IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR PALM BEACH COUNTY , FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 502012CP004391XXXXSB

IN RE:

ESTATE OF SIMON L. BERNSTEIN,

Deceased.

ELIOT IVAN BERNSTEIN, PRO SE

Petitioner(s),

vs.

TESCHER & SPALLINA, P.A., (and all parties associated and of counsel); ROBERT L. SPALLINA (both personally and professionally); DONALD R. TESCHER (both personally and professionally); THEODORE STUART BERNSTEIN (as alleged personal representative, trustee, successor trustee) (both personally and professionally); et al.,

Respondent(s).

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS BEFORE

HONORABLE MARTIN COLIN

DATE: January 8, 2015

TIME: 9:17 a.m. - 9:58 a.m.

	2		
1	APPEARING ON BEHALF OF WILLIAM E. STANSBURY:	1	Mr. Tescher and Spalina were the personal
2	PETER M. FEAMAN, P.A.	2	representatives, there was this case going on
3	3615 W. BOYNTON BEACH BOULEVARD BOYNTON BEACH, FL 33436	3	in Chicago involving \$1.7 million of life
5	By: PETER M. FEAMAN, ESQ.	4	insurance. They, for reasons unknown as yet to
4	JEFFREY ROYER, ESQ.	5	the court, did not get the estate involved.
5	APPEARING ON BEHALF OF TED BERNSTEIN:	6	Mr. Stansbury, as you know, is a creditor
6	PAGE, MRACHEK, FITZGERALD ROSE KONOPKA & DOW, P.A.	7	
7	505 SOUTH FLAGLER DRIVE, SUITE 600		of the estate. And so he's looking for ways
•	WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33401	8	a substantial creditor, 2.5 million is the
8 9	By: ALAN B. ROSE, ESQ. APPEARING ON BEHALF OF THE PR:	9	claim he's looking for ways to get money
10	CIKLIN LUBITZ	10	into the estate, sees that there's this
	515 N. FLALGER DRIVE, 20TH FLOOR	11	litigation going on in Chicago which could
11	WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33401 By: BRIAN M. O'CONNELL, ESQ.	12	result in all that money coming into the
12	By. BRIAN M. O'CONNELL, ESQ.	13	estate.
	APPEARING ON BEHALF OF MOLLY SIMON, ET AL:	14	THE COURT: I remember.
13		15	MR. FEAMAN: Okay. And so at this point,
14	JOHN P. MORRISSEY, ESQ. 330 CLEMATIS STREET, SUITE 213	16	Your Honor, the mission has been accomplished, in
	WEST PALM BEACH, FL 33401	17	the sense that the estate was allowed has been
15		18	allowed to intervene, discovery is ongoing. In
16 17	ELIOT I. BERNSTEIN, Pro se ALSO PRESENT: CANDICE BERNSTEIN	19	fact, there is a deposition this week up in
18		20	Chicago, and the attorneys up in Chicago
19	BE IT REMEMBERED, that the following	21	representing the estate have now said, you know,
20 21	proceedings were taken in the above-styled cause before the Honorable MARTIN COLIN, at the Palm Beach County	22	we'll even take this case on a contingency to
22	Courthouse, 200 West Atlantic Avenue, Room 8, in the City	23	benefit the estate, or even a modified
23	of Delray Beach, County of Palm Beach, State of Florida,	24	contingency, like reduced hourly.
24 25	on January 8, 2015, to wit:	25	THE COURT: What was Mr. Stansbury what
20			
	2		
	3		
1	3 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S	1	was the nature of what he was paying?
1 2		1 2	was the nature of what he was paying? MR. FEAMAN: Just a straight hourly.
2	P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S	2	MR. FEAMAN: Just a straight hourly.
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PLEASANTON, GREENHILL, MEEK & MARSAA 561/833.7811

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1	MR. O'CONNELL: I'm not sure, Your Honor.		THE COURT: No, the
2	Mr. Rose negotiated with Mr. Feaman	2	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Be paid by the estate,
3	THE COURT: You on board, Mr. Bernstein?	3	yeah. THE COURT: Mr. Rose?
4	MR. ELIOT BERNSTEIN: I haven't seen anything yet.	5	MR. ROSE: We have the same concerns that
6	THE COURT: Oh, you haven't seen it yet.	6	we've had from the beginning, which is to not be
7	Okay. So you say okay to let him off?		spending estate assets on this litigation. We
8	MR. O'CONNELL: Let him off because, Your	8	had, you know, if you recall, a lengthy hearing
9	Honor, the solution is this: If we get the	9	and discussion about it. The concern is it's a
10	settlement agreement approved, hopefully we can	10	case where we don't believe the estate has a
11	THE COURT: Okay.	11	strong case. And our concern was that you expend
12	MR. O'CONNELL: then that litigation,	12	estate assets to do it.
13	basically, will go away so some bells and whistles	13	THE COURT: Now, I hear that the lawyers up
14	in terms of	14	there will do it on a contingency fee for the rest
15	THE COURT: The litigation in	15	of the case.
16	MR. O'CONNELL: In Chicago.	16	MR. ROSE: That's actually something Your
17	THE COURT: Meaning, they're going the	17	Honor raised at the last hearing, which is concern
18	insurance case is going to settle?	18	that if you take 40 percent of the money, you
19	MR. O'CONNELL: Well, it can, in this sense.	19	know, and give it to lawyers, you're taking it out
20	The real need for it, the driver, at least for me,	20	of the family. If you get rid of Mr. Stansbury
21	as the fiduciary, is the fact that it's been	21	THE COURT: Mr. Stansbury kind of did this
22	mentioned, is a claim against the estate that	22	semi-gratuitously to keep the litigation alive.
23	exceeds the existing assets. Ergo, I can't just	23	He may have had a personal financial interest, but
24	turn my back on the fact that there's a potential	24	if he's settling the case and getting out, how can
25	amount of money to come into the estate. But if	25	I keep him in paying for that Chicago litigation?
		7	
1	we get the settlement done with Mr. Stansbury,	7	MR. ROSE: That was I agree with you. My
2	then based on what I've seen, there aren't any	1 2	suggestion is that you would almost defer this
2 3	then based on what I've seen, there aren't any other claims that really need attention in that	1 2 3	suggestion is that you would almost defer this until we have the hearing on the approval of the
2 3 4	then based on what I've seen, there aren't any other claims that really need attention in that sense. And if I need money, there's a clause in	1 2 3 4	suggestion is that you would almost defer this until we have the hearing on the approval of the settlement. If the settlement is approved, I
2 3 4 5	then based on what I've seen, there aren't any other claims that really need attention in that sense. And if I need money, there's a clause in the trust that I can get money from the trust. So	1 2 3 4 5	suggestion is that you would almost defer this until we have the hearing on the approval of the settlement. If the settlement is approved, I agree, Mr. Stansbury should be out completely.
2 3 4 5 6	then based on what I've seen, there aren't any other claims that really need attention in that sense. And if I need money, there's a clause in the trust that I can get money from the trust. So I'm pretty much covered in that respect. So	1 2 3 4 5 6	suggestion is that you would almost defer this until we have the hearing on the approval of the settlement. If the settlement is approved, I agree, Mr. Stansbury should be out completely. And then, as Mr. O'Connell says, if you do the
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	then based on what I've seen, there aren't any other claims that really need attention in that sense. And if I need money, there's a clause in the trust that I can get money from the trust. So I'm pretty much covered in that respect. So that's why I wanted to point out to the court the real solution to this THE COURT: Are they still going to pursue the 1.7 million in Chicago? MR. O'CONNELL: On that, I think I can deal with Mr. Rose, and I can deal with Mr. Morrissey and come up with a way, based on how all this	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	suggestion is that you would almost defer this until we have the hearing on the approval of the settlement. If the settlement is approved, I agree, Mr. Stansbury should be out completely. And then, as Mr. O'Connell says, if you do the math, if you're going to hire a lawyer on a contingency fee with if Mr. Stansbury is out of the picture, if you hire a lawyer on contingency fee and give up 40 percent of the money, or a third of the money, to a lawyer, then no matter how you do the math, it ends up everyone ends up worse off. Every single person that is a
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cult, under the statute, i performed a serient	l v	
to the estate. Your Honor then says there is	9	whether the settlement should go forw
not a dollar coming out of the estate unless	10	even before that, Your Honor should h
there is a recovery, basically. And then the	11	Count II of a complaint that Mr. Rose f
recovery would take place. And he, meaning	12	that is as to the validity of the docume
Mr. Stansbury, would seek some recovery of	13	underlying documents themselves.
fees.	14	If I may provide Your Honor
So at that May 23rd hearing	15	THE COURT: The underlying doc
THE COURT: That was before we had a PR and,	16	documents are you talking about?
you know, while we had a curator. Now	17	MR. MORRISSEY: All of them. Th
Mr. Stansbury is getting out. So what are you	18	and testament of Shirley Bernstein.
suggesting we do?	19	THE COURT: How does that help
MR. MORRISSEY: Well, I mean, either you	20	to do with this?
don't let Mr. Stansbury get out, or, if you do	21	MR. MORRISSEY: Well, essential
THE COURT: So hold it. Time out. Your	22	falls into place after that. Why? Beca
position on behalf of your clients is that	23	don't even know who, ultimately, the b
Mr. Stansbury purportedly is going to settle the	24	are.
case and he should still pay for the fees up	25	So in terms of a settlement, Mr. O'
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you know, the value of the estate, then

MR. ROSE: Mr. Morrissey represents four of

behalf of the four adult grandchildren. And if I

allowed him to go forward with the Illinois

MR. MORRISSEY: I just have this.

At that hearing -- that hearing was on

clear that under no circumstances was the

estate to pay. And I've highlighted various

says that his client will not seek fees for his

application to the funds available.

role as administrator ad litem unless and until

recovery might take place, and then he'll make

That was what the deal was, essentially.

And if Your Honor will look then on the

bottom of Page 34, top of Page 35, I make

inquiry. We're now talking about having to

pay, you know, from my client's prospective

attorney up in Illinois. And Your Honor says,

I just said that won't be the case. It would

only be the case if there was a recovery for

the estate to which then Mr. Stansbury would

say, under the statute, I performed a benefit

profits -- pockets -- Mr. Brown's fees, an

November 23rd. Your Honor made it absolutely

portions. Your Honor indicates that Mr. Feaman

litigation on behalf of the estate.

may approach, I'll provide Your Honor with a copy

of the excerpts from a hearing that we had wherein

Ben Brown was initially appointed, and Your Honor

ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Can I have a copy of that?

MR. MORRISSEY: Judge, John Morrissey here on

contingency is what's left.

the individual creditors.

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MR. MORRISSEY: Judge, there are two things that before Your Honor rules on this motion and allows Mr. Stansbury to withdraw, essentially, in

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mean --

terms of paying fees, there are two things that

there? Is that what you're telling me?

THE COURT: I didn't know that.

something that we disagree with.

THE COURT: All right.

midstream, he's backing out.

If that happens.

purported settlement. That's another issue.

client's position is, we oppose the settlement

that, yes, he would go forward and intervene to

THE COURT: He's not really backing out.

shouldn't continue to pay. That sounds logical.

MR. MORRISSEY: He's not settling, though.

THE COURT: But until you just told me that,

circulated -- I understand not everyone saw it. I

didn't even know there was opposition, at least in

the conclusion of this litigation. Now, at

He's saying I'm settling. I'm getting out. I

this side of the room said that there was a

principal. So you're the first voice that I've

heard that you're opposing it. So, you know, I

settlement agreement that's going to be

agreement. Mr. Stansbury represented to the court

MR. MORRISSEY: No. We don't agree with this

MR. MORRISSEY: This purported settlement is

MR. MORRISSEY: We vehemently oppose. So my

- should happen. Number one, as Mr. Rose said, Your
- Honor should hear, you know, this settlement
- issue, and hear the objections to it and determine
- 8 - - الله - - ال - 441 -امار بام الم ward. But
 - hear the
- filed. And
- ents -- the
 - cuments, which
- The last will
- p me decide what
- ally, everything ause we beneficiaries

Connell

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1	has filed a motion to approve a settlement.	1	parties are, Your Honor, because it would be we
2	It's theoretically possible that after Your	2	have Mr. Stansbury as the claimant and then
3	Honor determines the validity of these various	3	myself as the defendant.
4	documents, my clients might not be	4	THE COURT: Estate.
5	beneficiaries. So Your Honor would want to	5	MR. O'CONNELL: Right. Those are the
6	make the determination who's the beneficiaries	6	parties. And then
7	before Your Honor hears a motion to approve a	7	THE COURT: Then you have interested people
8	settlement and knows who can object to that	8	who may or may not agree?
9	settlement, or agree to it.	9	MR. O'CONNELL: Right. Who are here.
10	And if I may provide Your Honor with a	10	THE COURT: Who may or may not be interested,
11	copy of the Your Honor's order and the	11	depending on Count II, according to what
12	notice of trial that has been filed by	12	Mr. Morrissey says.
13	Mr. Rose.	13	MR. O'CONNELL: I think it's important
14	Mr. Rose filed a two-count complaint. And	14	enough, Your Honor, just from the standpoint of
15	that the second count, if you look at Your	15	getting this estate moving towards a conclusion.
16	Honor's order, and specifically Paragraph 3 of	16	THE COURT: Right. True.
17	that order, says that upon the filing of the	17	MR. FEAMAN: That settlement really does
18	answers to Count II Count II relates to the	18	handle a number of important matters.
19	validity of the documents themselves the	19	THE COURT: All right. Here's how I'm going
20	court severs Count II	20	to do this. Is the settlement between the estate
21	THE COURT: Okay. I got it. So	21	and Mr. Stansbury in a final form yet?
22	Mr. O'Connell, do I have to decide Count II in the	22	MR. O'CONNELL: It is. We just need some
23	amended complaint before you have a clear sense of	23	hearing time, Your Honor.
24	how to deal with the potential settlement of Mr.	24	THE COURT: It's circulated
25	Stansbury?	25	MR. O'CONNELL: It's signed by Mr. Stansbury,
		15	
1	MR. O'CONNELL: I don't think so, Your Honor.	1	Your Honor.

I

	1 MR. O'CONNELL: I don't think so, Your Honor.	1	Your Honor.
	2 And here's why. Because I'm happy to have Mr.	2	THE COURT: And signed by you, Mr. O'Connell,
	3 Morrissey advocate now I'm hearing against	3	or will be?
	4 the settlement because I think that's, frankly,	4	MR. O'CONNELL: Will be, once it's approved.
	5 good for the court to hear all sides of this. So	5	THE COURT: So
	6 if there is some concerns that he has that the	6	MR. O'CONNELL: And drafted by Mr. Rose.
	7 court may find valid, that's fine. I don't think	7	THE COURT: You two are the two main parties
	8 there are.	8	to the settlement, correct?
	9 THE COURT: I don't adjudicate sides of	9	MR. O'CONNELL: Yes. And it was drafted by
1	0 settlements. Settlements are outside	10	Mr. Rose, Your Honor.
1	1 MR. O'CONNELL: I guess whatever his	11	THE COURT: Hold on. Let me finish what I'm
1	2 objections are.	12	going to say. And so there will be a motion to
1	3 THE COURT: But those are private to you.	13	approve the settlement. Okay. Notice will go to
1	4 And I think Mr. Feaman agrees with that, correct?	14	all interested persons, who are here. And they
1	5 MR. FEAMAN: Yes.	15	have a right then to tell me if they object. And
1	6 THE COURT: I mean, I can't I'm not going	16	I can hear whether or not I think they have
1	7 to have a hearing on that.	17	standing to object, and all those other things
1	8 What about the point that is made that	18	that I normally hear at a hearing like that?
1	9 assuming you do have a draft of a settlement	19	Yes, Eliot?
2	0 agreement that appears to be appropriate.	20	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: If I'm going to be asked to
2	1 Mr. Morrissey is saying until Count II is	21	accept or deny that
2	adjudicated, you don't even know who the	22	THE COURT: You get service.
2	3 parties are to the settlement who would be in a	23	MR. O'CONNELL: He will.
2	4 position to either agree or not agree with it.	24	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: I think it's between the
2	5 MR. O'CONNELL: Actually, we know who the	25	other

40		
18		
THE COURT: Yeah, they're the main parties,	1	settlement is accepted.
but they'll serve you with	2	MR. FEAMAN: That's correct, Your Honor.
ELIOT BERNSTEIN: If I have to do that, I	3	THE COURT: I have to independently decide
have children that have a conflict of my interests	4	whether I think it's appropriate that he continue
versus theirs and that. They would need	5	to fund the litigation. It's never never like
representative counsel to sign off on it.	6	a life jail sentence type of thing, you know,
THE COURT: You have a conflict with your	7	there's always it's an interlocutory order that
children on that?	8	could be modified.
ELIOT BERNSTEIN: On that particular issue.	9	MR. FEAMAN: Right.
THE COURT: I don't know, you know, so	10	THE COURT: I mean, let's, you know, keep in
ELIOT BERNSTEIN: So they would need counsel	11	mind what I'm thinking. Okay.
and I don't I would ask the estate to provide	12	MR. FEAMAN: Yeah, because I
that if they're asking us to sign off.	13	THE COURT: How much time do you think you
MR. FEAMAN: If I may, Your Honor. There is	14	need? I got it.
a whole issue as to whether the children even have	15	MR. FEAMAN: I respectfully suggest to the
standing before this court because, as Mr. Rose	16	court that there is no compulsion for
has alleged, the trustee, his client, is the sole	17	Mr. Stansbury to do anything with regard to the
beneficiary of the estate.	18	Chicago litigation.
THE COURT: I got that part. Okay. So	19	THE COURT: Okay. We'll take a look. I
here's the way that works. I mean, anyone can	20	mean, I've got a grasp of what's going on.
appear who says they are interested at the hearing	21	How much time do you think you need,
on the motion to approve settlement. You know,	22	collectively, to have a hearing?
they can appear pro se or through counsel.	23	MR. MORRISSEY: To approve the settlement.
Whoever shows up, I determine who are you, do you	24	THE COURT: I mean, if there's going to be
have standing. And then if there is standing,	25	standing and/or substantive objections, I need

1	then I'll hear what the basis of the objection is.	1	time to be able to hear that.
2	So the children can if you say are if you	2	MR. ROSE: I'm not going to shed a brief
3	think they are independently interested persons,	3	light on that. They said that I drafted the
4	they can hire counsel.	4	agreement. I did actually, on behalf of the
5	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: They're minors.	5	Ted, as trustee, I explored settlement with
6	THE COURT: They can appear themselves. If	6	Mr. Stansbury to the point of you need to know
7	they want to take that position. But I can't, at	7	what the number is so you can go to the
8	8:45 today, direct the estate to pay for their	8	beneficiaries and sort of take their pulse. If
9	lawyer. I can't do that. I mean, that's beyond	9	it's a dollar, it's one thing. If it's two
10	what I'm allowed to do.	10	billion dollars
11	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: I'll check with the estate.	11	THE COURT: Whoever did the drafting of it
12	THE COURT: You can talk to counsel about	12	doesn't matter to me.
13	that.	13	MR. ROSE: My point to you was, though, I did
14	All right. Then so how quickly can	14	get a sense that at least seven of the
15	that be done?		-
-		15	beneficiaries are theoretically against the
16	MR. O'CONNELL: Today, I can circulate it.	16	settlement.
17	THE COURT: Okay. So I'm going to make this	17	THE COURT: Okay.
18	a priority matter and I'm going to give you a	18	MR. ROSE: So I didn't proceed forward with
19	hearing time on a motion to approve.	19	the settlement. And I didn't have a chance to
20	And then what I'll do is, depending upon	20	speak to Mr. Eliot Bernstein about his position,
21	that hearing, which I'm going to have right	21	but he's been opposed to many things, but
22	away, I'll deal with the issue of	22	THE COURT: No, Eliot doesn't do that. He
23	Mr. Stansbury's request to be discharged.	23	rarely opposes anything. That's my recollection
24	And I'm not saying, though, that his	24	of it.
25	discharge is solely tied into whether the	25	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Last hearing I didn't
	-		

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		22		24
1	object to it.	1	MR. O'CONNELL: Yes. And I agree with that,	
2	THE COURT: Eliot has turned a new leaf,	2	Your Honor. That's correct.	
3	haven't you noticed?	3	THE COURT: How much time?	
4	MR. ROSE: I haven't, unfortunately.	4	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: What case is that in?	
5	THE COURT: I have.	5	5 THE COURT: What case is that in? It's in	
6	MR. ROSE: Seven out of ten are opposed so I	6	5 14CP3698.	
7	think you may get some you may get a	7	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: That's a separate case,	
8	significant amount of objection to the settlement.	8	B right?	
9	THE COURT: I just need to know how much	g	THE COURT: Yeah.	
10	time. How much time?	10	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Than what we're here for.	
11	MR. ROSE: Ninety minutes, maybe.	11	We're here on Simon.	
12	MR. O'CONNELL: Hour and a half, John?	12	THE COURT: Let's see.	
13	THE COURT: Hold on. I'm filling up this	13	MR. ROSE: It's technically a trust	
14	week very quickly. We want to do this right away,	14	construction case.	
15	so let's take a look here. I mean, can you be	15	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: I'm not ready for that yet	
16	ready by the 27th? I can give you two hours. And	16	because we have to see if the trustee is fit to	
17	you probably heard, I gave three dates to that	17	argue that case first.	
18	other case ahead of you, I'll just take away the	18	B THE COURT: I'm just trying	
19	date that I give you folks.	19	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: We should have that first	
20	MR. O'CONNELL: 27th is fine for me, Your	20	like we've been trying to.	
21	Honor.	21	THE COURT: But we have hearing dates on	
22	THE COURT: Three to five. I'll give you two	22	2 other things. But let me ask you this. How much	
23	hours. Take a look at your calenders, see if that	23	time do you need for the trial on that?	
24	works.	24	MR. ROSE: Half a day, at most, because there	
25	MR. FEAMAN: We're fine.	25	is no evidence. You know, if he has to present	
		23		25
1	MR. ROSE: I can be there.	1	evidence that the documents are invalid	
2	MR. MORRISSEY: I think so. I don't have my	2	2. THE COURT: All right. So	
3	calendar, but I'm pretty sure I can.	3	MR. ROSE: And it is a pretty important	
4	THE COURT: All right. So you folks have	4	threshold issue.	
5	that. All right. So I got to okay. So you			
		5	5 THE COURT: It's at issue?	
6	have that on the and I'm going to call it	6		
6 7	have that on the and I'm going to call it motion for settlement.	-	MR. ROSE: It's at issue.	
		6	MR. ROSE: It's at issue. THE COURT: Ready for trial?	
7	motion for settlement.	6	MR. ROSE: It's at issue. THE COURT: Ready for trial? MR. ROSE: Ready for trial. We noticed it	
7 8	motion for settlement. MR. O'CONNELL: Sure.	6 7 8	 MR. ROSE: It's at issue. THE COURT: Ready for trial? MR. ROSE: Ready for trial. We noticed it for trial. 	
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20		
THE COURT: So who else	1	of a there's been a motion to dismiss served
MR. O'CONNELL: Correct.	2	directed to it. He hasn't served all the other
THE COURT: So these let me look at the	3	people. It's not at issue and it's not going to
defendants. Looks like a bunch of children. So	4	be at issue for a significant period of time. I
is that Mr. Morrissey, are you the defendant's.	5	think what Mr. O'Connell feels, and what I feel,
MR. MORRISSEY: For four of those. Molly	6	and what Mr. Morrissey feels, and the other
THE COURT: And some of these, are they	7	beneficiaries are, that first of all, if you
Eliot's children?	8	rule that the documents are invalid, then you
ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Minors. Who are	9	don't have to remove Ted because he doesn't ever
unrepresented.	10	get appointed if the documents go away. So
THE COURT: Okay. And then your clients?	11	that's, you know, sort of the cart before the
MR. MORRISSEY: Four.	12	horse. And the other thing is, you need to get a
THE COURT: And then who are the other	13	ruling on the validity of these five documents
children?	14	that are being challenged, only by Eliot, as to
MR. ROSE: Everyone else defaulted. They	15	the validity, and, I assume, testamentary
defaulted in the sense that they're not taking a	16	capacity. And whether Ted is the trustee or
position that they're going to rely on what Your	17	then you have Mr. O'Connell that needs to be
Honor rules. So it's technically, I think, at	18	tried.
issue. And it would go a long way to resolving a	19	THE COURT: I got it. I understand. Okay.
lot of issues, like, who has standing to do	20	MR. ROSE: And then the removal can happen in
various things.	21	its ordinary course.
THE COURT: So tell me this. What hearings,	22	THE COURT: Go ahead.
other than the one set for one second. So let	23	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: The problem is that you
me ask you this. Today's 9:30 on the motion for	24	have to have the hearing to remove Ted as
instructions, what's that about? That's the	25	successor because then he can't argue that case.
27		
	1	And somebody will have to be appointed to come in
estate case, correct?	1	And somebody will have to be appointed to come in
estate case, correct? MR. O'CONNELL: It is.	2	and argue these things that only these guys seem
estate case, correct? MR. O'CONNELL: It is. THE COURT: Is that related to this, or not?	2 3	and argue these things that only these guys seem to want to argue. So if Ted doesn't survive, then
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THE COURT: There's been amendments to that.

MR. ROSE: There was actually a recent filing

THE COURT: Because here's what I want to do.

I want to start giving hearing dates that are --

30		
where we can get some orders and move this estate	1	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: That's the order you
along. Because I think that's important. Okay.	2	wanted. That's the order you ordered.
So	3	THE COURT: The hearing date on a motion to
ELIOT BERNSTEIN: In the last hearing you	4	dismiss is easier to get than a half-day trial
said you would hear the petition to remove Ted.	5	date. So it will work out.
You ordered it, actually.	6	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Okay.
THE COURT: I wanted that heard a while	7	THE COURT: Any objection to the PR
ago	8	intervening in this 3698 case, which is Ted versus
ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Then we'll hear the	9	the children?
document stuff, if he survives?	10	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: I haven't even read this
THE COURT: Yeah, but here's the thing, your	11	thing. I just got it. Did you send this out
case got I thought I had given a hearing date	12	prior to this?
on that petition to remove and then you amended, I	13	MR. O'CONNELL: I believe we did.
think, isn't that what happened?	14	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: We got a notice for the
ELIOT BERNSTEIN: No.	15	hearing. We didn't get the document attached with
MR. ROSE: You denied the petition because it	16	it.
was improperly filed. He just started a complaint	17	THE COURT: You want tell you what. You
in which there are	18	want, like, I'm going to take some other people,
THE COURT: Don't talk over each other.	19	you want to look at it?
ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Okay.	20	ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Actually, I do, because we
MR. ROSE: He's just filed a new complaint.	21	don't know what it was.
We have just filed motions to dismiss. There's	22	MR. ROSE: Our position, just for the record
other parties that haven't been served. And I	23	is
think Mr. O'Connell is involved in	24	THE COURT: Are you okay with him
ELIOT BERNSTEIN: That's in Sy.	25	intervening?
31		
MR. ROSE: Mr. O'Connell is involved in	1	MR. ROSE: If I can I have discussed the
ELIOT BERNSTEIN: That's in Sy, not Shirley.	2	issue with Mr. O'Connell. I'm concerned that, you
THE COURT: All right. Here's what I'm	3	know, a lot of estate resources not be expended
doing. I'm going to give you your half a day	4	I discussed with Mr. O'Connell. He's intervening
trial date on Count II in this 3698 case. I mean,	5	because he wants to protect his right as PR
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5 trial date on Count II in this 3698 case. I mean,

6 I'm not going to give it to you now, I'll have my

7 assistant look at my calendar and give you a half

8 a day.Eliot 9

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MR. ROSE: That's fine.

10 THE COURT: Eliot, as soon as you're able to 11 serve and do what you can in Shirley --

12 ELIOT BERNSTEIN: I'm ready.

13 THE COURT: -- you get on whatever you file 14 in any of the cases --15 ELIOT BERNSTEIN: On Sy. Okay. But on

16 Shirley I'm ready to have the petition heard. 17 THE COURT: Is that ready to be heard, the

18 petition in the Shirley case?

19 ELIOT BERNSTEIN: Let's have it heard the 20 same day.

21 MR. ROSE: There's a motion to dismiss 22 directed to that.

23 THE COURT: Well, then get that set for

24 hearing. Okay. I mean, let me start hearing, 25 knocking out the things --

because he wants to protect his right as PR because he needs to know who the beneficiaries are THE COURT: Okay. MR. ROSE: So if he's not going to be spending a lot of money on the thing to be involved in it, we have no objection on that basis. THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Morrissey, you okay with that? MR. MORRISSEY: The objection -- my objection would have been the same. I haven't spoken with Mr. O'Connell, but to the extent that -- all beneficiaries are going to be presumably arguing in the clause, and so everyone -- every beneficiary's rights are represented. I don't know that we need extra resources. THE COURT: I'm going to let him intervene, subject to Eliot saying no. So talk to him about that. MR. O'CONNELL: Sure.

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1	THE COURT: Give me the order and I'll sign		
2	that before you're done with your 9:30.		
3	MR. O'CONNELL: Okay.		
4	THE COURT: All right. So then Mr. Feaman,		
5	I'm going to defer on your motion until I rule on		
6	the 27th. And then bring that back and I'll rule		
7	on it at that time.		
8	MR. FEAMAN: Okay.		
9	THE COURT: And just kind of, you know all		
10 11	right. That finishes your 8:45. Okay. Any other 8:45's?		
12	MR. O'CONNELL: There are no other 8:45's.		
13			
14			
15	(Thereupon, the proceedings were		
16	concluded at 9:58 a.m.)		
17			
18			
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22 23			
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		35	
1	CERTIFICATE		
2			
3	THE STATE OF FLORIDA		
	COUNTY OF PALM BEACH.		
4			
5	I, DAVID L. MARSAA, Professional Reporter,		
6	State of Florida at large, certify that I was		
	authorized to and did stenographically report the		
9	foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a		
	true and complete record of my stenographic notes.		
11	Dated this 21st day of January, 2015.		
12 13			
14			
	DAVID L. MARSAA, COURT REPORTER		
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