Filing # 14457934 Electronically Filed 06/05/2014 10:29:02 AM IN THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COURT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA CASE NO: 502012CP004391XXXXSB IN RE: THE ESTATE OF SIMON L. BERNSTEIN PROCEEDINGS BEFORE HONORABLE MARTIN COLIN DATE: MAY 23, 2014 TIME: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. 1 PPEARANCES: 3 PPEARING ON BEHALF OF WILLIAM STANSBURY: 4 R. PETER M. FEAMAN, ESQ. MR. JEFFREY T. ROYER, ESQ. PETER M. FEAMAN, P.A. 3695 w. Boynton Beach Blvd., Suite 9 6 oynton Beach, FL 33436 8 PPEARING OF BEHALF OF TED BERNSTEIN: 9 R. ALAN ROSE, ESQ. PAGE MRACHEK 505 S. Flagler Drive West Palm Beach, FL 33401 11 12 APPEARING ON BEHALF OF FOUR ADULT GRANDCHILDREN: 13 JOHN P. MORRISSEY, ESQ. JOHN P. MORRISSEY, P.A. 14 330 Clematis Street, Suite 213 west Palm Beach, FL 33401 16 APPEARING AS THE CURATOR: 17 BENJAMIN BROWN, ESQ. MATWICZYK & BROWN, LLP 18 625 N. Flagler Drive, Suite 401 West Palm Beach, FL 33401 19 APPEARING PRO SE: 21 ELIOT BERNSTEIN 22 23 24 2 BE IT REMEMBERED, that the following 3 proceedings were taken in the above-styled cause 4 before Honorable MARTIN COLIN at the Palm Beach county courthouse, 200 West Atlantic Avenue, in the 6 City of Delray Beach, County of Palm Beach, State of 7 Florida, on Friday, the 23rd day of May, 2014, to 8 wit: 9 THE COURT: Good morning. Let me get my 11 computer on. We're here in the Bernstein case. 12 Appearances. 13 MR. BERNSTEIN: Eliot Bernstein, pro se. 14 MR. FEAMAN: Peter Feaman on behalf of William Stansbury. And from my office, Jeff 16 Royer. 17 MR. MORRISSEY: John Morrissey on behalf 18 of four of the adult grandchildren. 19 MR. ROSE: Alan Rose on behalf of Ted Bernstein.

- 21 MR. BROWN: Ben Brown as curator of the
- 22 estate.
- 23 THE COURT: All right. What do we have
- 24 for today?
- MR. ROSE: Before we get to that, I have
- 1 one -sort of an important issue that came up
- 2 last night.
- 3 THE COURT: Go ahead.
- 4 MR. ROSE: It will take 30 seconds.
- Ted Bernstein sent me an email. And he
- 6 replied to an email, and accidently the email
- 7 went to Eliot Bernstein. It was
- 8 attorney-client privileged communication
- 9 directly to me from my client Ted Bernstein.
- The email went to Eliot Bernstein. Under Rule
- 11 1.285 I sent to Mr. Eliot Bernstein an email
- 12 immediately asking him to delete or return the
- 13 privileged materials.
- 14 I discussed the issue with Mr. Eliot
- Bernstein this morning and he advised me that
- 16 he has emailed the document to 2,000 people.
- 17 He's had a history of posting things on
- 18 the internet. Because it's attorney-client
- 19 privileged information it's very sensitive and
- I'd request the Court to instruct him to comply
- 21 with Rule 1.285. It was a reply to an email
- 22 that had a bunch of names and accidentally it
- 23 went to him. Mr. Bernstein advised me
- 24 immediately and I advised Eliot immediately.
- THE COURT: Mr. Bernstein, did you get an
- 1 email from counsel?
- 2 MR. BERNSTEIN: I did not get his email.
- 3 I got an email from my brother addressed to me
- 4 only. I read it, as usual when I get something bizarre that's attacking and threatening me, or
- 6 whatever. It was from Ted Bernstein to Eliot
- 7 Bernstein.
- 8 THE COURT: It was from -
- 9 MR. BERNSTEIN: Ted Bernstein to Eliot Bernstein.
- 11 THE COURT: Not from the lawyer?
- 12 MR. BERNSTEIN: No. He misrepresents
- 13 everything.
- 14 THE COURT: We'll take it up at the end.
- There's other things scheduled. If you
- 16 remember, we'll take it up.
- 17 MR. ROSE: Fine.
- 18 THE COURT: Go ahead.
- 19 MR. FEAMAN: May it please the Court.
- Peter Feaman, Your Honor, on behalf of William
- 21 Stansbury, interested person in the estate.
- 22 This is Mr. Stansbury•s petition for the

- 23 appointment of an administrator ad litem which
- 24 has been submitted to Your Honor together with a supplement to the petition to the requested
- 1 relief.
- 2 We're asking this Court to appoint
- 3 Mr. Stansbury as an administrator ad litem of
- 4 the estate for the sole purpose of making an appearance on behalf of the estate in some
- 6 litigation that is currently pending in
- 7 Illinois involving a life insurance policy on
- 8 Simon Bernstein's life, the deceased, with a
- 9 death benefit of \$1.7 million.

That litigation has been pending for over

- 11 a year from what I can tell, or about a year.
- 12 And it has not involved the estate which is
- 13 very interesting because the documents that
- 14 I've recently obtained since the filing of our motion, Your Honor, we found out that insurance
- 16 policy, according to internal records of the
- 17 insurance company, is actually owned by the
- 18 deceased Simon Bernstein. So arguably not only
- 19 is it an asset of the estate, that insurance policy, and the proceeds therefrom, but any
- 21 litigation concerning the distribution of those
- 22 proceeds should be in this court, Your Honor.
- 23 Now that's jumping ahead. But the point
- 24 is that we're dealing with an asset of the estate and, therefore, this court has every
- 1 interest in seeing that the estate's assets are
- 2 marshaled. The first step for that, Your
- 3 Honor, would be to appoint an administrator ad
- 4 litem to at least intervene in that federal court action that's up in Illinois.
- 6 The former personal representatives of
- 7 this estate, Your Honor, were doing everything
- B they could to keep the money out of the estate
- 9 from that life insurance policy. They have alleged that the beneficiary is the life
- 11 insurance trust. The problem is nobody can
- 12 find the original life insurance trust. Nobody
- 13 can find even a copy of the life insurance
- 14 trust. And the records that we show show that
- the beneficiaries are not, in fact, a life
- 16 insurance trust. But the first beneficiary,
- 17 according to Heritage, which is the insurance
- 18 company, is LaSalle National Trust. The second
- 19 beneficiary is the Simon Bernstein Trust, whatever that is. But it's not the Simon
- 21 Bernstein Irrevocable Insurance Trust that is
- 22 being alleged up in Illinois.
- 23 Now if there's no clear beneficiary, as
- 24 Your Honor is aware, then the life insurance

### proceeds would go to the estate and become an

- 1 asset, or liquid assets for the estate. Now
- 2 that money presently has been put into the
- 3 registry of the court up in Illinois by the
- 4 insurance company. They were first requested
- by the personal representatives of this estate,
- 6 the former, to pay it to others. And the
- 7 insurance company said we don't have any
- B documentation to justify that. So they just
- 9 impleaded the funds.
- The litigation has been pending, and
- 11 despite the fact that the estate is the owner
- 12 of the policy, the estate has never been
- 13 represented in that action. Now the estate has
- 14 a high probability of success, we believe, in
- this case. Because if they're going to try to
- 16 establish a lost instrument without the
- 17 original or without a copy it's going to be
- 18 based, I assume, on oral testimony from people.
- 19 And that is a high burden. Interestingly we found out at first, on this so-called insurance
- 21 trust, Mr. Spallina (phonetic), who was the
- 22 personal representative, formerly, of this
- 23 estate, represented to the insurance company
- 24 that he was the trustee of this insurance trust. When that didn't work, Your Honor -we
- 1 have a document that we'll show to the court up 2 in Chicago -when that didn't work they're now
- 3 in court up there saying that Mr. Ted Bernstein
- 4 is the trustee, or successor trustee, of that
- insurance trust. Yet there is no copy of that
- 6 trust before the court in any fashion. The
- 7 plaintiffs in that lawsuit are now not only the
- 8 insurance trust, the so-called insurance trust,
- 9 it's now all the adult children of Mr. Simon
- Bernstein. Interestingly enough, Your Honor 11 the adult children are not beneficiaries of
- 12 this estate, Your Honor. It's the ten
- 13 grandchildren who are the residual
- 14 beneficiaries as a result of the pour-over provision of the will that leaves all the
- 16 liquid assets in a trust. The beneficiaries of
- 17 that trust are the ten grandchildren. So the
- 18 adults, the adult children of Mr. Simon
- 19 Bernstein, have every incentive, Your Honor, to
- see that the estate is not inherited with these
- 21 life insurance proceeds because if they succeed
- 22 in this action in Illinois then the adult
- 23 children inherit or receive the proceeds of the
- 24 life insurance not the ten grandchildren over whom you have jurisdiction as the beneficiaries

- 1 in this estate.
- 2 The curator, Your Honor, has no objection.
- 3 Mr. Brown -
- 4 THE COURT: Let me stop and hear from Mr.
- Brown. What's your position on their motion?
- 6 MR. BROWN: I'm not taking a position on
- 7 the motion, Your Honor. I can get into it
- 8 further, I don't really want to interrupt
- 9 Mr. Feaman. But it would seem to me that if
- the main estate creditor wants to try to
- 11 intervene in Chicago on behalf of the estate to
- 12 bring assets into the estate without looking to
- 13 the estate for current payment of his fees, in
- 14 other words, if he finally succeeds then he can
- then come back to this Court and ask to have
- 16 his fees reimbursed, then that would seem to be
- 17 a benefit to the estate as far as marshaling
- 18 the assets of the estate and, of course, the
- 19 curator and/or personal representative has a duty to the creditors also to try to marshal
- 21 the assets of the estate.
- 22 THE COURT: I got your position.
- 23 Mr. Rose?
- 24 MR. ROSE: Our position is pretty simple.
- And I -this is an evidentiary hearing -
- 1 THE COURT: It's an opening to tell me
- 2 what's going on. I just want your position.
- 3 MR. ROSE: Tetra (phonetic) and Spallina,
- 4 who were the prior PRs, believe that the claim
- to the insurance policy by the estate had no
- 6 merit because of their discussions with their
- 7 client, because of their investigation of
- 8 facts. These people have no evidence to
- 9 support they have no parol evidence. This
- is a fight over an insurance policy that only
- 11 beneficiary -there's no dispute that the
- 12 beneficiary the insurance company has on
- 13 record, there was a prior beneficiary which was
- 14 a company pension plan that the company is
- dissolved, and that's out -the only
- 16 contingent beneficiary, and there's an
- 17 affidavit that's been filed attached to one of
- 18 their motions in this Court where the insurance
- 19 company says the only other beneficiary ever
- named was the Simon Bernstein Irrevocable Life
- 21 Insurance Trust. There's a shorthand in a
- 22 computer system, where somebody shorthanded it
- 23 in the computer, and the affidavit in the
- 24 insurance company addressing that which says
- that's shorthand, but in our forms the only

12346789 ll 1213 14161718 1921222324 beneficiary ever listed is this irrevocable life insurance trust, their only piece of evidence supporting their claim is that the insurance trust cannot be found. But the trust did exist. It has a

tax ID number from -a federal tax ID number. There's numerous references to it between different lawyers and nobody can find the trust document now. That's an issue that's going to be resolved in Illinois. But they have no evidence other than the fact that the trust doesn't exist -they don't have any parol evidence. They don't have any documents. They don't have anything on behalf of the estate. our concern is they're going to spend the precious few estate assets that are remaining to go to Illinois and fight an issue that has no merit, can subject the estate to a claim, you know, for fees or indemnification or prevailing party attorney's fees award. The policy was owned by Simon Bernstein. That means it's included in his taxable estate. But it does not mean it's owned in his probate estate. The beneficiary is the beneficiary. The policy proceeds are in Illinois. They've

- 1 been deposited into the court -
- 2 THE COURT: What's the issue that the
- 3 Illinois judge is being asked to decide?
- 4 MR. ROSE: Being asked to decide, among competing claims, to the proceeds of this race.
- 6 Eliot Bernstein is there asserting the exact
- 7 position that Mr. Stansbury wants to go there
- 8 to assert. Eliot is asserting that the money
- 9 should go to the estate and not the irrevocable life insurance trust. That issue is going to
- 11 require, you know, a summary judgment or a
- 12 trial with parol evidence to determine who the
- 13 beneficiary is of that policy.
- 14 Mr. Stansbury has gone there to intervene and was denied by the judge the right to
- 16 intervene in the case already once.
- 17 our main concern really is twofold. The
- 18 expense on both -what's actively being spent.
- 19 We want to make sure no estate funds are being expended to pursue this. In an estate that
- 21 has a very limited amount of funds here -
- 22 THE COURT: Mr. Feaman says that his
- 23 client will not seek fees for his role as
- 24 administrator ad litem unless and until a recovery might take place and then he'll make
- 1 an application with funds then available,
- 2 meaning the \$1.7 million would then apparently
- 3 come into the estate.
- 4 MR. ROSE: I haven't heard testimony to that effect yet.
- 6 THE COURT: That's a representation.
- 7 MR. ROSE: He'd also need to represent
- 8 that he would indemnify and hold the estate
- 9 harmless if there's any adverse action as a result of him intervening in that case and
- 11 losing either an award of attorneys fees or
- 12 THE COURT: I'm not sure about that part
- 13 yet. I got your position.
- 14 MR. ROSE: And then the final point is
- Mr. Stansbury is a potential creditor of the
- 16 estate. To the extent he goes and -even if
- 17 he would win that lawsuit and bring money into
- 18 the estate I don't think it's fair to let him
- 19 get a -I don't know what his fee arrangement

#### would be.

- 21 THE COURT: I'd hear that. Under the
- 22 statute he has to prove that he provided a
- 23 benefit to the estate.
- 24 MR. ROSE: We don't even know if his claim will still exist -
- 1 THE COURT: It may or may not.
- 2 Mr. Morrissey?
- 3 MR. MORRISSEY: To address first the last
- 4 point why should Mr. Stansbury not be allowed
- 5 to act even though his fees may or may not come
- 6 at the end. Well, he's a claimant. He's not a
- 7 creditor. There's a distinction here. As a
- 8 claimant he might not be privy, or should not
- 9 be privy, to certain information because he
- 10 doesn't have a judgment. He's not one of the
- ll eight classes of people. If he's allowed to
- 12 intervene as a claimant in the Illinois action
- 13 he may, in fact, become privy to certain
- 14 information that we, or the estate, does not
- 15 want him to become privy to because we may end
- 16 up having to negotiate with a claimant to
- 17 satisfy a claim. We don't want him privy to
- 18 certain information. We don't want him
- 19 intervening in actions, and certainly in
- 20 actions that he's already sought intervention
- 21 and been denied.
- 22 THE COURT: Was he denied because he
- 23 didn't have standing because he hadn't been
- 24 appointed as an administrator? Is that the
- 25 reason why he was denied?
- 1 MR. MORRISSEY: He attempted to intervene
- 2 individually and was denied. He was denied
- 3 because -I've attached the order. I filed an
- 4 opposition and attached the order. And I can read from a couple of sections of the order to
- 6 indicate and let Your Honor know why he was
- 7 denied.
- 8 THE COURT: Hold on. I see it here.
- 9 MR. MORRISSEY: The court there went through an extensive analysis, legal standard
- 11 and analysis in its order speaking of
- 12 intervention as a right, and permissive
- 13 intervention. And the court said, "The fact
- 14 that you might anticipate a benefit from a judgment in favor of one of the parties to a
- 16 lawsuit, maybe, for example, you're a creditor
- 17 of one of them, does not entitle you to
- 18 intervene in their lawsuit." That is really
- 19 the position that Mr. Stansbury is in. The
- court went on, "Here Stansbury•s claimed 21 interest is merely an economic interest that is

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- 22 too remote for purposes of the rule because the
- 23 estate is not a party to this lawsuit. And
- 24 Stansbury does not assert that he or the estate are beneficiaries to the life insurance
- 1 proceeds nor the Bernstein Trust."
- 2 THE COURT: You represent, Mr. Morrissey,
- 3 who?
- 4 MR. MORRISSEY: I represent the four grandchildren.
- 6 THE COURT: Who, according to Mr. Feaman,
- 7 may benefit if this money comes to the estate?
- 8 MR. MORRISSEY: Correct.
- 9 THE COURT: So the way the case is being litigated now -is the only plaintiff the
- 11 Simon Bernstein Irrevocable Insurance Trust vs.
- 12 the life insurance company?
- 13 MR. MORRISSEY: Well -
- 14 THE COURT: That's the way the style of
- the case is. Are there more plaintiffs than
- 16 that?
- 17 MR. FEAMAN: They amended subsequently and
- 18 joined the adult four of the five of the
- 19 adult children were joined as plaintiffs.
- THE COURT: And who is representing them?
- 21 MR. FEAMAN: Somebody up in Chicago in
- 22 that action.
- 23 THE COURT: Okay.
- 24 MR. ROSE: I think technically the lawsuit was started by the trust against the insurance
- 1 company. The insurance company filed an
- 2 interpleaded, probably by counterclaim. My
- 3 understanding is, subject to someone correcting
- 4 me, the insurance company was granted interpleader. They put the funds in the
- 6 registry of the court. The insurance company
- 7 is out of the case and even though you have the
- 8 original style what's left is people asserting
- 9 a claim to the proceeds.
- Eliot is there, I think, advocating the
- 11 claim on behalf of the estate
- 12 THE COURT: Eliot is prose. I want -we
- 13 recognize that. From Mr. Morrissey's point of
- 14 view, do you take a position that your clients,
- the grandchildren, may have an interest in
- 16 these monies?
- 17 MR. MORRISSEY: No -well, our position
- 18 is the following
- 19 THE COURT: That question first.
- MR. MORRISSEY: our position -no, on
- 21 behalf of the four grandchildren.
- 22 THE COURT: You waive any -on behalf of
- 23 those children you waive any claim to that

24 money?

MR. MORRISSEY: I'm not going to waive on

- 1 the record.
- 2 THE COURT: You have to stand on one side
- 3 of the fence or the other on that.
- 4 MR. MORRISSEY: Quite honestly, I haven't asked them that question. I can't waive
- 6 something on behalf of my clients when I
- 7 haven't asked them that question point blank.
- 8 THE COURT: All right. So you have who
- 9 the Simon Bernstein Irrevocable Trust is represented by Chicago
- 11 MR. BERNSTEIN: Adam Simon who is the
- 12 brother to David Simon who is married to my
- 13 sister Pam Simon who stands to benefit if the
- 14 money goes through Illinois.
- THE COURT: Illinois counsel, okay. And
- 16 the four children are represented by one
- 17 lawyer?
- 18 MR. FEAMAN: That's Adam Simon.
- 19 THE COURT: Because of the impleading of the funds the battle right now is between the
- 21 trust and these four children because those are
- 22 the parties that are now competing for the
- 23 money?
- 24 MR. ROSE: I don't think -I don't know if the four children are technically parties.
- 1 I think they're just -the battle I think is
- 2 between Eliot who is asserting that these funds
- 3 should come into this estate -
- 4 THE COURT: Eliot was allowed to intervene?
- 6 MR. BERNSTEIN: I got sued in the case,
- 7 Your Honor, because they had gone behind my
- 8 back to try to steal this policy -around you
- 9 too -and they were told by the insurance company, when Robert Spallina submitted what I
- 11 allege is a fraudulent insurance claim, and
- 12 they were told by the insurance company that
- 13 the claim was denied and they needed a probate
- 14 court order from you to approve the beneficiary scheme they were proposing using some mashugana
- 16 lost trust -
- 17 THE COURT: Eliot, you're named as a
- 18 cross-plaintiff, so you are -
- 19 MR. BERNSTEIN: Now I've somehow become a plaintiff -a defendant that you showed me
- 21 last week, or two weeks ago, when you handed me
- 22 that order. I haven't quite figured out how
- 23 I'm the named defendant.
- 24 Your Honor, I'm representing their -my children's interests.

- 1 THE COURT: Hold it. I'm reading
- 2 something. I see a entity in the style of the
- 3 case up there called the Simon Bernstein Trust,
- 4 N.A. What's that? Is that something different than the Simon Bernstein Irrevocable Trust?
- 6 MR. ROSE: It's in the affidavit that was
- 7 filed, I think attached to Mr. Brown's recent
- 8 petition for instructions, but... In the
- 9 insurance company's computer they shorthanded the name of the trust. The beneficiary is the
- 11 Simon Bernstein Irrevocable Life Insurance
- 12 Trust which is the -
- 13 THE COURT: Ted Bernstein is an individual
- 14 in this suit now. And who is representing him?
- MR. ROSE: I don't know that he is an
- 16 individual. If he's an individual he's
- 17 represented by Adam Simon.
- 18 THE COURT: I'm reading it. That's where
- 19 I get it. They're individually and/or as purported trustee of the irrevocable trust.
- 21 Eliot is a cross-plaintiff -that's where
- 22 you're named, Eliot -vs. Ted, individually
- 23 and as trustee of the irrevocable trust. And
- 24 then a bunch of other people and entities are cross-defendants. Right now the competing
- 1 parties in Illinois are the irrevocable trust
- 2 and Eliot. Is that basically it -
- 3 MR. ROSE: Yes.
- 4 THE COURT: -who are active; is that true?
- 6 So the question is should the claimant be
- 7 declared here an administrator ad litem for the
- 8 purposes of being permitted to ask the court to
- 9 be able to intervene, which the court may or may not do?
- 11 MR. ROSE: There's one other part of my
- 12 opening I missed on my notes -
- 13 THE COURT: Go ahead. Sure.
- 14 MR. ROSE: Mr. Morrissey touched on it and reminded me. If you're going to appoint an
- 16 administrator ad litem it should not be
- 17 Mr. Stansbury. You can appoint somebody and
- 18 Mr. Stansbury could fund it, he could pay the
- 19 expenses of, let's say, Mr. Brown or an independent person to hire a Chicago lawyer
- 21 and, you know, advance the case. But you would
- 22 then be preserving issues of privilege and you
- 23 would be preserving the integrity of the system
- 24 rather than have Mr. Stansbury, who is a claimant, who is adverse on multiple levels to
- 1 the estate, as the active person he would be

- 2 funding the litigation and, in my view, he
- 3 should be required to indemnify. But you'd
- 4 have a neutral third person doing it rather
- that Mr. Stansbury which I think makes a lot 6 more sense.
- 7 THE COURT: What do you say about the
- 8 latter comment? That's the only one I want you
- 9 to address.
- MR. FEAMAN: The fact that Mr. Stansbury
- 11 will become privy to confidential information
- 12
- 13 THE COURT: Well, we're not at -
- 14 MR. FEAMAN: Ben Brown -
- THE COURT: I'll allow someone else to
- 16 intervene to appropriately determine whether
- 17 the estate has an interest in this money or
- 18 not. That's the issue, correct?
- 19 MR. FEAMAN: Yes.
- THE COURT: All right. Right now the
- 21 person technically doing that is Eliot who
- 22 tries his best as a pro se. But it's pretty
- 23 tough
- 24 MR. FEAMAN: That's right. He doesn't represent the estate.
- 1 THE COURT: He represents himself
- 2 individually. So someone who may look for the
- 3 interest of the estate. And, you know, these
- 4 type of litigation, obviously, the Illinois judge is going to have to take evidence -I'm
- 6 not going to do that in my hearing -on who
- 7 the beneficiary is of this policy. That's what
- 8 has to be determined.
- 9 MR. FEAMAN: That's correct.
- THE COURT: The issue is narrow and I
- 11 think everyone agrees with that.
- 12 MR. FEAMAN: And
- 13 THE COURT: What I'm thinking about is
- 14 you kind of want to be able to make sure that everyone who, perhaps, could ultimately be a
- 16 beneficiary of this policy have a voice in that
- 17 litigation. That's the due process part of it.
- 18 So my thought is, having heard everybody say
- 19 what they said, I rarely find it to be a
- problem allowing someone to intervene -unless
- 21 they're a stranger, this wouldn't be a
- 22 stranger -because a voice is a good thing to
- 23 have. We allow interventions all the time here
- 24 on my cases. I just hear from someone else.
- They don't win or lose unless there's merit to
- 1 them. Someone right now is hovering the
- 2 position that the Simon Bernstein Irrevocable
- 3 Trust is the beneficiary. They're lawyered up.

- 4 The only other person that seems to suggest that that may not be the case and it is the
- 6 estate that's the beneficiary is Eliot. So I'm
- 7 considering having someone other than Eliot
- 8 or in addition to Eliot, because he's there
- 9 individually on behalf of himself and he's not representing the estate -someone represent
- 11 the interest of the estate.
- 12 And so the proposal is that that be
- 13 someone funded by your client, Mr. Feaman, but
- 14 not -but someone who is more neutral like Mr.

Brown or something like that. What do you say

- 16 about that?
- 17 MR. FEAMAN: We came up with Mr. Stansbury
- 18 because if he's the one that's willing to fund
- 19 the intervention and to fund the person -the lawyer -to make sure that the estate is going
- 21 to be protected
- 22 THE COURT: He has more -he's like
- 23 Eliot. He has his own interests, personal
- 24 interest.

MR. FEAMAN: He does. He has interests in

- 1 money coming into the estate, absolutely.
- 2 THE COURT: But someone who is more
- 3 neutral may be the right move there. If that's
- 4 where I'm going on this, what is your position on that?
- 6 MR. FEAMAN: If that's where you're going
- 7 on that then Ben Brown is acceptable in that
- 8 regard. I would just -since Mr. Stansbury is
- 9 the one that's volunteering, if you will, to fund initially the cost of this, then he needs,
- 11 through me, some input with Mr. Brown.
- 12 THE COURT: Sure.
- 13 MR. FEAMAN: on all matters.
- 14 THE COURT: You'd be allowed to have input with him. But Mr. Brown would be there,
- 16 assuming he's willing to take the assignment,
- 17 to preserve issues of confidentiality and other
- 18 concerns that could exist. He sounded, all
- 19 along, from the beginning, as the perfect centerpiece to do this. What do you say?
- 21 MR. BROWN: Actually, I -a few things to
- 22 say, Your Honor. The first thing is with
- 23 regard to the privilege issue. I'm not aware
- 24 of any privilege that would apply.

THE COURT: And I'm not either. But let's

- 1 get past that point.
- 2 MR. BROWN: The testamentary exception,
- 3 this is squarely in the testamentary exception,
- 4 so there is no privilege in my view of this.

THE COURT: Okay.

- 6 MR. BROWN: The second issue is that I
- 7 promised David Simon, I've given to you before,
- 8 this email thread where he sent me an email and
- 9 said you're trying to have Mr. Stansbury appointed as administrator ad litem, the estate
- 11 should not be appearing in Illinois, you're
- 12 going to be wasting estate assets and you have
- 13 a conflict of interest because you're the
- 14 curator and the estate pours over into the revocable trust and the beneficiaries of the
- 16 revocable trust don't want this policy to go to
- 17 the estate. I've been accused of conflict of
- 18 interest. I've been accused of beaches of
- 19 fiduciary duty already by David Simon who, apparently, is Adam Simon's brother and the
- 21 father of some of the grandchildren.
- 22 My third issue is that, I think it's from
- 23 the Vietnam War, this comes within the category
- 24 of mission creek. I'm supposed to be temporary interim limited curator. There's supposed to
- 1 be a personal representative appointed at some
- 2 point. I've been asked by the parties to
- 3 consider being the personal representative.
- 4 Frankly, Your Honor, this case is -goes off in a lot of different directions. Whoever the
- 6 personal representative is going to spend a lot
- 7 of money just dealing with the different
- 8 parties and the different people who are
- 9 involved. And, frankly, I don't know that I have the time. And I really don't want to be
- 11 the personal representative.
- 12 THE COURT: Okay.
- 13 MR. BROWN: If I'm appointed administrator
- 14 ad litem it seems like I'm in there for the long run on a federal case. They do move them
- 16 pretty quickly here in the Southern District of
- 17 Florida. I know that from experience. I don't
- 18 know about the Northern District of Illinois.
- 19 MR. FEAMAN: Well, there's been -I can answer that question.
- 21 THE COURT: Okay.
- 22 MR. FEAMAN: There's been a notification
- 23 of a docket entry entered by the judge on -it
- 24 said that all case dispositive motions are to be filed by mid-July, July 13. So it sounds
- 1 like we're on a rocket docket to me, Your
- 2 Honor.
- 3 And on behalf of Mr. Stansbury I would
- 4 like to, since he is running the cost, be able
- to work with whomever it is to pick counsel up
- 6 in Chicago. And that and to review
- 7 counsel's bills from Chicago and to help

- 8 strategize with that counsel the best way to
- 9 proceed up there should Your Honor go that direction.
- 11 THE COURT: All right. So let me ask this
- 12 question: Is there also before me a petition
- 13 to appoint or determine a PR?
- 14 MR. FEAMAN: Not today.
- THE COURT: Not today, okay.
- 16 MR. BROWN: Your Honor, I don't know if
- 17 that's set for hearing at all. Although I
- 18 request that it be set for hearing. The other
- 19 issue with a PR versus a curator is that
- Mr. Stansbury has active litigation going on in
- 21 front of Judge Blanc right now. So far there
- 22 hasn't been any conflict as far as Ted
- 23 Bernstein and the estate defending against
- 24 Mr. Stansbury•s claim, but there have been multiple instances where people in this case,
- 1 in this room, basically, have said that there
- 2 could eventually be a conflict of interest
- 3 because there could be some finger pointing in
- 4 cross claims.
- THE COURT: It's hard to purify a case
- 6 like this and not have it not have a
- 7 situation where it's allegation free of a
- 8 purported conflict of interest. But it just
- 9 sounds logical that if especially when I'm
- looking at the latest heading out of the case
- 11 in Illinois if this is, in its simplest
- 12 form, a dispute as to who the beneficiary of
- 13 this life insurance policy is, I mean that's a
- 14 that's kind of a narrow hearing. We do
- those types of things in state court. You
- 16 know, you need some discovery. And then you
- 17 present the evidence and the judge makes a
- 18 decision. Kind of like the way you do in
- 19 contract cases. And so the parties who claim
- to be beneficiaries of the policy seem to be
- 21 Simon Bernstein's Irrevocable Trust and their
- 22 representative. I'm treating Simon Bernstein
- 23 Trust as the same party for the purpose of this
- 24 discussion. Eliot, individually, he's there.
- And no one who may have a voice to say I want,
- 1 on behalf of the estate, because there's no PR.
- 2 If there's a PR the PR would take care of that.
- 3 Especially where Mr. Stansbury is willing to
- 4 front the cost of the fees for that up front it sounds beneficial to have that voice.
- 6 So I'll put it this way, Mr. Brown, I
- 7 would expand your curator duties, if you're
- 8 willing, to take the assignment. If not, we
- 9 got to go elsewhere. It's up to you.

MR. BROWN: The curator duties basically

11 to just effectively be the party who's

12 intervening using Mr. Stansbury•s counsel?

13 THE COURT: No. You would be the party.

14 You would hire a lawyer. You're allowed to,

like in any other case, you and your lawyer can

16 hear, because your phones work and your emails

17 work, from anyone else including Mr. Feaman and

18 Mr. Rose and Mr. Morrissey, and anyone else can

19 stick their two sense in. That's the way

litigation goes. But it seems to be that this

21 isn't an issue that's a finger-pointing issue.

22 This is who the beneficiary of the policy is.

23 The judge is going to look at the documents and

24 either say it's clear on its face or else take parol evidence and we're on our way. This

1 isn't a personal type of litigation. And so,

2 you know, the strategies are legal strategies

3 that would be in charge of you and the lawyer

4 you hire.

MR. BROWN: I understand that, Your Honor.

6 Basically what you just described is something

7 that Mr. Stansbury could very easily do and pay

8 for himself.

9 THE COURT: Right. But he's but I

don't want him to be the party to do that

11 because I think there's -he's a claimant.

12 There's -I'm not comfortable there.

13 MR. BROWN: Okay.

14 THE COURT: And, you know, you're the

neutral person looking out for the estate's

16 interest. He has -he's not -he's looking

17 out for the estate's interest but in a

18 different manner. So hypothetically if you

19 went up into the litigation and you got

convinced by looking at everything you looked

21 at, you and your lawyer, that the beneficiary

22 was the Simon Bernstein Irrevocable Insurance

23 Trust, whatever that is, and not the estate,

24 you have a duty to argue in good faith. You

follow what I'm saying? That's where the

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neutrality part comes in. But you are more advocating, primarily, to the estate at -that's the assignment.

MR. BROWN: I understand that, Your Honor.

But -- and I know there's the estate has about 6 to assets, that includes the

THE COURT: Remember, Mr. Stansbury pay.

a lot of buts here \$700,000 worth of jewelry.

I'm having

MR. BROWN: Oh, you are having Mr. Stansbury, okay.

THE COURT: That was the deal.

MR. BROWN: And just using his counsel that he already has retained and already tried to intervene with?

THE COURT: No. No. You pick the lawyer.

He pays.

MR. BROWN: Your Honor, I will do it

subject to whatever personal representative is appointed going ahead and taking over

THE COURT: Ultimately if we get to the stage where there's a PR taking the place of you, that would be different. This is --let me just tell you, I mean a couple of reasons why I think that works is Mr. Brown has worked

1 with me as curator in a lot of cases. I mean I

2 haven't had one challenge to the reasonableness

3 of the fees ever. He keeps control of the

4 lawyers. You know, and he does really a good

job there. So I really, you know, I can't

6 think of a better person to deal with this

7 issue given everyone's competing interest.

8 He'll be fair on what he argues on behalf of

9 the estate. He's not going to run up fees.

He's not going to allow the lawyer to run up

11 fees. If you want, I don't think he should be

12 the lawyer probably because I don't think he's

13 admitted in Illinois

14 MR. BROWN: No.

THE COURT: -and he'll be able to best

16 determine how to filter whatever the

17 information is that other counsel want to give

18 to them. Again, it's a narrow issue. Okay,

19 everyone is jumping up.

MR. MORRISSEY: If I could respond on

21 behalf of four of the grandchildren. We're now

22 talking about having to pay, you know, from my

23 client's perspective pockets, Mr. Brown's fees,

24 an attorney up in Illinois -

THE COURT: I just said that won't be the

### 1 case.

- 2 MR. MORRISSEY: That could potentially be
- 3 the case.
- 4 THE COURT: It would only be the case if there was a recovery for the estate to which

6 then Mr. Stansbury would say, under the

- 7 statute, I performed a benefit for the estate.
- 8 How could that not benefit and from what I'm
- 9 told your clients, the grandchildren, would be

the people who would benefit from that. So why

- 11 would you complain about that if that's what
- 12 wound up happening? There's not a dollar
- 13 coming out of the estate unless there's a
- 14 recovery basically, and then the recovery would take place and he would seek some recovery of

16 fees.

17 MR. MORRISSEY: And he would seek that -

18 THE COURT: Here.

- 19 MR. MORRISSEY: Here?
- THE COURT: Sure. You can say what I
- 21 think you're going to say, it's okay.
- 22 MR. MORRISSEY: I just want to go back to
- 23 the basics. The fact that the estate is only a
- 24 taker in default. So the estate doesn't need
- to be represented in the Illinois action.
- 1 It's, for example, there was even talk, I
- 2 believe, in the Illinois case by one of the
- 3 banks or insurance companies that it's possible
- 4 if there's no beneficiary then the State of
- Illinois could be the taker in default. Well,
- 6 the State of Illinois wasn't named as a party.
- 7 They don't have counsel there. Likewise, why
- 8 should the estate have counsel in an action
- 9 where they're only the taker of last resort?
- THE COURT: Because if they're the taker
- 11 as a matter of law -I mean -I don't really
- 12 follow your argument because let's say there's
- 13 a hearing, which there will be, and the trust
- 14 is there, Eliot is there, and the estate is
- there, and the judge hears it all and says the
- 16 decision is the beneficiary should be the
- 17 estate, would we say that that's a ridiculous
- 18 thing that we had the estate participate? I
- 19 don't think so.
- MR. MORRISSEY: I don't know what -I
- 21 mean there is no evidence that anyone on behalf
- 22 of the estate can present that they have ever
- 23 been named as a beneficiary
- 24 THE COURT: That could be. It may be then that once Mr. Brown and counsel intervene, see
- 1 the documents -I mean you're not talking
- 2 how many pages of documents could the
- 3 beneficiary forms be? It can't be that many.
- 4 When we sign our life insurance forms we sign a page or two, that's about it. It's not like
- 6 it's going to be really exotic litigation.
- 7 This is a narrow, single issue who the
- 8 beneficiary is of this policy. You know, it
- 9 may be that it is clear that it's this
- irrevocable trust and then they'll go from
- 11 there to see whether that really is an entity
- 12 that exists. That may be a separate issue. If
- 13 the judge says -someone can name on the life
- 14 insurance policy, you know, the Star Spangled
- Banner Fund and if that doesn't exist then we
- 16 know from contract law what happens if you name
- 17 a beneficiary that doesn't exist. You go to
- 18 the next level. You certainly want the life
- 19 insurance funds going somewhere. That's what we would determine if that took place. Step 1,

- 21 step 2, step 3, doesn't sound to be that
- 22 complexed. Last word.
- 23 MR. ROSE: If I understand what you are
- 24 saying, which makes sense, Mr. Brown will keep separate time for the time he spends as curator
- 1 working on the Illinois issue. He will hire
- 2 counsel and the fees of Mr. Brown and the
- 3 Illinois counsel, under his direction and his
- 4 discretion, would be paid by Mr. Stansbury?
- THE COURT: That's the case. Subject to a
- 6 claim for reimbursement under the statute.
- 7 MR. ROSE: I'd want to hear from
- 8 Mr. Stansbury under oath that he's willing to
- 9 undertake that expense. Not to talk out of school, but I haven't had discussion with
- 11 counsel and I didn't necessarily get the sense
- 12 that that was going to be the case.
- 13 THE COURT: All right. Well, Mr. Feaman
- 14 can represent them.
- MR. FEAMAN: I am representing as an
- 16 officer of the Court, Your Honor.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay.
- 18 MR. FEAMAN: My only concern is if
- 19 there's basically Mr. Stansbury is funding
- this there's there has to be some type of, I
- 21 don't want to use the word control, but real
- 22 input into the process.
- 23 THE COURT: Well, he's allowed to, like
- 24 anyone else in cases like this, you could have conversations with Mr. Brown and his lawyer.
- 1 You can show them what documents there are.
- 2 You can ask them to discuss things with them.
- 3 And, you know, I mean they they obviously
- 4 know he has an interest. And to the extent that they're comfortable I think it's
- 6 appropriate they'll discuss these things with
- 7 them.
- 8 MR. FEAMAN: on behalf of Mr. Stansbury, I
- 9 would like assurances.
- THE COURT: I'm not going to I have to
- 11 keep the there's a line of demarcation I
- 12 don't want to cross up front.
- 13 MR. FEAMAN: And I'm not objecting that
- 14 it's not Mr. Stansbury. I just want to make sure the person who -
- 16 THE COURT: The person who is appointed is
- 17 going to advocate for the estate.
- 18 MR. FEAMAN: Right. Agree with that.
- 19 THE COURT: But let me tell you this, the reason I appoint a curator to do this is the
- 21 curator is not advocating for Mr. Stansbury.
- 22 He's advocating for the estate. There's times

- 23 when the curator could say, after doing 24 everything, I don't think, for example, the estate has a bona fide interest. That may be
- 1 bad news for your side. But if that's what
- 2 they conclude then that's what they conclude.
- 3 If they conclude they do they will continue
- 4 advocating. It's things we do as lawyers all the time. We go after cases with merit, and
- 6 shy away from those we think don't have merit.
- 7 MR. FEAMAN: Yes.
- 8 THE COURT: There's multilevel here. If
- 9 someone says that the Bernstein Irrevocable
- Trust is the beneficiary but that it doesn't
- 11 exist there may be an argument that could be
- 12 made how then still as a result of that the
- 13 estate should get the funds, that would be
- 14 something that Mr. Brown and counsel could consider advocating. But it's all in good
- 16 faith stuff.
- 17 MR. FEAMAN: Sure. I just want to make
- 18 sure
- 19 THE COURT: You'll get copies of the
- bills. You'll be able to see what's that. If
- 21 at anytime you think that Mr. Brown and the
- 22 lawyer are, you know, going way beyond what you
- 23 think they should, from an expense point of
- 24 view, you can always come bacle to me.
- MR. FEAMAN: I'm less concerned with the
- 1 expense, although it is important, more with
- 2 being able to pick up the phone and speak to
- 3 counsel in Chicago and say, hey, have you
- 4 considered this, I have information that may help your case.
- 6 THE COURT: I'm not going to micromanage
- 7 that part. Today if you want to call Mr. Brown
- 8 for this hearing, for example, and say, Mr.
- 9 Brown, this is what I think, what do you think, you're allowed to have a discussion on that.
- 11 That happens all the time, doesn't it?
- 12 MR. BROWN: It does. It does with
- 13 everybody in the case, emails and phone calls.
- 14 THE COURT: You guys email between each other like crazy now.
- 16 MR. BROWN: That's true. Your Honor, the
- 17 only as far as keeping my time, if I kept my
- 18 time at my rate as curator is Mr. Stansbury
- 19 supposed to pay for that, or is that still payable by the estate?
- 21 THE COURT: Your time and the lawyer's
- 22 time are the only rate I approve -
- 23 MR. BROWN: Paid by Mr. Stansbury.
- 24 THE COURT: -the hourly rate, I approve

- 1 MR. BROWN: I also propose, it doesn't
- 2 have to go on the order, it would seem to me,
- 3 there's nothing wrong, once I retain a Chicago
- 4 attorney, there's nothing wrong with Mr. Feaman calling that Chicago attorney and me telling
- 6 the Chicago attorney don't get me on the phone 7
- 8 THE COURT: I agree. There's no question.
- 9 You're the conduit.
- MR. BROWN: As far as the claim, I'll
- 11 absolutely rely on Illinois counsel.
- 12 THE COURT: All right. I think this is
- 13 pretty clear how it's going to be handled.
- 14 Yes, sir.
- MR. ROSE: A couple of minor concerns, I
- 16 think Mr. Brown went too far. Mr. Stansbury
- 17 would not pay for all the curator fees, only
- 18 the curator fees directly related to the
- 19 Illinois matter.
- THE COURT: That's what he said. Separate
- 21 times sheets, sure.
- 22 MR. ROSE: I'm concerned if they he's
- 23 going to hire a Chicago lawyer, a Chicago
- 24 lawyer is going to be expensive. That's what our main concern is -
- 1 THE COURT: Hold on. Mr. Brown
- 2 MR. ROSE: He's a practical guy
- 3 THE COURT: -he's going to find a good
- 4 lawyer with a reasonable rate, and that's a little higher. He's not going to hire a
- 6 \$1,000-an-hour-guy.
- 7 MR. ROSE: But if he hires a lawyer and
- 8 the bill is \$12,000 and Mr. Stansbury•s counsel
- 9 looks at it and says we don't think we should pay it, Mr. Brown is retaining the person on
- 11 behalf of the estate, we need to have not a
- 12 chance for them to complain about bills.
- 13 THE COURT: Okay. I'm not worried about
- 14 that now. There's too much I'm not finding,
- you know -I mean one -part of this is what
- 16 I think is the sincerity of Mr. Feaman•s side
- 17 here. And it's kind of a good thing that we
- 18 have the ability to be able to use
- 19 Mr. Stansbury•s funds that way. They've made
- the pledge to do it. I don't think they're
- 21 going to go back on their word.
- 22 MR. ROSE: I understand. I think
- 23 Mr. Stansbury should at least, under oath
- 24 THE COURT: Your request is denied.
- Mr. Feaman is an officer of the court. He

- 1 represents -
- 2 MR. ROSE: -it would be enforceable as a
- 3 judgment if he doesn't pay -the estate would
- 4 have a claim against Mr. Stansbury if he, for example, didn't pay some invoices and we got
- 6 stuck paying the bill for a Chicago lawyer.
- 7 THE COURT: You want me to rule on that
- 8 now? Your answer is no. You•re real premature
- 9 on that. Draft an order along the lines I mention.
- 11 What else for today?
- 12 MR. BROWN: Your Honor, I had two motions
- 13 for instructions.
- 14 THE COURT: one had to do with this issue, right?
- 16 MR. BROWN: That one I basically just took
- 17 a backseat to because of the administrator ad
- 18 litem motion.
- 19 The other, Eliot Bernstein sends me a lot of emails with a lot of requests. I'm not
- 21 saying it's a bad thing. But he asks me
- 22 questions I don't necessarily know I can
- 23 answer. For instance, he got the accounting by
- 24 Tetra and Spallina and then sent me an email that I've attached to the motion. I don't know
- 1 if you have the motion for instructions.
- 2 THE COURT: I do.
- 3 MR. BROWN: That had 44 different
- 4 questions, not including subparts, and asked that I hire a forensic accountant, an analyst
- 6 and acquire account statements from a number of
- 7 third-party institutions.
- 8 THE COURT: Is that the motion? I don't
- 9 have the attachments. It says motion for instructions that's the life insurance one.
- 11 Hold on.
- 12 MR. BROWN: It's not necessarily
- 13 important. Eliot is very thorough. But,
- 14 again, the estate has limited assets. My view
- of what the curator should do with respect to
- 16 the accounting is not take the lead on
- 17 objecting to what Tetra and Spallina did,
- 18 investigating the underpinnings of the
- 19 accounting, that's up to we have a lot of beneficiaries here who are very, very
- 21 passionate and interested in what's going on
- 22 with the estate.
- 23 THE COURT: Stop. You don't have to go
- 24 further. That position, that's the law. You don't do that. If there's an accounting,
- 1 there's a rule on objections, the parties
- 2 object. They don't use you -you don't work

- 3 for them.
- 4 MR. BROWN: Okay.
- 5 THE COURT: You work for the court.
- 6 MR. BROWN: I'll try and craft an order
- 7 that deals with that motion in that regard.
- 8 Also, there also was a motion, Eliot has
- 9 concerns about the 2012 will and its validity.
- 10 I think your ruling would be the same on that.
- 11 I don't have a role in trying to contest that
- 12 will
- 13 THE COURT: Exactly. You•re not an
- 14 advocate. You don't investigate things that
- 15 the parties may be interested in. They can do
- 16 what they think they need to do based on the
- 17 rules of procedure and statutes.
- 18 MR. BROWN: That's it.
- 19 MR. ROSE: If I may address the privilege
- 20 issue?
- 21 THE COURT: okay. The privilege issue,
- 22 okay.
- 23 MR. ROSE: May I approach?
- 24 THE COURT: Yes.
- 25 MR. ROSE: I can file a copy of this.
- 1 This is the email in question. Without reading
- 2 the email, if you look at who it is addressed
- 3 to at the very top. Mr. Bernstein is saying,
- 4 this is Ted, telling me he sent it to Eliot by mistake. Last night at 10:12 he got off an
- 6 airplane and wanted to tell me things. It's to
- 7 Eliot by accident. If you just read -
- 8 THE COURT: When you say to Eliot by
- 9 accident, the only person this is sent to is Eliot.
- 11 MR. ROSE: Correct. He was trying to send
- 12 it to me. If you look below the word analysis,
- 13 the first word of the email is Alan.
- 14 THE COURT: So this was is supposed to go to you and it went to Eliot?
- 16 MR. ROSE: By mistake. And Mr. Bernstein
- 17 has advised me this morning he sent it to 2,000
- 18 people already. He plans on publicizing it
- 19 THE COURT: I'm sure he didn't do that

because if he wants to participate in the case

- 21 he's obligated to have and comply with the
- 22 rules of court.
- 23 MR. BERNSTEIN: Your Honor
- 24 THE COURT: When you
- MR. BERNSTEIN: I was sent an email to me.
- 1 Like I do when I get a letter that has
- 2 threatening stuff to me I sent it to my friends
- 3 who are lawyers. I sent it to a number of
- 4 people. Actually, I got so busy sending it to

people, because it scared me a little bit that

- 6 it was very threatening to people, that by the
- 7 time I was done my wife stopped me and said we
- 8 got to go to court. All I know is my brother
- 9 sent me an email that seems pretty threatening.

It was addressed to me. I was the intended

- 11 recipient.
- 12 THE COURT: Let me ask you, when the email
- 13 starts off Alan
- 14 MR. ROSE: I get a million emails -

THE COURT: That say Alan?

- 16 MR. BERNSTEIN: That say whoever•s name.
- 17 THE COURT: Okay. All right. You know
- 18 what, I don't buy anything you just told me.
- 19 MR. BERNSTEIN: I thought my brother was

sending me a copy of an email

- 21 THE COURT: Stop. Stop. Stop speaking.
- 22 I'm going to look at the rule for a second.
- 23 MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
- 24 MR. ROSE: It's 1.285.

THE COURT: Okay.

- 1 MR.
- 2 for this,
- 3 THE
- 4 MR.

rules.

6 THE

7 MR.

BERNSTEIN: I so ... COURT: Okay. BERNSTEIN: I haven't been prepared haven't looked at the COURT: Okay. BERNSTEIN: I can show you several

- 8 instances in my email of people sending me
- 9 letters addressed to other people, several thousands of those.
- 11 THE COURT: So, all right. Everyone has
- 12 to take a deep breath. This situation is done
- 13 pursuant to Rule 1.285. So Mr. Rose, on your
- 14 side, correct me if you think I'm wrong,

Subsection A says, "When you" - your client

- 16 "takes a position that there's been an
- 17 inadvertent disclosure of privileged materials
- 18 to another person" which is what you say
- 19 happened, correct?

MR. ROSE: Correct, sir.

- 21 THE COURT: It says here, "In order to
- 22 assert the privilege the party, person or
- 23 entity shall, within 10 days of actually
- 24 discovering the inadvertent disclosure, serve written notice of the assertion of privilege on
- 1 the party to whom the materials were disclosed.
- 2 The notice shall specify with particularity"

- 3 etc. And then there's a procedure.
- 4 MR. ROSE: I did that last night. I emailed him last night.
- 6 THE COURT: I didn't know that. So you
- 7 gave him the written notice. I assume he got
- 8 it. Can I see a copy of the notice?
- 9 MR. ROSE: I'm trying to get a copy of the notice. Perhaps -I'm not trying to have the
- 11 whole argument heard today. I just
- 12 THE COURT: The rule applies.
- 13 MR. ROSE: Right.
- 14 THE COURT: So once he gets notice, the rule applies. So the notice will have -you
- 16 sent it by email?
- 17 MR. ROSE: I have it here now. I do find
- 18 it, sir. May I approach?
- 19 THE COURT: What's the time and date of the notice?
- 21 MR. ROSE: May 22, 2014 at 11:07 p.m. I
- 22 said, "You received an email from Ted intended
- 23 solely for me, and accidentally sent to you by
- 24 mistake. The email was sent around 10:12 p.m. tonight. Please delete the email immediately
- 1 without reading it and confirm that deletion by
- 2 email. The communication was attorney-client
- 3 protected and you are not entitled to read or
- 4 possess the email due to the accidental
- transmission. Thank you in advance. And if
- 6 you fail to comply with this request we'll be
- 7 forced to take corrective action with the
- 8 court." Signed by me sent to the same email
- 9 address that -
- THE COURT: Okay. All right. So the rule
- 11 says, to Eliot, he sent that to you, Rule
- 12 1.285, Subsection B tells you what you're
- 13 supposed to do.
- 14 MR. BERNSTEIN: I haven't seen it yet.
- THE COURT: Okay.
- 16 MR. BERNSTEIN: He's saying he sent it
- 17 after Ted's email. The last email I read was
- 18 Ted's email. So I haven't seen it.
- 19 THE COURT: So open that email
- MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay.
- 21 THE COURT: Okay. And do what the rule
- 22 says.
- 23 MR. BERNSTEIN: Don't send it to anybody
- 24 else.
- THE COURT: Well, okay, that, but it also
- 1 says some other things of what you're supposed
- 2 to do. You're supposed to return or destroy
- 3 it. That's one thing you're supposed to do.
- 4 And you are to notify anyone else who you

disclosed it to that they're to do the same

- 6 thing and you're also to take reasonable steps
- 7 to retrieve the materials disclosed -
- 8 MR. BERNSTEIN: I'll do all that.
- 9 THE COURT: And the only exception to this
- is if you want to challenge that assertion that
- 11 you were provided an inadvertent privileged
- 12 matter. And then the rule says what could
- 13 happen and we can have litigation and spend a
- 14 lot of money.
- MR. BERNSTEIN: No. I'll do whatever it
- 16 is -whatever the law says, as always.
- 17 THE COURT: There's nothing for me to do.
- 18 MR. ROSE: I understand. I just want to
- 19 make sure you -
- MR. BERNSTEIN: Your Honor, it went out to
- 21 a lot of people. Like I said, I have a broad
- 22 base
- 23 THE COURT: Take a look. When you leave
- 24 the courthouse -
- MR. BERNSTEIN: Okay. I'll notify

1 everybody though. 2 THE COURT: Go and take a look at the rule 3 and just do what the rule says. 4 MR. ROSE: And it's not to be posted on social media. 6 THE COURT: You see, I'm not allowed to 7 have dialogue on that now. Other than signing 8 the order, hearing over. Thank you. 9 (Whereupon the hearing is concluded at 10:00 a.m.)

11 12 13 14

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21 22 23 24

### 1 CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

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- 3 I, JULIE ANDOLPHO, do hereby certify that
- 4 the foregoing transcript of the proceedings,

consisting of pages numbered 1 through 54,

- 6 inclusive, is a true and correct transcript of the
- 7 proceedings taken by me before the Honorable MARTIN
- 8 COLIN, on May 23, 2014.
- 9 I further certify that I am not a relative
- or employee or attorney or counsel of any of the
- 11 parties, nor a relative or employee of such attorney
- 12 or counsel, or financially interested, directly or
- 13 indirectly, in this action.
- 14 The certification does not apply to any

reproduction of the same by any means unless under

- 16 direct control and/or direction or the reporter.
- 17 Dated this 27th day of May, 2014.

18

#### 19 Julie Andolpho

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