 claim that the confidentiality agreement was defined to
- 25 protect.

- 1 THE COURT: Are there any objections to Exhibit 24?
- 2 MR. MAST: No further objection, except that I will
- 3 comment that the confidentiality agreement did not cover
- 4 this. It only covered terms of the agreement.
- 5 THE COURT: All right. Exhibit 24 is admitted.
- 6 I'll again -- I'm not sure how much weight it will
- 7 afford. It is admitted.
- 8 (Complainant's Exhibit 24 was received in
- 9 evidence by the Court.)
- 10 MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 25.
- 11 THE COURT: And I should clarify Exhibit 24 is being
- 12 admitted to show breach of confidentiality. Exhibit 25
- is a letter from -- well, a letter to someone named
- 14 Mason, M-A-S-O-N. It appears to have Marci and Paul
- 15 Mast letterhead.
- 16 That is marked as Exhibits 25 for identification.
- 17 Any objection to Exhibit 25?
- 18 MR. MAST: No objection.
- 19 THE COURT: Exhibit 25 is admitted.
- 20 (Complainant's Exhibit 25 was marked for
- 21 identification by the Court and received
- in evidence.)
- MR. RIEGER: Exhibit 26 is the same thing, but to
- 24 another person.
- 25 THE COURT: This appears to be on the letterhead of

- 1 Marci and Paul Mast. That is marked as Exhibit 26 for
- 2 identification. Are there any objections to Exhibit 26?
- 3 MR. MAST: No.
- 4 THE COURT: Exhibit 26 is admitted.
- 5 (Complainant's Exhibit 26 was marked for
- 6 identification by the Court and received
- 7 in evidence.)
- 8 THE COURT: All right. There are some exhibits that
- 9 have not been marked. When we get to the end of today's
- 10 session, I will pull whatever was not marked and return it.
- 11 MR. RIEGER: Sounds good.
- 12 THE COURT: Did you have anything further in JRS
- 13 case in chief?
- MR. RIEGER: Oh, I'd like to call Mr. Mast.
- 15 THE COURT: In case he does not testify on his
- 16 own behalf, let's do -- if we can first go through the
- 17 Respondent's exhibits, and then I will go ahead and have
- 18 witness testimony. I do have a binder of exhibits.
- 19 I started, at least, to get together an exhibit
- 20 list, a list for these particular exhibits. So let's go
- 21 ahead, and I will go through and mark them. And they are
- 22 sectioned off in the binder.
- 23 All right. So behind tab A, I have a copy of
- 24 Government Code Section 75033.5.
- 25 MR. RIEGER: Your Honor, I assume that this is the

- 1 legitimate citation on the code section. I think it
- 2 makes sense to object to this simply because we go to
- 3 the law books and we don't want to compare it word for
- 4 word. Of course, we can both cite 75033.5 in our
- 5 briefs.
- 6 THE COURT: All right. Did you want to have this
- 7 marked?
- 8 MR. MAST: Yes, your Honor. It is placed as an
- 9 exhibit for convenience of the Court.
- 10 THE COURT: Okay. And I actually tend to go to the
- 11 law anyway. Because I'm going to cite the law. I have
- 12 to cut and paste it, anyway. I won't be typing from a
- 13 booklet. So that's marked as Exhibit A.
- 14 (Respondent's Exhibit A was marked for
- identification by the Court.)
- 16 THE COURT: There is an objection that it may or may
- 17 not be what it purports to be, but --
- 18 MR. RIEGER: I assume we can just mark it. It does
- 19 not have to be in evidence. We can just mark it. It is
- 20 like argument, I suppose.
- 21 THE COURT: So --
- 22 MR. MAST: I would point out, your Honor, I don't
- 23 think there is a difference in this code section, but
- 24 we are dealing with code sections from 30 years ago or
- 25 more, which might have amended in the meantime.

- 1 MR. RIEGER: It is one of the reasons I want to make
- 2 sure we are using the initial source, because I don't
- 3 believe it is a current version or some older series.
- 4 THE COURT: All right. Exhibit A -- well, that code
- 5 section is marked. It is lodged as part of the argument
- 6 of Respondent's case. And I will be going to the actual
- 7 code sections as we go along.
- 8 We got -- what is behind tab B purports to be
- 9 Government Code Section 75025. That's marked as Exhibit
- 10 B.

18

- 11 (Respondent's Exhibit B was marked for
- identification by the Court.)
- 13 THE COURT: And same objection as to Exhibit A?
- 14 MR. RIEGER: Yes.
- 15 THE COURT: Exhibit B has been lodged as part of
- 16 argument in Respondent's case. Behind tab C -- and I
- 17 understand you want all the exhibits marked; correct?
- 19 MR. MAST: Yes.
- 20 THE COURT: So behind tab C is a September 30, 1987
- 21 letter to the California Judges Association from -- I'm
- 22 going to spell the name E-L-W-O-O-D, last name, L-U-I.
- 23 That will be marked as Exhibit C for identification, and
- 24 what appears to be a single-page document, entitled
- 25 Retirement Allowance Computation. These are marked as

- 1 Exhibit C for identification.
- 2 (Respondent's Exhibit C was marked for
- 3 identification by the Court.)
- 4 MR. RIEGER: I object, your Honor, on hearsay.
- 5 Foundation. It is also incomplete. It seems to be --
- 6 as I understand, this purports to be something
- 7 circulated by somebody who is not authorized, not
- 8 represented here.
- 9 And it also -- I think it was submitted -- I
- 10 think Mr. Mast tried to submit it because he, in one of
- 11 his legal theories to the extent that it does at all --
- 12 it is not relevant to this matter what Judge Lui wrote
- 13 and outlined in a presentation in 1987, so I object to
- 14 the entirety of this exhibit.
- 15 THE COURT: All right. Any response?
- 16 MR. MAST: Your Honor, this was approved by the
- 17 manager of the Judges' Retirement System.
- 18 MR. RIEGER: There is no evidence before the Court
- 19 of that. There is a note that says the person who wrote
- 20 this said he would like to acknowledge Sue Myers for
- 21 assistance in editing this outline. This is hearsay.
- 22 It is double hearsay, actually, and certainly
- 23 the fact that she may have helped outline this seems to
- 24 be at least 11 pages, but only two are here, certainly
- 25 endorsing any lawyer's view as stated on page 11. And

- 1 even if she was, it is not relevant in any way because
- 2 the law is the law, not what Sue Myers thought.
- 3 THE COURT: All right. The foundation objection is
- 4 sustained. Exhibit C, the one page of a multi-page
- 5 outline, those are not admitted.
- 6 MR. MAST: I would point out, your Honor, that as I
- 7 said in the trial brief, the entire document is present
- 8 in Court for presentation to the Court if the Court
- 9 desires.
- 10 THE COURT: All right. It is in some of the
- 11 documents.
- MR. RIEGER: I make the same objection, even if the
- 13 full document -- now, it is still hearsay. There is a
- 14 foundation problem. We have no way of knowing really
- 15 who wrote this or what relevance it has.
- 16 THE COURT: All right. So the page that is attached
- 17 to the letter appears to be part of a summary at the
- 18 very top page, California Judge Association, California
- 19 Judicial College 1987 Retirement and Benefit seminar.
- 20 Apparently, this outline was part of a seminar that was
- 21 given.
- 22 So the objections are -- the ruling on the
- 23 objections stand. Exhibit C, whether or not partial or
- 24 in entirety with the outline, is not admitted. And then
- 25 the next document is a November 16, 1978 letter to

- 1 Judge Mast.
- 2 A two-page letter -- actually, there are
- 3 several letters in this -- in this exhibit, there is also
- 4 a January 2, 1975 letter to several recipients, including
- 5 the judicial counsel, the state controller's office,
- 6 and the secretary of state. Those are -- and that
- 7 letter was purportedly written by Judge Mast.
- Also, a January 6, 1987 letter to Judge Mast
- 9 purportedly to the state controller. What appears to be
- 10 a memorandum to the state controller's office, dated
- 11 January 10, 1979, a November 13, 1978 handwritten
- document, a December 19, 1986 memorandum to Sue Myers,
- 13 M-Y-E-R-S, manager of the Judges' Retirement System from
- 14 Margaret, M-A-R-G-A-R-E-T; last name H-O-E-H-N.
- 15 And this is regarding Judge Philip,
- 16 P-H-I-L-I-P; last name Schwab, S-C-H-W-A-B, and what
- 17 appears to be pages 9 through 13 of a document. The
- 18 document appears to be an appeal request for hearing.
- 19 Those are marked collectively as Exhibit D for
- 20 identification.
- 21 (Respondent's Exhibit D was marked for
- identification by the Court.)
- MR. RIEGER: One of these, your Honor, is a
- 24 duplicate of one I put into evidence. It is -- as I
- 25 said, that I would at least like to ask for an offer of

- 1 proof as to why these are relevant, because I don't know
- 2 why any of them are. So maybe we can take them one by
- 3 one.
- 4 THE COURT: Let me just go through each.
- 5 MR. MAST: Your Honor, these documents are all
- 6 included in, and the relevance is stated in the trial
- 7 brief.
- 8 MR. RIEGER: So I -- what I saw in the trial brief
- 9 was that Mr. Mast is claiming that -- let me set the
- 10 table for this. At some point, when he was still an
- 11 active judge, he realized he could get his 20 years of
- 12 service where his benefit topped out, but he had
- 13 continued to make contributions.
- So back in the '70s he said that is incredible
- 15 to me to fix, quote, unquote, "and starting up again,"
- 16 you know, two minutes later.
- 17 "Give me all my funds back" and start the
- 18 clock on 20 years. So he did that. The controller
- 19 agreed to do it. It all happened.
- 20 And I understand he is saying in his trial
- 21 brief that later he had to put money back in at some
- 22 point. I think he gets service credit back, he never got
- 23 his full 20 years. I think he is saying he was charged
- 24 six percent interest, but it should have been three.
- 25 MR. MAST: That's not true.

- 1 MR. RIEGER: Whatever his theory is, he said in his
- 2 brief -- he literally said, "That issue is not before
- 3 this Court."
- 4 So I immediately briefed it saying, "Why are
- 5 we even talking about it if it is not before the Court?"
- 6 THE COURT: All right.
- 7 MR. MAST: One of the exhibits on Counsel's list of
- 8 exhibits inferred that there was some detriment by
- 9 obtaining a refund of contributions to the Judges'
- 10 Retirement Fund and then reconstructed them. And that's
- 11 why these exhibits are in there. And that's what the
- 12 trial brief was referring to.
- 13 Because it is clear, as stated in the trial
- 14 brief, that there is no detriment and it doesn't change
- 15 the fact of my years of service and how they pertain to
- 16 Section 75025 of the Government Code by taking funds out
- 17 of the retirement system and then replenishing into the
- 18 retirement system together with interest.
- 19 The matter, in regard to Judge Schwab, shows a
- 20 common occurrence. And Judge Schwab was actually
- 21 contesting the fact he was charged, I think, six percent.
- 22 He was charged a higher rate than three percent. And he
- 23 prevailed on that only three percent was due. It is a
- 24 fact that I was overcharged interest at six percent
- 25 rather than three percent.

- 1 But that is not an issue before this Court,
- 2 and I'm not bringing that up. So the fact that I was
- 3 overcharged interest when I repaid the amount into the
- 4 fund is not a material issue, because that has not been
- 5 brought up.
- 6 THE COURT: All right. So is there relevance to
- 7 Exhibit D, the various documents in here, with regard to
- 8 issues in this Matter?
- 9 MR. MAST: If Counsel is not alleging, as he inferred
- 10 in his list of exhibits, that it is some detriment
- 11 withdrawing the funds and then repaying them, then it is
- 12 not relevant to anything.
- 13 MR. RIEGER: Which exhibit do you think infers that?
- MR. MAST: I can't -- I can't say that at this time.
- MR. RIEGER: I will state on the record Mr. Mast's
- 16 service credit. He had approximately 13.2 years service
- 17 credit. I think you would agree with that. So I don't
- 18 think there is any relevance to these documents.
- 19 THE COURT: I'm not hearing any -- so the objection
- 20 is sustained. So Exhibit D is not admitted.
- 21 The next exhibit in the binder is marked as
- 22 Exhibit E. It is a one-page document that appears to be
- 23 handwritten. There are the years and various calculations.
- I tell you right now, unless this was something
- 25 that we obtained from CalPERS -- is there an objection?

- 1 MR. RIEGER: Foundation and hearsay.
- 2 MR. MAST: This is a document generated and supplied
- 3 by the Judges' Retirement System from my file. And the
- 4 relevance is in the center of the page. The Court will
- 5 see where it says 75025, 5/28/92, age 60. That's when
- 6 my retirement benefits should have started under Section
- 7 75025.
- I was not given the option to have them start
- 9 at that date, which JRS was required to advise me of.
- 10 And this is the Hittle case in the trial brief, which is
- 11 set out. And that is the basis of the issue that my
- 12 benefit should have started in 1992.
- 13 THE COURT: Do we have -- is this something that you
- 14 drafted and went into your file?
- MR. MAST: No. No. This is a handwritten document
- 16 from JRS, part of their calculations. And down at the
- 17 bottom, it says CalPERS 021.
- 18 MR. RIEGER: It is cut off.
- 19 MR. MAST: This is the Judges' Retirement System
- 20 document where they calculated the amount of benefits
- 21 that I was due.
- 22 MR. RIEGER: I agree this was a document that was in
- 23 his file. It was provided to him in the proceedings.
- 24 But I object to the document on foundation and hearsay
- 25 grounds. And I will -- just the foundation and hearsay

- 1 is particularly problematic here because he is trying to
- 2 extrapolate meaning from one little incident that
- 3 somehow supports this case.
- I mean, 75025 allows the judges to be retired at
- 5 age 60 if they have 20 years of service. It appears
- 6 somebody wrote here, if he has 20 years of service, he
- 7 will be able to retire at age 60. If he doesn't wait
- 8 till he's 63, then it is consistent with the law. It is
- 9 not relevant, because even if staff members believed
- 10 Mr. Mast's theory is correct, the fact of what staff
- 11 members might have thought, that has no bearing as
- 12 cited in the one-page opposition. The law expresses
- 13 judges retire still age 63.
- MR. MAST: That's a misstatement of the law, your
- 15 Honor. The law states and this is --
- 16 THE COURT: Well, we will get to that part of the
- 17 case as far as -- and I'm going to order some
- 18 post-hearing briefing. But as far as Exhibit E is
- 19 concerned, the foundation and hearsay objections are
- 20 sustained because I have no idea who wrote this and
- 21 what the document purports to be.
- 22 MR. MAST: Your Honor, are you sustaining the
- 23 objection to this document?
- 24 THE COURT: The foundation and hearsay objection,
- 25 yes.

- 1 MR. MAST: It is not a hearsay document, your Honor.
- 2 This is a document created by the petitioner and placed
- 3 in my file. This is an official record of the State of
- 4 California that the Judges' Retirement System created and
- 5 placed in my file. It is an official document. And it
- 6 is not hearsay.
- 7 It is part of that -- calculations that they
- 8 undertook at the time they originally calculated my
- 9 retirement benefits. It can't possibly be hearsay. It
- 10 is a document that they created and presented and placed
- in my file. And all the documents in my file received
- 12 from JRS are records of the Judges' System in the State
- of California, and none of them are hearsay or irrelevant.
- 14 THE COURT: Do you have a response?
- MR. RIEGER: Well, they come from the file, sure.
- 16 They are business records in that sense. You know, I
- 17 put a Bates stamp and I'm not disputing that. The
- 18 problem is more a foundational issue than anything else.
- 19 But he is trying to take one scribble of the
- 20 law and attribute meaning to it and trying to offer it
- 21 into evidence, and having meaning that he thinks
- 22 supports his cause without having -- not even knowing
- 23 who wrote this, not knowing why they wrote it, not
- 24 knowing what they meant when they wrote it.
- 25 I mean, this is the definition of problematic

- 1 foundational, hearsay material. I can't -- like I said,
- 2 I already offered you a perfectly reasonable explanation
- 3 of why this is here. That is consistent with the law.
- 4 MR. MAST: That's a matter --
- 5 THE COURT: I want to make clear here: I'm looking
- 6 at the document, and nobody has come in to establish
- 7 why -- what this is. I understand that is part of the
- 8 JRS file, but as far as this particular document, unless
- 9 somebody comes in and says, "I saw a person actually write
- 10 this and it is part of the file," I don't know what it is,
- 11 so --
- MR. MAST: The foundation is in the declaration and
- 13 trial brief, your Honor --
- 14 THE COURT: All right.
- 15 MR. MAST: -- where this document came from.
- 16 THE COURT: And I have marked the trial brief as
- 17 Exhibit Y.
- 18 MR. MAST: I cannot, at this time, specify the exact
- 19 location in the trial brief, because your Honor has the
- 20 copy of the trial brief that I brought to Court to use
- 21 for myself. I would suggest, your Honor, that your
- 22 Honor might reserve judgment on this until such time as
- 23 you read the trial brief and see the document at the
- 24 time that I referred to.
- 25 MR. RIEGER: I would object to that, your Honor. I

- 1 think the problem here is foundational. It is -- I
- 2 don't know what he says in the trial brief. I assume he
- 3 says in the trial brief, maybe the declaration, is that
- 4 I received this page from JRS in discovery on this matter.
- 5 That's probably what it says.
- That does not go into who wrote it, why they
- 7 wrote it, what it is, what it means. It is not of
- 8 value. And this is the kind of thing Mr. Mast conducted
- 9 in this issue, but he didn't --
- 10 MR. MAST: It speaks for itself, your Honor. It
- 11 doesn't matter who wrote it. It was a document created
- 12 by the Judges' Retirement System. And the document
- 13 speaks for itself, and says what it says, no more, no
- 14 less.
- 15 THE COURT: Off the record for just a minute.
- 16 (Discussion off the record)
- 17 THE COURT: We are back on the record. I'm
- 18 returning the trial brief to you, Judge Mast. I just
- 19 obtained a copy from the system of Exhibit Y, which is
- 20 Respondent's trial brief. I just looked in there and
- 21 could not find anywhere Exhibit E was authenticated.
- 22 But perhaps you can --
- MR. MAST: May I approach?
- 24 THE COURT: Maybe over the lunch break, maybe you can
- 25 find it. I did not. But it will need to either have

- 1 some kind of authentication to comport with the hearsay
- 2 exception.
- 3 All right. We are at the lunch break, so why
- 4 don't we take a break. We will reconvene at 1:30.
- 5 MR. MAST: May I approach, your Honor?
- 6 THE COURT: Yeah.
- 7 MR. MAST: It is on page 6.
- 8 THE COURT: Thank you. I will go ahead and return
- 9 that to you because I have a copy. That way, you are
- 10 not operating without your copy.
- MR. MAST: I'm sorry. I didn't understand you, your
- 12 Honor.
- 13 THE COURT: Why don't -- I will take your continued
- 14 argument in response to that when we get back, and then
- 15 we will finish with the Respondent's exhibits and take
- 16 Judge Mast's testimony after lunch.
- 17 MR. RIEGER: Thank you, your Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: We are off.
- 19 (Lunch recess)
- 20 THE COURT: We are back on the record after the
- 21 break. And we are continuing to go through Respondent's
- 22 exhibits. I believe we were on Exhibit E, which is the
- 23 handwritten note from the JRS file. And I believe that
- 24 just before the break, Counsel was giving a response.
- 25 MR. RIEGER: Yes, I do.

- 1 MR. MAST: I'm sorry. I didn't hear you.
- 2 THE COURT: Counsel's response to Exhibit E, to the
- 3 request to admit Exhibit E.
- 4 MR. RIEGER: The objection has been hearsay and
- 5 foundation. And I understand that Mr. Mast has pointed
- 6 the Court to page 6 of the trial brief. And what I see
- 7 on page 6 is argument about what this document means.
- 8 It is -- it is not -- I don't see a declaration from
- 9 anybody.
- 10 It was -- even if Mr. Mast has explained in his
- 11 brief, it doesn't matter because it doesn't establish
- 12 what needs to be established, which is who wrote it,
- 13 when, and why. And none of that is apparent on the face
- 14 of this document. Like I said, trying to get one short
- 15 scribble of law out of context.
- 16 I mean, in that sense it doesn't matter. What
- 17 matters is the form. I think I need to object when
- 18 someone offers something like this. I don't --
- 19 MR. MAST: Your Honor, this is entirely bizarre.
- 20 These are records of the Judges' Retirement System, which
- 21 were produced out of the Judges' Retirement System. There
- 22 is no -- they are business records.
- 23 There is no obligation or reason for -- and
- 24 there is no provision in the Evidence Code or any place
- 25 else that requires us to go back 20 years to try to

- 1 determine which employee at the Judges' Retirement System
- 2 generated and completed a particular document. These
- 3 are records. And the records are clearly admissible.
- 4 These were in my file, produced by the Judges'
- 5 Retirement System, and is referred to in the trial brief
- 6 and, also, in my declaration as to where this came from.
- 7 It is at the bottom. It has the stamp of CalPERS with a
- 8 number showing its authenticity. There is no way that
- 9 this cannot be admissible in evidence.
- 10 And as to Mr. Rieger's objection that we are
- 11 taking one phrase out of this and trying to make
- 12 something of this. When this one phrase -- this one
- 13 phrase doesn't stand alone when this is taken with the
- 14 provision in Judge Lui's outline, when it is taken with
- 15 the other documents from the Judges' Retirement System in
- 16 regard to Judge London.
- 17 It shows clearly that the Judges' Retirement
- 18 System realized and knew or should have known that
- 19 benefits were due on my 60th birthday, not my 63rd
- 20 birthday, and that they failed to advise me pursuant to
- 21 the Hittle case, which when your Honor reads the trial
- 22 brief and the other documents submitted to your Honor
- 23 and the hearing office pursuant to this case, you will
- 24 see that there is absolute duty of the Judges' Retirement
- 25 System to give clear information as to every option

- 1 available, so that a clear understanding, choice can be
- 2 made as far as retirement benefits.
- 3 THE COURT: All right. With regard to the
- 4 objections, the hearsay objection, again, this document
- 5 does not appear to fall within any hearsay exception,
- 6 including 12080, which is the record of public
- 7 employees. So I am not admitting it as direct evidence.
- 8 I will admit it as administrative hearsay to
- 9 the extent it will explain at some point other evidence
- 10 that is presented in the hearing.
- 11 MR. RIEGER: That's fine. I am not going to argue
- 12 with you. Can I just respond?
- 13 THE COURT: Sure.
- 14 MR. RIEGER: Just to be clear. This was consistent
- 15 with the presentation he referred to, part of the
- 16 presentation that was already excluded.
- 17 THE COURT: I know.
- 18 MR. RIEGER: When he was referring to Justice -- or
- 19 Judge London, which I will be objecting to that as well.
- 20 Anything that this is going to link up to.
- 21 THE COURT: If there is not, then it is not being
- 22 admitted for use as direct evidence if there is nothing
- 23 that is being used to supplement or explain. I can't
- 24 really use or admit that if there is nothing presented
- 25 that it will supplement or explain.

- 1 We are onto now behind tab F. And that is a
- June 16, 1994 letter to Judge Mast from the JRS. That's
- 3 marked as Exhibit F for identification. Is there any
- 4 objection to Exhibit F?
- 5 (Respondent's Exhibit F was marked for
- 6 identification by the Court.)
- 7 MR. RIEGER: No.
- 8 THE COURT: Exhibit F is admitted.
- 9 (Respondent's Exhibit F was received in
- 10 evidence by the Court.)
- 11 THE COURT: Exhibit G is a May 14, 1981 letter to
- 12 Judge London, L-O-N-D-O-N, from Terry, T-E-R-R-Y; last
- 13 name K-A-G-I-Y-A-M-A, manager of the Judges' Retirement
- 14 System. That's marked as Exhibit G for identification.
- 15 (Respondent's Exhibit G was marked for
- identification by the Court.)
- 17 MR. RIEGER: I object to this on hearsay, foundation,
- 18 and relevance.
- 19 MR. MAST: Those objections are bizarre, your Honor.
- 20 This is a document produced by the Judges' Retirement
- 21 System. It is one of their records. How it was
- 22 produced is in the declaration and the trial brief.
- 23 There is no evidentiary reason why documents of the
- 24 Judges' Retirement Petition of the hearing cannot be
- 25 used.

- 1 And it is not necessary to go back to 1981 and
- 2 subpoena Terry Kagiyama into Court to authenticate a
- 3 letter that was produced by the Judges' Retirement System.
- 4 MR. RIEGER: Your Honor, just to be clear. I'm not
- 5 suggesting that we need to subpoena people that wrote
- 6 them in 1980. There are other ways. They don't need to
- 7 be here today. But beyond the foundation and hearsay
- 8 problems, I don't see the relevance to this letter to a
- 9 different judge.
- 10 There is nothing in here that has anything to
- 11 do with this case on the face of this document here.
- 12 Unless there is an offer of proof, we can talk about
- 13 that. All I'm seeing here is the judge that is retired
- 14 and receiving notice that he's retired.
- THE COURT: What is the relevance of Exhibit G?
- MR. MAST: Your Honor, the relevance has already
- 17 been stated by Mr. Rieger today when he alleged, which I
- 18 don't know that is true, that I am the only judge
- 19 getting cost-of-living adjustments to my retirement
- 20 benefit. This is merely a statement he made.
- 21 There might be hundreds of others receiving
- 22 retirement benefits. I don't know. But he said it is
- 23 unjust and intolerable for me alone to be getting that
- 24 and no one else does. Here, we have Judge London as one
- 25 of the judges, which I believe is one of many who was

- 1 receiving benefits pursuant to Government Code 75025.
- 2 As provided in 75033.5, which is when a judge
- 3 with at least five years of service retires takes an
- 4 early retirement, and when he would have qualified under
- 5 Section 75025 and had continuous service up to 20 years
- of service before his 60th birthday, then he will qualify
- 7 under 75025 to get his retirement benefit at his 60th
- 8 birthday.
- 9 Not 75 percent for which a judge serving 20
- 10 years would get 75 percent, but as a pro rata basis of
- 11 his actual service. And this applies to any judge who
- 12 was appointed to the bench under age 40 and who retired
- 13 with less than 20 years' service.
- 14 And if he had continued on the bench up until
- 15 he received -- up until he had 20 years of service
- 16 served, he would qualify for 75 percent benefit at age
- 17 60. And in the case when a judge serves less than that,
- 18 it is a pro rata amount of benefit. And in my trial
- 19 brief it shows that I was appointed at age 33 to the
- 20 bench.
- 21 I served 13 years. I had had continuous
- 22 service to age 53, which would be 20 years. I would
- 23 have qualified for the retirement benefit under 75025
- 24 at age 60. And that's what 75033.5 said, notwithstanding
- 25 any other provision in this chapter. Those are the first

- 1 words.
- 2 Any judge with at least five years of service
- 3 who retires, takes a deferred retirement if he receives
- 4 retirement benefits at age 60, if he had continuous
- 5 service after he retired enough to qualify for his 20
- 6 years prior to age 60. And that is set out
- 7 specifically and definitely in the trial brief, in Judge
- 8 Lui's outline.
- 9 And that is what is in the last exhibit, what
- 10 the notation 75025 at age 60 would refer to. And it is
- 11 a benefit to be given to Judge London. And he said it
- 12 would be entirely improper for the Judges' Retirement
- 13 System to award to this -- give this retirement to Judge
- 14 London, but not to other judges.
- 15 And that's where the relevance is.
- 16 MR. RIEGER: First of all, I would like to say it is
- 17 an entirely different issue than the overpayments that
- 18 were received by Mr. Mast to try to calculate in his
- 19 presentation. There is no other judge that received
- 20 what Mr. Mast received. I want to be clear.
- 21 MR. MAST: There is no evidence of that.
- 22 THE COURT: Okay.
- MR. RIEGER: Actually, there were -- in my exhibit
- 24 binder -- there are numerous letters between you and the
- 25 Retirement System saying that. But that's fine, first

- 1 thing.
- 2 Second thing, with regard to Judge London, I
- 3 now see -- I think what he's doing -- if you look at the
- 4 next exhibit, what he's saying -- the exhibit we are
- 5 looking at is showing that Judge London's retirement --
- 6 and the next exhibit has his birthday. It shows he's 60.
- 7 What happened here is an error.
- 8 And we are not here to litigate that error.
- 9 Judge London retired a long time ago and has since died.
- 10 It is an error. Judge London and Mr. Mast are not the
- 11 only judges who have elected deferred retirement.
- 12 Obviously, there were dozens or hundreds of them.
- 13 And out of all those, every now and then JRS
- 14 makes a mistake. And they made a mistake in Judge
- 15 London's case. Bottom line here, if we go to Exhibit A,
- 16 that's his -- he gave you a copy of 75033.5. It says "No
- 17 judge shall be eligible to receive an allowance pursuant
- 18 to this section until the attainment of at least 63,
- 19 unless the judge is credited with 20 years of judicial
- 20 service attained at age 60."
- This is the direct rebuke of what he is saying.
- 22 They wrote this specifically to deal with this issue
- 23 because you have to have some years of service to retire
- 24 at age 60 active. That's 75025. If you are active, you
- 25 need 20 years to retire at age 60. 75033.5 allows

- 1 judges to leave the bench and defer retirement.
- 2 If you didn't have this statement in here, the
- 3 defer judge would be able to retire sooner than an
- 4 active judge, because the defer judges would turn age
- 5 60 without 20 years of service. If they have been an
- 6 active judge, they would retire at 63 because they didn't
- 7 have 20 years.
- 8 The legislature specifically puts this
- 9 provision in here to make sure that it didn't happen.
- 10 In one case -- Judge London's case, the government agency,
- 11 they made a mistake. They made a mistake. If he was
- 12 alive today, I'm sure they would try to correct it.
- But just one person filed really has nothing to
- 14 do -- at the end of the day, we will be arguing the law
- 15 anyway. The law is pretty clear. You have the two code
- 16 sections. Judge gets retired until 63. That's what
- 17 he's arguing. He's saying ignore this section that says
- 18 you have to wait to retire at 63.
- 19 Because at the beginning of the section, it says
- 20 notwithstanding any provision. That was the chapter.
- 21 That is the silliest legal argument I've ever heard, but
- 22 I do object to these as to relevance and foundation.
- 23 They don't have anything to do with Mr. Mast's rights.
- 24 MR. MAST: Your Honor, as you will see when you read
- 25 the trial brief, the section he is referring to,

- 1 regarding age 63, applies to retirement and Section
- 2 75033.5. This retirement that he has referred to here
- 3 in the first part of the Section 75033.5 is retirement
- 4 under Section 75025.
- 5 And when you read the trial brief and read this
- 6 section, you will see it specifically states that a
- 7 judge taking the bench with five years of service, if he
- 8 has continuous service, that would have qualified him for
- 9 a retirement with 20 years. If he had stayed on the
- 10 bench for that period of time, then that judge qualifies
- 11 to receive benefits at age 60.
- 12 And I would request the judge to take this
- 13 under advisement until such time and you have been able
- 14 to study the trial brief and the code section and make a
- 15 determination as to what it says, because it does not
- 16 relate to what Mr. Rieger says when he takes one
- 17 sentence out of context of Section 75033.5.
- 18 MR. RIEGER: If it makes it any easier, why would he
- 19 bring in similar letters to the dozens of hundreds of
- 20 other deferred judges that showed they retired at age
- 21 63? I could have brought all of those in. I will
- 22 stipulate to the fact that one judge got what he wants,
- 23 like, I will stipulate to that.
- One judge got what he wants. If he will
- 25 stipulate no other judges got what they wanted, and if

- 1 you will stipulate that this case is what the law
- 2 provides, not what JRS paid to one judge. It is up to
- 3 your Honor to interpret what these code sections mean.
- 4 THE COURT: All right. Let's just focus on the
- 5 exhibit right now, because I will be reading the brief
- 6 more in depth. And we were going to do post-trial briefing,
- 7 as well. I'm sure I will be adequately briefed. But as
- 8 far as -- and let me go ahead and mark the next in
- 9 order, which is Exhibit H.
- 10 Exhibit H appears to apply to Judge London, as
- 11 well. It looks to be a worksheet for Judge London. And
- 12 I understand that your objections are similar to Exhibit
- 13 G. These are all pertaining --
- 14 MR. RIEGER: G?
- 15 THE COURT: G and H.
- 16 MR. RIEGER: Yes, G and H are my objection. It has
- 17 nothing to do with the proceeding.
- 18 THE COURT: Thank you for pointing out that Judge
- 19 London is deceased. There are some documents I'm not
- 20 sure how they made their way, other than to Judge London.
- 21 With regard to --
- 22 MR. RIEGER: I can answer that. Mr. Rozi and
- 23 Mr. Mast represented, I assume, heirs of Judge London
- 24 and got his documents -- and got his document. Because
- 25 you represented his heirs. Mr. Rozi did.

- 1 MR. MAST: The only thing I object to, or disagree
- 2 with, is the heirs. The last time I talked to Judge
- 3 London, which is approximately a year and a half, two
- 4 years ago, he was alive.
- 5 MR. RIEGER: I may be wrong, then. My understanding
- 6 that he was dead. We should definitely deal with the
- 7 Social Security number if I'm wrong about that.
- 8 THE COURT: I would like to take care of that, as
- 9 well. So I'm actually -- before we even deal with the
- 10 admitting of G and H. Exhibit H, page 1, has a Social
- 11 Security number on the top right-hand corner. I'm
- 12 redacting that from my copy. I'm asking that Counsel
- 13 and Judge Mast do the same.
- 14 The second page at the top left has a Social
- 15 Security number, and I will redact that from my official
- 16 copy. I'm going to ask Counsel and Judge Mast to do the
- 17 same. There is other identifying information, but just
- 18 let me go to page 3.
- 19 Again, the Social Security number at the top
- 20 right is being redacted from the official record. I ask
- 21 that Counsel and Judge Mast do the same. I believe
- 22 those were the only places that I saw, when I was paging
- 23 through, that had Social Security numbers. So in an
- 24 abundance of caution, let's make sure that is out of the
- 25 public record.

- 1 MR. RIEGER: My understanding from my client is it
- 2 was two judges who had received this in error; one had
- 3 died. That's what I thought. It is possible that Judge
- 4 London died sometime in the last year and a half when we
- 5 had the hearing. And it is possible they made an error,
- 6 as well.
- 7 I am just not trying to, you know, mislead the
- 8 Court about his status.
- 9 THE COURT: In any event, the relevance objection to
- 10 G and H are sustained. What happened in the other cases
- is not relevant to this particular case. And quite
- 12 honestly, if that is argument that Judge Mast is being
- 13 treated different than others, that's not necessarily
- 14 going to fly, either.
- 15 If you are being treated in compliance with the
- 16 law, so whether or not --
- 17 MR. MAST: That was the argument Mr. Rieger made in
- 18 regard to the other issue.
- 19 THE COURT: Right.
- 20 MR. MAST: This is illustrative as to the
- 21 interpretation of the law and the adaption of the law
- 22 and processing of the law that JRS made, which combined
- 23 with the other documents that were introduced into
- 24 evidence, shows and supports the position that the
- 25 benefits are due at age 60.

- 1 THE COURT: All right. The ruling was that will be
- 2 sustained with Exhibit G and H. Exhibit I appears to be
- 3 benefit calculation. It says Retirement Benefit
- 4 Calculation. It is a multi-page document.
- 5 That is marked as Exhibit I for identification.
- 6 (Respondent's Exhibit I was marked for
- 7 identification by the Court.)
- 8 THE COURT: Is there any objection to Exhibit I?

9

- 10 MR. RIEGER: Yes. I think what I is, is Mr. Mast's
- 11 calculation of what he believes he's owed because --
- 12 because of those three years of payment that he claims
- 13 were missing. He got -- he is saying they were missing.
- 14 He thinks he is adding ten percent interest to that in
- 15 the chart. So I have several objections.
- 16 Number one, ten percent interest is wrong.
- 17 THE COURT: You object to this document?
- 18 MR. RIEGER: Well, he created it. This is not a JRS
- 19 document. There is no background documentation to
- 20 support what is here. I produced that 300-page
- 21 documentation. I don't have any background documentation
- 22 for this chart.
- 23 THE COURT: All right. This particular Exhibit I
- 24 was created by Judge Mast?
- 25 MR. RIEGER: Judge Mast created it. I think he

- 1 created it.
- 2 MR. MAST: This is a document that I created, your
- 3 Honor. And it is authenticated in the declaration and
- 4 the trial brief. Counsel is wrong. It has a rate of
- 5 interest that also was stated in the trial brief. And
- 6 it is ten percent authorized by Article 1, Section 15 --
- 7 Article 15, Section 1 of the California Constitution and
- 8 ten percent -- and, also, as by Civil Code Section 3289.
- 9 MR. RIEGER: The Constitution.
- 10 MR. MAST: But those are -- those are the trial
- 11 brief, and the Court can determine that.
- 12 THE COURT: I think the problem is that today is a
- 13 hearing. I need to actually get evidence taken today in
- 14 hearing, and the trial brief is not direct evidence; it
- is a trial brief. I need somebody here, either testifying
- 16 or to authenticate.
- 17 MR. MAST: That is already done in the declaration,
- 18 your Honor.
- 19 THE COURT: Which has not been admitted. I don't
- 20 have the declaration. I don't see where in the
- 21 declaration it is authenticated. If you point me to
- 22 that --
- MR. MAST: Your Honor, the declaration was filed
- 24 electronically. And as I understood it, you admitted my
- 25 declaration previously in this proceeding.

- 1 THE COURT: Anything filed will be lodged, but not
- 2 necessarily admitted, because there is so much argument in
- 3 there that it is difficult to determine what is direct
- 4 evidence and what is just argument. We really do need
- 5 testimony today or some type of separate declaration.
- That is assuming Counsel would not object to
- 7 the declaration having not been served pursuant to 11514
- 8 of the Administrative Procedure Act. So where in the
- 9 declaration, which I'm now looking at Exhibit Z -- why
- 10 don't we go off the record.
- 11 (Discussion off the record)
- 12 THE COURT: I'm going to defer ruling on it until we
- 13 have testimony from Judge Mast. So the next is K. And
- 14 that -- I am sorry. The next is J. Those are E-mails
- 15 between Respondent and Pamela Montgomery.
- 16 MR. RIEGER: No objection.
- 17 THE COURT: Exhibit J is admitted.
- 18 (Respondent's Exhibit J was received in
- 19 evidence by the Court.)
- 20 THE COURT: All right. Exhibit K is the California
- 21 consumer price index calculator. Looks to be a chart
- 22 just behind that calculator. The document in its
- 23 entirety is 12 pages. That is marked as Exhibit K for
- 24 identification.
- 25 (Respondent's Exhibit K was marked for

- identification by the Court.)
- 2 THE COURT: Is there any objection to Exhibit K?
- 3 MR. RIEGER: I don't -- I just don't know what this
- 4 is. I assume it was printed off the Internet.
- 5 THE COURT: Is this something --
- 6 MR. MAST: Your Honor, first of all, as to the first
- 7 document, the consumer price index calculator, the web
- 8 page for the Department of Industrial Relation arrive at
- 9 the calculator is in the trial brief. This first page
- 10 is only presented for one limited purpose.
- 11 There is -- there was considerable confusion
- 12 with JRS that shows also in the trial brief as to
- 13 whether annual computation or the December computation
- 14 of the CPI should be used. The -- because of space
- 15 limitation on the CPI present price index, I used
- 16 the name only, one word.
- 17 And the reason I put in the computer price
- 18 index, one page is only to show that the real
- 19 designation for annual is annual average. So that is
- 20 the designation annual used in the CPI index means the
- 21 average of 12 months, not the end of the year number
- 22 specified in Government Code Section 60823 and the Olson
- 23 versus Cory case, and I think now agreed, by JRS anyway
- 24 that the December to December designation is the one to
- 25 use. That is the proper one to use.

- 1 MR. RIEGER: JRS does agree to JRS grade to salary
- 2 position is still the judge's. If this is a true and
- 3 correct copy of the consumer price index, the time
- 4 period stated, I have no problem with it coming in as
- 5 judicial notice. I just reserve my right to object. I
- 6 think we can move on.
- 7 THE COURT: All right. The document that has been
- 8 marked as Exhibit K is a true and correct copy that you
- 9 obtained from the website?
- 10 MR. MAST: It comes from the California Department
- 11 of Industrial Relation web page.
- 12 THE COURT: Exhibit K is admitted.
- 13 (Respondent's Exhibit K was received in
- evidence by the Court.)
- THE COURT: Exhibit L is an E-mail from Gale, G-A-L-E;
- 16 Patrick, P-A-T-R-I-C-K, to Pamela Montgomery, and the
- 17 attached document, I'm not sure where it necessarily
- 18 comes from.
- 19 MR. RIEGER: No objection to L.
- 20 THE COURT: All right. Exhibit L is admitted.
- 21 (Respondent's Exhibit L was received in
- evidence by the Court.)
- 23 THE COURT: Exhibit M is a one-page document. It is
- 24 just a reminder sent to the Court ruling JRS members.
- 25 That's marked as Exhibit M for identification.

- 1 (Respondent's Exhibit M was marked for
- identification by the Court.)
- 3 MR. RIEGER: No objection.
- 4 THE COURT: Exhibit M is admitted.
- 5 (Respondent's Exhibit M was received in
- 6 evidence by the Court.)
- 7 THE COURT: And Exhibit N is the Statement of Issues
- 8 from the prior case, Case number OAH number L-9625311.
- 9 It is marked as Exhibit N.
- 10 (Respondent's Exhibit N was marked for
- identification by the Court.)
- 12 THE COURT: Any objection to Exhibit N?
- 13 MR. RIEGER: I think there are two documents.
- 14 MR. MAST: The other is the response.
- MR. RIEGER: Both of them can come into -- I have no
- 16 objection.
- 17 THE COURT: So Exhibit N is admitted.
- 18 (Respondent's Exhibit N was received in
- 19 evidence by the Court.)
- 20 THE COURT: And behind tab 0, I have a September 20,
- 21 1996 letter to Respondent from Maureen Reilly.
- 22 MR. RIEGER: And there is a second letter behind that.
- 23 I have no objection to that, either.
- 24 THE COURT: August 5 letter to Maureen Reilly with
- 25 the settlement agreement attached. There being no

- 1 objection, Exhibit O is admitted.
- 2 (Respondent's Exhibit O was received in
- 3 evidence by the Court.)
- 4 THE COURT: All right. As Exhibit P, I have a July 7,
- 5 1997 letter and attachment.
- 6 MR. RIEGER: No objection.
- 7 THE COURT: That is marked as Exhibit P. There
- 8 being no objection, it is admitted.
- 9 (Respondent's Exhibit P was marked for
- 10 identification by the Court and received
- in evidence.)
- 12 THE COURT: All right. I have behind tab Q a document
- 13 entitled "Retirement Benefit Calculation January 1, 1997,
- 14 to present. It is four pages in length.
- MR. RIEGER: I object, your Honor, same as the last
- 16 chart we saw. This was produced by either Mr. Mast or
- 17 Mr. Rozi, I am not sure which. Same objection as before.
- 18 Perhaps you can defer in the same way?
- 19 THE COURT: I will. Exhibit R --
- 20 MR. MAST: What was the ruling, your Honor?
- 21 THE COURT: I will defer ruling as I did on Q, just
- 22 because we need testimony as to what it is.
- MR. MAST: All right.
- 24 THE COURT: All right. Behind tab R, I have E-mails
- 25 dated January 25, 2008, to and from various individuals.

- 1 MR. RIEGER: No objection, your Honor.
- THE COURT: All right. Exhibit R is admitted.
- 3 (Respondent's Exhibit R was received in
- 4 evidence by the Court.)
- 5 THE COURT: Behind tab S, I have several letters to
- 6 Judge Mast from JRS -- get their dates.
- 7 MR. RIEGER: No objection to be Exhibit S.
- 8 THE COURT: Those letter are dated March 24, 1998;
- 9 August 20, 1999; and February 23, 2000. There being no
- 10 objection to that, Exhibit S is admitted.
- 11 (Respondent's Exhibit S was received in
- 12 evidence by the Court.)
- 13 THE COURT: I have to mark Chiu, C-H-I-U, from Pamela
- 14 Montgomery, dated January 27, 2009.
- 15 MR. RIEGER: No objection to T.
- 16 THE COURT: Exhibit T is admitted.
- 17 (Respondent's Exhibit T was received in
- 18 evidence by the Court.)
- 19 THE COURT: And behind tab U, I have several
- 20 September 12, 2010 letters.
- 21 MR. RIEGER: I think these are already all in, but I
- 22 will say no objection to U.
- 23 THE COURT: Exhibit U is admitted.
- 24 (Respondent's Exhibit U was received in
- evidence by the Court.)

- 1 THE COURT: I have marked as Exhibit V a May 31, 2011
- 2 letter, but there is also a September 18, 2015 letter to
- 3 Respondent.
- 4 MR. RIEGER: No objection to V.
- 5 THE COURT: All right. Exhibit V is admitted.
- 6 (Respondent's Exhibit V was received in
- 7 evidence by the Court.)
- 8 THE COURT: As Exhibit W, I have a 1995 letter from
- 9 Respondent to JRS.
- 10 MR. RIEGER: No objection.
- 11 THE COURT: Exhibit W is admitted.
- 12 (Respondent's Exhibit W was received in
- evidence by the Court.)
- 14 THE COURT: As Exhibit X, I have a May 4, 2011 letter --
- 15 MR. RIEGER: No objection.
- 16 THE COURT: -- that's to Respondent from JRS. There
- 17 being no objection, Exhibit X is admitted.
- 18 (Respondent's Exhibit X was received in
- 19 evidence by the Court.)
- 20 THE COURT: And as I'd indicated before, I had marked
- 21 the documents that have been filed electronically, including
- the declaration and the trial brief, as Exhibit Y through JJ,
- 23 and they have been lodged as argument.
- 24 So anything that you want me to use in order to
- 25 make the factual findings, I need to have, either via

- 1 testimony or pursuant to 1114 and with the declaration of
- 2 Pamela Montgomery. All right. So if there is no other
- 3 documents that need to be marked for Respondent, why don't
- 4 we go ahead and take testimony. All right.
- If you can remain at counsel table. If you
- 6 just raise your right hand to be sworn.

7

- PAUL MAST,
- 9 called as a witness, and having been first duly sworn by
- 10 the Court, was examined and testified as follows:
- 11 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 12 THE COURT: Could you just state your name for the
- 13 record.
- 14 THE WITNESS: Paul Mast.
- THE COURT: You will be giving testimony on direct;
- 16 is that correct?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes, I will. Did you want me to
- 18 testify from here?
- 19 THE COURT: Yes. Under the circumstances today if
- 20 you want to testify from there, you can remain because
- 21 all of your documents are there.

22

- 23 DIRECT TESTIMONY
- 24 THE WITNESS: Okay. My testimony on direct relating
- 25 to Exhibit I and also Exhibit O these are calculations

- 1 of the amount due in each of the categories that I
- 2 performed and calculated myself. The Excel spreadsheets
- 3 were designed by me and prepared by an accountant to
- 4 accomplish the purpose.
- 5 The Excel spreadsheets, how they work are
- 6 explained in the trial brief, and everything is true
- 7 and correct. And the numbers indicated thereon are true
- 8 and correct. In regard to the documents which the Court
- 9 marked today, starting with Y and following through to
- 10 JJ, these are documents which were prepared by me, except
- 11 for the declaration of Marci Mast, which were prepared
- 12 by her and submitted by me electronically.
- They are not evidentiary in nature, except the
- 14 one entitled "Declaration." As far as the declarations
- 15 are concerned, the truthfulness is sworn to under the
- 16 laws of the State of California. The other documents,
- 17 such as the trial brief, are not evidence. They are
- 18 argument. And all of those documents should be
- 19 admitted.
- 20 THE COURT: All right. I have the Declaration. Was
- 21 there anything you wanted to add on direct examination?
- 22 THE WITNESS: I believe that will be the end of my
- 23 direct examination. After the cross-examination, there
- 24 might be something that I would like to testify to.
- 25 THE COURT: All right. So I have pulled out

- 1 documents that were actual declarations filed and
- 2 opposed to the briefs. And let me just start with what
- 3 has been marked as Exhibit Z, which is the Declaration
- 4 of Paul G. Mast.
- 5 That is ten pages in length with an attached
- 6 Proof of Service. Are you offering this for all
- 7 purposes, not just for argument?
- 8 THE WITNESS: For all purposes.
- 9 THE COURT: Is there any objection to Exhibit Z?
- 10 MR. RIEGER: Well, no objection that this is
- 11 Mr. Mast -- this is his articulation of the facts.
- 12 There is no -- I have to go through, line by line, to deal
- 13 with the issue of hearsay. I don't know. I have no
- 14 problem with the taking of a statement to have that made,
- 15 under penalty of perjury, as an understanding that it is
- 16 adopted in everything in the statement here.
- 17 THE COURT: I understand that. So the Declaration
- 18 of Judge Mast, which is marked as Exhibit Z, is admitted
- 19 as if he had testified today.
- 20 (Respondent's Exhibit Z was received in
- 21 evidence by the Court.)
- 22 THE COURT: To those matters in Exhibit AA, which is
- 23 the Declaration of Marci Mast, are you offering that as
- 24 well?
- 25 THE WITNESS: Yes.

- 1 THE COURT: Is there any objection to Exhibit AA?
- 2 MR. RIEGER: Beyond the relevance of this
- 3 Declaration. So I'm asserting relevance objection. We
- 4 can have an offer of proof that may be helpful, but I
- 5 didn't understand why this was being submitted.
- 6 THE COURT: All right. What is the relevance of
- 7 Exhibit AA, which is the Declaration of Ms. Mast?
- 8 MR. MAST: It relates to -- it relates to the
- 9 ongoing controversy and the breaching of the settlement
- 10 agreement by Pamela Montgomery throughout the years.
- 11 THE COURT: Is there any other objection to Exhibit
- 12 AA?
- 13 MR. RIEGER: No.
- 14 THE COURT: The objection is overruled. Exhibit AA
- 15 is admitted.
- 16 (Respondent's Exhibit AA was received in
- 17 evidence by the Court.)
- 18 THE COURT: And then let me get to it. There is a
- 19 document that is marked as Exhibit GG. There is within
- 20 GG a response to the declaration of Pamela Montgomery,
- 21 but a supplemental declaration of Marci Mast.
- 22 MR. RIEGER: And this one is even more, so I do not
- 23 understand why this a being offered. For the life of
- 24 me, I can't figure out what this is pertaining to.
- 25 THE COURT: Just -- let's get the document listed.

- 1 You may have had a clerk. I do not. So I am checking
- 2 and I'm updating my exhibit list. I have the response to
- 3 the Declaration. I also have the supplemental declaration,
- 4 as well.
- 5 And the relevance of this supplemental declaration
- 6 is?
- 7 THE WITNESS: The relevance is in response to Pamela
- 8 Montgomery. That Declaration -- this is the Declaration
- 9 under penalty of perjury, and this is properly
- 10 authenticated and admissible in evidence. If anything
- in it is irrelevant, then that is something that the
- 12 Court can decide at the time the Court makes its
- 13 consideration of the evidence.
- I don't believe there is anything irrelevant.
- MR. RIEGER: What all I am seeing in this is
- 16 discussion about what things were like at Mr. Mast's
- 17 prior employment. I don't see what this has to do with
- 18 this dispute.
- 19 THE COURT: So I'm looking at the whole document,
- 20 the response to the declaration because they are --
- 21 THE WITNESS: Your Honor, Mr. Rieger is the one that
- 22 alleged that the inception in 1995, 1996, that I made
- 23 some sort of phony deal with somebody at JRS or had some
- 24 improper motives in putting forth my claim of
- 25 cost-of-living increases. It all relates to that.

- 1 THE COURT: The portion of the document that the
- 2 objection as to argument, which is the two-page response
- 3 to the Declaration of Pamela Montgomery. However, the
- 4 supplemental declaration of Marci Mast is admitted, so
- 5 the relevance objection is overruled.
- Those are the only actual declarations contained
- 7 in the electronically file documents.
- And did you have cross-examination?
- 9 MR. RIEGER: Yes, your Honor.
- 10 THE COURT: All right.
- 11
- 12 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 13 BY MR. RIEGER:
- 14 Q Mr. Mast, could you please turn to Exhibit 3 in
- 15 the binder that I handed to you. Exhibit 3. And if you
- 16 look at the third paragraph down. Can you take a moment
- 17 to read that paragraph?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Have you already read it?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q So at the time you retired, you understood that
- 22 you would be entitled to receive a retirement allowance at
- 23 63; is that right?
- 24 A I would be entitled to what?
- 25 O To receive a retirement allowance at age 63?

- 1 A At the time that I retired, I was given
- 2 instructions by JRS and the controller's office as to
- 3 what I needed to put in the letter of retirement. I
- 4 copied what was told me to put in.
- 5 No -- at no time was I given an option or
- 6 advised that I had the right to retire, not a right to
- 7 retire, a right to receive deferred retirement at age 60,
- 8 pursuant to the section that I have spoken about in the
- 9 trial brief.
- 10 Q So just to clarify, it was your understanding
- 11 that you could retire at age 63?
- 12 A That's what they told me.
- 13 Q If you could please turn to Exhibit 5. If you
- 14 could take a moment to review the first paragraph of
- 15 Exhibit 5.
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q So 1995 is when you actually did retire; is
- 18 that right?
- 19 A Let me be clear about one thing. The words
- 20 "when you actually retire" has two meanings. In one
- 21 section, which I outlined in the trial brief, the Judges'
- 22 Retirement System, or the code, used the word "retirement"
- 23 to mean when benefits are actually received, when
- 24 benefits start to be received.
- 25 The general meaning of retirement in all other

- 1 context, except for this Government Code section, is a
- 2 person retires at the time they leave the bench.
- 3 Q So let me just make it clear. I'm asking about
- 4 the first kind, the kind when judges receive retirement
- 5 benefits. And you began to receive benefits in 1995; is
- 6 that right?
- 7 A That's correct.
- 8 Q That started at age 63; is that right?
- 9 A Correct.
- 10 Q So that was still at the beginning of 1995 that
- 11 you were entitled to begin receiving retirement benefits
- 12 at age 63?
- 13 A Correct.
- 14 Q Please turn to Exhibit 11. I want to direct
- 15 your attention to about halfway down the fourth
- 16 paragraph. This is a letter -- this is a letter that
- 17 you wrote; is that correct?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q You wrote it to the Judges' Retirement System in
- 20 May of 2006?
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 O The fourth paragraph, about halfway down, it
- 23 says, "I will be very frank with you that I have been
- 24 living with the guilt of entering into an immoral
- 25 agreement when I agreed by the confidentiality provision

- 1 that does not provide the hundreds or thousands of other
- 2 judges who retired during the same period and have the
- 3 same right that I was availing myself of, because of
- 4 the fact the Judges' Retirement System was underpaying
- 5 them."
- 6 Do you see that?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q So in May 2006, did you believe you entered into
- 9 an immoral agreement?
- 10 A No.
- 11 Q Why did you write this in May 2006 that you
- 12 entered into an immoral agreement?
- 13 A The agreement was not immoral. My agreeing at
- 14 the request of the Judges' Retirement System not to
- 15 advise other judges of their rights was immoral. And I
- 16 regretted that. When I entered into that agreement, I
- 17 was thinking of myself, and myself only. And that was
- 18 immoral. And that was wrong.
- 19 Nevertheless, that is what I did. I lived by
- 20 that agreement and did not -- did not tell anybody about
- 21 the terms of my agreement. And in addition to not
- 22 telling anybody about the terms of the agreement, I did
- 23 not, after the agreement was signed, advise anyone of
- 24 their rights to COLA increases on their vested
- 25 retirement benefits that were vested during the 1970's

- 1 and during the protected period.
- I will say that prior to that date, I did write
- 3 an analysis of the Olson against Cory case at the behest
- 4 of the judge in the Torrance court, which he then took
- 5 to the California Judges' Association. That was someplace
- 6 between 1987 and 1990. And my analysis was the basis
- 7 for my opinion.
- For my letter of May 1st, 1995, to Jim Niehaus
- 9 and also for my response to the Statement of Issues
- 10 filed in the proceeding in 1996 and my letters, which
- 11 were my letters and conversation with Maureen Reilly, the
- 12 attorney for JRS, which she took.
- 13 And after the response to the statement off
- 14 issue was filed, she called up -- she called me up and
- 15 agreed that I was right and to confirm it in writing.
- 16 And she requested that I enter into a confidentiality
- 17 agreement because of the large amount of money that they
- 18 would subject themselves to having to pay if I did not
- 19 do that. And I agreed to that.
- 20 Q Are you then saying it is not the whole
- 21 agreement that is immoral? It is the consideration that
- 22 you provided an agreement that was immoral?
- 23 A The agreement was not immoral. The thing that
- 24 was immoral was my agreeing to remain quiet.
- 25 O That was the only consideration that was

- 1 provided out of the agreement; isn't that right?
- 2 A That is not true.
- 3 Q Didn't they pay you everything you claimed to
- 4 be entitled to?
- 5 A They did not pay me interest.
- 6 Q So it is your claim that it is them not paying
- 7 interest and your confidentiality agreement are your two
- 8 pieces of consideration?
- 9 A We entered into a negotiation to settle the
- 10 case. That, in itself, is consideration.
- 11 O Okay. But part of the consideration was that
- 12 you agreed to maintain the confidentiality agreement; is
- 13 that right?
- 14 A I don't know if that was consideration. But I
- 15 did -- I did agree to maintain -- I did agree not to
- 16 discuss the terms of the settlement with anybody. And I
- 17 maintained that and never did that until I was forced to
- 18 contact an attorney. And I gave notice prior to that,
- 19 nine months prior to that, to every member of the Board
- 20 of CalPERS, to JRS, and to controller, John Chiang.
- 21 Q So as I understand that, you are saying now
- 22 that the confidentiality provision of the settlement
- 23 agreement was immoral in, your words, 2006; am I right?
- 24 A It was immoral to me.
- 25 O That's all I'm asking about.

- 1 A The confidentiality agreement was not immoral.
- 2 I just felt that I had not done the proper thing, by
- 3 abandoning my fellow retired judges, for my own purposes.
- 4 Q It was immoral for you. Morality is a
- 5 subjective standard, but you are saying it was an immoral
- 6 act?
- 7 A It is subjective. At the time I didn't
- 8 consider it immoral. But in retrospect, it was immoral
- 9 -- an immoral thing for me to do, to abandon these other
- 10 judges only for my own benefit.
- 11 Q Do you believe to this day that it was immoral
- 12 to do that?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Do you believe it is illegal to do that?
- 15 A Do I believe it is legal to do that?
- 16 Q Do you believe it is legal to enter into an
- 17 immoral contract?
- 18 A I didn't enter into an immoral contract. I was
- 19 acting immorally as far my definition of immoral -- of
- 20 morality is. The contract I entered into, or the
- 21 settlement agreement -- I'm not sure it is really a
- 22 contract, it is a settlement agreement -- was not immoral
- 23 in any respect.
- Now, you have said that the confidentiality
- 25 agreement is against public policy. I don't know if

- 1 that is true or not. But it was not my public policy
- 2 that was violated. If it were against public policy,
- 3 that was part of the public policy of JRS.
- 4 And they are the ones to make the decision as
- 5 to what they should properly do as a matter of
- 6 public policy; not me to tell them what to do.
- 7 Q Did you testify that it was JRS, from Maureen
- 8 Reilly that raised the issue of the confidentiality
- 9 agreement first?
- 10 A After filing the Statement of Issues, before I
- filed the response and before I sent a letter on
- 12 August 5th to Maureen Reilly. The response was filed
- 13 August 15th. After the Statement of Issues, about the
- 14 August 5th letter, we had a conversation, and I explained
- 15 to her what the law was and how it applied.
- 16 And she said if they settled, they would have to
- 17 have a confidentiality agreement because, otherwise, they
- 18 would be subject to claims of large amounts. That is --
- 19 one of the documents indicates the amount. She said --
- 20 I don't know whether it was 200 million or 400 million --
- 21 whatever it was that she said. It is in one of the letters.
- 22 And she said that -- and when she said that, I
- 23 told her that if we settled, that I would enter into a
- 24 confidentiality agreement.
- 25 O So in 2006, after you made the determination

- 1 that the confidentiality agreement was immoral, why
- 2 didn't you just breach it at that time? Why didn't you
- 3 just decide it was an immoral thing to do and, therefore,
- 4 "I'm going to make it right"?
- 5 A Because I had signed an agreement, the
- 6 settlement agreement. And I was bound by it and felt I
- 7 was bound by it. I felt I was bound not to reveal the
- 8 terms of the agreement by what I signed. I wasn't going
- 9 to violate the terms of the agreement.
- 10 I had never -- I was never going to violate the
- 11 settlement agreement by disclosing the terms of the
- 12 agreement, because that is what I had agreed to. This
- 13 did not stop me. And it did not start until 2006. This
- 14 did not stop me from having second thoughts about my --
- 15 the moral of my action in entering into that part of the
- 16 settlement agreement.
- 17 Q And you -- I'm just wondering why you have said
- 18 a few times today that the very specific terms of the
- 19 agreement you were not to disclose, it was okay to do
- 20 other things through your legal theory and talk about
- 21 the general nature of your agreement.
- 22 Do I have that right?
- 23 A Confidentiality agreements are strictly
- 24 construed. And for a proper confidentiality agreement,
- 25 you must specify everything. I did not write this.

- 1 They did. And they wrote it in a very, very poor
- 2 manner. They should have said more than the terms of
- 3 the agreement.
- 4 They should have specified everything I was --
- 5 they did not want me to do. But they did not do that.
- 6 They only said terms of the agreement, but despite only
- 7 terms of the agreement. I never -- I never discussed
- 8 the law or anything else in regard to that with any
- 9 judge or lawyer during all those years until after the
- 10 breach by JRS was so extreme that I had no other option
- 11 but to hire an attorney.
- 12 And before I hired an attorney, I wanted to
- 13 seek help and try to stop the situation. And I wrote
- 14 this letter to not only JRS, but to John Chiang and all
- 15 members of the Board asking for their help to solve the
- 16 problem, so I would not have to go to an attorney. And I
- 17 waited nine months after writing the letter before doing
- 18 anything.
- 19 O So do you believe that the confidentiality
- 20 provision allows you a fair amount of flexibility of the
- 21 things that you could do? Do I have that right?
- 22 A It depends on what you are talking about.
- 23 Looking at it now, I see that is true. But throughout
- 24 the years, I considered -- first of all, throughout the
- 25 years I was not really attuned to the fact that the

- 1 confidentiality agreement specifically -- must be
- 2 specifically stated and strictly construed.
- I felt after signing this settlement agreement
- 4 that I should not talk to anybody about this. And I
- 5 didn't talk to anybody. Now, that wasn't because of
- 6 interpreting any words. It was just I felt that I
- 7 shouldn't do that.
- I didn't analyze the agreement to think, "Well,
- 9 if I don't talk about the terms of the agreement, then I
- 10 can go talk to other judges about the law."
- 11 And I didn't consider it. I didn't think about
- 12 it and it was entirely out of my mind.
- 13 Q When did you first consider that?
- 14 A Very, very recent. After all this started with
- 15 you.
- 16 Q Started with me when the claim started coming
- 17 from all the other judges, so had to have been before
- 18 that.
- 19 A I will say when I wrote letters on September 1,
- 20 2010, I felt that the breach -- and I'm certain of this,
- 21 that the extreme breach of the settlement agreement by
- 22 JRS and Pamela Montgomery throughout the years breaching
- 23 the agreement over, over, one time after another
- 24 and, particularly, for four years, 2006 to 2010; that
- 25 those breaches were the total breach of the settlement

- 1 agreement and relieved me of any obligation.
- 2 Q By the time you wrote the September 1st
- 3 letter -- September 1st, 2010 -- by that time you felt
- 4 like the confidentiality agreement was not binding you
- 5 to anything in particular; am I right?
- 6 A I didn't think about it in those terms. But I
- 7 knew if I went to an attorney, that it would breach my
- 8 understanding or my thoughts about the confidentiality
- 9 agreement, because I would be giving the attorney a copy
- 10 of the settlement agreement. And a copy of the settlement
- 11 agreement states the term of the agreement.
- 12 And I had no option because of the breach of
- 13 JRS, but to consult with an attorney. But still, I fought
- 14 it and I didn't want to consult with an attorney. And
- that's why I wrote the letters of September 1st, 2010,
- 16 asking for help from the CalPERS Board. And I was
- 17 extremely frustrated and disappointed that not a single
- 18 member of the Board responded to the letter in any respect.
- 19 And nobody contacted me, nobody talked to me,
- 20 nobody said anything. And I still waited, hoping that
- 21 something would be done by JRS, CalPERS, or somebody. I
- 22 waited for six months, till May 2011, before consulting an
- 23 attorney.
- Q So at this point in 2010, prior to September 1st,
- 25 2010, you had come to the conclusion that the

- 1 confidentiality agreement was immoral. And you had also
- 2 come to the conclusion that it was the larger agreement
- 3 that had been breached so significantly by the JRS that you
- 4 were no longer bound by the confidentiality agreement.
- 5 Do I have that right?
- 6 A I didn't think that the confidentiality
- 7 agreement was immoral. I thought my agreeing to the
- 8 confidentiality agreement was an immoral act on my part.
- 9 The confidentiality agreement was not immoral as far as
- 10 I know.
- 11 Q It was an immoral act on your part?
- 12 A I considered -- I considered the extreme breach
- 13 of the settlement agreement by JRS gave me no choice, but
- 14 to consult with an attorney. And by handing him a copy
- 15 of the settlement agreement, that was revealing the
- 16 terms of the agreement to the attorney.
- 17 Now, I don't know whether hiring an attorney to
- 18 represent one in that case is an exception to revealing
- 19 the terms of the agreement or not. I have not researched
- 20 that part of the law. I don't know where that part of
- 21 the law is. But it is nothing that I want to do. I did
- 22 not want to -- I did not want to reveal anything.
- 23 And I was forced to consult with an attorney.
- 24 And as I said in the September 2010 letter, if I consulted
- 25 with an attorney, there is no attorney in the state that

- 1 would not try to expand the case to involve other judges.
- 2 Q Including you, right?
- 3 A Not including me, no.
- 4 Q You would not seek to expand to involve other
- 5 judges?
- 6 A I did not seek to expand the case.
- 7 Q You didn't agree to split the fees 50/50 with
- 8 Mr. Rozi?
- 9 A I did, but he had already started to follow
- 10 this procedure. And one of the things that Mr. Rozi, as
- 11 you know, was incapable of doing was analyzing the law
- 12 and writing briefs. So I agreed to do that on the case.
- 13 I did do that on the case. And on the first demur,
- 14 which you lost in trial court, I did appear and argue
- 15 that.
- 16 Q So at the time that you were thinking about
- 17 consulting an attorney, you were not thinking about
- 18 representing dozens of judges and justices against JRS?
- 19 That only came to you later?
- 20 A That came to me when you wanted to do that, when
- 21 he was incapable of doing it himself.
- 22 O At that point, you decided to split the fees
- 23 50/50 with him?
- 24 A That's right.
- 25 Q So at this point, if you thought that your

- 1 agreement is -- when I say "this point," I'm referring to
- 2 September 1st, 2010.
- If you already came to the conclusion that your
- 4 agreement to maintain confidentiality was immoral, if
- 5 you had already come to that conclusion, and if you
- 6 already felt like the JRS had breached the agreement,
- 7 why are you still giving the JRS time and more chances
- 8 to pay you off before you go to an attorney?
- 9 A Because I thought that was the right thing to
- 10 do. I did not want this to expand to other judges'
- 11 requests, which is clearly when we -- when I had my
- 12 conversation with Maureen Reilly, that is not what she
- 13 wanted to do. And I still felt that I should do
- 14 everything possible not to encourage that, because I
- 15 entered into a settlement agreement as it was.
- 16 And it was not my intention in September of
- 17 2010 of involving claims with other judges. If it were
- 18 my intention, I would have just declared a breach, not
- 19 ask for help from CalPERS Board or from controller Chiang.
- 20 I would have just declared a breach and took actions to
- 21 involve other judges.
- 22 I did not do that because I don't want to do
- 23 that. The only thing I wanted to do was to get the
- 24 accounting done properly and to have the settlement
- 25 agreement abided by. But there is no way -- in the end,

- 1 there is no way of doing this with Pamela Montgomery as
- 2 manager of the Judges' Retirement System, because she
- 3 had a vendetta that she was refused to do that.
- 4 She made computation after computation. There
- 5 were 10 to 12 different computations using different CPI
- 6 indexes. And she finally came up with using the wage
- 7 earners' and clerical workers' CPI index.
- And she didn't go back to January 1997. She
- 9 went back to 1979 to start her calculation using these
- 10 other indexes, including the wage earners' and clerical
- 11 workers'.
- 12 Q In some of your letters, you mentioned out of
- 13 respect for the state, you have not brought this matter
- 14 to an attorney yet; is that right?
- 15 A That is right.
- 16 Q What do you mean by that?
- 17 A I had great respect for California, meaning the
- 18 Judges' Retirement System, the judiciary, the State of
- 19 California, and the agreement I entered into. And I was
- 20 not going to violate that. Even -- even though I felt
- 21 that my act was not moral, I could not violate the
- 22 agreement, and I didn't violate the agreement. And I
- 23 was fighting against going to an attorney and starting
- 24 up this thing, which has been more headache than I can
- 25 imagine.

- 1 Q When you say "the State of California," the State
- 2 of California was threatened with one billion dollars of
- 3 liability in your judgment; is that right?
- 4 A No, not in my judgment.
- 5 Q In your letters --
- 6 A Just a minute. I was given a number by Maureen
- 7 Reilly in 1996 as to the exposure. When I wrote in
- 8 September of 2010, I took her number and extrapolated
- 9 it. I didn't have any way of estimating. That was the
- 10 number of dollars that were involved in 1996, and I
- 11 didn't have any way of estimating the number of dollars
- 12 that were involved in 2010.
- But I extrapolated it because I wanted to get
- 14 their attention. I wasn't asking for any large amount
- 15 of money. I want to get their attention. I hoped to get
- 16 their attention; that somebody would be logical and
- 17 insightful enough to get together and get the lawyers or
- 18 somebody involved to work out this situation.
- 19 Q You wanted to let them know if they didn't pay
- 20 you about \$140,000, they might be exposed to a billion
- 21 dollars?
- 22 A No. When you say it that way, it sounds like a
- 23 threat, and it wasn't a threat. But I wanted them to
- 24 know this was an important -- an important issue to get
- 25 resolved, whether it was \$140,000, \$14,000, whatever it

- 1 was in the outcome.
- 2 It was something that needed to be resolved.
- 3 It was important, and the number that was put in there
- 4 was showing importance. And I was hoping to get them to
- 5 come forth with a solution that would solve the problem
- 6 that I was not able to solve with Pamela Montgomery,
- 7 because she just was unreasonable in any respect.
- 8 Her numbers were wrong. The CPI index she used
- 9 was wrong. She didn't start at the right time. She
- 10 didn't start at January 1997. Everything was wrong,
- 11 and there was no talking to her. It was like a brick
- 12 wall. I was pleading with them to do something to
- 13 correct the situation.
- 14 Q So at that time in September of 2010, even
- 15 though you had already come to the conclusion that your
- 16 act of agreeing to the confidentiality agreement was
- 17 immoral, you were still willing to continue perpetuating
- 18 that immoral act if the JRS paid you \$140,000; is that
- 19 right?
- 20 A Absolutely. I felt bound by the settlement
- 21 agreement, and I was not going to change that. I was
- 22 not going to -- I was bound by that agreement.
- Q But if they didn't pay the \$140,000, then you
- 24 would -- then you would do the moral thing? Do I have
- 25 that right?

- 1 A No. If they didn't come in and help resolve
- 2 the problem, then they would have forced me to go to an
- 3 attorney, which is what happened.
- 4 Q Which had the natural consequence of a billion
- 5 dollars liability. Not something you wanted to do. You
- 6 are just saying the natural consequence?
- 7 A The thing I told them was I didn't want to hire
- 8 an attorney. And I didn't want these consequences to
- 9 occur, and to please help me. They didn't do it, and I
- 10 eventually had to consult with an attorney. Otherwise,
- 11 we would still be suffering under this.
- 12 And in actuality we still are -- well, I am
- 13 still suffering under this, because as shown in the
- 14 September 2015 letter that is in evidence from -- from
- 15 JRS, they are still using wage earners' and clerical
- 16 workers' CPI index to make adjustment, which is the wrong
- 17 index to be using. And the Supreme Court of California
- 18 indicated -- indicated that the correct index to use is
- 19 all consumer.
- 20 Q Could please turn to Exhibit 13.
- 21 THE COURT: Before we go, why don't we take our
- 22 afternoon break. And we will reconvene in 15 minutes.
- 23 (Recess)
- 24 THE COURT: We are back on the record after our
- 25 afternoon break. We are continuing with Judge Mast's

- 1 cross-examination.
- 2 BY MR. RIEGER:
- 3 Q Judge Mast, excuse me, please turn to page --
- 4 Exhibit 13.
- 5 A 13.
- 6 Q 13. Is this an E-mail that you wrote to Pamela
- 7 Montgomery?
- 8 A Apparently. It is not -- I'm not familiar with
- 9 it, unless -- but go ahead and ask your question.
- 10 Q If you could turn to the next page, 429. The
- 11 second to last paragraph says, "I have written to show
- 12 that I am not some avaricious ogre unfairly taking money
- 13 from the State of California. Moral or immoral, the
- 14 agreement I entered into with the state has saved the
- 15 state hundreds of millions of dollars."
- 16 Did you write that?
- 17 A I must have. That is what it says.
- 18 Q And so how are you distinguishing yourself from
- 19 an avaricious ogre?
- 20 A That's a ridiculous question.
- 21 Q One of the reasons was you think an avaricious
- 22 ogre could have done what you didn't do?
- 23 A I have no answer to that.
- 24 Q You were writing to her to show her that you
- 25 were not -- you shared with her some facts. And you

- 1 said, "I'm telling you these facts, so that you know
- 2 that I am not an avaricious ogre."
- I'm wondering why you felt the need to convince
- 4 her that you are not an avaricious ogre.
- 5 A What you are doing is what you do repeatedly.
- 6 You take one phrase out of a letter or out of a document
- 7 and twist the meaning of it. What this E-mail says and
- 8 what the letter or E-mail in number 14, which is what I
- 9 thought you were going to ask me about, what they both
- 10 are -- are saying to Pamela Montgomery, "Please stop your
- 11 obstructive conduct. Please abide by the settlement
- 12 agreement."
- 13 And I assume the benefits, as provided by the
- 14 settlement agreement in 2007, no adjustment had been made
- 15 since 2006 in regards to the letter in Exhibit 14 and
- 16 2008. Two adjustment periods had past.
- 17 In both of those, I'm asking, "Please do
- 18 something. Stop the obstructionist attitude, and get the
- 19 settlement agreement back on track." That was to no
- 20 avail.
- 21 Q Do you think it was a good thing that you were
- 22 saving the state hundreds of millions of dollars?
- 23 A Do I think it was a good thing? I think it
- 24 would have been better. I think it would have been a much
- 25 better thing if the state had lived up to its obligation

- 1 as set out by Section 608203 and as set forth in Olson
- 2 against Cory, which stated that these retirement
- 3 benefits were vested and could not be changed.
- 4 Q But I'm asking, in this letter you are saying
- 5 moral or immoral, the agreement with the state has saved
- 6 hundreds of millions of dollars. The sentence right
- 7 after that, are you trying to suggest that it was a good
- 8 thing that you saved the state hundreds of millions of
- 9 dollars?
- 10 Do I have that wrong?
- 11 A No. I was stating what Maureen Reilly had told
- 12 me. Whether it was a good thing or not was not the
- 13 subject of this letter.
- 14 Q You don't have an opinion at this time whether
- 15 it was a good thing that you were saving the state
- 16 hundreds of millions of dollars?
- 17 A Depends on what you are looking at. It was good
- 18 for the state. It was bad for the judges.
- 19 Q And good for you, right?
- 20 A No.
- 21 Q You got paid?
- 22 A I got paid what I was supposed to get paid.
- 23 Q You got paid at the expense of what no other
- 24 judge was receiving; is that right?
- 25 A I got paid what I was supposed to get paid and

- 1 determined by the attorneys for JRS who agreed with my
- 2 position.
- 3 Q And you thought it was okay?
- 4 A I did not get paid at the expense of the
- 5 judges. I thought it would work out. If I had taken a
- 6 different position, that's what I mean by "immoral
- 7 conduct." I don't have to repeat it. If I had not
- 8 agreed to that, the judges would have been better than
- 9 -- would have been better for the judges.
- 10 It would have been worse for the state. That's
- 11 what -- that's what happened with the settlement
- 12 agreement. And I did it and lived with it, right or
- 13 wrong. In this life, I have not done everything right.
- 14 No one has done everything right in their life. In this
- instance, I thought of myself, not of other judges.
- 16 And thinking of myself, I did save the state
- 17 very much money. Was it the right thing to do, sitting
- 18 here today looking back? It was not a moral thing to
- 19 do. But I did it. And right or wrong, I am not proud of
- 20 what I did. But I did it. And I felt bound by it
- 21 because I signed a settlement agreement.
- 22 O So when you put this statement here, "moral or
- 23 immoral, the agreement I entered with the state saved the
- 24 state hundreds of millions of dollars," you are telling
- 25 me here today that that sentence was not intended to

- 1 convey the idea that saving the state hundreds of millions
- 2 of dollar is a good thing?
- 3 A What that does is -- what the intent of that was,
- 4 was to convey to Pamela Montgomery, "Look, I am not a bad
- 5 guy. Stop your obstructionist and let's get this back
- 6 on track."
- 7 Q So at this point, you believe your agreement to
- 8 remain silent was immoral and your letter to Pamela
- 9 Montgomery that you would continue to implement that
- 10 immoral conduct, unless you were paid the \$140,000; isn't
- 11 that what this is?
- 12 A Not the "unless."
- Q Why is the "unless" wrong?
- 14 A I was telling her that I was not going to
- 15 breach the agreement. And I did not breach the
- 16 agreement. This was 2007, and I did not breach the
- 17 agreement. And I was telling her that I would not
- 18 breach the agreement. I was not demanding a specific
- 19 sum.
- 20 I was requesting that she abide by the
- 21 settlement agreement. We had a disagreement as to what
- 22 should be done. She unilaterally stopped making
- 23 adjustment. If she had continued making adjustment
- 24 late in the wrong amounts, whatever it might have been
- 25 after she became manager, we wouldn't be here today.

- Because before -- before this time, JRS didn't
- 2 know what they were doing as far as the dates and
- 3 procedure and how it was done, and I did not know. I
- 4 was relying on JRS. I was accepting what they did. And
- 5 in retrospect, they were doing things wrong.
- But when you take my Excel spreadsheet from
- 7 January 1, 1997, up to the present time, things that
- 8 were wrong, things that were right, when they underpaid,
- 9 when they overpaid, those were all washed out. And they
- 10 are made right in the Excel spreadsheet.
- 11 Q Could you please turn to Exhibit 14.
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q Is this an E-mail that you sent to Pam Montgomery
- 14 on March 27th, 2008?
- 15 A It appears to be.
- 16 Q So here, if you look at the third paragraph,
- 17 the third paragraph, second sentence says, "I agreed with
- 18 your office" -- let me start it off sooner.
- 19 It refers to the third paragraph that says, "You
- 20 should keep in mind at the time of the settlement with
- 21 the office back in 1995, it was recognize by your office
- 22 that over a thousand retired judges are entitled to the
- 23 benefit I was claiming. I agreed with your office, which
- 24 is not the moral thing for me to do, nor was it a moral
- 25 thing for your office to propose that the settlement

- 1 agreement would remain confidential."
- 2 Do you see that?
- 3 A I see that.
- 4 Q So your position -- your claim is that they
- 5 proposed the confidentiality agreement, not you?
- 6 A They did not, definitely. Maureen Reilly
- 7 proposed it.
- 8 Q Okay. And you reluctantly went along with it?
- 9 A I didn't, reluctantly. You are adding to that.
- 10 I agreed to go along with it.
- 11 Q Weren't you reluctant?
- 12 A No. At the time I was thinking only of myself.
- 13 And that's where the immorality came from.
- 14 Q The next paragraph, the last sentence says,
- 15 "What is the truth is that I'm receiving only what I am
- 16 entitled to. And it is others who have been deprived of
- 17 what they are rightfully entitled to."
- 18 Do you see that?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q And you are talking about other judges, right?
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 O And that is the immoral act that you have been
- 23 talking about, not letting those other judges know about
- 24 this?
- 25 A That is right.

- 1 Q But in the last exhibit you are explaining how
- 2 not letting them know is saving the state hundreds of
- 3 millions of dollars, right?
- 4 A That's what Maureen Reilly said.
- 5 Q But you are reminding her of that as you were
- 6 trying to get more money from her?
- 7 A I'm not trying to get more money from them.
- 8 I'm trying to get them to abide by the settlement
- 9 agreement and pay what they were required by the
- 10 settlement agreement.
- 11 Q If you could turn to Exhibit 15, please.
- 12 Is this E-mail from you to Pamela Montgomery on
- 13 May 7, 2008?
- 14 A That's what it appears to be.
- 15 Q And the third paragraph says, "Unless I receive
- 16 the funds that are due for the past several years and
- 17 adjustment to current pension payment amount by the
- 18 beginning of June, I will take further action. I have
- 19 not decided what action I will take. I have several
- 20 alternatives, none of which I wish to take. Anything
- 21 I do will end up with consequences and ramifications
- 22 that I do not want to have. This is why I do not want
- 23 to do them, why I have been patient. Why I'm writing
- 24 this letter now."
- 25 What actions are you referring to in this

- 1 paragraph?
- 2 A No specific action. Again, you are taking one
- 3 sentence and overlooking what this means. What I was
- 4 telling her was, pleading with her to please get on the
- 5 ball, live by the settlement agreement, do the proper
- 6 calculations and get it back to where it should be.
- 7 Q What are the alternatives that you did not wish
- 8 to take?
- 9 A I don't know what alternative I was thinking
- 10 of. I didn't specify any alternative. This is not
- 11 meant to be a threat. This was writing all these
- 12 letters, all the communications with her during these
- 13 years from 2006 to 2010, four years in which she
- 14 directed her staff not to make any COLA adjustments.
- I was pleading with her to get on -- get on
- 16 with the settlement agreement and abide by the
- 17 settlement agreement. The settlement agreement was
- 18 binding no one, was setting aside -- if somebody wanted
- 19 to set it aside, they could have taken legal action to
- 20 set it aside if they had done it promptly.
- 21 By 2007, it was already many years past being
- 22 promptly, according to law, draft to be done within a
- 23 very short time after January 1997. Nobody did it. But
- 24 her proper action would have been to get legal advice
- 25 and proceed with that, rather than taking upon herself to

- 1 do this action, obstructionist and not do anything as
- 2 far as abiding by the settlement agreement.
- 3 Q If you could please turn to Exhibit 17. So
- 4 Exhibit 17 is a series of letters, dated September 1st,
- 5 2010; is that correct?
- 6 A Yes. I wrote to everybody that I could think
- of, every member of the Board of CalPERS and John
- 8 Chiang.
- 9 Q And Pamela Montgomery?
- 10 A And Pamela Montgomery.
- 11 Q Bill Lockyer?
- 12 A He is one of the members of the Board. I think
- 13 he's the chairman of the Board.
- 14 Q Okay. And each of these letters -- turning
- 15 your attention -- in each of those letters explaining
- 16 that JRS was owing you more money; is that correct?
- 17 A I'm explaining that JRS did not abide by the
- 18 settlement agreement or violated.
- 19 Q And as a consequence, you are saying they did
- 20 not pay you enough money; is that right?
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q Also, in each of those letters you are talking
- 23 about how you agreed to the confidentiality provision
- 24 and that that saved the state upwards of one billion
- 25 dollars; is that right?

- 1 A Whatever it says. I had no way of knowing the
- 2 amounts. Just as I had no way of knowing the number of
- 3 judges. This is all extrapolated from what Maureen Reilly
- 4 told me.
- 5 Q If you turn to Exhibit 17, page Mast 002. The
- 6 second page of Exhibit 17, the third paragraph down
- 7 beginning with the last sentence, "JRS with the
- 8 confidentiality settlement agreement."
- 9 Then in the next paragraph, you said at the
- 10 time 1996 settlement, and asked a representative at
- 11 JRS if he wanted to confirm the agreement.
- "I was told no retired judges paid at the
- 13 dictate of Olson v Cory. That one thousand retired
- 14 judges have been receiving retirement pay contrary to
- 15 the dictate of those cases and JRS adjust the amount
- 16 previously paid. JRS would be paying \$400 million."
- 17 Is that an accurate statement? Did that happen?
- 18 Is that what you were told? Sorry for the multiple
- 19 questions. Let me start over. I didn't mean to ask
- 20 multiple questions like that.
- 21 My understanding is that you didn't understand
- 22 why you wanted the confidentiality agreement, so why did
- 23 you ask why they wanted it?
- 24 A I don't think I asked. I was told.
- 25 O It says here you asked a representative at JRS

- 1 why they wanted a confidentiality agreement?
- 2 A I don't remember that. But it is now 2015. In
- 3 September 2010, maybe I did remember that.
- 4 Q Okay. But having read that, do you believe that
- 5 happened? Did you ask the JRS representative why they
- 6 wanted the confidentiality agreement?
- 7 A I have no idea whether I asked or whether
- 8 Maureen told me. But one way or another, Maureen told
- 9 me.
- 10 Q In the letter to the state controller, you
- 11 said, "Based upon the 1996 estimates at the cost would
- 12 be \$400 million. I now see current potential liability
- 13 of one billion dollars."
- 14 Do you see that?
- 15 A That's my extrapolation of the numbers that if
- 16 the number was correct that Maureen Reilly told me, then
- 17 the second number would also be correct.
- 18 Q That's so -- then turn to Mast 005. This is a
- 19 letter to Pamela Montgomery. The top paragraph says,
- 20 "Out of respect, as you well know, I have -- out of respect
- 21 for the State of California, not taken it to an attorney
- 22 prior to this. As to do so would have been a disastrous
- 23 effect on the state."
- 24 So it is here you are explaining to them that
- 25 if you take it to an attorney, it might cost the state a

- billion dollars; is that right?
- 2 A That's the disastrous effect. It speaks for
- 3 itself. It says disastrous effect. I wasn't -- in this
- 4 paragraph, I wasn't saying the dollar amount. But the
- 5 intent of all these letters of September 2010 was saying,
- 6 "Please help me. I don't want to do something that would
- 7 not be beneficial to the State of California."
- 8 I signed this settlement agreement. I made the
- 9 agreement at that time. I am willing to live with it.
- 10 And all we need to do is -- or all the Board was asked
- 11 to do was to help and to get a resolution to the
- 12 agreement.
- 13 O But you were willing to deprive all the other
- 14 judges of what you thought they were entitled to as long
- 15 as you got what you were entitled to?
- 16 A That's the immoral decision I made in 1996. We
- 17 have been through that many times.
- 18 Q You were still making that immoral decision in
- 19 2010, because in this letter you are reminding them of
- 20 what might happen if you go talk to the other judges and
- 21 you are telling them you have not talked to them, yet.
- 22 So you are still saying you will not talk about
- 23 the settlement agreement as long as they pay you off?
- 24 A That's my immoral decision in 2010. That's an
- 25 immoral decision I made in 1996. I felt bound by the

- 1 settlement agreement. I don't enter into an agreement
- 2 and breach it. I wasn't going to breach it in 2010 if
- 3 there was some way to get around it. All I was doing
- 4 was asking for their help. No one came forward.
- 5 Q And the amount that you were seeking in 2010, in
- 6 your letter, Mast 007, it says "the amount due, therefore,
- 7 is \$90,804.25 and plus \$50,960.30 with a total of
- 8 \$141,764.55." In addition, the monthly pension must be
- 9 adjusted to you.
- 10 And this is the amount that you wanted from JRS
- 11 sending these letters, right?
- 12 A No. That's not -- that is not correct. That
- 13 was the amount they calculated was due.
- 14 Q You wanted them to pay you that?
- 15 A I wanted them to pay me the amount that was
- 16 due. This was the amount that I calculated. Now, if
- 17 they had come up with a accountant and somebody had
- 18 followed through on the settlement agreement and checked
- 19 the number and came up with a different number, then I
- 20 would have happily listened to them. But they didn't do
- 21 that. This was my calculation.
- 22 O But you wanted them to pay you this money,
- 23 right?
- 24 A I wanted them to pay. I wanted them to abide
- 25 by the settlement agreement, and this was the amount

- 1 that I calculated. This wasn't "Do this or else."
- 2 "Pay every penny or else." This was what I calculated
- 3 to be done.
- 4 Q I understand.
- 5 A I got no reaction from Pamela Montgomery or
- 6 anybody else.
- 7 Q I'm just trying to understand why you are
- 8 avoiding that sentence. You are telling me that you
- 9 wanted to abide by the settlement agreement. You're
- 10 telling me that this is the amount you are owed in the
- 11 settlement agreement. But you are not willing to say
- 12 that you wanted them to pay this amount.
- 13 A I wanted them to pay me that amount or give me
- 14 calculation where that amount was wrong.
- 15 Q If you could please turn to Exhibit 18. And
- 16 this is an E-mail you wrote to Pamela Montgomery on
- 17 September 29, 2010?
- 18 A Apparently so.
- 19 Q And here in the last paragraph, you are saying
- 20 you pointed out the settlement agreement and the breach
- 21 of contract by the JRS. And then you say, "Not only
- 22 prohibited about settlement. Nothing has prevented me
- 23 from speaking about the law and the fact that your office
- 24 has been in violation of the law in a method of making
- 25 payments to some 1,000 to 1,500 retirees in accordance

- 1 with the Supreme Court cases. Despite not being
- 2 precluded from doing so, I remained mute on this issue
- 3 for 15 years. After the way I have been treated by your
- 4 office, I see no reason to remain mute any further."
- 5 Did you write that?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q So at this point, you believe that you certainly
- 8 believed that you could share your theories with the
- 9 other judges; is that right?
- 10 A I believed that I could talk to -- I believed
- 11 that I could not reveal the terms of the settlement
- 12 agreement. But I -- but I could talk about the law and
- 13 Olson against Cory as far as violating or -- as far as
- 14 talking about the terms of the settlement agreement. I
- 15 could have probably done that, also, because of the
- 16 breaches of JRS before this date.
- 17 But I was not intending to do that. I did not
- 18 want to do that. This, again, is the same thing. I'm
- 19 not writing a letter just without purpose. The purpose
- 20 is still pleading with her. "Please, let's get something
- 21 done. And let's not get into this controversy. Please
- 22 abide by the settlement agreement."
- Q When did you come to the conclusion that you
- 24 were not prohibited from speaking about the settlement?
- 25 I am sorry. I misspoke. Let me start over.

- 1 When did you come to the conclusion that
- 2 "nothing is preventing you from speaking about the law
- 3 and the fact that your office had been in violation of
- 4 the law in a method of making payment to some 1,000 to
- 5 1,500 retired judges in accordance to the Supreme Court."
- 6 When did you come to that conclusion?
- 7 A When I came to this conclusion was obviously
- 8 before I wrote the letter.
- 9 Q Do you think that you came to that conclusion a
- 10 month before this? You wrote this letter on September
- 11 1st, 2010. I'm just wondering if you came to this
- 12 conclusion at the time you wrote those September 1st,
- 13 letters?
- 14 A I have no idea what I was thinking five years
- 15 ago.
- 16 Q The moment you came to this conclusion, did you
- 17 go out and tell all these retired judges this was due to
- 18 your immoral act?
- 19 A No, I did not.
- 20 Q Earlier, you said your immoral act to not tell
- 21 other people about this, now you are telling me that you
- 22 determined that you could tell other people about this,
- 23 but you didn't do it?
- 24 A That's right. Because I was hoping that
- 25 somebody would wake up and abide by the settlement

- 1 agreement.
- 2 Q You just said that the settlement agreement
- 3 doesn't prevent you from talking about the law. If the
- 4 settlement agreement doesn't prevent you from talking
- 5 about the law and your silence up to that point of doing
- 6 an immoral thing, why didn't you do the immoral thing
- 7 that was consistent with the settlement agreement?
- 8 A Because that -- even though that was not in the
- 9 confidentiality agreement as it was written, which is
- 10 strictly construed, it was my knowledge in signing this
- 11 settlement agreement that they didn't want me to do
- 12 that. I wasn't going to do that. And I was going to --
- 13 I was finding every way I could to get the situation
- 14 resolved without going to other judges.
- 15 Q Even though it was immoral to keep the
- 16 information from other judges to begin with?
- 17 A That was my immoral act in 1996. I'm sorry for
- 18 the immoral act. That was a mistake. But I was not
- 19 going to change it at that time. I was not on a
- 20 vendetta to go and do anything with other judges.
- 21 Q And you also said in some of these letters, you
- 22 played no role in drafting the settlement agreement; is
- 23 that right?
- 24 A That's correct.
- 25 Q Can you please turn to Exhibit 6. This is a

- 1 May 1, 1995 letter from you to the Judges' Retirement
- 2 System.
- 3 Did you write this letter?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q In the last sentence of the first part, it
- 6 said, "The purpose of this letter is to address your
- 7 concerns by explaining that I'm entitled to benefits
- 8 which I elected to receive. I am the only pensioner
- 9 so entitled."
- 10 Do you see that?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q Why would you tell them that when you thought
- everyone, or a lot of people, were entitled to it?
- 14 A I have no idea. This was May 1995. And the
- 15 letter to Jim Niehaus, and I can't say why I put that
- 16 in there, because I was not the only pensioner.
- 17 Q Was it also that you were trying to convince
- 18 Mr. Niehaus to try and go ahead and pay you the amount,
- 19 because there is nobody else there and it wouldn't cost
- 20 the JRS a lot?
- 21 A No.
- 22 O That is not possible? As you sit here today,
- 23 you actually know that you -- what you put in these
- 24 letters was false; is that right?
- 25 A No.

- 1 O You don't know that?
- 2 A No, I don't know that.
- 3 Q Why is this not false when all this time --
- 4 A I'm not saying -- I am not saying that is not
- 5 false. I didn't know it was not false. I don't know
- 6 why it says that in the letter.
- 7 Q But you wrote --
- 8 A I cannot remember back at that time. I do know
- 9 at that time that I had conversations with Jim Niehaus.
- 10 Jim Niehaus is a very cordial, cooperative person, and
- 11 we got along very well.
- 12 Q Do you recall Niehaus at the time, at a
- 13 convention, trying to convince judges reading Olson v
- 14 Cory?
- 15 A No.
- 16 Q Is it possible that when you first tried to get
- 17 them to pay you by saying you are the only judge and
- 18 when they determined that was not the case, then you
- 19 introduced the concept of the confidentiality agreement?
- 20 A I didn't agree with the concept.
- Q Can you please turn to Exhibit 7. JRS 1054.
- 22 It is the second page of Exhibit 7.
- 23 A Yes.
- Q About halfway down the page, the paragraph, "As
- 25 we were taking the telephone conversation, the only way

- 1 to resolve this matter is if CalPERS changes its position
- 2 on the claim. What then can I give to induce you to
- 3 resolve the claim, question mark. What I can give is
- 4 complete and total confidentiality."
- 5 Did you write that?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Did you want to revise whose idea it was to
- 8 come up with the confidentiality agreement?
- 9 A No. Because we had a conversation, like I
- 10 testified before, between the time the Statement of
- 11 Issues was presented and this August 5th letter which
- 12 was referred, there was a conversation with Maureen
- 13 Reilly about that.
- 14 And that conversation before August 5th is the
- 15 first time that confidentiality came forward.
- 16 Q Then why is the letter phrased as question and
- 17 answer, rather than saying as you explained on the phone,
- 18 "I could be subject to confidentiality agreement"?
- 19 Does this look to you like someone was saying
- 20 what someone else told them when they asked the question
- 21 and then answered it?
- 22 A It doesn't appear to be anything. I can
- 23 remember that she brought up the fact that there would
- 24 be a certain amount of money involved if all of the
- 25 judges -- if all of the judges were receiving this

- 1 benefit. And the only way that they could do that was
- 2 whether there is a confidentiality agreement, and we
- 3 left it at that. She was supposed to get back to me,
- 4 and therein, wrote this letter.
- 5 Q My questions to you is why you asked this
- 6 question. This is to Maureen Reilly. And you are
- 7 saying, "What, then, can I give as an inducement to
- 8 resolve the claim?" question mark.
- 9 That is a question and then you answered it.
- 10 What did you do to confidentiality? Why would you write
- it that way if she is the one who proposed it?
- 12 A Why would I write it that way? I don't know
- 13 why I wrote it that way. But that's the way I wrote all
- 14 those years ago. I can't remember what was in my mind
- 15 when I was writing this. I can't remember that there is
- 16 conversation before this letter.
- 17 Q The next paragraph, "As part of the settlement,
- 18 I never discussed or disclosed the terms of the
- 19 settlement with anyone."
- 20 Do you see that?
- 21 A Yes.
- 23 A Yes, that was true.
- 24 Q Again, your testimony is that this was Maureen
- 25 Reilly's idea and this was just parroting back her idea

- 1 to her?
- 2 A She brought it up first. In here, I was telling
- 3 her that I never discussed this with anybody, which I
- 4 hadn't.
- 5 Q There is no question you thought this through?
- 6 This wasn't something that came up at the end from JRS?
- 7 You testified earlier you clearly thought this through;
- 8 isn't that right?
- 9 A Clearly thought what?
- 10 Q You clearly thought through the purpose of the
- 11 confidentiality agreement when it goes to save the state
- 12 a large liability by paying you a nice sum for yourself,
- 13 a relatively small amount for the state?
- 14 A The first part of your question is true.
- 15 Maureen Reilly told me about the result of what it would
- 16 have on the state.
- 17 Q And so you very clearly understood the purpose
- 18 of the confidentiality agreement, right?
- 19 A That's why I abided by it. But even though I
- 20 abided by it, the purpose of it still doesn't; hence,
- 21 the situation that the confidentiality agreement is
- 22 strictly construed and you have to go to it by the word
- 23 -- terms of the agreement.
- 24 Q All right.
- 25 A Confidentiality agreement could have been more

- in line with the records in this letter, but it was not.
- 2 Q If you could please turn to the next page of
- 3 Exhibit 7, 1055. You wrote, "The window of opportunity
- 4 to resolve the claim is, therefore, very short and is now
- 5 in resolve. CalPERS is not acceding to my position and
- 6 is not agreeing that my claim is valid. What CalPERS is
- 7 doing is recognizing something, the fact of the case, of
- 8 the possibility that it could lose.
- 9 "In effect, it is like resolving a \$100,000
- 10 lawsuit for \$100. This is something no reasonable
- 11 litigator would turn down, regardless of how responsible
- 12 he thought his position to be."
- 13 Did you write that?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q What was the hundred thousand dollars and what
- 16 was the \$100?
- 17 A This was a sales pitch. I wanted to settle the
- 18 case, and this was a sales pitch that I was giving.
- 19 Q So the analogy is "Pay me a hundred dollars, so
- 20 you don't have to pay all the other judges a hundred
- 21 thousand dollars"?
- 22 A Yes.
- Q Why did you feel you needed to make a sales pitch
- 24 to Maureen Reilly when she is the one who came up with
- 25 the idea of the confidentiality agreement?

- 1 A Because of the date of the letter. The date of
- 2 the letter was August the 5th. My response was written
- 3 or filed August the 15th. It was not until after she
- 4 received my response, understood what the law was, did
- 5 the search on it, that she decided that it was in the
- 6 best interest to go ahead with the settlement agreement.
- 7 Q Do you still think Olson v Cory is right?
- 8 A Absolutely, it is right. There is no -- there
- 9 is no doubt in my mind that it is right. And as I
- 10 pointed out in the briefs, you took a phrase out of one
- 11 paragraph of Olson against Cory and interpreted it
- 12 backwards and sold that to the Appellate Court and the
- 13 attorneys, which did not include me.
- 14 Q Why didn't they include you?
- 15 A You know why. Because Rozi dismissed me from
- 16 the case.
- 17 Q Why did he dismiss you from the case?
- 18 A Because he wanted to collect all of the fees
- 19 and didn't give me any part of it. And the response was
- 20 written by Professor Ruby at Duke University Law School.
- 21 And he wrote it in such a manner to prefer his position.
- 22 He was -- he was, or is, the son of a justice of the
- 23 Appellate Court who retired during the protective
- 24 period.
- 25 He was emphasizing the position of the judges

- 1 who retired in the protected period, which prevailed,
- 2 and was ignoring the rights of all the judges and did
- 3 not properly apply to what you took this one phrase
- 4 out of a paragraph and reversed its meaning, and sold it
- 5 to the Court.
- 6 Q Well, for the record, I did not do that.
- 7 A That is going to change in the present hearing
- 8 before the Appellate Court and also going to be
- 9 different, I'm sure, in the Sacramento case, although I'm
- 10 not privy to any of the pleadings in that. But I'm sure
- 11 that will be corrected up there.
- 12 Q So it is one sentence out of context. I just
- 13 want to make sure it is your view that I tricked three
- 14 appellate justices in an unanimous public opinion.
- 15 A I'm absolutely certain of that. I absolutely
- 16 am certain of other things that you have done, which I'm
- 17 not going to express to the Court today. You know what
- 18 they are.
- 19 Q You should say it now.
- 20 A You know my opinion.
- 21 Q You should say them.
- 22 THE COURT: If they are not relevant to the issue at
- 23 hand, I don't want to know them. I have allowed a
- 24 little of the personality here, but focus on the actual
- 25 fact and law in this case, because it really comes down

- 1 to that. I'd rather not get into the personality that's
- 2 involved. I really need to hear the facts and laws.
- 3 BY MR. RIEGER:
- 4 Q And the -- what evidence do you have that I
- 5 tricked the Supreme Court as well as when they sustained
- 6 the review?
- 7 A The Supreme Court did not hear this case. They
- 8 -- the Supreme Court denied accepting the case. The
- 9 Supreme Court takes, apparently, two percent of the cases
- 10 that were requested that they take. They did not take
- 11 this case.
- 12 Q Could you turn to Exhibit 8, please.
- 13 THE COURT: Before you go to Exhibit 8, I typically
- 14 run 9:00 to 12:30, 1:30 to 4:30. Do you have an
- 15 estimate for --
- 16 MR. RIEGER: I think I can finish. I am almost
- 17 done.
- 18 THE COURT: And we need to talk about a briefing
- 19 schedule. All right. Thank you.
- 20 BY MR. RIEGER:
- 21 Q So in Exhibit 8, this is when you sent in your
- 22 copy brief, right? Or this is a memo you sent to her
- 23 with a copy of your proposed brief, right?
- 24 A Apparently so. That's what it says.
- 25 O Okay. And the reason you sent it to her was so

- 1 you could have it settled instead of becoming a public
- 2 matter; is that right?
- 3 A It would become public record.
- 4 Q Turn to Exhibit 9, please. This Exhibit 9 is a
- 5 letter that you sent back to Maureen Reilly in which you
- 6 made edit to the settlement agreement, right?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q Could you please turn to Exhibit 22. Exhibit
- 9 22 is the declaration for the Staniforth action filed by
- 10 you.
- 11 Why did you file this declaration?
- 12 A Why did I file that?
- 13 0 Yeah.
- 14 A I was opposing John Rozi for throwing me off
- 15 the case.
- 16 Q Why was he throwing you off the case? You
- 17 already told me he wanted all the money for himself.
- 18 A That's right.
- 19 Q On page JRS 1429, page 3. Page 3, 1429. It
- 20 says, "Declarant and Rozi agrees that any fees that would
- 21 be received would be divided equal between the two of
- 22 them after cost."
- Is that a true statement?
- 24 A Yes.
- 25 O Did you make that agreement with Rozi?

- 1 A It was in all agreements, not a written
- 2 agreement.
- 3 Q And then you actually prepared the retainer
- 4 agreement; is that right, with the judges?
- 5 A I don't know about that. It says it in there.
- 6 Perhaps I did. I don't remember preparing the retainer
- 7 agreement. But whatever it says, it says.
- 8 Q "Declarant John Rozi should offer other judges
- 9 the Rozi agreement." Is that a true statement?
- 10 A Yes, that's true. I told him that he should
- 11 not charge them any cost. He should bear all the cost
- 12 himself, and that he should not charge 40 percent. He
- 13 should charge 30.
- 14 Q And you say "the Declarant wrote the letter to
- 15 other judges explaining his history of applying for
- 16 retirement benefit, the procedure to be filed to COLA
- 17 benefit and resulting proceeding."
- 18 Do you see that?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Is that a true statement?
- 21 A It must have been.
- 22 O So you wrote a letter about your settlement
- 23 with JRS for inclusion in the packet with John Rozi to
- 24 all the retired judges and justices and their heirs?
- 25 A I don't think -- to my memory, I don't think

- 1 that that is correct. However, the letter is in here
- 2 and you have introduced it into evidence.
- 3 Q Why don't you think it is correct?
- 4 A Because I don't think that that is what the
- 5 letter says. But the letter will speak for itself.
- 6 Q If you can please turn to page 1440. On 1440,
- 7 the last sentence, you are talking about getting a bunch
- 8 of new clients. You have 42 clients. That represents
- 9 \$7 million in your pocket.
- 10 Are you writing that to John Rozi?
- 11 THE COURT: I'm sorry. What page?
- 12 MR. RIEGER: Page 1440. It is the second paragraph
- 13 on page 1440.
- 14 BY MR. RIEGER:
- 15 Q What are you talking about when you are
- 16 referring to "\$7 million in your pocket"?
- 17 A It was apparently my estimate if I signed up
- 18 42 clients that I would be an attorney.
- 19 Q That also would have been seven million in your
- 20 pocket, right?
- 21 A I don't know about that.
- 22 O You were splitting 50/50 with him?
- 23 A I know that. But this letter was apparently
- 24 written after -- after the demur hearing and he was
- 25 blowing up, walking down the street, screaming at me

- 1 about you.
- 2 Q If you please turn to 1456.
- 3 THE COURT: 56?
- 4 MR. RIEGER: 56, yes, your Honor.
- 5 BY MR. RIEGER:
- 6 Q The last paragraph 1456, it says, "You call me
- 7 a, quote, unquote, 'whistle blower'. Come on, John, I
- 8 gave you a complete case, which will only be profitable
- 9 to each of us. We agreed to work together and share the
- 10 proceeds equally. I wrote out a complete theory of law
- 11 for you that you doubted for a long time. Now, only after
- 12 preparation for demur you, are convinced we are correct."
- Do you see that sentence?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q What did you mean when you said "call me a
- 16 whistle blower"? Why were you disputing the idea that
- 17 you were a whistle blower?
- 18 A I don't know about "whistle blower." I don't
- 19 remember that. But it speaks for itself. This was
- 20 after John had his blow-up after the hearing of the
- 21 demur. And he was, in effect, firing me, and I was trying
- 22 to oppose. You know, this -- these letters speak for
- 23 themselves. I wrote it. I said it.
- I think you are wasting time. I don't remember
- 25 writing any of these things.

- 1 Q Did you believe the case would be unbelievably
- 2 profitable for you?
- 3 A It would be very profitable.
- 4 Q All this stuff that you did, you laid out the
- 5 theory of the law for John and everything else you did,
- 6 you didn't think would violate the confidentiality
- 7 agreement, do you?
- 8 A No, it didn't. Because it's -- first of all,
- 9 the terms of the agreement. Besides that, the agreement
- 10 had already been breached. And we have gone into it
- 11 before. We don't -- we don't have to repeat all that.
- 12 It is getting very late.
- 13 Q If you could please turn to Exhibit 23. This
- 14 is a letter that you wrote to be included in the packet
- 15 that John Rozi sent out to judges, justices, and their
- 16 heirs.
- 17 A Well, Exhibit 23 is a memorandum of points
- 18 after we pulled --
- 19 Q This is the beginning of 1506.
- 20 A 1506.
- 21 Q The rest of it has been pulled out?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q This letter was included, right?
- 24 A I think it was.
- 25 Q If you please turn to number 24, Exhibit 24,

- 1 1524. Exhibit 24, page 1524. This is an E-mail that you
- 2 included in your declaration. This is John Rozi
- 3 talking. But it says, "We don't need more attorneys
- 4 when money is coming. We need secretaries, chauffeurs,
- 5 pilots, and vacation planners.
- 6 We can't trust an attorney. They run off with
- 7 your business. We have to keep it going until" --
- 8 something is redacted.
- 9 Just so -- I'm just wondering. Did you have a
- 10 conversation with John Rozi about this thing, how rich
- 11 you were going to be after this case was over?
- 12 A That was his -- that was his nature reflected
- 13 in that paragraph.
- 14 Q All right. Can you please turn to Exhibit 25.
- 15 Maybe we -- they are already both in evidence. Just for
- 16 the record, 25 and 26, these are cover letters to retired
- 17 judges; is that right?
- 18 A You mean Mason and Cobblers, yes.
- 19 MR. RIEGER: That's all I have, your Honor.
- 20 THE COURT: Was there anything you wanted to add?
- 21 MR. MAST: No, your Honor.
- 22 THE COURT: I do need to go through the exhibits
- 23 that have not been marked. So Complainant -- JRS
- 24 exhibits, I have, Exhibit 4 has been marked.
- 25 MR. RIEGER: I think 2, also.

- 1 THE COURT: Yes. 2, so I will be pulling out --
- 2 MR. RIEGER: That's fine.
- 3 THE COURT: -- Exhibit 2. That way, for myself and any
- 4 reviewing courts, anything that is not marked will not be
- 5 included in the binder. Exhibit 4 is being pulled out
- 6 because it has not been marked. Exhibit 6 is being pulled
- 7 out. That's not been marked.
- 8 MR. RIEGER: I'm sorry. Did you say 6?
- 9 THE COURT: I'm sorry.
- 10 MR. RIEGER: I am sorry. 6 should be in there. The
- 11 first three I have is 2, 4, and 10.
- 12 THE COURT: Right. Unfortunately, the exhibit list
- is not -- so 10 is being pulled. 6 was returned. It is
- 14 stamped on it. 10 is out. The next is going to be 19.
- 15 That has not been marked. That's being taken out. And
- 16 that, I believe, is it for the exhibits that are not
- 17 marked JRS.
- 18 For Respondent, I have two outstanding exhibits.
- 19 Exhibit I and Exhibit Q that Judge Mast spoke of, as far
- 20 as the separation of his documents.
- 21 Is there any objection to Exhibits I or Q?
- 22 MR. RIEGER: Yes. I don't think that an accurate
- 23 foundation was established for these. In terms of the
- 24 numbers being correct, in terms of his qualification to
- 25 this, in terms of the back-up material that have gone to

- 1 generate, like the ones I provided.
- 2 MR. MAST: Your Honor.
- 3 THE COURT: That's fine. The objections are
- 4 overruled. Exhibit I and Exhibit Q are admitted. And
- 5 I'll give the necessary weight to them with the
- 6 testimony that was provided regarding how they were
- 7 prepared.
- 8 (Respondent's Exhibits I and Q were
- 9 received in evidence by the Court.)
- 10 THE COURT: All right.
- 11 So that takes care of all of that evidence that
- 12 has been marked in the case of all of those. We do need
- 13 to schedule briefing. Why don't we go off the record
- 14 for just a minute.
- 15 (Discussion off the record)
- 16 THE COURT: All right. Pursuant to discussion and
- 17 agreement with the parties, the JRS will file and serve
- 18 its closing brief addressing, among other things, any
- 19 issue that must be addressed and raised in Respondent's
- 20 filed briefs. And that closing brief should be filed
- 21 and served by the close of business, December 21st, 2015.
- 22 By January 11, 2016 close of business, the
- 23 Respondent will have to file and serve its opposition to
- 24 JRS closing brief. And then JRS will have until close
- 25 of business, January 25, 2016, to file and serve any

- 1 reply to Respondent's opposition. And the record will
- 2 close, then, on January 25, 2016. There is nothing --
- 3 MR. MAST: Your Honor, I assume these will be filed
- 4 electronically with the Court?
- 5 THE COURT: Yes.
- 6 MR. MAST: Could we also have an agreement that they
- 7 be served on each of us by E-mail?
- 8 THE COURT: All right.
- 9 MR. RIEGER: I've always done that.
- 10 MR. MAST: I have to -- I want to get away from
- 11 mailing it to you, also.
- MR. RIEGER: Oh, yeah, I guess that's fine. Yeah,
- 13 that's fine.
- 14 THE COURT: All right.
- MR. RIEGER: Sometimes it scares me if I get a
- 16 million E-mails. Don't have back-up. I will take a
- 17 chance this time.
- 18 THE COURT: All right. So if there is nothing
- 19 further, then we are off the record.
- 20 (Hearing adjourned at 4:35 p.m.)
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