## SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA

JOHN DiQUISTO, ROSEMARY KNOX, and MILDRED EVANS,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

No. 1-04-CV-020671

COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA; PETER KUTRAS; JR., COUNTY EXECUTIVE FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA; LUKE LEUNG, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR FOR THE COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA; and DOES 1 TO 20 inclusive,

Defendants.

## DEPOSITION OF PETER KUTRAS, JR.

DATE:

August 24, 2004

TIME:

11:09 a.m.

LOCATION:

WYLIE, McBRIDE, JESINGER,

PLATTEN & RENNER

2125 Canoas Garden Avenue

Suite 120

San Jose, CA 95125

REPORTED BY:

KAREN L. BUCHANAN

CSR No. 10772

5060 15646 Bell & Myers

CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER, INC.

## PETER KUTRAS, JR. AUGUST 24, 2004

	THIER ROTTED, OR	•	
	<i>y</i>	2	
1 2	APPEARANCES	1	PETER KUTRAS, JR.,
For	the Plaintiffs WYLIE, McBRIDE, JESINGER,	2	being duly sworn by the Certified Shorthand Reporter t
3 DiC	Quisto and Knox: PLATTEN & RENNER BY: CHRISTOPHER PLATTEN	3	tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the
1	ATTORNEY AT LAW	4	
-	2125 Canoas Garden Avenue	5	
5	Suite 120 San Jose, CA 95125	100	
5	(408) 979-2920	6	
	the Plaintiff CLISHAM & SORTOR ans: BY: DAVID P. CLISHAM	7	
3	ATTORNEY AT LAW	8	
)	900 North Point Street Suite 300	9	Q. Mr. Kutras, you're employed by the County of
	San Francisco, CA 94109	10	Santa Clara as the County's chief executive officer; is
) I	(415) 775-1395	11	that correct?
For	the Defendants: OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL	12	
2	BY: MARTIN H. DODD	13	
3	ATTORNEY AT LAW 70 West Hedding Street	14	\$75 B
	East Wing, Ninth Floor		
4	San Jose, CA 95110-1770 (408) 299-5900	15	3
5	30 <del>49</del> (3.570) #-300 (1.500) (2.500) (2.500)	16	
5 Als	to Present: ROSEMARY KNOX LUKE LEUNG	17	BY MR. PLATTEN:
7		18	Q. That's the chief position within the County
3 The	e Reporter: BELL & MYERS, CSR, INC. BY: KAREN L. BUCHANAN, CSR	19	administration; is that correct?
)	50 Airport Parkway	20	and the second s
)	Suite 203 San Jose, CA 95110	21	
6	(408) 287-7500	22	
2			
	-000	23	
3		24	
4 5 -		25	Q. What is your annual salary?
		3	( <del></del>
1	INDEX OF EXAMINATION	1	
2	Page	2	<ul> <li>Q. And is that represented on your paycheck in ar</li> </ul>
	By Mr. Platten4	3	hourly format?
4	000	4	A. I don't know.
5	000	5	
5	INDEX OF EXHIBITS	6	- 1975년 - 42 124일 전 중에 있는 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12
7	INDEX OF EXHIBITE	7	
20	Page	- 0	
8		8	
7	Document Bates stamped SCC 00001 21	9	
9	1	10	
8	April 7, 2004 Package Proposal 73	11	THE WITNESS: I think it's like \$106, something
		12	like that.
	4 17 0004 D 1 D 1 1 1 51		
9	#	13	BY MR. PLATTEN:
9 1	April 7, 2004 Package Proposal revised 74 4/12/04		
9 1 2	4/12/04	14	Q. How did you first learn that County labor
9 1 2 3		14 15	Q. How did you first learn that County labor associations might be supporting an initiative that
9 1 2 3 4	4/12/04	14 15 16	Q. How did you first learn that County labor associations might be supporting an initiative that would provide for binding arbitration of labor dispute
9 1 2 3 4 5	4/12/04	14 15 16 17	Q. How did you first learn that County labor associations might be supporting an initiative that would provide for binding arbitration of labor dispute with the County?
9 1 2 3 4 5 6	4/12/04	14 15 16 17 18	Q. How did you first learn that County labor associations might be supporting an initiative that would provide for binding arbitration of labor dispute with the County?  A. I'm not sure how I first learned, whether it
9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7	4/12/04	14 15 16 17	Q. How did you first learn that County labor associations might be supporting an initiative that would provide for binding arbitration of labor dispute with the County?  A. I'm not sure how I first learned, whether it was from media calls or through labor relations staff.
9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	4/12/04	14 15 16 17 18	Q. How did you first learn that County labor associations might be supporting an initiative that would provide for binding arbitration of labor dispute with the County?  A. I'm not sure how I first learned, whether it was from media calls or through labor relations staff.
9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9	4/12/04	14 15 16 17 18	Q. How did you first learn that County labor associations might be supporting an initiative that would provide for binding arbitration of labor dispute with the County?  A. I'm not sure how I first learned, whether it was from media calls or through labor relations staff. I don't know.
9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1	4/12/04	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	Q. How did you first learn that County labor associations might be supporting an initiative that would provide for binding arbitration of labor dispute with the County?  A. I'm not sure how I first learned, whether it was from media calls or through labor relations staff. I don't know.  Q. When did you first learn about this?
9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 2	4/12/04	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q. How did you first learn that County labor associations might be supporting an initiative that would provide for binding arbitration of labor dispute with the County?  A. I'm not sure how I first learned, whether it was from media calls or through labor relations staff.  I don't know.  Q. When did you first learn about this?  A. The spring of this year.
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 1 1 2	4/12/04	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	Q. How did you first learn that County labor associations might be supporting an initiative that would provide for binding arbitration of labor dispute with the County?  A. I'm not sure how I first learned, whether it was from media calls or through labor relations staff. I don't know.  Q. When did you first learn about this?  A. The spring of this year.  Q. Month of March?
9 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0	4/12/04	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Q. How did you first learn that County labor associations might be supporting an initiative that would provide for binding arbitration of labor dispute with the County?  A. I'm not sure how I first learned, whether it was from media calls or through labor relations staff. I don't know.  Q. When did you first learn about this?  A. The spring of this year.  Q. Month of March?  A. I'm sorry?

there is only one way you can learn about consequences,

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and that is from communication. So I think you are.
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- 2 BY MR. PLATTEN:
- 3 Q. My question is this, Mr. Kutras. You've
- 4 indicated that you took actions consistent with your
- 5 role as chief executive officer of the County in
- 6 response to the efforts to qualify and pass a Binding
- 7 Interest Arbitration Initiative on the 2004 ballot. I
- 8 asked you which actions. You identified a direction to
- 9 subordinate staff to make proposals on Charter Measures
- 10 709 and 715 to various labor organizations. Am I
- 11
- correct so far?
- A. No. 12

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- Q. What's incorrect about what I've said?
- A. You asked me if these actions were in response.
- 15 I said I took actions consistent with my role following
- 16 closed-session discussions and gave directions to
- 17 subordinate staff to meet and confer on proposed Charter
- 18 Measure 709 and 715.
- 19 The discussions of those and the reasons and
- 20 discussions of potential impact are tied to
- 21 closed-session discussions, and I have been instructed
- 22 not to testify to that.
- 23 Q. Is it your testimony that directing your
- 24 subordinate staff to propose Charter Measure 709 and 715
- 25 had nothing to do with the efforts of certain labor

- 1 Q. Can you explain what the connection is?
  - A. The initiative effort by three bargaining
- 3 units, RNPA, Government Attorneys and CPOA, were in my
- 4 view a unilateral attempt to change the collective
- 5 bargaining relationship in our county. I felt that this
- 6 was a subject of negotiability, of meet and confer, that
- 7 it would be tantamount to the County moving unilaterally
- 8 without giving notice and meeting.
- 9 I felt that it impacted the entire landscape of
- 10 labor relations with all County bargaining units to the
- 11 extent that decisions would be made underthe proposed
- 12 initiative by an outside arbitrator, not accountable to
- 13 the electorate of this county.
- 14 I felt that we needed to not only propose
- 15 Charter Section 715, which I saw as a way to retain
- 16 accountability with the electorate, but that to the
- 17 extent that the proposed initiative, which is for 714,
- as I saw it, by an initiative signature gatherer also 18
- 19 attempted to retain a definition of Charter Section 709.
- 20 I felt that we needed to modify Section 709, which in my
- 21 view has been a longstanding problematic provision of
- 22 the Charter.
- 23 Q. Did you take any other actions after learning
- 24 of this initiative?
  - MR. DODD: It's vague and ambiguous. But if

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groups to obtain passage of the Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative on the November 2004 ballot?

- MR. DODD: Once again, to the extent that you
- 4 are attempting to obtain information about the policy 5 decisions made by the Board of Supervisors, whether or
- 6 not they had anything to do with those, it would --7 insofar as your question is concerned, I'm not going to
- 8 let him answer those questions. It's clear as a bell
- 9 that you can't discover indirectly what you can't
- 10 discover directly. And as far as I'm concerned, that's
- what you're after, and I'm not going to let him answer 11
- 12 that question.
- 13 BY MR. PLATTEN:
  - Q. Can you answer the question, Mr. Kutras?
- 15 A. Can I hear the question again, please?
- 16 MR. PLATTEN: Madam Reporter.
- 17 (The record was read by the Reporter.)
- 18 THE WITNESS: No, that is not my testimony.
- 19 BY MR. PLATTEN:
- 20 Q. So I take it that directing your subordinate
- 21 staff to make the proposals did have something to do
- 22 with the efforts of certain groups to obtain passage of
- 23 a Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative on the
- 24 November 2004 ballot; is that correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

- you think you can answer it.
  - 2 BY MR. PLATTEN:
  - 3 Q. I'll rephrase the question.
    - Did you take any other actions to obtain the
  - 5 defeat of the initiative after learning about it?
  - 6 MR. DODD: Well, objection. That's
  - 7 argumentative. I don't think he's yet testified that he 8 took actions to defeat it.

    - THE WITNESS: I think that I certainly have views as an individual about the proposed initiative. I
  - 10 11 was not reluctant to express those views as an
  - 12 individual, and people that I see in the community,
  - 13 people that I know.
  - 14 Again, I'm troubled by the reference that I'm
  - 15 taking actions to defeat. At the time at least that was
  - 16 developing, there was no measure on the ballot, there
  - 17 was no initiative and there was no, quote, vote before
  - 18 the voters.
  - 19 BY MR. PLATTEN:
  - 20 Q. Is it your testimony that the proposed changes
  - 21 by the County to provision 709 and proposed 715 of the
  - 22 Charter would not have been placed on the ballot by the
  - 23 Board of Supervisors if the Binding Interest Arbitration
  - 24 Initiative had not qualified for the ballot?
  - 25 A. No, that is not my testimony. I think -- let

me clarify. I think with regard to 715, that clearly

- 2 relates to 714. But with 709, that's an independent
- 3
- 4 Q. Did you instruct your subordinates at the
- 5 Office of Labor Relations to initiate a dialogue with
- 6 various employee organizations with respect to their
- 7 intentions to either support or oppose the Binding
- 8 Interest Arbitration Initiative on the November 2004
- 9 ballot?
- 10 A. There were some bargaining units that were in 11 active bargaining where that is the case, yes.
- 12 Q. Which units were those?
- 13 A. Deputy Sheriffs' Association, Registered
- 14 Nurses, Correctional Officers. There were discussions
- 15 with Government Attorneys, as well. But I don't know --
- 16 those were the four where the discussions were
- 17 happening.
- 18 Q. Did you instruct the Office of Labor Relations
- 19 to initiate dialogue with other employee organizations
- 20 with respect to their intentions to either support or
- oppose the Binding Interest Arbitration Measure? 21
- 22 A. Not in the direct manner and in the same manner
- 23 as the others. There was meet and confer on proposed
- 24 Charter measures, which I'm sure led to discussions of 25 the pending initiative. But there wasn't direct

- 1 A. Thank you. I've read it, thank you.
- 2 Q. Having reviewed Deposition Exhibit No. 5, did
- 3 you tell the Mercury News reporter, Putsata Reang,
- 4 that's spelled P-U-T-S-A-T-A, Reang, R-E-A-N-G, quote,

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- 5 "We are reaching out and building a coalition to oppose
- 6 their effort in November"?
  - A. Yes.

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- Q. When did you tell Ms. Reang that?
- 9 A. I don't know the exact date. Presumably the
- 10 week prior. The reporters don't work on weekends, so 11 the week prior.
- 12 O. At the time that you made that statement, was
- 13 it true that you were, quote, "reaching out and building
- 14 a coalition to oppose their effort in November," close
- 15 quote?
- 16 MR. DODD: Objection. It's vague and
- 17 ambiguous. We don't know who -- you haven't clarified
- 18 who is --
- 19 MR. PLATTEN: We're getting to that, Mr. Dodd.
- 20 BY MR. PLATTEN:
- 21 Q. Mr. Kutras?
- 22 A. The context of my quote was that Putsata, who
- 23 had talked extensively to Jim Shore, the president of
- 24 the Government Attorneys' Association who had made the
- 25 charge that we were doing something illegal, prompting

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- 1 bargaining linkages, if you will.
- 2 Q. Have you been having personal breakfast and/or
- 3 lunch meetings with Kristy Sermersheim of Local 715 to
- 4 discuss coordinating efforts with Local 715 to oppose
- 5 the Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative?
- 6 A. No.
- 7 Q. Have you had any breakfast or lunch meetings
- with Ms. Sermersheim since April of 2004 to date? 9
  - A. No.
- 10 Q. I'd like you to take a look, Mr. Kutras, at
- 11 what we've marked as Deposition Exhibit No. 5.
- 12 I don't believe you have it yet, Mr. Dodd.
- 13 MR. DODD: Oh, okay. You didn't ask, but we 14 did bring a document in response.
- 15 MR. PLATTEN: Good. I'll get back to that in a
- 16 second.
- 17 MR. DODD: Okay.
- 18 BY MR. PLATTEN:
- 19 Q. Deposition Exhibit No. 5 is a copy of a May 16, 20 2004, article that appeared in the San Jose Mercury News
- 21 entitled "Labor Tactics Questioned."
- 22 Are you familiar with this article, Mr. Kutras?
- 23 A. I have previously seen it. If you're going to
- 24 ask me questions, I'd like to take a minute to read it.
- 25 Q. Please do so.

- 1 her to make the inquiries to me, she said what is the
  - 2 County doing in the face of what she said was a
- 3 million-dollar war chest having been built by the three
- 4 bargaining units. And I said we will be reaching out;
- 5 we are going to build a coalition; we are going to
- 6 oppose this effort.
- 7 I also went on to say that the community needs
  - to be fully informed, the community needs to be aware of
- 9 this effort, and that we're going to make efforts to
- 10 make the community aware of it.
- 11 I had taken at the time of this article no
- 12 steps, either individually or in my official capacity,
- 13 to, quote, unquote, build a coalition.
- 14 Q. My question was, was it true that you were,
- 15 quote, "reaching out and building a coalition to oppose
- 16 their effort in November," close quote?
- 17 MR. DODD: I think he just answered that.
- 18 BY MR. PLATTEN:
- 19 Q. I'd like to refocus on the question. Is it
- 20 true, or is it not true?
- 21 A. To the extent I was having closed-session
- 22 conversations with the Board and discussing howto or
- 23 whether to take County positions on the measure with
- 24 ballot measures, yes, that's true.
  - Was I talking to anyone external to the County

(Pages 14 to 17)

18 20 of Santa Clara? No. BY MR. PLATTEN: Q. Who were you referring to when you told 2 2 O. I'm talking about in your mind at the time that Ms. Reang, quote, "We are reaching out," close quote? 3 3 you made this statement to Ms. Reang, did you have in 4 A. I was referring to my own individual efforts to 4 your mind when you used the term "reaching out" having 5 talk to members of the community, to talk to people in 5 the County make offers for collective bargaining 6 agreements to County labor organizations in exchange for my community, anyone I come in contact with in my 7 7 an agreement not to support the Binding Interest personal capacity as an individual that I thought these 8 measures were wrong. 8 Arbitration Initiative? 9 9 Q. Were you also referring to negotiations with A. As an element of agreements that otherwise 10 County labor organizations? 10 would have been reached, to the extent this could be a 11 A. Not directly, no. 11 component, yes. As the sole criteria for agreement, no. 12 12 Q. Indirectly? Q. Did you instruct any of your subordinates to take any steps to negotiate collective bargaining 13 A. No. My context here of this response to her 13 14 was what were we going to do if the measures moved 14 agreements including wage increases in exchange for not 15 forward. And I indicated that we would try to reach out 15 supporting the Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative? and build a coalition to oppose the effort. 16 A. Direct exchange, no. 17 Q. At the time you made this statement, in your 17 Q. How about indirect exchange? 18 mind, did you believe that that would include building a 18 A. As part of an overall package agreement, yes. 19 19 coalition with County labor organizations to oppose the Q. Was your reference in your statement to 20 Binding Initiative -- Binding Arbitration Initiative? 20 "November" a reference to the November election? I'm 21 A. It could, yes. 21 referring now to Exhibit No. 5. 22 Q. Who were you referring to when you told the 22 A. Is my reference to --23 Mercury News and Ms. Reang, quote, "their effort in 23 Q. "November" a reference to the November 24 24 November"? Is that GAA, RNPA and CPOA? election? 25 A. Correct. 25 A. Yes. 19 1 MR. PLATTEN: You had some documents, Mr. Iddd? Q. When you told the Mercury News, "their effort 2 in November," was that referring to the Binding Interest 2 MR. DODD: One, which we have marked as 3 3 SCC 00001. Arbitration Initiative? 4 A. Yes. 4 MR. PLATTEN: And can you tell mewhat this 5 Q. And by "reaching out," I take it that you meant 5 offering County labor organizations agreements in 6 6 MR. DODD: Are you asking me orasking the 7 7 support -- in exchange for their opposing the Binding witness? 8 8 MR. PLATTEN: You're producing it. Interest Arbitration Initiative. MR. DODD: Objection. Argumentative, and MR. DODD: Well, I'm producing it, butwhy 9 9 10 mischaracterizes his testimony. He is not to testify. 10 don't you let the winess tell you. It's hisdocument. 11 BY MR. PLATTEN: 11 BY MR. PLATTEN: 12 Q. You can answer the question, Mr. Kutras. 12 Q. All right. Mr. Kutras, you have a document 13 THE WITNESS: Mr. Dodd, can I answer? 13 marked SCC 00001, which we'llput in the record as 14 MR. DODD: Yes, you can. 14 Deposition Exhibit No.7, if you would. 15 THE WITNESS: No. 15 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 7 was marked for BY MR. PLATTEN: identification.) 16 16 17 Q. Did you have in your mind at the time that you 17 BY MR. PLATTEN: 18 would be making offers to County labor organizations for 18 Q. Can you tell us, Mr. Kutras, what the document 19 new collective bargaining agreements in exchange for 19 that we've marked as Depo Exhibit No. 7 is? 20 agreements not to support a Binding Arbitration 20 A. Yes. I was asked to bring any notes had with 21 21 Initiative? regard to meeting wth bargaining units with regard to

6 (Pages 18 to 21)

the Binding Interest Abitration Initiative. This is

I was called by County Communicationsthe

off of a little slip of paper that Itook a note on

Saturday, March 27th, at 6:20 p.m.

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personally?

MR. DODD: Are you talking about him

MR. DODD: That he would make the offers?

MR. PLATTEN: Yes.

22 24 emergency dispatch function for the County, who have 1 Q. Any other written communication regarding the 2 instructions only to contact me on off hours for 2 content of the meeting --3 emergencies that require my attention. Apparently, the 3 A. No. 4 president of the CPOA, Everett Fitzgerald, had imposed 4 Q. Let me finish the question, please, Mr. Kutras. upon the watch commander to call me and indicate that 5 6 while it was not an emergency, it was a grave matter 6 Q. -- with Mr. Fitzgerald? 7 that required urgent attention. 7 A. No. 8 I was at a family gathering. I left that 8 Q. Are you sure that it took place on the 29th and 9 family gathering and returned the call to 9 not on April 6th? 10 Mr. Fitzgerald. After hearing him and chastising him 10 A. I'm absolutely positive. 11 for utilizing the emergency communication contact 11 Q. That is the meeting with yourself, network, it became clear to me he wanted a meeting with 12 12 Mr. Calabrese, Mr. Leung and Mr. Fitzgerald? 13 regard to the Binding Interest Arbitration Measure and 13 A. Yes. 14 with regard to the position that CPOA would be taking on 14 Q. At that meeting, did you state to 15 it. 15 Mr. Fitzgerald that you would, quote, "Use every penny 16 He asked to meet that weekend. I told him I 16 you had to fight the Binding Interest Arbitration could meet with him at 7:30 Monday morning, whereupon a 17 17 Initiative"? meeting did take place with Mr. Leung being present and 18 18 A. No. 19 myself and Mr. Fitzgerald and his vice president, Bill 19 Q. Did you use words at all to that effect? 20 Calabrese, who was also present. 20 A. I used words to indicate that I would oppose 21 At that meeting, Mr. Fitzgerald indicated that 21 the initiative, yes. 22 they were having internal discussions within their 22 Q. Did you indicate to Mr. Fitzgerald that the 23 bargaining unit about whether or not to join the 23 County would be opposing the initiative on a policy 24 coalition, that if the County would give more money, 24 basis? 25 they wouldn't be part of the coalition. 25 MR. DODD: What do you mean by "policy basis"? 23 25 1 MR. DODD: When you say "coalition," you MR. PLATTEN: Let me rephrase the question. 1 2 mean --2 BY MR. PLATTEN: 3 THE WITNESS: With RNPA and with GAA, and I 3 Q. Did you indicate to Mr. Fitzgerald that the 4 don't know at the time DSA was settled or not. 4 County would take appropriate actions to oppose the 5 5 I indicated to him that this was problematic, Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative? 6 because we had put out significant sums of money to try 6 A. I just -- I think it was more general. I think 7 and get agreement with the unit and that he -- I asked I told him that, "You know we would oppose it. We don't 8 what his internal dissension was. He indicated that 8 agree with that method of resolving disputes as a public 9 9 Richard Abbate, I think the spelling is A-B-B-A-T-E, was employer." 10 leading an effort to thwart the new leadership. 10 Q. Did you state to Mr. Fitzgerald that you would 11 I remember distinctly humorously commenting, 11 be meeting, you or your subordinates would be meeting 12 "So Abbate is opposing the interest arbitration 12 with other County labor organizations to try to gain 13 measure?" He said, "Yes." I said, "Great. I'm in the 13 their opposition to the initiative? 14 same position as Richard Abbate." 14 A. No. 15 We had that conversation. It was left open. 15 Q. Did you ever make a demand to Correctional 16 The meeting adjourned. That's what this note reflects. 16 Officers or RNPA or GAA to bargain over the provisions 17 The meeting was the following Monday, so the 29th of 17 of the Binding Interest Arbitration proposal? 18 March. 18 BY MR. PLATTEN: 19 19 Q. Did you ever have a meeting to discuss with the 20 Q. Did you take any notes at the meeting on the representatives of those organizations any possible 21 29th? 21 alternatives to the Binding Interest Arbitration

7 (Pages 22 to 25)

proposal that they had qualified for the ballot?

MR. PLATTEN: That's correct.

all three of them were present?

MR. DODD: Well, are you asking a meeting where

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A. I did not.

A. I did not.

meeting?

Q. Did you send any e-mails out following that

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          MR. DODD: Oh, okay. I mean there is an issue
                                                                 1
                                                                     to agree that 714, the proposed measure, would go on the
 2
     as to whether -- as to whether we can talk about what
                                                                 2
                                                                     ballot, but the units would meet with us if we wished to
 3
     may have gone on in bargaining sessions with anybody
                                                                 3
                                                                     discuss modifications, but that binding interest
 4
     other than RNPA, and I don't know.
                                                                 4
                                                                     arbitration would have to be on the ballot.
 5
          MR. PLATTEN: I represent GAA, and any concerns
                                                                 5
                                                                           My recollection was that it was advanced to us
 6
     you have, I believe Mr. Clisham can speak for CPOA if
                                                                 6
                                                                     that this needed to get done before the signatures were
 7
     necessary.
                                                                 7
                                                                     turned in, that time was running out, and they sought an
 8
          MR. DODD: Yeah. Is that the case?
                                                                 8
                                                                     agreement with those package conditions.
 9
          MR. CLISHAM: Yes.
                                                                 9
                                                                        Q. Did you make any proposal to these bargaining
10
     BY MR. PLATTEN:
                                                                10
                                                                     units for alternative language to that contained in 714
11
        Q. My question, Mr. Kutras, goes to did you have
                                                                11
                                                                     for binding interest arbitration? I'm speaking of that
12
    any meetings with the representatives of the RNPA, the
                                                                12
                                                                     meeting at June 4th.
13
     GAA and the CPOA to discuss possible alternative
                                                                13
                                                                        A. At that meeting, no.
14
     language to the Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative
                                                                14
                                                                        Q. At any other meeting?
15
     that had qualified for the ballot?
                                                                15
                                                                        A. Our alternative proposal was to not put the
16
          MR. DODD: You're talking about 714, now?
                                                                16
                                                                     measure on. We did not, if you will, tweak the
17
          MR. PLATTEN: Yes.
                                                                17
                                                                     proposal.
18
          MR. DODD: And a meeting where all three were
                                                                18
                                                                        Q. Thank you. Did you talk to Craig Anderson from
19
                                                                     the Daily Journal about the Binding Interest Arbitration
     present?
                                                                19
20
          MR. PLATTEN: That was my question.
                                                                20
                                                                     Initiative sometime in mid May 2004?
21
          MR. DODD: Okay. I just want to make sure we
                                                                21
                                                                        A. Not that I recall. I know he called me. I
22
     understand the ground rules.
                                                                22
                                                                     don't know that I hooked up with him.
23
          THE WITNESS: And the three bargaining units
                                                                23
                                                                        Q. Let me show you what we've marked, Mr. Kutras,
24
    have consented to discuss --
                                                                24
                                                                     Deposition Exhibit 6 which is a May 19, 2004, article
25
          MR. DODD: I think we just heard on the record
                                                                25
                                                                     from the Daily Journal. Take a moment to read it, and
                                                           27
                                                                                                                           29
 1
    that they have.
                                                                 1
                                                                    let me know when you're done.
2
         THE WITNESS: All right.
                                                                 2

 I've read the article.

3
         I was present at a meeting arranged by
                                                                 3
                                                                        Q. Having read Deposition Exhibit No. 6, does this
4
    Supervisor Gage.
                                                                 4
                                                                     refresh your recollection as to whether you may have
 5
    BY MR. PLATTEN:
                                                                 5
                                                                     spoken to Mr. Anderson prior to the publication of this
6
       Q. June 4th, 2004?
                                                                 6
                                                                     article?
7
       A. I'm trying -- Idon't remember exactly when it
                                                                 7
                                                                        A. Is this 6?
    was. I was going to say sometimeJune or July.
8
                                                                 8
                                                                        O. Yes.
9
         The purpose of the meeting wasfor -- the
                                                                 9
                                                                        A. I did not speak to him, no.
10
    bargaining units had approached Mr. Gage saying, "He
                                                                10
                                                                        In the third column of the article,
11
    County is not listening to us."
                                                                11
                                                                     mid-paragraph reads:
12
         Mr. Gage requested that be present, along
                                                                12
                                                                             "County officials acknowledge they are
13
    with - I brought Deputy County Executive Leode
                                                                13
                                                                           engaging in a divide-and-conquer strategy,
14
    Franklin, L-E-O-D-E, Franklin, and Human Resources
                                                                14
                                                                          hoping to isolate the attorneys whom they
    Director Luke Leung to the meeting. RNPA, Rosemary Knox
                                                                15
                                                                          accuse of trying to grab more money during
    was present for RNPA, Jim Shore was present for GAA, and
16
                                                                16
                                                                           tight budget times. But they deny doing
17
    Everett Fitzgerald was present for CPOA. Just those
                                                                17
                                                                           anything illegal."
18
    three.
                                                                18
                                                                       Were you one of the County officials referred to in
19
         They presented individually what would call a
                                                                19
                                                                     this article?
20
    term sheet or condition of agreement sheet isting items
                                                                20
                                                                        A. No. I mean let me put it a different way. I
21
    that they required b reach agreement with he County.
                                                                21
                                                                     did not talk to him. I don't know what his source is
22
         As part of that, each unit indicated they all
                                                                22
                                                                     for this. I typically don't talk to the legal papers if
23
    had to agree or none could agree. That was the first
                                                                23
                                                                     I can avoid that.
24
    piece.
                                                                24
                                                                        Q. In mid May of 2004, was the County engaged in a
```

divide-and-conquer strategy hoping to isolate the

25

25

And the second piece was thatf we -- we had

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30
                                                                                                                            32
 1
    attorneys?
                                                                 1
                                                                          MR. DODD: Has he talked with --
 2
        A. No.
                                                                 2
                                                                          MR. PLATTEN: That was my question.
 3
        Q. Have they ever engaged in such a strategy?
                                                                 3
                                                                          MR. DODD: Okay. Well, again, sometimes you
 4
                                                                 4
                                                                    say "you," and I'm not sure whether you're talking about
 5
        Q. At your meeting that you've described with
                                                                 5
                                                                    him personally as opposed to the County as an
 6
    Mr. Fitzgerald and Mr. Calabrese and Mr. Leung, did you
                                                                 6
                                                                    organization.
 7
    suggest to Mr. Fitzgerald that if CPOA wanted to come to
                                                                 7
                                                                          But if you're going to ask him about
 8
    agreement with the County on wages, hours and working
                                                                 8
                                                                    conversations that he's had with organizations other
 9
    conditions that the CPOA would have to drop out of any
                                                                 9
                                                                     than RNPA, CPOA, and GAA and perhaps DSA, then you may
10
    coalition with RNPA and GAA and stop pursuing a Charter
                                                                10
                                                                     be asking him about information that is privileged, and
11
    amendment to establish binding arbitration?
                                                                11
                                                                    I will instruct him not to answer.
12
          MR. DODD: Can you repeat the question?
                                                                12
                                                                    BY MR. PLATTEN:
13
    BY MR. PLATTEN:
                                                                13
                                                                       Q. Let me rephrase the question.
14
        Q. At the meeting that you've described between
                                                                14
                                                                         Have you talked to any representatives of
15
    yourself, Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Calabrese and Mr. Leung,
                                                                15
                                                                    County labor organizations for the purpose of obtaining
16
    did you suggest to Mr. Fitzgerald that if the CPOA
                                                                16
                                                                    their opposition to the Binding Interest Arbitration
17
    wanted to come to an agreement with the County on wages,
                                                                17
                                                                    Initiative?
    hours and working conditions, the CPOA would have to
18
                                                                18
                                                                         MR. DODD: Well, once again, it's essentially
19
    drop out of the coalition with RNPA and GAA and stop
                                                                19
                                                                    the same question.
20
    pursuing a Charter amendment to establish binding
                                                                20
                                                                         MR. PLATTEN: That's correct. And I haven't
21
    interest arbitration?
                                                                21
                                                                    heard an instruction not to answer.
22
       A. No.
                                                                22
                                                                         MR. DODD: I think I did instruct him not to
23
        Q. Did you suggest to Mr. Fitzgerald that you
                                                                23
                                                                    answer.
24
    would use every penny that you had to fight binding
                                                                24
                                                                    BY MR. PLATTEN:
25
    interest arbitration?
                                                                25
                                                                       Q. Are you going to answer the question,
                                                           31
                                                                                                                           33
 1
          MR. DODD: Objection. Asked and answered.
                                                                 1
                                                                    Mr. Kutras?
 2
          THE WITNESS: No, I did not.
                                                                 2
                                                                        A. I have been instructed by my counsel not to, so
 3
     BY MR. PLATTEN:
                                                                 3
                                                                    no, I will not.
 4
        Q. Was that statement, however, a true reflection
                                                                 4
                                                                          MR. DODD: If you want to break it down and ask
 5
     of your state of mind at the time?
                                                                 5
                                                                    it union by union, we may be able to answer with some,
 6
          MR. DODD: His personal state of mind?
                                                                 6
                                                                     perhaps, and others, perhaps not.
 7
                                                                     BY MR. PLATTEN:
          MR. PLATTEN: That's correct.
                                                                 7
 8
          THE WITNESS: No.
                                                                 8
                                                                        Q. Have you talked to representatives of SEIU 715
 9
     BY MR. PLATTEN:
                                                                 9
                                                                     for the purpose of obtaining their opposition or
10
        Q. What else have you done to oppose passage of
                                                                10
                                                                     coordinating their efforts to oppose passage of the
11
    the Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative?
                                                                11
                                                                     Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative?
12
          MR. DODD: Objection. It's argumentative,
                                                                12
                                                                        A. No.
     because it assumes that he has taken steps to oppose it.
13
                                                                13
                                                                        Q. Have you talked to representatives of any other
14
    BY MR. PLATTEN:
                                                                14
                                                                    County labor organizations for the purpose of obtaining
15
        Q. Have you talked to County labor representatives
                                                                15
                                                                     their opposition or coordinating their efforts to oppose
16
     seeking to acquire their opposition or obtain their
                                                                16
                                                                    passage of the Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative?
17
     opposition to the Binding Interest Arbitration
                                                                17
                                                                        A. No.
18
     Initiative?
                                                                18
                                                                        Q. Have you instructed subordinates to engage in
19
          MR. DODD: Can you restate it --
                                                                19
                                                                     any such conversations or dialogue with representatives
20
          MR. PLATTEN: I'll rephrase.
                                                                20
                                                                    of County labor organizations in order to obtain their
21
    BY MR. PLATTEN:
                                                                21
                                                                     opposition or coordinate their opposition to the Binding
22
        Q. Have you talked to representatives of County
                                                                22
                                                                     Interest Arbitration Initiative?
23
     labor organizations seeking to attain or obtain their
                                                                23
                                                                        A. No. The only clarification I would offer other
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9 (Pages 30 to 33)

than what I previously testified to, directing staff to

meet and confer on proposed Charter measures, and to the

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25

Initiative?

opposition to the Binding Interest Arbitration

34 36 extent that a bargaining unit in those meet-and-confer 1 A. No. sessions would say, "Why are you proposing Section 715," 2 Q. Have you given instructions to any subordinates 3 there would invariably be discussion of the proposed 3 to speak to members of the staffs of any elected 4 4 officials in order to obtain their opposition or 5 Q. Have you spoken with any elected officials in 5 coordinate their opposition to passage of the Binding 6 order to obtain their opposition or coordinate their 6 Interest Arbitration Initiative? 7 opposition to the passage of the Binding Interest 7 MR. DODD: Other than the Board of Supervisors? 8 Arbitration Initiative? 8 MR. PLATTEN: I'm assuming you're going to 9 MR. DODD: To the extent that you're asking 9 instruct him not to answer. 10 about the Board of Supervisors, I'm not going to let him 10 MR. DODD: Right. That's why I'm asking you to 11 answer the question because it may involve 11 clarify. closed-session discussions and any number of things. 12 12 MR. PLATTEN: I need to state the record. So 13 So -- and their policy decisions. So I'm not going to 13 you will instruct him not to answer that question with 14 let you ask him about the Board of Supervisors. 14 respect to staff members of the Board of Supervisor, 15 You want to ask him about other elected 15 correct? 16 officials? 16 MR. DODD: Yes. 17 MR. PLATTEN: Well, I said any elected 17 BY MR. PLATTEN: 18 officials. So to the extent --Q. With respect to any other elected officials 18 19 MR. DODD: To the extent you're asking him 19 other than the Board of Supervisors? 20 about the Board of Supervisors, it will inevitably 20 A. No. 21 disclose privileged conversations, and I can't let him 21 Q. Have you spoken with any community 22 answer it to that extent. 22 organizations or community leaders in order to obtain 23 MR. PLATTEN: It is your representation, 23 their opposition or coordinate their opposition to 24 Mr. Dodd, that you're instructing your client not to 24 passage of the Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative? 25 answer my question with respect to the Board of 25 A. In my private capacity as a citizen, I have 35 37 Supervisors? 1 talked to community leaders with regard to this measure 2 MR. DODD: That's my statement. to include members of the press, members of community 2 3 (Discussion between Mr. Clisham and organizations and others, yes. 3 4 Mr. Platten.) 4 Q. Which community organizations? 5 MR. PLATTEN: Go ahead and ask him, David. 5 A. They are many and varied. 6 MR. CLISHAM: Did you have any conversations 6 Q. Can you list them for me, please? 7 with members of the Board of Supervisors outside of 7 A. No. I don't have a complete list. 8 executive session in regard the binding interest 8 Q. Can you give me a partial list? 9 arbitration? 9 A. I'd like to confer with my counsel. 10 MR. DODD: I'm still not going to let him 10 Q. Certainly. 11 answer that question, because it may -- it may undertake 11 (Discussion had off the record.) 12 to get at what is in the heads of the Boards of 12 MR. DODD: To the extent that you're asking him 13 Supervisors, and you're not entitled to that 13 about his -- in his personal capacity, it's not relevant 14 information. So I'm going to give him the same 14 and it probably invades his privacy. And so I'm going 15 instruction. 15 to instruct him not to answer. BY MR. PLATTEN: 16 16 BY MR. PLATTEN: 17 Q. Have you talked to any other elected officials 17 Q. When you had these conversations with these 18 in order to obtain their opposition or coordinate their 18 community representatives, were the conversations in 19 opposition to the passage of the Binding Interest 19 person or on the telephone? 20 Arbitration Initiative? 20 A. Most in person. Some on the phone. 21 Q. And using a County phone from your office? A. In direct answer to your question, no. 21 22 Q. Is there any other kind of answer? Indirect? 22 23 A. Just leave -- it's no. 23 Q. Did any of the conversations occur using County 24 Q. Have you taken steps to have anyone else speak 24 phones? 25 to other elected officials? 25 A. No.

38 40 Q. Did any of the conversations occur on County 1 1 closed-session direction from the Board, yes. 2 property? 2 BY MR. PLATTEN: 3 A. No. 3 Q. And on how many occasions have you given 4 Q. Did any conversations occur on County time? 4 direction to Mr. Leung since April of 2004? 5 A. I'm -- during my normal business hours, no. 5 MR. DODD: On anything? 6 But I'm -- I don't know that I have your --6 BY MR. PLATTEN: 7 Q. Have you spoken to County staff members in 7 Q. On this issue. 8 order to obtain their opposition or coordinate their 8 MR. DODD: On this issue. 9 opposition to passage of the Binding Interest 9 THE WITNESS: Numerous. 10 **Arbitration Initiative?** 10 BY MR. PLATTEN: 11 A. No. 11 Q. How about instructions to anyone other than 12 Q. You have not spoken to Mr. Leung about that 12 Mr. Leung? 13 issue? 13 A. Yes. 14 A. You asked me if I've done it to coordinate 14 O. Whom? opposition or gain their opposition. You didn't ask me 15 15 A. Leode Franklin. 16 if I've talked to them about the initiative. 16 Q. And what have you asked or instructed 17 Q. That wasn't my question. 17 Ms. Franklin to do? 18 A. Yes, it was. 18 A. To -- she is Mr. Leung's boss, and to make sure 19 Q. My question was have you spoken with Mr. Leung 19 we are following the directions we have been given 20 about obtaining his opposition or coordinating 20 regarding the negotiations of negotiable matters. 21 opposition. 21 Q. And this would include either obtaining 22 A. Mr. Leung, I don't know what his personal 22 opposition or obtaining agreement with labor 23 position is on the measure. I'm trying to answer the 23 organizations to withdraw support to the Binding 24 questions you're posing. 24 Interest Arbitration Initiative? 25 Q. Here's my question, Mr. Kutras. Have you 25 MR. DODD: Objection. It's argumentative. 39 41 talked to Mr. Leung for the purpose of coordinating It's compound, and it's misleading by tying together opposition of passage of the Binding Interest 2 "opposition" with "withdrawal of support." 3 Arbitration Initiative? 3 BY MR. PLATTEN: 4 A. No. Q. You can answer the question, Mr. Kutras. 4 5 Q. Have you spoken to Mr. Leung for the purpose of 5 A. The first part of your question with regard to 6 attempting to negotiate agreements with County labor 6 opposition, no. The second part of your question with 7 organizations to oppose or to drop their support for 7 regard to withdrawing support or not moving forward, 8 binding interest arbitration? 8 ves. MR. DODD: Well, I'm going to object that the 9 9 Q. Is it your testimony today under oath that you 10 question is compound, and you should ask it as two 10 never gave any instruction to a subordinate, Mr. Leung, 11 separate questions. 11 Ms. Franklin or anyone else, to obtain, either through 12 BY MR. PLATTEN: 12 negotiations or otherwise, agreements from County labor 13 Q. You can answer the question, Mr. Kutras. 13 organizations to oppose passage of the Binding Interest 14 MR. DODD: Well, the question is compound, and 14 Arbitration Initiative? 15 therefore I think vague and ambiguous and misleading, 15 A. No -- yes, that is my testimony. We gave because you say on the one hand oppose or withdraw their 16 16 directions on meet and confer with regard to 709 and 17 support. Those are two different things. 17 proposed 715 measures. The fact that there was no MR. PLATTEN: That's fine. That's an objection 18 18 opportunity before signature gathering to negotiate on 19 to form. 19 714, we were presented with a fait accompli, inevitable 20 BY MR. PLATTEN: 20 brings a viewpoint that we don't concur on 714. 21 Q. You can still answer the question, Mr. Kutras. 21 That is -- I'm very cognizant that once a

11 (Pages 38 to 41)

measure is on the ballot and qualified as an initiative,

that no public resources, staff or funds can be used to

take a position on the measure, other than to educate,

quote, unquote, the public.

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MR. DODD: You can answer the question, but be

mindful of the misleading nature of the question.

discussed direction with Mr. Leung pursuant to our

THE WITNESS: I have given direction and

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1 Now, to the extent you attempt to infer or

- 2 imply in these questions that my efforts have been to
- 3 oppose a measure, I have done nothing to impair, impact
- or bar any employee from political action. I have
- 5 directed staff to negotiate on matters we consider
- 6 negotiable matters, that we consider changing the
- employer/employee relationships that have existed in 7
- this County since the passage of Meyers-Milias-Brown in
- 9 1969. And to that extent, yes, I do not concur with
- 10 714.

11

Having said that, these questions attempt to 12 mischaracterize my actions. I have given direction to

- 13 staff in an appropriate manner, in appropriate settings
- 14 to meet and confer on issues that reflect the position
- 15 of the County of Santa Clara.
- Q. Your answer, Mr. Kutras, was interesting, 16 17 because it differentiated between the point in time at
- 18 which an initiative qualifies for the ballot.

19 Did you take any steps to coordinate or

- 20 instruct your staff to coordinate with County labor 21
- organizations opposition to binding interest arbitration 22 prior to the time that 714 qualified for the ballot?
- 23 A. To the extent we approached the bargaining with
- 24 the three organizations to attempt to reach a package
- agreement that would have resulted in no measure, we did

24

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that.

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But did we take efforts to oppose? No.

Q. How about with respect to Local 715, did you have any conversations with representatives of Local 715

5 prior to qualification of 714 in an effort to obtain

- 6 715's agreement to oppose binding interest arbitration 7 if it qualified for the ballot?
- 8 MR. DODD: Well, to the extent you're asking 9 about bargaining sessions with 715, then I don't think 10 that you can go there.
- 11 MR. PLATTEN: I wasn't asking about bargaining 12 sessions. I said "conversations with."
- 13 MR. DODD: Well, if you can draw a distinction 14 in your mind between conversations that you might have 15 had with somebody at 715 that wasn't a bargaining
- 16 session, then you can answer that question. 17

THE WITNESS: I may have had conversations in 18 what I considered an informational context saying, "Have

- 19 you heard that there is an effort to put a measure on."
- 20 BY MR. PLATTEN:
- 21 Q. Who was that conversation with?
- 22 A. It was either, and I'm not certain, it was
- 23 either with Gabrielle --
  - MR. LEUNG: Hernandez.
- 25 THE WITNESS: -- Hernandez or Kristy

- Sermersheim. I'm not certain.
- 2 BY MR. PLATTEN:
  - Q. These are both representatives of Local 715?
  - A. Yes.

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Q. When did these conversations take place?

6 MR. DODD: Well, your question assumes there

- 7 was more than one conversation, and I'm not sure that
- 8 that was his testimony.
- 9 BY MR. PLATTEN:
- 10 Q. Well, was there more than one conversation?
- 11 A. No.
  - Q. When did the single conversation take place?
- 13 A. Sometime in the spring.
- 14 Q. And can you relate what the substance of the
- 15 conversation was?
- 16 A. It was "Have you heard," and that I thought,
- 17 again, that the provision would be problematic.
- 18 Q. Have you made any promises or representations
- 19 to any labor organization that if the Binding Interest
- 20 Arbitration Initiative is opposed on the November
- 21 ballot, that there will be considerations for that labor
- 22 organization --
- 23 A. No.
  - Q. -- respectively?
- 25 A. No.
- 1 Q. No such agreements have been offered or
- 2 representations made by you?
- 3 A. None,
- Q. Have you worked on or participated in drafting 4
- 5 written arguments against the Binding Interest
- 6 Arbitration Initiative?
- 7 MR. DODD: You mean arguments that counsel has 8 filed?
- 9 MR. PLATTEN: Any arguments. Any arguments.
- 10 MR. DODD: You mean including those that may
- 11 have been filed with the Court or --
- 12 MR. PLATTEN: Any arguments.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 14
- BY MR. PLATTEN: 15 Q. And can you tell me when?
- A. With counsel from the beginning to current. I 16
- 17 mean I don't -- I can't be more specific. It's been an
- 18 ongoing --
- 19 MR. DODD: I want to be clear that you're --
- 20 what kind of arguments you're talking about. Because
- 21 there are arguments that -- term of art, "ballot
- 22 arguments" and then there are arguments that get
- 23 presented in a Memorandum of Points and Authorities that
- 24 get filed with the Court.
  - And clearly Mr. Kutras may have had

(Pages 42 to 45)

46 48 attorney-client privileged communications with me and 1 misleading and it's effectively a compound question. others about arguments that get filed with the Court. 2 So if you want to break it down and ask about But if you're trying to shoehorn "ballot argument" into 3 specific ones, then we can probably answer the question. that question, I want to know what you're talking about. 4 MR. PLATTEN: The root question was against the 5 BY MR. PLATTEN: 5 Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative. That was the 6 Q. Why don't you identify for me, Mr. Kutras, 6 root question which led to this. 7 7 MR. DODD: I know, but the root question was which arguments you have either worked on or 8 participated in drafting against the binding interest 8 asked about 10 minutes ago. Why don't you start over 9 arbitration. 9 and ask the right question. 10 A. That I have worked on or --10 MR. PLATTEN: Why don't we take a break. 11 Q. Participated in drafting. 11 (Break taken from 12:06 no 12:14 p.m.) 12 MR. DODD: Well, I don't want you asking any 12 BY MR. PLATTEN: 13 attorney-client privileged communications. 13 Q. Mr. Kutras, you've told me that you worked on 14 MR. PLATTEN: I'm not asking for what he's 14 drafting arguments against the Binding Interest 15 discussed with any lawyer. I'm just asking to identify 15 Arbitration Initiative. Let's focus just on drafting 16 what his answer was. 16 ballot arguments. MR. DODD: If you recall. 17 17 Did you draft, edit, comment upon or THE WITNESS: Well, I've worked with legal 18 18 participate on the drafting of ballot arguments against 19 counsel on cases in court, cases at the PERB and through 19 a Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative known as, I subordinate staff on those cases. I have also seen 20 20 believe, Measure C? 21 ballot arguments and drafts, as well. 21 MR. DODD: Objection. The question is 22 BY MR. PLATTEN: 22 compound. 23 Q. Did you edit, annotate or propose changes to 23 BY MR. PLATTEN: 24 any ballot arguments? 24 Q. You may answer the question, Mr. Kutras. 25 25 MR. DODD: It includes any number of kinds of A. I proposed changes, yeah. 49 1 Q. Did you edit, comment on or propose any changes 1 activities. 2 to legal briefs or arguments that have been filed in the 2 BY MR. PLATTEN: 3 various court cases that have arisen over binding 3 Q. Mr. Kutras? interest arbitration? 4 A. With regard to 714, argument against, yes. 5 Not actual briefs, no. 5 Q. And when was that? 6 Q. Was this commenting, editing done at your work 6 A. In August. 7 site? 7 Q. Was this done in your office or on County 8 A. I just said I didn't comment or edit on the 8 property? 9 legal briefs. 9 A. Sometimes. 10 Q. I understand. Any of the commenting or editing 10 Q. And did you use or did you work with County 11 that you identified, was that done at your work site? 11 staff or other County resources when you did this? 12 A. I don't understand the question. I just said I 12 A. I worked with County Counsel. 13 didn't comment on the --13 O. Anyone else? 14 Q. You identified in the proposed ballot arguments 14 A. Yes. I had tasked my Deputy County Executive, 15 that you had commented, edited or annotated those. 15 Leode Franklin, to coordinate with County Counsel, yes. 16 MR. DODD: Why don't we break it down. 16 Q. Have you worked on drafting any other argument, 17 MR. PLATTEN: Let me finish my question, 17 not ballot arguments, but any other arguments against 18 Mr. Dodd. 18 714, Measure C? 19 MR. DODD: All right. 19 A. I wrote an op-ed piece for the Mercury News. 20 BY MR. PLATTEN: 20 Q. Was that done on County time? 21 Q. You indicated that you had commented, edited or 21 A. No. I did that at home. annotated the ballot arguments. My question to you is 22 22 Q. Any other written arguments? Have you drafted

13 (Pages 46 to 49)

or participated in the drafting of any other written

A. Other than working with legal counsel in the

arguments opposing 714, Measure C?

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did you do that at your work site?

about ballot arguments, plural, it is potentially

MR. DODD: Well, it's -- because you've asked

50 52 context of the pending cases, no. Initiative? 1 2 2 Q. Do you plan on working on drafting any other A. No. 3 arguments opposing the Binding Arbitration Initiative, 3 Q. Did you ever suggest to Sheriff's Lt. Jose 4 714? Salcido that if the Deputy Sheriffs' Association wanted 5 MR. DODD: Are you asking him to speculate 5 benchmarking for its members, the DSA could not support 6 about what the future may bring? 6 a Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative? 7 MR. PLATTEN: No. The question is "Do you 7 A. No. 8 plan." 8 Q. Did you ever so instruct any staff member --MR. DODD: Do you have any current plans? 9 9 A. No. 10 THE WITNESS: I don't have any plan I'm 10 Q. -- to suggest that? 11 following, no. 11 A. No. 12 BY MR. PLATTEN: 12 Q. Are you aware of any staff member who suggested 13 Q. What else are you planning to do, if anything, 13 that to Mr. Salcido? 14 to oppose the Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative? 14 A. No. 15 MR. DODD: Are you asking him -- if you're 15 Q. Did you ever have a conversation at all with 16 asking in his personal capacity, then you're invading 16 Mr. Salcido about the Binding Interest Arbitration 17 his privacy, and I instruct him not to answer. And if 17 Initiative? 18 you're asking him in his capacity as the County 18 A. Yes. 19 executive, you should make that clear. 19 Q. When was that? 20 BY MR. PLATTEN: 20 A. I'm not sure of a specific date. Again, in the 21 Q. You may answer the question, Mr. Kutras. 21 22 MR. DODD: I instruct him not to answer if 22 Q. Was there one or more than one conversation 23 you're asking him the question about his personal 23 with Mr. Salcido? 24 beliefs. So that's why I think you ought to get it 24 A. More than one. 25 straight. 25 Q. When was the first one? 51 53 BY MR. PLATTEN: 1 A. March or April is my guess. I'm not certain. 2 Q. You've been instructed by your counsel, 2 Q. How many conversations have you had with 3 Mr. Kutras. You can answer the question. 3 Mr. Salcido about the Binding Interest Arbitration 4 A. I'm not answering anything with regard to my 4 Initiative? 5 private activity. 5 A. I think two. 6 With regard to my official capacity as a County 6 Q. When was the second one? 7 executive, to the extent that I can envision or 7 A. Following the Putsata Reang news story that was speculate the future between now and election day, I 8 one of the exhibits. would expect that the Mercury News editorial board would 9 Q. Exhibit No. 4, or pardon me, No. 5, the May 10 call the organizations that are proponents of the 10 16th, 2004 article? 11 measure, ask to interview them. They would call me or 11 A. Yes. 12 others from the County and ask to interview us. They 12 Q. So it was after that article came out? 13 would then form an editorial opinion. I would expect 13 that I would express to them the County's view as framed 14 Q. Let's go to the first conversation with 15 by the ballot argument from the Board on the Measure. 15 Mr. Salcido. Was that face to face or over the 16 I would expect that there may be press stories. 16 telephone? 17 I would expect that there may be -- inquiries made to me 17 A. Face to face. 18 by the media that I would have to respond to. 18 Q. Where? 19 Q. Do you know of anyone who is working on any 19 A. Say again? campaign against passage of the Binding Interest 20 O. Where? 21 Arbitration Initiative on the November 2004 ballot? 21 A. At a restaurant. 22 A. No. 22 Q. Who was present besides yourself and 23 Q. Did the County of Santa Clara offer any raises 23 Mr. Salcido? or other inducements to any County labor organizations 24 A. Mr. Leung and Ron Yank, his attorney. 25 to not support the Binding Interest Arbitration 25 Q. Which restaurant?

54 56 A. Denny's. Q. And you were in your office? 1 2 Q. On North First? 2 A. Yes. Either in my office or on my County cell 3 A. Yes, but there was two on North First. 3 phone. 4 Q. That's correct. Which one was it? 4 Q. Speaking to Mr. Salcido? 5 A. It was the one -- I don't know how you refer to 5 A. Yes. it. It's the one by the hotel, adjacent, hooked to the 6 6 Q. And tell us what -- you were the only parties 7 motel building. 7 to the conversation? 8 Q. Just north of the 880 overpass? 8 A. Yes. 9 A. Yeah. 9 O. And what was discussed? Q. And what was discussed at that meeting? 10 10 A. He was concerned with the characterization of 11 A. Status of their negotiation. 11 DSA in the news story. 12 Q. And what did you say to Mr. Salcido and 12 Q. Why was that? 13 Mr. Yank regarding the Binding Interest Arbitration 13 A. I don't know why he was -- he said he was 14 Initiative? concerned about it. I told him that he ought to talk to 14 15 A. We discussed primarily the impediments to their 15 Putsata himself. 16 negotiations, what the issues were. I asked them if 16 Q. Did you ask him what his concern was? 17 they were a party to the initiative. 17 A. The concern he expressed was how DSA was 18 Q. And what did the tell you? 18 characterized, that they had done something wrong, I 19 They said they weren't. 19 think. 20 Q. Anything else discussed with regards to binding 20 Q. What did you understand his concern to be? 21 interest arbitration? 21 A. That he didn't like how they were portrayed in 22 A. Not that I recall. 22 the article. 23 Q. Was it an impediment to the negotiation? 23 Q. Anything besides that, anything else 24 MR. DODD: Was what an impediment? 24 descriptive? 25 BY MR. PLATTEN: 25 A. He said that it wasn't -- from his vantage 55 57 1 Q. Binding interest arbitration. point wasn't factual how she portrayed it. I told him 2 A. No. 2 to talk to her, express his views. 3 Q. Did Mr. Leung say anything with respect to the 3 Q. Did he tell you what he believed wasn't 4 Binding Interest Arbitration Proposal at that meeting? 4 5 A. No. 5 A. I think that the -- my recollection is that he 6 Q. And that was all that was discussed was a did not see a quid pro quo, "Sign this, and you get 6 7 single question by you as to whether or not they were 7 money." That's not how he said it evolved in their 8 bargaining. supporting it? Is that correct? 8 A. No. We discussed many items. 9 Q. Did anybody ever tell you that Mr. Phillips had 10 Q. No. I'm speaking in terms of binding interest 10 presented the offer to DSA for a successor agreement 11 arbitration. which included benchmarking on or about March 25th or 11 12 A. Right. 12 April 1st, 2004, and then explained that that offer 13 Q. So it only came up by virtue of one question by 13 would not be on the table unless DSA agreed to not 14 you to them, correct? 14 support binding interest arbitration? Did anybody ever 15 A. Yes. And then I expressed my concern to them 15 tell you that? 16 about the measure. 16 A. No. 17 Q. What did you say? 17 Q. Did you ever instruct anyone to speak to any 18 A. I said I'm concerned about the measure. 18 representative of DSA for the purpose of explaining that 19 Q. Did you explain your concern? 19 they would not be able to obtain benchmarking in the 20 A. I think it was understood. 20

> 15 (Pages 54 to 57)

Collective Bargaining Agreement unless they failed to

A. I don't recall that specifically. It may have

may have been in the context of how we discussed RNPA,

been in the context -- I will offer for clarification it

support or withdrew support for Binding Interest

Arbitration Initiative?

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Q. Anything else that you said?

Arbitration Measure, no.

A. It was a telephone call.

A. No. With regard to the Binding Interest

Q. Tell us about the meeting on May 16th.

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CPOA and Government Attorneys.

- 2 Q. Has benchmarking been a demand of the DSA for
- 3 many years --
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. -- in collective bargaining?
- A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And benchmarking means what in that term of art
- 8 in the County negotiations with the DSA?
- A. A methodology of calculating future pay raises,
- 10 tying it to market surveys of surrounding jurisdictions.
- 11 We had benchmarking with the deputy sheriffs in
- 12 the '80s. We took them out. Our pay has fallen. They
- 13 became concerned and wanted to reinstitute some
- 14 benchmarking.
- We went through a long period of not hiring any
- 16 deputies, so we weren't competing in the market.
- 17 Q. So the current Collective Bargaining Agreement
- 18 or Memorandum of Understanding is the first agreement to
- 19 include benchmarking since the 1980s?
- 20 A. I think that's correct. I'd have to look it
- 21 over to review it, but I think that's correct.
- Q. And this would include benchmarkings against
- 23 agencies such as San Jose, Gilroy and Palo Alto where
- 24 the police employees have access to binding interest
- 25 arbitration?

- 1 Is that the Side Letter Agreement that the DSA entered
  - 2 into with the County over binding interest arbitration?
    - A. Yes.
  - 4 Q. Did the DSA have to agree to this Side Letter
  - 5 in order for the County to -- in order to agree -- to
  - 6 reach agreement with the County over the MOU?
    - A. This is part of the package agreement, yes.
  - 8 Q. Who did you discuss this Side Letter Agreement
  - 9 with on or around April 12th, 2004, the signature date
  - 0 that appears on the Deposition Exhibit 4?
  - 11 A. The Board of Supervisors, my subordinates.
    - Q. Did you discuss it with Mr. Leung?
  - 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. When did that discussion take place?
- 15 A. I don't recall.
- 16 Q. Do you recall who was present when you
- 17 discussed it with Mr. Leung?
- 18 A. No.
  - Q. Do you recall what the substance of the
- 20 discussion was?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 Q. Similar questions with regard to Ms. Franklin.
- 23 Did you discuss it with Ms. Franklin?
  - A. She may have been in conversations, as well.

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Q. Do you recall the substance of the

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- 1 A. It includes every police jurisdiction in the
- 2 county, regardless of whether they have that or not.
- 3 Q. But the answer to my particular question would
- 4 be yes, it includes --
- 5 A. I'm not -- it includes all. I would have to
- 6 say no, it doesn't limit to those only.
  - Q. I understand that. But that's not my question.
- 8 A. Then I need to hear it again.
- 9 Q. It includes San Jose, Gilroy and Palo Alto
- 10 where police employees have access to binding interest
- 11 arbitration?

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- 12 A. Among other jurisdictions, yes.
- 13 Q. And the MOU, current MOU contains a series of
- 14 wage increases for DSA members that could total as much
- 15 as 22 percent over the term of the agreement?
- 16 A. Whatever it says. I don't have a calculation.
- 17 Q. Those wage increases, if or whatever they are,
- 18 would be paid out of County funds, correct?
- 19 A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And the DSA also entered into a Side Letter
- 21 Agreement with the County regarding binding arbitration;
- 22 is that correct?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And have you take a look, if you would,
- 25 Mr. Kutras, at Depo Exhibit No. 4, a one-page document.

- 1 conversations?
  - A. No, not anything additional o what I
  - 3 previously testifed this morning.
  - Q. Same question with regard to Mr. Philips.
    - A. Unlikely Ken Philips was present.
  - Q. Did you discuss this Side Letterwith
  - 7 Mr. Phillips at any point in time?
  - 8 MR. DODD: You mean before itwas signed?
  - 9 BY MR. PLATTEN:
  - 10 Q. Any time.
  - 11 A. Subsequent to itssigning and in response to
  - 12 preparing litigation responses, yes. But prior to, I
  - 13 don't recall that Idid.
  - 14 Q. Did you discuss the Side letter with Brian
  - 15 McKenna at any point in time?
  - 16 A. My discussions with Brian McKenna, no, to the
  - 17 Side Letter.
  - 18 Earlier in the negotiation progress, I had
  - 19 talked with Mr. Leung and Mr. McKenna with egard to DSA
  - 20 negotiations and had asked Mr. McKenna to research
  - 21 benchmarking, prior contracts where whad done it, I
  - 22 know we had done it with the probation officers, tying
  - 23 them to other jurisdictions, and to look atold deputy
  - 24 sheriff contracts as well.
  - 25 But that was not in the context of the Side

16 (Pages 58 to 61)

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    potentially come out ofclosed session and/or -- Imean
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    part of the problem, Ithink --
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          MR. PLATTEN: If you want to instruct him not
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    to answer, Mr. Dodd, do that. But the question is very
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 6
          MR. DODD: It's not so simple.
 7
    BY MR. PLATTEN:
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       Q. Did you ever ask or instructany County labor
    relations employees tospeak with County labor
10
    organization representatives about not supporting the
    Binding InterestArbitration Initiative on the November
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12
    2004 ballot? Simple question. We've talked about
13
    RNPA --
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       A. I did instruct -- I did instruct staff that
15
    they should inform organizations thathe County Board
16
    was going to oppose 714.
17
       Q. Fine.
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A. I did do that. In addition to the negotiations with DSA, RNPA, CPOA and GAA, those conversations, and 19

20 in the context ofmeet and confer on 709 and 715, yes,

that conversation came up about "Areyou going to

22 support it, are you not, where are you on 709, where are

23 you on 715." That's part of the meet and confer 24 process.

25 Q. Did you tell or instruct County labor relations

MR. DODD: It's a question that may not be 1

understandable. But if you think you understand it and 3 you can testify without revealing negotiation strategy

for other unions, then you can answer. But otherwise, I

5 don't think you should answer.

6 BY MR. PLATTEN:

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O. Mr. Kutras?

8 A. In the context of the meet and confer on 709 and 715, there was a free exchange of proposals and 10 positions between the County and the labor 11 organizations. To the extent in those discussions we 12 sought to find out whether someone would concur with 715, the proposed Charter Section of 715, that would 13 14 seem to indicate to us what their position would be on 15 Charter Section 714.

In addition, at public hearings of the Board, organizations appeared and testified.

So did we -- the conversations with the bargaining units under the meet and confer over 709 and 715 were very different from the conversations that we've talked about and I've testified to with regard to the four organizations.

23 So I'm trying to be responsive to the extent I 24 understand the question.

Q. My question goes to a simple proposition: Did

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employees to seek agreements from County labor 2 organizations that would prohibit labor organizations

3 from supporting a Binding Interest Arbitration

4 Initiative?

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A. Other than the four units we've discussed, no. 6 I don't think anybody else had active bargaining going

Q. Okay. Did you tell or instruct County labor relations employees to seek commitments from County labor organizations opposing the passage of a Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative on the November 2004 ballot?

MR. DODD: Chris, you may have lost a word out of the question, I'm sorry, because I think as phrased, it's vague and ambiguous. I'm not --

MR. PLATTEN: Can you read it back, Madam Reporter?

(The record was read by the Reporter.)

MR. DODD: The use of the word "opposing," it's not clear whether you are assuming that those labor organizations already opposed it and he knew, or if you

22 were asking for a commitment to get them to oppose.

23 That's why there is an ambiguity in the question.

24 BY MR. PLATTEN:

Q. Okay. Can you answer the question, Mr. Kutras?

1 you instruct County representatives to try to obtain

2 commitments of County labor organizations opposing 3 passage of binding interest arbitration?

A. To commitments, no. To position, yes.

Q. What's the difference in your mind between a "commitment" and a "position"?

A. "Position" is the organization is expressing to us through the meet and confer process their view of our proposed 715 measure, and inherent will be a discussion of their view of the proposed initiative of the 714.

A "commitment" means that we're seeking to extract from them funds, political action, et cetera, quid pro quos. And no, I did not instruct staff to do that.

15 Q. Do you know if any such efforts have been 16 conducted by County representatives with County labor 17 organizations?

A. Not that I know of.

Q. Did you speak to Kristy Sermersheim about opposing Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative?

MR. DODD: About who opposing?

22 MR. PLATTEN: About her opposing.

23 THE WITNESS: Other than the conversation, the conversation I spoke to with regard to Gabrielle 24 25 Hernandez or Ms. Sermersheim, no.

> 18 (Pages 66 to 69)

70 72 BY MR. PLATTEN: provide benchmarking that was ultimately adopted in the 2 Q. Have you worked to secure the passage of 2 3 Measure A? 3 A. I believe -- I mean I don't know the details of 4 MR. DODD: Measure A is? 4 who proposed what and who pushed it across the table. 5 MR. PLATTEN: 709. 5 Q. Well, just so we're clear, if you take a look 6 THE WITNESS: 709. I can't answer. I don't 6 at Depo Exhibit No. 3, which is a copy of the MOU, on 7 understand the question. 7 page 5 and 6, section 5 of that contract. 8 BY MR. PLATTEN: 8 A. Page. 9 Q. Have you done anything to try to obtain the 9 Q. 5 and 6. Section 5 sets forth the agreement on 10 passage of Measure A? 10 benchmarking. 11 A. Other than my closed-session discussions with 11 A. Okay. 12 the Board and my public recommendation that the measure 12 Q. Do you know if the language that's contained be placed on the ballot, no. 13 13 here in the MOU was proposed by the County or by DSA? 14 Q. Have you worked to secure the passage of 14 15 Measure B? 15 Q. Do you know whether that language was agreed 16 A. Same answer. 16 upon only if DSA also agreed to enter into the Side 17 O. Same answer --17 Letter Agreement, Depo Exhibit No. 4? 18 A. -- as I just gave with regard to Measure A, 18 MR. DODD: Objection. I think that's been 19 which is other than my discussions with the Board and my 19 asked and answered. public recommendation that the measure be placed on the 20 THE WITNESS: It's part of a package agreement. 21 ballot, no. 21 MR. PLATTEN: Why don't we take a minute here. 22 Q. Looking at Depo Exhibit No. 5, Mr. Kutras, 22 I'll review my notes. 23 which is the May 16th article from the San Jose Mercury 23 (Break taken from 12:45 to 12:49 p.m.) 24 24 News, the next to the last paragraph states: BY MR. PLATTEN: 25 "County officials - who are facing a 25 Q. Did you give any instructions to County labor 71 73 1 \$238 million shortfall next fiscal year relations employees with regard to negotiations with the 2 have vowed to fight the initiative in any 2 CPOA over a Binding Interest Arbitration Initiative? 3 manner they can." 3 A. Again, yes, consistent with closed-session 4 Are you one of the County officials referred to 4 direction from the Board. 5 here? 5 Q. What were those instructions? A. I don't know who Putsata was referring to here. 6 6 A. I can't testify to the closed-session 7 Q. Do you adopt the statement as correct that 7 direction. 8 you'll fight the initiative in any manner you can? 8 Q. Based on instruction from counsel? 9 MR. DODD: Are you asking him if he's adopting 9 MR. DODD: Yes. 10 something she wrote? 10 THE WITNESS: Yes. 11 BY MR. PLATTEN: 11 MR. PLATTEN: Let's mark this, Karen, as next 12 Q. I'm asking if that's your position. 12 in order. 13 MR. DODD: His personal position? 13 (Plaintiffs' Exhibit 8 was marked for 14 MR. PLATTEN: His position as County executive. 14 identification.) 15 THE WITNESS: My position as the County 15 BY MR. PLATTEN: 16 executive is that the Board of Supervisors has gone on 16 Q. Mr. Kutras, I'm showing you a document we've 17 record opposing this initiative. As their staff, I will 17 marked as Depo Exhibit No. 8 and ask if you can review 18 explain why they opposed initiative. So -- and 18 this. And once you've reviewed it, let me know. 19 consistent with guidance from Counsel about what A. I've generally reviewed it, yes. 19 activities I can and can't engage in. 20 Q. Do you recognize the document? 21 BY MR. PLATTEN: 21 22 Q. With respect to the agreement that was reached 22 Q. You have not seen it before? 23 in the Memorandum of Understanding with the Deputy 23 A. I have not. 24 Sheriffs' Association in late March, early April of 24 Q. Let me have you take a look at another document 25 2004, it was the County's proposal, was it not, to 25 which we'll mark as No. 9.

## PETER KUTRAS, JR. AUGUST 24, 2004

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1	(Plaintiffs' Exhibit 9 was marked for	1	CERTIFICATE
2	identification.)	2	
3	BY MR. PLATTEN:	3	
4	Q. Show you a document we have marked as Depo	4	I, KAREN L. BUCHANAN, CSR #10772, do hereby
5	Exhibit No. 9. You'll note the title is the same as	5	certify:
6	Depo Exhibit 8; however, on the bottom right-hand corner	6	That prior to being examined, the witness named
7	it reads "Revised 4-12-04." I ask you to review the	7	in the foregoing deposition was by me duly sworn to
8	document and let me know when you're finished.	8	testify to the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but
9	A. Okay. I've generally read it.	9	the truth;
10	Q. Are you familiar with the document we've marked	10	That said deposition was taken down by me in
11	as Depo Exhibit No. 9?	11	shorthand at the time and place therein named, and
12	A. I have seen it this morning, yes.	12	thereafter reduced to typewriting under my direction.
13	Q. Meaning right now or earlier today?	13	I further certify that I am not interested in
14	A. Meaning right now. I'm sorry. I guess we're	14	the outcome of the action.
15	in the afternoon.	15	Witness my hand this 27th day of August, 2004.
16	Q. So you have not you have not seen document	16	
17	No. 9 prior to today?	17	
18	A. No, I don't believe so.	18	
19	Q. Nor Depo Exhibit No. 8 prior to today?	19	
20	A. That's correct.	20	KAREN L. BUCHANAN
21	MR. PLATTEN: We are going to adjourn the	21	CSR No. 10772
22	deposition, subject to continuing after a motion to	22	
23	compel is brought with respect to the request for	23	
24	production and with respect to the instructions not to	24	
25	respond to questions upon advice of counsel, and any and	25	
			- areastir as a reason
	75		
1	all other matters which would be appropriate to a motion		
2	to compel, as well as Mr. Clisham's turn up to bat.		
3	So a break, and Mr. Leung is to start in five		
4	minutes.		
5	(Discussion had off the record.)		
6	MR. PLATTEN: The parties have stipulated to		
7	reconvene at 1:30 for the commencement of Mr. Leung's		
8	deposition, and then we will get to Mr. Chiaramonte as		
9	soon as we can following that. Okay. Thank you.		
10	(Whereupon, the deposition of PETER		
11	KUTRAS, JR. was adjourned at 12:54 p.m.)		
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