

# **Excerpts from the Deposition of Daniel M. Snyder**

**July 28, 2022** 

Committee on Oversight and Reform U.S. House of Representatives

December 2022

oversight.house.gov

On July 28, 2022, the Committee conducted a deposition of Daniel M. Snyder, co-owner and co-Chief Executive Officer of the Washington Commanders. Below are key excerpts from the deposition.

## Mr. Snyder Could Not Explain Why the Dossier Created for His Shadow Investigation Focused on Washington Post Journalists Who Investigated Sexual Misconduct at the Team (pp. 75-76)

- Q: And if you look at the following pages, Pages 3 through 12, do you agree that those pages in this presentation are about Liz Clarke, Will Hobson and Beth Reinhart, journalists at The Washington Post who wrote stories that the judge in Colorado described as "embarrassing for the Washington football organization and to Mr. Snyder." Is that correct?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Mr. Snyder, what did these Washington Post journalists, Liz Clarke, Will Hobson and Beth Reinhart, have to do with a news story that was posted on a blog in India on the website of MEAWW?
- A: Well, all I can tell you is that we delivered the facts, unredacted facts to former Attorney General Lynch, shared the phone records that are actually in this document that are unredacted. You can see what was presented was telephone records and just facts. Had no involvement with -- they just delivered the facts. And they were the attorneys delivering the evidence, and that's it.
- Q: What are the facts, Mr. Snyder, about these three journalists?
- A: I believe they just coincided with the July 16 exact date of the India -- India defamation. And they were those facts.
- Q: Mr. Snyder, have you filed any defamation suits against the Washington Post or against these three journalists for the exposés they wrote on your team?
- A: No.

## Mr. Snyder Claimed His Shadow Investigation Had Nothing to Do with the Wilkinson Investigation Even Though He Made Presentations to the League and Ms. Wilkinson During the Wilkinson Investigation (pp. 45, 273-274)

A: There was no shadow investigation.

trying to defame us, et cetera.

- Q: So walk me through that. So they've accused you of creating this about what actually occurred during or what you actually used these slides for and what this investigation was actually about, and respond to that claim.
- A: Around that time -- this is November 23 on the redacted C I'm looking at. Around that time, we were presenting to our lawyers -- or presenting to former Attorney Lynch, as well as the NFL and Beth Wilkinson just the facts, the information of [Former Staff 1], which has been redacted here in this version.

  In D, it says [Former Staff 1]. And it shows in the unredacted version that on July 4 is when she -- and they started the activities of reaching out to my employees,
  - So all we did was present these facts to the Attorney General -- former Attorney General.

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- Q: So the purpose of this slide deck, was it to further your investigation into this minority shareholder and the disparagement investigation, or did it have anything to do with the workplace investigation by the Wilkinson team?
- A: No. Nothing to do with the workplace investigation. That was completely independent and done by Ms. Wilkinson.

This was solely for the purpose of having connectivity to the defamatory information, the defaming stories, the bots, the devastating things that were also coinciding with the Washington Post story of July 16.

So we presented just the facts, just the evidence, the telephone records themselves, starting shortly after August 12, [Former Staff 1] received a burner phone as well, and those facts were presented to Attorney General Lynch and the NFL as well.

#### Mr. Snyder Claimed That He Could Not Recall Basic Facts About His Tenure as Team Owner or the Wilkinson Investigation

Actions Taken by the Team After Learning About the Lewd Videos of Cheerleaders (pp. 88-89)

- Q: What did you do in response to learning about these lewd videos?
- A: <u>I can't recall</u> what was done. <u>I can't recall</u>.
- Q: You don't have any recollection of what you did after learning that your team was making lewd videos with unauthorized naked shots of members of your cheerleaders?
- A: I can't recall what the team did.
- Q: I'm asking what you did, Mr. Snyder.
- A: What I did is just tell the truth and deny this, about me.
- Q: You told the truth and denied it, meaning denying that these videos exist?
- A: Denying that anything—that I've ever seen these purported videos, and I have no knowledge of them.
- Q: Is it your testimony, sir, that you read these allegations and the one thing you did was deny them?
- A: No, no. I'm just—you know, I can't recall what the organization did.
- Q: And are you saying, Mr. Snyder, that you have no information about what the organization did in response to this?
- A: I can't recall.
- Q: Are you not here today, Mr. Snyder, to testify on behalf of the organization of which you are the owner and the co-CEO?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Yet you cannot tell me what the team did in response to these allegations regarding lewd videos?
- A: I can't recall.
- Q: You can't even tell me whether the team ascertained whether or not these were authentic videos?
- A: I don't want to guess. **I just can't recall**.

#### The Team's Multi-million Dollar Settlement of Claims Involving Lewd Videos of Cheerleaders (pp. 89-90)

- Q: Mr. Snyder, can you confirm that a settlement was reached with regard to these videos in February 2021?
- A: I know we settled some claims from cheerleaders. <u>I don't know</u> the particulars. That's it.
- Q: So you know that the team settled some claims from the cheerleaders in February 2021. Do I have that right?
- A: I believe so.
- Q: Were the Commanders a party to this settlement?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Were you a party to this settlement?
- A: <u>I'm unaware</u>.
- Q: You're unaware whether or not you were a party to this settlement?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Were the cheerleaders featured on these lewd videos parties to the settlement?
- A: **I'm unaware** of what the settlements we had.
- Q: You said cheerleaders were part of the settlement. What cheerleaders were part of the settlement?
- A: <u>I don't know</u>.
- Q: Did your team randomly pick cheerleaders with whom to enter into a settlement?
- A: No.
- Q: How did they pick the cheerleaders with whom they entered into a settlement?
- A: It was a claim with a group of cheerleaders, with Katz and Banks, and I just know that it was settled.
- Q: What was their complaint?
- A: I **don't remember** the particulars.

#### Individuals Whose Homes Were Visited by Private Investigators (pp. 150-152)

- Q: Did Reed Smith send private investigators to the home of Bruce Allen?
- A: I'm not sure. I'm unaware.
- Q: So it's your testimony today that you did not have any conversations with your Reed Smith counsel about private investigators and Bruce Allen, your former team president?
- A: <u>I don't remember</u> conversations about which investigations, what they were looking into. They were just conducting an investigation, and those results or facts were presented to Attorney General Lynch.
- Q: Did your attorneys send private investigators to the home of John Moag?
- A: I'm not sure.
- Q: So it's your testimony today that you never had conversations with your Reed Smith lawyers about private investigators and John Moag?
- A: **I'm not sure** if they did or what have you.

- Q: Did you send private investigators to the home of Brad Baker's ex-wife? Or did someone on your behalf, Reed Smith specifically, send private investigators to Brad Baker's ex-wife's home?
- A: <u>I'm not sure</u>. You know, I gave it to the attorneys, and the attorneys followed whatever leads they were looking into. It was all regarding India. It was all regarding the defamation, and they were just looking—searching for the facts.
- Q: So is it your testimony today that you did not have any conversations with your lawyers at Reed Smith about Brad Baker and private investigators?
- A: <u>I don't remember</u> Brad Baker. <u>I don't know</u> Brad Baker.

#### His Lawyers' Offer of Hush Money to Former Employees in Exchange for Signing Nondisclosure Agreements During the Wilkinson Investigation (pp. 229-230)

- Q: Outside of that settlement agreement, did you or anyone on your behalf or on behalf of the team approach any client of Katz, Marshall, Banks to offer them additional money in exchange for entering into a nondisclosure agreement?
- A: **I'm unaware** of that.
- Q: You're unaware. Does that mean it did not happen, or it may have happened, and you just don't know?
- A: <u>I'm unaware</u>.
- Q: Mr. Snyder, is it your testimony that you do not know if people acting on your behalf offered hush money to clients of the Katz, Marshall, Banks law firm?
- A: <u>I'm just unaware</u>.

#### The Need for Training for Senior Management and Sexual Harassment Allegations Against a Former Team Executive (pp. 206-207)

- Q: Do you recollect Mr. Lafemina coming to you and telling you that it was important to hire Sageview to conduct immediate "respect in the workplace" training?
- A: <u>I don't recall</u> this document.
- Q: Do you recall a conversation with Mr. Lafemina about the urgent need for training for senior management at the company?
- A: **I don't recall** that conversation.
- Q: You have no recollection of that conversation?
- A: **I don't**. He was only there, I think, seven or eight months.
- Q: Well, in his deposition, Mr. Lafemina said that because of the Rachel Engelson allegations coming to light, he felt the need to make sure that this happened immediately, and that he brought those allegations to your attention. Do you have any recollection of that?
- A: <u>I don't have a recollection</u> of the conversation, no.
- Q: You don't have a recollection of Mr. Lafemina bringing to your attention the fact that Larry Michael, one of your longstanding executives, the voice of the Redskins, was sexually harassing Ms. Engelson?
- A: Not that conversation, no.

- Q: You don't remember that in response to that, you told him Larry is a sweetheart and Larry wouldn't hurt anybody?
- A: **No, I do not**.

#### Mr. Snyder Acknowledged Making Presentations to the NFL About Former Team President Bruce Allen and His Role in the Team's Toxic Work Culture (pp. 273-274)

- Q: Did you make presentations to the NFL -- did you or anyone acting on your behalf make presentations to the NFL regarding Bruce Allen and his role in the toxic work environment, as you've described it?
- A: I believe we did.
- Q: Do you recall how many presentations you made to the NFL?
- A: No. I do not.
- Q: Did you participate in those presentations?
- A: I don't recall if I did. I think I participated in one -- I know I -- I met Attorney General Lynch once or twice.

### Mr. Snyder Claimed That He Fired Mr. Allen Because of Concerns with the Team's Culture (pp. 266-268)

- Q: Why do you believe that Mr. Allen, who was in his role after Mr. Lafemina was terminated, was the wrong guy to have retained, and why do you believe you made the right decision to let him go when Mr. Lafemina was no longer employed with your organization?
- A: Because of the discovery -- discoveries, and our workplace culture. And as I mentioned, I think, earlier in this meeting, I talked about the statement of October of 2019 when he said we have -- someone in the media asked him at a press conference if he fired Jay Gruden, and he said, "we have a damned good culture." I think I've said that my wife and I said, "no, we don't," that very night.
- ---
- Q: You said the reason why you think you made the wrong decision by firing Mr. Lafemina and holding on to Mr. Allen was because of the discoveries. What do you mean by "discoveries"?
- A: The workplace environment culturally needed to be fixed, and that was fixed. And he was president of both sides, football and business, and ran the whole organization.
- Q: You terminated Mr. Allen in December 2019. Is that correct?
- A: Yes.
- Q: And I believe you testified earlier that you were unaware of the allegations that were detailed in The Washington Post report, but was not published until July 16, 2020. Is that correct?
- A: That's correct.
- Q: So what culture are you referring to when you say that there was a workplace culture and you're suggesting that Mr. Allen was responsible for it in 2019?
- A: I believe it's four or five days prior to termination of Jay Gruden, who was on TMZ smoking marijuana. And we knew we had a problem, obviously. He was the head coach.

- Q: Mr. Allen was the head coach?
- A: No. I'm referring to four or five days prior to the termination of Jay Gruden at a press conference where Bruce Allen said, we have a damned good culture, it was on TMZ, Coach Jay Gruden was smoking marijuana on a sidewalk somewhere. Crazy video. And we knew that it was an obvious signal there was a culture problem.
- Q: The culture problem that you're referring to is Mr. Gruden smoking marijuana on TV?
- A: No. I'm referring to, as I said, when Bruce Allen said -- answered the question, a damned good culture, we just didn't believe him.
- Q: So what did you believe the culture to be when Mr. Allen defended the culture of your organization?
- A: Not what he was saying.
- Q: And why did you not think it was what he was saying?
- A: Well, his head coach was on TMZ four or five days earlier. So we were doubting whatever he was saying.

### Mr. Snyder Could Not Provide a Clear Explanation of Why He Believed Mr. Allen Was Responsible for the Commanders' Toxic Work Culture (pp. 269-271)

- Q: Would you hire Mr. Allen back?
- A: No.
- Q: Why not?
- A: I think for the obvious reasons. And the changes since he's been gone have been drastic, and we're proud.
- Q: Respectfully, I don't know that the reasons are that obvious. So I'm asking you to indulge me by explaining what specifically you would point to as reasons not to hire Mr. Allen back to the Commanders.
- A: It would be a long list. Substantial list. I think myself, Tanya Snyder, Jason Wright, Coach Rivera. It would be a big list. It's pretty obvious.
- Q: Are you unable to give me any reasons as to why you would not hire Mr. Allen back for now?
- A: Obviously we entrusted our franchise with him. We were, as I said earlier, not often around. And trusting him was a bad decision. And hiring the right people is critical, and we've done that.
- Q: Do you believe Mr. Allen is responsible for the allegations that were detailed in the July 16, 2020 report regarding the toxic workplace culture?
- A: We talked about -- I think you mentioned Alex Santos, Richard Mann, different scouts that were in that story. It was based on that story. So he hired them.
- Q: So because he hired them, you blamed him; is that correct?
- A: I'm not -- let me be clear. As I've said, we take responsibility in ownership of the franchise. We're not avoiding that. But he was -- he hired the coach with the TMZ thing. So obviously a lot of poor decisions.
  - The only other thing I'd add in, obviously, is having learned well afterwards about all the homophobic, misogynistic emails that Bruce Allen participated in

with Jon Gruden and others we did not know about and, obviously, those were rather shocking.

#### <u>Contrary to the Testimony of Commissioner Roger Goodell, Mr. Snyder Claimed that, in</u> 2009, He Notified the NFL of the Sexual Assault Allegations Against Him (pp. 193-194)

- Q: So The Washington Post reported about this 2009 incident and settlement in which you allegedly sexually assaulted a former employee. Did you, in fact, assault the person who accused you of this in 2009?
- A: No.
- Q: When did you learn of her allegations?
- A: A week or two afterwards.
- Q: How did you learn about these allegations?
- A: The general counsel told me about them.
- Q: The general counsel at the time was?
- A: David Donovan.
- Q: David Donovan, okay. When you were informed of these allegations, do you remember your reaction?
- A: Yes. I was unbelievably upset. And he told me that he would follow the procedures of hiring an outside law firm. And I said, "Great." And that's what he did.
- Q: Was the NFL informed of these allegations at the time?
- A: Yes.
- Q: How do you know that the NFL was informed?
- A: Because he emailed the general counsel of the National Football League, Jeff Pash, and the outside counsel also communicated with Jeff Pash of the NFL.

#### <u>Contrary to the Testimony of Commissioner Goodell, Mr. Snyder Has Remained Involved</u> with the Operations of the Washington Commanders (pp. 252-255)

- Q: Do you trust Coach Rivera?
- A: Yes.
- Q: How often do you speak to him?
- A: Once or so a week.
- Q: What do you speak to Coach Rivera about?
- A: He calls, updates me. Went to his son's wedding this summer in Europe, my wife and I, with his family. And...
- Q: Are you aware that Coach Rivera stated that he sat with you and Tanya for an end of-the-season meeting in January?
- A: Yes.
- Q: What was that end-of-the-season meeting about?
- A: He came over, talked about the end of the season and just his positivity for the future.

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Q: Were you involved in any way in unveiling the rebranding or the planning and the lead-up to?

- A: Kept informed completely.
- Q: How often?
- A: Often. It was a big decision.
- Q: What does "often" mean to you?
- A: A few times a week.
- Q: By whom?
- A: Jason Wright, Tanya and whoever called.
- Q: Can you give us an example of a day-to-day activity that you used to be involved in that you no longer are?
- A: I can give you examples of what Tanya is doing day to day, if that's what you're asking for.
- Q: Are those things that you used to be involved in that you no longer are involved in?
- A: As I said during all of this meeting, prior to Jason Wright, I was only there a certain amount of days, et cetera. And, in turn, after hiring Jason, we've obviously given our organization a great place. Can you repeat that question, though?
- Q: The question is what day-to-day activities are you no longer involved in today that you were involved in a year ago when you were the sole CEO?
- A: Oh. It's funny you say that, because I think if you asked Jason Wright, he would tell you that Tanya was sort of co-owner, co-CEO from the moment we met. And I think they always saw us together in the beginning and throughout the process of recruiting and hiring.
  - And I can tell you what Tanya is doing today, things that I didn't do in the past, relying solely on the president of the club [Zoom audio interference] for a decade before Jason, and now we've got more of a leadership team, and Tanya is an important part of that, and we're doing some great, great things.

### Mr. Snyder Did Not "Have an Opinion" On Whether Ms. Wilkinson Should Have Completed a Written Report (pp. 161-162)

- Q: Do you believe a report should have been completed by the -- a written report by the Wilkinson law firm after she completed her investigation?
- A: Can you repeat the question?
- Q: Do you believe that Ms. Wilkinson should have drafted a report upon the completion of her investigation?
- A: It wasn't up to me.
- Q: My question is a bit different. Do you believe that she should have drafted a report in connection with an investigation that you supported and you wanted to be thorough and you suggested that the NFL take over in order to make sure that the public had confidence in the investigation, did you believe that that should have culminated in a written report?
- A: I wasn't involved. We weren't involved in the investigation, so I didn't have an opinion. We just went through -- I did two interviews, answering all the questions.

- Q: Sitting here today, do you think she should have written a report after she concluded her investigation?
- A: I don't have an opinion.

### Mr. Snyder Refused to Tell the Committee Why a Recently Hired Female Senior Executive Abruptly Left His Leadership Team (pp. 257-258)

- Q: You also announced that Julie Jensen would be joining the executive team. Does that sound right?
- A: Yes.
- Q: Is Ms. Jensen still employed with the team?
- A: No.
- Q: Why not?
- A: I think the best person to ask would be Jason Wright.
- Q: Do you need me to repeat my question?
- A: I'm sorry, I didn't hear your question.
- Q: My question for you is, why is Julie Jensen no longer with the team?
- A: I would not be qualified to tell you based on my...
- Q: Do you know why she's not employed with the team?
- A: Not the particulars, no.
- Q: Putting aside the particulars, what can you share with me about her departure?
- A: I just know it didn't work out.
- Q: What do you know about why it didn't work out, Mr. Snyder?
- A: I don't have the details. I didn't work with her.
- Q: Mr. Snyder, you committed to the Committee in advance of this deposition to provide full and complete testimony. So I'm going to ask you again, what can you tell me about the circumstances surrounding Ms. Jensen's departure?
- A: I actually wasn't involved in her departure. So you need to ask Jason -- Jason Wright that question.
- Q: You're refusing to tell me and refusing to answer the question?
- A: I'm not refusing.

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| 2  | COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM          |
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| 4  | THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE INVESTIGATION |
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| 6  | U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES              |
| 7  |  |
| 8  | WASHINGTON, D.C.                           |
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| 10 | DEPOSITION OF: DANIEL SNYDER               |
| 11 |  |
| 12 | THURSDAY, JULY 28, 2022                    |

| 13 |     |     | APPEARANCES:               |
|----|-----|-----|----------------------------|
| 14 | FOR | THE | MAJORITY:                  |
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| 23 | FOR | THE | MINORITY:                  |
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| 25 |     |     |                            |
| 26 |     |     |                            |
| 27 |     |     |                            |
| 28 | FOR | THE | WITNESS:                   |
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| 31 |     |     | KAMIL SHIELDS, ESQ.        |
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DANIEL SNYDER testified as follows:

43 EXAMINATION BY

44

This is the deposition of Daniel M.

46 Snyder, conducted by the House Committee on Oversight and

47 Reform. This deposition is occurring as part of the

48 Committee's investigation into the Washington Commanders'

49 toxic work environment and the NFL's handling of that

50 matter.

51 This investigation was launched to inform the

52 Committee legislative effort to strengthen protections for

53 employees across all workplaces, including legislative

54 efforts to prevent and address toxic work environments and

55 workplace investigation processes; strength protections for

56 workers experiencing misconduct in the workplace; and

57 address the use of nondisclosure agreements to prevent the

58 disclosure of unlawful employment practices, including

59 sexual harassment.

The Committee invited Mr. Snyder to a hearing on June

61 22nd; however, he failed to appear. As a result, we are

62 holding today's deposition. The person transcribing this

63 deposition is a House stenographer and a notary public

64 authorized to administer oaths. The stenographer will now

65 place you under oath.

66 [Whereupon, DANIEL MARC SNYDER, having been duly sworn

| 67 | by the Notary Public, was examined and testified as    |
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| 68 | follows:]  |
| 69 | Will The Witness please state his full name and spell  |
| 70 | his last name for the record?                          |
| 71 | The Witness. Daniel Marc Snyder, S-n-y-d-e-r.          |
| 72 | Mr. Snyder, my name is and                             |
| 73 | I have been designated Majority counsel for this       |
| 74 | deposition. I am accompanied by and he is              |
| 75 | also Majority counsel for the Committee.               |
| 76 | At this time, I will ask additional individuals on the |
| 77 | Zoom and in the room to introduce themselves for the   |
| 78 | record, starting with Majority staff.                  |
| 79 | , Oversight Majority                                   |
| 80 | staff.   |
| 81 | , Oversight Majority                                   |
| 82 | staff.   |
| 83 | , Oversight Majority                                   |
| 84 | staff.   |
| 85 | , Oversight Majority                                   |
| 86 | staff.   |
| 87 | , Majority staff.                                      |
| 88 | , Majority staff intern.                               |
| 89 | , Minority counsel.                                    |
| 90 | , Minority staff.                                      |
| 91 | , Minority staff.                                      |

92 We are operating pursuant to Committee 93 rules, specifically Rules 15 and 16, which cover the 94 guidelines for today's deposition. We previously 95 provided Mr. Snyder's personal counsel with a copy of 96 these Rules. I will now briefly review the ground rules 97 for today's deposition.

The way the questioning will proceed today is as 98 follows: The deposition will begin with the Majority 99 100 asking questions of you for up to one hour. Thereafter, 101 the Minority will have the opportunity to question you 102 for an equal period of time. We will rotate back and 103 forth, one hour per side, until we are out of questions. 104 If you need to take a break at any time, please do 105 let us know. We are happy to accommodate you. Ordinarily, we take a 5-minute break at the end of each hour of 106 107 questioning, but if you need a break before that, please 108 let us know. To the extent there is a pending question, 109 I would just ask that you finish answering the question 110 before you take a break. Do you understand?

111 A Yes, thank you.

112 Q Under the Committee's Rules, you are allowed 113 to have an attorney present to advise you. Mr. Snyder, 114 do you have an attorney present with you today?

115 A Yes.

116 Would counsel for Mr. Snyder please

- 117 identify yourself?
- 118 Ms. Seymour. Yes, good morning, it's Karen
- 119 Seymour from Sullivan & Cromwell. I'm here with my
- 120 colleagues, and I'll let them introduce themselves.
- 121 (Attorneys stated their appearances for the record.)
- 122 As you can see, the stenographer is
- 123 taking down everything I say and everything you say to
- 124 make a written record of this deposition. For the record
- 125 to be clear, please wait until I finish each question
- 126 before you begin your answer, and I will wait until you
- 127 finish your response before asking you the next
- 128 question. The stenographer cannot record non-verbal
- 129 answers, such as shaking your head, so it is important
- 130 that you answer each question with an audible, verbal
- 131 answer. Do you understand?
- 132 A Yes.
- 133 Q You are required to answer all questions
- 134 unless you are asserting a privilege. To the extent you
- 135 or your counsel object to a question to assert a
- 136 privilege, you must clearly state the specific privilege
- 137 being asserted and the reason for the assertion on or
- 138 before the scheduled date of testimony. Objections must
- 139 be made in a non-suggestive and non-argumentative manner.
- 140 Members of Committee staff are not permitted to raise
- 141 objections.

You may only refuse to answer a question to preserve a privilege recognized by the Committee and not for any other reason. For example, it is improper to object to questions on the basis of confidentiality and/or concurrent litigation interests. Do you understand?

147 A Yes, I do.

The House of Representatives and the Committee 148 Q 149 recognize any common law nondisclosure not 150 privileges, including, but not limited to, deliberative-151 process privilege, attorney-client privilege, attorney-152 work product protection, and any purported contractual 153 privileges, such as nondisclosure agreements.

Mr. Snyder, do you understand?

155 A Yes.

156 Q The only assertions of executive privilege
157 that the Chair of the Committee will consider are those
158 made in writing by an executive branch official
159 authorized to assert the privilege. Do you understand?
160 A Yes.

161 Q If you refuse to answer a question on the basis
162 of privilege, the Majority staff may either proceed with
163 the deposition or seek a ruling from the Chair on the
164 objection, by telephone or otherwise, during the
165 deposition at a time of the Majority staff's choosing.
166 If the chair overrules any such objection during the

167 deposition, you are required to answer the question. Do

- 168 you understand?
- 169 A Yes.
- 170 Q If you refuse to answer a question after being
- 171 directed by the chair in writing or orally during the
- 172 deposition, as reflected in the record, you may be subject
- 173 to sanction. Do you understand, Mr. Snyder?
- 174 A Yes.
- 175 Q We want you to answer our questions in the most
- 176 complete and truthful manner possible, so we're going to take
- 177 our time. If you have any questions or do not understand
- 178 any of the question, please do let us know. We will be happy
- 179 to clarify or rephrase our questions. Do you understand?
- 180 A Yes, I do.
- 181 Q If I ask you about conversation or events in the
- 182 past and you are unable to recall the exact words or details,
- 183 you should testify to the substance of those conversations
- 184 or events to the best of your recollection. If you only
- 185 recall a part of the conversation or events, you should give
- 186 us your best recollections of those events or parts of the
- 187 conversations that you do recall. Do you understand?
- 188 A Yes.
- 189 Q Mr. Snyder, because you have been placed under
- 190 oath, your testimony here today has the same force and
- 191 effect as if you were testifying before the Committee.

192 If you knowingly provide false testimony, you could be

193 subject to criminal prosecution for perjury, making false

194 statements, or other related offenses. Do you understand?

195 A Yes.

196 Q Have you consumed anything, including medications,

197 alcoholic beverages or other substances that would impair

198 your ability to testify truthfully today?

199 A No.

200 Q Is there any reason that you are unable to testify

201 truthfully today, Mr. Snyder?

202 A No.

203 Q Do you have any questions before we begin?

A No. Thank you.

205 Q Mr. Snyder, why did you purchase the Washington

206 Redskins, now the Washington Commanders, in 1999?

207 A My father, Gerald Snyder, and I loved the team,

208 grew up with it. He took me to my first games when I was

209 six years old at RFK and -- long time ago now.

210 And in 1998, he called me and told me that the team was for

211 sale. I was excited and said, okay, I'll look into it,

212 that sounds like -- and it was a lifelong dream for both of

213 us, my father and me.

214 Q At the time of your purchase, did you have any

215 experience with owning or managing a professional sports

216 team?

- 217 A No, I did not.
- 218 Q After you purchased the Washington Commanders,
- 219 what was your title?
- 220 A Owner.
- 221 O Just owner?
- 222 A Called myself owner.
- Q Pardon me?
- 224 A Called myself owner, yes.
- Q Were you also considered the CEO of the
- 226 Commanders?
- 227 A Sure.
- 228 Q Now, what does job of the owner/CEO for the
- 229 Commanders entail?
- 230 A A long time ago, 1999, but to own the franchise,
- 231 care for the franchise. Obviously, win. Build great
- 232 organizations. And win the Super Bowl and -- always is,
- 233 obviously.
- Q What would you say your favorite aspect is of
- 235 being the owner of the Washington Commanders?
- 236 A Haven't done it, yet, but made the playoffs I
- 237 think last 10 years, so three division titles, but haven't
- 238 made it to the promised land of the Super Bowl. That's
- 239 obviously the number one goal on the field.
- Q Do you also -- as the CEO, now co-CEO, do you
- 241 oversee the daily operations of the team?

242 A I own the team. My wife and I are co-owners, co-

- 243 CEOs from that standpoint. But the head of the football
- 244 side is Coach Ron Rivera, and the head of the business side
- 245 is Jason Wright, and they run the day-to-day of the
- 246 organization.
- Q How does your role interact, if at all, with
- 248 Coach Rivera and Mr. Wright?
- Ms. Seymour. Today,
- I'm sorry?
- Ms. Seymour. It's Karen Seymour. I just want to make
- 252 sure we have the timeline today. You're asking how --
- 253 [Zoom audio distortion]. I just wanted to catch the time
- 254 frame.
- Sure. I would certainly appreciate,
- 256 Mr. Snyder, if you have a question, any uncertainty about
- 257 what I'm asking, please feel free to ask. But, yes, I'm
- 258 asking about how the role interacts today. And maybe you
- 259 can go from there.
- The Witness. I think that Tanya, who is my wife, co-
- 261 owner, is more hands-on from the standpoint of the stadium
- 262 and the day-to-day fan experience. And I'm there always
- 263 for guidance and help in any way I can with both Jason and
- 264 Ron Rivera, supporting and encouraging and whatever they
- 265 need to help.
- **266** By

Q How does your role today differ from your role

- 268 for example, from five years ago as a CEO?
- 269 A Really as owner, from the standpoint of the
- 270 previous -- Jason Wright's predecessor there for 10 years
- 271 had both the football side and the business side, and we
- 272 have broken it -- two and a half years ago, we decided that
- 273 the best way to run this would be to hire a coach like Ron
- 274 Rivera.
- 275 And my wife and I interviewed him five times or so and --
- 276 off campus and spent time with his family and my family,
- 277 and we hired him to kickstart our football organization
- 278 side. And then if it wasn't for COVID, we would have gone
- 279 faster on the business side.
- 280 And we met Jason Wright and recruited him from a company
- 281 called McKinsey Consulting, that's about two years ago now.
- 282 And it's been great. We really have taken this
- 283 organization to a first-class place.
- 284 Q Who was the president of the Commanders before
- 285 Jason Wright?
- 286 A Bruce Allen.
- 287 Q Is Bruce Allen the individual who you mentioned
- 288 ran both the business and the football operations?
- 289 A Yes.
- 290 Q When Mr. Allen was in his role running both the
- 291 business operations and the football operations, what, if

292 any, interactions did you have with Mr. Allen in the course

- 293 of his job duties?
- 294 A Back over the course of the decade prior to Jason
- 295 Wright and Coach Rivera, we were not very present at the
- 296 team offices much. My wife and I homeschooled our kids,
- 297 and was probably there 30 days a year or so. There was a
- 298 lot of phone conversations, family, a lot of check-in
- 299 calls. Jason would speak to the head coach as well.
- 300 Q What do you mean by a lot of check-in calls?
- A He would call me; update.
- Q How often would he call you?
- 303 A Pretty frequently.
- Q What does that mean to you, if you were to
- 305 estimate?
- 306 A I'd be guessing, but once every couple days.
- 307 Q When you say he was calling you for updates, what
- 308 kind of updates was he calling you with?
- 309 A Football updates, injury, some of the information
- 310 on the business side. General business, like that.
- 311 Q When you say football updates, what do you mean
- **312** by that?
- 313 A I would get a very quick call with injuries and
- 314 things like that. Players injured.
- 315 Q Why would he be calling you about a player
- 316 injury?

| 317 | 7\ | ТΩ | koon | mo | informed. | + ~ | koon | 110 | informed. |
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- 318 Q Was it important that he kept you informed?
- 319 A Yes.
- 320 Q And why is that?
- 321 A We own the franchise.
- 322 Q You also mentioned that he would call you on the
- 323 business side. What do you mean by that?
- 324 A Updates, league updates and, you know,
- 325 information updates in terms of event sponsors and what
- 326 have you.
- Q What do you mean by "league updates"?
- 328 A I'm sorry?
- Q What do you mean by "league updates"?
- 330 A If there was a league memo issued on a new rule
- 331 or something, something that would be of interest, then he
- 332 would call me.
- Q Of interest to whom?
- A Of interest regarding the game.
- Q Of interest to you?
- 336 A Yes.
- 337 Q How often would Mr. Allen call you with league
- 338 updates?
- A Periodically.
- Q What does that mean?
- 341 A If the league issued a new memorandum about a new

342 rule or whatever the particulars are, try to keep us

- 343 informed.
- Q Was that weekly?
- 345 A I'd be guessing how often the league memos
- 346 circulate.
- Q Did the league issue memos regularly enough that
- 348 you knew that they would be coming? Did you anticipate
- 349 that there would be updates from Mr. Allen related to these
- 350 league updates?
- 351 A Not more. Not anticipate. More he would -- if
- 352 it was a rule change or modification to something or, you
- 353 know, a new rule at stadiums and what have you, we would
- 354 get the updates.
- 355 Q What other kind of information did Mr. Allen call
- you about?
- 357 A Just general day-to-day, regular updates.
- 358 Q What do you mean by that specifically?
- 359 A If he was going to promote someone or something
- 360 like that, just normal update, normal information.
- 361 Q When you say "promote someone," are you talking
- 362 about a Commanders employee?
- 363 A Yes. Yes.
- 364 Q Are you talking about on the business side?
- 365 A Both.
- 366 Q Both business and football?

367 A Yes, yes. For example, he would say in the

- 368 offseason, this particular coach is retiring or leaving,
- 369 and can we add a coach, and just wanted to keep me
- 370 informed.
- Q Why would he call you to let you know if he was
- 372 promoting somebody?
- Ms. Seymour. You can answer if you know why.
- The Witness. Just to keep us informed.
- **375** By
- Q What, if anything, would you do with the
- information he would provide?
- 378 A If a coach was getting promoted, sometimes I'd
- 379 call and congratulate the coach and say congratulations,
- 380 and I'll leave a voice mail or what have you.
- Q Did you ever weigh in or assess his determination
- 382 as to who would be promoted?
- 383 A No. No.
- Q Did you ever provide him any feedback on any of
- the decisions he made to promote individuals?
- 386 A I don't recall.
- 387 Q I'm sorry, I couldn't hear you.
- 388 A I don't recall.
- 389 Q To be clear, you don't recall if you would
- 390 provide Mr. Allen any feedback on individuals that he would
- 391 call you about promoting?

- 392 A I don't recall anything in particular.
- 393 Q Would Mr. Allen call you about people he wanted
- 394 to fire, for example? You mentioned promotion or personnel
- 395 decision. But now my question is about terminating.
- 396 A I'm sure he would, but I don't recall any
- 397 particular instance.
- 398 Q Why are you sure that he would?
- 399 A It would be the right thing to do.
- 400 Q Why is that?
- 401 A I'm sorry?
- 402 Q Why is that? Why is that the right thing to do?
- 403 A Just to keep us informed.
- 404 Q Did you ever provide Mr. Allen any feedback or
- 405 weigh in or assess any information he provided you with
- 406 respect to termination decisions?
- 407 A I don't recall any particular instance. I think
- 408 from time to time, the coach would retire, we would discuss
- 409 that, maybe do a retirement -- a going-away lunch or
- 410 something, things like that.
- 411 Q When you say that Mr. Allen would "call us," what
- 412 specifically are you referring to?
- 413 A That would be myself, and my wife is usually with
- 414 me, Tanya Snyder, so he would be calling us.
- Q Did he call your phone?
- 416 A Yes.

417 Q What was Ms. Snyder's role on the Commanders five

- 418 years ago?
- 419 A She would have charitable -- charitable community
- 420 areas and work closely on projects, and her -- my wife's
- 421 passion, which is Think Pink, fight against breast cancer.
- 422 And she would spend the month of October absolutely
- 423 consumed with it and working with the team and at the
- 424 stadium and things with the fans and community, as well as
- 425 many, many other programs. And she would have input into
- 426 areas that she -- we felt like she grew, things like retail
- 427 and things like that.
- 428 Q Now, going back to Mr. Allen and these updates,
- 429 as you called it, did he ever call you about updates
- 430 regarding player contract negotiations?
- 431 A I'm sorry, can you repeat the question, please.
- 432 Q Did he ever call you about player contract
- 433 negotiations?
- 434 A Sure. If he was in the midst of a major player,
- 435 a contract, he would keep me really informed on this,
- 436 especially when he was dealing with the agents. And
- 437 negotiating, he would tell me things like where these
- 438 numbers fit in a particular area; for example, in the
- 439 offensive line or whatever it was, here's the comps and
- 440 really tell me here's what we're offering, and try to keep
- 441 me informed on this stuff.

Q What about setting salaries for employees? Was

- that something he would call you about?
- A I can't recall exactly, but he would keep us
- 445 informed. I can't recall particulars.
- 446 Q And when you say you can't recall particulars, I
- 447 want to make sure that I understand what you're saying.
- 448 Are you saying that it happened but you can't recall an
- 449 incident that you can share or are you saying that you
- 450 don't know if it happened at all?
- 451 A Can you repeat the question, please.
- 452 (Record read)
- 453 Q Would it be helpful to go back to the prior
- 454 question?
- 455 A Yes, that would be great. Thank you.
- 456 (Discussion held off the record.)
- 457 Q So, Mr. Snyder, I'm trying to understand when you
- 458 say "I can't recall" if you are saying that that, in fact,
- 459 did not happen, you can't recall if it happened at all, or
- 460 that you can't recall a specific instance. So we were
- 461 talking about salaries being set and Mr. Allen calling you.
- 462 A Yes. Now, he would call from time to time. And
- 463 I remember, you know, a player -- excuse me, coaches'
- 464 salary increases, coaches' contract extensions, some salary
- 465 increase. Normal things that he would call and keep us
- 466 updated on.

467 He would say, I'm going to extend XYZ Coach's contract for

- 468 a year or two years or what have you. I'd say great, or
- 469 I'd ask a question to make sure.
- 470 Q Was it the same for the business side?
- 471 A Yes, it was.
- 472 Q We talked a bit about termination, but I'm
- 473 curious what your role was, if anything, and Mr. Allen's
- 474 role was, if anything, when it came to employee discipline.
- 475 A I don't understand the question.
- 476 Q What was your role when it came to employee
- 477 discipline?
- 478 A I don't understand the actual question.
- 479 Q Did you have a role in disciplining employees?
- 480 A In disciplining of employees?
- 481 Q Discipline.
- 482 A No.
- 483 Q You had no role?
- 484 A No.
- 485 Q When complaints were brought to your attention,
- 486 what, if anything, was your role in responding to the
- 487 complaints?
- 488 A Bruce Allen, you mentioned, he was responsible
- 489 for keeping us informed. He would tell us if there was an
- 490 issue that he was dealing or whatever. It was -- I can't
- 491 remember the particulars.

492 Q Did you provide him any feedback, guidance or 493 assessments about what he would bring to your attention?

494 A I can't recall particular -- an exact one or what
495 have you, if there was an issue -- you know, a coach issue
496 or what have you. I'm sure he would keep us informed.

497 Q I'd like to show you a document, a document that
498 has been shared with your counsel. For purposes and ease
499 of reference, the document is labeled AA.

Ms. Seymour. This is Karen Seymour. For the record,
some of these documents may take longer for Mr. Snyder to
review than others. We received more than a thousand pages
of documents less than seven hours before this hearing.

There were 48 individual exhibits, and, of course, we were

So please accept the fact that he may need to take
some time to review them, but we haven't had the
opportunity to cover them with him, just for the record.

not able to review these in advance with Mr. Snyder.

510 By

Thank you.

505

509

Q Mr. Snyder?

512 A Yes.

Q What your counsel handed you, what we've marked as Exhibit 1 for identification purposes, please take a few minutes to review it and let me know when you're done.

516 (Exhibit Exhibit 1, Code of Conduct, was marked for

- 517 identification.)
- 518 A (Witness complies with request.)
- 519 Okay, thank you.
- Do you recognize this document?
- 521 A No, I do not.
- 522 Q This document is a Code of Conduct for Employees
- 523 with the Redskins Organization, Pro-Football, Inc. and WFI
- 524 Stadium, Inc.
- 525 Pro-Football, Inc. and WFI Stadium are in the organization,
- 526 Mr. Snyder?
- 527 A Yes.
- 528 Q This document was produced to the Committee by
- 529 the NFL. According to the document, it was last revised on
- 530 May 6, 2003.
- 531 Mr. Snyder, I want to direct your attention to the third
- 532 page where it says "Part III Conduct and Fraternization,"
- 533 do you see that?
- 534 A Yes.
- 535 Q I want to direct your attention to the fourth
- 536 paragraph, the sentence that begins "Additionally,
- 537 nonfootball employees may not."
- 538 Do you see that?
- A Yes, I do. Yes.
- The sentence reads, "Additionally, nonfootball
- 541 employees may not date, flirt, socialize or fraternize with

- 542 any member of the football team, coaching staff,
- 543 cheerleading squad or football-related personnel either on
- 544 or off the Redskins premises."
- 545 Mr. Snyder, do you recall having a policy that prohibited
- 546 fraternization between football players and employees and
- 547 nonfootball employees?
- 548 A That's what it says.
- 549 Q My question is different. My question is: Do
- 550 you recall having a policy that prohibited fraternization?
- 551 A Yes.
- Q According to documents produced by the NFL to the
- 553 Committee, the Commanders had a fraternization policy much
- 154 like the one in front of you as recently as 2018.
- 555 Sitting here today, Mr. Snyder, do you know if the
- 556 Commanders have a fraternization policy currently in place?
- 557 A I believe so.
- 558 Q Do you have any reason to believe that the policy
- 559 was changed from the language that you're seeing in this
- 560 2003 policy to present day?
- A I know we've changed a lot under Jason Wright and
- 562 Ron Rivera, so I would expect a far superior document than
- 563 anything done in 2003 out of Jason and the team.
- Description 564 Q But it is your understanding that there, in fact,
- is a fraternization policy still in place?
- 566 A I believe so.

567 Now, during the Committee's deposition of Dave Pauken, a former Commanders' chief operating officer, 568 Mr. Pauken testified under oath that you were personally 569 involved in and, in fact, instructed him to terminate one 570 571 of his subordinates for violating the fraternization 572 policy. Specifically, he testified you that personally directed the 573 574 termination of a former Commanders employee, 575 who had been engaged in a consensual sexual relationship 576 with a member of your former coaching staff, Mr. Pauken testified that was never disciplined. 577 Mr. Snyder, did you ever direct or otherwise authorize the 578 579 termination of an employee named 580 Ms. Seymour. This is Karen Seymour. I would ask as 581 we refer to the testimony if you have the transcript 582 citations so we can follow along. Yes. Can we go off the record? 583 584 Ms. Seymour. Yes. (Discussion held off the record.) 585 586 Ву 587 This would be page 129 of Mr. Pauken's deposition 588 transcript. 589 Ms. Seymour. could I ask just the court 590 reporter to read back what you read, your question, so I

can follow along with the transcript?

591

- 592 (Record read) Ms. Seymour. I'm sorry, I don't see a reference to 593 in the testimony at page 129. Perhaps I'm 594 595 missing it. 596 That's the beginning. There's quite a 597 long discussion. Her name is on page 132 of the 598 transcript. 599 Ms. Seymour. Got it. Thank you very much. 600 Ву \_\_\_\_ Mr. Snyder, if you will? 601 Q I don't recall what he's talking about there, but 602 I do recall because my wife and I went 603 604 and I don't remember the particular year, but I remember 605 606 607 Do you recall -- do you recall an incident -- you 608 testified as to whether or not you directed 609 termination, but do you recall an incident that 610 and were having a consensual sexual relationship that was brought to your attention by Mr. Pauken? 611 612 No, I do not recall. I just remember going with my wife \_\_\_\_\_. It was very sad. My wife was 613 614 obviously upset, is everything to her, to
- O Now, Mr. Pauken also testified he that the team

solve that.

615

617 had a similar policy that prohibited cheerleaders, who I

- 618 understand are not technically employees, prohibited them
- 619 from fraternizing with football players, coaching staff and
- 620 other personnel.
- 621 Mr. Snyder, do you recall having a policy in place that
- 622 prohibited cheerleaders from fraternizing with football
- 623 staff, coaching staff and football players?
- 624 A I believe that's covered as Part III of the
- 625 document from '03 that you gave me. So, yes.
- 626 Q In Mr. Pauken's deposition, beginning on page --
- 627 the bottom of 94 going to page 98, that's where he
- 628 testified about the incident I'm going to ask about.
- 629 Mr. Pauken testified that during the 2005 season, he
- 630 personally ordered the firing of two cheerleaders,
- , for engaging in sexual
- 632 relationships with then-tight end Chris Cooley. Do you
- 633 know who Chris Cooley is?
- 634 A Yes. He played H-back for the franchise for
- 635 quite some time, probably seven years ago or so, eight
- 636 years ago. Played for . I believe he was
- 638 Q Did you direct or otherwise authorize the
- 639 termination of
- 640 A I don't recall any of that. I don't know who
- 641 those names are.

Q Did you direct or otherwise authorize the

- 643 termination of
- A I don't know who that is. I don't recall any of
- 645 these names.
- Q Did you direct or otherwise authorize the
- 647 termination of cheerleaders for engaging in a consensual
- 648 sexual relationship with former tight end Chris Cooley?
- 649 A I don't recall any of this.
- 650 Q Mr. Snyder, was Mr. Cooley cut from the team
- 651 prior to the 2013 season?
- 652 A I don't remember exactly when he was -- he may
- 653 have retired. I can't remember exactly.
- 654 Q Do you recall ever authorizing him being cut from
- 655 the team?
- 656 A I wasn't -- I'm not involved in who gets cut from
- 657 the team. That's up to the coaches and the head coach and
- 658 the player personnel. And in those particular years, it
- 659 was up to Bruce Allen.
- Q Did Bruce Allen or anyone else bring to your
- 661 attention that Mr. Cooley was being cut from the roster?
- 662 A If a player that had played for a long time and
- 663 was very successful was being either retired or cut, he
- 664 would -- they would generally call me, the head coach would
- 665 call me, and I'd call the player and thank the player for
- 666 the years of great effort.

Q Did you eventually hire Chris Cooley to work as

668 part of the radio broadcast team after he ended his playing

- 669 career in 2013?
- A The team hired him at some point in the future, I
- 671 believe, to do the game day radio -- I believe game day
- 672 radio show. I can't remember exactly.
- Q Mr. Cooley separated from the Commanders in 2020;
- 674 is that correct?
- 675 A I'm sorry, can you repeat the question.
- 676 Q Separated -- Mr. Cooley from the Commanders in
- 677 2020, is that correct?
- 678 A I believe so.
- 679 Q Sitting here today, do you think it's
- 680 appropriate, Mr. Snyder, to have a policy that punishes
- 681 women for engaging in the same behavior, similar behavior,
- 682 that men do where the men face no punishment but the women
- 683 do?
- A I don't understand the question.
- Q Do you think it's fair to have a policy that
- 686 subjects women to harsher punishment than men for engaging
- in the same behavior?
- 688 A Of course.
- 689 Q Of course what?
- 690 A Everyone should be treated equally and fairly and
- 691 with respect and appreciation.

| 692 | Q So is it your testimony that having a policy that         |
|-----|---|
| 693 | subjects women to harsher punishment than men for engaging  |
| 694 | in similar behavior, that that is unfair and inappropriate? |
| 695 | A Of course, yes.   |
| 696 | Q Directing you to Pages 166 and 167 of                     |
| 697 | Mr. Pauken's deposition. During Mr. Pauken's deposition,    |
| 698 | he testified that in 2002, he was made aware of a complaint |
| 699 | that a member of the coaching staff, coach                  |
| 700 | , groped a member of the public relations team,             |
| 701 |   |
| 702 | Mr. Pauken discussed the complaint with you, and together   |
| 703 | the two of you decided not to confront and otherwise        |
| 704 | reprimand and, instead, you agreed that the                 |
| 705 | employee, should be kept away from him.                     |
| 706 | Mr. Snyder, do you recall the incident that I'm referring   |
| 707 | to?   |
| 708 | A No, I'm sorry. I don't recall.                            |
| 709 | Q Do you recall ever disciplining or recommending           |
| 710 | discipline for for engaging in any kind of                  |
| 711 | inappropriate sexual misconduct against an employee?        |
| 712 | A No, I don't recall.                                       |
| 713 | Q Do you recall who is?                                     |
| 714 | A Yes.  |
| 715 |   |

716

| 717 |   |
|-----|---|
| 718 |   |
| 719 | Q Would it have been your expectation that an               |
| 720 | incident like the one I just mentioned involving            |
| 721 | would it have been your                                     |
| 722 | expectation that the president of the Commanders or the     |
| 723 | leader of the business side at the time bring that to your  |
| 724 | attention?  |
| 725 | A Sure, yes.  |
| 726 | Q And the other incidents that I mentioned                  |
| 727 | involving Chris Cooley and the cheerleaders                 |
| 728 | and as well as do you                                       |
| 729 | believe that that is information that should have been      |
| 730 | brought to your attention, as the owner?                    |
| 731 | A Can you repeat the question?                              |
| 732 | (Record read)   |
| 733 | A I'm sorry. Did you respond to that question? I            |
| 734 | think you   |
| 735 | Q My question is for you, Mr. Snyder.                       |
| 736 | A Yes, I think it should be brought to the owner's          |
| 737 | attention. Ownership. Any important matters.                |
| 738 | Q Outside of the fraternization policy that we              |
| 739 | discussed, are there any other Commanders policies or       |
| 740 | practices that you're aware of that attempted to            |
| 741 | attempted to or prevented women from engaging in consensual |

- 742 relationships with male staff?
- 743 A I'm not -- I don't have our current policies in
- 744 front of us, but I think we can send those to you, and I
- 745 think you'd be quite impressed that we are -- I believe we
- 746 produced another report on our organization, and I would
- 747 just encourage everyone to read it. I think it's quite
- 748 impressive, the accomplishments, our turnaround in the last
- 749 two years, and it's reflected in there.
- 750 But I think if you'd like, we can send you all of our
- 751 policies and what have you.
- 752 Q Mr. Snyder, did you ever direct Mitch Gershman to
- 753 instruct Jason Friedman, one of your longest-serving former
- 754 employees, to fire Commanders employees who had raised
- 755 concerns about overtime violations?
- 756 A I don't recall. I couldn't answer that question.
- 757 Q Do you think it's appropriate to fire employees
- 758 who raise concerns about workplace conditions such as
- 759 overtime violations?
- 760 A Yes.
- 761 Q And why is that?
- 762 A Well, if employees raise concerns about any
- 763 conditions, we want to know. We want to fix any problems,
- 764 eliminate any bad apples, and we want to do what's in the
- 765 best interest of the organization and our employees.
- 766 Ms. Seymour. Would the court reporter please read

767 back Mr. Snyder's answer. He may have misspoken. And the

- 768 question.
- 769 Karen, Mr. Snyder is the person who is
- 770 testifying, and so I will ask him the questions to elicit
- 771 his responses, not yours or your interpretation of whether
- 772 or not he provided an answer that's consistent with your
- 773 understanding of what he should have responded.
- 774 Ms. Seymour. It's fine. I do believe, and I think
- 775 other participants would -- the plain meaning was -- I
- 776 think he may have misstated his answer. You do not have to
- 777 do it, but I believe he misstated his answer. And we can
- 778 move on. I think to be fair to the witness, it's
- 779 appropriate to read it back. If he's comfortable, he's
- 780 comfortable.
- 781 The Witness. Thank you. Can you read it, please?
- 782 Thank you.
- **783** By
- 784 Q No. What I would like to do is to ask you a
- 785 follow-up question -- that's how these depositions
- 786 typically work -- so that I can understand what it is,
- 787 Mr. Snyder, that you are trying to say.
- 788 A Thank you.
- 789 Q My question for you is if you think it's
- 790 appropriate to terminate employees who raise concerns about
- 791 workplace conditions such as overtime violations.

792 A To terminate employees about -- if they raise

- 793 concerns? No.
- 794 Q And why is that not okay?
- 795 A Because we need to understand and they are to be
- 796 paid overtime and we follow all the rules and procedures
- 797 and laws and what have you. So if someone raised a
- 798 concern, we need to address any concern.
- 799 Q Well, Mr. Snyder, are there any employees that
- 800 you recall participating in their termination?
- 801 A First that comes to mind is Bruce Allen.
- Q Anyone else?
- 803 A That I terminated?
- Q You were involved in the termination, whether you
- 805 made the decision directly or otherwise.
- 806 A Bruce Allen comes to mind.
- 807 Q That's the only person you recall terminating in
- 808 the course of your ownership of the Commanders?
- 809 A Coach Jay Gruden.
- 810 Q Anyone else?
- 811 A Not off the top of my head.
- 812 Q 2020 was a pretty significant year of turnover
- 813 for the Commanders. Do you recall that?
- **814** A Yes.
- 815 Q What, if anything, was your involvement in the
- 816 separation of those employees who left the organization?

817 A Once Coach Ron Rivera came in, we encouraged

- 818 him -- when I say we, Tanya Snyder and I encouraged him to
- 819 make the changes to improve our culture, improve our
- 820 organization.
- 821 And then upon hiring Jason Wright, he was empowered to do
- 822 the same, and he has done an unbelievably great job at
- 823 turning our organization into what I consider a leadership
- 824 position.
- 825 Q Is it your testimony, Mr. Snyder, that you don't
- 826 recall being involved in the termination of anyone who left
- 827 in 2020 outside of individuals that you mentioned, if they
- 828 were, in fact, terminated in 2020?
- 829 A That's what I remember.
- 830 Q Earlier you testified that Mr. Allen called you
- 831 to provide you updates. Outside of calling you, were there
- 832 any other methods of communication between you and
- 833 Mr. Allen; and, if so, what were they?
- 834 A I would meet with him from time to time. I would
- 835 see him obviously at practice when I came to the facility
- 836 and then I would see him on game day. And also the night
- 837 before, my family and I would have a dinner at away games,
- 838 and he would stop by and update us on, you know, who is
- 839 playing this week, injuries, those types of things that,
- 840 you know, tomorrow, the next day, game day, and keep us
- 841 informed.

Q Did you and Mr. Allen ever exchange emails in the

- 843 course of his employment with the Commanders?
- 844 A No, I did not.
- Q And that is to say you never exchanged emails
- 846 with Mr. Allen?
- 847 A I don't have email.
- Q What do you mean by you don't have email?
- 849 A I don't have an email account.
- 850 Q Meaning that you don't use it or there is not one
- 851 that exists that belongs to you?
- A One doesn't exist that belongs to me.
- 853 Q Why don't you have an email account?
- 854 A I have an email account for the executive office
- 855 to receive league materials, things like that mailed to me,
- 856 but I do not have email. I didn't have one at my public
- 857 companies either.
- 858 Q So that the record is clear, you have an email
- 859 with the Commanders organization, which is to receive
- 860 executive communication. You do not have a personal email
- 861 account, and you did not have email accounts at your prior
- 862 company that you worked for or owned?
- 863 A I'm sorry. Can you repeat the question? I
- 864 couldn't hear you.
- 865 Q Why don't I ask you the question? Because I'm
- 866 trying to make sure I understand the email accounts you

- 867 have.
- 868 It sounds like you have one email account with the
- 869 Commanders organization; is that correct?
- 870 A I don't have any email. This is the executive
- 871 office that comes in to Tanya and I, Tanya Snyder and I,
- 872 league memos, et cetera, and updates from the NFL.
- Q Who has access to that?
- 874 A That would be -- the executive office would have
- 875 access.
- 876 Q What does "executive office" mean?
- 877 A The executive assistant.
- 878 Q Anyone else?
- 879 A No.
- 880 Q You have access; correct?
- 881 A I'm sorry?
- 882 Q You have access; correct?
- 883 A Me personally, no, I do not.
- Q Does Ms. Snyder have access?
- 885 A I don't believe so.
- That's the end of my questions at this
- 887 time. Off the record.
- 888 (Discussion held off the record.)
- 889 (Recess)
- 890 EXAMINATION BY

892 Mr. Snyder, my name is counsel for the Minority, and I'll be handling the 893 questions for this hour. 894 895 Before we begin our questions, I want to reiterate Ranking 896 Member Comer's concerns with this so-called investigation. 897 This is an investigation of a single private organization for workplace misconduct that took place years ago. The 898 899 House Oversight Committee is not the proper forum for this 900 investigation. 901 While Mr. Comer and the Committee's Minority members agree this alleged behavior is troubling, there's no relief for 902 903 any of the aggrieved parties before this Committee. The 904 primary mission of the House Oversight and Reform Committee 905 is to root out waste, fraud, abuse and mismanagement in the federal government, but this entire Congress, Democrats 906 907 have been completely derelict in this core responsibility. 908 This Committee has not conducted any oversight over the 909 Biden Administration. Instead, it has focused on the 910 American private sector. 911 While Mr. Comer agrees bad actors must be held accountable, 912 the workplace misconduct that is the topic of today's 913 transcribed interview, deposition, has already been subject 914 to investigations, fines, settlements and intense media

916 New leadership has been installed and improved workplace

915

scrutiny.

- 917 policies implemented, all without Congressional
- 918 involvement. No new punishments have levied against the
- 919 Commanders due to this investigation because they have
- 920 already faced consequences for its previously hostile
- 921 workplace.
- 922 No new relief has been granted to any of the aggrieved
- 923 parties because Congress has no authority to provide relief
- 924 in any of these instances.
- 925 This Committee is using valuable resources pursuing a
- 926 private company to investigate alleged wrongs for which we
- 927 can offer no remedy or redress.
- 928 Further, as Mr. Comer pointed out in his letter to the
- 929 chairwoman, this investigation has lacked basic
- 930 investigatory standards, and some members have even used
- 931 this investigation as a fundraising tool.
- 932 Meanwhile, the American people are suffering. Inflation
- 933 continues to spiral. In fact, we learned just this morning
- 934 that the U.S. economy has shrunk for a second straight
- 935 quarter, a sure sign of recession.
- 936 On top of that, desperate parents cannot find baby formula
- 937 on store shelves. Guns are killing our teenagers, and our
- 938 southern border is beyond broken. As the cover of the New
- 939 York Times pointed out on Tuesday, drug and sex traffickers
- 940 are making money hand over fist to the detriment of
- 941 vulnerable women and children.

942 This Committee has the jurisdiction to examine all of these

- 943 pressing crises, but we are not. Instead, we are here
- 944 today interviewing an NFL football owner over matters that
- 945 have no connection to the federal government or the current
- 946 crises facing our nation.
- 947 With that, I'll go ahead and get started with our questions
- 948 for this hour. Thank you for your patience, Mr. Snyder.
- 949 A Thank you.
- **950** By
- 951 Q So at the end of the June 22nd hearing of this
- 952 year, Mr. Comer asked Commissioner Roger Goodell two
- 953 questions. And so to start off this hour, I think I want
- 954 to read the responses which you received from the NFL to
- 955 Mr. Comer's outstanding questions.
- 956 So the first question was:
- 957 "It has been reported that you retained former U.S.
- 958 Attorney General Loretta Lynch to investigate a former
- 959 minority shareholder for his involvement in manufacturing
- 960 false allegations about Mr. Snyder. Is that true?"
- 961 And the NFL's response, which we received, like I said, on
- 962 Tuesday, and I'm going to go ahead and introduce into the
- 963 record as Minority Exhibit A, which you should all have at
- 964 this point, their answer was, and I quote:
- 965 "The engagement of Loretta Lynch, a partner at Paul, Weiss,
- 966 Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison, LLP, was in connection with an

967 ownership dispute that was pending before the Wilkinson

- 968 firm's investigation began. The ownership group of the
- 969 Washington Commanders, Dan Snyder, and his three limited
- 970 partners certified their dispute to the NFL commissioner,
- 971 providing arbitration, and the commissioner appointed Brad
- 972 Karp, chairman of Paul Weiss, as the arbitrator.
- 973 "In the course of the arbitration, claims arose regarding
- 974 improper leaking and public disparagement of Mr. Snyder
- 975 that would have violated the commissioner's confidentiality
- 976 directive.
- 977 "On August 12, 2020, the NFL retained Loretta Lynch to
- 978 investigate these claims. She finished her work in late
- 979 2020, and found that one of the limited partners had
- 980 engaged in prohibited conduct."
- 981 The second question which was submitted by Mr. Comer at the
- 982 end of the hearing in June was:
- 983 "It has also been reported that after reviewing Attorney
- 984 General Lynch's investigation, you permanently banned that
- 985 minority shareholder from ever owning an NFL team or
- 986 otherwise participating in business relationships with the
- 987 NFL. Is that true?"
- 988 The NFL responded:
- 989 "Upon the conclusion of the investigation, one of the
- 990 limited partners agreed that he would not seek to own an
- 991 interest with in the NFL club in the future."

992 Mr. Snyder, back in 2020, you retained attorneys who993 investigated the claims related to a minority shareholder

994 who was referenced in the questions and answers I just

995 reiterated. Is that right?

- 996 A Yes.
- 997 Q Can you tell me more about the situation which
- 998 led you to retain those lawyers to investigate?
- 999 A Yes. On July 16, 2020,
- 1000 there obviously was a campaign, a disparagement
- 1001 campaign with a laws- -- excuse me, articles appearing in
- 1002 India that refer to me -- there were bots -- being
- 1003 affiliated with Jeffrey Epstein, being on his airplane,
- 1004 being on his list, all these things about a person I've
- 1005 never met in my life, but, yet incredibly damaging to me
- 1006 and my family, my children.
- 1007 There was a campaign -- this coincided exactly with the
- 1008 timing of this -- the Washington Post story of July 16,
- 1009 2020. And we were devastated. The kids -- my son was the
- 1010 target of a bot campaign with Epstein. I mean, just
- 1011 atrocious, atrocious, the most heinous things ever, just
- 1012 completely disparaging and devastating.
- 1013 So we -- then on August 1, we got back to our home in
- 1014 Upon getting back, we discovered
- 1015 ourselves that members of our personal staff, my wife's
- 1016 long-time household executive, been with her 20 years, told

1017 my wife, "I was attempted to be bribed to say defamatory

- 1018 information about your husband, about Dan, and saying he
- 1019 was a drug addict."
- 1020 My , when we met and talked to my , said that
- 1021 he was also attempted to be paid off for anything he would
- 1022 say, willing to say anything. And this was done by a
- 1023 former executive assistant of the franchise that had left
- three years earlier named Former Staff 1
- 1025 And we presented this evidence to the National Football
- 1026 League. They knew we were going to conduct investigations
- 1027 and sue India, which we sued a company called MEAWW, which
- 1028 we tracked it to. We were going to also look for
- 1029 discovery.
- 1030 And on August 12th, the National Football League retained
- 1031 former Attorney General Lynch to look into any findings and
- 1032 other discoveries. And what you read is the results of the
- 1033 findings.
- 1034 And this false narrative of a shadow investigation is just
- 1035 untrue. That is exactly what we did. We gave all that
- 1036 information -- presented information to the National
- 1037 Football League to former Attorney General Lynch, to Beth
- 1038 Wilkinson. And we presented just the facts.
- 1039 Q So you said that you got back on August 1, and
- 1040 then when did you speak to the NFL about this issue? When
- 1041 did you first speak to them?

1042 A Probably within days later, we presented facts,

- 1043 affidavits from the three I just mentioned. The was
- 1044 the third. And then we pursued discovery regarding the
- 1045 defamatory and any linkage to the defamation.
- 1046 This was done solely for the purpose of understanding who
- 1047 is behind the slander, the defamatory -- it was devastating
- 1048 to my kids. My kids still have -- it's hurt them
- 1049 tremendously. And my wife has been through a lot from
- 1050 there.
- 1051 And what we did was simply do the right thing by finding
- 1052 out who did this to -- how was this done and who did this.
- 1053 Q So you presented evidence to the NFL, and you
- 1054 said on August 12, they went ahead and retained former AG
- 1055 Lynch.
- 1056 During the course of your discovery process and looking
- 1057 into who did this, did you keep the NFL apprised of what
- 1058 you were doing?
- 1059 A Completely. We kept everyone apprised of it, and
- 1060 all we did was present facts to everyone as we unfolded
- 1061 discoveries such as phone records, et cetera.
- 1062 Q So the NFL knew everything that you were doing,
- 1063 and did they ever express concerns with any of your actions
- 1064 as you pursued this investigation?
- 1065 A No, they approved us to -- for example, to pursue
- 1066 our filing against Former Staff 1 , the person that

1067 perpetrated the bribery attempts on those three

- 1068 individuals.
- 1069 And we pursued that, and through the Eastern District of
- 1070 Virginia Court, and we won that motion and received as that
- 1071 information was presented to the National Football League
- 1072 and former Attorney General Lynch and everyone presented
- 1073 openly and just factually.
- 1074 Q I would like to take this time to introduce
- 1075 what's been previously marked as Exhibits B, C and D. I
- 1076 realize that's a lot. So I'll give you guys a minute.
- 1077 Exhibit B is the June 22, 2022, Democrat memorandum which
- 1078 they released in conjunction with Exhibit C, which is a
- 1079 redacted slide deck. And then Exhibit D is just the
- 1080 unredacted version of that slide deck.
- 1081 I'm going to use these three exhibits as we go through the
- 1082 rest of the section of the questions.
- 1083 So, Mr. Snyder, if you could get Exhibit B in front of you.
- 1084 It's the June 22, 2022 Democrat memo. It's Minority
- 1085 Exhibit B. Sorry. I didn't realize that the Majority also
- 1086 used letters.
- 1087 A Yes, I have it. Thank you.
- 1088 Q Great. So on this first page, the memo reads
- 1089 that "Commanders owner Daniel Snyder launched a shadow
- 1090 investigation in an apparent effort to discredit his
- 1091 accusers."

1092 What do you understand this to be referring to, this shadow

- 1093 investigation?
- 1094 A There was no shadow investigation.
- 1095 Q So walk me through that. So they've accused you
- 1096 of creating this about what actually occurred during -- or
- 1097 what you actually used these slides for and what this
- 1098 investigation was actually about, and respond to that
- 1099 claim.
- 1100 A Around that time -- this is November 23 on the
- 1101 redacted C I'm looking at. Around that time, we were
- 1102 presenting to our lawyers -- or presenting to former
- 1103 Attorney Lynch, as well as the NFL and Beth Wilkinson just
- 1104 the facts, the information of Former Staff 1, which has
- 1105 been redacted here in this version.
- 1106 In D, it says Former Staff 1 . And it shows in the
- 1107 unredacted version that on July 4 is when she -- and they
- 1108 started the activities of reaching out to my employees,
- 1109 trying to defame us, et cetera.
- 1110 So all we did was present these facts to the Attorney
- 1111 General -- former Attorney General.
- 1112 Q Do you think that the unredacted version of the
- 1113 slides that was released was a fair representation of the
- 1114 slides that you used for this investigation?
- 1115 Ms. Seymour. It's Karen Seymour. I just wanted to
- 1116 clarify. The redacted is a fair version or the unredacted?

- 1117 I just wasn't clear, sorry.
- 1118 I apologize.
- **1119** By
- 1120 Q Was the redacted version a fair representation of
- 1121 what you put in these slides and what you used them for?
- 1122 A No. It was misleading.
- 1123 Q How so?
- 1124 A It did not include the telephone records and all
- 1125 the information that's in here that really ties together
- 1126 the full picture. When you redact two-thirds of the
- 1127 document, it is incredibly misleading. All we did was
- 1128 pursue the facts and deliver the facts. That's it.
- 1129 Q So the purpose of this slide deck, was it to
- 1130 further your investigation into this minority shareholder
- 1131 and the disparagement investigation, or did it have
- 1132 anything to do with the workplace investigation by the
- 1133 Wilkinson team?
- 1134 A No. Nothing to do with the workplace
- 1135 investigation. That was completely independent and done by
- 1136 Ms. Wilkinson.
- 1137 This was solely for the purpose of having connectivity to
- 1138 the defamatory information, the defaming stories, the bots,
- 1139 the devastating things that were also coinciding with the
- 1140 Washington Post story of July 16.
- 1141 So we presented just the facts, just the evidence, the

1142 telephone records themselves, starting shortly after

- 1143 August 12, Former Staff 1 received a burner phone as
- 1144 well, and those facts were presented to Attorney General
- 1145 Lynch and the NFL as well.
- 1146 Q So there was nothing nefarious about this slide
- 1147 deck. Is that fair to say?
- 1148 A Completely, yes. Thank you.
- 1149 Q So to be clear, you got permission from the NFL
- 1150 to conduct this investigation into the disparagement
- 1151 claimants, is that right?
- 1152 A Yes.
- 1153 Q And you kept them apprised of everything you did
- 1154 pursuant to that investigation?
- 1155 A Yes.
- 1156 Q And then your lawyers presented the findings of
- 1157 your investigation to the NFL?
- 1158 A To the NFL, to attorney -- the former Attorney
- 1159 General Loretta Lynch, yes.
- 1160 Q You mentioned when we first started talking about
- 1161 this that your family went through a lot when these
- 1162 articles came out. You specifically mentioned that your
- 1163 son was targeted.
- 1164 Can you describe some of the things that your family went
- 1165 through as a result of this disparaging information that
- 1166 was released online?

1167 A Well, at the time, my son was 17 and he was in

- 1168 high school, and the bots would target to say his father
- 1169 was with Jeffrey Epstein and devastating stuff.
- 1170 They used a lot of media outlets to push these stories.
- 1171 And just the -- I think the most atrocious, heinous things
- 1172 that -- actions that someone would do to a family, are
- 1173 crooked and still are. It's very -- [Zoom audio
- 1174 distortion].
- 1175 Q I know you spoke a little bit with the Democrats
- 1176 in the first hour about your background and how you came to
- 1177 own the team, but as far as I understand it, you grew up in
- 1178 Maryland; is that right?
- 1179 A Yes. In Silver Spring, Maryland, White Oak.
- 1180 I remember that.
- 1181 Q So you've been a resident of the DMV for your
- 1182 entire life, followed the local teams?
- 1183 A Yes, we -- my father moved us down to the DMV
- 1184 when I was two. And he worked at National Geographic as a
- 1185 writer, National Geographic Society.
- 1186 Q And what did your mother do?
- 1187 A My mother worked at the World Bank. She was a
- 1188 writer and translator. That's why I'm in Israel here.
- 1189 It's my mom's one-year anniversary of the Yahrzeit passing,
- 1190 and we dedicated a Torah to her. And she spoke seven
- 1191 languages and was very, very special. And great, great

- 1192 parents. My father passed away too young at 69.
- 1193 Q And I imagine that was very difficult.
- 1194 A I lost my best friend, lost my mentor.
- 1195 Q Yeah. I cannot imagine. Is it fair to say that
- 1196 you grew up in a middle class family in the area?
- 1197 A Not quite middle class. We grew up -- we ended
- 1198 up in Rockville, Maryland, lived in an apartment. My
- 1199 father struggled as a writer, and my mom ended up providing
- 1200 more for the family when she worked at the World Bank.
- 1201 And we had a great family. Great family. We grew up quite
- 1202 some time, not poor, but we were still this unbelievably
- 1203 great family and a bigtime Washington football, Redskins,
- 1204 Commanders fans from very young. But I always maintained a
- 1205 great family, great family.
- 1206 Q And you have one sister; is that right?
- 1207 A Yes. Yes. Yes.
- 1208 Q I imagine you two are close. Is that fair to
- **1209** say?
- 1210 A Very close. She's here in Israel today, and she
- 1211 took the rest of the family yesterday with our rabbi,
- 1212 because I had to meet with the attorneys here, and she
- 1213 spent the day in honor of my mom and went to the events
- 1214 that had been scheduled here.
- 1215 And she's really stepped up since my mom passed. She also
- 1216 owns part of the team and goes way back with me in business

- 1217 and has always been a great...
- 1218 Q Talk to me about some of the other business
- 1219 ventures that either you and Michelle did together or
- 1220 things that you have done as you became this self-made
- 1221 businessman over the last few decades.
- 1222 A Back when -- I graduated high school and I went
- 1223 to Montgomery College and then I spent a year at University
- 1224 of Maryland. And when I spent time at the University of
- 1225 Maryland, I had an entrepreneurial feeling.
- 1226 And my sister was an architectural -- getting an
- 1227 architectural degree at the University of Maryland at the
- 1228 same time. And I came up with the idea of doing sporting
- 1229 tours and taking people to sporting events.
- 1230 And I remember my father trying to help me write -- I'm not
- 1231 a very good writer, and he had written some brochures. And
- 1232 I tried to make it work, and it didn't work.
- 1233 And then shortly after, I said, well, why don't we focus on
- 1234 college campuses, and maybe I'll do something with the
- 1235 spring break and we'll take kids and bring them on buses to
- 1236 spring break and package it up. And it actually worked.
- 1237 It actually was a small success and the beginning of my
- 1238 entrepreneurial drive.
- 1239 And then it went from there to -- expanded to the next year
- 1240 doing it with jets flying up from hundreds of campuses
- 1241 around the country and taking them on spring break.

- 1242 I remember using -- going up to La Guardia airport,
- 1243 something called New York Air, I don't know if you remember
- 1244 that, I may be aging myself, dating myself, but something
- 1245 with New York Air. I remember it so much because I
- 1246 borrowed a suit from my friend, Tony Roberts. My mother
- 1247 hemmed it because he's much taller than I am. And I went
- 1248 up and convinced them to lease the airplanes and let us use
- 1249 their logos. And didn't have the money yet, but I said,
- 1250 I'm going to go sell all this stuff to college campuses
- 1251 across the northeastern seaboard, and we did that.
- 1252 So it was the beginning of an entrepreneur. And then when
- 1253 we started -- from there, I had a lot of passion for
- 1254 publishing through my father being a writer, created a
- 1255 magazine business. And that was a real struggle. It was
- 1256 exciting, but a real struggle.
- 1257 Raised some money from a gentleman named Mort Zuckerman,
- 1258 Mort Zuckerman in New York. He owned U.S. News and World
- 1259 Report. I said -- at the time, I said, you need college
- 1260 students, you need a younger audience. And he actually
- 1261 helped fund us.
- 1262 It was a struggle for some years, and then we caught on
- 1263 with some other businesses, product sampling at college
- 1264 campuses, and it just snowballed and we grew and grew.
- 1265 I convinced my sister with the magazine, I said take a year
- 1266 off architecture. And she said, okay, I'm only going to

1267 take a year off. But she actually ended up being the chief

- 1268 operating officer and vice chair of the company and she
- 1269 ended up on the New York Stock Exchange.
- 1270 Q That's very impressive. You have a pretty good
- 1271 sister, it sounds like.
- 1272 As far as -- so that was the magazine business, is that
- 1273 right? Did you and your sister do any other businesses
- 1274 together?
- 1275 A The magazine business transformed by listening to
- 1276 our clients. I was at Kellogg's, and I'll never forget, in
- 1277 Battle Creek, Michigan, trying to sell ad pages to the
- 1278 magazine that wasn't doing well financially. And one of
- 1279 the account supervisors at the time said, Can you do
- 1280 product sampling at college campuses? And I said, Sure.
- 1281 And we started product sampling, ended up being the largest
- 1282 product sampling company for doctors' offices and hospitals
- 1283 and all over the world from that original conversation at
- 1284 Kellogg's.
- 1285 And we focused on targeted marketing and advertising. And
- 1286 my sister never looked back. She was unbelievable. She is
- 1287 a true world-class businessperson.
- 1288 But we went public with that company in the mid-'90s, a
- 1289 long time ago now, on the New York Stock Exchange.
- 1290 Q Which company was that?
- 1291 A Snyder Communications. We had three agencies

- 1292 underneath it, and -- a traditional agency, a product
- 1293 sampling area, and we had a targeted marketing business.
- 1294 And we ended up when we sold the business with 12,000
- 1295 employees from just a couple of us.
- 1296 Q And what year did you sell that business?
- 1297 A 2000. In the beginning of 2000, we sold it to a
- 1298 French company called Vivendi Havas, which still exists.
- 1299 Arnold Worldwide was the traditional agency, and they are
- 1300 still very, very successful. Most of it is very
- 1301 successful.
- 1302 Q When did you meet Mrs. Snyder?
- 1303 A We -- gosh. Probably 30 years ago. A friend of
- 1304 mine who was a New Yorker, named , and his wife , I
- 1305 went to dinner with them. She was from the south. I
- 1306 remember saying, I need to meet a nice, southern -- you
- 1307 guys just got married. A week later, they called and --
- 1308 they called again and said, Would you like to meet my
- 1309 friend Tanya? And I said, Sure.
- 1310 And we met and fell in love and never looked back. And
- 1311 we've been fortunate and blessed to have a great family and
- 1312 to honor the tradition of our families.
- 1313 And she's here, obviously, in Israel with some of the kids.
- 1314 And my new son-in-law is here as well. And we've been very
- 1315 fortunate. She's amazing.
- 1316 At the time when I met her -- this is prior to having a

1317 family -- she was an entrepreneur and ran her own business.

- 1318 Her and her partner ran a business in fashion, in retail
- 1319 fashion business out of the Atlanta area. She's always
- 1320 been an entrepreneur and always will.
- 1321 Q You said that you were able to honor the
- 1322 traditions of your family. I think your lawyers have
- 1323 written in letters about celebration of your mom's life and
- 1324 having your whole family there.
- 1325 Can you tell us about how religion has played a role in
- 1326 both you and Ms. Snyder's life and your kids' lives and how
- 1327 impactful this trip has been for you all.
- 1328 A Well, it's a special place to come to the Holy
- 1329 Land, to come to Israel for all religions. It's very
- 1330 special for us personally.
- 1331 My father and mother brought me here to be bar mitzvahed at
- 1332 the wall in Israel, and we did the same for our son
- 1333 And because my mom passed July 2nd in the American
- 1334 calendar, there's what's called a Hebrew calendar, which is
- 1335 a different date of passing, and that's July 21st. So we
- 1336 met with her rabbi and scheduled about a year ago now,
- 1337 let's honor my mom.
- 1338 Probably one of the most precious things you can do to
- 1339 honor in the Jewish faith is a Torah for my mom's
- 1340 synagogue. And we did that, I believe, on July 25th here
- 1341 as a family. And it was very emotional. Really emotional,

- 1342 really special.
- 1343 My faith, my family has meant everything to us. Tanya, not
- 1344 only -- she's obviously taken incredible leadership in her
- 1345 role in the last two and a half years with the team once we
- 1346 became empty nesters, but she takes a leadership role in so
- 1347 many other things.
- 1348 Q So you said that you sold Snyder Communications
- 1349 in 2000. When did you come to own the Redskins Commanders
- 1350 franchise?
- 1351 A In 1999, we bought it with some other partners,
- 1352 our family, and we acquired the franchise in '99, and I was
- 1353 running two public companies.
- 1354 There was also a healthcare company we spun off in the late
- 1355 '90s with Goldman Sachs called inVentiv Health
- named .
- 1357 And it's one of the things that I found when we were
- 1358 talking to McKinsey, I Zoomed with many McKinsey partners,
- 1359 Jason Wright stuck out to us as, wow, what a charisma,
- 1360 dynamic, caring individual. And I wrote
- 1361 notepad and sent it to my wife. And afterwards, she said,
- 1362 What's the correlation? I said, came out of
- 1363 the Boston consulting group, consulting company where my
- 1364 sister and I hired him. And I said, Jason Wright is going
- 1365 to be a big success story for us. Let's go recruit. Tanya
- 1366 was eager. And that's how we met Jason.

1367 Q I certainly have more questions about

- 1368 Mr. Wright's role in the organization, but before we get to
- 1369 those, can you talk to us a little bit about how acquiring
- 1370 and owning this team in particular made a difference and
- 1371 was so impactful for you and your family.
- 1372 A It means everything to us. We care. Obviously,
- 1373 with workplace issues in the past, we were, you know,
- 1374 incredibly apologetic. And we want everyone to feel great
- 1375 who works there and aspire for greatness.
- 1376 And this franchise means everything to us. On the field,
- 1377 we're desperate to win that Super Bowl. We're desperate.
- 1378 We are getting better on the field. We're looking forward
- 1379 to a great season shortly, hopefully. We have a new
- 1380 quarterback, so -- and great leadership out of Coach Ron
- 1381 Rivera.
- 1382 We're very, very passionate about the community, about what
- 1383 we can do to be part of everything. Our whole family loves
- 1384 this organization.
- 1385 Q Was owning the team the fulfillment of a dream
- 1386 for your family?
- 1387 A Yes, yes. It was a fulfillment of probably
- 1388 dreams of -- beyond future entrepreneur at the time. My
- 1389 dad, I think I probably mentioned, took me to my first game
- 1390 when I was six years old. He got tickets through the
- 1391 National Geographic Society.

1392 From there on out, it was our life-long bond. No matter

- 1393 where we were, we would listen to a game, wherever -- we
- 1394 would attend. We always loved this organization, this
- 1395 team, this organization, and we are looking forward to
- 1396 making the DMV proud of us overall.
- 1397 Q Why do you believe that you and Ms. Tanya Snyder
- 1398 are the best people to own this team?
- 1399 A Because we care. We love this organization. You
- 1400 can see it in the last two years, this Committee's name is
- 1401 reform. And one of the things we've done is we've reformed
- 1402 our organization to be the best of the class.
- 1403 We really believe we can be in a leadership position in all
- 1404 sports, not just National Football League. And when it
- 1405 comes to diversity, inclusion, we want to be the best. And
- 1406 we are trying to establish that every day and trying to
- 1407 show through action some leadership. And I think we've
- 1408 shown a lot of that in the last two-plus years.
- 1409 I know the Vestry report just came out, the latest one. I
- 1410 believe it's also highly reflective of the continued
- 1411 success we've been having in the last few years.
- 1412 Q Absolutely. And over the duration of your
- 1413 ownership of this team, there's been a number of
- 1414 investigations into you as a person, into your team.
- 1415 There's been a lot of media scrutiny, public scrutiny,
- 1416 which, perhaps, is typical of an NFL owner.

1417 But can you talk to us about why it's important for you to

- 1418 keep this team, even amidst all of the bad press and the
- 1419 public scrutiny?
- 1420 A It's important because if you look at what we're
- 1421 doing and look at the reform we've made in the last two and
- 1422 a half years with Coach Rivera, with Jason Wright, we are
- 1423 creating something very special.
- 1424 We're very proud of where we're going. We are not --
- 1425 obviously, we're incredibly apologetic for some of the
- 1426 actions by some of the former executives and team members,
- 1427 but the key is really, from our perspective, is to -- and I
- 1428 see Vestry as -- you talk about oversight, it's an outside
- 1429 firm giving some oversight and guidance and help. And
- 1430 we're really trying to do the right things through
- 1431 leadership as an overall organization.
- 1432 Q You mentioned just a few minutes ago Jason
- 1433 Wright. Can you give us a little bit more background? You
- 1434 said you were really enamored with Mr. Wright. You thought
- 1435 he had a lot of good qualities. Can you talk to us about
- 1436 the hiring process and how that came about?
- 1437 A Sure. Well, it starts way back in October.
- 1438 2019, his predecessor gave a press conference, I'll never
- 1439 forget, that said "we have a damned good culture", and my
- 1440 wife and I talked that night and said, I bet we don't.
- 1441 So we went about starting on the football side and looking

1442 for a culture-setting coach, a coach that had similar --

- 1443 Jason had passion, the traits we were looking for, and
- 1444 that's how we found Ron Rivera, Coach Ron Rivera of
- 1445 December of 2019, hired him the beginning -- I think the
- 1446 first day or second day of January of 2020.
- 1447 If it weren't for COVID, we would have gotten on the
- 1448 business side even faster. And we were fortunate in our
- 1449 journey to hire a head of the business side to have met
- 1450 Jason. We were targeting candidates, et cetera. And when
- 1451 we met him, we -- I said to \_\_\_\_\_, very successful
- 1452 consultant, transferring the business that went public and
- 1453 did very, very well, with thousands of employees, and I
- 1454 said, this guy is going to be special. He was passionate.
- 1455 He was a really great, eager person, true leader.
- 1456 And I would encourage this Committee to spend time with --
- 1457 and see what we've done here, to hear directly from folks
- 1458 like Jason, our chief people officer, Andre Chambers.
- 1459 Amina Bulman. We have a great group of leadership that is
- 1460 still empowered and encouraged.
- 1461 And on the football side, we've done some things that are
- 1462 really forward-thinking and looking at best in class. And
- 1463 I would encourage this Committee to have a look and read
- 1464 the Vestry report and potentially meet with folks. Because
- 1465 we do want to lead by example.
- 1466 We do -- you know, we talk about the word "change." Well,

- 1467 change is difficult. And sometimes if you don't
- 1468 acknowledge change, then others won't change. And I think
- 1469 that we've had the opportunity to lead by example, and
- 1470 that's what we're trying to do.
- 1471 Q You said Coach Ron Rivera was hired the very
- 1472 beginning of January 2020; right?
- 1473 A Yes.
- 1474 Q And then Jason Wright was brought on -- what day
- 1475 was it again?
- 1476 A It was two years from -- two years from now, but
- 1477 he had started a little prior to that. He was wrapping up
- 1478 at McKinsey, but he's been with us two years now.
- 1479 Q So that would have been July of 2020?
- 1480 A August. August. Official announcement in August
- 1481 of 2020.
- 1482 Q August of 2020. And so at that time -- sorry.
- 1483 Was Mr. Wright hired prior to the Wilkinson investigation?
- 1484 A No. We retained Beth Wilkinson in -- earlier in
- 1485 July of 2020.
- 1486 Q Okay. So he had come on pretty early on in the
- 1487 investigation. Is that fair to say?
- 1488 A He joined while it was already underway, yes.
- 1489 Q While it was underway. How did Jason Wright's
- 1490 hiring start this cultural shift, this cultural change that
- 1491 you said has been going on for the last two years?

1492 Well, I think as he -- I don't want to put words in his mouth -- and he would tell you we gave him a mandate 1493 to work on the cultural, the business side. He did hands-1494 on. He would look into every single area and make it best 1495 1496 of class. Make it the most -- the most inclusive 1497 organization. And to hire the best people. And we empowered him to do that and encouraged him and helped him. 1498 1499 Can you talk to us about who Jason Wright -- who 1500 else Jason Wright brought on, how he changed the culture, how he effectively reworked the organization? 1501 Sure. He added -- I think his first to join was 1502 Α Amina Bulman from McKinsey. She's been great, got a 1503 1504 promotion recently as senior vice president. She is -- I consider her a rock star. I told my wife, she's going to 1505 run a Fortune 100 some day as CEO. She's amazing. 1506 1507 And then we brought in an HR chief people officer named 1508 Andre Chambers. Brought in a COO, CFO is Greg Resh. We work together almost as a team. It really transformed our 1509 1510 organization over the last two-plus years to be something 1511 special. We really think we have a future, very bright, 1512 going for us. Would you say that your organization leadership 1513 looks entirely different than it did two, three years ago? 1514 Α Yes. When we -- at the end of 2019, the 1515

beginning of 2020, I terminated the employment of Jason's

1516

1517 predecessor, and we made the right choices. No pun on his

- 1518 name, Wright, but we made the right choices, and we're
- 1519 very, very proud. I think he's taken a leadership position
- 1520 not only with our team but in the community and within the
- 1521 NFL itself.
- 1522 Q What would you describe as Jason Wright's most
- 1523 important accomplishment over the last two years?
- 1524 A People. He is -- he has a great way with people.
- 1525 He's a very compassionate person. Very caring. Cares
- 1526 about the team. Tanya and him do -- he does them and calls
- 1527 them AMAs, which is "Ask Me Anything." And it's a very
- 1528 transparent organization. An organization that is set up
- 1529 for decades of success.
- 1530 Q I want to talk a little bit more about Coach Ron
- 1531 Rivera. Can you describe to us how his role as the head
- 1532 coach of your team has impacted the team side of the
- 1533 Commanders?
- 1534 A Ron joined us for the 2020 -- beginning of 2020.
- 1535 And we gave him the same mandate, he would tell you. He's
- 1536 done public interviews. We may have mentioned the word
- 1537 "culture" 20 times to him because we want to focus on a
- 1538 great culture because we believe it would lead to a great
- 1539 success.
- 1540 And his approach has been nothing but that. It's focused
- 1541 on hiring the best people. And we've got a lot of people

1542 within our organization, whether it be football, whether it

- 1543 be business, that we really believe are going to be -- we
- 1544 hope now, would be coaches for us from other organizations.
- 1545 We have VP of player personnel, Eric Stokes. He's probably
- 1546 going to be a general manager in the next few years.
- 1547 We have hired Martin Mayhew, who played for Washington many
- 1548 years ago and was a general manager at a team, didn't do
- 1549 very well, went to San Francisco, learned so much, he talks
- 1550 about it himself about how he's now ready. And he's the
- 1551 general manager of our football team.
- 1552 But overseeing the guidance and the vision is Coach Ron
- 1553 Rivera. He also had cancer, by the way, in August of 2020.
- 1554 So he's -- he's, like myself and my wife, we're all cancer
- 1555 survivors. So seeing him coach through and never miss a
- 1556 game during chemotherapy is quite remarkable. He has a lot
- 1557 of courage.
- 1558 Q That's incredibly impressive. As you just said,
- 1559 both you, your wife and also the head coach of your team
- 1560 have all experienced this horrible disease. How has that
- 1561 influenced your and Ms. Snyder's community outreach?
- 1562 A Well, I'm a survivor of thyroid cancer, which I
- 1563 had in mid-2001. Put me out of appearance and out of --
- 1564 probably for a couple years. There was so many different
- 1565 surgeries and procedures and things that have happened for
- 1566 mine, and it's a very humbling experience.

1567 And then my wife in 2008 was diagnosed, even though she had

- 1568 started in 1999 the NFL's breast cancer awareness program.
- 1569 She was, with Zeta, first to give out these pink ribbons
- 1570 and do all this. And all that pink that you see in the
- 1571 National Football League started with Tanya Snyder. And
- 1572 she's very, very proud of it and very focused on someday
- 1573 getting a cure for that terrible disease. She had breast
- 1574 cancer in 2008 and multiple surgeries. Tough for the kids
- 1575 back then as well.
- 1576 Q Ms. Snyder, she's now the co-CEO and responsible
- 1577 for the team's day-to-day operations. How important is it
- 1578 for our country for us to see female leaders in those kind
- 1579 of roles in the NFL?
- 1580 A I'm very proud. She's priceless, the way she's
- 1581 -- as I mentioned, when we first met, she was an
- 1582 entrepreneur back then. She's business-minded and really
- 1583 super sharp.
- 1584 And she's been representing the club at the NFL meetings.
- 1585 And one of the owners came up at the Super Bowl at an event
- 1586 prior to this year's Super Bowl, I think it was Arthur
- 1587 Blank, the owner of the Atlanta Falcons and Home Depot, and
- 1588 he said your wife is great at these meetings, she's
- 1589 unbelievable.
- 1590 And I was -- she gets embarrassed. But I was so thrilled
- 1591 to hear that from Arthur and several of the owners.

1592 I think that she has also spent some time with some of the

- 1593 other female owners in the NFL, including Amy Strunk and
- 1594 Kim Pegula and Ms. Benson in New Orleans.
- 1595 I think that they have the opportunity to have quite the
- 1596 impact on sports overall, not just the National Football
- 1597 League but sports overall.
- 1598 Q It's been reported that the Commanders is now --
- 1599 has one of the most diverse leadership teams in the NFL.
- 1600 Can you talk to us about what that means for this
- 1601 organization?
- 1602 A It means we're doing it the right way. It means
- 1603 we're establishing the leadership position that we said we
- 1604 would do when we hired Coach Rivera and brought in Jason.
- 1605 And everything we've done has really set a gold standard,
- 1606 set an organization of best in class. And it's gotten
- 1607 great business results already, we're doing quite well in
- 1608 so many different areas. Jason's team suites, he's number
- 1609 one in the National Football League in selling suites now.
- 1610 We're up 20-something percent sponsorship. And as he jokes
- 1611 around, don't believe the media. The facts are on our
- 1612 side. But I think we're doing quite well now.
- 1613 Q You said that you have this new -- it's basically
- 1614 you're the new gold standard in the NFL for what
- 1615 organizations should look like as far as leadership,
- 1616 diversity.

1617 How do you think other NFL teams could model their

- 1618 leadership after yours?
- 1619 A I think all sports -- and there's many that are
- 1620 doing a great job at this, but there could be more. And I
- 1621 think that what we've done is in all our vision of how we
- 1622 see this franchise for the future, I believe we're building
- 1623 so much talent that many of our executives will be running
- 1624 other clubs not only in the NFL, but in other sports.
- 1625 We had a fabulous general counsel named Damon who left to
- 1626 become the number two at the Los Angeles Dodgers. We
- 1627 always tease each other. I love football and he loves
- 1628 baseball, and he's gone on to and he's aspiring to be a
- 1629 team president. I think they call it manager or whatever
- 1630 in baseball. But he's the number two there at the Dodgers
- 1631 now, and we're proud of him.
- 1632 We think we'll have more folks that leave us to run other
- 1633 organizations. We want to -- we want to make a difference
- 1634 in our community to really do something special here.
- 1635 Q As far as the human resources and kind of
- 1636 internal functions go of the team, how has the new
- 1637 personnel and the new structure impacted how human
- 1638 resources functions in the Commanders organization?
- 1639 A We have a first-class human resources headed by
- 1640 Andre Chambers, who is the chief people officer, and has a
- 1641 solid staff underneath. We also have a lot of things that

1642 go beyond. And I would encourage the Committee to look at

- 1643 not only, obviously, the Vestry report, but also the other
- 1644 things we're doing above and beyond traditional HR in terms
- 1645 of organizations within our franchise.
- 1646 We have a woman's organization. We have a black
- 1647 empowerment organization. We have organizations that will
- 1648 help lead and help really the future. So I'd encourage the
- 1649 Committee to -- we can send plenty of materials to show
- 1650 what we're doing.
- 1651 Q Has the implementation of these new policies and
- 1652 procedures for human resources, has that impacted the team
- 1653 members' morale?
- 1654 A Yes, I think Vestry Laight, who is helping to not
- 1655 only really monitor, but really helps us overall, and we've
- 1656 welcomed them and we feel like we can always get better.
- 1657 And we really believe that all organizations can. And I
- 1658 think that the results are -- speak for themselves.
- 1659 Q So there's been a lot of internal improvements.
- 1660 How has the engagement with the community changed over the
- 1661 last few years?
- 1662 A We just been doing more and more with the
- 1663 community. We do so many different things. During COVID,
- 1664 Tanya did a community touring program. There's a viral
- 1665 video that brings tears to your eyes of a young boy getting
- 1666 a PlayStation and buying Tanya and his mother was very

1667 emotional. I think there was 4,000 children during that.

1668 We've done recently a USO drive which we did all employees,

- 1669 all of us helped pack gear for the troops going abroad.
- 1670 And there's so many different things that we've done
- 1671 overall that we're very proud of.
- 1672 Q Do you think that these community outreach
- 1673 programs have had a positive impact on the community?
- 1674 A They've had a great impact on the community and
- 1675 also a great impact on our organization.
- 1676 Q Can you describe a little bit for us what those
- 1677 impacts are?
- 1678 A The response from our employees is proud, very,
- 1679 very proud. And the response from the community is -- has
- 1680 been overwhelming. The amount of letters and things that
- 1681 Tanya and I get and Jason gets and Coach Rivera, it's
- 1682 heartening.
- 1683 Thank you, Mr. Snyder. I think I'm at my
- 1684 hour.
- 1685 We can go ahead and go off the record, We
- 1686 can take a five-minute break and then we'll go back to the
- 1687 Majority.
- 1688 (Recess)
- 1689
- 1690 EXAMINATION BY
- 1691

1692 Q Good morning, Mr. Snyder. I guess good morning

- 1693 for us here in Washington, D.C. Good afternoon for you in
- 1694 Israel.
- 1695 My name is I'll be doing questions on
- 1696 behalf of the Majority for this hour.
- 1697 To start off, I'd like to go back to a topic that you
- 1698 addressed with my colleague from the Minority. You
- 1699 described presentations that you made to the NFL and that
- 1700 you had explained were solely for -- about the defamation
- 1701 action that you were bringing against an Indian website.
- 1702 Do I have that right?
- 1703 A Yes.
- 1704 Q Now, as part of your presentation to the NFL with
- 1705 regard to the defamation action, is it fair, Mr. Snyder,
- 1706 that you and your attorneys used the courts here in the
- 1707 United States to issue subpoenas for the emails, texts,
- 1708 phone records and other communications of former Commanders
- 1709 employees and others associated with the team here in the
- 1710 United States?
- 1711 A Can you repeat the question?
- 1712 Q Certainly. You described your presentation to
- 1713 the NFL. I assume that that presentation was based on an
- 1714 investigation done by you and your attorneys. Is that
- 1715 correct?
- 1716 A It was done by finding the facts and then

- 1717 presenting facts.
- 1718 Q And that was done on your behalf, Mr. Snyder, is
- 1719 that correct?
- 1720 A Yes, the lawyers did it, yes.
- 1721 Q And as part of that investigation, is it correct
- 1722 that your lawyers used the federal courts here in the
- 1723 United States to issue subpoenas for the emails, texts,
- 1724 phone records and other communications of at least half a
- 1725 dozen former Commanders employees and other individuals
- 1726 associated with the team here in the United States?
- 1727 A I don't think it was a half dozen former. Just a
- 1728 few former employees. Many of these folks never worked for
- 1729 us that discovery was to obtain.
- 1730 Q Now, your testimony, Mr. Snyder, is that these
- 1731 efforts were solely about the defamation case that you
- 1732 brought against the Indian website, is that correct?
- 1733 A The filings, yes.
- 1734 Q Well, Mr. Snyder, I'd like to read to you what a
- 1735 federal judge in Colorado who presided over one of these
- 1736 matters in the United States District Court for the
- 1737 District of Colorado had to say about your investigation.
- 1738 And for that, I'd like to direct you to document reference
- 1739 Number BE that was provided to your attorney and that I
- 1740 will mark for the purposes of this deposition as Exhibit
- 1741 Number 2 for the Majority.

1742 Ms. Seymour. It's Karen Seymour. If you can give us

1743 just one moment to find the exhibit. Just to clarify, it's

- 1744 D as in dog?
- B as in Bernard, E as in Edward.
- 1746 Ms. Seymour. It is a B. I can't read my filings.
- **1747** By
- 1748 Q Do you have that document, Mr. Snyder?
- 1749 A Yes, I do. I'm just looking at it.
- 1750 Q Looking at the first page of this document,
- 1751 Mr. Snyder, do you see that it is an order of the United
- 1752 States Magistrate Judge N. Reid Neureiter in the matter of
- 1753 In Re: Application of Daniel Snyder for an Order Directing
- 1754 Discovery from Jessica McCloughan and Friday Night Lights,
- 1755 LLC, pursuant to 28 United States Code Section 1782 filed
- 1756 March 5, 2021?
- 1757 A Yes, I have it, yes. Thank you.
- 1758 Q Now, turning to page 7 of this document, in the
- 1759 second -- in the first full paragraph, second sentence
- 1760 begins with the word "petitioner." Do you see that,
- 1761 Mr. Snyder?
- 1762 A Yes.
- 1763 Q Petitioner, that's you, Mr. Snyder. You were the
- 1764 one petitioning the Court for a subpoena targeting
- 1765 Ms. McCloughan and Friday Night Lights, LLC; is that
- 1766 correct?

- 1767 A I'm not a lawyer, but --
- 1768 Q Well, do you agree, Mr. Snyder, that you were the
- 1769 one petitioning the Court for a subpoena?
- 1770 A We were, yes.
- 1771 Q And Ms. McCloughan, who is that?
- 1772 A She was -- is -- I don't know -- Scott
- 1773 McCloughan, our former general manager's, wife.
- 1774 Q So this opinion reads -- and I'm reading to you
- 1775 here from the opinion -- "Petitioner" -- and we established
- 1776 that that's you, Mr. Snyder -- "proposed 58 ESI search
- 1777 terms which, in the Court's view, go far beyond anything
- 1778 related to the defamatory MEAWW article and appears instead
- 1779 to be seeking, for example, any references to Mr. Snyder
- 1780 and sexual harassment, the Washington Football Team and sex
- 1781 discrimination and former coach Jay Gruden and sex or sex
- 1782 discrimination.
- 1783 "In addition, petitioner wants an exhaustive list of all --
- 1784 of telephone toll records and emails, including any
- 1785 communications with the Washington Post or its reporter.
- 1786 Again, these documents seem not to have any direct
- 1787 relevance to the India action, as The Washington Post
- 1788 article, while it may have been embarrassing to the
- 1789 Washington Football Team's organization and to Mr. Snyder,
- 1790 is not alleged to be untrue in any respect and is not the
- 1791 subject of litigation either in India or in the United

- 1792 States.
- 1793 "Indeed, the breadth of the search terms proposed, coupled
- 1794 with the professed desire to obtain evidence of any
- 1795 communications between Ms. McCloughan and The Washington
- 1796 Post's reporters, indicates that the subpoenas directed at
- 1797 Ms. McCloughan may be less of a bona fide effort to obtain
- 1798 evidence supportive of the claimants brought in the Indian
- 1799 action than they are an effort to burden and harass
- 1800 individuals formally associated with the Washington
- 1801 Football Team who may have acted as sources for The
- 1802 Washington Post story."
- 1803 Do you agree that that is what the United States magistrate
- 1804 judge wrote in this opinion?
- 1805 A Yes.
- 1806 Q Mr. Snyder, do you agree that it was the Court's
- 1807 finding that your subpoenas were not aimed at getting
- 1808 information relevant to your defamation suit in India and,
- 1809 instead, had other aims, including, in particular,
- 1810 obtaining the source -- getting at the sources of
- 1811 embarrassing Washington Post articles?
- 1812 A On page 7, it refers to former coach Jay Gruden
- 1813 and sex and all of that. That was part of the India's --
- 1814 some of the defaming information was not just Jeffrey
- 1815 Epstein, but made claims about me and Jay Gruden having
- 1816 crazy -- I mean, this was -- I'm not a lawyer and I wasn't

1817 obviously doing the filings and what have you, but the

- 1818 obvious intent, very simple, was to find out the
- 1819 connectivity as we uncovered more and more information.
- 1820 Q Mr. Snyder, was it the purpose of this
- 1821 investigation and these subpoenas to determine who the
- 1822 sources of The Washington Post stories were?
- 1823 A No. We wanted to find out who else was involved.
- 1824 This -- in this India defamation, I mentioned Jeffrey
- 1825 Epstein as sort of the main headline, but there was so much
- 1826 else in India, such as paying millions of dollars to
- 1827 referees, to sex and Gruden -- Jay Gruden, et cetera.
- 1828 And our findings and facts were all transparent and given
- 1829 to former Attorney General Lynch and the National Football
- 1830 League, and that's it.
- 1831 Q And, Mr. Snyder, you described when you were
- 1832 talking to my colleague from the Minority that based on
- 1833 this investigation, you and your attorneys put together
- 1834 presentations for the NFL, is that right?
- 1835 A Yes.
- 1836 Q Now, I'm showing you one of the -- I'd like to
- 1837 show you one of these presentations, document reference
- 1838 Number BM, Bernard Madeline, which I will mark for the
- 1839 purposes of this deposition as Majority Exhibit Number 3.
- 1840 (Exhibit 3, Presentation, was marked for
- 1841 identification.)

**1842** By

1843 Q Do you have that document in front of you?

1844 A Yes, I do.

1845 Q This is a presentation that you and your

1846 attorneys made to the NFL on November 23, 2020. Is that

1847 correct?

1848 A The attorneys, yes.

1849 Q I'd like to turn to page 2, the page immediately

1850 after the title page. Can you tell me what the title is on

**1851** page 2?

1852 A "Journalists."

1853 Q And if you look at the following pages, Pages 3

1854 through 12, do you agree that those pages in this

1855 presentation are about Liz Clarke, Will Hobson and Beth

1856 Reinhart, journalists at The Washington Post who wrote

1857 stories that the judge in Colorado described as

1858 "embarrassing for the Washington football organization and

1859 to Mr. Snyder." Is that correct?

1860 A Yes.

1861 Q Mr. Snyder, what did these Washington Post

1862 journalists, Liz Clarke, Will Hobson and Beth Reinhart,

1863 have to do with a news story that was posted on a blog in

1864 India on the website of MEAWW?

1865 A Well, all I can tell you is that we delivered the

1866 facts, unredacted facts to former Attorney General Lynch,

1867 shared the phone records that are actually in this document

- 1868 that are unredacted. You can see what was presented was
- 1869 telephone records and just facts. Had no involvement
- 1870 with -- they just delivered the facts. And they were the
- 1871 attorneys delivering the evidence, and that's it.
- 1872 Q What are the facts, Mr. Snyder, about these three
- 1873 journalists?
- 1874 A I believe they just coincided with the July 16
- 1875 exact date of the India -- India defamation. And they were
- 1876 those facts.
- 1877 Q Mr. Snyder, have you filed any defamation suits
- 1878 against the Washington Post or against these three
- 1879 journalists for the exposés they wrote on your team?
- 1880 A No.
- 1881 Q If you turn to page 5, Mr. Snyder, do you see how
- 1882 it describes Liz Clarke's social media connections with a
- 1883 number of individuals?
- 1884 A Yes.
- 1885 Q Those included Megan Imbert, Rachel Engelson,
- is that right?
- 1887 A I see it, yes.
- 1888 Q Those are individuals who were quoted in The
- 1889 Washington Post articles who came forward with information
- 1890 about the toxic workplace at the Commanders, and for two of
- 1891 them who have testified before the Committee's roundtable

- 1892 on February 3, 2022; is that right?
- 1893 A I believe so.
- 1894 Q And turning to page 16 of this presentation, can
- 1895 you tell me what file appears on that page of the
- 1896 presentation?
- 1897 A "Former WFT Employees."
- 1898 Q There's an additional word, isn't there?
- 1899 A "Accusers."
- 1900 Q So in this section about accusers, can you tell
- 1901 us who is featured on the very next page? Page 17.
- 1902 A It says Emily Applegate.
- 1903 Q Do you see how there's a picture on the right
- 1904 side of that page? Can you tell us what that is a picture
- **1905** of?
- 1906 A I believe it's The Washington Post.
- 1907 Q And Emily Applegate was the main source for the
- 1908 first Washington Post story in July that exposed the toxic
- 1909 workplace culture of the Commanders. Isn't that right?
- 1910 A I don't know.
- 1911 Q Mr. Snyder, you mentioned earlier a coincidence
- 1912 about the date of publication of this article by The
- 1913 Washington Post and the MEAWW post. Did you believe that
- 1914 these events were linked?
- 1915 A I think that if you look at the entire
- 1916 presentation, which you had redacted probably two-thirds of

1917 it, you would see that Former Staff 1 , not only have we

- 1918 discovered and it's in here that she was attempting to pay
- 1919 personal employees of ours to say defamatory things, you
- 1920 would see that it tells a more complete picture.
- 1921 This information was simply delivered from the facts
- 1922 perspective to Attorney General Lynch.
- 1923 Q Mr. Snyder, what does that have to do with the
- 1924 facts that were published in The Washington Post, told by
- 1925 the women who came forward to The Washington Post?
- 1926 A The lawyers made this presentation of facts and
- 1927 it was presented. That's all I know.
- 1928 Q So it sounds like you're saying that there's no
- 1929 connection between these allegations you made about Form
- 1930 Former Staff 1 and about The Washington Post's reporting about
- 1931 the toxic workplace culture at the Commanders.
- 1932 A All I know is that they delivered the facts.
- 1933 Q Well, Mr. Snyder, this presentation contains
- 1934 information about accusers, which is the term that you used
- 1935 to refer to the women who came forward in The Washington
- 1936 Post about the journalists, The Washington Post journalist
- 1937 who published these stories about you. And in the words of
- 1938 the U.S. District Court in Colorado, your subpoenas
- 1939 appeared to be aimed at getting at the sources of The
- 1940 Washington Post article.
- 1941 So given all of this, Mr. Snyder, I have to ask you, is it

1942 fair to say that while Ms. Wilkinson was running her

- 1943 investigation, you and your lawyers were running your own
- 1944 investigation to determine the sources of The Washington
- 1945 Post articles about you and your team?
- 1946 A No. What is fair to say is that these are in the
- 1947 unredacted telephone records of Former Staff 1 showing
- 1948 connectivity to many people, including the three affidavits
- 1949 that were in the actual document showing the attempted
- 1950 payment, bribery, "you can make a lot of money to say bad
- 1951 things," to our employees for the last 20 years to defame
- 1952 and say that I was a drug addict.
- 1953 So all they were doing is simply giving this information
- 1954 that was discovered in the Court in Virginia where the
- 1955 judge said motion granted when -- I remember hearing about
- 1956 it afterwards, and Former Staff 1 attorneys, Katz and Banks,
- 1957 said this was a fishing expedition. And the judge's quote,
- 1958 I believe, was "This is no fishing expedition. Motion
- 1959 granted."
- 1960 Q Mr. Snyder, are you saying Former Staff 1
- 1961 bribed the journalists at The Washington Post to run these
- 1962 stories?
- 1963 A No, I did not say that.
- 1964 Q Mr. Snyder, did you tell Ms. Wilkinson that you
- 1965 and your lawyers were sending subpoenas attempting to
- 1966 uncover the sources of The Washington Post while she was

- 1967 running her investigation?
- 1968 A As I said, that's not what we were doing. So let
- 1969 me clarify one more time. All we were doing was simply
- 1970 delivering facts to the NFL and all the parties. The NFL
- 1971 knew that we were delivering facts to former Attorney
- 1972 General Lynch, all of the records in their entirety. And
- 1973 we were just presenting the facts. That's it.
- 1974 Q Did you tell Ms. Wilkinson about any of these
- 1975 subpoenas that you sent?
- 1976 A We told the National Football League along the
- 1977 way and obviously gave the facts and information to former
- 1978 Attorney General Lynch that was retained by the NFL on
- **1979** August 12.
- 1980 Q Did you tell Ms. Wilkinson that you and your
- 1981 attorneys were sending out private investigators to talk to
- 1982 former employees while she was running her investigation?
- 1983 A I'm not sure exactly how the attorneys handled
- 1984 the actual investigation. I just know the facts were
- 1985 delivered to former Attorney General Lynch.
- 1986 Q Mr. Snyder, you pledged full cooperation with
- 1987 Ms. Wilkinson's investigation, is that right?
- 1988 A And we did, yes.
- 1989 Q So is sending subpoenas that, according to the
- 1990 Court, were designed to uncover sources from The Washington
- 1991 Post, sending private investigators to talk to witnesses,

1992 and sending presentations to the NFL in which you described

- 1993 whistleblowers and victims of the Commanders as accusers,
- 1994 is that what you mean by full cooperation with
- 1995 Ms. Wilkinson's investigation?
- 1996 A I can just tell you that we fully cooperated and
- 1997 gave Ms. Wilkinson access to everything. And the NFL and
- 1998 everyone was fully informed of the investigation regarding
- 1999 India. And all we delivered were the facts to Attorney
- 2000 General Lynch and I believe the answers to Congressman
- 2001 Comer's questions reflect that.
- 2002 Q Mr. Snyder, this Exhibit Number 3 was one of the
- 2003 presentations to the NFL. Did your attorneys make other
- 2004 presentations to the NFL?
- 2005 A I believe so, yes.
- 2006 Q Now, Mr. Snyder, what were those other
- 2007 presentations?
- 2008 A Again, just facts. Facts from discovery and
- 2009 facts from any findings of -- from the -- from the
- 2010 findings.
- 2011 Q Mr. Snyder, your testimony here is that you
- 2012 weren't doing this behind Ms. Wilkinson's back. You were
- 2013 open and transparent about these investigations you were
- 2014 running, is that fair?
- 2015 A Yes.
- 2016 Q In that case, Mr. Snyder, will you commit here on

2017 the record to providing us with all the presentations that

- 2018 you and your attorneys made to the NFL during the course of
- 2019 the Wilkinson investigation?
- 2020 Ms. Seymour. This is Karen Seymour. We'll take that
- 2021 request under advisement and let you know.
- 2022 We are not, in fact, clear on what exactly the NFL has
- 2023 previously produced on the League's behalf. But we'll take
- 2024 that under advisement.
- **2025** By
- 2026 Q Mr. Snyder, I'm not asking you to produce anew
- 2027 anything that the NFL has already given us. I'm just
- 2028 asking you to tell us, what did you tell the NFL during the
- 2029 course of this investigation?
- 2030 You said that it was entirely about the defamation action
- 2031 and that it was entirely related to the defamation action
- 2032 in India. So it seems to me you should have no problem
- 2033 showing your receipts, showing us the presentations that
- 2034 you made to the NFL.
- 2035 A I'm not an attorney. I'll talk to my attorney.
- 2036 Q So am I understanding correctly, Mr. Snyder, that
- 2037 at this time, you are refusing to commit to providing those
- 2038 presentations to the NFL to this Committee?
- 2039 Ms. Seymour. That's not at all accurate. This is
- 2040 Karen Seymour. There is no refusal. This is a new
- 2041 request. We don't actually know here today if there's

- 2042 anything that you don't have.
- 2043 We're not clear on what has been produced in terms of
- 2044 presentation, so I'm just asking you for the professional
- 2045 courtesy, what we believe is appropriate under all of the
- 2046 circumstances, to allow us to take it back. And we'll
- 2047 provide you with an answer on behalf of Mr. Snyder.
- **2048** By
- 2049 Q Mr. Snyder, you're unable to commit to providing
- 2050 those to us today?
- 2051 A I think Karen answered.
- 2052 Q In that case, Mr. Snyder, can you at least tell
- 2053 us what you remember about those other presentations.
- 2054 A It was just presentations of facts and findings.
- 2055 And are you talking about former Attorney General Lynch?
- 2056 O And the NFL.
- 2057 A I don't want to be guessing. I was not --
- 2058 Q How many of these presentations were there?
- 2059 A I'm not sure.
- 2060 Q Do you remember any facts that were presented to
- 2061 the NFL and Ms. Lynch?
- 2062 A A lot of phone records. I remember that.
- 2063 Q Mr. Snyder, you've committed to being -- to
- 2064 cooperating with this Committee and its investigation. We
- 2065 talked about all these presentations to the NFL, yet you're
- 2066 unable to tell us how many there were, what kind of facts

2067 they contained. I sincerely hope that you will be

- 2068 providing those to us shortly.
- 2069 And with that, I would like to move on from this topic and
- 2070 talk about The Washington Post exposès that we have been
- 2071 discussing.
- 2072 In particular, in August of 2020, The Washington Post
- 2073 published a story entitled "Lewd cheerleader videos, sexist
- 2074 rules: Ex-employees decry Washington's NFL team
- 2075 workplace."
- 2076 That article contained allegations involving you directly,
- 2077 including one involving a 2004 charity event called Fight
- 2078 Night and another involving lewd outtakes from videos
- 2079 chronicling the making of the team's cheerleader swimsuit
- 2080 calendar.
- 2081 Mr. Snyder, if you would please look at reference document
- 2082 BJ, which we'll mark as Exhibit Number 4 for the Majority
- 2083 for the purposes of this department.
- 2084 Do you have that article in front of you, Mr. Snyder?
- 2085 A Yes, I have it in front of me.
- 2086 (Exhibit 4, Article, was marked for identification.)
- 2087 By
- 2088 Q Mr. Snyder, are you familiar with this article?
- 2089 A Yes.
- 2090 Q Mr. Snyder, I'd like to start by asking you to
- 2091 turn to page 33 of this article. Before we get into the

2092 allegations I previewed, I want to ask you about another

- 2093 allegation in this article.
- 2094 The article states, "Shortly after reporting for their
- 2095 first day of work at team headquarters in Ashburn, dozens
- 2096 of employees" --
- 2097 Ms. Seymour. What page are you on? And,
- 2098 regrettably --
- **2099** 33.
- 2100 Ms. Seymour. So it's going to take us a moment to
- 2101 find the right page.
- 2102 It starts with "led by fear" in big
- 2103 bold letters.
- **2104** By
- 2105 Q Do you have that, Mr. Snyder?
- 2106 A Yes.
- 2107 Q That first paragraph talks about how there were
- 2108 several unwritten rules that your employees learned.
- 2109 "Always call the owner 'Mr. Snyder' or 'sir,' never 'Dan.'
- 2110 Never look him in the eye. And if he comes walking your
- 2111 way, turn around and head in another direction."
- 2112 Do you see that, Mr. Snyder?
- 2113 A Yes.
- 2114 Q Mr. Snyder, are you aware that your employees
- 2115 were instructed to never to look you in the eyes, to always
- 2116 call you, "sir," and to walk away whenever you are walking

- 2117 in their direction?
- 2118 A The reality is it's quite the opposite. I have
- 2119 people call me "Dan," and these -- this is just not true.
- 2120 And, in fact, if you ask Ron Rivera how many times I told
- 2121 him, Stop calling me Mr. Snyder at the press conferences,
- 2122 call me Dan, he said, No, I won't. And I said -- we kid
- 2123 ourselves about it. Talk to any employee who works for us,
- 2124 and you'll find it's not true.
- 2125 Q This is what your junior employees have to say
- 2126 about you. Do you have any idea why your junior employees
- 2127 seem to be so afraid of you, Mr. Snyder?
- 2128 A I don't know anything about this. I can just
- 2129 tell you the reality.
- 2130 Q I'd like to move on to the second allegation,
- 2131 Mr. Snyder, the allegation regarding the lewd videos.
- 2132 Those allegations begin on page 24 of the article. Give
- 2133 you a second to turn to that page.
- 2134 Ms. Seymour. Is there a headline or something just to
- 2135 help us?
- 2136 "For Executive Meeting."
- **2137** By
- 2138 Q Mr. Snyder, I'm sure you're familiar with these
- 2139 allegations, but just so we're on the same page, this
- 2140 article describes how in 2008 Larry Michael, a senior vice
- 2141 president and the team's lead broadcaster, ordered members

2142 of the video editing staff to use lewd footage from the

- 2143 team's 2008 swimsuit calendar, in which cheerleaders'
- 2144 private body parts were inadvertently exposed when they
- 2145 shifted positions or adjusted props to create a 10-minute
- 2146 video of what Mr. Michael called "the good bits."
- 2147 Mr. Michael told the video editing staff the video was
- 2148 being made for you, Mr. Snyder.
- 2149 The article went on to describe that this was not an
- 2150 isolated incident and that Mr. Michael ordered that a
- 2151 similar video be made based on the 2010 cheerleader
- 2152 calendar photo shoot which took place in the Dominican
- 2153 Republic.
- 2154 Mr. Snyder, as you sit here today, do you acknowledge that
- 2155 these two videos of lewd outtakes from the cheerleader
- 2156 calendar photo shoot exist?
- 2157 A I've never seen any videos or had anything
- 2158 produced for me. That's all I can tell you.
- 2159 Q Mr. Snyder, my question was whether you know, you
- 2160 can say today whether or not these videos exist.
- 2161 A I can just tell you what I know, which is I know
- 2162 nothing about these purported videos, period.
- 2163 Q Do you know whether your -- you or anyone on your
- 2164 team was offered an opportunity to examine and authenticate
- 2165 these videos?
- 2166 A I don't know.

2167 Q You don't know. Mr. Snyder, when did you first

- 2168 learn that these videos existed?
- 2169 A I just know from this article.
- 2170 Q This article is the first time you learned about
- 2171 lewd videos made from outtakes of the cheerleader calendar
- 2172 photo shoot?
- 2173 A Yes.
- 2174 Q What did you do in response to learning about
- 2175 these lewd videos?
- 2176 A I can't recall what was done. I can't recall.
- 2177 Q You don't have any recollection of what you did
- 2178 after learning that your team was making lewd videos with
- 2179 unauthorized naked shots of members of your cheerleaders?
- 2180 A I can't recall what the team did.
- 2181 Q I'm asking what you did, Mr. Snyder.
- 2182 A What I did is just tell the truth and deny this,
- 2183 about me.
- 2184 Q You told the truth and denied it, meaning denying
- 2185 that these videos exist?
- 2186 A Denying that anything -- that I've ever seen
- 2187 these purported videos, and I have no knowledge of them.
- 2188 Q Is it your testimony, sir, that you read these
- 2189 allegations and the one thing you did was deny them?
- 2190 A No, no. I'm just -- you know, I can't recall
- 2191 what the organization did.

2192 Q And are you saying, Mr. Snyder, that you have no

2193 information about what the organization did in response to

- 2194 this?
- 2195 A I can't recall.
- 2196 Q Are you not here today, Mr. Snyder, to testify on
- 2197 behalf of the organization of which you are the owner and
- 2198 the co-CEO?
- 2199 A Yes.
- 2200 Q Yet you cannot tell me what the team did in
- 2201 response to these allegations regarding lewd videos?
- 2202 A I can't recall.
- 2203 Q You can't even tell me whether the team
- 2204 ascertained whether or not these were authentic videos?
- 2205 A I don't want to guess. I just can't recall.
- 2206 Q You can't even tell me whether or not you know --
- 2207 whether or not you know that these videos exist?
- 2208 A I just know that I've never seen these videos and
- 2209 didn't know anything about the videos until this article.
- 2210 Q Mr. Snyder, can you confirm that a settlement was
- 2211 reached with regard to these videos in February 2021?
- 2212 A I know we settled some claims from cheerleaders.
- 2213 I don't know the particulars. That's it.
- 2214 Q So you know that the team settled some claims
- 2215 from the cheerleaders in February 2021. Do I have that
- **2216** right?

- 2217 A I believe so.
- Q Were the Commanders a party to this settlement?
- 2219 A Yes.
- Q Were you a party to this settlement?
- 2221 A I'm unaware.
- 2222 Q You're unaware whether or not you were a party to
- 2223 this settlement?
- 2224 A Yes.
- 2225 Q Were the cheerleaders featured on these lewd
- videos parties to the settlement?
- 2227 A I'm unaware of what -- the settlements we had.
- 2228 Q You said cheerleaders were part of the
- 2229 settlement. What cheerleaders were part of the settlement?
- 2230 A I don't know.
- 2231 Q Did your team randomly pick cheerleaders with
- 2232 whom to enter into a settlement?
- 2233 A No.
- Q How did they pick the cheerleaders with whom they
- 2235 entered into a settlement?
- 2236 A It was a claim with a group of cheerleaders, with
- 2237 Katz and Banks, and I just know that it was settled.
- 2238 Q What was their complaint?
- 2239 A I don't remember the particulars.
- 2240 Q It wasn't notable to you that you and your team
- 2241 were being sued by members -- multiple members of the

- 2242 cheerleading squad?
- 2243 A I think it was mediated, I believe, with them.
- Q But you don't know what the claims are?
- 2245 A I don't think the particulars of the claim, no.
- 2246 Q Is this a regular occurrence that cheerleaders
- 2247 sue the Washington Commanders?
- 2248 A No.
- 2249 Q So it was notable?
- 2250 A Yes.
- 2251 Q But you don't know why they were doing it?
- 2252 A I'm sorry?
- 2253 Q You don't know why they were doing it?
- 2254 A I don't know the exact claims, no.
- 2255 Q What do you know, even if you don't know the
- 2256 exact details? What are the details you do know?
- 2257 A I know the details of Katz and Banks came with a
- 2258 group of cheerleaders. We mediated and settled. That's
- **2259** what.
- 2260 Q About what? What was the grievance?
- 2261 A I'm sure there was different grievances,
- 2262 et cetera. I'm not aware of the details.
- 2263 Q Did the Commanders pay money as part of the
- 2264 settlement?
- 2265 A Yes.
- 2266 Q How much money?

2267 A I think it was a couple million dollars.

- 2268 Q A couple million dollars?
- 2269 A I believe so. I believe.
- 2270 Q Why did the team pay a couple million dollars to
- 2271 former cheerleaders?
- 2272 A They mediated and settled. That's what I know.
- 2273 Q So you don't know what claims were presented
- 2274 against the team that caused the team to pay out
- **2275** \$2 million?
- 2276 A I think there were many different claims under
- 2277 it.
- 2278 Q Can you name one?
- 2279 A I don't recall.
- 2280 Q Well, there are people who do know about this
- 2281 settlement, I believe, Mr. Snyder. As part of its
- 2282 investigation, the Committee interviewed Ms. Abigail Welch,
- 2283 who was a cheerleader and a captain of the cheerleading
- 2284 team between 2005 and 2012, so including the years when
- 2285 these lewd videos were made.
- 2286 During her interview, however, she stated she was legally
- 2287 unable to answer certain questions about the hostile
- 2288 workplace, the Commanders, the lewd videos and the
- 2289 Wilkinson investigation, and provided that her inability to
- 2290 answer these questions was related to the resolution of the
- 2291 lewd videos dispute.

Mr. Snyder, on the record here today, are you willing, on behalf of yourself and your team, to release Ms. Welch and all other cheerleaders who are parties to this settlement from any NDA or confidentiality clause they are bound by so that they can speak freely with the Committee about this settlement?

Ms. Seymour. This is Karen Seymour. And any of these requests for forward-looking production or releases, we're happy to take back. These are new requests. We have never heard a request from Ms. Welch prior -- from the Committee, at least.

I would say that we did receive a letter very, very recently from counsel for many, if not all of the cheerleaders, and requesting that we waive an NDA.

2306 And we're happy to take it as a request from the
2307 Oversight Committee. We're happy to take that back and
2308 have an opportunity to respond, and we're happy to take a
2309 look at that issue and report back.

**2310** By

2311 Q Mr. Snyder, you agree that this was a notable
2312 settlement. It was an important settlement. Can you agree
2313 with me that these lewd video allegations are shocking and
2314 disturbing?

2315 A Yes.

2316 Q And so, you know, you don't seem to have any

2317 information to provide the Committee about this -- about

- 2318 this settlement. And so I would ask that you -- that you
- 2319 allow those who do have information to freely come forward
- 2320 and talk to the Committee about these shocking and
- 2321 disturbing allegations.
- 2322 And I sincerely hope that you will abide by your commitment
- 2323 to cooperate with the Committee's investigation and that
- 2324 you will do so shortly.
- 2325 I want to turn now to another allegation in this article,
- 2326 the Fight Night allegation in 2004. Ms. Scourby, a former
- 2327 cheerleader, is quoted in The Washington Post article and
- 2328 describes a 2,000-person charity event in the Washington
- 2329 Hilton ballroom which raised money for children's charity.
- 2330 She was 26 years old at the time. Ms. Scourby had just
- 2331 finished dancing in the ring with fellow Commanders
- 2332 cheerleaders doing her dance in a dance outfit, you called
- 2333 her over to your table and introduced her to your longtime
- 2334 friend and the team ophthalmologist Tony Roberts.
- 2335 After a brief conversation, you reportedly told her, "We
- 2336 have a hotel room. Why don't you and Tony go upstairs and
- 2337 get to know each other better."
- 2338 Ms. Scourby told several individuals about this incident
- 2339 that night and in the days following, including Donald
- 2340 Wells, the Commanders' then cheerleader director. Those
- 2341 are the allegations in the article.

2342 Mr. Snyder, my first question to you about this is were you

- 2343 and Mr. Roberts at Fight Night in 2004?
- 2344 A We attended Fight Night once. Not sure if it was
- 2345 necessarily '04. But I don't know this person, and this --
- 2346 Q You don't know Mr. Roberts?
- 2347 A Not -- this Tiffany person, I don't know this
- 2348 person. I believe even Tony Roberts was interviewed by
- 2349 Beth Wilkinson --
- 2350 Q Mr. Snyder, my question was whether you and
- 2351 Mr. Roberts were at Fight Night in 2004. Is it your
- 2352 testimony that you don't remember whether you were at Fight
- 2353 Night in 2004?
- 2354 A We were at Fight Night one time.
- 2355 Q You don't remember whether it was in 2004?
- 2356 A It could have been '04.
- 2357 Q Did either you or Mr. Roberts have a room at the
- 2358 Hilton the night of Fight Night?
- 2359 A No.
- 2360 O You didn't have a hotel room?
- 2361 A No. We lived locally in the DMV, both of us.
- 2362 No.
- 2363 Q Did either of you have access to a hotel room?
- 2364 A No.
- 2365 Q A hospitality suite, the room of a friend, anyone
- 2366 whose room key you could get?

2367 A No. I only remember I was at Fight Night, I

2368 believe, once with Tony. We came together and left

2369 together. And it was a charitable event.

2370 Q Mr. Snyder, did you do a lot of drinking at Fight

2371 Night?

2372 A I don't recall the details of Fight Night. I was

2373 a social drinker.

2374 Q Were you drinking at Fight Night? It was a

2375 social occasion.

2376 A I don't recall.

2377 Q You don't recall. You don't recall whether it

2378 was in 2004. You don't recall whether you were drinking.

2379 Is that right?

2380 A No.

2381 Q But you do recall that you did not have a hotel

2382 room. That's your testimony?

2383 A Yes.

2384 Q Do you recall talking to Ms. Scourby on Fight

2385 Night in 2004?

2386 A No.

2387 Q You don't recall whether or not you talked to

2388 Ms. Scourby in 2004?

2389 A No. I don't know that person.

2390 Q Do you recall whether or not you introduced

2391 Ms. Scourby to Mr. Roberts that night?

- 2392 A I did not.
- 2393 Q Mr. Snyder, isn't it possible that you said these
- 2394 things that Ms. Scourby alleges you said, but you just
- 2395 don't remember them?
- 2396 A No, because I don't know this person. So no.
- 2397 Q It's not possible that this happened and you just
- 2398 don't remember it?
- 2399 A Sorry, but I don't know this person.
- 2400 Q Now, Mr. Snyder, in July 2020, The Washington
- 2401 Post had previously published an exposé regarding the
- 2402 Washington Redskins entitled "From Dream Job to Nightmare"
- 2403 on July 16, 2020, and you talked about it with my
- 2404 colleague, during her questioning.
- 2405 It contained allegations of harassment and misconduct
- 2406 leveled by Emily Applegate and 14 other Commanders
- 2407 employees against three of the team's top executives, Larry
- 2408 Michael, Alex Santos and Richard Mann.
- 2409 In response to that July 16, 2020 article, you sent an
- 2410 email to the team staff; is that correct?
- 2411 A I don't recall.
- 2412 Q Mr. Snyder, would you pull document AL, which I
- 2413 will mark as Exhibit Number 5 for the purposes of this
- 2414 deposition.
- 2415 (Exhibit 5, email, was marked for identification.)
- **2416** By

2417 Q Mr. Snyder, do you recognize this document?

- 2418 A Yes.
- Q Do you see how it is an email from July 17, 2020,
- 2420 "Subject: A message from Dan and Tanya Snyder"?
- 2421 A Yes.
- 2422 Q Mr. Snyder, can you read for us the first two
- 2423 sentences of that email.
- 2424 A "We are sad and disappointed, as you all are,
- 2425 after reading the story in The Washington Post yesterday.
- 2426 On behalf of the organization, we want to apologize to each
- 2427 of you and to everyone affected by this situation.
- 2428 "The actions in the story have no place in our franchise or
- 2429 in society."
- 2430 Q Thank you, Mr. Snyder.
- 2431 So after reading the July 17, 2020, article, the one that
- 2432 contained allegations against three of your top executives,
- 2433 you and your spouse, Ms. Snyder, sent an email apologizing
- 2434 to the organization. Is that right?
- 2435 A Yes.
- 2436 Q Now, the next month, in August 2020, The
- 2437 Washington Post published a second exposé which you were
- 2438 talking about which contains the allegations against you.
- 2439 After that August article, you released another statement;
- 2440 is that correct?
- 2441 A I believe so.

Q Would you please, Mr. Snyder, pick out document

2443 AE, which I will mark for the purposes of this exhibit as

2444 Majority Exhibit Number 6.

2445 (Exhibit 6, statement, was marked for

2446 identification.)

**2447** By

Q Do you see that, Mr. Snyder?

2449 A Yes.

2450 Q Now, Mr. Snyder, in the first paragraph, do you

2451 see how it says, "The behavior described in The Washington

2452 Post latest story has no place in our franchise or in our

2453 society. While I was unaware of these allegations until

2454 they surfaced, I take full responsibility for the culture

2455 of our organization"?

2456 Do you see that, Mr. Snyder?

2457 A Yes.

2458 Q What did you mean when you said "the behavior

2459 described in The Washington Post article"?

2460 A Well, any behavior of such is inappropriate, and

2461 we wanted to let everyone understand clearly and -- what we

2462 said.

2463 Q Now, the third paragraph starts, "The Washington

2464 Post article reads like a hit job, relying on unnamed

2465 sources and allegations that are largely 10 to 20 years

2466 old."

- 2467 Do you see that, Mr. Snyder?
- 2468 A Yes.
- 2469 Q Is that what you mean when you say taking full
- 2470 responsibility?
- 2471 A I believe it was regarding the next paragraph.
- Q So is your definition of taking responsibility
- 2473 attacking your accusers --
- 2474 A Of course not.
- 2475 Q -- and labeling them as taking out hit jobs
- 2476 against you?
- 2477 A No, of course not. I think you have to read the
- 2478 next paragraph.
- Q Well, you say that this article relies on unnamed
- 2480 sources and allegations, but this article includes
- 2481 allegations and quotes from many employees, including
- 2482 Rachel Engelson, Tiffany Bacon Scourby, Megan Imbert,
- 2484 and yet in response to this
- 2485 article, you said it relies on unnamed sources and
- 2486 allegations, whereas the previous article which contained
- 2487 only one named source, you immediately apologized for.
- 2488 Why is that, Mr. Snyder?
- 2489 A I think that this was in response to the
- 2490 allegation by this -- Ms. Scourby, and that's what this was
- 2491 in response to, I believe.

Q So then do you agree that all the other

2493 allegations are true and are allegations that you should

- 2494 apologize for?
- 2495 A No. What I was saying is that this refers to
- 2496 Ms. Scourby's allegation from '04. And that's what it
- 2497 refers to.
- 2498 Q Now, at the bottom, that paragraph states, "It is
- 2499 clear that there are other negative agendas at work in this
- 2500 reporting."
- 2501 Do you see that, Mr. Snyder? Last sentence of Paragraph 3.
- 2502 A Yes.
- 2503 Q Okay. What negative agendas did you believe The
- 2504 Washington Post and its journalists were serving?
- 2505 A I think it refers to the next paragraph about
- 2506 Ms. Scourby, I think you have to read it in context. And
- 2507 that accusation is false, and it was referring to that.
- 2508 Q Well, the paragraph starts with you complaining
- 2509 about unnamed sources and allegations. Ms. Scourby is
- 2510 named in this article. She alleges you. Her name is
- 2511 printed, her picture is printed.
- 2512 So surely that can't be who you are referring to in this
- 2513 paragraph that starts, "The Washington Post article reads
- 2514 like a hit job, relying on unnamed sources and
- 2515 allegations."
- 2516 Ms. Seymour. This is Karen Seymour. The article says

2517 what it says. And I think he's answered the question, but

- 2518 you may proceed.
- **2519** By
- 2520 Q Mr. Snyder, the question is, what agenda did you
- 2521 believe The Washington Post and its journalists were
- 2522 serving?
- 2523 A I don't understand the question.
- 2524 Q You say there "other negative agendas at work in
- 2525 this reporting." What are the negative agendas at work in
- 2526 the reporting of The Washington Post?
- 2527 A I think I'm referring -- we're referring this
- 2528 Scourby accusation, false accusation is what we're
- 2529 referring to.
- 2530 Q What are these negative agendas? These are your
- 2531 words, Mr. Snyder. "Statement by Dan Snyder in response to
- 2532 Washington Post allegation."
- 2533 Mr. Snyder, do you believe that there -- that this -- what
- 2534 are these negative agendas?
- 2535 A I believe what I'm referring to is Ms. Scourby's
- 2536 false accusations against me and Tony Roberts.
- 2537 Q Mr. Snyder, do you believe that there are
- 2538 negative agendas that continue to be at work today?
- 2539 A I don't understand the question. Can you repeat
- **2540** that?
- 2541 Q Mr. Snyder, do you believe that these -- these

2542 negative agenda is the reason you're being deposed today by 2543 a Committee of the United States House of Representatives? By the way, let me clarify something, as I read 2544 Α this further. The negative agenda is "Snyder is also 2545 accusing" -- this is the article -- "accusing a former 2546 2547 employee, Former Staff 1 , and her landlord in helping to orchestrate and bankroll stories." 2548 2549 So are you alleging that Former Staff 1 was 2550 behind the story published by The Washington Post? 2551 Α Possibly. Do you believe Former Staff 1 is orchestrating 2552 publications in The Washington Post, the newspaper of 2553 2554 reference of your hometown? Well, you have the phone records that reflect the 2555 2556 numerous conversations with Former Staff 1 starting on 2557 July 4 of 2020 that reflect that. And those facts and that 2558 evidence were presented to Attorney General Loretta Lynch. 2559 And the outcome that was read you to by Congressman's Comer's question directed to the commissioner of the 2560 National Football League were presented today in those two 2561 2562 answers. So to answer the question back to specifically -- to answer 2563 the question that links to this, now that I have it in 2564 front of me, it links to, I'll read it again, "Snyder is 2565 2566 also accusing a former employee, Former Staff 1 and her

- 2567 landlord of helping to orchestrate these stories."
- 2568 So that's the answer to your question. And I think clearly
- 2569 the facts speak for themselves, the telephone records speak
- 2570 for themselves.
- 2571 Q Excuse me, Mr. Snyder. Do you believe that Form
- 2572 Former Staff 1 has a negative agenda behind dozens of
- 2573 Washington Commanders employees coming forward about the
- 2574 toxic workplace culture at the Commanders and The
- 2575 Washington Post publishing multiple exposés about the toxic
- 2576 workplace culture?
- 2577 A I just know that Former Staff 1 attempted to
- 2578 pay three of our personal employees, including a 20-year
- 2579 employee of my wife, Tanya, attempting to get her to lie
- 2580 and defame me and my family; and say I was a drug addict.
- 2581 I know that the affidavits from the -- from my of a
- 2582 long time, who was attempted to be paid -- to make a lot of
- 2583 money by saying very bad things about Dan Snyder, untruths
- 2584 about Dan Snyder. So I think I just know the facts and we
- 2585 can look at the facts.
- Thank you, Mr. Snyder. My time is up.
- 2587 And I appreciate my colleagues' indulgence. With that, I
- 2588 will turn it over to the Minority staff after we take a
- 2589 five-minute break.
- THE WITNESS. Thank you.
- **2591** (Recess)

## 2592 EXAMINATION BY

2593

2594 Q Hi, Mr. Snyder, my name is . I'm

2595 general counsel for the Minority staff, and I will be

2596 conducting this hour of questions.

2597 The first topic I want to revisit, which you have spent a

2598 little bit time on last hour and the hour before, was the

2599 investigation relating to the former minority owners of the

2600 team.

2601 As we discussed, it has been characterized by folks as --

2602 by the Majority as a shadow investigation. And I think

2603 you've already asked -- you know, answered this, but was

2604 it, in fact, a shadow investigation into the workplace at

2605 your team's organization?

2606 A No.

2607 Q In fact, what it was, was looking at basically,

2608 like, efforts of defamation that originated out of India?

2609 That was what the purpose of the investigation was;

2610 correct?

2611 A Yes, it was an activity of starting with the fact

2612 that we learned that three of our employees, my

2613 and a 20-year employee of my wife, another ,

2614 were attempted to be bribed for -- to say more defamatory

2615 stuff about me and my family.

2616 It was the fact that we were following through with suing

2617 in India, MEAWW, and then -- that was obviously terrible,

- 2618 terrible stuff. Shocking. And it was pure defamation.
- 2619 And from our standpoint, we were simply following and
- 2620 developing all the facts and the leads and the three
- 2621 attempted -- folks that were attempted to be bribed, and it
- 2622 led us to follow more discovery.
- 2623 And we just delivered the facts to former Attorney General
- 2624 Lynch along the way and the NFL and everyone. And that was
- 2625 it.
- 2626 It was nothing to do with workplace whatsoever. It had to
- 2627 do with the fact that we were defamed. And that's what it
- 2628 was about.
- 2629 Q So the slide decks that were prepared were a
- 2630 collection of, like, facts that were collected as part of
- 2631 this, those were all turned over to the NFL and then also
- 2632 to former Attorney General Loretta Lynch?
- 2633 A Yes, they were -- all the information, the facts
- 2634 were turned over. As Congressman Comer had those answered,
- 2635 questions reflecting the results of those facts.
- 2636 Q The results being that one of the minority owners
- 2637 was -- is not permitted to own -- or own any shares in any
- 2638 NFL team for the future; correct?
- 2639 A Yes.
- 2640 Q As part of that effort, your attorneys filed
- 2641 1782s. In the last hour, the Majority referenced one of

2642 the 1782 orders entered in by a magistrate judge in

- 2643 Colorado.
- 2644 But there were several 17- -- to the extent you are aware,
- 2645 you know, did your attorneys, I believe, to understand,
- 2646 like, file many 1782s just connected with the defamation
- 2647 action in India?
- 2648 A I believe they filed around 10. And most of them
- 2649 were granted.
- 2650 Q So the majority of those 1782 actions were
- 2651 granted in the federal courts in this country?
- 2652 A I believe so.
- 2653 Q And I think it's kind of worth just re-asking,
- 2654 then, all of this information that was collected was
- 2655 provided to the NFL and to Loretta Lynch, but subsequent,
- 2656 as we saw at the hearing last month, last June, there was
- 2657 -- one of these decks was produced, but it was
- 2658 substantively redacted.
- 2659 Were you aware or did you know that it had gotten
- 2660 substantively redacted in association with last month's
- 2661 hearing?
- 2662 A No.
- 2663 Q A huge portion of that slide deck was redacted,
- 2664 and it is kind of unclear, you know, why it was so redacted
- 2665 because there was a lot of different elements to the slide
- 2666 deck.

2667 Moving, again, to the current culture at the team, there's

- 2668 obviously been a number of personnel changes over the past
- 2669 couple of years, ones that have really affected a lot of
- 2670 positive changes, as you have testified to today.
- 2671 Wondering if you're able to speak at all to what the --
- 2672 what some of those changes look like on the human resource
- 2673 side; if there's any -- you know, what kind of improvements
- 2674 were made within the organization's human resources.
- 2675 A I think we have probably one of the largest HR
- 2676 organizations -- encompassing organizations in that area in
- 2677 all of sports. One that has a lot of touchpoints, has
- 2678 mentorship programs, has so many different areas that we've
- 2679 expanded and we think it will make tremendous more progress
- 2680 for the years to come within the franchise.
- 2681 Q Toward that vein, the team hired an outside firm,
- 2682 the Vestry Laight. Are you familiar with Vestry Laight?
- 2683 A Yes.
- Q What were they hired to do, or why did the team
- 2685 contract with them? What was their purpose?
- 2686 A We wanted to see how we were doing and make sure
- 2687 we're monitored. And the league then asked for us to do
- 2688 this for years and we made sure, we thought they were that
- 2689 good at helping to improve any nuances and anything that we
- 2690 can do to be best of class.
- 2691 And I believe they just issued their latest report -- their

2692 latest six-month report yesterday. And I have not

- 2693 personally read it, yet, but I've heard it's quite well.
- 2694 Q When did -- do you know when the team retained
- 2695 Vestry Laight?
- 2696 A I believe in May or June of 2021.
- 2697 Q At this point, I'm going to enter into the
- 2698 record -- as far as we understand, there's been so far
- 2699 three reports from Vestry Laight, dated, the first one,
- 2700 August 2, 2021, the first one, the second one being
- 2701 January 29, 2022. As you just mentioned, the third one
- 2702 issued yesterday, July 27. So three so far.
- 2703 They are going to go in as Exhibits J, K and L in order of
- 2704 time. So Exhibit J is the August 2, 2021. And Exhibit --
- 2705 labeled as Exhibit K is January 29, 2022. And the most
- 2706 recent one is Exhibit L, July 27.
- 2707 So according, as you mentioned, to these reports, the team
- 2708 has undergone significant changes during this time frame.
- 2709 I'm going to focus in on the most recent one from --
- 2710 released yesterday to the conclusion on page 15.
- 2711 Let me know when you're ready with that.
- 2712 A Okay. I've read it, thank you.
- 2713 Q You're welcome. So at the top of this
- 2714 conclusion, first paragraph, page 15, second sentence
- 2715 reads, "Our confidential interviews confirm trends seen in
- 2716 the fall annual engagement survey. Under the leadership of

2717 coach and his team, football operations has established a

- 2718 strong values-driven culture and creating what many
- 2719 describe as a family with his staff."
- 2720 And then further down in the beginning of the third
- 2721 paragraph, it reads, "The improvements and diversity and
- 2722 culture on the football operations side mirror those of the
- 2723 team as a whole, which has seen a remarkable uptick since
- 2724 July 2020 in the representation of women and people of
- 2725 color, including in leadership positions."
- 2726 It goes on to say, "An empowered leadership team is
- 2727 intentionally and holistically driving a culture that is
- 2728 inclusive, high-performing and accountable."
- 2729 Would you agree with that assessment, based on your
- 2730 observation?
- 2731 A Yes, a hundred percent.
- 2732 Q So, notably, in this first paragraph or this --
- 2733 the third paragraph, first line, you know, references
- 2734 July 2020. And July 2020 was when some of these personnel
- 2735 changes began; correct?
- 2736 A Actually, the personnel, the football side began
- 2737 in January of 2020. But the overall organization really is
- **2738** July 2020.
- 2739 Q That's right. That's when -- around the summer
- 2740 of 2020 was when Jason Wright began with the organization?
- 2741 A That's right.

2742 Q And then Coach Rivera began the beginning of

- **2743** 2020?
- 2744 A Yes.
- 2745 Q How -- if you can, describe how this improvement
- 2746 as outlined in this conclusion of this most recent report
- 2747 affect the culture of the team.
- 2748 A I think people were incredibly motivated and
- 2749 driven to not only continue but even get better. And we're
- 2750 very proud of the work and accomplishments. And we don't
- 2751 see these reports prior to them coming out. They are done
- 2752 independently. So we are personally anxious to read the
- 2753 whole thing, as this conclusion is great and really want to
- 2754 read the entire detail. And we appreciate very much the
- 2755 fact that they are seeing what we're doing.
- 2756 Q Did anybody in Congress direct you, the
- 2757 organization, to make these personnel changes?
- 2758 A No.
- 2759 Q Were any personnel changes made as a result of
- 2760 any congressional investigation?
- 2761 A No.
- 2762 Q Do you believe that any of the improvements in
- 2763 the culture of the organization as a whole, you know, were
- 2764 affected or were changed in a positive direction by
- 2765 congressional investigation?
- 2766 A No.

2767 Q There's one more quote, since you haven't had an

- 2768 opportunity to delve into the report. Page 8, could you
- 2769 turn to page 8. Specifically, the third paragraph on that
- 2770 page.
- 2771 This has some quotes in it from some of the confidential
- 2772 interviews that the Vestry Laight -- from their interviews
- 2773 took.
- 2774 The paragraph begins, "In tandem with the substantial
- 2775 increase in diversity, there's also the improvement in
- 2776 culture. Several interviewees from Commanders Park
- 2777 described it as like 'night and day,' 'we're better through
- 2778 and through,' the organization is more professional, and
- 2779 many reports feeling more respected and like they have a
- 2780 voice. It is truly more of a family than it has ever
- 2781 been."
- 2782 It appears that morale has dramatically increased at the
- 2783 organization based on some of those excerpts. Would you
- **2784** agree?
- 2785 A Yes.
- 2786 Q And as the team owner, how does that make you
- 2787 feel about the decisions that were made over the past
- 2788 couple of years?
- 2789 A Both Tanya and I and Coach Rivera, Jason Wright,
- 2790 are extremely proud. We all talk about how much has been
- 2791 accomplished and much, much more to accomplish, but we're

2792 all excited to read this and excited that the recognition

- 2793 that -- the transformation of this organization has made
- 2794 great, great progress, and we're looking forward to even
- 2795 more.
- 2796 Q Do you know, how much longer will Vestry Laight
- 2797 be monitoring the team?
- 2798 A Not exactly, but we appreciate them. We respect
- 2799 them. We actually think they can help us into the future,
- 2800 because we want to be as good as we can.
- 2801 Q What other steps are you taking, is the
- 2802 organization taking to make sure that progress continues as
- 2803 the type of progress that Vestry Laight has, you know,
- 2804 obviously observed?
- 2805 A Well, I think we're doing so many more areas
- 2806 beyond just HR, and we're working on -- we have guest
- 2807 speakers and mentorship programs and so many different
- 2808 programs that we just have begun.
- 2809 And my wife came back from one recently, I can't remember
- 2810 the gentleman's name, but she was blown away. Said I have
- 2811 to read his book. And very impressive. So we're doing a
- 2812 lot of things about camaraderie and fellowship and so many
- 2813 different areas. We are really focused on creating the
- 2814 best.
- 2815 Q I'm going to turn back just a little bit in time.
- 2816 This began, as I understand it, right about the time, like,

2817 a lot of these improvements were happening with the

- 2818 organization.
- 2819 But the NFL had began an investigation. If I understand
- 2820 correctly, it was around July 2020. Does that sound right
- **2821** to you?
- 2822 A We started -- we wanted to look into our culture.
- 2823 So we started in 2020, July of 2020, looking into it.
- 2824 Q And this investigation is the one that was led by
- 2825 Beth Wilkinson; correct?
- 2826 A Yes.
- 2827 Q Did you fully cooperate with Beth Wilkinson in
- 2828 her investigation?
- 2829 A Yes. I personally interviewed also twice with
- 2830 her.
- 2831 Q How many hours did you spend being interviewed by
- 2832 her during the course of the investigation?
- 2833 A Probably eight or nine or 10.
- 2834 Q Did you provide any instructions to your team
- 2835 about the Wilkinson investigation and how to cooperate?
- 2836 A Yes. We sent out multiple times emails to all
- 2837 members of the organization, feel free to speak to her.
- 2838 Jason Wright, I believe, also sent out as well.
- 2839 Q So the message you gave to the organization is to
- 2840 fully cooperate with Beth Wilkinson's investigation?
- 2841 A Yes.

Q Did you waive NDA provisions for anybody that
entered into an NDA or any type of confidentiality
agreement with the team so that they can feel free to speak
with Ms. Wilkinson without fear of repercussion?

2846 A Yes.

2847 Q Why did you decide to enter into this waiver of 2848 the NDA provisions?

2850 A We wanted to be open and transparent, and we also gave her access -- gave her and her team access to our complete email databases.

2852 Q Are you aware of any person who wasn't able to
2853 speak with Ms. Wilkinson and had wanted to do so but did
2854 not because of an existing NDA with you or with the team?

2855 A No. I do not.

investigation?

2858

Q Why do you think it was important to have your organization fully cooperate with Beth Wilkinson's

2860 A Because we wanted her to be thorough and have
2860 access to everything as we did and have access to our
2861 employees and data, et cetera. And we -- obviously, we
2862 wanted and have worked on our transformation as our goal.

2863 Q Did you do anything to prevent or discourage
2864 anybody within the organization from speaking freely and
2865 openly with Ms. Wilkinson, her and her team?

2866 A No.

2867 Q Did you ever use any -- take any action that
2868 would either -- with the intent to prevent anybody from
2869 speaking with her and her team such as, you know, attempts

at intimidation or hiring private investigators?

2871 A No.

2870

Q Other than the information that the NFL released to you, have you ever been informed of all the findings of Beth Wilkinson's investigation?

2875 A No.

2876 Q Do you know how many documents the team provided 2877 her and her team as part of this investigation?

2878 A Whatever she asked for.

2879 Q The Majority has referred to a "common interest
2880 agreement" between the team and the NFL. Did you
2881 understand that you were entering into a common interest
2882 agreement with the NFL?

2883 A I'm not an attorney.

2884 Q Let's put it this way: Since -- did you ever
2885 rely on this agreement or -- to influence the
2886 investigation, but maybe you're not even really, like,
2887 fully aware of the agreement itself?

2888 A No. We never did anything except fully 2889 cooperate.

2890 Q So basically there has been no efforts taken by 2891 you or the team to try to, first, stop the investigation or

2892 block or deny any information to Beth Wilkinson and her

2893 team; correct?

2894 A Correct.

2895 Q And then was there any efforts made to discourage

2896 or prevent a written report by Beth Wilkinson?

2897 A No.

2898 Q Or block the release of her -- you know, the

2899 findings from her investigation?

2900 A No.

2901 Q So Ms. Wilkinson did not provide a written report

2902 in connection with her investigation. And you're aware

2903 that that was the case?

2904 A Yes.

2905 Q Do you know who decided that the Wilkinson report

2906 would be an oral report?

2907 A No.

2908 Q From your perspective, were the -- was the oral

2909 report sufficient for the purposes of what she did in her

2910 investigation?

2911 A I believe that the 10 -- 10 points that came out

2912 of the investigation, we accomplished I believe about nine

2913 of them or partially on nine of them. And now all 10

**2914** and...

2915 Q So at this point in time, the 10 points that stem

2916 from her investigation, the team has accomplished all 10?

- 2917 A Yes, some time ago now.
- 2918 Q Some time ago?
- 2919 A Yes.
- 2920 Q How quickly did you accomplish those initial nine
- 2921 that you just mentioned?
- 2922 A The leadership team accomplished probably nine
- 2923 prior to the issue of the 10, not -- maybe not in the
- 2924 whole, but were working on already a majority of them.
- 2925 Q Did any congressional investigation spur you to
- 2926 implement Beth Wilkinson's recommendations?
- 2927 A No.
- 2928 Q Those efforts to implement those recommendations
- 2929 were independent of any effort by a congressional
- 2930 investigation?
- 2931 A Yes.
- 2932 Q Were you personally briefed on the final
- 2933 recommendations stemming from her report, her
- 2934 investigation?
- 2935 A On the 10 points, yeah, yes.
- **2936** Q Yes.
- 2937 A Yes.
- 2938 Q Of those 10 points, what's a couple of the ones
- 2939 that you think have been made the most -- have spurred the
- 2940 most positive change for the organization?
- 2941 A There's so many. I'm going to go to -- I'll go

2942 to the last one, which is the Vestry Laight reports that

- 2943 show in detail the third-party validation of the
- 2944 transformation and positivity, and I think I just -- as you
- 2945 read through it, I'm looking forward to reading the whole
- 2946 document. And I think that sort of summarizes, I believe,
- 2947 where we are.
- 2948 Q Now, also as a part of the Beth Wilkinson
- 2949 investigation, the NFL levied a fine against the team;
- 2950 correct?
- 2951 A Yes.
- 2952 Q And how much was that fine?
- 2953 A \$10 million.
- 2954 Q This was the largest fine ever imposed by the
- **2955** NFL?
- 2956 A Yes, it was.
- 2957 Q Did you have any concerns about the fine?
- 2958 A It's a lot of money, and I think that -- I
- 2959 believe it's going to good causes and positive change.
- 2960 And -- but we're moving forward.
- 2961 Q So one of the changes stemming from the Wilkinson
- 2962 investigation was handing over day-to-day management to
- 2963 your wife, Ms. Snyder; correct?
- 2964 A She had already been involved day-to-day and was
- 2965 integral in bringing in Jason Wright and Coach Rivera.
- 2966 As I said earlier, being empty nesters and her having an

2967 entrepreneurial background and the leadership skills she

- 2968 has and the detail skills she has, she's currently working
- 2969 on a lot of fan experience, things at the stadium and a lot
- 2970 of great stuff regarding the rebranding and retail and so
- 2971 many different areas.
- 2972 So I think that it was a natural thing to do. We've been
- 2973 life partners as well.
- 2974 Q You've touched on this a little bit, but just
- 2975 trying to understand what her responsibilities are in this
- 2976 role over the past couple of years. If you can describe
- 2977 some of -- again, you've touched on this a little bit, but
- 2978 just if you can describe some of her responsibilities in
- 2979 this management role she's taken on.
- 2980 A I'll give you a detailed response, the one that
- 2981 Jason Wright likes to brag about all the time. He says
- 2982 he's never met anyone that's visited every area, including
- 2983 every single restroom in the stadium, to make sure it's as
- 2984 clean as it can be. That's Tanya. But she's a detailed
- 2985 individual.
- 2986 We hired a new head of the stadium, I believe the end of
- 2987 last year, November of last year, and -- named , who
- 2988 also is into every detail with Tanya.
- 2989 And she's -- beyond that, Tanya actually has been
- 2990 representing the club at ownership meetings. And I'm
- 2991 grateful to her and the NFL overall. And she gets more and

2992 more entrenched in driving positive changes across the
2993 league.

- 2994 Q What does your current role look like with the 2995 team and your responsibilities?
- 2996 A I help give guidance when asked, but I'm very,
- 2997 very focused personally on building us a new venue, a
- 2998 stadium, new entertainment complex somewhere in the DMV in
- 2999 the future. And it's quite a substantial project that I've
- 3000 been working on, and hope in the near future to deliver
- 3001 something special for the entire community and our fans.
- 3002 Q So your focus is on that, but you have taken a
- 3003 step back from the daily management in your new role?
- 3004 A Yes. Sometimes I get overwhelmed just by the
- 3005 amount of stuff with the architects and plans and things
- 3006 we're doing. It's quite time-consuming, but I am available
- 3007 and I believe I'm helpful to -- whenever asked.
- 3008 Q Do you attend ownership meetings?
- 3009 A No.
- 3010 No. I think it's important also that Tanya, as she learns
- 3011 the ropes, delve in it. And she's done that.
- 3012 I mentioned earlier a compliment by an owner and -- several
- 3013 owners that said she's quite remarkable, as well as -- I
- 3014 think it's important for her to play an important role.
- 3015 She's enjoying every minute of it.
- 3016 Q At some point, are you going to resume your role

3017 as co-CEO of the team? I mean, I guess is that what you

- 3018 are now or not? Will that resume at some point?
- 3019 A I am a co-owner and co-CEO with her, but between
- 3020 all of the things going on, I think there's so much going
- 3021 on in terms of the new venue and those areas that it's a
- 3022 substantial project that will need a lot of dedication.
- 3023 I do believe when it comes to Tanya's leadership skills --
- 3024 I always make jokes around -- when Tanya and Jason are
- 3025 talking together, I say you're going to have a T&J radio
- 3026 show because you guys are really funny. And all this stuff.
- 3027 You guys are working on -- and it's been a pleasure. So I
- 3028 think we're going to continue as it is, and it's doing
- 3029 quite well.
- 3030 Q To the best of your knowledge, have the
- 3031 Commanders complied with every requirement after the
- 3032 Wilkinson investigation findings?
- 3033 A Yes, we have.
- 3034 Q So I know we've touched on this, but kind of the
- 3035 timeline of some of the stuff is that, like, there were
- 3036 changes already being made when the Wilkinson investigation
- 3037 began. But since the allegations that led to the Wilkinson
- 3038 investigation came to light, what changes have you made to
- 3039 address those?
- 3040 You touched on a couple of them, but were there ones like
- 3041 -- you know, Coach Rivera was already there. You were

3042 already bringing on Jason Wright. There were already these

- 3043 changes that were being made.
- 3044 But what is another example of something that you and your
- 3045 team have done to address issues specifically identified by
- 3046 Wilkinson apart from what you've already just described a
- 3047 little bit ago?
- 3048 A Well, I'll tell you about it as to what we've
- 3049 done going back to football. After Coach Rivera's first
- 3050 season, we got together and really solidified the
- 3051 additional staff and additional leadership there with a new
- 3052 general manager, Martin Mayhew, which joined at the
- 3053 beginning of 2021. And so we are continuing at all times
- 3054 to make improvements on the leadership team.
- 3055 But on the business side we're doing that as well. There's
- 3056 so much going on with fan experience and improvements at
- 3057 the stadium and improvements overall, across the board.
- 3058 Q Has the NFL in any way, directly or indirectly,
- 3059 suggested or told you and the team that you have not
- 3060 complied with any of the requirements or changes that were
- 3061 expected to be made?
- 3062 A No.
- 3063 Q Moving to this Committee's role, when did you
- 3064 first learn that the -- that this Committee was going to
- 3065 investigate your franchise?
- 3066 A I believe it was the end of October of 2021.

3067 Q Is the Washington Commanders, as far as you 3068 understand, a government agency?

- 3069 A No, not at all.
- 3070 Q Do you receive any federal funding?
- 3071 A No, none.
- 3072 Q Are you -- or have you ever been a government
- 3073 official?
- 3074 A No.
- 3075 Q So to be clear that, you know, we have this
- 3076 deposition today with you, at all times, we're discussing
- 3077 private citizens and a private business. Is that your
- 3078 understanding?
- 3079 A Yes.
- 3080 Q What, if any, reaction did you have when you
- 3081 found out that Congress was going to be investigating the
- 3082 Washington Football Team?
- 3083 A Gosh, I can't remember what my reaction was, but
- 3084 I would encourage members of the Oversight and Reform to
- 3085 read the oversight Vestry report and to look at the report
- 3086 and read the reform of our organization.
- 3087 I would encourage all members of the Committee to spend
- 3088 time -- I would be happy to set up a leadership team
- 3089 meeting with Jason Wright, with Tanya, with Amina, Greg,
- 3090 Andre Chambers and Coach Rivera, Martin Mayhew, Eric
- 3091 Stokes, it goes on and on and on. I think as a Committee

3092 entitled Oversight and Reform, I think we really could help

- 3093 potentially if the facts were looked at.
- 3094 Q Before now, have you tried to make that offer to
- 3095 the Committee members?
- 3096 A I don't believe the Committee has called us one
- 3097 time for anything.
- 3098 Q Has the team or you even directly received a
- 3099 document request before today?
- 3100 A No.
- 3101 Q A congressional investigation is an extraordinary
- 3102 tool that Congress has. How has this congressional
- 3103 investigation affected your life?
- 3104 A I think it's affected the leadership team, and
- 3105 they would like to talk to the Committee and talk about the
- 3106 transformation, talk about the culture change over the last
- 3107 two-plus years.
- 3108 And I think what I would ask is if the Committee listen to
- 3109 what they're doing, and I think they'd be quite impressed
- 3110 with not only, using the Committee's name, Oversight and
- 3111 Reform, but it is a reality of where we are as a franchise.
- 3112 Q So as we understand it, we're here today, in
- 3113 part, because you were unable to testify before the
- 3114 Committee on June 22, 2022. Is that your understanding?
- 3115 A I'm sorry, could you repeat the question?
- 3116 Q So it's our understanding that a big reason we're

3117 here today doing this deposition with you is because you

- 3118 were unable to come and testify before the Committee in the
- 3119 hearing on June 22, 2022. Is that your understanding?
- 3120 A Yes. That week of June-- we did a rebranding,
- 3121 which took us over a year and change to do, rebranding the
- 3122 name of the franchise from Redskins to Commanders.
- 3123 And towards the end of that journey, we thought that we did
- 3124 such a detailed, successful job that we would enter in the
- 3125 Cannes Lions, the biggest marketing event in the world.
- 3126 We were in four categories up for the awards, very
- 3127 difficult to win, but we were very proud of the
- 3128 accomplishments of the team. And that was scheduled six
- 3129 months prior, approximately, to the June 22nd request.
- 3130 I believe there were 10 of us from the organization that
- 3131 went in total, including Jason Wright, obviously, and
- 3132 Resh and numerous others;
- 3133 et cetera.
- 3134 Q So you had a prior commitment that had been set
- 3135 months in advance for June 22nd?
- 3136 A Yes.
- 3137 Q And that event was out of the country?
- 3138 A Out of the country with the Commanders, some of
- 3139 the members of the leadership team and the Commanders.
- 3140 Q Were you offered any other date to come and
- 3141 testify?

- 3142 A No, I was not.
- 3143 Q So they did not offer another date to come and
- 3144 testify before any hearing?
- 3145 A No, they did not.
- 3146 Q Just one moment. I'm going to mute real quick.
- 3147 Are you aware that there was a piece in Politico, actually,
- 3148 about subcommittee chairman Raja Krishnamoorthi who was
- 3149 planning to hold a fundraiser promoting an opportunity to
- 3150 -- to support the "one person in Washington who may have
- 3151 found a path of getting rid of Snyder"? Are you aware of
- 3152 that Politico piece?
- 3153 A Yes, I read that.
- 3154 Q Now, it's our understanding that the fundraising
- 3155 did get canceled after Politico ran this piece, but it was
- 3156 being hosted by a lobbyist who runs a website called
- 3157 FireDanSnyder.com. Are you familiar with that website at
- **3158** all?
- 3159 A Yes, I am.
- 3160 Q What are your thoughts about a website just
- 3161 dedicated to trying to fire you?
- 3162 A I think it would be inappropriate, all of that
- 3163 would be inappropriate.
- 3164 Q It appears that the event was promoted with a
- 3165 subject line of "Help us get rid of Dan Snyder!"
- 3166 A I think that would be a completely inappropriate

3167 thing for -- to take place. To actually put that out would

- 3168 be inappropriate.
- 3169 Q So you do have concerns about a subcommittee
- 3170 chairman on this Committee putting out fundraising
- 3171 materials that seems to be connected to this investigation
- 3172 that -- with the purpose of trying to get you fired as, it
- 3173 appears, the owner of the Washington Commanders. Is that
- 3174 your understanding?
- 3175 A Yes.
- 3176 Q What do you think of that?
- 3177 A I think it would be -- it's inappropriate.
- 3178 Q Why do you think it's inappropriate?
- 3179 A I'm not a lawyer, so -- but it just seems
- 3180 incredibly inappropriate to me.
- 3181 Q I'm going to turn to some of the allegations that
- 3182 were raised in the last hour. One of those allegations
- 3183 comes -- regarding the fight -- Fight Night. I think this
- 3184 was about 2004. Is that your recollection?
- 3185 A That's what the article says, yes.
- 3186 Q What is Fight Night?
- 3187 A Charitable -- I only attended it, I believe,
- 3188 once. So I can't remember if it was for children. A
- 3189 charitable event.
- 3190 Q It happens here, or does it happen elsewhere in
- 3191 the country? "Here" being, I'm sorry, Washington, D.C.

- 3192 area.
- 3193 A I'm not sure where they are and how it works.
- 3194 It's charitable.
- 3195 Q So this allegation is coming from Tiffany Bacon
- 3196 Scourby. Could you tell us what you know about
- 3197 Ms. Scourby?
- 3198 A I don't know her. I don't know anything about
- 3199 her.
- 3200 Q Prior to you reading about this allegation or
- 3201 learning about it in The Washington Post, had you ever
- 3202 heard Ms. Scourby's claims before?
- 3203 A I had never heard of her name.
- 3204 Q To your knowledge, did anyone at the team have
- 3205 knowledge of her claims prior to The Washington Post story?
- 3206 A I don't think anyone.
- 3207 Q So did you actually learn about these allegations
- 3208 from The Washington Post?
- 3209 A Yes.
- 3210 Q So how many years had elapsed before Ms. Scourby,
- 3211 you know, came forth with these allegations, if you know?
- 3212 A I quess it would be seven, eight, something like
- 3213 that.
- 3214 Q Seven to eight years?
- 3215 A '17.
- 3216 Q Oh, this was 2017?

3217 A No. The article came out in 2020, so that would

- 3218 be 16 years-plus.
- 3219 Q Okay. So 16 to 17 years.
- 3220 A Yes. Yes.
- 3221 Q You deny the allegations; correct?
- 3222 A Yes.
- Q Do you stand by that denial?
- 3224 A Yes.
- 3225 Q Turning to the "Beauties on the Beach" videos,
- 3226 these were videos created featuring cheerleaders in
- 3227 revealing wearing outfits. Do you know whose idea it was
- 3228 to create these videos?
- 3229 A I have no idea.
- 3230 Q Were you involved in the preparation of the
- **3231** videos?
- 3232 A No.
- 3233 Q Were you involved in picking the photographers
- 3234 for the videos?
- 3235 A No.
- 3236 Q What about the stylists, makeup artists or
- 3237 assistants or whoever, the infrastructure of folks to make
- 3238 these videos?
- 3239 A No.
- 3240 Q Did you ever go to the location of the shoots for
- 3241 these videos?

- 3242 A Never.
- 3243 Q Are you aware if any of the cheerleaders ever
- 3244 featured and participated in these videos that -- had
- 3245 complained about participating in them?
- 3246 A No, I'm not.
- 3247 Q Did you hear any complaints or recall any
- 3248 complaints by anyone who participated in these videos at
- **3249** any time?
- 3250 A No.
- 3251 Q There are allegations that you requested to view
- 3252 certain outtakes from these videos. Are you aware of those
- 3253 allegations?
- 3254 A Yes.
- 3255 Q Have you ever seen the outtake videos that are
- 3256 those allegations?
- 3257 A No.
- 3258 Q Did you request the outtakes be created?
- 3259 A No.
- 3260 Q So when was the first time that you learned about
- 3261 the outtakes?
- 3262 A In the story in The Washington Post, I believe
- 3263 it's August of 2020.
- 3264 Q Is that the same Washington Post piece that
- 3265 discussed the Ms. Scourby allegations?
- 3266 A Yes.

3267 (Discussion held off the record.)

- 3268 Q We're going to turn and pivot real quick.
- 3269 (Discussion held off the record.)
- 3270 Q We're going to turn very quickly -- we may not
- 3271 cover this topic in the rest of our hour, but I think
- 3272 you're aware because there were a bunch of letters
- 3273 associated with this, but there's been allegations about
- 3274 how on the financial side of the ledger of the team, how
- 3275 financial matters were handled, including, you know,
- **3276** audits.
- 3277 I don't know in the past -- what's been your, I guess,
- 3278 involvement with how the team undergoes audits of the
- 3279 financials?
- 3280 Ms. Seymour. It's Karen Seymour. This is one of the
- 3281 areas that I understood was not the subject of today's
- 3282 testimony, that the subject of today's testimony would be
- 3283 on the workplace conduct issues, not on any financial
- 3284 issues, in particular, related to the allegations by
- 3285 Mr. Friedman related to the financials and the subsequent
- 3286 FTC referral. That's what I had understood was the topic.
- 3287 So at this point, you know, we weren't actually prepared to
- 3288 go into any discussions like that.
- Okay. The scoping wasn't directly
- 3290 communicated with us, so we were obviously not a part of
- 3291 the scoping conversations between you and the Majority

3292 counterpart. So this investigation has encompassed a lot 3293 of different aspects of the Washington Football Team. that's why I thought it was -- be prepared for that, not 3294 knowing that this was not a part of today's discussion. 3295 3296 I'm going to mute real guick and just see if we have 3297 any quick follow-up questions, but just give me a moment. 3298 (Discussion held off the record.) 3299 ■ We'll go off the record now and stop our 3300 hour of questions and do the quick break or defer to my Majority colleagues about what they want to do with the 3301 3302 time. (Discussion held off the record.) 3303 3304 (Recess) 3305 Mr. Snyder, prior to the July 16 Washington Post 3306 3307 report publication, were you aware that the allegations 3308 were being examined by Washington Post reporters? I think the Post told us probably five days 3309 3310 before, so I can't remember exactly. But I believe The 3311 Post told us a few days before. When you say "us," who are you referring to? 3312 Q The team, not me. 3313 Α And who specifically on the team? 3314 Q I can't remember. 3315 Α

3316

Q

How -- please finish.

3317 A I said I think it was two days. I can't remember

- 3318 exactly.
- 3319 Q How were you made aware that The Washington Post
- 3320 was in touch with people from the team?
- 3321 A I got a call, I can't remember from who, but I
- 3322 remember a couple days before. It could be four or five.
- 3323 I can't remember exact.
- 3324 Q And what happened on the call that you received?
- 3325 A I think they just told us that they were writing
- 3326 a team -- they were writing a story and wanted comments. I
- 3327 don't remember the details.
- 3328 Q When you say that you received a call, are you
- 3329 talking about from The Washington Post directly or from
- 3330 members of your team reporting up to you?
- 3331 A I got it from members of the team.
- 3332 Q And on the call with members of your team, what
- 3333 did you discuss?
- 3334 A I just listened.
- 3335 Q What specifically were you listening to?
- 3336 A Whatever they told us at the time they were going
- 3337 to report.
- 3338 Q What was that?
- 3339 A I'm sorry?
- 3340 Q What was that?
- 3341 A Can you --

Ms. Seymour. "What was that?" Is that right?

- 3343 Correct.
- 3344 The Witness. The story that came out, the July 16
- 3345 story.
- **3346** By
- Q Do you recall what you did after you had a
- 3348 conversation with your team about the allegations that were
- 3349 contained in the July 16th story?
- 3350 A I called the NFL and asked -- told them about it.
- 3351 And then shortly thereafter, we were given a list of
- 3352 attorneys. I think we outreached to Beth Wilkinson.
- 3353 Q Who did you call at the NFL?
- 3354 A I called Roger Goodell.
- 3355 Q Directly?
- 3356 A Directly.
- 3357 Q Why did you call him?
- 3358 A I wanted him to know about this story, and I
- 3359 asked him what he thought I should do.
- 3360 Q Why did you want him to know about the story
- **3361** specifically?
- 3362 A Because I wanted his advice on what I should do.
- 3363 Q Would you routinely seek Commissioner Goodell's
- 3364 advice on things you should do as the owner of the
- 3365 Washington Commanders?
- 3366 A Pertaining to this story, obviously it made sense

- 3367 to call and ask.
- 3368 Q When you say that it makes sense, why is it that
- 3369 it makes sense as it relates to this story?
- 3370 A Seemed like the right thing to do, to ask what I
- 3371 should do in terms of -- and he said, talk to [Zoom audio
- 3372 interference] -- and I wanted to investigate.
- 3373 Q Are you required to report allegations of
- 3374 misconduct that affects your club to the NFL?
- 3375 A Yes.
- 3376 Q At the time when you made the call to
- 3377 Commissioner Goodell, were you aware of that requirement?
- 3378 A Yes.
- 3379 Q So is it your testimony that you were complying
- 3380 with the requirement to report those allegations to
- 3381 Commissioner Goodell once you were made aware?
- 3382 A Yes.
- 3383 Q Do you recall what Commissioner Goodell said when
- 3384 you reported the allegations to him?
- 3385 A I don't remember the exact conversation.
- 3386 Q Do you remember generalities about the
- 3387 conversation?
- 3388 A Probably talked about hiring an outside law firm
- 3389 to investigate.
- 3390 Q Did Commissioner Goodell explain to you that it
- 3391 is the NFL's position that clubs that have these types of

3392 allegations should hire outside law firms to investigate?

3393 A I can't remember the conversation, the details.

3394 I know we retained shortly thereafter Beth Wilkinson, or

3395 her firm.

3396 Q So putting aside the details, did Commissioner

3397 Goodell recommend to you to retain an outside law firm to

3398 investigate the allegations that you understood were

3399 forthcoming?

3400 A I believe so.

3401 Q I believe you testified that after he made the

3402 recommendation that you should hire an outside law firm

3403 that he provided you a list of attorneys; is that correct?

3404 A Yes.

3405 Q On that list of attorneys, Beth Wilkinson and her

3406 law firm was listed. Is that accurate?

3407 A Yes.

3408 Q Do you recall if you consulted any of the other

3409 attorneys on that list?

3410 A I don't recall.

3411 Q Why did you select Beth Wilkinson and her law

**3412** firm?

3413 A I think she's based in D.C. Has a great

3414 reputation. That's it.

3415 Q How soon after you received a list of law firms

3416 from the NFL did you call or reach out to the Beth

3417 Wilkinson law firm? At the time, it was Wilkinson Walsh.

- 3418 A I don't recall.
- Q Was it the same week?
- 3420 A Probably, yes.
- 3421 Q Is it fair to say it was within days?
- 3422 A Sure.
- 3423 Q In fact, you announced on July 16, the day that
- 3424 the allegations were made public, that you had retained an
- 3425 outside law firm to conduct an independent investigation.
- 3426 Do you recall that?
- 3427 A Sounds right.
- 3428 Q Did you ever meet with Ms. Wilkinson in person?
- 3429 A In person, no.
- Q Did you speak to her by phone?
- **3431** A Sorry?
- Q Did you speak to her by phone?
- 3433 A Yes, yes.
- 3434 Q How many times did you speak with her before you
- 3435 retained her?
- 3436 A Once or twice, I believe. I can't remember
- 3437 exactly.
- 3438 Q Did you speak to Ms. Wilkinson about the scope of
- 3439 her investigation and what she would be examining were she
- 3440 to be retained by the Washington Commanders?
- 3441 A I think the attorneys spoke to her, I believe,

- 3442 about that.
- Q When you spoke to Ms. Wilkinson, were your
- 3444 attorneys present?
- 3445 A I don't believe -- I think I had one
- 3446 conversation. I can't remember exactly if it was
- 3447 afterwards or before, what happened.
- Q Why did you have a conversation with
- 3449 Ms. Wilkinson outside of the presence of your counsel?
- 3450 A I don't understand the question.
- 3451 Q Why did you speak to Ms. Wilkinson directly?
- 3452 A Maybe I welcomed her. I can't remember.
- 3453 Q When you said "counsel," who are you referring to
- 3454 specifically?
- 3455 A I'd be guessing if there was an attorney. I
- 3456 don't want to be guessing. I just know lawyers spoke to
- 3457 her.
- 3458 Q How many lawyers did the Washington Redskins have
- **3459** in 2020?
- 3460 A At that point, I think three.
- 3461 Q Is it your testimony that you can't recall which
- 3462 of the three lawyers that you had working for you two years
- 3463 ago spoke to Ms. Wilkinson about the allegations in The
- 3464 Washington Post story?
- 3465 A I just -- to my recollection, I can't remember
- 3466 which lawyer spoke to her. I know lawyers spoke to her. I

- 3467 just do not know which lawyer.
- 3468 O Does the name Will Rawson sound familiar?
- **3469** A Yes.
- **3471** A I'm sorry?
- 3473 A He was the assistant general counsel and then
- 3474 interim general counsel for a while.
- Q Do you recall if Mr. Rawson was the individual
- 3476 from your legal team who spoke to Ms. Wilkinson?
- 3477 A I can't remember if it was him. I know a lawyer
- 3478 spoke to her. I don't want to say it was Will Rawson. I'm
- 3479 just not sure.
- 3480 Q Do you know if the NFL spoke with Ms. Wilkinson
- 3481 at or around the time that you retained her in July 2020?
- 3482 A No, I don't.
- 3483 Q No, you don't know; or, no, they did not?
- 3484 A I don't know.
- 3485 Q At the time that you retained Ms. Wilkinson, did
- 3486 you have separate counsel representing you in the Indian
- 3487 defamation lawsuit?
- 3488 A I don't even know if we had counsel on that yet.
- 3489 That didn't come out until July 16, the same day as The
- 3490 Washington Post article.
- 3491 Q So my question to you is whether you had retained

3492 counsel, do you recall, at the time that you also retained

- 3493 Ms. Wilkinson?
- 3494 A We didn't retain the counsel for India until the
- 3495 India stories came out on July 16.
- 3496 Q The Washington Post exposé, the first one, came
- 3497 out on July 16, 2020; correct?
- 3498 A Same day, yes.
- 3499 Q We've established that you retained Ms. Wilkinson
- 3500 at least by July 16, since she made a public announcement;
- 3501 correct?
- 3502 A Yes.
- 3503 Q But do you recall if you had retained counsel to
- 3504 represent you in the Indian defamation lawsuit on the same
- 3505 date that the Indian defamation stories were published on
- 3506 July 16, 2020?
- 3507 A I had no knowledge of the India story until
- 3508 July 16, so no. We didn't know about it until afterwards.
- 3509 Q In addition to the allegations that were detailed
- 3510 in the July 16, 2020, Washington Post exposé, were you made
- 3511 aware of any other allegations regarding any other part of
- 3512 the Washington Commanders that The Washington Post was also
- 3513 looking into?
- 3514 A No.
- 3515 Q I believe you shared your thoughts on this
- 3516 earlier, but I'd like to ask you again so the record is

3517 clear, when The Washington Post exposé became public on the

- 3518 16th and you read the allegations for the first time, how
- 3519 did that affect you, if at all?
- 3520 A Obviously, it did. And we wrote a response, I
- 3521 believe your colleague put in the record, on July 17 to our
- 3522 employees. So I think our response clearly states how we
- 3523 felt, my wife and I felt.
- 3524 Q Were you angry at those allegations or details in
- 3525 The Washington Post in the way that they were presented on
- **3526** July 16, 2020?
- 3527 A I don't understand the question.
- 3528 Q I'm asking you about your state of emotion. Were
- 3529 you angry when you read those allegations in The Washington
- 3530 Post about your organization that people said you were
- 3531 responsible for?
- 3532 A I think our statement on July 17 that your
- 3533 colleague presented into evidence speaks for how we felt.
- 3534 Q Are you unwilling to answer the question before
- 3535 you, Mr. Snyder?
- 3536 A No, I was not angry. But our statement speaks
- 3537 for itself, how we felt.
- 3538 Q After you retained Wilkinson Stekloff to
- 3539 investigate the allegations, I believe you testified in the
- 3540 last hour that there were emails sent to your staff
- 3541 regarding efforts to cooperate and make them available. Is

- 3542 that correct?
- 3543 A Yes.
- 3544 Q I believe you also testified that you provided
- 3545 Ms. Wilkinson full access to your staff's email account?
- 3546 Is that correct?
- 3547 A Yes.
- 3548 Q What else, if anything, did you do to cooperate
- 3549 with the Wilkinson investigation and give her access to the
- 3550 records that she needed to conduct a thorough and
- 3551 independent investigation?
- 3552 A We gave her whatever records she asked for.
- 3553 Q By "whatever records," do you mean including
- 3554 nonelectronic records?
- 3555 A I don't recall.
- 3556 Q Do you recall who was in charge of providing
- 3557 Ms. Wilkinson records that she asked for?
- 3558 A I don't want to assume.
- 3559 Q It's your testimony that you don't recall who was
- 3560 in charge of providing Ms. Wilkinson the information that
- 3561 she needed to conduct the investigation?
- 3562 A I think Will Rawson gave her materials of --
- 3563 whatever she asked materials from -- gave her whatever
- 3564 materials she asked for.
- 3565 Q Did Ms. Wilkinson ever collect electronic
- 3566 devices, to your knowledge, from Commanders employees? And

3567 by "electronic devices," I mean, cellular phones, pagers,

- 3568 to the extent they exist, tablets?
- 3569 A I'm unaware.
- 3570 Q Was your phone collected by Ms. Wilkinson as part
- **3571** of her investigation?
- 3572 A I don't believe so.
- 3573 Q Were any of your devices collected by
- 3574 Ms. Wilkinson and examined as part of her investigation?
- 3575 A I'm unaware.
- 3576 Q When you say you're unaware, does that mean you
- 3577 don't recall or does that mean that you would not have
- 3578 known because someone else would have provided her that
- **3579** access?
- 3580 A I don't know. I'm unaware.
- 3581 Q After you retained Ms. Wilkinson, how often did
- 3582 you speak with her regarding updates on the status of her
- 3583 investigation?
- 3584 A Well, the beginning, a few times. Whatever she
- 3585 asked for to deliver.
- 3586 Q And so the record is clear, you were meeting with
- 3587 Ms. Wilkinson in the beginning for a few times to give her
- 3588 whatever she asked for. Is that correct?
- 3589 A A telephone call.
- 3590 Q You were speaking with Ms. Wilkinson by phone;
- 3591 correct?

- 3592 A I believe so.
- 3593 Q And after the beginning faded and you moved to
- 3594 the middle stage of her investigation, how often were you
- 3595 speaking to Ms. Wilkinson regarding the investigation?
- **3596** A I did not.
- **3597** Q Why is that?
- 3598 A Once the NFL got involved, I did not speak to her
- anymore.
- 3600 Q The NFL assumed responsibility for the Wilkinson
- 3601 investigation on or around August 31. Is that correct?
- 3602 A Yes.
- 3603 Q So your testimony is between July 16 and
- 3604 August 31, you were receiving updates from Ms. Wilkinson
- 3605 directly, but did not receive updates from her thereafter.
- 3606 Is that correct?
- 3607 A I think she had not really begun much yet. So it
- 3608 wasn't necessarily updates. I just spoke to her a few
- 3609 times.
- 3610 Q If it wasn't updates, then what was it?
- 3611 A If she had a question of who a particular
- 3612 employee is, or -- I think I introduced her to Jason Wright
- 3613 at one point in August.
- 3614 Q Why did she call upon you to ask who particular
- 3615 employees were?
- 3616 A I don't recall.

Q Did you find it odd that she would call you to

- 3618 ask you about your employees?
- 3619 A No, I think what I do remember is introducing her
- 3620 to Jason Wright and sending his contact information.
- 3621 That's about it.
- 3622 Q So the only thing you recall about your
- 3623 conversation with Ms. Wilkinson is introducing her to Jason
- 3624 Wright. Is that your testimony?
- 3625 A Specifically, yes. Otherwise, we spoke a few
- 3626 times. It wasn't -- we were, quite frankly, very, very
- 3627 busy with trying to figure out this India situation, trying
- 3628 to access this and trying to understand what had happened.
- 3629 Q When you say "we were very busy," who are you
- 3630 referring to?
- 3631 A Me, my wife.
- 3632 Q And why did you find yourself busy?
- 3633 A We wanted to hire a law firm and look into this,
- 3634 because it was the most defamatory, vile, foul, hideous
- 3635 thing that had been done, and we wanted to look into it.
- 3636 Q Do you recall when you ended up finding a law
- 3637 firm to represent you in that matter?
- 3638 A Yes.
- **3639** Q When?
- 3640 A I'm sorry. You asked when or who? I couldn't
- 3641 hear you, I'm sorry. Could you repeat the question?

- 3642 Q The question was when.
- 3643 A Oh. Shortly after July 16.
- 3644 Q And who did you end up identifying to represent
- 3645 you in that matter?
- 3646 A Reed Smith.
- Q Do you recall who from Reed Smith?
- 3648 A I believe it was Jordan Siev.
- 3649 Q Is Jordan Siev still your attorney?
- 3650 A Yes.
- 3651 Q Is the Indian defamation lawsuit underway?
- 3652 A We actually won the case, but the other side is
- 3653 appealing.
- 3655 A I'm not an attorney, but I guess that's a "yes."
- 3656 Q A moment ago you testified that the Indian
- 3657 defamation articles were keeping you and Tanya busy in
- 3658 light of the egregious nature of what disclosed in those
- 3659 articles.
- 3660 Did you have a similar reaction when you read The
- 3661 Washington Post article on the same day? Did The
- 3662 Washington Post article also keep you busy in the same way
- 3663 that the Indian defamation lawsuit kept you busy?
- 3664 A I think they are two separate things. Being
- 3665 labeled with Jeffrey Epstein was something that we were
- 3666 obviously incredibly hurt, troubled and very, very anxious

3667 to find out who had done that.

3668 Q So in light of the 15 women that have come
3669 forward and the fact that there were more that were
3670 unwilling to come forward because they were concerned about
3671 credible retaliation, you don't think that is on par

3672 or even perhaps more concerning than allegations that are

3673 posted on an obscure website in India that was taken down

3674 shortly after it was brought to their attention?

3675 A They are two different things. Number one, it 3676 wasn't just a website in India. They pushed it everywhere.

3677 I was trending number one in the world with "Dan Snyder and

3678 Jeffrey Epstein" on Twitter. And they bot -- I learned

3679 about bots. They put bots everywhere and put this

3680 slanderous, defamatory information out about me. Then they

3681 proceeded to follow up with about our children. And this

3682 malicious activity was overwhelming to us.

3683 Obviously, we stand by our statement on July 17, how we

3684 responded regarding the July 16 story in The Washington

3685 Post. And we continue to always apologize. We always

3686 continue to apologize, but they are two separate things.

3687 The Jeffrey Epstein defamation, hit job.

3688 Q I note that you also called the August -- the 3689 July 16 article allegations a hit job.

3690 A At that time, we'd learned about Former Staff 1
3691 and her attempts to seek defamatory, false allegations from

3692 three of our staff that I mentioned here today and, you

- 3693 know, including that I was a drug addict. So I think
- 3694 that's clear that's what we talked about.
- 3695 Q Given your suspicions about Former Staff 1 , did
- 3696 you ever collect employee emails to see who was talking to
- 3697 the press, leaking stories to The Washington Post about you
- 3698 and your organization?
- 3699 A I don't believe so.
- 3700 Q When you say you don't believe so, can you
- 3701 explain what you mean by that?
- 3702 A I don't know where the lawyers went. I just know
- 3703 that we hired Reed Smith, and they sued in India. So I
- 3704 don't know what the legal -- we basically said, hey, let's
- 3705 find out who did this terrible, heinous act. And we
- 3706 started to look in to them.
- 3707 Q Did you give your Reed Smith attorneys the same
- 3708 level of access as you gave Ms. Wilkinson to employee
- **3709** email?
- 3710 A I'm not sure. I don't believe so. I don't
- 3711 even -- two different things.
- 3712 Q Just so the record is clear, is your testimony
- 3713 that you did not give Reed Smith access to employee emails?
- 3714 A I don't know what they ended up with access to or
- 3715 not. They were simply searching for the individuals behind
- 3716 what took place in India and beyond.

3717 Q Did Reed Smith ever discuss with you their plans

- 3718 to send private investigators to your current and former
- 3719 employees' homes?
- 3720 A No. Reed Smith, all they did was they hired
- 3721 investigators to look at the linkage to understand -- look
- 3722 into this situation with -- that had developed in India.
- 3723 Q So your testimony today is that you were aware
- 3724 that your lawyer's firm, Reed Smith, were sending private
- 3725 investigators to the homes of former employees?
- 3726 A No, no. I did not state that. They were not
- 3727 obstructing the employees. I'm talking about Former Staff 1
- 3728 Former. And let me clarify to you. They were -- once we
- 3729 had the evidence of the three attempted bribes is when they
- 3730 started to look into this Former Staff 1 situation.
- 3731 Q Is Former Staff 1 the only individual whose
- 3732 home was visited by a private investigator, by Reed Smith?
- 3733 A I don't know where -- exactly what they did. I
- 3734 know they were pursuing the facts, and, obviously, the
- 3735 facts were presented to Attorney General Lynch sometime, I
- 3736 believe, in November.
- 3737 Q Did Reed Smith send private investigators to the
- 3738 home of Bruce Allen?
- 3739 A I'm not sure. I'm unaware.
- 3740 Q So it's your testimony today that you did not
- 3741 have any conversations with your Reed Smith counsel about

3742 private investigators and Bruce Allen, your former team

- 3743 president?
- 3744 A I don't remember conversations about which
- 3745 investigations, what they were looking into. They were
- 3746 just conducting an investigation, and those results or
- 3747 facts were presented to Attorney General Lynch.
- 3748 Q Did your attorneys send private investigators to
- 3749 the home of John Moag?
- 3750 A I'm not sure.
- 3751 Q So it's your testimony today that you never had
- 3752 conversations with your Reed Smith lawyers about private
- 3753 investigators and John Moag?
- 3754 A I'm not sure if they did or what have you.
- 3755 Q Did you send private investigators to the home of
- 3756 Brad Baker's ex-wife? Or did someone on your behalf, Reed
- 3757 Smith specifically, send private investigators to Brad
- 3758 Baker's ex-wife's home?
- 3759 A I'm not sure. You know, I gave it to the
- 3760 attorneys, and the attorneys followed whatever leads they
- 3761 were looking into. It was all regarding India. It was all
- 3762 regarding the defamation, and they were just looking --
- 3763 searching for the facts.
- 3764 Q So is it your testimony today that you did not
- 3765 have any conversations with your lawyers at Reed Smith
- 3766 about Brad Baker and private investigators?

3767 A I don't remember Brad Baker. I don't know Brad

- 3768 Baker.
- 3769 Q Did the NFL ever tell to you stand down from
- 3770 sending private investigators or using private
- 3771 investigators to approach people in their homes or other
- 3772 places of business?
- 3773 A Our attorneys spoke with their attorneys, I
- 3774 think, from time to time.
- 3775 Q Is that a "yes"?
- 3776 A I wasn't on those calls.
- 3777 Q Did your lawyers at Reed Smith ever express to
- 3778 you that the NFL had instructed, suggested, advised, that
- 3779 you stop using the services of private investigators to go
- 3780 to the homes of current or former employees or go to other
- 3781 places of business where your current or former employees
- **3782** were?
- 3783 A The NFL knew that we were filing against Form
- 3784 Former Staff 1 was well aware of that. And the NFL was
- 3785 informed, up to speed on whatever facts we found, and they
- 3786 were delivered in stacks to the NFL and Attorney General
- 3787 Lynch after August 12 when she was hired by the NFL.
- 3788 Q Mr. Snyder, your response is nonresponsive. I'm
- 3789 asking you a very specific question about what the NFL
- 3790 instructed, advised or suggested regarding the use of
- 3791 private investigators.

3792 I understand you had a separate matter, defamation lawsuit

- 3793 in India. I'm not asking about that.
- 3794 I'm asking specifically about whether the NFL advised you,
- 3795 suggested, warned, instructed that you stop using private
- 3796 investigators in connection either with The Washington Post
- 3797 investigation leaks and/or the Indian defamation lawsuit.
- 3798 Did the NFL tell you to stand down and stop using private
- 3799 investigators, yes or no?
- 3800 A I recall speaking to the league, and the league
- 3801 was fully advised of what we were doing with Reed Smith.
- 3802 And so was Attorney General Lynch, who was retained on
- 3803 August 12.
- 3804 Q So you're unwilling and refusing to answer the
- 3805 Committee's question?
- 3806 A I'm not refusing to tell you what I know.
- 3807 Ms. Seymour. I think that's unfair. He's trying to
- 3808 answer the question.
- 3809 Karen, he's absolutely not trying to
- 3810 answer the question. The question is a very simple one.
- 3811 But if he's unwilling to answer, I'm happy to move on.
- Ms. Seymour. He's not unwilling. Perhaps you can
- 3813 reword it, and he'll try his best to answer your question.
- **3814** BY
- 3815 Q Mr. Snyder, did you send private investigators
- 3816 through your agents, meaning Reed Smith, after August 2020

3817 when the NFL took over the Beth Wilkinson investigation?

- 3818 A Did we send --
- Ms. Seymour. Where?
- 3820 By
- 3821 Q Did you continue to use private investigators in
- 3822 connection with the Indian defamation lawsuit and/or any
- 3823 investigation into the leaks to the Washington Post
- 3824 regarding the exposé, the July 16 and/or the August 26
- 3825 exposé?
- 3826 A We used investigators regarding the India
- 3827 lawsuits. And, obviously, if the investigators made a
- 3828 mistake and went somewhere wrong, I apologize to anyone for
- 3829 that behavior. But our intention was very, very clear.
- 3830 And as I told the Committee, our entire focus was on this
- 3831 situation. The NFL retained Attorney General Lynch
- 3832 regarding this subject, and the facts were given to
- 3833 Attorney General Lynch.
- 3834 Q So you did continue using private investigators
- **3835** after August 26, 2020; correct?
- 3836 A I'm not completely sure of the dates or what have
- 3837 you, but we were just following the leads that we
- 3838 discovered in the facts.
- 3839 Q It's fair to say you did not stop using private
- 3840 investigators in 2020 and/or 2021; is that correct?
- 3841 A I'm not sure. I'd be guessing. I think that we

3842 obviously -- that litigation, as you said, is still

- 3843 continuing in India. And that was -- the scope versus
- 3844 defamatory misinformation. And what we did was we
- 3845 delivered those facts to Attorney General Lynch.
- 3846 Q The NFL took over your -- the Beth Wilkinson
- 3847 investigation in August 2020. How did that decision come
- 3848 to be?
- 3849 A It was a lot of outside pressure from the
- 3850 standpoint of making sure that we had an independent
- 3851 investigation. So we called the National Football League
- 3852 and suggested that they take it over.
- 3853 Q What were the concerns about independence at that
- 3854 early time and during the investigation? What were you
- 3855 hearing?
- 3856 A Just media. And we thought it was best to do it.
- 3857 Q What were you hearing from the media?
- 3858 A I can't recall exactly, but we called the NFL and
- 3859 they took it over.
- 3860 Q Whatever you were hearing from the media caused
- 3861 you to believe that there needed to be a takeover; is that
- 3862 correct?
- 3863 So the record is clear, please tell me what it is you're
- 3864 trying to say. How did the media reports that you were
- 3865 hearing about the concern about independence, how did that
- 3866 affect you in your next steps?

3867 A We just thought it was best for the NFL to take

- 3868 it over.
- 3869 Q And you thought it was best because of what you
- 3870 were reading in the media; correct?
- 3871 A Yes.
- 3872 Q Did you feel that what you were reading in the
- 3873 media was unfair?
- 3874 Ms. Seymour. At what point? Which media are we
- 3875 talking about? The media that led him to contact the NFL
- 3876 and suggest they take it over or other media?
- **3877** By
- 3878 Q Mr. Snyder, did you believe that what you were
- 3879 reading in the media regarding the independence concerns,
- 3880 did you think that that was unfair?
- 3881 A I didn't really think about it. We just called
- 3882 the NFL and said that -- asked if they could take it over
- 3883 for us.
- 3884 Q Were you concerned about what you were reading in
- 3885 the media?
- 3886 A I don't recall the details.
- 3887 Q You don't know the details about how you felt?
- 3888 A I'm sorry?
- 3889 Q You don't know the details about how you felt
- 3890 personally?
- 3891 A I don't remember at the time.

3892 So is it your testimony that you called the NFL 3893 and you suggested to them that they take over the investigation that they recommended to you? 3894 3895 A Yes. 3896 Prior to calling the NFL to have that 3897 conversation about takeover, had you had any previous conversations with the NFL about potentially taking over 3898 3899 the investigation? 3900 Α I don't believe so. So the first discussion that you had with the NFL 3901 Q about takeover was you suggesting to them that they take 3902 3903 over? 3904 A Yes. 3905 Just so the record is clear, is it your testimony that it was not the NFL's idea, that the NFL is not the one 3906 3907 who suggested that they take over the investigation? 3908 Ms. Seymour. I think he's answered to the best of his 3909 memory. 3910 The Witness. No. 3911 Ву 3912 Q No, what? I'm sorry? 3913 A You said "no." I'm asking what are you 3914 Q responding to specifically? 3915

Can you repeat the question?

3916

3917 Q What were you responding to when you said "no"?

- 3918 You said "no." I'm asking you, what do you mean by "no"?
- 3919 A Can you repeat the question?
- 3920 Q Mr. Snyder, I note that you keep looking around.
- 3921 Are you confused by the question that I posed?
- 3922 A Yes.
- 3923 Q Is it your testimony that -- is it your testimony
- 3924 that the NFL did not suggest to you that they take over the
- 3925 investigation, that it was not the NFL's idea, but it was
- 3926 your idea? Is that your testimony today?
- 3927 A I think Roger Goodell sent out a press release
- 3928 right afterwards, which said we had called them and they
- 3929 agreed to take over the investigation.
- 3930 Q So you testified here today that it was your idea
- 3931 and not the NFL's idea for the NFL to take over your
- 3932 investigation.
- 3933 After the NFL, in fact, took over the investigation, what,
- 3934 if anything, was the response by the media, the same people
- 3935 you were initially concerned by their responses in the
- 3936 press, if you recall?
- 3937 A I don't recall.
- 3939 the NFL, in fact, took over the investigation that you did
- 3940 before they took over the investigation?
- 3941 A I don't believe so.

- **3942** Q Why is that?
- 3943 A We did the right thing.
- 3944 Q What was the right thing in that instance?
- 3945 A To let the NFL take over the investigation.
- 3946 Q After the NFL took over the investigation, what,
- 3947 if anything, was your role in the Beth Wilkinson
- 3948 investigation? And by "your," I mean you and the
- 3949 Commanders.
- 3950 A None.
- 3951 Q So what, if anything, changed? If you had
- 3952 stopped receiving updates from Ms. Wilkinson and you
- 3953 weren't speaking to her as frequently when she was retained
- 3954 by the Commanders directly, what, if anything, changed
- 3955 other than those --
- 3956 Ms. Seymour. I think the testimony was that he did
- 3957 not recall receiving updates but, rather, that she had
- 3958 inquiries of him.
- **3959** By
- 3960 Q My question is what, if anything, changed between
- 3961 your relationship with Ms. Wilkinson?
- 3962 A I don't understand the question.
- 3963 Q After the NFL took over, how did your
- 3964 relationship with Ms. Wilkinson change? The nature of the
- 3965 retainer agreement that you had with her, how did that
- 3966 relationship change?

3967 A I didn't talk to her anymore, and she did her 3968 investigation.

3969 Q Did you or anyone on your behalf receive updates 3970 from the NFL regarding the Wilkinson investigation?

3971 A No.

3972 Q Did lawyers on your behalf, to your knowledge,
3973 discuss with the NFL any matters relating to the Wilkinson
3974 investigation up to and including the July 1 announcement?

3975 A I don't know.

3976 Ms. Seymour. The question is, to your knowledge.

The Witness. To my knowledge, no.

**3978** By

3979 Q Were you aware that Ms. Wilkinson was collecting 3980 emails and storing them with a third-party vendor?

3981 A At that time? No. We gave her access to 3982 whatever she wanted.

3983 Q Were you ever made aware that she had collected 3984 staff emails and stored them with a third-party vendor?

3985 A I've learned that after. After July 1.

3986 Q When did you learn that?

3987 A Down the road.

3988 Q How far down the road?

3989 A I'd be guessing.

3990 Q Was it -- it sounds like you're saying it was 3991 after the Wilkinson investigation concluded. Correct?

- 3992 A Yes.
- 3993 O Was it after the Committee commenced its
- 3994 investigation?
- 3995 A I don't want to be speculating, guessing. I'm
- 3996 not certain.
- 3997 Q You're not sure if you learned that Ms. Wilkinson
- 3998 had documents collected from your email accounts stored at
- 3999 a vendor within the last 12 months?
- 4000 A I said I did learn that, but I didn't know
- 4001 anything about it.
- 4002 Q With respect to the Wilkinson investigation,
- 4003 after you retained her, was it your understanding that
- 4004 Ms. Wilkinson was going to draft a report upon completion
- 4005 of her investigation?
- 4006 A I don't remember.
- 4007 Q Did you ever have an understanding of whether
- 4008 Ms. Wilkinson was contemplating drafting a report in
- 4009 connection with the investigation into The Washington Post
- 4010 article?
- 4011 A Can you repeat the question? I couldn't hear
- **4012** you.
- 4013 (Record read)
- 4014 A I don't recall what the attorneys did with the
- 4015 documents.
- 4016 Q Do you believe a report should have been

4017 completed by the -- a written report by the Wilkinson law

- 4018 firm after she completed her investigation?
- 4019 A Can you repeat the question?
- 4020 Q Do you believe that Ms. Wilkinson should have
- 4021 drafted a report upon the completion of her investigation?
- 4022 A It wasn't up to me.
- 4023 Q My question is a bit different. Do you believe
- 4024 that she should have drafted a report in connection with an
- 4025 investigation that you supported and you wanted to be
- 4026 thorough and you suggested that the NFL take over in order
- 4027 to make sure that the public had confidence in the
- 4028 investigation, did you believe that that should have
- 4029 culminated in a written report?
- 4030 A I wasn't involved. We weren't involved in the
- 4031 investigation, so I didn't have an opinion. We just went
- 4032 through -- I did two interviews, answering all the
- 4033 questions.
- 4034 Q Sitting here today, do you think she should have
- 4035 written a report after she concluded her investigation?
- 4036 A I don't have an opinion.
- 4037 Q It's not lost on me that you have cited the
- 4038 Vestry reports ad nauseam during this deposition because
- 4039 you understand the importance of a report and the
- 4040 reflection of work that is done.
- 4041 So I'm trying to reconcile, and I hope you can assist me,

how you don't have an opinion about the utility of
directing a report in an investigation that lasted 10
months, 150 witness interviews, and made specific
recommendations with which you apparently agreed, and you
can't tell me whether or not you think Ms. Wilkinson should
have drafted a report?

Ms. Seymour. Objection. This is Karen Seymour, and I
regret that the Vestry Laight reports have caused you
nausea and the recitation about them. We do believe they
are important, but you can ask my client again, if you
insist, his view about whether there should be a written
report.

I think that it's clearly been asked and answered,

4055 but, of course, you control this and if you'd like to ask

4056 him again, you may.

## **4057** By

4058 Q Mr. Snyder.

4059 A Can you repeat the question? Sorry.

4060 Q Do you believe a report should have been drafted 4061 by Ms. Wilkinson at the conclusion of her investigation?

A I simply believe that the 10 critical findings
that we executed and were fined for the record \$10 million
was -- I'm very proud of the fact of what we've done with
the Vestry report -- excuse me, the Vestry report is
actually the findings from the standpoint of drafting on a

4067 six-month basis over a long, long period of time. And

4068 while I think it's important, it's really important because

4069 the leadership team, it's validation of the work they've

4070 done. So that's what...

4071 Q You're unwilling to answer the question?

4072 A I'm not unwilling to answer the question. I

4073 thought I just answered it.

4074 Q You paid \$10 million after the July 1

4075 announcement was made public. I believe that money went to

4076 charity. Is that correct?

4077 A Yes.

4078 Q What charities received the funding?

4079 A 5 million of it in the DMV area, 26 charities, I

4080 believe. I don't have the list. I'm sure we can get it to

**4081** you.

4082 Q 26 charities received 5 million. Is that what

**4083** you said?

4084 A Yes.

4085 Q Okay. What about the other five?

4086 A I'm sorry?

4087 Q What about the other five?

4088 A The NFL controlled where that went.

4089 Q I see. So the Commanders identified 26

4090 charities, and the NFL identified the other portion?

4091 A Yes. We'll get you the list if you want.

4092 Q I appreciate that.

4093 Are you aware of the charities that received the funding

4094 through the NFL, the portion that the NFL controlled?

4095 A No.

4096 Q When did you give the money to the NFL, the

**4097** 5 million?

4098 A Shortly thereafter of July 1. Specifically? I

4099 don't know specifically, but shortly after.

4100 Q So in the summertime, you think?

4101 A I believe so.

4102 Q Did any of the money that you -- the 5 million

4103 that you contributed to local charities, did any of them go

4104 into your charity?

4105 A No, none.

4106 Q Is your charity still in existence?

4107 A Yes.

4108 Off the record.

4109 (Discussion held off the record.)

**4110** (Recess)

4111 EXAMINATION BY

4112

4113 Q I'm going to start this hour by entering a couple

4114 of exhibits into the record, which we did send to the

4115 Majority counsel about an hour ago.

4116 These are two 1782 orders that were filed. One was in the

4117 District Court of Maryland. We're going to mark that as

- 4118 Exhibit N. And the second one is in the Eastern District
- 4119 of Virginia. We're going to mark that as Minority Exhibit
- 4120 0.
- 4121 Now, Mr. Snyder, the Majority counsel questioned you about
- 4122 a 1782 order from the State of Colorado. Do you remember
- **4123** that?
- 4124 A Yes.
- 4125 Q Okay.
- 4126 In these two orders which I just introduced into the
- 4127 record, I want to look at what the judge said in these two
- 4128 orders as a counterexample to the one that was introduced
- 4129 from the Colorado court.
- 4130 On page 2 of Exhibit N, it reads, "I find that after
- 4131 carefully reviewing the pleadings in this case, the
- 4132 information sought regarding the production of phone
- 4133 records, text messages and other communications as
- 4134 described in Petitioner's proposed order, especially with
- 4135 respect to the named persons, to be within the scope of
- 4136 discoverable information and within the order of this
- **4137** Court."
- 4138 Similarly, I'm going to read from Exhibit O that I just
- 4139 introduced from the judge in the Virginia case, which
- 4140 states, "It is also clear that Mr. Snyder apparently
- 4141 appears to be currently at odds with the minority investor

4142 whose father is also on the board of directors of Comstock Holdings, and his son-in-law is the CEO and founder of 4143 Comstock Holdings. So I find that there is more than --4144 4145 this is more than a mere fishing expedition, and there is 4146 some justification -- there is justification for the 4147 questioning as to what is going on here. I think that it is relevant to the India proceedings. And although they 4148 4149 may be able to get some information from the India 4150 proceedings, it is -- I think what they're directing as far 4151 as their discovery requests here are not something they can get in the India proceedings." 4152 So, Mr. Snyder, can you tell us why you filed a series of 4153 4154 these 1782 actions in multiple courts? Yes. Thank you. The one in Virginia, I believe, 4155 Α was first, which was the Former Staff 1 , where the judge 4156 4157 granted the motion because we had obviously affidavits 4158 already from the three employees that I mentioned earlier 4159 to the Committee that were attempted to be paid to say 4160 misinformation and lies and defamatory information. 4161 That led to a lot of the documents that were given to 4162 former Attorney General Lynch, presented to -- and I believe the one in Maryland, I believe was John Moag. We 4163 found it, and I think the judge found it very, very odd 4164 that my former executive assistant would be speaking to 4165

John Moag in her telephone records. And that's why,

4166

- 4167 obviously, that information was granted as well.
- 4168 Q And so in the Maryland case, could you tell us
- 4169 what the results of that suit was?
- 4170 A A lot of discovery information, telephone
- 4171 records, et cetera.
- 4172 Q And how about for the Virginia one?
- 4173 A Yes. Very similar. Lots and lots of telephone
- 4174 records of everything, all the facts, most importantly,
- 4175 were presented to former Attorney General Loretta Lynch.
- 4176 Q Through the course of these lawsuits, what did
- 4177 you learn about Dwight Schar's involvement?
- 4178 A I'm going to let the Commissioner's answers to
- 4179 Congressman Comer's questions stand for themselves.
- 4180 Q And when you say the Commissioner's response to
- 4181 Mr. Comer's questions, that's what we introduced as
- 4182 Minority Exhibit A five or six hours ago?
- 4183 A Yes.
- 4184 Q I'm going to switch gears a little bit and go
- 4185 back into the Vestry Laight reports that we have been
- 4186 discussing and apparently causing some nausea for our
- 4187 colleagues over. But I do think it's important that we
- 4188 discuss these.
- 4189 As I understand this investigation, we are here to figure
- 4190 out how to make workplace more safe for individuals and
- 4191 make it an environment where they can go to HR with

- 4192 complaints and find resolution.
- 4193 Is that your understanding of what the scope of this
- 4194 investigation is supposed to be?
- 4195 A Yes. And tremendous amount of guidance. I think
- 4196 an organization like Vestry Laight, as credible as they
- 4197 are, and understanding how detailed they are and thorough
- 4198 in their work, I think -- I don't know if they would be
- 4199 willing, but I think they, you know, could speak to
- 4200 Congress, this Committee, about how things can be reformed
- 4201 properly.
- 4202 And whether they can talk to you guys directly, I think it
- 4203 would be quite interesting to hear their perspectives.
- 4204 Obviously, they were written in these three reports,
- 4205 including yesterday's Vestry report.
- 4206 Q Thank you. And I want to take some time to go
- 4207 through some of the more -- some more of the details in
- 4208 these reports. And as we've discussed, there were 10
- 4209 recommendations that came out of the Wilkinson
- 4210 investigation; is that right?
- **4211** A Yes.
- 4212 Q So these 10 recommendations are discussed in each
- 4213 of the Vestry Laight reports. I'm going to use, for the
- 4214 most part, the July 2022 one, which was marked as Minority
- 4215 Exhibit L and the January 2022 one, which is marked as
- 4216 Minority Exhibit K. Do you have those in front of you?

- 4217 A Yes, I do. Yes.
- 4218 Q Wonderful. Minority Exhibit K, the report from
- 4219 this past January, I'm looking on page 5 and the first
- 4220 point reflects the first recommendation from the Wilkinson
- 4221 investigation findings. It's entitled "Protocols for
- 4222 Reporting Harassment." And it directs the team to develop
- 4223 a formal protocol for reporting allegations of harassment
- 4224 and misconduct that allows victims to report anonymously
- 4225 and without fear of retaliation.
- 4226 Do you see that where I'm looking?
- **4227** A Yes.
- 4228 Q Okay. Great. Underneath that, it outlines five
- 4229 steps in the new process. Would you mind reading the
- 4230 process on page 5.
- 4231 A "Report of complaint or concern, review of
- 4232 complaint, investigation, review of the facts and
- 4233 investigation results, determination and follow-up action
- 4234 plan."
- 4235 Q So as you understand it, this is the process
- 4236 that's currently in place for your organization to handle
- 4237 any kind of complaint?
- 4238 A Yes.
- 4239 Q And if you'll turn to Minority Exhibit L, that is
- 4240 the report that was released yesterday by Vestry Laight.
- 4241 I'm on page 3, which is reporting on the progress of this

- 4242 first recommendation from Wilkinson.
- 4243 And it states, and I quote, "Employees located in
- 4244 Commanders' Park, whether working on business or football
- 4245 operations, confirm that they have received training
- 4246 regarding harassment and that they are aware of how to
- 4247 report misconduct and that they would feel comfortable
- 4248 reporting misconduct."
- 4249 Is that how you see your organization handling complaints
- **4250** now? Do you see --
- **4251** A Yes.
- Q Do you see these changes reflected?
- 4253 A Yes.
- 4254 Q If you'll turn to Minority Exhibit K, the earlier
- 4255 report from January to page 6, we can look at the second
- 4256 bullet point. And this was the second recommendation by
- 4257 the Wilkinson investigation.
- 4258 It's entitled "Disciplinary Action Plan," and the text
- 4259 reads, "Develop a formal disciplinary action plan with
- 4260 clear protocols and processes for documenting, evaluating
- 4261 and adjusting -- and adjudicating, "excuse me, "misconduct.
- 4262 Apply those protocols and processes consistently in a
- 4263 prompt and proportionate manner across the organization.
- 4264 This includes holding executives and other supervisors
- 4265 accountable for addressing misconduct in the organization,
- 4266 including by requiring that the supervisory-level employees

4267 formally report any misconduct for which they become aware

- 4268 and disciplining for the failure to report such
- 4269 misconduct."
- 4270 In the text below, it describes -- the Vestry Laight
- 4271 report, it describes how the organization has started to
- 4272 implement this disciplinary action plan. And then if we
- 4273 turn over to Minority Exhibit L under -- on page 4, under
- 4274 Number 2, which is the corresponding recommendation, could
- 4275 you read that first paragraph underneath Number 2 on page 4
- 4276 of the report that was released yesterday? It starts with
- 4277 "our review of the complaints."
- 4278 A "Our review of the complaints received,
- 4279 investigated in the last six-month period shows that any
- 4280 disciplinary measures implemented were proportionately at
- 4281 issue and includes a range of measures such as training,
- 4282 placement and performance improve plan, temporary
- 4283 suspension and issuance of a final warning. The wishes and
- 4284 concerns of the complainant were taken into consideration
- 4285 in evaluating any disciplinary action."
- 4286 Q Thank you. Can you talk about how the leadership
- 4287 changes that have been enacted over the last two years,
- 4288 including with Jason Wright, have furthered this
- 4289 recommendation?
- 4290 A I think that everything we're trying to do goes
- 4291 above and beyond. And we're really focused on being

proactive. We have policies now expanding to so many
different programs and mentorship and guidance and
speakers. We've really grown this to be the start of
something special. So we're -- we obviously -- you know,

- 4296 we obviously are incorporating these results and -- but we
- 4297 are not stopping there.

4316

addressing these issues.

- Q When you say you have speakers come in and different trainings, can you describe what some of those look like.
- A We have had primarily folks that have written
  books, psychologists and speakers that speak to the
  organization and focus on areas, like, across the board.
  And it's really a variety. We have beefed up so many of
  these areas, so it's ongoing and keeps getting better.
- 4306 Q And have the employees made positive comments 4307 about these experiences? Do they find them helpful?
- 4308 A Extremely. As I mentioned earlier to Tanya, I
  4309 think she would want the speakers booked.
- 4310 Q So if we turn to page 7 of the January report, it
  4311 talks about regular culture surveys. These are ways to
  4312 check in with the employees and check on how they're
  4313 feeling about the workplace culture, and it also describes
  4314 sexual harassment climate surveys to track the club's
  4315 process in addressing -- or progress, excuse me, in

4317 Can you tell us a little bit more about the engagement

- 4318 surveys and how employees are surveyed anonymously so that
- 4319 they can be honest and what that has done to inform some of
- 4320 the changes at the organization?
- 4321 A I think that one of the keys for us is that it is
- 4322 anonymous, so we're able to make changes. And I believe
- 4323 Jason Wright, he uses it for improvement at all times. And
- 4324 it's great feedback so we can strengthen areas further.
- Q Recommendation Number 4 talks about regular
- 4326 trainings. I think we touched on that already just a few
- 4327 minutes ago. So we can go ahead and move over to
- 4328 recommendation Number 5, which is on page 12 of the January
- 4329 report and on page 5 of yesterday's report. If you want to
- 4330 flip to those.
- 4331 The recommendation from Ms. Wilkinson was a more diverse
- 4332 workforce, meaning to increase the number of women and
- 4333 minorities throughout the organization, particularly in
- 4334 leadership and supervisory positions that have decision-
- 4335 making authority.
- 4336 And I know that we talked about this in my first hour of
- 4337 questioning. But let's look at yesterday's Vestry Laight
- 4338 report, and it provides an update for us on how the
- 4339 organization is doing with this recommendation.
- 4340 And I'll just read, and this is page 5. It says, "Since
- 4341 our last report, the team has announced internal

4342 promotions, hired externally, and continued to expand its

- 4343 diversity and inclusion initiatives. The promotions and
- 4344 hires continue to expand the team's representation of
- 4345 people of color and women, including women of color.
- 4346 Representation alone is not sufficient. However, through
- 4347 its DEI-related trainings and activities and a holistic
- 4348 approach to talent management, the team is also driving a
- 4349 culture of inclusion. The demographics, DEI activities and
- 4350 insights relating to inclusion from employee interviews are
- 4351 shared below."
- 4352 So then they go into a lot of these excerpts about
- 4353 diversity, inclusion-related initiatives. And I think you
- 4354 touched on this briefly sometime in the last six hours.
- 4355 But can you talk more about the diversity and inclusion-
- 4356 related initiatives that are going on for the employees and
- 4357 also externally facing.
- 4358 A We're trying to -- it's -- our view is simple.
- 4359 Lead by example. I think on page 6, these numbers are
- 4360 facts, just like everything, it always produces facts.
- 4361 We are really in the top echelon in sports, the whole area.
- 4362 And it's working great. And it has a tremendous effect on
- 4363 the culture, tremendous effect the employees, the
- 4364 camaraderie.
- 4365 And it doesn't stop there. It translates into great
- 4366 results. Also just from the business perspective across

- 4367 the board.
- 4368 And I think that -- I had a chance to look at the -- more
- 4369 at yesterday's Vestry report between all the breaks here,
- 4370 and there's a focus on some of the quotes from anonymous
- 4371 within the football side of it, and they feel pretty
- 4372 fantastic. And I think it hopefully translates to -- for
- 4373 most of the team. I think it all ties together.
- 4374 Q Absolutely. And just for the record, you
- 4375 mentioned the numbers on page 6. Could you go ahead and
- 4376 read the numbers that you were talking about into the
- **4377** record.
- 4378 A "Women comprise 31 percent of workforce and
- 4379 people of color comprise 39 percent. More specifically,
- 4380 24 percent of employees are black, 9 percent are Latino,
- 4381 3 percent Asian-American. 3 percent are two or more races.
- 4382 "These numbers represent an uptick from both a year ago, as
- 4383 well as two years previously before the current leadership
- 4384 team was in place. Year over year, the team has continued
- 4385 to expand its representation of women and diverse
- 4386 employees."
- 4387 Q As the report notes, this is a dramatically
- 4388 different leadership team and makeup of your employees than
- 4389 even just two years ago?
- 4390 A Yes.
- 4391 Q All right. So we'll move on into recommendation

4392 Number 6 and 7, which sort of go hand in hand. So I'm

- 4393 going to read them both quickly.
- 4394 Six is establish clear lines of authority, implement clear
- 4395 organizational structure and clear lines of authority for
- 4396 club executives to eliminate influence of informal or
- 4397 unaffiliated advisers on the club's business operation.
- 4398 And then to expand and empower HR and legal is number
- 4399 seven. Expand and empower the in-house HR and legal
- 4400 departments, particularly with respect to their ability to
- 4401 investigate and address allegations of misconduct at all
- 4402 levels without interference from club executives.
- 4403 So these two recommendations together really speak to the
- 4404 reorganization and reshuffling of the executives within
- 4405 your organization.
- 4406 We talked about this, again, a little bit in my first line
- 4407 of questioning, but could you discuss how the expansion and
- 4408 empowerment of HR and the legal department have changed in
- 4409 the last two years?
- 4410 A Well, we -- regarding the legal department -- we
- 4411 experienced our first to leave and go to a bigger role
- 4412 onwards in his career, and that's Damon, the former general
- 4413 counsel who is now at the Los Angeles Dodgers. Loves
- 4414 baseball. And he sent me a text recently, and he's doing
- 4415 great. He's moving into his new house.
- 4416 But we replaced him with Mali Friedman, who is doing a

4417 great job. She's working on a lot of sponsored contracts,

- 4418 so she's very busy right now and doing quite well.
- 4419 The HR team is driven, as I mentioned, by Andre Chambers.
- 4420 Substantial. It's got a lot of programs in development
- 4421 which we're excited about, and hopefully we'll read the
- 4422 next Vestry report that talks about some of the things
- 4423 we're doing.
- Q One of the comments I want to highlight is on
- 4425 page 9 of yesterday's report, and I think my colleague
- 4426 touched on this a little bit in her hour, but it states,
- 4427 "Much like their colleagues in business operations,
- 4428 employees in football operations have a remarkably
- 4429 consistent and positive view of the changes in people,
- 4430 operations and its increased presence and accessibility."
- 4431 And a quote from one of the employees is "HR is like night
- 4432 and day better than in the past." Another stated, "Now we
- 4433 have a real HR program. HR has gone from one to more than
- 4434 one, and now it's an actual department."
- 4435 Can you talk about what went into the changes of expanding
- 4436 the HR department to include more than one individual?
- 4437 A Well, it's really about making it the best of
- 4438 class. So what you're trying to do is have the bench be
- 4439 beefed up. So underneath Andre is a rock-solid team of
- 4440 professionals, and some developing new programs, some
- 4441 dealing with day-to-day.

4442 And you're really developing an area in the organization

- 4443 that folks can go to for help, for potential promotion,
- 4444 what have you, and really talk about their futures. And I
- 4445 think it's becoming -- to me, what I like about it is it's
- 4446 going to be more than just day-to-day. It's going to help
- 4447 grow the team.
- 4448 Q The final sentence under Number 7 in the report
- 4449 from yesterday states, "Our review of the investigations of
- 4450 the complaints received during this reporting period did
- 4451 not show any interference by club executives or others into
- 4452 how those investigations were handled."
- 4453 Can you tell me why it's important to have these processes
- 4454 and procedures separate from club executive interference?
- 4455 A Because you need to have a substantial staff
- 4456 within this area that feels their independence, that can
- 4457 make the right decisions. And that's what Jason Wright --
- 4458 we brought in Andre and Jason to do.
- 4459 So here we are two years later discussing results. And I
- 4460 think, you know, hats off to Andre and the team.
- 4461 Q So we have just three more recommendations left
- 4462 to walk through in these reports. Number 8 from
- 4463 Ms. Wilkinson's investigation says, "To develop formal
- 4464 onboarding performance management and compensation system
- 4465 and exit interview processes."
- 4466 Do you think that this kind of step-by-step very

4467 transparent process for people coming into the team who are

- 4468 working for the team for a number of years is important?
- 4469 A It's very important. As you can read here in the
- 4470 new Vestry report, you can see that they really said how we
- 4471 tried to put our values to the team up front in an
- 4472 onboarding process.
- 4473 And I don't want to get it wrong, her slogan, but if I say
- 4474 each one, we get each one wrong, but if we have a formula,
- 4475 every -- there's words in there. I don't want to get it
- 4476 wrong, but we start to get onboarded.
- 4477 Q Okay. As you mentioned in yesterday's report --
- 4478 I'm on page 10 now -- it discusses that these processes
- 4479 have been put into place.
- 4480 The last paragraph on page 10 discusses the formal
- 4481 confidential exit interviews of employees and it discusses
- 4482 the number of those that have occurred and really goes into
- 4483 some significant detail about how that process has been
- 4484 implemented.
- 4485 So it seems that this recommendation has been taken, it's
- 4486 been implemented, there is a process by which people are
- 4487 able to see this organization in a transparent way. Do you
- 4488 agree with that?
- 4489 A Yes.
- 4490 Q And moving into number 9, it's talking about the
- 4491 cheerleading team. Just first let's discuss, is there

- 4492 still a cheerleading team for the Commanders?
- 4493 A It's a co-ed dance team. Actually, they're
- 4494 really good. And I think -- I know Tanya and the new head
- 4495 of retail, Miles, are working on a wonderful, apparently,
- 4496 fashion line and are really expanding and it's growing, and
- 4497 we have -- we launched a band and these awesome new
- 4498 uniforms. Two different uniforms for different games.
- 4499 It's making a lot of progress.
- 4500 Q Can you talk to us about what initiated that
- 4501 change from a cheerleading team to a co-ed dance squad or
- 4502 dance team?
- 4503 A Sure. We want to be forward-thinking in
- 4504 everything we've done. For the last few years, we wanted
- 4505 to be thinking about what's the future look like, and
- 4506 athletics and dance -- and they are super talented. It's
- 4507 pretty cool. And we hired Tetra -- I always get her name
- 4508 wrong -- Petra. And she's leading that area and doing
- 4509 great stuff. She previously did a lot of basketball in the
- 4510 NBA. And we developed a lot of new -- gained the
- 4511 experience from that.
- 4512 Q Has there been a positive community response to
- 4513 the new dance team?
- 4514 A Very. The community loves it. We didn't know
- 4515 what to expect from the fans, but they really embraced it.
- 4516 Its popularity has grown.

4517 So on page 11 of yesterday's Vestry Laight report, it states -- sorry -- "Vestry Laight interviewed 4518 the coaches and reviewed a full survey that was given to 4519 the dancers in March. The interviews and survey results 4520 4521 continue to show a positive and supportive environment for 4522 the members of the entertainment team. Can you talk about how this new team, this new culture, has 4523 4524 created a more positive environment for the dancers? 4525 I think it's really a scenario that we embraced 4526 the change, embraced the new way it's presented to the fans, and they've embraced it. So it's really a scenario 4527 that you're embracing change. 4528 4529 Even in the January report, which is on page 19 where it discusses some of the ninth recommendation, stuff 4530 about the dancers, it says, "All of the dancers we spoke 4531 4532 with are aware of the reporting options and said they felt 4533 very comfortable going to their coach or HR with any concerns." 4534 4535 Is that important for that team to be able to know the 4536 reporting options, know how to go there and then also feel 4537 comfortable making any reports of problems they face? Absolutely. 4538 Α

4539 Q And then the final recommendation, Number 10 from 4540 Ms. Wilkinson's investigation, it says, "A regular 4541 assessment of the policies require the club to retain an

4542 independent professional consultant selected by the team

- 4543 and approved by the league office to conduct an annual
- 4544 assessment of all employee policies to ensure they are both
- 4545 consistent with best practices and being implemented in
- 4546 practice. The league office will have full access to the
- 4547 consultant."
- 4548 So in this final recommendation, how has that been
- 4549 implemented in the Commanders organization?
- 4550 A It's implemented throughout. One of the things
- 4551 we've done, I think Tanya has been very vocal on suggesting
- 4552 to other sports organizations to use an organization like
- 4553 Vestry Laight and effectively look within and take
- 4554 advantage of the opportunity to have an outsider's
- 4555 viewpoint and monitor things.
- 4556 Q And you and the Commanders, you guys selected
- 4557 Vestry Laight; right?
- 4558 A Originally, yes.
- 4559 Q Originally. And -- but they were signed off on
- 4560 by the NFL?
- 4561 A Yes.
- 4562 Q And Vestry Laight was -- why did you choose them?
- 4563 What made you select them to be the reviewers?
- 4564 A Their reputation is the gold standard. And as I
- 4565 mentioned earlier, when you talk about change, they are
- 4566 experienced and experts in change, and I think they would

- 4567 be interesting folks to speak to.
- 4568 Q So we've just spent a not insignificant amount of
- 4569 time going through all of the recommendations and all of
- 4570 the really marked change that has been seen by a third
- 4571 party of your organization.
- 4572 And I know that in prior questioning, my Majority
- 4573 colleagues mentioned that they didn't really want to talk
- 4574 about the Vestry Laight reports anymore. I think it's
- 4575 interesting that we wouldn't be focusing on the solution
- 4576 and, instead, continuing to focus on the problems.
- 4577 So, Mr. Snyder, would it be fair to say that at this point
- 4578 in the investigation, the Majority counsel seem to be
- 4579 focusing on only the negative instead of the positive and
- 4580 the successful efforts to transform the team culture?
- 4581 A I think that change is difficult. And we've
- 4582 embraced change. And I think it would be great to
- 4583 acknowledge the changes and maybe learn from our changes
- 4584 for other organizations.
- 4585 Q And you've never come out and said that the
- 4586 culture at the team 10 years ago, five years ago, was
- 4587 something that you -- was something that was good. You've
- 4588 acknowledged that it's been poor in the past; is that
- **4589** right?
- 4590 A Yes. As I mentioned earlier, starting October of
- 4591 2019, we thought we would have some cultural issues, and we

4592 wanted to fix whatever we find and we want to reform

- 4593 things. We want to be in a position to lead by example.
- 4594 And we really believe we've chosen the right leadership
- 4595 team, assembled the right leadership team and embraced
- 4596 them, and we're making these substantial changes,
- 4597 meaningful change. As I mentioned, change is difficult,
- 4598 and I encourage other organizations to look to the future.
- 4599 Q I'm going to switch gears again and talk a little
- 4600 bit about nondisclosure agreements. And I know that this
- 4601 has been a topic a couple of different times throughout the
- 4602 course of today. But as a businessman over, you know, the
- 4603 last couple of decades, are NDAs or nondisclosure
- 4604 agreements used regularly at many different types of
- 4605 businesses?
- 4606 A I think they are used throughout the United
- 4607 States.
- 4608 Q In what context are they helpful for businesses,
- 4609 during settlements or during hiring?
- 4610 A In the case of coaches, disclosing our playbooks
- 4611 and our information about our football and what we do,
- 4612 things like that.
- 4613 Other than that, I'm not a lawyer, so I wouldn't have
- 4614 necessarily an opinion on NDAs or what have you.
- 4615 Q As far as you understand, like, understanding
- 4616 you're not an attorney, but as far as you understand

4617 nondisclosure agreements, they are used in other

- 4618 businesses. Is that fair to say?
- 4619 A Yes.
- 4620 Q Okay. And in the context of the Wilkinson
- 4621 investigation and the congressional investigation, I
- 4622 believe your attorney interjected at some point today and
- 4623 said, well, no one asked to waive their NDAs for this
- 4624 congressional investigation, and that's why Abby Diamond
- 4625 Welsh never requested -- or she never asked you to waive an
- 4626 NDA, so how could you have enabled her to testify.
- 4627 But as far as the Wilkinson investigation goes, you and the
- 4628 Commanders never prevented anyone about speaking with Beth
- 4629 Wilkinson during the course of her investigation and, in
- 4630 fact, you encouraged those individuals to speak with Beth
- 4631 Wilkinson; is that right?
- 4632 A She spoke, yes, to everyone she wanted to speak
- 4633 to. And she spoke to me.
- 4634 Q I'm going to move now into some discussion about
- 4635 a person by the name of Tiffani Johnston, who testified at
- 4636 a roundtable before our Committee back in February. Do you
- 4637 know who Tiffani Johnston is, Mr. Snyder?
- 4638 A Only since the roundtable.
- 4639 Q Just since the roundtable. Okay.
- 4640 Do you know what she did at the team or how she was part of
- 4641 the organization?

- 4642 A I believe a cheerleader.
- 4643 Q And at the roundtable, which I understand was how
- 4644 you now know who she is, she alleged that you put your
- 4645 hands on her thigh while sitting next to her at a dinner
- 4646 and then later that same evening tried to pull her into
- 4647 your limousine, and stated that this happened in maybe 2005
- **4648** or 2006.
- 4649 Had you heard of these allegations prior to the roundtable?
- 4650 A No.
- 4651 Q Do you recall attending a team dinner in either
- 4652 2005 or 2006 at which Ms. Johnston was in attendance?
- 4653 A No.
- Q Part of Ms. Johnston's allegation was that the
- 4655 team's counsel -- which at that time I believe was David
- 4656 Donovan; is that right?
- 4657 A I think in those two years, there might have been
- 4658 two. '05 would be Chirite and I believe '06 would be David
- 4659 Donovan in the years.
- 4660 Q Yes, I understand. So Ms. Johnston said that at
- 4661 the time the team's counsel, so it was either one of those
- 4662 two individuals, stopped you from pulling her into your
- 4663 limousine. Do you have any recollection of that occurring?
- 4664 A No. I don't have a limousine.
- 4665 Q To the best of your knowledge, did David Donovan
- 4666 ever respond to the allegation that it could have been him

- 4667 that prevented this instance from occurring?
- 4668 A Excuse me? Will you repeat the question?
- 4669 Q Yes, of course. So let's say -- we'll talk in
- 4670 the 2006 time frame. So David Donovan was the general
- 4671 counsel then. Did he -- after these allegations came out
- 4672 in 2021, did he ever respond or make any comment about this
- 4673 instance, like recalling this instance, denying this
- 4674 instance or any comment about it at all that you're aware
- **4675** of?
- 4676 A I haven't talked to David Donovan in quite some
- 4677 time since.
- 4678 Q And as you mentioned, we're not sure when this
- 4679 instance occurred. So as you sit here today, are you aware
- 4680 of the date or location of this alleged event?
- 4681 A No.
- 4682 Q Knowing that you waived the NDAs and enabled all
- 4683 of your employees full access to Ms. Wilkinson and her
- 4684 team, do you have any idea why this claim would not have
- 4685 come out earlier in the Wilkinson investigation?
- 4686 A I have no idea.
- 4687 Q We learned from the last eight months of this
- 4688 investigation that this allegation was likely not brought
- 4689 to Ms. Wilkinson's investigation, and we're not sure why.
- 4690 And I think there's been a few letters to that effect back
- 4691 and forth surrounding this allegation. And one of those

4692 letters comes from a Mr. Jason Friedman. Do you know who

- 4693 Jason Friedman is?
- 4694 A I do.
- 4695 Q Can you tell me how you know him?
- 4696 A He ran ticket sales until 2020 when Jason Wright
- 4697 fired him.
- 4698 Q So did you know him while he was an employee, or
- 4699 have you come to learn who he is throughout the course of
- 4700 this investigation?
- 4701 A I knew of him as a ticket guy at the stadium. My
- 4702 office is in Virginia. The stadium is located in Maryland.
- 4703 And I would see him -- my wife and I would see him on game
- 4704 days when we would do a rah-rah when we would walk by him.
- 4705 And I would say hello to whoever, whatever person, agent.
- 4706 I'm sure we probably saw him at charitable events too, some
- 4707 of the events, 500,000 people, go team go and, you know.
- 4708 Q Do you recall being at a dinner in 2005 or 2006
- 4709 at which he and Ms. Johnston were present?
- 4710 A No, I've never had dinner with Jason. To my
- 4711 recollection, I never had dinner with Jason Friedman or a
- 4712 meeting with Jason Friedman.
- 4713 Q The chairwoman got a letter from Mr. Friedman
- 4714 corroborating or attempting to corroborate Ms. Johnston's
- 4715 allegation against this incident.
- 4716 The two accounts seem to differ a bit. Mr. Friedman tried

- 4717 to explain those differences during his transcribed
- 4718 interview or deposition a few months ago in front of this
- 4719 Committee.
- 4720 Other than Mr. Friedman's account before this Committee,
- 4721 are you aware of anyone else attempting to corroborate
- 4722 Ms. Johnston's story?
- 4723 A No.
- 4724 Q Are you aware that Mr. Friedman was also
- 4725 interviewed by Beth Wilkinson and failed to tell her about
- 4726 this allegation?
- 4727 A Yes.
- 4728 Q Are you aware that Mr. Friedman was terminated by
- 4729 Mr. Jason Wright well before he made any of these
- 4730 allegations or came before this Committee?
- 4731 A Yes.
- 4732 Q Can you describe for us some of the conduct that
- 4733 you became aware of that led to Mr. Friedman's termination?
- 4734 A Jason Wright, it was one of his first
- 4735 terminations. He told us in one of our update leadership
- 4736 team calls that this is not the type of person that we need
- 4737 to change the culture of this organization and they need to
- 4738 leave, and I'm firing him. And we all did. And he did.
- 4739 And, by the way, that area now has improved unbelievably.
- 4740 Unbelievable improvement.
- 4741 Q So after Mr. Friedman was terminated by Jason

4742 Wright, were you notified by the team that they discovered

4743 Mr. Friedman had an affair with a team intern who was 15

4744 years younger than him while he worked for the team?

4745 A I had heard that going on afterwards, yes.

4746 Q You heard it afterwards?

4747 A Yes.

4748 Q Were you also informed that Mr. Friedman took

4749 affirmative steps to conceal this affair with this intern?

4750 A Yes, I had heard that, yes.

4751 Q Would this affair have been grounds for firing

4752 Mr. Friedman?

4753 A Yes.

4754 Q It has also come to light that perhaps

4755 Mr. Friedman used unkind language when dealing with people

4756 who worked with him and for him. Were you made aware of

**4757** that?

4758 A I was made aware by Jason Wright, yes.

4759 Q And was that another reason for Mr. Friedman's

4760 termination, as you understand it?

4761 A Yes.

4762 Q And this kind of language, this kind of

4763 treatment, this kind of sexual affair within the

4764 organization, are these all things that Jason Wright and

4765 the team are now trying to and seem to have successfully

4766 worked out of the culture of this organization?

- 4767 A Yes.
- 4768 Q One of the other things that came up in the last
- 4769 hour, you were questioned by my colleagues about the use of
- 4770 private investigators.
- 4771 Was there anything that you wanted to add to your testimony
- 4772 regarding the private investigators or the use of them and
- 4773 any association with you or the team?
- 4774 A Just that we did from the standpoint of following
- 4775 the defamatory, most terrible things ever written, and we
- 4776 followed through and just followed the facts and delivered
- 4777 the facts to the Attorney General -- former Attorney
- 4778 General Lynch. And I don't know if they did or didn't, but
- 4779 if they made any mistakes, went to the wrong person here or
- 4780 there, I deeply apologize for that.
- 4781 Q And so this use of private investigators was
- 4782 strictly related to your lawsuits and investigation into
- 4783 the slander and libel cases regarding the India articles?
- 4784 A Yes.
- 4785 Q So it had nothing to do with Beth Wilkinson?
- 4786 A Nothing.
- 4787 Q Nothing to do with the NFL and Wilkinson's
- 4788 investigation?
- 4789 A Nothing.
- 4790 Q One of the other allegations against you stems
- 4791 from a 2009 settlement. Do you know what I'm referring to

4792 when I say 2009 settlement?

4793 A Yes.

4794 Q So The Washington Post reported about this 2009

4795 incident and settlement in which you allegedly sexually

4796 assaulted a former employee. Did you, in fact, assault the

4797 person who accused you of this in 2009?

4798 A No.

4799 Q When did you learn of her allegations?

4800 A A week or two afterwards.

4801 Q How did you learn about these allegations?

4802 A The general counsel told me about them.

4803 Q The general counsel at the time was?

4804 A David Donovan.

4805 Q David Donovan, okay. When you were informed of

4806 these allegations, do you remember your reaction?

4807 A Yes. I was unbelievably upset. And he told me

4808 that he would follow the procedures of hiring an outside

4809 law firm. And I said, "Great." And that's what he did.

4810 Q Was the NFL informed of these allegations at the

**4811** time?

4812 A Yes.

4813 Q How do you know that the NFL was informed?

4814 A Because he emailed the general counsel of the

4815 National Football League, Jeff Pash, and the outside

4816 counsel also communicated with Jeff Pash of the NFL.

4817 Q And the outside counsel, can you tell us who that

- 4818 was?
- 4819 A Wilmer Hale.
- 4820 Q When do you recall was the NFL informed of these
- 4821 allegations?
- 4822 A Sometime shortly after.
- 4823 Q Did Wilmer & Hale conduct an investigation into
- 4824 the allegations?
- 4825 A Yes, and the general counsel, yes.
- 4826 Q So the outside counsel worked with your general
- 4827 counsel. Was the NFL involved as well?
- 4828 A I don't know.
- 4829 Q The Washington Post has reported on these
- 4830 allegations on several occasions. Do you know how these
- 4831 allegations became public?
- 4832 A No, I would be speculating.
- 4833 Q Can you tell us what the result of the
- 4834 investigation was?
- 4835 A That I didn't do anything.
- 4836 Q And so how did you resolve this dispute?
- 4837 A The insurance company made a settlement -- made
- 4838 the decision, and I approved it, to pay a settlement, and
- **4839** that's it.
- 4840 Q So as you said, the investigation concluded that
- 4841 you did not do anything wrong, and yet you still chose to

4842 pay the settlement. Can you tell us what went into that

- 4843 decision?
- 4844 A I believe we were going to arbitrate at a great
- 4845 expense, and I'm sure a great legal expense, and the
- 4846 insurance company said that that was going to be very, very
- 4847 expensive, what have you. And they made a decision, and I
- 4848 approved it.
- 4849 Q That makes sense.
- 4850 So I just have a few minutes left. So I'm going to maybe
- 4851 start this line of questioning and we might not get to the
- 4852 end of it, and I apologize if we have to stop in the
- 4853 middle.
- 4854 I want to talk about some of the other allegations that
- 4855 have been brought against you throughout the duration of
- 4856 this investigation.
- 4857 It's been conveyed to the Committee that you own a house in
- 4858 Aspen that you would often or sometimes go to with other
- 4859 team executives. Is that true?
- 4860 A Primarily with executives and their spouses for
- 4861 some retreats. Not often, no.
- 4862 Q Not often. What were the purpose of those trips?
- 4863 A I think the trips you're referring to is probably
- 4864 2000 or something. I can't remember much about it other
- 4865 than that the accusations are untrue, I can tell you that.
- 4866 Other than that, I can't remember much about 20 years ago.

4867 Q That's reasonable. It has been a significant

- 4868 amount of time.
- 4869 So as you said, one of the allegations is that prostitutes
- 4870 were brought into your home in Aspen, Colorado, during
- 4871 these kinds of business trips.
- 4872 I'm just going to read some of the testimony that we've
- 4873 received throughout the duration of this investigation in
- 4874 regards to this incident. Mr. David Pauken stated, "I
- 4875 never saw them, but people on that trip told me about that
- 4876 trip and after that trip, but I never saw it." And he
- 4877 stated -- end quote. And he stated that he couldn't
- 4878 remember who had told him that.
- 4879 Melanie Coburn also brought up this allegation during our
- 4880 roundtable, I believe it was. She said, and I quote, "I
- 4881 returned to Dan Snyder's house only to be sent to my room
- 4882 in the basement and told to stay there, and later learned
- 4883 from a colleague who was there, that it was because men had
- 4884 invited prostitutes back."
- 4885 Again, she was not there, she did not see it firsthand.
- 4886 And then finally Jason Friedman also spoke about these
- 4887 allegations in his interview. "I heard here recently some
- 4888 things that might have happened while I was asleep in my
- 4889 room."
- 4890 And he said generally that this was based on what Melanie
- 4891 Coburn had told him. So he couldn't corroborate her story.

4892 But in these examples of testimony that we've received, all

4893 of this -- none of this is a firsthand account. Is that

- **4894** right?
- 4895 A That's right.
- 4896 Q So why do you think people would claim that you
- 4897 brought prostitutes back to your home?
- 4898 A I don't know why people would do some of the
- 4899 things they do, make allegations, false allegations. But
- 4900 all I know is the truth. And I don't know what their
- 4901 motives are or what have you, but I just know the truth.
- 4902 And that's not true, plain and simple.
- 4903 Q To the best of your knowledge, invited by you or
- 4904 someone else, there were no prostitutes invited back to
- 4905 your home during that trip in Aspen -- or that trip to
- **4906** Aspen?
- 4907 A It's not to the best of my knowledge, but fact.
- 4908 That is untrue.
- 4909 Q Are you aware of any statement from any person
- 4910 who was on that trip that they, actually, themselves,
- 4911 firsthand knowledge, saw prostitutes in your home?
- **4912** A No.
- 4913 Q And your testimony here today is that this did
- 4914 not occur on this business trip or any business trip to
- 4915 Aspen in the last two decades that you've been bringing
- 4916 people back to your Aspen house?

4917 A Ever. My home in Aspen is my family home. It's 4918 ridiculous.

- 4919 I'm going to go ahead and stop there.
- 4920 I've got a minute left. But we'll go ahead and go off the
- 4921 record. We can take a five-minute break, and then Majority
- 4922 should be ready to roll.
- **4923** (Recess)
- 4924 EXAMINATION BY
- 4925
- 4926 Q Hi, Mr. Snyder. Back on the record. I want to
- 4927 ask you a few questions about the allegation of Tiffani
- 4928 Johnston, which she made at the Committee's February 3,
- 4929 2022, roundtable that you talked about with my colleague,
- 4930
- 4931 As you discussed, Ms. Johnston accused you of placing your
- 4932 hand on her thigh at a work dinner and later at the end of
- 4933 the evening that you attempted to push her into your car.
- 4934 Did I understand you correctly to say that you have no
- 4935 recollection of this evening?
- **4936** A None.
- 4937 Q And the one definitive fact that I heard you say
- 4938 was that you don't have a limousine. Is that right?
- 4939 A No, I don't.
- 4940 Q And are you sometimes chauffeured in black
- 4941 sedans, black cars?

4942 A I have the same driver and -- or it just changed

- 4943 to a Cadillac Escalade. Not in a limo.
- 4944 Q But you do drive -- ride around in a chauffeured
- 4945 black car, is that fair?
- 4946 Ms. Seymour. At what point in time?
- **4947** By
- **4948** Q In 2004-2005.
- 4949 A I think it was gray.
- 4950 Q Fair enough. Now, I'm somewhat puzzled, because
- 4951 after these allegations came out, you announced that the
- 4952 Washington Commanders were hiring the Pallas Group to
- 4953 conduct an investigation into these -- Ms. Johnston's
- 4954 claims; is that right?
- 4955 A I think so. I think so.
- 4956 Q Now, earlier when my colleague was
- 4957 asking you questions, you explained that you turned over --
- 4958 you are the one who turned over the Wilkinson investigation
- 4959 to the NFL out of a concern for the integrity of the
- 4960 investigation.
- 4961 Ms. Johnston's claim involves, you know, conduct by you.
- 4962 Help me understand, why was it appropriate for the
- 4963 Commanders to oversee an investigation into Ms. Johnston's
- 4964 claim when you felt the Commanders were -- it was not
- 4965 appropriate for the Commanders to oversee Ms. Wilkinson's
- 4966 investigation?

- 4967 A I think Mary Jo White is doing that.
- 4968 Q I understand, but right after the allegations,
- 4969 your team announced that it would be running the
- 4970 investigation and hiring Pallas Group to do that
- 4971 investigation.
- 4972 So why did you feel it was appropriate for your team to
- 4973 oversee that investigation when you felt it was not
- 4974 appropriate for your team to oversee the Wilkinson
- 4975 investigation?
- 4976 A All I know is that Mary Jo White is
- 4977 investigating.
- 4978 Q Did you have any conversations with the NFL about
- 4979 who was going to oversee the investigation?
- 4980 A They called to tell me Mary Jo White.
- 4981 O Who called?
- 4982 A I can't remember who called us. I think that we
- 4983 issued a statement regarding it.
- 4984 Q Did someone call you, Mr. Snyder?
- 4985 A I can't remember who called. We learned about
- 4986 Mary Jo White and issued a statement.
- 4987 Q Did the NFL tell you to back off and not hire the
- 4988 Pallas Group and let it do the investigation?
- 4989 A The NFL, once they established that they were
- 4990 hiring Mary Jo White, we said fine and issued a statement.
- 4991 Q Did they instruct you to stand down?

- 4992 A I don't recall.
- 4993 Q Now, immediately after the allegations were
- 4994 leveled, you stated you that Ms. Johnston's allegations
- 4995 were outright lies. Is that fair?
- 4996 A I just know the truth, that didn't happen.
- 4997 Q Well, Mr. Snyder, I thought your statement --
- 4998 your testimony was that you didn't have a recollection of
- 4999 that evening.
- 5000 A I don't.
- 5001 Q And so you don't have a recollection of that
- 5002 evening. Ms. Johnston seems to have a recollection of that
- 5003 evening, but you took the position that she's lying. Is
- 5004 that correct?
- 5005 A All I know is that it's just not true.
- Despite the fact you don't have any recollection
- 5007 of that evening?
- 5008 A Correct.
- 5009 Ms. Seymour. I object to that. I don't think that
- 5010 that fairly characterizes his testimony. He said he did
- 5011 not recall any evening like that, and now he says that it
- 5012 didn't happen. Those are completely reconcilable. He's
- 5013 not saying he doesn't know because he lacks any
- 5014 recollection. I think the transcript will show that. I
- 5015 think this is unfair.
- I would ask counsel to refrain from

5017 characterizing the testimony in this case. The record will

5018 reflect what the record reflects.

5019

**5020** By

Now, Mr. Snyder, it wasn't only Ms. Johnston's

5022 testimony that this incident occurred. There is also

5023 corroborating evidence from Mr. Friedman; correct?

5024 A I just know that the whole claim is not true.

5025 And after looking at my calendars over nearly two decades,

5026 I don't have a dinner on my calendar with Jason Friedman or

5027 even a meeting or a lunch.

5028 Q Mr. Snyder, why would these two people lie about

that evening?

5030 A I don't know what people's motives are. And I'm

5031 not going to speculate on people's motives.

5032 Q Now, Mr. Snyder, there were a number of other

5033 women at that roundtable who offered testimony about the

5034 toxic workplace at the Washington Commanders. Do you

5035 believe their statements about the harassment and bullying

5036 that they experienced at the team were also lies?

5037 Ms. Seymour. Can we be specific about which witness

5038 and which allegation, please?

5039 By

5040 Q Certainly. Well, there were a number of

5041 witnesses at the roundtable. Ms. Nunez testified at the

- 5042 roundtable.
- 5043 Is it your view, Mr. Snyder, that Ms. Nunez's statements
- 5044 were outright lies?
- Ms. Seymour. Do you want to be specific about which
- 5046 statement? Unless Mr. Snyder recalls all their testimony.
- Well, does Mr. Snyder recall thinking
- 5048 that any of her statements were outright lies?
- Ms. Seymour. You should ask first if he has a
- 5050 recollection of any statements.
- I trust that Mr. Snyder can answer the
- 5052 question.
- The Witness. I don't recollect which statements.
- **5054** By
- 5055 Q Emily Applegate testified about the harassment
- 5056 that she suffered at the hands of Mitch Gershman. Do you
- 5057 believe those statements were true?
- 5058 A I don't recollect the statements.
- 5059 Q Melanie Coburn testified about the lingerie
- 5060 pictures of Tiffani Johnston. Were those allegations true?
- 5061 Ms. Seymour. Are you asking -- these statements,
- 5062 there's not even an allegation that Mr. Snyder has
- 5063 firsthand knowledge. I'm happy to have you ask about
- 5064 whether he knows whether something is true, but to ask him
- 5065 whether another witness's statement about which he may or
- 5066 may not have had firsthand knowledge is untruthful and

- 5067 seems inappropriate.
- The allegation was that Mr. Snyder
- 5069 requested lingerie photos of Tiffani Johnston from
- 5070 Ms. Coburn.
- The Witness. No, I did not.
- **5072** By
- 5073 Q Mr. Snyder, Rachel Engelson at that same
- 5074 roundtable testified about the harassment that she suffered
- 5075 at the hands of Larry Michael. Do you recall those
- 5076 allegations?
- 5077 A I've heard that one, yes.
- 5078 Q Do you have a view as to whether or not those
- 5079 allegations were true or untrue?
- 5080 A I don't have a view. Look, as I've said numerous
- 5081 times, and continue to state, we apologize for any
- 5082 workplace misconduct of the team. And I think -- we stand
- 5083 by the work we've done over the last two and a half years
- 5084 of tremendous change and reform.
- 5085 And I think that our words have spoken for themselves, and
- 5086 our actions have as well, in terms of our organization and
- 5087 our culture change and transformation.
- 5088 Q My question, Mr. Snyder, is that there were
- 5089 accusations leveled against one of your long-term senior
- 5090 executives, Larry Michael. And my question to you is
- 5091 whether you have an opinion as to whether or not those

5092 allegations were true or untrue, you as the owner and CEO

- 5093 of the team.
- 5094 A I was unaware of those accusations.
- 5095 Q When you say you were unaware of those
- 5096 allegations, meaning you were unaware of the allegations
- 5097 when they were made at the roundtable in February of this
- **5098** year?
- 5099 A Yes.
- 5100 Q Well, Mr. Snyder, I find that puzzling, because
- 5101 the Committee conducted a deposition of Mr. Lafemina, who
- 5102 testified in his deposition that he brought to your
- 5103 attention concerns -- or he brought to your attention
- 5104 Rachel Engelson's allegations against Larry Michael when he
- 5105 joined the team in 2018.
- 5106 Do you recall that?
- 5107 A No, I do not.
- Do you remember, Mr. Snyder, that when
- 5109 Mr. Lafemina joined the team, he insisted on the importance
- 5110 of hiring an entity, Sageview, to do an audit of the human
- 5111 resources function at the team?
- 5112 A I don't recall.
- 5113 Q You do not recall?
- 5114 A No.
- 5115 Q Well, if you could pull up document BO which I
- 5116 will mark for purposes of this deposition as Exhibit 7. Do

- 5117 you have that? Do you have that, Mr. Snyder?
- 5118 (Exhibit 7, Sageview Consulting agreement, was marked
- 5119 for identification.)
- 5120 A Yes.
- 5121 Q Do you see in the first page in the Background
- 5122 section, do you see that paragraph? Do you see where it
- 5123 says, "The companies have approximately 150 to 200
- 5124 employees? The new president of business operations and
- 5125 CEO has identified the need to conduct an assessment of the
- 5126 company's human resources function to ensure compliance
- 5127 with federal and state law, as well as determine what is
- 5128 needed to strengthen the human resources function. In
- 5129 addition, there is an immediate need to conduct 'respect in
- 5130 the workplace' training for senior management, management
- 5131 and staff of the company."
- 5132 Do you see that, Mr. Snyder?
- 5133 A Yes, I do.
- 5134 Q Do you recollect Mr. Lafemina coming to you and
- 5135 telling you that it was important to hire Sageview to
- 5136 conduct immediate "respect in the workplace" training?
- 5137 A I don't recall this document.
- 5138 Q Do you recall a conversation with Mr. Lafemina
- 5139 about the urgent need for training for senior management at
- the company?
- 5141 A I don't recall that conversation.

5142 Q You have no recollection of that conversation?

- 5143 A I don't. He was only there, I think, seven or
- 5144 eight months.
- 5145 Q Well, in his deposition, Mr. Lafemina said that
- 5146 because of the Rachel Engelson allegations coming to light,
- 5147 he felt the need to make sure that this happened
- 5148 immediately, and that he brought those allegations to your
- 5149 attention. Do you have any recollection of that?
- 5150 A I don't have a recollection of the conversation,
- 5151 no.
- 5152 Q You don't have a recollection of Mr. Lafemina
- 5153 bringing to your attention the fact that Larry Michael, one
- 5154 of your longstanding executives, the voice of the Redskins,
- 5155 was sexually harassing Ms. Engelson?
- 5156 A Not that conversation, no.
- 5157 Q You don't remember that in response to that, you
- 5158 told him Larry is a sweetheart and Larry wouldn't hurt
- 5159 anybody?
- 5160 A No, I do not.
- 5161 Q Is that what you think of Mr. Larry Michael, that
- 5162 he is a sweetheart and wouldn't hurt anybody?
- 5163 A I think through the course of the investigation,
- 5164 we learned a lot about a lot of people.
- 5165 Q What does that mean, Mr. Snyder?
- 5166 A You learn things, and he's no longer with the

- 5167 organization, and we've moved forward.
- 5168 Q Are you saying you believe Ms. Engelson's
- 5169 allegations that she was harassed by Mr. Larry Michael?
- 5170 A Possibly.
- 5171 Q And, Mr. Snyder, this document says that there
- 5172 was a need to conduct an assessment of the company's human
- 5173 resources function to ensure compliance with federal and
- 5174 state laws as well as to determine what is needed to
- 5175 strengthen its human resources function. This is July 12,
- **5176** 2018.
- 5177 Do you agree, Mr. Snyder, that this document was putting
- 5178 you on notice that the human resources function at the
- 5179 Commanders might not comply with federal and state law and
- 5180 needed strengthening?
- 5181 Ms. Seymour. I'm going to object. There's no
- 5182 evidence that he ever saw this document.
- **5183** By
- 5184 Q Mr. Snyder, did you ever see this document?
- 5185 A I don't recall it, no.
- 5186 Q Did you ever discuss hiring Sageview Consulting
- 5187 with Mr. Lafemina?
- 5188 A I don't recall, no.
- 5189 Q If you don't recall -- is it fair to say that if
- 5190 Mr. Lafemina testified that he brought this to your
- 5191 attention and discussed it with you that you have no basis

5192 to disagree with that testimony?

- 5193 Ms. Seymour. Objection.
- 5194 What's the nature of the objection?
- 5195 Ms. Seymour. The lack of foundation. Merely because
- 5196 one witness has said something doesn't mean if the witness
- 5197 says that he has no recollection of what another person
- 5198 said that therefore you have no basis. His lack --
- 5199 Ms. Seymour, my question is a very
- 5200 simple one. My question was whether -- Mr. Snyder
- 5201 testified he has no recollection.
- 5202 My question was, therefore, whether he believes --
- 5203 whether he has a basis to say that he does not believe that
- 5204 Mr. Lafemina's testimony was truthful. He either has a
- 5205 basis or he doesn't have a basis. The witness can answer
- 5206 that question.
- 5207 The Witness. All I know is I don't recollect seeing
- 5208 this document and a conversation with him. That's all I
- 5209 know.
- **5210** By
- 5211 Q Mr. Snyder, you talked at length about how
- 5212 important the people in your organization are, how
- 5213 important it is to have a respectful workplace. And yet,
- 5214 it's your testimony now that the president of the team
- 5215 brings to your attention harassment by one of your most
- 5216 senior executives and tells you about the urgent need for

5217 training and an assessment of the HR function, that you

- 5218 have no recollection of that?
- 5219 A I don't recollect this conversation you're
- 5220 referring to. I don't have any recollection.
- 5221 Q Isn't the president of your team raising a big
- 5222 red flag about sexual harassment in 2018 and the absence of
- 5223 a proper HR function, one that might not be in compliance
- 5224 with law, isn't that a big red flag that you would
- 5225 remember?
- 5226 A I'm just telling you what I -- I don't remember
- 5227 this document and I don't recall that conversation you're
- 5228 referring to.
- 5229 Q Is it the case that you just didn't care when
- 5230 Mr. Lafemina brought this up, and that's why you don't
- 5231 remember?
- 5232 A Is that a question? I don't understand.
- 5233 Q Usually people remember things that they care
- 5234 about. You don't seem to remember this conversation, so
- 5235 I'm asking you, is it possible you just didn't care when
- 5236 Mr. Lafemina raised these red flags?
- 5237 Ms. Seymour. I'm going to object again. You're
- 5238 assuming something that we don't even know whether it
- 5239 happened. It's a completely unfair question for this
- 5240 witness.
- 5241 I'm asking whether Mr. Snyder, sitting

5242 here today, believes that it's possible that the president

- 5243 could have brought this to his attention and it would not
- 5244 have been an important factor.
- 5245 The Witness. I think not only did we demonstrate how
- 5246 much we care by our actions, but I'm just telling you I
- 5247 don't recall the conversation or this document. And...
- **5248** By
- 5249 Q Okay. Mr. Snyder, I agree with you that facts
- 5250 matter. So let's go to a document that I believe you do
- 5251 remember. This is Minority Exhibit J, the August 2, 2021,
- 5252 Vestry Laight report.
- 5253 Do you have that Mr. Snyder?
- 5254 A I have the document, yes.
- 5255 Q I'd like you to turn to page 5. At the bottom of
- 5256 the page, do you see under heading 3 where it says, "In
- 5257 October 2020, McKinsey conducted an organizational health
- 5258 and inclusion survey of the WFT, "Washington Football Team?
- 5259 Do you see that?
- 5260 A Yes.
- 5261 O This is October 2020. That's about two and a
- 5262 half years after this Sageview Consulting agreement that we
- 5263 looked at just a moment ago was sent. Do you agree?
- 5264 A From the date of that document and the date of
- 5265 this document, is that your question?
- 5266 Q Yes. That there's about two and a half years

5267 between July 12, 2018 when the Sageview Consulting

5268 agreement was, and October 2020 when McKenzie conducted an

5269 organizational health and inclusion survey. That's two and

- 5270 a half years?
- 5271 A Can you ask the question again, please?
- 5272 Q It's not a trick question. One document is
- 5273 July 12, 2018; the second document talks about an
- 5274 October 2020 survey. Two and a half years have elapsed
- 5275 between those two dates. Is that fair?
- 5276 A Yes.
- 5277 Q And let's see what Vestry Laight has to say about
- 5278 McKinsey's survey. On the next page, page 6, it says, "The
- 5279 results vary across departments, but notable were feelings
- 5280 of being undervalued, a perception of lack of fairness and
- 5281 accountability, siloed work units and inconsistent
- 5282 communication.
- 5283 "The analysis concluded that many of the problems, such as
- 5284 inconsistency across departments and feelings of lack of
- 5285 recognition and accountability stems from an underdeveloped
- 5286 human resources function."
- 5287 Do you see that, Mr. Snyder?
- 5288 A Yes.
- 5289 Q So in 2020, McKinsey found that the Commanders
- 5290 had an underdeveloped human resources function that led to
- 5291 feelings of lack of accountability. That's the conclusion

- 5292 of McKinsey; right?
- 5293 A Yes.
- 5294 Q So in 2018, Mr. Lafemina hires Sageview
- 5295 Consulting and raises a red flag about the HR function.
- 5296 And yet in October 2020, two and a half years later, you
- 5297 still have done nothing about it?
- 5298 Ms. Seymour. I'm going to object. We have an
- 5299 unsigned document. We don't know what it is. The witness
- 5300 doesn't recall anything about it, and I think it's unfair
- 5301 to ask him the assumption that that all happened. We have
- 5302 no idea, sitting here today.
- **5303** By
- Okay. Well, August 2, 2021, the Vestry Laight
- 5305 report says that in October 2020, McKinsey concluded that
- 5306 there was an underdeveloped human resources function that
- 5307 led to feelings of lack of accountability. Can we agree on
- 5308 that, Mr. Snyder?
- 5309 A I think we've said time and time again that our
- 5310 HR staff was missing. I think we've been upfront about
- 5311 that. I think that we've talked a lot about our HR
- 5312 organization today and where we are. So we obviously have
- 5313 stated publicly that our HR was not functioning properly.
- 5314 And now I think, you know, it's obviously succeeding and is
- 5315 doing very well.
- 5316 Q Well, after the Wilkinson investigation and after

5317 your fine by the NFL and you were made to hire Vestry

- 5318 Laight, you know, you got these reports that things had
- 5319 changed. But what we see is that in 2018, there's a
- 5320 consulting agreement and in 2020, there's a McKinsey
- 5321 assessment that things had not, in fact, changed; that you
- 5322 did nothing to improve the HR function in that time period.
- Ms. Seymour. Is that a question?
- **5324** By
- 5325 Q Mr. Snyder, are you aware that during that time
- 5326 period, Ms. Engelson quit her job because she continued to
- 5327 be harassed by Larry Michael and had no support from the
- **5328** team?
- 5329 A Can you repeat the question?
- Q Are you aware that during this time period, 2018
- 5331 to 2020, during which the HR functions did not improve,
- 5332 Ms. Engelson was forced to quit the team because she was
- 5333 being harassed by Larry Michael and no one on the team was
- 5334 doing anything about it? Are you aware?
- 5335 A No.
- Do you realize that your failure to address the
- 5337 HR function for all these years meant that you had
- 5338 employees who were being harassed and had no HR department
- 5339 to turn to for years?
- 5340 A Obviously from the presentation, you can see that
- 5341 we used McKinsey when Jason Wright took over from his

5342 predecessor, and I think we've made tremendous strides

5343 since then. And we've acknowledged and continue to

5344 apologize for not having proper procedures in place and

5345 proper HR in place, for which we did apologize.

So since they gave you a failing grade, you went

5347 to McKinsey. McKinsey gave you a failing grade, you went

5348 to Vestry Laight. Is that what happened, Mr. Snyder?

Ms. Seymour. I'm going to object to that question

5350 again. It completely lacks a foundation with respect to

5351 Sageview, but I think the question can be answered again

5352 about McKinsey and Vestry.

5353 The Witness. I don't know if Sageview was hired or

5354 not. And possibly Jason Wright's predecessor would know

5355 that. But I also know that that by hiring McKinsey and by

5356 looking within -- and McKinsey and -- Vestry is not

5357 replacing McKinsey. Vestry is very cultural organization

**5358** focused --

**5359** By

5360 Q Let me --

5361 A Can I finish my --

5362 Q I'm sorry, Mr. Snyder. I thought you were done.

5363 A All I know is that I know that Jason Wright hired

5364 McKinsey to help give him more guidance. I know he did a

5365 heck of a job. And when we all retained Vestry, it was not

5366 saying -- or meant to replace McKinsey. It was meant to be

5367 an ongoing and -- relationship of looking within, and it

- 5368 maintains that today. Yesterday's report speaks for
- 5369 itself.
- 5370 Q Well, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Lafemina testified that
- 5371 Sageview did, in fact, conduct an audit and that the
- 5372 results of the audit were provided to the team. Do you
- 5373 have any reason to dispute that?
- 5374 A I'm unaware.
- 5375 Q Well, Mr. Snyder, we don't have a copy of the
- 5376 Sageview audit report. And so I would ask you here on the
- 5377 record to commit to providing that audit report to the
- 5378 Committee so that we can see exactly what Sageview said.
- Ms. Seymour. We'll take that back and -- we'll take
- 5380 all the requests back and see what we can say.
- 5381 I will state that we received this unsigned document
- 5382 just a number of hours -- less than, you know, seven hours
- 5383 or something before the hearing began. And we were simply
- 5384 trying to download the documents. We really didn't even
- 5385 have time to review them. Certainly not time to explore
- 5386 the situation.
- Noted. And this is a document, for
- 5388 reference, that was provided to the Committee by the NFL.
- 5389 Ms. Seymour. Right. We did not receive copies of the
- 5390 NFL's production. So we do not know what was provided to
- 5391 the Committee in this matter.

**5392** By

Mr. Snyder, would you also commit on the record

5394 to providing the 2020 McKinsey report?

5395 Ms. Seymour. Again, we'll take that back under

5396 advisement. We'll try to keep a list, a running list, and

5397 we're happy to talk to the staff.

**5398** By

5399 Q Mr. Snyder, ultimately whose fault is it that in

5400 2018 all the way until 2020 for McKinsey, your team still

5401 lacked a proper HR function?

5402 A But I think in 2020 when Jason Wright was hired

5403 and then Andre Chambers shortly thereafter, we made great

5404 strides, unbelievable strides on -- in fact, there's a

5405 university out in Maine who is doing a transformation --

5406 Q Mr. Snyder, I'm sorry to interrupt you, but my

5407 question is: Whose responsibility is it that until 2020,

5408 your team failed to have an adequate HR function?

Ms. Seymour. I ask him to be allowed to finish his

5410 answer.

5411 The answer has to be responsive.

**5412** By

5413 Q Unless you're saying it's Jason Wright's fault.

5414 My question is: Who is responsible for the fact there was

5415 no HR function until -- that as of 2020, your team lacked a

5416 suitable HR function?

5417 A I think we've said that probably numerous times

- 5418 and have apologized for having an inadequate HR department
- 5419 and we continue to do it again. I'd be happy to do it to
- 5420 you.
- 5421 But before you interrupted me, I was finishing a sentence.
- 5422 If you don't mind, I would finish the sentence. And that
- 5423 is simply that a university is using our two years of
- 5424 transformation to do a case study on how an organization
- 5425 can be drastically transformed.
- 5426 And they have not even seen the most recent Vestry reports.
- 5427 But I do believe that -- you know, I apologize. I'll do it
- 5428 again to you, if that would help.
- 5429 Q Mr. Snyder, you're apologizing, and that's fine,
- 5430 but are you saying that it was your fault?
- A Well, we own the team, so we're responsible for
- 5432 the team. And that is why I'm apologizing. But -- thank
- 5433 you.
- So the men and women of the Washington Commanders
- 5435 who were harassed, who were -- who suffered sexual
- 5436 harassment, bullying, other forms of misconduct during --
- 5437 you know, up until 2020 and had no proper HR function to
- 5438 report that to you, you take responsibility for their
- 5439 suffering at the hands of the Washington Commanders
- 5440 workplace, is that fair?
- A I think we've taken responsibility and apologized

5442 for the organization and, importantly, by making changes --

5443 and change is hard, difficult to do -- we've led by

5444 example.

Now, Mr. Snyder, this August 2, 2021, Vestry

5446 Laight report, this is after the conclusion of the

5447 Wilkinson investigation. Is that fair?

5448 A Yes.

5449 Q And do you agree that it's important for

5450 Ms. Wilkinson to have been able to do her job, that it was

5451 important for her to be able to talk to employees, and

5452 employees to be able to talk to her, without fear of

5453 retaliation?

5454 A Can you repeat the question?

5455 Q Sure. Do you agree that if employees at the

5456 Washington Football Team, at the Commanders, were afraid of

5457 retaliation, that puts into doubt Ms. Wilkinson's ability

5458 to conduct a thorough investigation?

5459 A I don't understand the question.

5460 Q In order to do a thorough investigation,

5461 Ms. Wilkinson needed to be able to talk to all your

5462 employees. Is that fair?

5463 A I believe she spoke to anyone she wanted to speak

5464 to. We gave her complete access to our emails and

5465 databases and whatever she requested. And we gave access

5466 to anyone she asked for, including myself.

Q And it's important for that to be productive, for the the employees to feel like they can speak freely without fear of retaliation; is that correct?

5470 A Yes.

5471 If you go to page 14 of the report, Mr. Snyder, 5472 of this August 2, 2021, report on page 14, this is Vestry 5473 Laight's assessment, it says, "Given the fear of 5474 retaliation reported to exist on the team, coupled with the 5475 McKinsey concern that team members do not know where to go when a concern arises, some fear of retaliation or losing 5476 5477 responsibility if they share concerns, it will be important for us to explore through follow-up surveys the extent to 5478 5479 which employees currently understand the reporting avenues available and their comfort with or hesitation to use the 5480 5481 hotline and/or report to a manager/HR."

5482 Do you see that, Mr. Snyder?

Ms. Seymour. I would object since this is not referencing the Wilkinson investigation here. This is employee reporting.

This is the assessment of Vestry Laight

about the status of the team on August 2, 2021 that we have

discussed -- Mr. Snyder has discussed at length. I don't

understand your objection to us seeing what their

assessment of the status of the team was.

Ms. Seymour. Nobody -- I'm not objecting to that.

- 5492 I'm merely saying I think the question had to do with
- 5493 whether there was a fear of retaliation and employees would
- 5494 be discouraged to go to Beth Wilkinson.
- Let me ask the question differently,
- 5496 then.
- 5497 Ms. Seymour. I'm fine. I'm trying to state why I was
- 5498 objecting.
- Fair enough. I'm going to ask the
- 5500 question differently.
- 5501 By
- 5502 Q Mr. Snyder, do you agree that Vestry Laight found
- 5503 that there was a fear of retaliation purported to exist on
- 5504 the team on August 2, 2021?
- 5505 To help you answer that question, Mr. Snyder, here is the
- 5506 sentence from Vestry Laight: "Given the fear of
- 5507 retaliation reported to exist on the team."
- 5508 Mr. Snyder, I'm confused. It seems like an easy question
- 5509 from me.
- 5510 A Can you give me a second to read the whole
- 5511 document, please?
- 5512 Q Mr. Snyder, I think the report speaks for itself.
- 5513 So if you're not able -- if you're unable to answer the
- 5514 question, we can move on.
- 5515 A I just want to point out that the McKinsey report
- 5516 was October 2020, and Jason Wright had just started a few

5517 months before, and this Vestry report is dated August 2,

- 5518 2021. And by then, I believe Andre Chambers had staffed
- 5519 the HR department, et cetera, et cetera. So I think the
- 5520 important thing is not to insinuate but to state the facts.
- 5521 Q I agree, Mr. Snyder. And it seems like Vestry
- 5522 Laight did too, and that's why they stated the fact that a
- 5523 fear of retaliation was reported to exist on the team.
- 5524 With that, let's move on.
- 5525 You discussed with my colleague the 2009 sexual assault
- 5526 allegation that was leveled against you by an employee and
- 5527 that your team settled. Is that correct?
- 5528 A Yes. The insurance company.
- 5529 Q Now, in September 2021, Ms. Wilkinson reportedly
- 5530 became aware of that settlement. Are you familiar with
- **5531** that?
- 5532 A I'm not familiar with -- are you saying when did
- 5533 she become aware?
- 5534 Q Let me ask you differently. When did you become
- 5535 aware that Ms. Wilkinson had learned about the existence of
- 5536 the 2009 settlement?
- Ms. Seymour. Privilege, as it relates to privilege.
- 5538 The witness asked a question about attorney-client
- 5539 privilege. Could we step outside?
- 5540 Briefly.
- 5541 (Discussion held off the record.)

- Ms. Seymour. Thank you.
- The Witness. Thank you. Can you repeat the question,
- 5544 please?
- 5545 By
- 5546 Q When did you become aware that Ms. Wilkinson had
- 5547 learned about the existence of the 2009 sexual assault
- 5548 settlement?
- 5549 A In July 2020.
- 5550 Q And how did you learn about that?
- A We informed her.
- 5552 O You informed Ms. Wilkinson about the 2009
- 5553 settlement?
- The team, yes.
- Now, did Mr. Chirite inform Ms. Wilkinson of this
- 5556 settlement?
- 5557 A I don't recall exactly who. I know she was
- 5558 informed in July of 2020.
- 5559 Q After she was informed of this, Mr. Donovan sued
- 5560 Ms. Wilkinson in federal court in Virginia to prevent her
- 5561 from using this information in her report and to destroy
- 5562 any documents she received regarding the settlement. Are
- 5563 you aware of that?
- 5564 A Yes.
- 5565 Q Did Mr. Donovan consult with you regarding this
- 5566 lawsuit before he brought it against Ms. Wilkinson?

- 5567 A No.
- 5568 O You had no conversations with him before he
- 5569 brought this lawsuit?
- 5570 A No.
- 5571 Q Now, did you intervene in this lawsuit? By
- 5572 "you," I mean, you or the team.
- 5573 A Yes.
- 5574 Q Why did you intervene in that lawsuit?
- 5575 A I'm not an attorney, so I think lawyers did that.
- 5576 Q Were you seeking to prevent Ms. Wilkinson from
- 5577 using the information about the 2009 settlement in her
- 5578 report?
- 5579 A Ms. Wilkinson interviewed the accuser and also
- 5580 interviewed me.
- 5581 Q Were you trying to prevent her from including
- 5582 that information in her report?
- 5583 A No.
- Q Was there any purpose, in your eyes, then, to
- 5585 spending money intervening in this lawsuit?
- 5586 A I'm not an attorney, so...
- 5587 Q You're the one who pays the attorney.
- 5588 A Yes, I do. We do, the team.
- 5589 Q In your eyes, is there any purpose to intervening
- 5590 in this lawsuit?
- 5591 A I'm not knowledgeable enough to give you an

- 5592 answer.
- 5593 Q Mr. Snyder, I'd like you to look at a document
- 5594 identified by the letters BF which we've identified as
- 5595 Exhibit 8 in this deposition.
- 5596 (Exhibit 8, Letter dated May 20, 2021, was marked for
- 5597 identification.)
- 5598 Ms. Seymour. Could you identify what the document --
- 5599 sorry.
- The May 20, 2021, letter to Counsel of Record for
- 5601 Intervenor of Washington Football Team from HWG, who
- 5602 represented Beth Wilkinson in Ms. Wilkinson's depo.
- Ms. Seymour. You got it, thank you.
- 5604 By
- Do you see that, Mr. Snyder?
- 5606 A I do.
- 5607 Q If you go to page 2, the top paragraph. It says,
- 5608 "Subsequently, as you know, the team intervened in the
- 5609 Donovan litigation and launched a series of attacks against
- 5610 Ms. Wilkinson. In so doing, the team plainly staked out a
- 5611 position of adversity with Ms. Wilkinson and the Firm more
- 5612 generally."
- 5613 Do you see that?
- 5614 A Yes.
- 5615 Q What was the position of adversity that the team
- 5616 staked out against Ms. Wilkinson?

- 5617 A I'm unaware.
- 5618 Q Did the team launch a series of attacks against
- 5619 Ms. Wilkinson related to the Donovan litigation?
- 5620 A I'm unaware.
- 5621 Q You're unaware. In filings in that litigation,
- 5622 Ms. Wilkinson described efforts to force a witness into
- 5623 silence and noncooperation that were documented and was
- 5624 brought by Brendan Sullivan.
- 5625 Mr. Snyder, is Brendan Sullivan the attorney who represents
- your accuser from 2009?
- 5627 A Back then, yes.
- 5628 Q Mr. Snyder, did you or anyone acting on your
- 5629 behalf or on behalf of the team offer your 2009 accuser
- 5630 additional money in exchange for her continued silence?
- 5631 A No.
- 5632 Q No one offered her any money for her continued
- 5633 silence during the course of the Wilkinson investigation?
- 5634 Is that your testimony?
- 5635 A I think I've answered. No.
- 5636 Q As part of your settlement in 2009, was there a
- 5637 nondisclosure agreement that applied to that settlement?
- 5638 A Yes.
- 5639 Q And that 2009 -- who did that nondisclosure
- agreement cover?
- 5641 A Five different parties, I believe.

5642 Q Including your accuser?

5643 A Yes.

5644 Q Including Mr. Sullivan, her attorney?

5645 A I'm unsure.

5646 Q If this NDA was in effect, what possible reason

5647 could your attorneys have had to reach out to your

5648 accuser's attorney?

5649 A I'm unaware.

You're unaware of any reason?

5651 A Yes. I'm unaware.

Mr. Snyder, would you agree on the record to

5653 release from the NDA your accuser in 2009 so that she can

5654 speak freely to the Committee, if she so chooses, as well

some state of the state of the

Ms. Seymour. Again, we'll take this under advisement.

5657 I think the record reflects this is a five-party agreement.

5658 So it really would not be within Mr. Snyder's power to

5659 release the other signatories, given the other signatories'

agreement.

**5661** By

Mr. Snyder, during the course of the Wilkinson

5663 investigation, did you or anyone acting on your behalf or

on behalf of the team offer any former employee money in

5665 exchange for their silence?

5666 A No.

5667 Did you or anyone on your behalf or on behalf of 5668 the team offer -- reach out to any clients of the law firm Katz, Marshall, Banks, including Ms. Applegate or miss 5669 Imbert to offer them money in exchange for entering into a 5670 5671 nondisclosure agreement in February 2021 or at any time 5672 during the Wilkinson investigation? Ms. Seymour. Counsel, just to be clear, are you 5673 5674 talking about a settlement of their claims that could 5675 include a nondisclosure agreement? Are you talking about something after a settlement to induce hush money? So if 5676 5677 you could clarify what you mean by the allegation. perhaps we can take them one at a time. 5678 5679 So let's start with the first one. 5680 Ms. Seymour. Is the question, are you aware of any settlement agreements with any Katz & Banks clients that 5681 5682 contain nondisclosure agreements? 5683 During the Wilkinson investigation. The Witness. Yes. 5684 5685 Ву And who did that cover? 5686 5687 Α Which parties? What's the question, please? Who was covered by that nondisclosure agreement 5688 as part of the settlement? 5689 I'm unaware of the details. 5690 Α

You don't have any details on who it covers?

5691

Ms. Seymour. Are you asking who was a party to this

- 5693 settlement? I'm sorry.
- 5694 Exactly.
- 5695 Ms. Seymour. Okay. I think if they are nondisclosure
- 5696 agreements, you know, the question is the people who
- 5697 settled their claims, are you asking for the names of the
- 5698 people or what are you asking for?
- 5699 Description of what --
- 5700 Ms. Seymour. Oh, a description of the people who
- 5701 settled their claims.
- 5702 The Witness. Description of the people?
- 5703 Ms. Seymour. Yes.
- **5704** By
- 5705 Q Are they former employees?
- 5706 A Former cheerleaders.
- 5707 Q Is that in relation to the lewd videos?
- 5708 A It's in relation to multiple -- multiple topics,
- 5709 I believe.
- 5710 Q Outside of that settlement agreement, did you or
- 5711 anyone on your behalf or on behalf of the team approach any
- 5712 client of Katz, Marshall, Banks to offer them additional
- 5713 money in exchange for entering into a nondisclosure
- **5714** agreement?
- 5715 A I'm unaware of that.
- 5716 Q You're unaware. Does that mean it did not

5717 happen, or it may have happened, and you just don't know?

- 5718 A I'm unaware.
- 5719 Q Mr. Snyder, is it your testimony that you do not
- 5720 know if people acting on your behalf offered hush money to
- 5721 clients of the Katz, Marshall, Banks law firm?
- 5722 A I'm just unaware.
- 5723 Q So you're saying it's possible. You just don't
- **5724** know?
- 5725 A I don't know what you're talking about. I've
- 5726 never said -- I just told you that the cheerleaders were --
- 5727 I'm unaware, yes.
- 5728 Q You talked about the settlement that applied to
- 5729 the cheerleaders. So we set that aside. Now, outside of
- 5730 that settlement, did you or anyone acting on your behalf or
- 5731 on behalf of the team offer money to clients of Katz,
- 5732 Marshall, Banks, in order to induce them to enter into a
- 5733 nondisclosure agreement?
- 5734 A I'm unaware of that.
- 5735 Q And so if you're saying you're unaware, I'm
- 5736 asking, does that mean that it's possible that people
- 5737 acting on your behalf did so?
- 5738 A I don't believe so.
- 5739 Q But it's possible?
- 5740 A I'm unaware. I've answered the question.
- 5741 Q Do you agree, Mr. Snyder, that entering into a

5742 nondisclosure agreement during the Wilkinson investigation

5743 would violate your promise of full cooperation that you

5744 made with regard to that investigation?

5745 A No.

5746 Q No? You don't believe that buying someone's

5747 silence during the Wilkinson investigation would fall short

5748 of full cooperation?

5749 Ms. Seymour. I'm going to object to that. There was

5750 no buying silence. There were settlement agreements, as he

5751 testified, and I think he also testified that Wilkinson was

5752 able to talk to anyone, notwithstanding any nondisclosure

5753 agreement. So that's really an unacceptable question.

**5754** By

5755 Q Did you enter into any nondisclosure agreement --

5756 to the extent nondisclosure agreements prevented people

5757 from going to the press with their concerns, The Washington

5758 Post that had these exposés, would you agree that that

5759 would have been a problem, Mr. Snyder?

5760 A I just don't understand the question.

5761 Q Mr. Snyder, you said that you informed the -- the

5762 NFL was informed in 2009 of the allegations and the

5763 settlement. Is that correct?

5764 A Yes.

5765 Q So in 2009, was the NFL informed of the substance

5766 of those allegations?

5767 A I just know that our general counsel spoke with 5768 their general counsel, as well as outside counsel spoke to

5770 Q And did they disclose to the NFL that an employee
5771 had made an allegation of sexual misconduct against you,
5772 the owner of the team?

5773 A Yes.

them as well.

5769

If I could have just a moment's

indulgence. With that, I think for a time, I will pass it

to my Minority colleagues for any questions that they may

have.

Do you want to take a five-minute break?

5779 Does the witness need a break?

5780 Ms. Seymour. Thank you.

5781 So we'll be back at 5:00.

5782 (Recess)

Ms. Seymour. Before we get started, I'm just noting

for the record that it's after midnight here in Israel, and

we've been going now for nine hours, and -- and, you know,

we are -- we'll endeavor to be cooperative, but we will

hope that we can stop without too much more time.

We did offer to make ourselves available during the workday at 9:00 on the East Coast, after midnight here.

So, again, we're trying to be cooperative. We recognize that folks have questions, but we are hoping we can wrap

- 5792 this up before too long. But thank you.
- One point of clarification. Did you say
- 5794 you offered to make yourself available at 5 p.m. Eastern
- 5795 Time tomorrow?
- 5796 Ms. Seymour. No, I did not say that. I understood
- 5797 that the staff had asked us to be available during east
- 5798 coast business hours, and we have done that. We're now
- 5799 after 5 p.m. on the East Coast. It's after midnight here.
- 5800 And so I'm just, you know, hoping that folks can take that
- 5801 into account and hoping that we can end before too long.
- 5802 It's been going nine hours, so it's a long -- a long day
- for everybody.
- I wanted to make sure that I understood
- 5805 what you were referring to. We certainly appreciate your
- 5806 patience here, but, of course, as you know, our preference
- 5807 would have been to do this on the same time zone so that
- 5808 you wouldn't have had to be inconvenienced.
- So we will endeavor to get as through as much of this
- 5810 as we can quickly, and we've made good time so far. But I
- 5811 will take that -- just wanted to make sure I understood
- 5812 exactly what your concerns were.
- 5813 Ms. Seymour. Just it's been a long day, but we will
- 5814 keep going.
- And I will just note, too, that despite
- 5816 whatever time zone we are on, this has still been a long

time, even if we were all on East Coast time. I think my
Majority counterparts know we rarely start an interview
before 9:00. We started at 8:00 a.m., and it's now past
5820 5 p.m. So even by our own standards, regardless of the
witness being on a wholly different time zone, that it's
been a pretty long day by all Congressional Committee
investigation standards.

## 5824 EXAMINATION BY

5825

5840

5841

So with that, we'll go back on the record. I'll 5826 Q be jumping around a little bit, so I'll try to make sure I 5827 have the predicates, you understand kind of where the 5828 5829 question is coming from. But if it's not clear, just let me know, just because I will be jumping around. 5830 And at the outset, I don't think we'll be taking the full 5831 5832 hour on this round. But we have some -- just some handful 5833 of questions here and there on a few different topics. This is going back a couple hours into the day, a 5834 5835 discussion about Beth Wilkinson's investigation and her 5836 firm taking over -- taking over or assuming that 5837 investigation and that work. And I just want to clarify to make sure this is your understanding. 5838 I'm going to read from NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell's 5839

opening statement that he gave at the June 22 hearing, so

last month, a few weeks ago, relating to this and to

- 5842 clarify that as also your understanding.
- 5843 This is his statement: "The Commanders are one of 32 NFL
- 5844 clubs, each of which is managed by its ownership and
- 5845 executives and have their own workplaces and policies.
- 5846 "Two years ago, the Commanders asked me to recommend
- 5847 independent counsel to address workplace issues and
- 5848 recommend changes to improve the workplace culture. We
- 5849 identified several candidates, and the club selected Beth
- 5850 Wilkinson, a distinguished former federal prosecutor.
- 5851 "Approximately six weeks later, the club asked my office to
- 5852 assume oversight of the Wilkinson firm's work. The
- 5853 Wilkinson firm conducted a comprehensive review of the
- 5854 workplace at the club, interviewing more than 150
- 5855 witnesses."
- 5856 And that is from his statement on the record on June 22.
- 5857 Is that your understanding of what happened with regard to
- 5858 selecting Beth Wilkinson and her assuming that role and the
- 5859 NFL's relationship with her firm in this investigation?
- 5860 A Yes, that's what I believe I said earlier. Yes.
- 5861 Thank you.
- 5862 Q This is following up from last hour. Just to be
- 5863 clear, the complaining witness in the 2009 incident, as far
- 5864 as you understand, was interviewed by Beth Wilkinson?
- 5865 A Yes, as was I.
- 5866 Q As you probably are, no doubt, aware, the

5867 Committee had a deposition of a former employee, David

5868 Pauken, and have been relying on that testimony and have,

5869 in fact, released -- publicly released that transcript on

5870 the day of the hearing with Roger Goodell.

5871 Did anyone from the Majority on the Committee reach out to

5872 you or to your counsel, to the extent you're aware, about

5873 Mr. Pauken's tenure with the team -- with your team or with

5874 Snyder Communications?

5875 A No.

5876 Q So as I just mentioned, that transcript was

5877 released the day of the hearing. Did you or your attorneys

5878 have an opportunity to review or see that transcript before

5879 it was publicly released or to respond to the allegations

5880 in that transcript?

5881 A No.

5882 Q Do you believe that there were questions that

5883 could have been asked that were not asked of Mr. Pauken

5884 during that deposition?

5885 A Yes.

5886 Q So one of the allegations that Mr. Pauken had

5887 made was that you were, quote, abusive to him. He, as far

5888 as I know, left your employment well over 10 years ago, if

5889 not longer. Is that your understanding?

5890 A I think, 16 or -- 16 or almost 17, so some years

**5891** ago.

5892 Q I think in his last position, he was the COO of

5893 the team. Is that accurate?

5894 A Yes.

So he had a pretty significant position, was it

5896 not?

5897 A Yes.

5898 Q Did you in any way ever cause him harm or abuse

5899 Mr. Pauken?

5900 A No.

5901 Q And then do you know what his compensation

5902 package was during that period of time?

5903 A I don't remember much about him at this point

5904 since it was so long ago, but a couple things that I do

5905 remember, just a few, about him from a long time ago. I'd

5906 be happy to tell you whatever I know or whatever I

5907 remember.

5908 Q I mean, as far as you recollect, it was a

5909 generous compensation package?

5910 A Yes. He actually left after being very, very

5911 disgruntled. And he was compensated well, but somehow he

5912 believed he was entitled to some equity in the franchise at

5913 my previous company. We gave stock options, a public

5914 company. This being a private company, we did things

5915 through compensation, et cetera.

5916 He had asked for equity, I can't remember if he asked for 1

5917 or 2 percent, I don't remember which percent, but I

5918 remember him being extremely, extremely angry. That's what

- **5919** I recall.
- 5920 Q So based on your recollection, he was disgruntled
- 5921 because he was denied having equity in the team?
- 5922 A Yes.
- 5923 Q Do you recall his tenure as a team employee at
- **5924** all?
- 5925 A Not really. I mean, it was so long ago. I
- 5926 remember afterwards, I can't remember when, whether it was
- 5927 a COO or a CFO, someone end up coming in and showing me a
- 5928 lot of documents that during his tenure at the club, he was
- 5929 constructing his new home using team commercial contractors
- 5930 that we use for major renovation at our stadium.
- 5931 I remember the big companies was millions and millions of
- 5932 dollars, Carlson Construction, and I remember something
- 5933 about a gate and him taking employees from the stadium in
- 5934 Maryland to Virginia to help construct his gate and his big
- 5935 house and using our vendors.
- 5936 We were chatting, what should we do with all this, should
- 5937 we do something with it, a report? I said, look, let's
- 5938 just leave him alone. He's unhappy. Just leave it alone.
- 5939 I don't remember much about him at this point other than
- **5940** that.
- 5941 Q But from what you recall, he was using, like,

5942 team contractors and vendors to work on his personal

- 5943 residence?
- 5944 A To construct his home. It was not obviously
- 5945 discovered during his tenure. It was discovered
- 5946 afterwards, all the documents and corresponding -- I
- 5947 decided not to pursue it. I just thought, leave him alone.
- 5948 Let's let him go on his way.
- 5949 Q So you didn't learn about this until after he had
- 5950 departed from the organization?
- 5951 A That's correct, yes.
- 5952 Q If you had learned he was doing this while he was
- 5953 still employed with the organization, would you have taken
- 5954 any action?
- 5955 A I would have terminated him.
- 5956 Q Why would that have been your course of action?
- 5957 A Because these are -- Carlson Construction, for
- 5958 example, is a commercial, nonresidential-type contracting
- 5959 company, and he was using their employees to help with his
- 5960 home, as well as other vendors that we were paying
- 5961 substantial -- many millions of dollars for these vendors.
- 5962 I have not investigated or looked into this. I decided the
- 5963 best thing to do was to let him go on his way. And that
- 5964 was disappointing.
- 5965 Q Was there anything else you recollected from his
- 5966 tenure with you, either with Snyder Communications or with

- **5967** the team?
- 5968 A No. I thought he was a good accountant.
- 5969 Q That was his background, accounting?
- 5970 A Yes.
- 5971 Q So you didn't have an opportunity to provide some
- 5972 of that information with regard to his coming forward to
- 5973 the Committee to testify in the deposition; correct?
- 5974 A No. I'm sure we have that file somewhere. We
- 5975 can get it to you.
- 5976 Q I'm going to just go through a couple of other
- 5977 quick kind of allegations made. I think, as I understand
- 5978 it, that some of these came actually from David Pauken.
- 5979 One is that he alleged that you had, I think, ordered or
- 5980 requested or something sour milk being poured in a suite
- 5981 owned by the Lerners, the owners of the Washington
- 5982 Nationals.
- 5983 Do you recall having requested or ordered sour milk being
- 5984 poured in one of your stadium suites?
- 5985 A I have no recollection of that whatsoever. And
- 5986 Mark Lerner and his wife are friends of my wife, Tanya and
- 5987 I. We have them over to our home for dinner.
- 5988 Q Is that even something that you think you would
- 5989 ask one of your employees to do?
- 5990 A It's just silly.
- 5991 Q David Pauken had characterized, while he was

5992 there with the organization, that you were -- he

- 5993 characterized it as, like, you were not a hands-off owner.
- 5994 How would you characterize your ownership style over the
- 5995 course of, I guess, about two decades of owning the team?
- 5996 A Probably first couple of years, I was pretty
- 5997 hands-on, and then from there, we began to -- the last
- 5998 decade, probably -- we're obviously affiliated with people
- 5999 and we made a mistake prior to Jason and I wasn't in the
- 6000 office frequently, maybe 30 days a year at headquarters and
- 6001 then games, the 20 games that we would go to. So I was not
- 6002 hands-on and, obviously, should have been much more aware
- 6003 of things.
- 6004 And I've apologized for that numerous times over and over.
- 6005 And I continue to. But we're getting it right now and
- 6006 we're excited about our future.
- 6007 Q Around the time that Mr. Pauken departed the
- 6008 team, did your management style shift then or, like, before
- 6009 or after? Was there anything -- I guess the phases that
- 6010 you have gone through, what has affected the phases?
- 6011 I understand you said you were initially hands on, then you
- 6012 kind of changed. Was there something that precipitated
- 6013 that? And then obviously kind of in more recent years,
- 6014 there's been some evolution as well.
- 6015 A I think in the beginning, I was hands-on. And in
- 6016 2001, I was diagnosed with cancer. And I had the thyroid

6017 cancer, thyroidectomy. And I had papillary carcinoma. And

- 6018 at the time, I remember we said, it's all gone. It wasn't.
- 6019 It had spread to my lymph nodes and required radioactive
- 6020 chemo stuff at Hopkins, and I got some very bad side
- 6021 effects for quite some time. And then I ended up doing I
- 6022 think it was six more surgical procedures at Mayo Clinic up
- 6023 into '03. And it's a life changer.
- 6024 I want to spend time with my family. The biggest life
- 6025 changer happened in 2008 when my wife had breast cancer and
- 6026 serious surgeries, serious stuff affecting my life.
- 6027 And from there on down, we ended up in the years after that
- 6028 homeschooling our kids and spending a lot of time with
- 6029 family first.
- 6030 And we're empty nesters now. That's why Tanya's able to do
- 6031 the great things she's doing, the great work she's doing.
- 6032 And I'm proud of her and I'm proud of the whole leadership
- 6033 team of the organization.
- 6034 Q Have you stayed in remission since those, like,
- 6035 period of surgeries and so forth?
- 6036 A Yes, I have. Thank you for asking. And so has
- 6037 she. We've both got a lot of things done, but the toll it
- 6038 takes on you, a couple years for me and then a couple years
- 6039 for her, and it's life-changing. So it's difficult stuff,
- 6040 real stuff.
- 6041 And I think that it probably pushed us to do what we did

6042 with our kids and our family and be able to spend more time

6043 than ever to focus on them. We're proud. It turned out

- 6044 pretty well. We're proud.
- 6045 Q Looking to the future, obviously hoping that the
- 6046 health challenges stay in the background and don't ever
- 6047 resurface, what are the biggest challenges you see, like,
- 6048 facing -- for the team over the next handful of years kind
- 6049 of looking for?
- A Well, first thing we got to do is we got to win
- 6051 the Super Bowl. We got to win that championship. And we
- 6052 really have unbelievable faith in coach Ron Rivera, we're
- 6053 excited as can be about our new quarterback. Real excited
- 6054 about the season upcoming.
- 6055 And Tanya -- we've told Jason directly we're so excited
- 6056 about the -- watching him really grow and lead, and it's
- 6057 been really great to see a rising star.
- I'm going to mute just one moment.
- 6059 (Discussion held off the record.)
- We're about done with our questions. I
- 6061 just wanted to give you the opportunity to see if there's
- 6062 anything else you wanted to say or clarify that you feel
- 6063 like you didn't get the opportunity to. Otherwise, we'll
- 6064 be done with our round of questions here.
- The Witness. Thank you.
- Do you have anything further? Or we'll

- 6067 just go off the record.
- The Witness. Thank you for your time.
- I appreciate it. Going off the record.
- 6070 You can kind of take the ball. I don't know if you want to
- 6071 break or you just want to jump into it, leave that to you
- 6072 and Mr. Snyder.
- I think we're fine. Probably hungry.
- 6074 (Discussion held off the record.)
- 6075 EXAMINATION BY
- 6076
- 6077 Q Mr. Snyder, during your tenure as CEO and co-CEO
- 6078 of the Commanders, have you ever used the services of a sex
- 6079 worker in connection with a work-related event?
- 6080 A No.
- 6081 Q Have you ever paid a woman for sex at or in
- 6082 connection with a work-related event?
- 6083 A No.
- 6084 Q Have you ever borrowed money from a current or
- 6085 former Commanders employee to secure the services of a sex
- 6086 worker?
- 6087 A No.
- 6088 Q Earlier you testified about a statement that was
- 6089 made on or around August 26 in response to The Washington
- 6090 Post second exposé which leveled accusations about
- 6091 misconduct.

6092 First of all, those were personal allegations against you.

- 6093 Are you aware that The Washington Post's August 26, 2020,
- 6094 exposé was based on interviews of more than 100 current and
- 6095 former Commanders employees?
- 6096 A No.
- O Does it surprise you to hear that more than 100
- 6098 current and former employees contributed to that article?
- 6099 A Would it surprise me to know? I don't think I
- 6100 said that, so...
- O Do you have any reason to believe that the more
- 6102 than 100 employees who contributed to the article were
- 6103 untruthful?
- 6104 A No.
- 6105 Q I want to ask you some questions about the July 1
- 6106 announcement of Beth Wilkinson's findings. I believe
- 6107 earlier you testified that you discussed with Ms. Wilkinson
- 6108 personally the 10 points of remedial actions that were
- 6109 recommended for you to take. Is that correct?
- 6110 A No.
- O Did you have any discussions with Ms. Wilkinson
- 6112 directly about the 10 points that were listed in the July 1
- 6113 announcement?
- 6114 A No.
- 6115 Q Did you have any conversations with the NFL about
- 6116 those 10 points that were listed in the July 1, 2021,

- 6117 announcement?
- 6118 A I think -- and I have a hard time remembering
- 6119 July 1 and 2. My mom had a stroke on July 1. My mom
- 6120 passed on July 2. So I'm having a hard time remembering
- 6121 everything. The night before, the morning of the 1st, we
- 6122 learned all the details. But I have a hard time
- 6123 remembering those two dates. My mother had a stroke on the
- 6124 1st.
- 6125 Q Did you have a conversation with the NFL at any
- 6126 point before July 1 about the remedial actions that were
- 6127 detailed in the announcement?
- 6128 A Did I? No.
- 6129 Q Did anyone acting on your behalf, your attorneys
- 6130 have a conversation with the NFL prior to the release of
- 6131 the July 1 announcement?
- 6132 A I believe so. Maybe the night before or morning
- 6133 of, I think.
- 6134 Q Would it surprise you to learn that your
- 6135 attorneys or agents acting on your behalf had multiple
- 6136 conversations with the NFL in the weeks leading up to the
- 6137 July 1 announcement?
- 6138 A I can't remember when they had spoken. I just
- 6139 know about the July 1 date.
- 6140 Q Just so the record is clear, you're not saying
- 6141 that they did not have that conversation. You're saying

6142 that you don't recall if those conversations occurred. Is

- 6143 that correct?
- 6144 A That's correct. I don't recall.
- 6145 Q I'd like to direct your attention to the document
- 6146 referenced AN, as in Nancy. This is the July 1
- 6147 announcement. This document will be marked as Exhibit 9
- 6148 for identification purposes.
- 6149 (Exhibit 9, Announcement, was marked for
- 6150 identification.)
- **6151** By
- 6152 Q Mr. Snyder, let me know when you've had a chance
- 6153 to review.
- 6154 A Okay.
- O Do you recognize this document?
- 6156 A Yes.
- **6157** O And what is it?
- 6158 A I believe it's a July 1 league announcement.
- O Now, prior to the July 1 release of the league
- 6160 announcement, did you have an opportunity to discuss and
- 6161 review any aspect of the information contained in this
- 6162 release with anyone from the NFL?
- 6163 A I didn't. No.
- Q Did your agents or anyone acting on your behalf
- 6165 have an opportunity to discuss any aspect of the content of
- 6166 this July 1 release prior to its release?

6167 A I'm sure we did here. Probably on July 1 and 2

- 6168 -- is the date my mom got sick and the day she passed.
- 6169 Q Is it fair to say your testimony is that you
- 6170 don't know whether or not your agents had the opportunity
- 6171 to review or discuss the content of this prior to the
- 6172 July 1 announcement?
- 6173 Ms. Seymour. You said other than the 10
- 6174 recommendations? Are you talking about the release or the
- 6175 recommendations?
- Other than the recommendations which he
- 6177 acknowledged.
- 6178 Ms. Seymour. Okay.
- The Witness. I don't remember if our attorneys spoke
- 6180 to them at all.
- **6181** By
- 6182 Q I want to direct your attention to the last page,
- 6183 second paragraph on the top, beginning with "As co-CEO."
- 6184 Do you see that?
- 6185 A Yes.
- 6186 Q It says, "As co-CEO, Tanya Snyder will assume
- 6187 responsibilities for all day-to-day team operations and
- 6188 represent the club at all league meetings and other league
- 6189 activities for at least the next several months. Dan
- 6190 Snyder will concentrate on the new stadium plan and other
- 6191 matters."

6192 Mr. Snyder, did you view your role of concentrating on the

6193 new stadium plan as stepping back from your duties as the

- 6194 CEO?
- 6195 A I just know that Tanya Snyder attends the league
- 6196 meetings and is deeply involved in the day-to-day
- 6197 activities, and as it says here, I'm focused on the new
- 6198 venue. That's accurate.
- 6199 Q Are you deeply involved in the day-to-day
- 6200 operations of the Commanders currently?
- 6201 A I have not been to the stadium or the facility in
- 6202 a year now. I did -- except for games, excuse me.
- 6203 Q And so by you saying that you haven't been to the
- 6204 facility in over a year --
- 6205 A I want to correct. And also for a couple
- 6206 charitable events.
- 6207 Q You've been to the facility for charitable
- 6208 events, for games?
- 6209 A The stadium.
- 6210 Q The stadium; correct. But your testimony is that
- 6211 you have not been involved in the day-to-day team
- 6212 operations; is that correct?
- 6213 A I have not been to the stadium or the facility in
- 6214 a year other than for games and events. I was at USO
- 6215 events and stuff.
- 6216 Q Have you been involved in the day-to-day

- 6217 operations at the Commanders over the past year?
- 6218 A I'm -- it's-- if asked and needed, I answer and
- 6219 try to be helpful -- and that's what I've done. I think
- 6220 the results speak for themselves. The whole organization.
- 6221 Q So that's a "yes"?
- 6222 A I'm sorry?
- 6223 Q That's a "yes," you have been involved in the
- 6224 day-to-day operations; correct?
- 6225 A Not really. I mean, I've given advice and help,
- 6226 but the day-to-day operations, no. The answer is Tanya
- 6227 Snyder has been to that stadium and the team headquarters,
- 6228 and they can't count the amount of time and effort, and --
- 6229 and I don't want to diminish the great work she's done.
- 6230 And it's unbelievable. And I have not, and she has. But
- 6231 if I'm needed, I'll do that. And it may be necessary to
- 6232 help.
- 6233 Q So that the record is clear, you have not resumed
- 6234 the day-to-day operations of working for the Commanders, is
- 6235 that correct?
- 6236 A That would be more accurate. She's there and --
- 6237 a lot of meetings. I can't tell you how many. It's an
- 6238 enormous number. I've been with her at all the games.
- 6239 I've done some charitable activities, et cetera. And,
- 6240 obviously, I think we all have close relationships with our
- 6241 leaders of the team and meet them when called upon.

6242 Q I want to direct your attention back to a

- 6243 document we previously referenced, which is AE or
- 6244 Exhibit 6. This is your August 26 statement specifically.
- 6245 A Yes.
- 6246 Q Second paragraph you state, "I have admittedly
- 6247 been too hands-off as an owner and allowed others to have
- 6248 day-to-day control to the detriment of our organization.
- 6249 Going forward, I'm going to be more involved."
- 6250 Do you see that?
- 6251 A Yes.
- 6252 Q Mr. Snyder, how do you reconcile your August 26
- 6253 statement with your July -- the July 1 announcement that
- 6254 says you will be focusing on the stadium and that
- 6255 Ms. Snyder will be stepping into the day-to-day operations?
- 6256 How do you reconcile those two things?
- 6257 A I think this is August of 2020 and that was
- 6258 July 1, '21. And when I was involved back then, I was
- 6259 helping hire some great people and helping recruit and
- 6260 retain some great talent, and I'm proud of the work they've
- 6261 achieved.
- 6262 Q What do you think changed that made you believe
- 6263 that you no longer need to be more involved, and you need
- 6264 to be less involved and focused on other efforts?
- 6265 A I think that even before July 1 as Tanya geared
- 6266 up and got more and more involved in the day-to-day, I

6267 think it's been incredibly impressive and kind of fun to

- 6268 watch and hear about.
- 6269 But this document you're referring to is August of 2020
- 6270 when Jason Wright was in the midst of recruiting, and we
- 6271 hired a very solid leadership team. And Tanya is enjoying
- 6272 it every day.
- 6273 Q I believe you testified earlier that Tanya had an
- 6274 integral role in hiring Coach Rivera; correct?
- 6275 A Yes.
- 6276 Q How would you say that Coach Rivera has performed
- 6277 for the Washington Commanders?
- 6278 A I think he's done a marvelous job. The Vestry
- 6279 report that we glanced at today speaks highly of the
- 6280 football organization and I think quotes some of his
- 6281 employees, and I think -- it also, I believe, complements
- 6282 him in the style and his communication abilities and the
- 6283 abilities to work with people and to create a fabulous
- 6284 football team.
- Q Do you trust Coach Rivera?
- 6286 A Yes.
- 6287 Q How often do you speak to him?
- 6288 A Once or so a week.
- 6289 Q What do you speak to Coach Rivera about?
- A He calls, updates me. Went to his son's wedding
- 6291 this summer in Europe, my wife and I, with his family.

- 6292 And...
- 6293 Q Are you aware that Coach Rivera stated that he
- 6294 sat with you and Tanya for an end of-the-season meeting in
- 6295 January?
- 6296 A Yes.
- 6297 Q What was that end-of-the-season meeting about?
- 6298 A He came over, talked about the end of the season
- 6299 and just his positivity for the future.
- 6300 Q Future of the team?
- 6301 A Future, yes.
- 6302 Q Were you involved in acquiring quarterback Carson
- 6303 Wentz?
- 6304 A I'm sorry? I didn't understand the question.
- 6305 Q Were you involved in acquiring quarterback Carson
- **6306** Wentz?
- 6307 A It was actually Martin Mayhew's entire strategy.
- 6308 I called Martin after congratulating him. I was ecstatic
- 6309 about it, and they called me prior to the move and said
- 6310 we're doing this. I jumped for joy.
- 6311 Q Beyond congratulating him and jumping for joy,
- 6312 what, if anything, else was your involvement?
- 6313 A They called up -- we own the club, me and Tanya,
- 6314 and both Tanya and I called Carson Wentz and congratulated
- 6315 him. Went to dinner with Carson Wentz and his wife to
- 6316 welcome him to D.C., at our home.

6317 Q Is it your testimony that you were not heavily

- 6318 involved in acquiring Carson Wentz as quarterback?
- 6319 A No, I was not heavily involved in it, no.
- 6320 Q Were you moderately involved?
- 6321 A I was updated and kept informed, and supported
- 6322 the decision.
- 6323 Q Why did you give brief public remarks at the
- 6324 unveiling of the renaming of the Commanders in February?
- 6325 A I'm sorry?
- 6326 Q Why did you give public remarks at the unveiling
- 6327 of the Commanders' new name and new brand in February of
- 6328 this year?
- 6329 A It was a historic occasion. And mine were brief
- 6330 compared to some others.
- 6331 Q Were you involved in any way in unveiling the
- 6332 rebranding or the planning and the lead-up to?
- 6333 A Kept informed completely.
- 6334 Q How often?
- 6335 A Often. It was a big decision.
- 6336 Q What does "often" mean to you?
- A A few times a week.
- 6338 Q By whom?
- 6339 A Jason Wright, Tanya and whoever called.
- 6340 Q Can you give us an example of a day-to-day
- 6341 activity that you used to be involved in that you no longer

- **6342** are?
- 6343 A I can give you examples of what Tanya is doing
- 6344 day to day, if that's what you're asking for.
- 6345 Q Are those things that you used to be
- 6346 involved in that you no longer are involved in?
- A As I said during all of this meeting, prior to
- 6348 Jason Wright, I was only there a certain amount of days,
- 6349 et cetera. And, in turn, after hiring Jason, we've
- 6350 obviously given our organization a great place. Can you
- 6351 repeat that question, though?
- 6352 Q The question is what day-to-day activities are
- 6353 you no longer involved in today that you were involved in a
- 6354 year ago when you were the sole CEO?
- 6355 A Oh. It's funny you say that, because I think if
- 6356 you asked Jason Wright, he would tell you that Tanya was
- 6357 sort of co-owner, co-CEO from the moment we met. And I
- 6358 think they always saw us together in the beginning and
- 6359 throughout the process of recruiting and hiring.
- 6360 And I can tell you what Tanya is doing today, things that I
- 6361 didn't do in the past, relying solely on the president of
- 6362 the club [Zoom audio interference] for a decade before
- 6363 Jason, and now we've got more of a leadership team, and
- 6364 Tanya is an important part of that, and we're doing some
- 6365 great, great things.
- Q Was Tanya made co-CEO on June 29, 2021?

- 6367 A That was the announcement, yes.
- 6368 Q That was just days before the July 1
- 6369 announcement, wasn't it?
- 6370 A Yes.
- 6371 Q Where it was announced officially; correct?
- 6372 A Yes.
- 6373 Q Did you have conversations with the NFL on or
- 6374 around June 29 or even in advance of that regarding your
- 6375 wife's change in responsibilities as co-CEO?
- 6376 A I don't recall.
- 6377 Q You testified earlier that you retained Vestry
- 6378 Laight -- is it Laight?
- 6379 A Laight.
- 6380 Q -- Vestry Laight prior to the conclusion of what
- 6381 was an investigation; is that correct?
- 6382 A Yes.
- 6383 Q According to public records, you retained Vestry
- 6384 Laight on June 3. Do you recall that?
- 6385 A That sounds right.
- 6386 Q Prior to the NFL approving Vestry Laight as the
- 6387 entity that would assist with fulfilling the remedial
- 6388 action in the July 1 announcement, did you have any
- 6389 conversations with the NFL about retaining a firm like
- 6390 Vestry Laight to perform any type of diversity equity
- 6391 inclusion work?

- 6392 A I can't recall.
- 6393 Q You testified Damon Jones was someone that you
- 6394 brought to join the leadership team in or around 2020,
- **6395** 2021; correct?
- 6396 A Jason Wright. Yes.
- 6397 Q Did you have any role at all?
- 6398 A Yeah. He hired him.
- 6399 Q Did you approve that hire?
- 6400 A I recruited him.
- 6401 Q I'm sorry, can you repeat that?
- 6402 A I helped recruit him.
- 6403 Q He's no longer with the Commanders; correct?
- A He's at the Los Angeles Dodgers.
- 6405 Q You also announced that Julie Jensen would be
- 6406 joining the executive team. Does that sound right?
- 6407 A Yes.
- 6408 Q Is Ms. Jensen still employed with the team?
- 6409 A No.
- 6410 Q Why not?
- A I think the best person to ask would be Jason
- 6412 Wright.
- Q Do you need me to repeat my question?
- 6414 A I'm sorry, I didn't hear your question.
- 6415 Q My question for you is, why is Julie Jensen no
- 6416 longer with the team?

6417 A I would not be qualified to tell you based on

- 6418 my...
- Q Do you know why she's not employed with the team?
- A Not the particulars, no.
- Q Putting aside the particulars, what can you share
- 6422 with me about her departure?
- 6423 A I just know it didn't work out.
- Q What do you know about why it didn't work out,
- 6425 Mr. Snyder?
- 6426 A I don't have the details. I didn't work with
- 6427 her.
- 6428 Q Mr. Snyder, you committed to the Committee in
- 6429 advance of this deposition to provide full and complete
- 6430 testimony. So I'm going to ask you again, what can you
- 6431 tell me about the circumstances surrounding Ms. Jensen's
- 6432 departure?
- 6433 A I actually wasn't involved in her departure. So
- 6434 you need to ask Jason -- Jason Wright that question.
- Q You're refusing to tell me and refusing to answer
- 6436 the question?
- 6437 A I'm not refusing.
- Ms. Seymour. I think that's unfair. He doesn't know,
- 6439 and he's saying he doesn't know more.
- I'm aware of what his response is. It's
- 6441 clear he has more to share. He wants me to go to a

6442 different source. I'm giving him an opportunity to provide

6443 full and complete testimony, as he represented that he

6444 would.

**6445** By

6446 Q This is directly relevant to the Committee's

6447 investigation. You have boasted about this leadership

6448 team. We're very interested in hearing about who you

6449 brought on and why they left. So if you have information

6450 about why Ms. Jensen left the Commanders, we would like to

6451 know. I'll give you that opportunity.

6452 A I just know it didn't work out. Not every single

6453 hire of Jason and the leadership team will work out. That

6454 one didn't work out.

6455 Q Is there anything else you can share, to the best

6456 of your knowledge, about what happened with Ms. Jensen?

6457 A I don't have any knowledge of day to day with

6458 Julie Jensen, if that's what you're asking. I don't

6459 understand the question.

6460 Q Is still employed with the

6461 Commanders?

A No. Jason let him go. I can't remember when.

6463 Q Why?

6464 A I think just performance. Something about

6465 numbers. I just know we're up in sponsorship 20-something

6466 percent and things are going really well.

Q So he was let go because you're up in sponsorship and things were going well?

6469 A I believe so.

6470 Q What was -- title?

6471 A I think he was . I don't

6472 remember the exact titles. He was the vice president.

Q Just so the record is clear, is your testimony

6474 that since his departure, sponsorship has improved or

6475 increased?

6476 A Yes.

Q Who is Gary Edwards?

6478 A Who?

6479 Q Gary Edwards.

6480 A I think he ran the Native American Foundation for

6481 a while. I believe.

O Does he still run the foundation?

A No. We changed that I think in 2019, I believe.

6484 I don't remember exactly.

Q Why is that?

6486 A We decided to go in a different direction. I

6487 think Jason Wright made a statement about that, I believe.

6488 Q Sitting here today, what was the different

6489 direction?

6490 A With all our charitable things we're doing, we

6491 decided to make a change.

6492 Are you aware that Mr. Edwards was accused of 6493 touching an employee in an offensive manner, giving her expensive gifts and asking her personal questions in 2014? 6494 A I heard about that later. 6495 6496 How did you hear about it? 6497 A I think in the media. 6498 What did you hear? Q I can't remember, but I believe it was in the 6499 A 6500 media. When did you hear it? 6501 Q 6502 A I cannot recall. What, if anything, can you recall about either 6503 6504 Mr. Edwards and the incident or the victim and the 6505 incident? I have no recollection of that. 6506 6507 Q Do you know if there was an investigation 6508 conducted? 6509 A No, I do not. Is there anything that would refresh your 6510 6511 recollection? 6512 A I'm sorry? 6513 Is there anything that I can provide that would refresh your recollection? 6514 6515 A I wasn't involved.

Q Who is Karl Schreiber?

6516

6517 A He is our CFO of our family office.

- 6518 Q Is he currently -- CEO or CFO?
- 6519 A CFO.
- 6520 Q Is he currently the CFO?
- 6521 A Yes.
- 6522 Q Has he ever been employed by the Commanders?
- 6523 A No.
- 6524 Q Why did Mr. Schreiber have an office at the
- 6525 headquarters in Ashburn, Redskins Park?
- 6526 A When I went to watch practice, he would come
- 6527 along, and he needed a place to work out of and then...
- 6528 Q Did you have Mr. Schreiber perform any job duties
- 6529 in connection with the Commanders and the operations of the
- 6530 team?
- 6531 A The only thing we had him do was when we hired
- 6532 coach Ron Rivera, we had to go through attorneys and keep
- 6533 it confidential because, as I said, we did interviews off
- 6534 campus. I wanted to keep that really confidential. And so
- 6535 had him involved in coordinating paperwork.
- 6536 Q That's the only thing that Mr. Schreiber has done
- 6537 in connection with performing job duties related to the
- 6538 Commanders organization?
- 6539 A He works on my taxes and financials and is
- 6540 involved in my -- we're an S Corporation, so it rolls into
- 6541 the family office. So he is involved in financial

- 6542 information.
- 6543 Q Who terminated Mr. Lafemina, Mr. Snyder?
- 6544 A I did.
- 6545 Q Why?
- 6546 A It was an obvious situation that he couldn't
- 6547 coexist with Bruce Allen, and I made the wrong decision.
- 6548 Terminated the wrong guy.
- 6549 Q I want to make sure I understand what you just
- 6550 said. You made the wrong decision about what exactly?
- A I said I made the wrong decision and terminated
- 6552 the wrong guy.
- 6553 Q Who terminated Mr. Allen?
- 6554 A I did.
- 6555 Q So is it your testimony that you terminated the
- 6556 right guy?
- 6557 A Later than I should have.
- 6558 Q Are you aware that Mr. Lafemina has testified
- 6559 that Karl Schreiber hand-delivered him his letter of
- 6560 termination?
- 6561 A No. That -- that's possible. We had Karl
- 6562 deliver something, I'm sure.
- 6563 Q A moment ago, you testified that the extent of
- 6564 his involvement was assisting with interviews, is that what
- 6565 you said, with Ron or Coach Rivera?
- 6566 A No, I didn't say interviews with Coach Ron

- 6567 Rivera. Paperwork.
- 6568 Q Paperwork. A moment ago, you said that was the
- 6569 extent of his involvement. And now you're testifying that
- 6570 he hand-delivers things to Commanders employees.
- Ms. Seymour. I'll object. I think he said there was
- 6572 additional involvement as well.
- **6573** By
- 6574 Q Mr. Snyder, what were the duties that
- 6575 Mr. Schreiber had in relation to the Commanders' day-to-day
- 6576 operations?
- 6577 A Day-to-day operations? None.
- 6578 Q Public reports confirm that Mr. Schreiber
- 6579 participated in an investigation into allegations of sexual
- 6580 harassment against Gary Edwards. Are you aware of that?
- 6581 A No, I was not aware until I read that.
- 6582 Q So you are aware that there was an investigation
- 6583 that was conducted when you read it in the media. Is that
- 6584 your testimony?
- 6585 A I didn't recall. I can't remember the article.
- 6586 Q But now you do?
- 6587 A If you say -- if you say there was. I'm just
- 6588 repeating what you said.
- 6589 Q Did you or did you not read an article that
- 6590 detailed an investigation into allegations against
- 6591 Mr. Edwards?

6592 A I've heard about it. I did not read it, but I 6593 heard about it. I've heard it in the media.

- Q Would it surprise you to hear today that you had subjected the victim in that matter to a nondisclosure agreement?
- 6597 A I don't know.
- Q Well, we would request formally on the record
  that you release her and other victims from the Original
  Americans Foundation who are victims of Mr. Edwards from
  their NDAs so that they can communicate with the Committee
  regarding their allegations.
- 6603 <u>Ms. Seymour.</u> We'll take any of your requests under advisement.

#### **6605** By

- Now, a moment ago, Mr. Snyder, you said that you made the wrong decision by terminating Mr. Lafemina, but you made the right decision when you terminated Mr. Allen later.
- 6610 A I meant between the two, they couldn't coexist.
  6611 I chose the wrong one.
- Q What do you mean by you chose the wrong one?
- A It was obvious that the two of them couldn't
- 6614 coexist, and I chose -- I terminated the wrong guy.
- 6615 Q Why do you believe that Mr. Allen, who was in his 6616 role after Mr. Lafemina was terminated, was the wrong guy

6617 to have retained, and why do you believe you made the right

- 6618 decision to let him go when Mr. Lafemina was no longer
- 6619 employed with your organization?
- 6620 A Because of the discovery -- discoveries, and our
- 6621 workplace culture. And as I mentioned, I think, earlier in
- 6622 this meeting, I talked about the statement of October of
- 6623 2019 when he said we have -- someone in the media asked him
- 6624 at a press conference if he fired Jay Gruden, and he said,
- 6625 "we have a damned good culture." I think I've said that my
- 6626 wife and I said, "no, we don't," that very night.
- Q What do you mean by "discoveries"?
- 6628 A I'm sorry?
- Q You said the reason why you think you made the
- 6630 wrong decision by firing Mr. Lafemina and holding on to
- 6631 Mr. Allen was because of the discoveries. What do you mean
- 6632 by "discoveries"?
- 6633 A The workplace environment culturally needed to be
- 6634 fixed, and that was fixed. And he was president of both
- 6635 sides, football and business, and ran the whole
- 6636 organization.
- 6637 Q You terminated Mr. Allen in December 2019. Is
- 6638 that correct?
- 6639 A Yes.
- 6640 Q And I believe you testified earlier that you were
- 6641 unaware of the allegations that were detailed in The

6642 Washington Post report, but was not published until

- 6643 July 16, 2020. Is that correct?
- A That's correct.
- 6645 Q So what culture are you referring to when you say
- 6646 that there was a workplace culture and you're suggesting
- 6647 that Mr. Allen was responsible for it in 2019?
- A I believe it's four or five days prior to
- 6649 termination of Jay Gruden, who was on TMZ smoking
- 6650 marijuana. And we knew we had a problem, obviously. He
- 6651 was the head coach.
- 6652 O Mr. Allen was the head coach?
- 6653 A No. I'm referring to four or five days prior to
- 6654 the termination of Jay Gruden at a press conference where
- 6655 Bruce Allen said, we have a damned good culture, it was on
- 6656 TMZ, Coach Jay Gruden was smoking marijuana on a sidewalk
- 6657 somewhere. Crazy video. And we knew that it was an
- 6658 obvious signal there was a culture problem.
- 6659 Q The culture problem that you're referring to is
- 6660 Mr. Gruden smoking marijuana on TV?
- A No. I'm referring to, as I said, when Bruce
- 6662 Allen said -- answered the question, a damned good culture,
- 6663 we just didn't believe him.
- 6664 Q So what did you believe the culture to be when
- 6665 Mr. Allen defended the culture of your organization?
- A Not what he was saying.

Q And why did you not think it was what he was 6668 saying?

- A Well, his head coach was on TMZ four or five days
- 6670 earlier. So we were doubting whatever he was saying.
- Other than the marijuana incident, what else can
- 6672 you point to that led you to believe there was a culture
- 6673 that Mr. Allen was responsible for, apart from him
- 6674 defending the Washington Commanders?
- A We just thought we had some work to do on the
- 6676 culture, and what we needed as a head coach was a mature
- 6677 culture-setting coach. We started there.
- 6678 As I mentioned, we hired Coach Rivera the beginning of
- 6679 2020. And as I also said earlier, we got to the business
- 6680 side -- and would have gotten there earlier too had it not
- 6681 been for COVID.
- 6682 Q I want to give you one last opportunity just in
- 6683 case maybe I'm unclear about the culture.
- 6684 The concern that you appear to have had about the culture
- 6685 at the Washington Commanders in or around 2019, is there
- 6686 anything that you can point to that led you to have
- 6687 concerns about the culture at the Washington Commanders
- 6688 under Mr. Allen's leadership apart from what we discussed?
- 6689 A I think what we discussed is substantial when the
- 6690 head coach is behaving that way. It's probably a
- 6691 substantial signal that you don't have a good culture in

- 6692 your organization.
- 6693 And, as I said, we started with the football organization.
- 6694 We hired a culture coach in Ron Rivera, and then we moved
- 6695 to the business side and hired Jason Wright.
- 6696 Q Who do you believe is responsible for the culture
- 6697 that existed prior to 2009 when Mr. Allen was hired?
- 6698 As you know, the Committee has heard directly from several
- 6699 former employees about incidents that occurred in 2004,
- 6700 2008 with the lewd videos, 2005 with the dinner and you
- 6701 placing your hand on Ms. Johnston's leg is her allegation.
- 6702 Who do you believe is responsible for that culture prior to
- 6703 Mr. Allen's arrival?
- A Is that the date from the -- you said 2005?
- 6705 Q I believe Ms. Johnston has said around 2005 or
- 6706 2006. The point being that it predates 2019 when Mr. Allen
- 6707 was fired.
- 6708 My question to you, Mr. Snyder, is who was responsible for
- 6709 the culture at that time?
- 6710 A Well, just to simplify, we own the franchise and
- 6711 we're responsible for all of those years, including Bruce
- 6712 Allen's years. And I've taken full responsibility.
- 6713 We apologized. And we've performed unbelievably, and we're
- 6714 trying to get better every day in our organization. I
- 6715 believe we are.
- 6716 Q Would you hire Mr. Allen back?

- 6717 A No.
- 6718 Q Why not?
- 6719 A I think for the obvious reasons. And the changes
- 6720 since he's been gone have been drastic, and we're proud.
- Q Respectfully, I don't know that the reasons are
- 6722 that obvious. So I'm asking you to indulge me by
- 6723 explaining what specifically you would point to as reasons
- 6724 not to hire Mr. Allen back to the Commanders.
- 6725 A It would be a long list. Substantial list. I
- 6726 think myself, Tanya Snyder, Jason Wright, Coach Rivera. It
- 6727 would be a big list. It's pretty obvious.
- 6728 Q Are you unable to give me any reasons as to why
- 6729 you would not hire Mr. Allen back for now?
- 6730 A Obviously we entrusted our franchise with him.
- 6731 We were, as I said earlier, not often around. And trusting
- 6732 him was a bad decision. And hiring the right people is
- 6733 critical, and we've done that.
- Q Do you believe Mr. Allen is responsible for the
- 6735 allegations that were detailed in the July 16, 2020 report
- 6736 regarding the toxic workplace culture?
- 6737 A We talked about -- I think you mentioned Alex
- 6738 Santos, Richard Mann, different scouts that were in that
- 6739 story. It was based on that story. So he hired them.
- 6740 Q So because he hired them, you blamed him; is that
- 6741 correct?

A I'm not -- let me be clear. As I've said, we

- 6743 take responsibility in ownership of the franchise. We're
- 6744 not avoiding that. But he was -- he hired the coach with
- 6745 the TMZ thing. So obviously a lot of poor decisions.
- 6746 The only other thing I'd add in, obviously, is having
- 6747 learned well afterwards about all the homophobic,
- 6748 misogynistic emails that Bruce Allen participated in with
- 6749 Jon Gruden and others we did not know about and, obviously,
- 6750 those were rather shocking.
- 6751 Q Are you aware that Mr. Pauken has accused you of
- 6752 calling him gay because of his desire not to take over the
- 6753 cheerleading club when he was your COO?
- 6754 A I did not call him that.
- 6755 Q Are you refuting Mr. Pauken's testimony?
- 6756 A Yes.
- 6757 Q Have you ever used derogatory language about
- 6758 one's sexual orientation in the workplace toward a member
- 6759 of the Commanders organization?
- 6760 A I don't believe so. I don't recall.
- 6761 Q Have you ever used any derogatory language about
- 6762 one's sexual orientation directed at Mr. Pauken
- 6763 specifically?
- 6764 A No.
- 6765 Q Why did you or your agents search Mr. Allen's
- 6766 email account?

6767 A I'm sorry. I don't understand the question.

O Did you or someone working on your behalf collect

6769 emails from Mr. Allen's email accounts after he departed

from the team?

6771 A I believe we did after the 1782 discovered that

6772 he was in communication with John Moag. And we delivered

6773 those to the National Football League.

O The emails that were collected, were they turned

6775 over to the NFL?

6776 A Yes.

**6777** Q Why is that?

6778 A It was the right thing to do.

6779 Q I note that you keep looking around the room.

6780 I'm just curious, again, is it something about my

6781 questions? I want to make sure that I'm asking you --

6782 A I apologize. It's 1:30 or 2:00 in the morning

6783 here. I'm a little tired.

6784 Q So turning the emails over to the NFL were the

6785 right thing to do. Have you done that for any other

6786 employees of the Commanders, turn over their emails to the

6787 NFL?

6788 A I don't believe so. I'm not sure. I don't

6789 believe so.

6790 Q What made you think that turning those emails to

6791 the NFL was the right thing to do specifically? What was

6792 it about the emails? Did you find anything in the email

- 6793 that led you to believe that the NFL needed to know?
- 6794 A The behavior, it was obvious that I needed to do
- 6795 that.
- 6796 Q What do you mean by "the behavior"?
- A As I've said, the misogynistic, homophobic
- 6798 emails, discovered that and turned them over to the
- 6799 National Football League.
- 6800 Q Did you or anybody acting on your behalf leak the
- 6801 emails that you collected to the media?
- 6802 A No.
- Q Do you know if the NFL did?
- 6804 A I don't know who did.
- 6805 Q Was Mr. Allen part of the negative agenda that
- 6806 you had referenced in your August 26 statement?
- 6807 A I can't recall. I don't believe so. At the
- 6808 time, it was regarding the Form information.
- 6809 Q Did you make presentations to the NFL -- did you
- 6810 or anyone acting on your behalf make presentations to the
- 6811 NFL regarding Bruce Allen and his role in the toxic work
- 6812 environment, as you've described it?
- 6813 A I believe we did.
- 6814 Q Do you recall how many presentations you made to
- 6815 the NFL?
- 6816 A No. I do not.

6817 Q Did you participate in those presentations?

6818 A I don't recall if I did. I think I participated

6819 in one -- I know I -- I met Attorney General Lynch once or

6820 twice.

Q I'll note for the record that we have not been produced the materials regarding the presentation that you made to the NFL regarding Bruce Allen. And to the extent

6824 you're maintaining that he was involved in the creation of

the toxic work environment, we would want that information.

Ms. Seymour. Just for the record, we haven't had any

6827 requests for any documents before today. So, again, we're

6828 in a cooperative posture.

6829 We're happy to take whatever requests back and see what we

6830 can produce. But this is the first time we're being asked.

6831 All the productions today, to my knowledge, have come from

6832 the NFL and not from the team and not from Mr. Snyder

6833 personally, nor have we been asked to provide anything.

**6834** By

6835 Q Mr. Snyder, as you are well aware, the Commanders

6836 have withheld over 40,000 documents from the Committee,

6837 relevant documents, documents collected by Ms. Wilkinson

6838 during the course of her litigation to your investigation

6839 that are directly relevant to our investigation.

6840 And if you are acting in good faith and attempting to

6841 cooperate with the Committee, as you say, we would like you

6842 to produce those documents to the Committee as soon as

- 6843 possible.
- 6844 It's been over eight months since we requested the
- 6845 documents, and we still do not have them. And there's no
- 6846 reason why the Committee should not have already received
- 6847 those documents. So we will renew our request on the
- 6848 record.
- Ms. Seymour. We have never been requested to produce
- 6850 any documents, and so we're happy to talk after this and
- 6851 see what it is that you believe that you're owed and to
- 6852 whom.
- 6853 And we're happy to address it, but I do want to say
- 6854 Mr. Snyder, I think, has answered the question, but I think
- 6855 that is a question. But he wouldn't be aware of anything
- 6856 because we're not aware of your request.
- As I understand it, the Holland & Knight
- 6858 attorneys are on the line; correct? Mr. Brownlee and
- 6859 Mr. Nash.
- Mr. Nash. Yes, I'm here. I'm falling asleep, but I'm
- 6861 here.
- Well, I'm glad you're not asleep because
- 6863 I think it's important that you hear that we're still
- 6864 waiting on the documents that were withheld from the
- 6865 Committee, over 40,000 documents from Ms. Wilkinson.
- 6866 Mr. Nash. Ms. Seymour is absolutely correct, there

6867 has never been a request for a single document from the

- 6868 team or Mr. Snyder.
- 6869 So we're happy to take any requests that you want to make
- 6870 of us, but to suggest that we have withheld any documents
- 6871 is absolutely untrue.
- As you are aware, you have been reviewing
- 6873 documents for privilege that the NFL has produced to the
- 6874 Committee, and they have represented that 40,000 documents
- 6875 that would otherwise have been produced to the Committee
- 6876 have been withheld.
- I appreciate you taking it under advisement and I
- 6878 trust that you will work to get the documents as quickly as
- **6879** you can.
- **6880** By
- 6881 Q I have one last question. Mr. Snyder, in March
- 6882 2021, a local sports radio station, 106.7, The Fan,
- 6883 received news that there was a draft report from the
- 6884 Wilkinson investigation that recommended several potential
- 6885 recommendations.
- 6886 The first one was to force the owner, you, to divest
- 6887 ownership in the team. Were you made aware of a draft
- 6888 report?
- 6889 A No.
- 6890 Q Is this the first time you're hearing that there
- 6891 was a draft report that was leaked to a radio station?

6892 A I've heard about what the radio station said.

- 6893 That's all I've heard.
- Q Did you hear that the radio station said that the
- 6895 recommendations from Ms. Wilkinson were to force you to
- 6896 divest your ownership of the team?
- 6897 A I've heard what the radio station said, yes. But
- 6898 that's all I've ever heard.
- 6899 Q Did you or anyone working on your behalf contact
- 6900 the radio station after the information was aired regarding
- 6901 the information that they shared publicly?
- 6902 A I don't believe so. I am not aware.
- 6903 Q Ahead of that July 1 announcement by the NFL, did
- 6904 you ever have occasion to discuss what sanctions the NFL
- 6905 was considering imposing as a result of the Wilkinson
- 6906 investigation?
- 6907 Ms. Seymour. Could you re-read that question. I
- 6908 missed that, I'm sorry.
- 6909 (Record read)
- 6910 Q To be clear, I mean did you discuss with
- 6911 Commissioner Goodell or the NFL the sanctions that they
- 6912 were considering?
- 6913 Ms. Seymour. As opposed to being informed shortly
- 6914 before the announcement went out?
- I would like to hear both. If he was
- 6916 informed shortly before what the sanctions were, I would

6917 like to hear that. If he had discussions before that time,

- 6918 I would also like to hear that.
- 6919 Ms. Seymour. Do you understand the question?
- 6920 The Witness. No. Sorry. I'm fading a lot. So I
- 6921 don't understand the question.
- **6922** By
- 6923 Q Did you have any discussions about these
- 6924 sanctions that were being considered against you before the
- 6925 July 1 announcement with the NFL?
- 6926 A I still don't understand the question.
- 6927 Ms. Seymour. I think she was trying to break down two
- 6928 time frames about the punishment associated with the NFL
- 6929 announcement, one at the time of the announcement or just
- 6930 shortly before, and another is before that, whether you had
- 6931 conversations about that. If I have that right.
- That is correct.
- 6933 Ms. Seymour. Okay. That's what I think she's trying
- 6934 to get at.
- 6935 The Witness. As I said, I think our attorney spoke
- 6936 with them [Zoom audio interference] before we heard about
- 6937 the announcement and I heard about a list of 10
- 6938 recommendations. I have no knowledge of anything else.
- **6939** By
- 6940 Q Could you repeat the last part of what you said.
- 6941 I missed that.

| 6942 | A I said I have no knowledge of anything else |
|------|---|
| 6943 | No further questions on our end.              |
| 6944 | So what's the status of how many more         |
| 6945 | questions that you all have,                  |
| 6946 | (Discussion held off the record.)             |
| 6947 | We are also done. We don't have any           |
| 6948 | further questions.                            |
| 6949 | (Proceedings adjourned at 6:39 PM)            |

# ERRATA SHEET 7. (

INSTRUCTIONS: After reading the interview transcript, please note any change, addition, or deletion on this sheet. DO NOT make any marks or notations on the actual transcript. Use additional paper if needed.

| <b>Investigation Name</b> | The National Football | League Investigation |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Witness Name              | Daniel Snyder         |                      |
| Date of Interview         | July 28, 2022         |                      |

| PAGE | LINE | CORRECTION                                     | APPROVED*   |
|------|------|--|-------------|
| 6    | 119  | Sullvan à Cronwell                             |             |
| 15   | 351  | "Notmore. Not anticipalte."                    |             |
| 23   | 563  | "Jason and the team."                          |             |
| 25   | 614  | "everything to her, to solve that."            |             |
| 28   | 685  | "unfair"                                       |             |
| 48   | 1190 | change "tour" to "Torah"                       |             |
| 54   | 1332 | change "to "to"                                |             |
| 54   | 1339 | change "quorum" to "Torah"                     |             |
| 55   | 1358 | change "assumed" to "Zoomed with"              |             |
| 56   | 1380 | change "a" to "and"                            |             |
| 58   | 1439 | change "ne re damned good" to me have a damned | god<br>cre" |
| 58   | 1941 | change "a" to "on the"                         |             |
| 62   | 1527 | change "him" to "them"                         |             |

161 1508 Change "in Greg" to "is Greg"

<sup>\*</sup> For COR Majority Staff use only.

| PAGE | LINE | CORRECTION                                     | APPROVED* |
|------|------|--|-----------|
| 63   | 1544 | "it would be conches for us from"              |           |
| 64   | 1570 | change "Zaidau" to "Zeta"                      |           |
| 67   | 1657 | change "him" to "them"                         |           |
| 68   | 1667 | change "Tanya's mother" to "Tanya and his moth |           |
| 70   | 1717 | Linknown - "Bonnie Jackson" is a transcript    | •         |
| 70   | 1720 | "lawyers"                                      |           |
| 81   | 2001 | insert "questions reflect that."               |           |
| 82   | 2022 | change "of" to "on"                            |           |
| 82   | 2024 | strike "that fact"                             |           |
| 93   | 2298 | insert "This is Karen Seymour."                |           |
| 102  | 2535 | "referring to are Ms. Scourby's"               |           |
| 103  | 2560 | change "reflected" to "directed"               |           |
| ලෙදි | 2688 | change to "we thought they were"               |           |

Shar K

DATE: 8/18/2Z

SIGNATURE:

<sup>\*</sup> For COR Majority Staff use only.

# ERRATA SHEET P. 2

INSTRUCTIONS: After reading the interview transcript, please note any change, addition, or deletion on this sheet. DO NOT make any marks or notations on the actual transcript. Use additional paper if needed.

| <b>Investigation Name</b> | The National Football League Investigation |
|---------------------------|--|
| Witness Name              | Daniel Smyder                              |
| Date of Interview         | July 28, 2022                              |

| PAGE | LINE         | CORRECTION  | APPROVED* |
|------|--------------|---|-----------|
| 113  | 2810         | change to "she was blown away"                        |           |
| 119  | 2943         | change "foundation" to "validation"                   |           |
| 122  | 3026         | "really funny And all this stuff"                     |           |
| 126  | 3120         | "That week of June "                                  |           |
| 139  | 8455         | "if there was an atternay"                            |           |
| 143  | 3544         | "to your staffs email"                                |           |
| 169  | 4202         | strike "fram"   |           |
| 177  | 4415         | change "Molly" to "Mali"                              |           |
| 178  | 4436<br>4437 | insert "making it the best" add "bench be beefed up." |           |
| 179  | 4457         | change "he" to "we"                                   |           |
| 158  | 39.27        | change "so" to "which said"                           |           |
| (84  | 4583         | change "all the" to "other"                           |           |
| 189  | 4711         | insert "a meeting"                                    |           |

<sup>\*</sup> For COR Majority Staff use only.

| PAGE | LINE    | CORRECTION                              | APPROVED* |
|------|---------|---|-----------|
| 194  | 4818    | should be "wilmer Male"                 |           |
| 214  | 5340    | change to "McKinsey when"               |           |
| 215  | 5344    | insert "for which we did"               |           |
| 215  | 5356    | strike "a"                              |           |
| 215  | 5357    | change to "focused ="                   |           |
| 218  | 5418    | change to "happy to do it for"          |           |
| 239  | 5961    | change "invested" to "investigated"     |           |
| 238  | 5930-31 | "companies with millions dollars of wor | k,        |
| 241  | 5998    | insert "Jason, and I wasn't in"         |           |
| 243  | 6042    | insert "to focus on them."              |           |
| 248  | 6178    | change to "atturneys"                   |           |
| 250  | 6231    | strike "you"                            |           |
| 253  | 6314    | change "West a" to "Went to"            |           |

DATE:  $\frac{8}{8}$ 

<sup>\*</sup> For COR Majority Staff use only.

INSTRUCTIONS: After reading the interview transcript, please note any change, addition, or deletion on this sheet. DO NOT make any marks or notations on the actual transcript. Use additional paper if needed.

| <b>Investigation Name</b> | The National Football League Investigation |
|---------------------------|--|
| Witness Name              | Daniel Snyder                              |
| Date of Interview         | July 28, 2022                              |

| PAGE | LINE    | CORRECTION                       | APPROVED* |
|------|---------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| 262  | 6526    | insur! "place to work out of"    |           |
| 265  | 6601    | change to "Taking your requests" |           |
| 262  | 6539    | insect "involved in my"          |           |
| 263  | 6559    | change "He" to "We"              |           |
| 266  | 6631-32 | insert "needed to be"            |           |
| 274  | 6826    | strike "the"                     |           |
| 275  | 8689    | Change to "Mr. Nash"             |           |
| 275  | 6864    | Charge to "Mr. Nash"             |           |
|      |         |                                  |           |
|      |         |                                  |           |
|      |         |                                  |           |
|      | ·       |                                  | ·<br>·    |
|      |         |                                  |           |

<sup>\*</sup> For COR Majority Staff use only.

| PAGE                                  | LINE | CORRECTION | APPROVED* |
|---------------------------------------|------|------------|-----------|
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|                                       |      |            |           |

| DATE: $\frac{8/18/2}{2}$ | 2       |          |  |
|--------------------------|---------|----------|--|
| SIGNATURE:               | <u></u> | <u>-</u> |  |

<sup>\*</sup> For COR Majority Staff use only.

INSTRUCTIONS: After reading the interview transcript, please note any change, addition, or deletion on this sheet. DO NOT make any marks or notations on the actual transcript. Use additional paper if needed.

| Investigation Name | The National Football league Investigation |
|--------------------|--|
| Witness Name       | Paniel Smyder                              |
| Date of Interview  | Fuly 28, 2022                              |

| PAGE | LINE          | CORRECTION  | APPROVED* |
|------|---------------|---|-----------|
| 61   | 1508          | change "in Greg" to "is Greg"                                       |           |
| 69   | 1707          | change "attorney" to "attorneys"                                    |           |
| 70   | 1717          | - change "Bonnie Jackson" to "our to                                | Topes     |
| 70   | 1717          | change "Bonnie Tackson" to "Finding the facts and then"             | <i>d</i>  |
| 79   | 1950          | insert quotation marks before "you"                                 |           |
| 79   | 1951          | insert quotation mark after "things,"                               |           |
| 82   | 2023          | change league's "to "League's"                                      |           |
| 93   | 2306          | change "admit" to "take"  |           |
| 104  | 2581          | insert "a" after "time"   |           |
| 136  | 3371-<br>3372 | replace "[Zoom audio interference]" with "I can't remember exactly" |           |
| 140  | 3485          | change "Indian" to "India"  |           |
| 141  | 3503+<br>3504 | Same change as above:   |           |
| 146  | 3686          | Insert "the" before "Jeffrey"                                       |           |

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| PAGE | LINE | CORRECTION  | APPROVED* |
|------|------|---|-----------|
| 149  | 3692 | insert "that" before "I was"  |           |
| 181  | 4514 | add "it" after "embraced"   |           |
| 190  | 4734 | change. "Told" to "He told"   |           |
| 190  | 4735 | insert "not" before "the type"  |           |
| 193  | 1808 | Change "Great" to " Great" " Cadd quotation marks) ^ ^                      |           |
| 194  | 4822 | Should be "Witner Hale"   |           |
| 195  | 4866 | change "It's" to "It has"   |           |
| 204  | 5076 | insert "of" a feer "heard"  |           |
| 204  | 5086 | change "culture change transform<br>tion" to "cultural change and transform | ι-        |
| 208  | 5189 | change "Lafeminatestified" to<br>"Lafemina testified" [addaspace]           |           |
| 209  | 5197 | Change "no" to "a"  |           |
| 213  | 5300 | intert the change "that that"   |           |
| 218  | 5422 | change "Meuriversity" to "a university"                                     |           |

DATE: 8/25/2022

SIGNATURE:

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| Investigation Name | The National Football beague |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Witness Name       | Daniel Snyder                |
| Date of Interview  | July 28, 2022                |

| PAGE | LINE  | CORRECTION  | APPROVED* |
|------|-------|---|-----------|
| 246  | 6/21  | change "we've" to "we"  |           |
| 250  | 6217  | change" it's [2000 audio interprese<br>to "If asked and be needed, I ammer and<br>try to be helpful." | ]"        |
| 250  | 6224- | " replace ( room audio intercence)" with " ad vice and "  | ·         |
| 265  | 6601  | change. "Take" to "We'll take"  |           |
| 266  | 6623  | Add quotation marks around "we have a damned good cullive"  |           |
| 266  | 6624  | Addquotation marks around " no, no we don't"  |           |
| 268  | 6678  | change [Zoom audio Interference)" to "and would have gotten thee                                      |           |
|      |       | carlier of too had it not been for COVID."  |           |
| 278  | 6934  | replace "[zoom audio interference] with a night or two "  | n         |
| 278  | 6-935 | Replace [200m audio interference] with "And I heard about a list of                                   |           |
|      |       | 10 recommendations. I have no knowledge of anything else."  |           |
| 278  | 6939  | change "emails" to "anything else."   |           |
|      |       |   |           |

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