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SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE
U.S. SENATE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

INTERVIEW OF: ROBERT GOLDSTONE - Part 2
(by Videoconference)

THURSDAY, MARCH 29, 2018
WASHINGTON, D.C.

The interview in this matter was held at the
Russell Senate Office Building, [REDACTED],
commencing at 3:10 p.m.

1 APPEARANCES:

2 SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

3 Patrick Davis, Deputy Chief Investigative Counsel,

4 Chairman Grassley

5 Daniel Parker, Investigative Assistant, Chairman

6 Grassley

7 Brian Privor, Senior Counsel, Senator Feinstein

8 Heather Sawyer, General Counsel, Senator

9 Feinstein

10 John Lowry, Staff, Senator Feinstein

11

12 FOR THE WITNESS:

13 G. Robert Gage, Jr., Esq.

14 Bernard W. Ozarowski, III, Esq.

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1 I N D E X

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 MR. DAVIS: We'll go on the record.

3 Good afternoon. This is the supplemental
4 transcribed interview of Rob Goldstone. On
5 October 18, 2017, Chairman Grassley sent Mr.
6 Goldstone a letter stating that the Judiciary
7 Committee was seeking information related to a
8 meeting held on June 9, 2016, at Trump Tower, as
9 well as related matters. The letter requested an
10 interview and certain categories of documents. In
11 response, Mr. Goldstone has through his counsel
12 produced documents and participated in a voluntary
13 interview on December 15, 2017.

14 In February of 2018, Mr. Goldstone's
15 counsel notified the Committee staff that he would
16 be producing some additional documents to fill in
17 some gaps in the message chains provided in the
18 original production, and that if we had any
19 questions, they would be available for follow-up.

20 On March 2, 2018, Mr. Goldstone's counsel
21 provided those additional documents, generally
22 inserting them into the appropriate positions in
23 the previously produced chains. The new
24 production was Bates-stamped RG-000255 through
25 313, although many of those pages were, in fact,

1 previously produced.

2 Through his counsel, Mr. Goldstone
3 subsequently agreed to this supplemental
4 transcribed interview to inquire about the new
5 information. The interview is being conducted via
6 videoconference.

7 Would the witness please state your name
8 for the record?

9 MR. GOLDSTONE: Robert Ian Goldstone.

10 MR. DAVIS: On behalf of the Chairman, I
11 want to thank Mr. Goldstone again for speaking
12 with us. As you may recall, my name is Patrick
13 Davis, and I'm the Deputy Chief Investigative
14 Counsel with the Committee's majority staff.

15 I'll ask everyone else from the Committee
16 who is here at the table to introduce themselves
17 as well, and we'll get to Mr. Goldstone's counsel
18 in a few moments.

19 MR. PARKER: Daniel Parker, Investigative
20 Assistant, Chairman Grassley.

21 MR. LOWRY: John Lowry, Investigative
22 Correspondent for Senator Feinstein.

23 MR. PRIVOR: Brian Privor, Senior Counsel
24 for Senator Feinstein.

25 MR. DAVIS: I'd like to restate a few key

1 points we mentioned at your initial interview.

2 The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure do not
3 apply to any of the Committee's investigative
4 activities, including transcribed interviews.
5 There are some guidelines we follow, and I'll go
6 over those again now.

7 We have an official reporter taking down
8 everything we say to make a written record, so we
9 ask that you give verbal responses to all
10 questions. Do you understand?

11 MR. GOLDSTONE: I do.

12 MR. DAVIS: So that the court reporter can
13 take down a clear record, we'll do our best to
14 limit the number of people directing questions to
15 you to those whose turn it is.

16 It's also important that we don't talk
17 over one another or interrupt each other, if we
18 can help it, and that goes for everybody present
19 at today's interview.

20 While Senators on the Committee may
21 observe, the Chairman and Ranking Member have
22 agreed that only staff will ask questions.

23 We encourage witnesses who appear before
24 the Committee to consult freely with counsel if
25 they so choose. You are appearing via

1 videoconference with counsel, I believe, today.
2 Counsel, could you please state your name for the
3 record?

4 MR. GAGE: Robert Gage and Bernard
5 Ozarowski, representing Mr. Goldstone.

6 MR. DAVIS: Thank you.

7 Mr. Goldstone, we want you to answer our
8 questions in the most complete and truthful manner
9 possible, so we will take our time. If you have
10 any questions or if you don't understand any of
11 our questions, please let us know. If you
12 honestly don't know the answer to a question or
13 don't remember, it's best not to guess. Just give
14 us your best recollection.

15 It's okay to tell us if you learned
16 information from someone else if you indicate how
17 you came to know the information. If there are
18 things that you don't know or can't remember, we
19 ask that you inform us to the best of your
20 knowledge who might be able to provide a more
21 complete answer to the question.

22 It is this Committee's practice to honor
23 valid common law privilege claims as an
24 accommodation to a witness or party when those
25 claims are made in good faith and accompanied by

1 sufficient explanation so that the Committee can
2 evaluate the claim.

3 When deciding whether to honor a
4 privilege, the Committee weighs its need for the
5 information against any legitimate basis for
6 withholding it. The Committee typically does not
7 honor contractual confidentiality agreements.

8 You should understand that although the
9 interview is not under oath, by law you are
10 required to answer questions from Congress
11 truthfully. Do you understand that?

12 MR. GOLDSTONE: I do, yes.

13 MR. DAVIS: Specifically, 18 U.S.C. Section
14 1001 makes it a crime to make any materially
15 false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or
16 representation in the course of a congressional
17 investigation. That statute applies to your
18 statements in this interview. Do you understand
19 that?

20 MR. GOLDSTONE: I do, yes.

21 MR. DAVIS: Witnesses who knowingly provide
22 false statements could be subject to criminal
23 prosecution and imprisonment for up to 5 years.
24 Do you understand this?

25 MR. GOLDSTONE: I do, yes.

1 MR. DAVIS: Is there any reason you're
2 unable to provide truthful answers to today's
3 questions?

4 MR. GOLDSTONE: There is not.

5 MR. DAVIS: Finally, we ask that you not
6 speak about what we discuss in this interview with
7 anyone else outside of who is participating in the
8 videoconference today in order to preserve the
9 integrity of our investigation.

10 Is there anything else that my colleagues
11 from the minority want to add?

12 MR. PRIVOR: No; thank you.

13 MR. DAVIS: The Committee typically conducts
14 interviews in alternating rounds of questioning by
15 the majority and the minority. But we believe our
16 questions largely overlap here, so in the interest
17 of efficiency today, the minority will begin the
18 questioning and the majority will ask additional
19 questions as necessary afterwards.

20 The time is now 3:16 p.m., and I believe
21 Mr. Privor will get started.

22 MR. PRIVOR: Very well. Thank you.

23 EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR THE MINORITY

24 BY MR. PRIVOR:

25 Q. Mr. Goldstone, thank you for coming in

1 again today. We are going to confine our
2 questions largely to the new documents that were
3 produced. As Mr. Davis observed, much of it does
4 overlap with what has been produced before,
5 although the documents are in a slightly different
6 order, particularly with respect to the texts.

7 Do you have those documents in front of
8 you today?

9 A. I do.

10 Q. Okay. Very good. That'll make it easier
11 for sake of -- since we're not in the same room, I
12 can't show you the document, but I will refer to
13 the documents by the Bates numbers. The Bates
14 numbers are those alphanumeric numbers in the
15 bottom right-hand corner of each document. They
16 each start with the prefix RG.

17 So let's go ahead and start with our
18 first document, which is Bates-labeled RG-000257.
19 Do you have that document available?

20 A. I do, yes.

21 Q. Very well. Okay. So this is a June 5th
22 email from you to Alan Garten with the subject
23 line "Re: Contact info." It's actually a chain
24 email and it's a two-page document. So it's from
25 RG-000257 through 258. Take a moment to look that

1 one over. Do you recognize that document?

2 A. Yes, I do.

3 Q. Okay. In this particular document, in
4 the most recent email in the exchange, you are
5 writing to Mr. Garten saying, "Hi. Irakly was at
6 the meeting and was the link between the Agalarovs
7 and these folks who requested meeting. I have no
8 idea of names of the others, but Irakly most
9 likely will."

10 Is Irakly a reference to Ike Kaveladze?

11 A. It is.

12 MR. PRIVOR: Very well. And I want to note
13 for the record that my colleague Heather Sawyer
14 has now joined us, if she'll introduce herself for
15 the record.

16 MS. SAWYER: Heather Sawyer. I am General
17 Counsel with Senator Feinstein. Mr. Goldstone,
18 thank you for taking the time. We appreciate you
19 making the time to answer our follow-up questions.

20 MR. GOLDSTONE: Not a problem. Thank you.

21 BY MR. PRIVOR:

22 Q. Now, with respect to -- we're going to
23 label this as Exhibit 1.

24 [Goldstone Exhibit 1 was marked for
25 identification.]

1 BY MR. PRIVOR:

2 Q. With respect to Exhibit 1, I was asking
3 about the texts that you wrote to Mr. Garten:
4 "Irakly was at the meeting and was the link
5 between the Agalarovs and these folks who
6 requested meeting." You had previously testified
7 the last time you were with us that you'd received
8 an interesting call from someone you identified as
9 Alan Garten, a Trump Organization lawyer. That
10 testimony was at pages 131 to 132 of your last
11 transcript. And this email now appears to be an
12 email following up on that telephone call.

13 Do you recall what did you mean in this
14 email in Exhibit 1 by saying that Ike Kaveladze
15 was the link between the Agalarovs and these
16 folks?

17 A. Yes, well, when Emin Agalarov first asked
18 me to make the request for a meeting, one of the
19 things I was told was that I simply had to get the
20 meeting and that Ike -- or Irakly, as he often
21 called himself to me -- would coordinate the
22 meeting. So as such, I refer to him as kind of
23 the link between the two of them, the Agalarovs
24 and the people, whoever they were, that would
25 attend the meeting.

1 Q. And the people who were going to attend
2 the meeting, are those the same as "these folks"
3 that are referred to in the email, "these folks
4 who requested meeting"?

5 A. Yes, they are.

6 Q. Do you recall who those folks included,
7 which persons in particular?

8 A. Specifically, Natalia Veselnitskaya.

9 Q. Was there anyone else that you had in
10 mind when you were referring to "these folks who
11 requested meeting"?

12 A. No. I believe I put them in the plural
13 because ultimately she brought a couple of people
14 with her, and I'm not sure if at this point when I
15 was writing I fully recalled, remembered, or even
16 knew who or what those other two people were.

17 Q. Okay. This particular email on June 5,
18 2017, is nearly a year after the meeting, so by
19 the time of this email, the meeting had already
20 occurred. So presumably you understood at that
21 point that there were multiple people involved?

22 A. Yes, one being a translator and the other
23 person I had no idea who it was, but yes.

24 Q. And so when you're referring to "these
25 folks," you've identified Ms. Veselnitskaya. Do

1 you also include the persons that she brought to
2 the meeting with her?

3 A. I'm kind of pluralizing what really was
4 about the Russian attorney plus this other person
5 who appeared, who I had no idea what their role
6 was. So I pluralized it to folks rather than just
7 her.

8 Q. Who was the other person that appeared
9 with her?

10 A. I believe his name was Rinat Akhmedov or
11 Akhmetov.

12 Q. Is that Mr. Akhmetshin?

13 A. That's probably his name, yes.

14 Q. Is there anyone else that you had in mind
15 other than Ms. Veselnitskaya and Mr. Akhmetshin?

16 A. No.

17 Q. You've described Ike Kaveladze as the
18 link between the Agalarovs and these folks who
19 we've now identified as Ms. Veselnitskaya and Mr.
20 Akhmetshin. Why didn't you consider yourself the
21 link to the Agalarovs?

22 A. Because it had kind of been explained to
23 me by Emin at the beginning when I had pushed him
24 on trying to find out more information, both about
25 who the attorney was and what the real beef or the

1 subject of what she had to produce, that I was
2 simply to request the meeting. Mr. Kaveladze
3 would coordinate the meeting. So in that respect,
4 I consider him to be the link in this -- in this
5 request.

6 Q. Did you ever ask why the Agalarovs needed
7 both you and Mr. Kaveladze to be involved?

8 A. Well, no, I didn't.

9 Q. Did they ever offer an explanation for
10 why both of you were involved?

11 A. I think as you would have seen from
12 previous testimony, my plan, both in writing and
13 what I'd been instructed to do, was not to attend
14 the meeting, but Mr. Kaveladze would attend it. I
15 was simply to meet them and hand them off to Mr.
16 Trump, Jr., after taking him through security.
17 So, you know, if you ask me why I think that's the
18 case, it's because Mr. Kaveladze would attend the
19 meeting; I would simply make the request and
20 introduce them to somebody who I had met before
21 and none of them had.

22 Q. And that includes Mr. Kaveladze? Do you
23 know whether he had ever met the Trumps before?

24 A. I don't know that, but to the best of my
25 -- yes, he had -- he'd met them during -- or he'd

1 met Mr. Trump, Sr., certainly during the Miss
2 Universe Pageant.

3 Q. So then why -- what is your understanding
4 of why they would -- the Agalarovs would have
5 needed you to be involved? Why not just simply
6 have Mr. Kaveladze try to arrange the meeting
7 himself if you weren't planning to attend anyway?

8 A. I think they did it, but every request
9 that I had been asked by them to request of Mr.
10 Trump, whether it was to be in a music video or to
11 be in whatever, seemed to have been very
12 successful. And so in that respect, maybe they
13 just decided to go with what had worked so far,
14 and I was the conduit.

15 Q. And I'm sorry to ask you to repeat this.
16 It seemed that our video and audio might have
17 been interrupted, and I want to make sure the
18 court reporter got the first part of your answer.
19 Would you mind explaining that again, the
20 respective roles that you and Mr. Kaveladze
21 played?

22 A. In the meeting, yes?

23 Q. In arranging this meeting.

24 A. I was asked to get the meeting and was
25 told that Mr. Kaveladze would coordinate the

1 meeting. I was then asked to meet Mr. Kaveladze,
2 and at the time "person" attending the meeting
3 grew to "people" on the day of the meeting and
4 simply take them through security, introduce them
5 to Don, Jr., and then leave.

6 Q. Very well. Thank you.

7 This email in Exhibit 1 is dated June 5,
8 2017. Do you recall whether you had any further
9 conversation with Alan Garten around the time of
10 this email on June 5th?

11 A. I had had some conversation with Mr.
12 Garten prior to this, I believe. And I think
13 there was some conversation with him after this as
14 well, yes.

15 Q. We'll come to the after in just a moment.
16 What do you recall in terms of conversations you
17 had with him before this email?

18 A. In one instance he had asked me if I
19 recalled the name of the attorney who had spoken
20 at the meeting. I told him at that stage that I
21 did not, but I would probably be able to find out,
22 which I did. And I think you have that here. I
23 told him the name of the attorney was Natalia
24 Veselnitskaya.

25 Q. And so the record is clear, when you're

1 referring to what's here, you're referring to the
2 bottom half of Exhibit 1, which is the June 2nd
3 email?

4 A. I am indeed, yes.

5 Q. And apart from that June 2nd email, do
6 you recall any other conversations with Alan
7 Garten that preceded this June 5th conversation or
8 June 5th email?

9 A. I don't recall the exact date, but there
10 was a -- there was definitely a telephone
11 conversation or two that took place between myself
12 and Mr. Garten.

13 Q. Do you recall what the subject of the one
14 or two telephone conversations were?

15 A. I received an email -- I'm sorry, a
16 voicemail from Mr. Garten asking me to give him a
17 call. I called him back, and he asked me if I
18 could recall both who was present at the Trump
19 Tower meeting in June of 2016 and what my
20 recollection of that meeting was.

21 Q. Did you follow up and respond to those
22 inquiries?

23 A. I did. I told him -- I told him what I
24 knew to the best of my knowledge.

25 Q. Was that on or about June 5th or was that

1 some other time?

2 A. On or -- within a few days of that, yes,
3 certainly.

4 Q. Is there anything else you can recall
5 from those first one or two conversations with Mr.
6 Garten?

7 A. Only that he'd asked, as I say, if I knew
8 the name of the attorney, and then when I had
9 mentioned that the Agalarovs also had their -- I
10 may have called Irakly a "representative" at that
11 point, but their representative there. He asked
12 me if I had contact information for him, which I
13 said I did, and I forwarded it.

14 Q. When you last testified before us, you
15 had discussed having talked with Mr. Garten again
16 around June 26th or June 27th. This time Alan
17 Futerfas was also on the telephone, and you had
18 asked -- they had asked you to help them
19 understand what your recollection of the meeting
20 was, which you provided. That was at page 135 of
21 the transcript. Do you recall whether there were
22 any other conversations between you and either Mr.
23 Garten, Mr. Futerfas, or both in between June 5th
24 and those conversations on June 26th or June 27th
25 that you had already testified about?

1 A. Would it be okay if I just looked forward
2 in this? Because some of these emails here may
3 jog my memory, if that's okay.

4 Q. Of course. And I will note for the
5 record -- this might assist you -- that the next
6 page in sequence in what you have produced is the
7 June 26th email between you and Mr. Garten. I
8 don't believe there's another email in between
9 those two dates.

10 A. No, and I see from this that it appears
11 that I spoke on the 26th -- I know I was overseas,
12 I believe, at the time I spoke then. So after my
13 email, which is stamped 260, which is June 27th
14 where I give him the contact information, give Mr.
15 Garten, that is, for Mr. Kaveladze, I'm not sure
16 but I don't believe we spoke again until July of
17 that year.

18 Q. Okay. So now going back to my question,
19 just so we're clear, between June 5th and June
20 26th, do you recall whether you had any
21 conversations with Mr. Garten or Mr. Futerfas?

22 A. I believe there was one conversation with
23 both of them. We may have covered this already,
24 but after I had spoken to Mr. Garten and gave him
25 my recollection, I believe he said to me he'd like

1 to have a follow-up call with Mr. Futerfas on that
2 call. And, again, all they did was ask me the
3 same thing, the same -- to give them the same
4 recollection of what was in the meeting, what the
5 meeting was about, with both of them on the call.

6 Q. Very well. In your prior testimony, we
7 had discussed a series of emails that were dated
8 from July 9th to July 10th of 2017 that concerned
9 whether or not to issue a public statement of some
10 sort concerning the June 9th meeting at Trump
11 Tower. Now I want to show you our next exhibit,
12 which we'll label as Exhibit 2.

13 [Goldstone Exhibit 2 was marked for
14 identification.]

15 BY MR. PRIVOR:

16 Q. Exhibit 2 is a one-page document. This
17 is Bates page RG-000261. So this will be the next
18 one in sequence in your packet. This is a July
19 6th email, July 6, 2017, from you to Alan Garten
20 with the subject "Question."

21 Now, as I had just noted, in your prior
22 testimony we had been discussing communications
23 that were between July 9th and July 10th. So this
24 one's a little bit earlier, so I want to explore
25 this one a little bit. So in this email, it

1 appears you reached out to Alan Garten on July
2 6th, and you asked -- you reported to him that you
3 were in Europe and wanted to "check back to see
4 what, if anything, was happening with the
5 statement your colleague read to me last week and
6 if any story has broken yet about it."

7 Do you recall what that statement was
8 that Mr. Garten's colleague had read to you that's
9 referenced in this?

10 A. I don't. Yes. I don't recall exactly
11 what it was, no.

12 Q. Do you recall what the subject was, what
13 it was about?

14 A. I believe it was a statement that -- I
15 think the colleague I'm referring to was probably
16 Mr. Futerfas who read to me, and it was going to
17 be a statement from, I believe, Don, Jr. But I'm
18 really not a hundred percent certain at this
19 stage.

20 Q. So the record is clear, when you refer to
21 "Don, Jr.," that's Donald Trump, Jr.?

22 A. It is.

23 Q. Do you recall whether you received any
24 response to this July 6th email when you had asked
25 specifically of Mr. Garten what, if anything, is

1 happening?

2 A. I don't believe I had a direct answer
3 until a bit later, like a few days later.

4 Q. This email in Exhibit 2 suggests that Mr.
5 Garten's colleague, who you've identified as
6 probably Mr. Futerfas, had read to you a statement
7 which you surmised was about Donald Trump, Jr.

8 Had you ever seen a statement as opposed to one
9 that was read to you after this email?

10 A. At this stage I had not, no.

11 Q. And so the email had been recited to you
12 or read to you by Mr. Futerfas. Do you know what
13 the purpose of him reading it to you was?

14 A. I don't, no.

15 Q. Did you request that he read you the
16 statement?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Were you asked to provide any reaction to
19 the statement when it was read to you?

20 A. I don't recall being asked.

21 Q. Do you recall whether you were asked to
22 provide any input to the statement that had been
23 read to you?

24 A. No, not other than the conversations had
25 with me giving my recollection of what went on at

1 the meeting, no.

2 Q. Apart from whether you were asked for any
3 reaction or input, did you provide any reaction to
4 the statement that was read to you?

5 A. I don't recall.

6 Q. Do you recall whether you provided any
7 input, like, for example, suggesting changes or
8 additions to it?

9 A. I don't.

10 Q. Do you recall whether you provided any
11 comments at all on that statement, even if it were
12 through another person?

13 A. I don't recall.

14 Q. After that statement had been read to
15 you, did you discuss the content of that statement
16 with anyone else that you can recall?

17 A. Not that I can recall, no.

18 Q. Did you discuss with anyone else the fact
19 that the statement had been prepared before it was
20 released publicly?

21 A. I'm not sure of the date -- I would have
22 to look through here -- if at some point I had
23 said either to Ike -- that's Ike Kaveladze -- or
24 to Emin that Don, Jr. -- that's Donald Trump, Jr.
25 -- might have been preparing a statement. I may

1 have said that in another series of calls or
2 emails. But I don't believe I went into what it
3 said.

4 Q. Apart from other emails or text messages,
5 do you recall having any conversations with any
6 other person other than Mr. Futerfas and Mr.
7 Garten about this potential statement concerning
8 Don, Jr., before it was released publicly?

9 A. I don't believe so, other than maybe
10 having said to Emin at some point -- that's Emin
11 Agalarov -- that there may be some statement
12 coming.

13 Q. All right. Let's go to our next exhibit.
14 We're going to call this Exhibit 3, and this is
15 at RG-000273 through 274.

16 [Goldstone Exhibit 3 was marked for
17 identification.]

18 BY MR. PRIVOR:

19 Q. This is an email chain. The most recent
20 email at the top of the page is from you to Alan
21 Futerfas, copied to Alan Garten, dated July 9th.
22 The subject is "Re: Press IMP." Take a moment to
23 look that one over.

24 [Pause.]

25 MR. GOLDSTONE: Yes, I've looked it over.

1 BY MR. PRIVOR:

2 Q. Very well. So the most recent email in
3 the chain, the one that's at the top half of the
4 page, is from you to Mr. Futerfas, copied to Alan
5 Garten. You state, "Calling you now." That is
6 responding to an email from Alan Futerfas which is
7 dated July 10th.

8 The first question is just the time
9 stamps on these obviously are a little bit
10 inconsistent because your response date precedes
11 the email that was sent to you, which suggests
12 you're in a different time zone. Do you recall
13 where you were located at the time?

14 A. I was in Athens, Greece, which I believe
15 is 7 or 8 hours ahead of New York.

16 Q. And I take it that, in fact, your
17 response did occur after the email from Mr.
18 Futerfas notwithstanding what's printed on the
19 page?

20 A. That is correct.

21 Q. Okay. So looking at Mr. Futerfas' email
22 to you, he writes, "I reached out to you as soon
23 as we heard today that your name leaked." Do you
24 know what that is a reference to, your name
25 leaking?

1 A. I believe it's a reference to either the
2 Washington Post or the New York Times, I can't
3 remember which one leaked my name, but my name
4 being out in the press as the person who sent the
5 email or emails to Donald Trump, Jr., requesting
6 the meeting at Trump Tower.

7 Q. Were you expecting Mr. Garten -- or Mr.
8 Futerfas, rather, to keep you apprised if your
9 name were to leak in the press or in the media?

10 A. I was expecting that if they were to use
11 my name, they would perhaps do me the courtesy of
12 letting me know that. And as far as I understood
13 from the media who called me, it was actually
14 through either Mr. Trump, Jr., or his attorneys
15 that they gave details or provided my name to the
16 media. So whilst it's being referred to as a
17 leak, I had been told by some media that to
18 prevent the media coming out with the story first,
19 that Mr. Trump, Jr., through his attorneys had
20 actually offered this information to the media.
21 So, yes, in that respect, I would have expected
22 the courtesy of them telling me.

23 Q. How did you come to the conclusion that
24 they -- and I assume you mean Mr. Trump's lawyers,
25 Trump, Jr.'s lawyers -- were the ones that had

1 given your name to the media?

2 A. I believe a couple of media people who
3 called me had said -- had said that or said words
4 to that effect.

5 Q. Did you have any discussion with Mr.
6 Futerfas or Mr. Garten about the facts that you
7 had learned that they had provided your name to
8 the media?

9 A. I'm not sure if in one of these I say
10 that. I'm not sure is the answer to that. But I
11 think, if I didn't say it bold, I certainly
12 inferred it to them.

13 Q. Apart from emails or text messages, do
14 you recall any other conversations with Mr.
15 Futerfas or Mr. Garten about the fact that you
16 believed they had leaked your name to the media?

17 A. I don't recall -- when I say, "Calling
18 you now. Rob," which is at the top of page 273,
19 the fact that I write, "Calling you now," I would
20 imagine I did speak to Mr. Futerfas. But I don't
21 recall that conversation, so I can't answer that.
22 But if as it says, "Calling you now," if I did
23 have a conversation with him, I would think I
24 probably would have brought that up as that was,
25 you know, my reaction to that.

1 Q. Do you recall what your reaction was to
2 the fact that they had leaked your name?

3 A. I just recall at the time being
4 surprised, I suppose shocked -- it's a bit of a
5 strong word, but I think it's applicable -- that
6 they wouldn't have told me. I mean, you know, I
7 just thought they would have done me the courtesy
8 of saying something. They didn't have to, but I
9 thought it might have been a courtesy to do so.

10 Q. Did you express any anger or frustration
11 or anything like that to them?

12 A. In the email that's at the second half of
13 page 273, I say here, "I had asked last week if we
14 could be sent a copy of his statement and any
15 other -- which we never received, to be prepared
16 and perhaps draft our own statement. That's
17 saying it in nice terms.

18 Q. In your telephone conversation, though,
19 which is reflected on page 273, where you say,
20 "Calling you now," do you recall whether in your
21 telephone conversation you expressed any reaction
22 to their having leaked your name to the media?

23 A. I don't actually recall if I actually had
24 that call. There doesn't appear to be anything
25 that follows on from it to say I can't get hold of

1 you or anything, to that respect. So I don't
2 recall. No is the answer.

3 Q. The next sentence in Mr. Futerfas' email
4 on July 10th states, "My preference if" -- I think
5 that's a typo for "is." "My preference is for you
6 to have no comment." Did you discuss that, Mr.
7 Futerfas' preference for no comment, with him?

8 A. Don't know the answer to that.

9 Q. Do you recall whether you discussed that
10 preference for no comment with anyone else?

11 A. I don't believe I did.

12 Q. You ultimately did prepare a statement.
13 We've seen drafts of that statement the last time
14 we spoke to you. Do you recall why you had
15 prepared a statement if Mr. Garten -- I'm sorry,
16 Mr. Futerfas had expressed a preference for you to
17 have no comment?

18 A. I believe that between him expressing
19 that and also sending me, which we have here also,
20 something that he had drafted that he thought
21 would be acceptable for me or Emin or whoever to
22 say, I decided I would rather say it myself than -
23 - it didn't seem to be the right sort of
24 statement. It wasn't the way I would speak. It
25 didn't sum it up the way I would sum it up. So I

1 thought it would be easier for me to draft
2 something as a possible idea for a statement.

3 Q. When you were drafting your statement,
4 had anyone asked you to prepare or draft that
5 statement? Or was it entirely just out of your
6 own mind?

7 A. I believe -- no is the answer. Nobody
8 had asked me to do it. I had, I think, suggested
9 to Emin Agalarov and possibly Ike Kaveladze that I
10 would try my hand at drafting something. But at
11 that point I was interested only in drafting
12 something because I wanted something to go out.
13 It was about what people were saying about me.

14 Q. Apart from Mr. Futerfas' statement that
15 his preference was that you have no comment, do
16 you recall whether anyone else asked you not to
17 draft or not prepare or issue a statement?

18 A. Nobody, as far as I can recall.

19 Q. Did anyone discourage you from releasing
20 a public statement other than perhaps how you
21 might infer from Mr. Futerfas' email?

22 A. Not discourage, no. I had sent this
23 statement to Emin Agalarov to look at, and I
24 believe he told me he -- I think we have this also
25 in either a text or something, but he just wanted

1 to run it past -- I think he either said Ike and
2 the lawyers or his Dad, Ike, and the lawyers. So
3 -- but they didn't discourage me. I think they
4 were just saying perhaps just hold off until we
5 get back to you.

6 Q. Did you ultimately issue a statement?

7 A. I did not.

8 Q. I'm sorry. Did not?

9 A. I did not.

10 MR. PRIVOR: Let's go to our next exhibit.
11 Our next exhibit is going to be a collection of
12 text messages. We're going to label this Exhibit
13 4. These are text messages that begin at RG-
14 000286 and go through 313.
15 [Goldstone Exhibit 4 was marked for
16 identification.]

17 BY MR. PRIVOR:

18 Q. You produced the text messages to us as
19 one sort of long batch. Some of those text
20 messages involved Ike Kaveladze and some of them
21 involved Emin Agalarov. This is the text messages
22 only for the latter, the exchanges with Mr.
23 Agalarov. We're going to split it up to hopefully
24 make this a little easier to follow. So these are
25 the Emin Agalarov text messages we're going to

1 start with. I will turn your attention to Bates
2 page RG-000292, if you would.

3 I will note for the record, just so we
4 can bear in mind the dates and time stamps, which
5 will be relevant, that page 292 is a continuation
6 of the string of text messages that appears to
7 begin on page 286, showing the date July 9th. So
8 as we interpret this, this is part of a July 9th
9 exchange. If you have a different view, we'd
10 certainly like to hear it just to make sure we're
11 all on the same page.

12 A. I believe it's July 9th.

13 Q. Okay. Very well. During your first
14 interview with the staff, Ms. Sawyer, my
15 colleague, had asked if the text string shown here
16 on Bates page 292 -- it had a different Bates
17 number then, of course, but the substance of the
18 email -- or, I'm sorry, the text message was
19 before us. And Ms. Sawyer had asked you whether
20 or not the text ends -- it's approximately three-
21 quarters of the way down the page. It says -- it
22 appears to be you writing -- "I hope this favor
23 was worth it for your Dad. It could blow up."
24 And that was at Bates page RG-000230, in the old
25 document. And you can see that the text actually

1 at Bates page 292 continues with the word "big"
2 and then a few more statements after that. At the
3 time we didn't have that full text exchange, so we
4 want to make sure we understand the rest of it.

5 She had asked you about what you meant by
6 that it could blow up, and you had stated in your
7 testimony at page 214 of the old transcript that
8 you thought that their names may appear in the
9 press. So I want to just dig into this a little
10 bit more now that we have the continuation of the
11 exchange.

12 First question. You said, "I hope this
13 favor was worth it for your Dad." What was the
14 favor that you had in mind when you wrote that?

15 A. The request to the Trumps via Don, Jr.,
16 for the meeting.

17 Q. That's the request made by you to set up
18 the June 9th meeting?

19 A. Correct, on behalf of Emin Agalarov.

20 Q. Now, when you described it as a "favor
21 for your Dad," whose favor was it? Was setting up
22 the meeting a favor made to Aras Agalarov, or was
23 Aras doing a favor for someone else?

24 A. I don't know the answer to that, but I
25 know what I meant in here. I'm saying to Emin, I

1 hope the favor that you, Emin Agalarov, asked me
2 to do on your behalf was worth it for your Dad.
3 And I know it involved his Dad because when he
4 first called, he said, you know, "My Dad met with
5 this attorney and asked if you could set up a
6 meeting." So by default, I assumed Emin was doing
7 this on behalf of his Dad.

8 Q. Do you know who originated the request to
9 set up the meeting? In other words, was it
10 something that sprung from the desire of Aras, or
11 was it coming from someone else?

12 A. As I understand it, it was a request from
13 Aras through Emin through me to the Trumps.

14 Q. How did you know that, that the request -
15 -

16 A. How do I know that?

17 Q. How did you know that the request started
18 with Aras?

19 A. Well, again, maybe I didn't articulate
20 this how I should. The extent to which I
21 understand that is what was conveyed to me by
22 Emin, and that -- the implication was that his Dad
23 had asked him to set up a meeting with the Trumps.
24 Emin had then asked me. I have no idea if or who
25 had asked his Dad.

1 Q. You had mentioned that Aras had met with
2 the lawyer. I assume that's Ms. Veselnitskaya.
3 Is that right?

4 A. That is -- well, to the best of my
5 knowledge, that's correct.

6 Q. What is the basis of your knowledge that
7 he had met with that lawyer?

8 A. I suppose my assumption that when Emin
9 said, "My Dad had met with this well-connected
10 prosecutor who had information about funding to
11 the Democrats," and all that I had said before,
12 that is what this person who attended the meeting
13 seemed to present. So I have always taken it to
14 be that that's the person Emin spoke about.

15 Q. Now, you described this as a favor. Do
16 you know whether there was any expectation of a
17 return favor?

18 A. Well, it's interesting because my use of
19 "favor" here is that Emin did a favor for his Dad.
20 So using that implication, you know, would his
21 Dad ever do him a favor? I'm sure, if you know
22 what I mean. That's my implication, that he did a
23 favor for his Dad.

24 Q. I see. You described the favor -- you
25 said you hoped that the favor was "worth it."

1 What did you mean by "worth it"?

2 A. At the time when Emin first asked me to
3 set up the meeting, I recall saying to him
4 something along the lines that, you know, I
5 thought it was a bad idea because you get very few
6 opportunities with people like the Trumps to ask
7 favors, and I hoped it was worth the favor. You
8 know, we're back into this favor again. It was --
9 it was me on behalf of Emin now asking Don, Jr., a
10 favor.

11 Q. Right, but --

12 A. So --

13 Q. But your text message asks or suggests
14 you hope it's "worth it for your Dad," meaning for
15 Aras. What would make it worth it for Aras?

16 A. Oh, that -- well, that isn't how I mean
17 it. I mean I hope this favor for your Dad was
18 worth it. If we were being semantically,
19 grammatically correct, that's how I mean this.

20 Q. Understood. Okay.

21 Now, we can see from this new version of
22 the text message at Bates page 292, there is, in
23 fact, additional texts that we didn't have before.
24 So you said it could "blow up big. I/we need a
25 press statement." And then you appear to paste in

1 some text that starts with, "President Donald
2 Trump's eldest son, Donald Trump, Jr., and son-in-
3 law Jared Kushner confirmed late Saturday that
4 they met with a Kremlin-linked lawyer in June 2016
5 during the election campaign. But President
6 Trump's attorney is laying the blame firmly with
7 the Democrats." Do you see that text pasted in
8 there?

9 A. Yes, I do.

10 Q. Do you recall what the source of that
11 particular text was?

12 A. I don't. Well, I think, if you read all
13 the way to the first quarter of 294, where it
14 said, "President Trump's lawyer, Marc Kasowitz,
15 told NBC..." I don't know if it's from -- no, I
16 don't actually. It looks to me like it's from --
17 it's obviously online from NBC or from somewhere,
18 but I don't know exactly where it's from.

19 Q. Do you recall whether that came from a
20 Newsweek article?

21 A. Don't know.

22 Q. Do you recall why you pasted this
23 particular text into your text message to Emin?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Do you have any recollection of wanting

1 to include text about the President's attorneys
2 laying the blame firmly with Democrats?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Did you ever discuss with Emin or anyone
5 else whether the June 9th meeting was somehow
6 linked to Democrats?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Did you discuss that topic at all with
9 Alan Futerfas or Alan Garten?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Did they ever mention that to you in your
12 conversations, that they believed that the June
13 9th meeting was -- should be -- laying the blame
14 should be firmly with the Democrats?

15 A. I don't recall them ever saying that.

16 Q. The quotation that follows, which you can
17 see carrying over from page 293 to 294, is a
18 quotation from Mark -- it says "Corall." I think
19 that's "Corallo." He says in the quote, "We have
20 learned that the person who sought the meeting is
21 associated with Fusion GPS, a firm which,
22 according to public reports, was retained by
23 Democratic operatives to develop opposition
24 research on the President and which commissioned
25 the phony Steele dossier," quoting from Mark

1 Corall, spokesperson for President Trump's lawyer
2 Marc Kasowitz, on NBC. Do you recall whether you
3 ever discussed -- well, let me back up. Had you
4 ever heard of Fusion GPS before July the 9th,
5 which is the date of this text message?

6 A. I had not.

7 Q. Was there any -- when you pasted this
8 particular text into the text message, did you
9 have any particular purpose in selecting text that
10 referred to Fusion GPS?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Had you ever discussed Fusion GPS with
13 anyone before you pasted it into this text
14 message?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Do you recall ever discussing Fusion GPS
17 with anyone after you pasted this into the text
18 message?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Do you recall ever discussing with anyone
21 a link from Ms. Veselnitskaya to Fusion GPS?

22 A. I don't recall, no.

23 Q. Do you know the name Glenn Simpson?

24 A. No.

25 Q. Glenn Simpson is the, I think, owner of

1 Fusion GPS. Does that help you identify Mr.
2 Simpson?

3 A. No. I mean, I'm sure that I have watched
4 news programs and maybe his name has come up, but
5 I don't know of him, know him, and I don't even
6 recall his name. But I'm sure I've heard it.

7 Q. Do you recall ever discussing with anyone
8 any link from Ms. Veselnitskaya to Glenn Simpson?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Had you ever heard, before pasting this
11 particular text message, had you ever heard that
12 there was an opposition research firm retained by
13 Democratic operatives called Fusion GPS?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Had you ever heard of an opposition
16 research firm retained by Democratic operatives
17 having any connection to the June 9th meeting at
18 Trump Tower?

19 A. No.

20 Q. When you pasted this particular text, the
21 quotation, were you drawing any connection between
22 Fusion GPS and the June 9th meeting?

23 A. No, I wasn't.

24 Q. You had attended the June 9th meeting,
25 correct?

1 A. Correct.

2 Q. Was there any discussion of Fusion GPS at
3 the June 9th meeting?

4 A. To the best of my knowledge, to somebody
5 who was half listening, no.

6 Q. Do you recall whether there was any
7 discussion of Glenn Simpson at the June 9th
8 meeting?

9 A. I don't recall.

10 Q. Do you recall ever discussing Fusion GPS
11 with any of the participants who were at the June
12 9th meeting?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Do you ever recall discussing Glenn
15 Simpson with any of the persons who were
16 participants of the June 9th meeting?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Let's have you turn to Bates page 297.
19 We're still in the same exhibit, Exhibit 4. Bates
20 page 297 carries over from the prior page. You
21 can see that this is now a text message on July
22 10, 2017.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. As this was originally produced to us the
25 first time and we had asked you questions about

1 it, the text was found at Bates page RG-000232,
2 but it cut off at the top third of the page, where
3 it says, "I am being eaten alive in media with
4 journalists..." So the remainder of that text on
5 page 297 is new to us. Do you see where I'm
6 pointing?

7 A. I do indeed, yes.

8 Q. Okay. Very well. So this text states
9 that, "He is flying. I will speak to Ike when he
10 lands. I'm being eaten alive in media with
11 journalists investigating my links to Russia, you,
12 and Putin. This has and will have a disastrous
13 effect on my business also, and I trust we will be
14 compensated in some way. Already one new client
15 has walked away over this. It can only get
16 worse."

17 So you wrote that the journalists were
18 investigating your links to Russia, you, and
19 Putin. What were your links to Russia at that
20 time?

21 A. Having managed a Russian -- well, let me
22 answer this. My links to Russia was simply having
23 managed a Russian pop star. What journalists were
24 writing and investigating and believing and
25 blogging was very different.

1 Q. How was it different?

2 A. Well, I had headlines asking if I was a
3 KGB spy, if I was a mole for the Kremlin, if I was
4 some sort of operative who'd been put into this
5 meeting. So considering I was a publicist who had
6 sent an email, I found it quite disturbing.

7 Q. Apart from managing a Russian pop star,
8 did you have any other links to Russia at that
9 time?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Do you have any other links now?

12 A. No.

13 Q. You also reference Putin, which I presume
14 is President Vladimir Putin. Did you have any
15 links to President Putin at the time of this text?

16 A. No.

17 Q. Do you have any links to him now?

18 A. No.

19 Q. Do you know whether the Agalarovs had any
20 links to President Putin at the time of this text?

21 A. I don't know what, if any, links they had
22 to him, no.

23 Q. Do you know if they have any links to him
24 now?

25 A. I don't know that.

1 Q. The remainder of that text, you seem to
2 lament the impact on your business. You say that
3 you "trust we will be compensated in some way."
4 What did you mean by that?

5 A. I was furious that I'd been put in this
6 position, and I knew, having been a journalist and
7 then a publicist for many years, the impact that
8 being written about in the way I was being
9 vilified in the press would have on my business,
10 which was as a publicist and manager. So the very
11 job that I did involved me working with the media
12 who were the very media that were hunting me down.

13 Q. Were you, in fact, compensated in any
14 way?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Did you ask to be compensated?

17 A. In this text.

18 Q. What did you have in mind by
19 compensation?

20 A. I don't know. I was -- it was a way of
21 showing my extreme anger and concern at the impact
22 this would have on my business. I hadn't thought
23 in specifics.

24 Q. Did you ever follow up to this text
25 message to ask for compensation?

1 A. No.

2 Q. Why not?

3 A. Because I assumed that even if I was to
4 get it, it would enable the media to have an even
5 bigger field day with their assertions,
6 allegations, or thoughts. So I thought it was
7 probably best to just leave it alone.

8 Q. You can see at the bottom of that page
9 there is a voice message that shows 27 seconds
10 long at 5:17. Do you see that?

11 A. Yes, I do.

12 Q. Okay. We have asked your counsel which -
13 - audio files that were produced to us previously,
14 which ones correspond, and we're told that this
15 one corresponds to Bates number RG-000250. Now
16 that we see where it fits in the text string, we
17 want to play that text message for you and -- or,
18 I'm sorry, voicemail message and ask you a few
19 questions about it. So my colleague is going to
20 play that voice message now.

21 [Voicemail message played:]

22 MR. AGALAROV: Stay cool. You have nothing
23 to do with this or everything you've done is you
24 connected people and you have no comment on this
25 as far as everyone else is concerned. But I think

1 Ike and the lawyers have basically a strategy to
2 follow up. I'll give you a call later today and
3 let's discuss, or give me a call whenever you want
4 to speak.

5 BY MR. PRIVOR:

6 Q. Were you able to hear that?

7 A. Yes, I was.

8 Q. Okay. Very well. We're not going to
9 give that an exhibit sticker since it's an
10 electronic file, but we've identified it, which
11 one it is, Bates 250. A couple questions about
12 that voice message.

13 Did you have a discussion with Emin after
14 -- I take it that's Emin Agalarov in the voice
15 message?

16 A. It is. Yes, it is.

17 Q. Did you discuss his voicemail with him
18 after you received that call? Did you have a
19 follow-up call?

20 A. No, I don't believe I had a call. I
21 think there may be some texts or things that
22 follow it, yes.

23 Q. He stated in his message, "You have
24 nothing to do with this." Do you know what he was
25 referring to when he said, "You have nothing to do

1 with this"?

2 A. Yes, the truth for once, that all I had
3 done is what he'd asked me to do, which was to set
4 up a meeting.

5 Q. So was that a reference to the June 9th
6 meeting?

7 A. Yes, it was.

8 Q. Was it a reference to -- just so we're
9 clear, was it a reference to setting up the
10 meeting contemporaneously around June 9th? Or was
11 it about making public statements describing the
12 meeting a year later?

13 A. It was about you have nothing to do with
14 -- it was about -- because I'd made it so clear to
15 him how I didn't understand what he was asking me,
16 how he wouldn't give me information on the lawyer
17 and how I thought it was a bad idea, this to me
18 speaks to you had nothing to do with this, you
19 just simply requested what I asked you to do, you
20 set up a meeting.

21 Q. Emin Agalarov continues in his voice
22 message stating that you would have no comment on
23 this as far as everyone else is concerned. Do you
24 know what he meant by that?

25 A. No.

1 Q. Do you have any idea who the "everyone
2 else" is that might have been concerned whether or
3 not you had a comment?

4 A. A lot of people were asking me if I could
5 comment on behalf of Emin because I obviously had
6 managed him and been his publicist for a long
7 time. So possibly, you know, don't comment on
8 behalf of me either, perhaps.

9 Q. Did you discuss that issue of no comment
10 with Emin around the time you received this
11 voicemail?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Did you discuss it with Alan Futerfas or
14 Alan Garten? And, again, this --

15 Q. Not to my --

16 Q. This text is from July 10th and a
17 corresponding voicemail.

18 A. It wasn't so much about no comment. It
19 was the fact that I think both Mr. Garten, Mr.
20 Futerfas, Emin, possibly Ike as well at this
21 stage, knew that it was the opposite for me. I
22 was chomping at the bit to put out a statement.

23 Q. The message also stated that -- Emin had
24 stated, "I think Ike and the lawyers have
25 basically a strategy to follow up." Did you have

1 any understanding of what he meant by a strategy?

2 A. No -- well, yes. I mean, just the basic
3 -- my basic intelligence would tell me that they
4 were trying to come up with should they issue a
5 statement, should they not issue a statement,
6 should I issue a statement, should I not. That's
7 what I assumed that strategy would be.

8 Q. Did you ever discuss that with Emin, or
9 were you just inferring that?

10 A. Well, I'd sent him a draft of what I
11 wanted to do as a statement or wanted to put out
12 as a statement, and I'd said on a few occasions,
13 as you've seen in here, that I think we should put
14 them out. Then I became stronger -- saying I'm
15 being, I think I said the words "eaten alive."
16 It's an odd phrase, but I did -- to say I need to
17 do something. So, yes, I think it was fairly
18 obvious that I was the one saying we need to say
19 something.

20 Q. When Emin is referring to Ike and the
21 lawyers have basically a strategy, do you know
22 which lawyers he's talking about?

23 A. I do not.

24 Q. Do you think he was talking about Mr.
25 Futerfas and Mr. Garten?

1 A. I have no idea.

2 Q. Was that strategy -- as you understood
3 it, was it a strategy for responding to the press?

4 A. I understood it, I believe, as a strategy
5 as in what do we do, if anything, in terms of a
6 response.

7 Q. And is that a response to press inquiries
8 or to something else?

9 A. The response wouldn't just be because the
10 press was inquiring. It would be because the
11 situation was now public. But it would have been
12 a response to the press.

13 Q. What was your understanding of what that
14 strategy was?

15 A. I don't know. And I don't believe I ever
16 did find out either.

17 Q. So I take it you didn't have any input
18 into what that strategy was going to be?

19 A. Other than drafting a statement that I
20 sent to them to look at, no.

21 Q. So other than drafting that statement,
22 were you consulted at all about the strategy to
23 deal with whatever this situation was?

24 A. I was not.

25 Q. Even if you weren't asked, did you offer

1 any advice on what the strategy should be?

2 A. I offered nothing once Emin had said that
3 Ike and the lawyers were doing whatever it is he
4 said they were doing.

5 Q. Did you have any further discussions with
6 Emin about what the strategy should be after this
7 voicemail?

8 A. The strategy? I'm not sure. No, not
9 about the strategy. No, absolutely not.

10 Q. How about did you have any discussions
11 with Mr. Garten or Mr. Futerfas about what the
12 strategy should be?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Did you have discussions with anyone else
15 about what you thought the strategy should be?

16 A. No. Not about strategy, no.

17 Q. Let me have you turn to Bates page 302.
18 So we're still in the same July 10th text string,
19 and Emin appears to have left you a string of
20 three voice messages at 5:17, 9:17, and 9:18. Do
21 you see that at the top of the page?

22 A. Yes. Yes, I do.

23 Q. We previously asked you about the first
24 one, which your lawyer has confirmed for us is
25 Bates -- the audio file is Bates RG-000251. We

1 had discussed that in your prior testimony at
2 pages 215 to -16 in the transcript. In that one,
3 Emin had said, "The meeting happened through Ike
4 and my Dad. I was not involved, and I was also
5 against all possibilities." And Emin at that time
6 said he did not mind you commenting. So in light
7 of the audio file we had just listened to, in
8 which Emin said you have no comments, do you --
9 let me play Audio File RG-251, which is the first
10 of those three voice messages.

11 [Voicemail message played:]

12 MR. AGALAROV: Rob, I understand your
13 frustration and no way I'm trying to downsize
14 what's happening. But as you know, as the meeting
15 happened through Ike and my Dad, I was not
16 involved, and I was also against all
17 possibilities. The same way right now, any
18 comments should go through them. Just figure out
19 with Ike what the strategy should be. I don't
20 mind you commenting anything. There's no problem
21 from my side, as you understand.

22 BY MR. PRIVOR:

23 Q. Okay. So if you compare the two audio
24 files, the one we played first we've already
25 discussed now was at 5:17. Now what appears to be

1 4 hours later at 9:17, my colleague just played
2 you the second file. In the first at 5:17, Emin
3 had said you have no comments. And now 4 hours
4 later, he says that he didn't mind if you were
5 commenting. Do you know why he changed his views
6 in those 4 hours?

7 A. I don't know why because I can't read his
8 mind, but I can read my texts and his responses.
9 So if you go to page 301, you will see -- it
10 actually begins at 300 where Emin asks me why this
11 is destroying my reputation, and I explain. I
12 work in music, it's full of liberals, I'm seen as
13 a weird link to the Kremlin. And then I'm
14 becoming more angry. I'm, like, "Have you even
15 watched the news? I'm not able out of courtesy to
16 you and your father to respond. I'm painted as a
17 mysterious link to Putin." And his answer, this
18 is where I'm going to, this says, "That should
19 give you mega PR," at which point I just simply
20 say, "Forget it." And I believe the reason for
21 his change is because of that. We never had those
22 kind of discussions in 4 years. Me saying "Forget
23 it" means, "You just don't understand."

24 So I think this was a kind of outreach to
25 me to say, okay, I don't mind what you say. But

1 there was a caveat in it, but, you know, it wasn't
2 me, it was my Dad and Ike, so it really should go
3 through them. And he knows that I would always go
4 through the proper channels for him. Whether I
5 worked for him or not, I still respected him.

6 And so that's what it was. It was a kind
7 of -- a bit of a passive-aggressive option for me.

8 Say what you want, but really it should go -- I
9 don't mind, but it's not me that should mind.

10 It's my Dad.

11 Q. Apart from the text exchange and the
12 voice message that was left, did you have any
13 other discussion with Emin about that change, that
14 change of heart?

15 A. I think there was a call between us at
16 some point before these. After I said, "Forget
17 it," I believe we did have a really brief call
18 that I hung up on. And, yeah, there was. It was,
19 again, him saying, "I still don't understand.
20 This is mega" -- you know, I think at one point he
21 said to me, "This is making you one of the most
22 famous people in the world," and the reason I
23 remember it is because I said to him, "You know,
24 Jeffrey Dahmer was famous. I don't think he got a
25 lot of work out of it," and hung up. And so

1 that's why it sticks with me. And then this came.

2 It was -- this is an exchange of anger
3 from me and him trying to appease my anger, in my
4 opinion.

5 Q. Apart from your communications with Emin,
6 did you have any discussions with Alan Garten or
7 Alan Futerfas about the change of heart about
8 whether or not to comment?

9 A. No.

10 Q. All right. The next voice message in the
11 string is RG-000252. We'll play that one for you.

12 [Voicemail message played.]

13 MR. PRIVOR: We're going to replay it
14 because the mic wasn't on.

15 [Voicemail message played:]

16 MR. AGALAROV: And if you want, I can speak
17 to my father and ask him directly if he minds or
18 doesn't mind, wants you to comment, doesn't want
19 you to comment.

20 BY MR. PRIVOR:

21 Q. All right. That was a little bit more
22 muffled.

23 A. I could hear it.

24 Q. Okay. Very good. It sounds like Emin
25 offered to speak to his father directly and ask

1 him if he minds or doesn't mind about you
2 commenting. Do you know if Emin, in fact, did
3 speak to his father about your commenting or not?

4 A. I have no idea.

5 Q. Did you have any follow-up with Emin
6 about whether or not he should speak to his
7 father?

8 A. No.

9 Q. Is there any reason why not?

10 A. Because this was appeasement to me. It
11 wasn't real, so it didn't matter.

12 Q. Did you ever reach out to Aras yourself
13 to ask his views about commenting?

14 A. No.

15 Q. Did you ever reach out to Aras to discuss
16 the June 9th meeting directly?

17 A. No. I believe I actually have never
18 reached out to Aras on anything.

19 Q. Did you ever reach out to Alan Futerfas
20 or Alan Garten about the commenting or --

21 A. No.

22 Q. -- not commenting?

23 A. No.

24 MR. PRIVOR: Let's play the last one in the
25 string here, the one that's at 9:18, another

1 minute later.

2 [Voicemail message played:]

3 MR. AGALAROV: -- is in direct contact with
4 him, but I haven't spoken on the matter recently
5 to him, but I can. Let me know if you want me to.

6 MR. PRIVOR: And, I'm sorry, I should have
7 identified that one. That audio file was RG-
8 000253.

9 BY MR. PRIVOR:

10 Q. The particular message gets cut off at
11 the very beginning, so it seems like it's missing
12 part of the text. And you can see on Bates page
13 302, if you're looking where the file is showing
14 that there's a voice message, it shows that it's a
15 minute-ten long, and obviously, it's very short,
16 what you heard. Do you know whether you have the
17 full audio file of that?

18 A. Can I have a minute? Would you mind?

19 MR. PRIVOR: Yeah, and, you know, we've been
20 going for a little over an hour. Do you want to
21 take a short break and give you an opportunity to
22 --

23 MR. GOLDSTONE: Yes, that would be --

24 MR. PRIVOR: Okay. Let's go off the record.
25 It's 4:22.

1 MR. GOLDSTONE: Thank you.

2 MR. GAGE: I'm just going to mute us.

3 [Recess at 4:22 p.m. to 4:35 p.m.]

4 MR. PRIVOR: Okay. We're ready if the
5 reporter is ready. We're going to go back on the
6 record. It's 4:35 p.m.

7 Before the break, we were discussing one
8 of the voicemail messages that appears to be cut
9 off, and, Counsel, you were going to explain sort
10 of what you had in your files and what has been
11 produced, and we'd invite you to make a statement
12 on the record about that.

13 MR. OZAROWSKI: Sure. Our best
14 understanding at this point is that all of the
15 audio files that we've produced to the Committee
16 are complete. I myself helped get the files off
17 of Rob's phone, and they are complete files to the
18 best of our knowledge. Our general understanding
19 is that the 1 minute and 10 second time stamp is
20 an error on WhatsApp. It appears maybe to be
21 related to the minute and 10 second voicemail that
22 comes later in the string of texts. This message,
23 as best we can tell, is approximately 12 seconds.
24 And, also, when looking at Rob's phone more
25 recently and replaying it, the message appears to

1 be 12 seconds long.

2 MR. PRIVOR: Very well. We appreciate that
3 clarification, and let's now continue with that
4 particular message.

5 BY MR. PRIVOR:

6 Q. So as noted -- and we understand that the
7 file you have is shorter -- it nevertheless
8 appears to be cut off slightly at the beginning.
9 It sounds like Emin is saying someone was in
10 direct contact with him. The "him" I think is a
11 reference to Aras Agalarov. Is that your
12 understanding, Mr. Goldstone?

13 A. Could I ask that that be played again?
14 Just because there's been a little time in
15 between.

16 MR. PRIVOR: Yes, of course. Again, the
17 file is Bates RG-000253.

18 [Voicemail message played:]

19 MR. AGALAROV: -- is in direct contact with
20 him, but I haven't spoken on the matter recently
21 to him, but I can. Let me know if you want me to.

22 MR. GOLDSTONE: I can't make out what that
23 first word is, but it obviously relates to
24 somebody being in direct contact with him. And as
25 it relates to the previous voice message, I would

1 agree that it's with his father, Aras.

2 BY MR. PRIVOR:

3 Q. Do you recall having any conversation
4 with Emin about who was in direct contact with his
5 father?

6 A. I do not.

7 Q. Emin says in that message that he hasn't
8 "spoken on the matter recently to him, but I can.
9 Let me know if you want me to." That, again,
10 sounds like an offer to speak to his father. The
11 "him" is a reference to Aras. Do you agree with
12 that?

13 A. I agree with that.

14 Q. Did you ever follow up with Emin to ask
15 him to follow up with his father?

16 A. No.

17 Q. And did you yourself directly follow up
18 with Aras?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Now, sticking to Bates page 302 of the
21 series of text messages, just below the
22 voicemails, this appears to be you writing to
23 Emin: "Ike tells me you are now handling and
24 releasing some statement. I myself will be
25 putting out the following statement shortly," and

1 you then go on to describe, "My ideal statement
2 would be" -- and it has a time stamp which shows
3 on Bates page 304 as 10:53.

4 We had discussed the content of that
5 statement during your last testimony starting at
6 transcript page 218. Did you discuss that
7 statement with anyone other than Emin that you can
8 recall?

9 A. I may have discussed it with Ike.

10 Q. Do you recall that you did?

11 A. I wouldn't have -- like, I wouldn't have
12 read it to him. I wouldn't have asked for his
13 input. But I may have said, "I'm putting together
14 a statement and I'll send it to you."

15 Q. Did you seek any input or approval from
16 Ike?

17 A. No.

18 Q. Did you seek any input or approval from
19 anyone else before sharing this statement with
20 Emin?

21 A. No.

22 Q. What about after you shared it with Emin?
23 Did you seek any input or approval from anyone
24 else?

25 A. Input or approval, no.

1 Q. Did you discuss this, what you described
2 as your ideal statement, with Alan Futerfas or
3 Alan Garten?

4 A. No.

5 MR. PRIVOR: Let's go to our next exhibit.
6 This will be Exhibit 5, and this is an email, an
7 email chain, Bates page RG-000276 through -77.
8 [Goldstone Exhibit 5 was marked for
9 identification.]

10 BY MR. PRIVOR:

11 Q. The email at the top of the page, the
12 most recent in the chain, is from you to Alan
13 Futerfas, copying Alan Garten, dated July 10,
14 2017, with the subject "Re: Statement."

15 A. Uh-huh.

16 Q. You state, "This is the personal
17 statement I plan to release. Please advise if you
18 see any errors." The text of that statement,
19 which follows immediately below, starting, "I was
20 asked by my client in Moscow, Emin Agalarov, to
21 help facilitate a meeting between a Russian
22 attorney, Natalia Veselnitskaya, and Donald Trump,
23 Jr."

24 You will note that the text of -- and it
25 continues from there. That text in the email at

1 Exhibit 5 is very similar to what you had
2 described as your ideal statement at Bates page
3 RG-302. So it appears that you did send what was
4 your ideal statement that you had pasted in the
5 text to Emin, and it appears that you did share
6 something very similar to it with Alan Futerfas
7 and Alan Garten.

8 I've noted two changes that I wanted to
9 ask you about. In the version that is Exhibit 5,
10 the email, you refer specifically to the Russian
11 attorney by name. You identify her as Natalia
12 Veselnitskaya. And if you look at the version in
13 the text message on Bates page RG-302, which is
14 part of Exhibit 4, you'll see that there's a
15 reference there to a Russian attorney, but her
16 name is not given there.

17 Do you recall why in the version of
18 Exhibit 5 you have now added in Ms.
19 Veselnitskaya's name?

20 A. No. I notice I put it in parentheses,
21 and I was trying to recall if there was a reason
22 for that. But, no, I don't.

23 Q. You --

24 A. I mean, it may have -- I'm sorry to
25 interrupt.

1 Q. Sure.

2 A. It may -- it may have been that at the
3 time I was texting Emin, I may not have been able
4 to recall fully her name, spell her -- I don't
5 know if that's true, but that could be a reason
6 why. I don't know the answer.

7 Q. Do you know just from looking at the time
8 stamps, are these -- from Exhibit 5 and Exhibit 4,
9 are they both Eastern Time Zone stamps or at least
10 the same time zone if not Eastern?

11 [Pause.]

12 A. I'm just looking.

13 Q. The text message is shown as 10:53, and
14 the Exhibit 5 is showing it as 11:22. Are they
15 the same time zone?

16 A. Ah, you're asking me if they're the same
17 time zone. Okay. Because I wasn't, as I think
18 you're aware, in the U.S.

19 Q. To state it another way, my question is:
20 Does Exhibit 5, in fact, occur chronologically
21 after Exhibit 4? Is the email taking place 30
22 minutes or so later than the text message? Again,
23 the text message shows a time stamp of 10:53, and
24 the email at Exhibit 5 shows a time stamp of
25 11:22.

1 A. Yes, the only reason I'm hesitating is
2 I'm just looking at a slightly later one in the
3 text, which is page 305, which shows 11:23, which
4 would mean I'd be typing two things almost
5 simultaneously. That's why I'm kind of hesitant.

6 I don't -- I'm not terribly technical on
7 how it captures this, but it does appear that it's
8 chronological, yes. But I can't be a hundred
9 percent sure of that.

10 Q. Do you have any recollection of the
11 chronology? In other words, was the text message
12 first and then there was an email and then there
13 was a second text message, which you have just
14 referenced at Bates page 305?

15 A. It does appear to be correct, yes.

16 Q. One other difference between the text on
17 Exhibit 4 and the email at Exhibit 5, in the
18 Exhibit 5 you refer to Mr. Trump, Jr., may find
19 the information regarding funding to the DNC from
20 Russia, he may find that interesting. In Exhibit
21 4, instead of -- I'm sorry. I think I have that
22 backwards. In Exhibit 4, it refers to -- let me
23 start over.

24 Exhibit 5 has, "Donald Trump, Jr., may
25 find this information interesting." In Exhibit 4,

1 the text, it says, "the Trump team might find this
2 interesting."

3 So if you look at Bates page 303 of the
4 text message, Exhibit 4, three lines down, "which
5 the Trump team might find interesting." And if
6 you look on Exhibit 5, Bates page 276, the third
7 line refers to "Mr. Trump, Jr., might find
8 interesting."

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Do you know why there was a change from
11 "the Trump team" to "Mr. Trump, Jr."?

12 A. No. It looks like I had refined what was
13 a text to Emin to what was more of an outline of
14 an actual statement by the time we get to 276.

15 Q. In Exhibit 5, 276, the email, you pasted
16 the personal statement that you described as one
17 you planned to release, and you asked Futerfas and
18 Garten to "please advise if you see any errors."
19 Why did you want their input on whether or not
20 there were any errors?

21 A. I don't know the answer to that, but I
22 remember at the time they were the only lawyers or
23 legal people I had spoken to at all about any of
24 this. And, you know, I'm overseas thousands of
25 miles away. This is all going on. I have no real

1 help from Emin or what's going on there. I
2 reached out to them as kind of like, "Here you go,
3 does it look like I'm saying anything stupid," for
4 want of a better word. It's probably naive, but
5 hindsight is a wonderful thing, which I didn't
6 have.

7 Q. Did they, in fact, advise of any errors?

8 A. I don't think they even answered me. I
9 could be wrong, and I'll follow it through. But I
10 don't think I -- I don't believe they even
11 answered.

12 Q. Did they provide any approval of any sort
13 that you can recall?

14 A. No. They -- I see below, I think -- I
15 don't know if the "thank you" is about that or
16 about something else. I find it hard to follow
17 these sometimes. But there's an "Okay, thank you"
18 there, so maybe that's it. But outside of that, I
19 don't believe there was anything else.

20 Q. Let's go back to Exhibit 4, which is the
21 text messages, and we'll have you turn to page
22 305. You will see the ideal statement starting at
23 304, carrying over to 305. It appears that Emin
24 is providing some modification to your original
25 statement and sending it to you.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. At about halfway down the page, he says,
3 "I would do this." Do you see where I am?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And now there is an audio file, this one
6 at 11:27. It has a time stamp of 1:10. I believe
7 this is what your counsel is referring to as the
8 possible ghosting in WhatsApp, that the two files
9 might be confused.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. But we're going to play this one now.

12 This is RG-000254, is the audio file.

13 [Voicemail message played:]

14 MR. AGALAROV: Rob, here we are with Ike. I
15 just talked to my Dad. Basically your statement
16 is fine. We don't see anything wrong with it. I
17 just tweaked some of the information you're giving
18 out. So I was asked by my client in Moscow, blah,
19 blah, blah, requesting a meeting between Russian
20 attorney and Donald Trump, Jr. I reached out to
21 Donald Trump, and he agreed to squeeze us into a
22 very tight schedule. Russian attorney presenting
23 a few general remarks. You're giving them extra
24 information. If you need to, then, sure, no
25 problem. But I would exclude that as well. And

1 she said really nice meeting, lasted 15 minutes.
2 Nothing came of it. It was pointless, blah, blah,
3 blah, waste of everybody's time. Done. So that's
4 what I would do. Like mine and my Dad's position
5 would be "no comment" due to the fact that Mr.
6 Trump is the President and, you know, any
7 information we might reveal might, you know, hurt
8 him, harm him, or be used against him because we
9 conducted Miss Universe in Russia, and during Miss
10 Universe we spent 3 days together. And,
11 obviously, any of that now could be --.

12 MR. PRIVOR: Sounds like it cut off. It
13 sounds like we lost the last sentence there, but
14 my questions are directed at a part that had
15 already played.

16 BY MR. PRIVOR:

17 Q. Emin had said in the audio, "Mine and my
18 Dad's position would be 'no comment' due to the
19 fact that Mr. Trump is the President and, you
20 know, any information we might reveal might hurt
21 him, harm him, or be used against him because we
22 conducted Miss Universe in Russia, and during Miss
23 Universe we spent 3 days together."

24 Did you have any follow-up conversation
25 with Emin that you can recall concerning this

1 voice message?

2 A. No. Voice -- no.

3 Q. Did you have --

4 A. I simply --

5 Q. I'm sorry?

6 A. No. I simply said after that I need to
7 retain -- I need to retain an attorney as soon as
8 possible.

9 Q. Did you have any follow-up discussion
10 with anyone else about what he stated in his
11 message?

12 A. No.

13 Q. He specifically referred to his and his
14 father's position being no comment due to the fact
15 that Mr. Trump is President and, you know, any
16 information we might reveal might hurt him or harm
17 him. Do you know what information he had in mind
18 that might harm or hurt the President?

19 A. I do not.

20 Q. Did you ever ask?

21 A. No.

22 Q. He refers to the Miss Universe Pageant
23 and states that, "Because we conducted Miss
24 Universe in Russia and during Miss Universe we
25 spent 3 days together," that that information

1 would somehow be used against the President. Do
2 you have any idea what Emin had in mind with
3 regard to Miss Universe?

4 A. I don't know what he had in mind, no.

5 Q. Apart from what Emin had in mind, do you
6 have a view as to whether or not what occurred
7 during the Miss Universe Pageant in Russia would
8 have had any impact on the President?

9 A. No. I mean -- no.

10 Q. Emin refers to having spent 3 days
11 together during the Miss Universe Pageant in
12 Moscow. Do you recall those 3 days in Moscow?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Were you present for the full 3 days that
15 Emin is referring to?

16 A. I was present in Moscow, yes.

17 Q. Can you give us your best recollection of
18 what happened, what events occurred during those 3
19 days that you were present for?

20 A. Of course. So the first day -- and this
21 is interesting. It is technically 3 days, but
22 it's parts of 3 days. So Mr. Trump arrived late
23 in the afternoon of November 8, and he came -- he
24 had shortened his trip by a day in order to
25 attend, I believe it was, the 85th or 90th

1 birthday of Billy Graham. And he arrived on the
2 8th of November, came directly from the airport to
3 an event that Aras and his team had set up at Nobu
4 in Moscow. And it was a kind of meet-and-greet
5 reception with some key business leaders and, I
6 presume, friends, acquaintances, colleagues of the
7 Agalarovs. And Mr. Trump was the guest of honor
8 and was going to make some remarks and was going
9 to answer some questions. That was the first
10 event. It lasted approximately an hour, after
11 which, as I understand it, he went back to his
12 hotel, had some rest, changed, and then went out
13 to the Crocus Estate where he was given a tour of
14 the estate by Emin. I wasn't present for that.
15 And he stayed on to attend the birthday -- I think
16 it was the 57th birthday -- of Aras Agalarov that
17 was taking part that night, at which all of the
18 Miss Universe contestants would attend, many of
19 the celebrity judges who were there, and kind of
20 the creme de la creme of the entertainment world
21 of Russia was there, I think about 400 people,
22 maybe more, 500 people. And Mr. Trump attended.
23 He stayed until -- I know he stayed until at least
24 12:30 -- that's midnight thirty -- because that's
25 when the birthday cake finished. And I believe he

1 left around 1:00, possibly even 1:30.

2 He'd also agreed -- Emin had asked me
3 during the Nobu meeting if I could somehow get Mr.
4 Trump to be in his music video which was being
5 shot the next day, and somehow I did get Mr. Trump
6 to agree to give us 15 minutes to shoot his part
7 in it at approximately 7:30 to 8:00 a.m., in that
8 time frame, at the Ritz-Carlton in Moscow in the
9 boardroom. So he was dropped back at his hotel.
10 I have no idea what time, but it takes about 45
11 minutes to get from Crocus, so I would estimate he
12 got back to the hotel about 2:00 a.m. And at
13 somewhere after 7:00 a.m., maybe 7:15, 7:30, I
14 called Keith Schiller, who I understood to be his
15 head of security, to request that he make his way
16 down to the boardroom to shoot the music video,
17 which he did. And after that, he spent most of
18 the day with the Miss Universe Organization,
19 except to do a press conference late in the
20 afternoon. There was a rehearsal. Then there was
21 the show itself, which ended around 11:00 at
22 night. He then came to the after-party which was
23 held also within the Crocus world. It was about
24 1,200 people. And he stayed 'til about 2:00 or
25 3:00 the next morning. That's how we get 3 days.

1 We didn't have him for 3 days. We had him for
2 one full day, one bit of a half-day, and a few
3 hours of the next day. And then he left on a jet
4 belonging to a friend of his, and that was the end
5 of it in Russia.

6 Q. We've previously discussed in your prior
7 testimony the Nobu event, so we'll skip over that.
8 You mentioned his hotel. Was he staying at the
9 Ritz-Carlton?

10 A. He was.

11 Q. And did you see him at the Ritz-Carlton
12 Hotel?

13 A. Yes, for sure. I saw him there the
14 morning of the video shoot. I'm not sure if I saw
15 him at any point the night before. I was also
16 staying there, so perhaps -- no, I didn't see him.
17 I was going to say perhaps I saw him in a lobby,
18 but I'm sure he would have gone up in an elevator.
19 I don't know. I didn't see him except on the
20 morning of the video shoot.

21 Q. My question wasn't clear. I'm trying to
22 take us through this chronologically. You stated
23 that Mr. Trump came in late in the evening on
24 November 8th and went from the airport to Nobu.
25 And after that event, he went back to his hotel.

1 Did you travel with him back to his hotel?

2 A. I did not.

3 Q. Do you know anybody who did travel with
4 him back to the hotel?

5 A. For sure, his translator. He was
6 assigned a translator to be with him throughout
7 the time there. I don't know who that was. And I
8 saw Keith Schiller with him almost all the time he
9 was in Moscow. So I would imagine him also.

10 Q. The translator that was assigned to Mr.
11 Trump, who assigned that translator to him?

12 A. The translator was assigned through
13 Crocus Group. I believe the lady who took care of
14 all the translators for everybody attending there
15 was a lady by the name of Svetlana Bignova. She
16 dealt with logistics, on-ground logistics.

17 Q. You stated that Mr. Trump the next day
18 went on a tour of the Crocus Estate. Do you know
19 who attended the Crocus tour with him?

20 A. Emin, but I actually believe that he may
21 have done that -- I'm not sure he did that the
22 following day. I think he may have done that
23 prior to the birthday on the first day.

24 Q. I see. Did you know --

25 A. So after Nobu, at the hotel, yeah. Emin

1 drove him around.

2 Q. Was anyone else with him that you know
3 of?

4 A. Not that I know for sure, but, again,
5 everywhere I saw Mr. Trump, Keith Schiller was
6 with him.

7 Q. After the tour, he attended the birthday
8 party for Aras that evening?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Were you at the party?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Did you see Mr. Trump --

13 A. I was working. I was there in a working
14 capacity.

15 Q. Did you observe Mr. Trump at the party?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Did you see him speaking to anyone -- any
18 Russian nationals at the birthday party?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Who do you recall that he was speaking
21 with?

22 A. A couple of celebrity performers, one of
23 whom was a judge at the contest, a gentleman by
24 the name of Philip Kirkorov. And he was seated
25 with Aras and his wife. I don't know if Emin was

1 actually at that table. I presume he was, but I
2 don't know for sure. And the table held 10 or 12
3 people, so those would have been friends of Aras,
4 I imagine. That's who usually sat with him at his
5 birthday. And they would be Russian.

6 Q. Do you know if any of them were Russian
7 Government officials?

8 A. That I do not know.

9 Q. Do you know if any of them were also at
10 the Nobu event?

11 A. The only person I know at the Nobu event
12 whose name was told to me was Herman Gref, who I
13 think is the CEO or chairman of Sberbank in
14 Russia.

15 Q. Was he also at the birthday party?

16 A. I believe he was.

17 Q. Did you see Mr. Trump interact with Mr.
18 Gref at the birthday party?

19 A. I did not.

20 Q. You stated that after the birthday party,
21 Mr. Trump returned to his hotel arriving probably
22 somewhere around 2:00 a.m. Did you travel back to
23 the hotel with him?

24 A. I did not.

25 Q. Do you know who did?

1 A. Again, I am fairly sure that Keith
2 Schiller would have because he was at the party
3 with him. The transportation was for them. I
4 don't know who else traveled with him, no.

5 Q. And the next morning, about 7:30 a.m.,
6 Mr. Trump participated in a music video shoot.
7 Was anyone with him for that shoot other than Emin
8 and the film crew, presumably?

9 A. Keith Schiller brought him down to the
10 boardroom. I was there. The other people who
11 were -- we reenacted a kind of boardroom scene
12 from "Apprentice," so there probably were six or
13 seven actors involved in that, a fairly large film
14 crew; and, again, I think the translator who'd
15 been contracted whenever Mr. Trump was doing
16 something official, she -- I think it was a she --
17 would be there.

18 Q. Did you have any conversations with Mr.
19 Schiller about Mr. Trump?

20 A. It's such a broad question. I mean, I
21 spoke to Mr. Schiller throughout the time he was
22 there, but, I mean, not specifically about Mr.
23 Trump.

24 Q. We asked you during the last time you
25 were before us if you had any knowledge of Mr.

1 Trump being involved with any prostitutes at the
2 Ritz-Carlton. Did you have any conversation with
3 Mr. Schiller about that?

4 A. I did not.

5 Q. Later that day, you described --

6 MS. SAWYER: Can I ask just a quick
7 question?

8 BY MS. SAWYER:

9 Q. The shooting of the video at the
10 boardroom, you said, it was the boardroom at the
11 Ritz-Carlton?

12 A. It was, yes.

13 Q. And did you ever see Mr. Trump's room,
14 the room that he was staying in?

15 A. I did not, no.

16 Q. Do you know what room he was staying in?

17 A. I don't know what room it was in. I had
18 been involved in discussions as to even which
19 hotel it would be in, which was still kind of up
20 in the air up until a couple of days before he
21 arrived. We had a hotel sponsor. It was a
22 different hotel. It was part of Intercontinental
23 Group. I know Emin -- because at the time there
24 were budget constraints -- was considering putting
25 him there with all the other celebrities. Myself

1 and Paula Shugart from Miss Universe stated that
2 it was probably better befitting Mr. Trump to put
3 him in the Ritz-Carlton, and then it became which
4 suite, what cost. And so I was involved in the
5 initial discussions, and gave up and let Svetlana,
6 who was dealing with logistics, kind of fight with
7 Emin to see how high up we could get him. So I
8 don't know. I've read reports he was in the
9 Presidential Suite. I don't know that certainly
10 on my watch I have discussed something at that
11 level.

12 Q. So you don't know in particular what
13 suite he was in?

14 A. I don't know.

15 BY MR. PRIVOR:

16 Q. The rest of that day was consumed by the
17 Miss Universe Pageant, the press conference, the
18 rehearsal, the show itself, and then you described
19 an after-party. You saw Mr. Trump there 'til 2:00
20 or 3:00 in the morning?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. Did you at the after-party see Mr. Trump
23 interact with any Russian Government officials?

24 A. Mr. Trump interacted or appeared to
25 interact and shake hands and take photos with

1 dozens and dozens of people. Fortunately, or
2 unfortunately, I don't know who those people were.

3 So my answer would be I don't know what Russian
4 Government officials look like unless they're in
5 uniform, which I didn't see anybody in.

6 Q. How about Mr. Gref? Did you see him at
7 the after-party?

8 A. I don't recall seeing him -- no, I don't
9 recall seeing him. I would imagine he was there,
10 but I don't recall seeing him.

11 Q. During these 3 days that you have
12 outlined for us, do you recall whether there were
13 any discussions about Mr. Trump meeting with
14 Vladimir Putin?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. What do you recall about that?

17 A. It was the gorilla in the room that had
18 to be addressed, but there seemed to be no answer
19 to address it. So the conversation mainly took
20 place between Paula Shugart as head of Miss
21 Universe, myself, and Emin. And we were trying
22 to, from a scheduling point of view more than
23 anything, determine if and when a meeting could or
24 would take place. And Emin's answer was always
25 the same, which was: If we're going to get an

1 answer, it would be through my Dad. We have to
2 just leave this. There's nothing we can do. It's
3 been asked. The question has been asked. And if
4 there's an answer, we'll get it.

5 And it went down to the wire. It was on
6 the day of the contest itself that maybe around
7 4:00 in the afternoon Emin called a few of us into
8 a conference room at Crocus, and his Dad, Aras,
9 was there. And we were told that a call was
10 coming through from a Mr. Peskov, who I know to be
11 Dmitry Peskov, who I believe is a spokesman for
12 Mr. Putin, and there'd be an answer. And the
13 answer I think, as I may have stated the last time
14 I saw you, was that due to the lateness of the
15 newly crowned King of Holland who'd been delayed
16 in traffic, whether air or road traffic, Mr. Putin
17 would not be able to meet with Mr. Trump.
18 However, he invited him to Sochi, to the Olympics,
19 and said he'd be happy to meet him there or at any
20 future time. And that's how it was left, so there
21 would be no meeting taking place.

22 Q. How did the potential meeting originate?
23 Who requested the meeting?

24 A. So when I was in Las Vegas in June of
25 2013 with the Agalarovs, and it seemed fairly

1 obvious that this contract was going to be signed
2 and they were going to host it, Paula Shugart and
3 I had a quiet moment, and I don't know if it was -
4 - I believe it was her. She was one who turned to
5 me and said, "Oh, God, he's going to want to meet
6 Putin." And from then on it became almost like a
7 standing -- at some point he's going to mention he
8 wants to meet Putin. And I don't know when it
9 happened, but at some point it was conveyed to me,
10 either through Rhona Graff or through Paula, that
11 Mr. Trump did, in fact, want to know if there was
12 a possibility of meeting President Putin. I spoke
13 to Emin, and he said the only way that could
14 possibly happen is an official request through his
15 father to whoever; he didn't specify. And it was
16 suggested that it would be put in writing from Mr.
17 Trump and that they would, you know, pass on a
18 letter from Mr. Trump and see what the result was.

19 Q. When you spoke to Emin about this request
20 that came from Rhona or Paula, was that -- what
21 form of communication did you have with Emin? Was
22 it over the telephone? Was it in person? Was it
23 email?

24 [Videoconference blip.]

25 MR. PRIVOR: Hello? You can hear us again?

1 MR. GOLDSTONE: Yes.

2 MR. PRIVOR: Okay. Very good.

3 BY MR. PRIVOR:

4 Q. Did you hear my question?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Okay. I'll repeat it for you. So you
7 described a request from either Rhona or Paula for
8 Mr. Trump to meet Vladimir Putin, and you
9 communicated that to Emin. What form of
10 communication was it with Emin? Did you speak in
11 person? Was it telephone or some other manner?

12 A. Are you asking me -- you broke up a
13 second, but are you asking me that I communicated
14 with Emin or whether Mr. Trump's request was to
15 meet in person or speak on the phone? I didn't
16 get what you were saying.

17 Q. Sorry. We'll back up. So you conveyed
18 the Trump request to Emin. Is that right?

19 A. Correct. That is correct.

20 Q. How did you convey that message to him?

21 A. I believe initially by telephone on one
22 of our many calls.

23 Q. Do you recall when that took place?

24 A. No, but as I say, I think it first reared
25 its ugly head in Las Vegas in June of 2013, so it

1 would have been very soon after Paula had
2 mentioned it to me.

3 Q. Do you recall what you told Emin?

4 A. I don't recall the exact thing, no.

5 Q. Do you recall Emin's reaction to the
6 request?

7 A. Yes. Not specifically word for word, but
8 it was that this is something that would have to
9 go through my Dad, be an official request, and we
10 should probably work on getting a letter or
11 something from Mr. Trump and see what goes from
12 there. But the thing he kept emphasizing was that
13 it had to be something that went through his
14 father's office, not him, not anybody else.

15 Q. Why do you think it had to go through his
16 father's office?

17 A. Because I think his father probably had
18 the gravitas and the respect of the government on
19 some level -- he was a serious businessman -- that
20 that's the protocol. Anyway, that's the protocol
21 for this type of request. It's a pretty serious
22 request. You're asking to meet the President of a
23 nation.

24 Q. Did you have any understanding of what
25 Aras' relationship was with Vladimir Putin to make

1 such a request?

2 A. No, not his relation -- relationship. I
3 knew that he had been presented with an Order of
4 Russia, an order of something medal, from Mr.
5 Putin. I knew that he had also built something
6 for the G-20 summit in Vladivostok, which was
7 apparently hailed as a major piece of building
8 achievement by the government. So in that
9 respect, I knew that there was, you know,
10 potentially some kind of admiration or respect for
11 him.

12 Q. Do you know if they were personal
13 friends?

14 A. I don't know, but I saw nothing to
15 suggest that they were.

16 Q. You mentioned that there was a telephone
17 call in Moscow from Dmitry Peskov, who is the
18 spokesperson for Mr. Putin. Do you know if there
19 is a personal relationship between Aras and Mr.
20 Peskov?

21 A. I don't know that, no.

22 Q. You stated when you first spoke to Emin,
23 he said that the request for this meeting would
24 have to be put in writing. Did you play any part
25 in putting the request in writing?

1 A. I believe I definitely would have
2 conveyed that either to Paula or Rhona or both.

3 Q. Do you know if they prepared a written
4 request?

5 A. I believe there was a written request.

6 Q. Did you play any role in conveying that
7 written request to the Agalarovs?

8 A. I believe I may have sent copies of what
9 the text would be, possibly for them to look it
10 over and see if it was okay or if it needed
11 tweaking or changing or whatever. I don't recall
12 if I took the physical letter. I don't know. I
13 know there was a physical letter by -- yes, I
14 think there was a physical letter. I don't know
15 if I took it or if somebody else maybe took it to
16 Moscow.

17 Q. You've described what you think was a
18 telephone conversation with Emin where you
19 conveyed the initial request, and --

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. -- there's a written letter that got
22 transmitted, and you've also told us about the
23 phone call from Mr. Peskov. Were there any
24 communications in between in which you were a
25 participant in which there was a discussion about

1 arranging a meeting between Mr. Trump and
2 President Putin?

3 A. No. I followed up a few times, I think
4 one was a Paula request. You know, do we know
5 about scheduling yet? Is there -- again, it
6 seemed pretty naive, but most of it was about the
7 scheduling. Once he'd cut down his trip to really
8 just one day and a couple of little bits, it was,
9 you know, what happens if there's a meeting?
10 Where are we going to put this? What's going to -
11 - that's what most of it was about. And I would
12 on those occasions say to Emin, "Can we get an
13 answer on this?" And his answer appeared to
14 always be the same, which is, "It's up to my Dad,
15 if my Dad can get an answer."

16 Q. Did you have any direct communications
17 with Aras about that?

18 A. No. I rarely had any direct
19 communication with Aras, who really doesn't speak
20 English, apart from any other reason.

21 Q. You've described a telephone call from
22 Mr. Peskov. Were you present in the room when
23 that telephone call came in?

24 A. I was.

25 Q. Who else was present?

1 A. Mr. Trump, I believe Paula Shugart was
2 there, Keith Schiller, Emin, and then I'm not
3 sure. And Aras, obviously, because he received
4 the -- not obviously, but he received the call.

5 Q. Could you hear the telephone
6 conversation?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Were you not in the room when the
9 telephone call took place?

10 A. Yes, but I wasn't on the phone.

11 Q. Were you able to hear Aras' side of the
12 conversation?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What do you recall from his side of the
15 conversation?

16 A. I was going to say something that just
17 sounds flippant, so I'll change it. It was in
18 Russian, so I don't recall anything from his side.
19 "A lot of Russian words" is what I was going to
20 say.

21 Q. Okay. Fair enough. Do you know what
22 prompted Mr. Peskov to call -- well, let me back
23 up. Did he call Aras or did Aras call him?

24 A. He certainly called Aras at the time we
25 were there. I'm not sure if that's in response to

1 Aras having asked him to call.

2 BY MS. SAWYER:

3 Q. And during that conversation, did Mr.
4 Trump get on the phone at any point in time?

5 A. I don't recall him being on the call, no.

6 Q. So the only person who took and spoke
7 with Mr. Peskov was Mr. Agalarov, Aras Agalarov?

8 A. To the best of my knowledge, who then
9 relayed the information to Emin, who always acted
10 as his translator anyway because he spoke both
11 languages fluently.

12 BY MR. PRIVOR:

13 Q. After that call from Mr. Peskov, was
14 there any further follow-up or discussion about
15 Trump and Putin meeting during the Miss Universe
16 Pageant?

17 A. Not anything that I heard or overheard,
18 no.

19 BY MS. SAWYER:

20 Q. In addition to talking about a meeting,
21 did Mr. Trump discuss President Putin otherwise
22 during the trip?

23 A. I only heard him talk about him once in
24 specifics, which was at the Nobu reception where
25 he did field some questions, and one of the people

1 -- I have no idea who they were -- asked Mr. Trump
2 his view on Russia, its economy and its leader.
3 And amongst the things he replied, I remember him
4 saying specifically, "You have a very strong
5 leader. Our leader is weak." And then he
6 emphasized the word again, he goes, "Weak. We
7 need a strong leader." So I took that to be
8 President Putin. I mean, that was the leader of
9 Russia at the time.

10 Q. And then by contrast, when he was
11 speaking of "our leader," who did you take Mr.
12 Trump to be referring to when he said, "Our leader
13 is weak"?

14 A. President Obama.

15 Q. And I wanted to go back. You had
16 mentioned that while you were in Las Vegas in June
17 of 2013, I think you said Paula -- Shugart?

18 A. Shugart, yeah.

19 Q. Can you spell her last name?

20 A. S-H-U-G-A-R-T.

21 Q. That she had mentioned to you that with
22 the upcoming Miss Universe Pageant the following
23 fall that Mr. Trump would want to meet Mr. Putin.
24 Was Mr. Trump there in Las Vegas with you all as
25 well?

1 A. You cut out just as you said "Mister" --

2 Q. Yeah, I'm not sure my microphone is
3 working as well. I'm trying to -- okay. Let me
4 just try to shorten the question as well.

5 While you were in Las Vegas in June 2013,
6 Mr. Trump was also present, wasn't he?

7 A. That is correct, yes.

8 Q. And how many days were you there in Las
9 Vegas with Mr. Trump?

10 A. I was there for 2 days in Las Vegas.

11 Q. And were the Agalarovs also there with
12 you?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And was it both Emin and Aras?

15 A. It was their entire family. It was Emin,
16 Aras, Irina Agalarova -- she's Aras' wife -- and
17 Sheila Agalarova, who is Emin's sister and their
18 daughter.

19 Q. And who was there from the Trump family?

20 A. I don't know, but I don't recall meeting
21 any other Trump family member during that time.

22 Q. When you say "any other," other than
23 Donald Trump, Sr.?

24 A. Other than Donald Trump, Sr., yes.

25 Q. Do you recall if Donald Trump, Jr., was

1 there?

2 A. I definitely didn't see him there, but I
3 don't know if he was there at any time.

4 Q. And you were there for 2 days. Were the
5 Agalarovs there any longer than you? Did they
6 come before you or stay after?

7 A. No, I actually had been in Vegas longer
8 because I was acting also as a prelim interviewing
9 judge, which was a couple of days even earlier.
10 And then the Agalarovs arrived, and I moved into
11 the Trump Hotel with them for those 2 days. So I
12 believe they stayed 2 full days and then left part
13 of the third day. We all flew back -- I actually
14 flew back with them to New York.

15 Q. And what is a "prelim interviewing
16 judge"?

17 A. It's very important. It's a group of
18 people who are put together to interview the
19 contestants and spend days asking them about their
20 worth, and then present those findings -- a bit
21 like your own Committee -- to the judges at the
22 end who decide on who shall become Miss USA.

23 Q. So this was a prelim interviewing judge
24 thing for the Miss USA Pageant?

25 A. It was, yes.

1 Q. Not for the Miss Universe?

2 A. This one was for Miss USA.

3 Q. And how did you get -- who had selected
4 you to do that?

5 A. Paula Shugart had asked me for two
6 reasons: One, I'd been a journalist, and part of
7 this is you have to spend a few days of asking
8 dozens and dozens of questions and conducting
9 interviews, and she thought that could be good.
10 And, secondly, she thought it would give me
11 something of an insight into how these pageants
12 worked because I was going to be her liaison for
13 the Miss Universe Pageant coming up in November.
14 So she thought I would see at least how it ran
15 technically and production-wise and creatively.

16 Q. And were you compensated for your work as
17 a prelim interviewing judge?

18 A. You are given a per diem to buy food. I
19 think it's maybe \$70 a day, maybe \$80 a day, for 2
20 days.

21 Q. And who paid that per diem?

22 A. The judges who arrive, you -- I don't
23 know who paid it, but you receive an envelope, and
24 it has -- if you're there 3 days, I think you get
25 \$200, something like that, and it's there in your

1 package which contains a binder with bio
2 information and everything else. It's part of
3 your welcome package. And there are about six or
4 eight prelim judges. They're the non-televised
5 judges.

6 Q. And Ms. Shugart, she's with the Trump
7 Organization?

8 A. She is the president of the Miss Universe
9 Organization, which at the time was co-owned by, I
10 believe, NBC and Donald Trump -- I don't know if
11 it was the Trump Organization or him personally; I
12 have no idea -- and now is wholly owned, I
13 believe, by IMG.

14 Q. So do you know whether or not she is
15 employed by NBC or by the Trump Organization?

16 A. I have no idea who employed her then.
17 Now, currently, I mean, they're not owned by
18 either of those entities anymore.

19 Q. And is she still with Miss Universe --
20 Miss USA? Sorry.

21 A. Well, to the best of my knowledge, she's
22 still the president of the Miss Universe
23 Organization, which is the umbrella that owns Miss
24 Universe, Miss USA, and I think Miss Teen USA.

25 Q. Got it. And you said you were to be Ms.

1 Shugart's liaison at the Miss Universe Pageant in
2 Moscow? What did that entail?

3 A. So when Emin had first broached the idea
4 of why not have the pageant in Moscow, once there
5 was some positive reaction from Ms. Shugart and
6 her team, he said, look, Rob can be your liaison
7 in terms of creative or production and those kind
8 of logistics, and Ike -- Irakly Kaveladze -- would
9 be his Dad's liaison in terms of budget,
10 sponsorship, and those kind of details.

11 Q. And you had said that Ms. Shugart was the
12 one who broached the idea in Las Vegas about Mr.
13 Trump wanting to meet with Mr. Putin. Do you know
14 why she believed that?

15 A. No. And, actually, if I did say that, it
16 -- I don't -- what I think I said was that she
17 brought up -- it was kind of the gorilla in the
18 room. She said, "Oh, God, he's going to want to
19 meet Putin." It was said like that. So it was us
20 two privately going, "Oh, no," like this was --
21 not only were we now having this pageant in
22 Moscow, but this was the latest drama in our
23 minds. There was no evidence at that point that
24 he was. The inference from how I said it was she
25 said to me, "Oh, God, he's going to want to meet

1 Putin." Not "he wants to" or "he's asked to," but
2 "he's going to want to," if that explains it.

3 Q. And did Mr. Trump himself ever mention
4 Mr. Putin while you were with him in June of 2013
5 in Las Vegas?

6 A. Not that I could recall, no.

7 Q. And in the 2 days that you were there
8 that the Agalarovs were there, can you just
9 describe when and in what context you saw Mr.
10 Trump?

11 A. Yes. So I saw him -- the first time was
12 -- I was waiting in the lobby of the Trump Hotel
13 to meet the Agalarovs, and just as they came in, I
14 noticed that Mr. Trump was in the lobby, in
15 another part of the lobby. So Aras, Emin,
16 everybody came in. I went to deal with them. And
17 as they walked in, Mr. Trump screeched across the
18 lobby and said, "Oh, it's the richest man in
19 Russia, and he's come to see me." And we kind of
20 had this instantaneous meeting, so that's the
21 first time we saw him. And they had a quick chat,
22 and I believe Mr. Trump said -- again, I can't
23 quote this word for word but something to the
24 effect of: Why don't you check in and then come
25 and see the rehearsals going on.

1 So about 30, 40 minutes later, we went to
2 the rehearsal hall. Mr. Trump was there. He
3 called us over and just said, you know, this is
4 the stage, this is how it will look, I'm sure
5 Moscow will look amazing. It was all of that kind
6 of nonsense, basically. And we spent about 10 or
7 15 minutes there. Then we left, went back to the
8 hotel. I then received a call from Keith Schiller
9 not long after I'd got into my room saying, "Mr.
10 Trump understands you and Emin and everybody are
11 going to dinner tonight, and he'd like to join.
12 Is that okay?" And I said, "Sure. It's great."
13 And he asked where it was and what time it was. I
14 hung up, called Emin, and said, "You have a guest
15 for dinner." And the next time I saw him was at
16 dinner that night at a restaurant called "CUT,"
17 which I think is in the Palazzo Hotel. Yeah, so
18 he sat next to Emin on one side and Olivia Culpo,
19 who was the reigning Miss Universe, on the other
20 side of him. I sat next to Emin. And then --
21 what happened? That was it. We saw him. Then he
22 came home with us. We went -- afterwards we took
23 some of Emin's friends to the club that was in
24 there. He came with us there, and eventually he
25 left. And then we didn't see him until I think

1 the afternoon of the next day when we went briefly
2 to a dress rehearsal. And then they were seated
3 next to him, Emin and Aras, at the event itself.
4 And right after it finished, my job was to get
5 them on the stage and to prepare for the
6 announcement, the official announcement that Miss
7 Universe 2013 would be in Moscow. I did that and
8 that was it. I don't believe we saw him after
9 that.

10 Q. And at the dinner, who was -- did anyone
11 come with Mr. Trump?

12 A. You just cut out, but I think you said,
13 "Who was there?"

14 Q. Yeah, I just asked who was there with Mr.
15 Trump.

16 A. Keith Schiller, and -- with Mr. Trump? I
17 believe it was just him and Keith. Paula Shugart
18 was there and Olivia Culpo. So the reason I'm
19 hesitating is I put them in his camp kind of
20 thing. So it was the president of Miss Universe,
21 the actual Miss Universe, Mr. Trump, and Keith
22 Schiller.

23 Q. And then Mr. Agalarov was there, Aras, as
24 well as Emin?

25 A. Yes. Mr. Agalarov and his family, so

1 him, his wife, his daughter, Emin, myself; Michael
2 Cohen was actually also there with Mr. Trump.
3 Michael Cohen. And on the opposite side of the
4 table was some of Emin's friends who originally
5 had been coming to his dinner before it was
6 hijacked somewhat. Maybe four or five of his
7 friends.

8 Q. Did Mr. Cohen arrive with Mr. Trump?

9 A. I'm not sure if he arrived with him as in
10 alongside him, but I know we started very much on
11 time. We all sat down at the same time. So I
12 don't know if he came actually with him.

13 Q. And had you met Mr. Cohen before this?

14 A. No, but I was seated next to him.

15 Q. So this was the first time you had met
16 him?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And who did you understand him to be?

19 A. Mr. Trump's personal lawyer.

20 Q. And was there any explanation of why he
21 was there with Mr. Trump?

22 A. No. Not to me, anyway.

23 Q. And you had indicated that after dinner,
24 a group went to the club.

25 A. A club, yeah.

1 Q. A club. Was it a club in the restaurant?

2 A. No. It was in -- I can't recall if -- I
3 think it was in the same hotel, the Palazzo, and
4 it was -- yes, it was a club called "The Act."

5 Q. And do you remember who was in the group
6 that went to that club?

7 A. I can't be sure of the exact makeup of
8 it, but myself, Emin, definitely Miss Universe
9 herself. She has a person that looks after her
10 named Esther Swan, S-W-A-N. She would have been
11 with her. Mr. Trump, Keith Schiller, and I think
12 some of Emin's friends. I don't know if Aras went
13 to it. I have no idea. I don't know if Emin's
14 family went to it.

15 Q. And was Mr. Cohen in this group?

16 A. I don't recall if he came.

17 Q. And you said you remembered the name of
18 the club was The Act?

19 A. Act, yes. A-C-T.

20 Q. A-C-T.

21 A. Mm-hmm.

22 Q. And how long were you at that club?

23 A. Maybe 90 minutes, something like that.
24 Possibly 2 hours.

25 Q. And was the entire group there that

1 entire 90 minutes?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. So no one left before the rest of the
4 group?

5 A. No, because it was felt -- people kept
6 asking me all the time if they could leave, but
7 they felt it was rude to leave before Mr. Trump.

8 Q. So Mr. Trump was there the entire 90
9 minutes?

10 A. That we were there, yes.

11 Q. And then after that, do you know where
12 Mr. Trump went? Did you go anywhere else with
13 him?

14 A. We did not, and I have no idea where he
15 went.

16 Q. And then in terms of the time during --
17 that you were at The Act, you've probably seen
18 some of the reporting about what might have
19 occurred during that. Can you describe what you
20 guys thought this club -- what type of club it
21 was?

22 A. It -- the report -- let me -- yes. It's
23 a club that has -- it's not burlesque, but it's
24 kind of in that art. But it's organized by these
25 directors and artists that are -- it's very artsy,

1 for want of a better word, but it verges on
2 burlesque. So it's loud and it's brash and it's
3 small. And that's it, really.

4 Q. Some of the reporting has indicated that
5 it's possible that there was a display during that
6 time that you were there that involved some
7 urination. Is that accurate or inaccurate?

8 A. It's inaccurate, and I know the reporting
9 because they asked me about that, and I told him
10 they were confusing it with the sister club called
11 "The Box," which is in London. And they obviously
12 either were deaf to what I said or chose not to
13 amend their article or book or whatever it is.

14 Q. And in terms of the show that you all
15 saw, can you just describe -- you know, it's also
16 been described as involving multiple women. Is
17 that accurate?

18 A. I mean, first of all, I don't recall much
19 of the actual performance and, you know, whether
20 many of them were women as opposed to -- I mean,
21 it's a -- I mean, yes, there were women
22 performers, but not in the way it has been
23 described in the press. I believe they're
24 confusing that with a different club that was
25 known as a sister club. So it's loud. They do --

1 it's Cirque du Soleil-type acts in more of a
2 burlesque setting. That's probably the best I
3 could do.

4 Q. When you said you thought that the
5 reporting was mixing or confusing The Act with a
6 club called "The Box," you said it was a sister
7 club. That sister club is located in Las Vegas?

8 A. London.

9 Q. And in what way is it a sister club?

10 A. Owned by the same people.

11 Q. And have you gone to Box? That question
12 froze you. Sorry.

13 MR. GAGE: No, the question doesn't throw
14 me. It's just --

15 MR. GOLDSTONE: Froze.

16 MR. GAGE: Froze.

17 MS. SAWYER: Yeah, sorry. We couldn't hear
18 you. Go ahead.

19 MR. PRIVOR: The connection froze. The
20 video froze.

21 MR. GAGE: Can you hear me?

22 MS. SAWYER: Yes, we can now. Thanks.

23 MR. GAGE: Okay. Our understanding, Rob's
24 understanding and mine and Bernard's, was we'd be
25 focused on the newly produced documents which have

1 been described. We're going awfully far afield.
2 We started at 3:15. We're now at, you know,
3 coming up on 5:45. Rob has been gracious with his
4 time and prepared to keep going, but I just have
5 to suggest we're awfully far afield from what we
6 were told would be the subject of the supplemental
7 interview.

8 MS. SAWYER: Yeah, I appreciate your point.
9 I think in terms of some of these questions, I
10 think it's follow-up to his answers to some of our
11 follow-up. And I was only asking the question not
12 -- and I am only asking because I'm trying to
13 understand the foundation for Mr. Goldstone's
14 belief in particular that they may have confused -
15 - and if it's that he's read about it or he's seen
16 it and he's visited Box, then that's fine. I'm
17 just trying to get a frame of reference for why in
18 particular he thought so strongly that they had
19 confused two night clubs.

20 MR. GAGE: Well, I mean, part of it is
21 probably a little bit of speculation. I don't
22 mind Rob answering, but I'm just -- I hope we can
23 focus, to the extent there's anything left, on the
24 topic that we understood at least was going to be
25 the basis for this supplemental interview, but

1 okay.

2 MR. GOLDSTONE: Yeah, I mean, I appreciate
3 that, and I am happy to answer. I have visited
4 The Box, so I know that. And I have also met the
5 author that you're quoting and went to great
6 lengths to explain to this author that he was
7 confusing it and that -- this is before his
8 publication came out and probably he should amend
9 it. Now, the fact that he didn't choose to or
10 didn't do so has led to some of this confusion in
11 my estimation.

12 MS. SAWYER: Thank you. I do appreciate it
13 and understood the point, and we do appreciate
14 that you have been gracious with your time. So,
15 you know, thank you for that.

16 I did have one -- did you want to continue?
17 Go ahead. I'm going to turn it back over to
18 Brian for a second. Then I may have a couple
19 questions at the end.

20 MR. PRIVOR: Let's go off the record for a
21 minute.

22 MS. SAWYER: We're going to go off the
23 record for just a sec to see how many more
24 questions we have and what follow-up. So if you
25 guys want to take maybe 5 minutes?

1 MR. GAGE: Okay, yes, if we could take just
2 5 minutes, that would be great.

3 MS. SAWYER: Great. Thank you.

4 [Recess at 5:44 p.m. to 5:46 p.m.]

5 MR. GOLDSTONE: We're back.

6 MR. PRIVOR: As are we. We just have a
7 couple questions left. I'll turn it over to our
8 colleague.

9 BY MS. SAWYER:

10 Q. Can you hear me okay?

11 A. Yes

12 Q. I just wanted to follow up --

13 A. No, no, but now we can't hear you.

14 Q. I don't know what happened. It was on
15 and then it shut itself off.

16 I wanted to follow up and ask you just a
17 couple questions about Exhibit 2, and this was --
18 I'll describe it to you. This was Bates number
19 261. It's the July 6th email that you had sent to
20 Mr. Garten.

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And my colleague had asked you a few
23 questions about that, and you had indicated that
24 you were referring to a statement that he had read
25 to you that was a statement from Donald Trump, Jr.

1 Is that accurate?

2 A. Yes, I believe that's what it was, yes.

3 Q. So I'm going to read you a statement that
4 was put out by Donald Trump, Jr., on July 8th, and
5 that statement reads: "It was a short
6 introductory meeting. I asked Jared and Paul to
7 stop by. We primarily discussed a program about
8 the adoption of Russian children that was active
9 and popular with American families years ago and
10 was since ended by the Russian Government. But it
11 was not a campaign issue at the time, and there
12 was no follow-up. I was asked to attend the
13 meeting by an acquaintance but was not told the
14 name of the person I would be meeting with
15 beforehand."

16 Was that the statement that was read to
17 you by Mr. Garten? And I think you had indicated
18 that Mr. Futerfas was also on the phone.

19 A. You know, I really don't recall word for
20 word whether that was it or wasn't it. But it was
21 along the lines of it was about adoption, it
22 didn't come to much, and there was no follow-up,
23 yes.

24 Q. And that statement that they read to you,
25 did it indicate anything about the email that you

1 had sent offering incriminating information on
2 Hillary Clinton?

3 A. I honestly don't recall.

4 Q. Do you think you would have noted if it
5 had not indicated that?

6 Let me just ask a different question. Do
7 you know if at that point in time they had
8 mentioned to you whether or not they had seen your
9 email?

10 A. I believe that the emails and the
11 conversation about emails may have come a little
12 later. But I don't know whether it was later than
13 this or later than the first outreach. The first
14 outreach was definitely just about the meeting,
15 not about the emails, and I don't know when the
16 subject of the email or emails came up.

17 Q. Okay. And you had told my colleague that
18 you thought the first outreach was around June
19 5th. Is that correct?

20 A. I think it's probably a little bit
21 before, maybe around June -- no, it's actually --
22 I think the first outreach may have been at the
23 end of May as a phone message that was left, and I
24 didn't return it until the very end of May or the
25 first of June.

1 Q. And during that initial conversation, you
2 don't think there was a discussion of the email
3 that you had sent?

4 A. No.

5 Q. And then you said it did come up. Do you
6 think it came up during your discussion on the
7 27th of June?

8 A. Possibly.

9 [Video disconnected.]

10 [Recess at 5:50 p.m. to 5:51 p.m.]

11 MR. PRIVOR: Back on the record again at
12 5:51.

13 BY MS. SAWYER:

14 Q. So I think I had just asked you when we
15 got disconnected whether or not during your
16 conversation on June 27th, whether or not Mr.
17 Garten or Mr. Futerfas indicated that they had
18 seen the email that you sent to Donald Trump, Jr.,
19 on June 3rd of 2016 about the meeting.

20 A. Again, I don't recall the exact date when
21 they told me about it, but at some point they did
22 tell me they'd seen the emails, yes.

23 Q. And do you recall whether or not they
24 read a statement that was a statement from Donald
25 Trump, Jr., to you that same day during that phone

1 call on June 27th?

2 A. I don't. No, I don't recall.

3 Q. Do you recall if you talked to them after
4 June 27th but before July 6th when you sent the
5 emails referring to a statement of Don, Jr.'s that
6 had been read to you by them, by Mr. Futerfas and
7 Mr. Garten?

8 A. I definitely did not speak to them
9 because -- I was just trying to check my dates --
10 I was on a cruise ship with virtually no Internet
11 between the 28th of June and I believe I landed
12 into Athens, or however you get there, docked into
13 Athens on the 8th or 9th of July.

14 Q. So the last time you could have spoken
15 with them would have been on June 27th of 2017
16 about Don Trump, Jr.'s statement?

17 A. Most likely, yes.

18 Q. And by that time, if you can remember,
19 would they have acknowledged that they had seen
20 the email that you had sent to Don Trump, Jr.,
21 about the meeting that you were trying to set up
22 with the Russian lawyer?

23 A. I'm not sure if they -- I don't know.
24 When that -- I don't know if it was then or if it
25 was later after all this madness hit, but -- I

1 don't know.

2 Q. When you talked to us before, you
3 indicated that you thought that conversation could
4 have occurred as early as early June and
5 definitely had occurred by June 27th. And now
6 you're indicating that it could have been as late
7 as July 10th?

8 A. Well, I'm indicating I can't remember
9 when it was.

10 Q. And do you remember what they said when
11 they acknowledged that they had seen the email?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Did you mention the email to them when
14 you spoke with them in early June?

15 A. No, for sure not.

16 Q. And what about when you spoke with them
17 on June 27th? Did you mention the email to them
18 then?

19 MR. GAGE: Has this been covered in the
20 first interview? You know, if you've got a
21 transcript, if we're going over the same ground
22 that Rob has already answered, I just think it's a
23 little unfair to any witness --

24 MS. SAWYER: Well, I'll tell you why I'm
25 asking. I mean, if his testimony had been

1 consistent, then I would not have had to ask the
2 follow-up. His testimony isn't consistent, and
3 I'm more than happy to have you guys -- I mean,
4 I'm more than happy to -- we have the transcript
5 here if you want to take a few minutes. I'm just
6 trying to get it cleared up. I'm not trying to
7 trick him or trap him, but it is not consistent
8 with what he told us before, and I'm just trying
9 to get a sense as to whether or not he has a
10 recollection as to when they spoke about the email
11 that he had sent to Don Trump, Jr., about the
12 meeting.

13 MR. GAGE: I'm not even specifically focused
14 on that set of questions. I'm simply saying just
15 as a matter of practice, if an interview is given
16 in mid-December and now we're at March 29, and you
17 have a transcript and the witness does not, any
18 witness does not, and we're not certain exactly
19 what is consistent or inconsistent -- and I'm not
20 saying anything is inconsistent -- it puts any
21 witness -- forget Rob -- in an unfair situation.
22 And if what we're trying to do here -- which I
23 assume we are -- is get Rob's best recollection,
24 this is not -- I mean, with all respect, this is
25 not the best way to do it. If we have to

1 reconvene at some point when we've got the
2 transcript, answer any interim questions or -- you
3 know, we've obviously worked with you on a
4 voluntary basis, but you put any witness in a
5 virtually impossible situation when it's
6 structured this way, having done this for many,
7 many years.

8 So, again, trying to be helpful and all
9 respect, this is just not a fair process to any
10 witness. I don't know how you want to proceed,
11 but this is not the right way.

12 MS. SAWYER: Well, what I would suggest we
13 do is he give us his best recollection. We are
14 more than happy -- you will have an opportunity to
15 review this transcript, of course. As soon as we
16 have it, we'll let you know. And just as before,
17 you know, we ask that you come in within 2 weeks.
18 We will also make the prior transcript available.
19 If you feel that there's anything that doesn't
20 accurately reflect Mr. Goldstone's recollection
21 and his testimony, we're more than happy to cross
22 that bridge when we need to. So I think it will
23 be a perfectly fair process for the witness, and I
24 just want to give him an opportunity -- all I'm
25 trying to do is give him an opportunity to clarify

1 to the best of his recollection when that
2 conversation occurred.

3 MR. GAGE: No, but, Ms. Sawyer, my point is
4 simply that the ground has already been covered
5 the first time. If you put a multi-month gap in
6 between a first time and a second time, and you're
7 looking at a transcript and, again, any witness is
8 not, it simply creates an unfair dynamic. You
9 know, to go back to all of our training in law
10 school, if somebody uses identical words in a 2-
11 month gap -- it just doesn't happen unless
12 someone's got a photographic memory.

13 So I'm troubled by the process. I'm
14 willing to work with you. I think Rob has been
15 consistent. But you're just putting him in a
16 situation -- and then what would Rob have to do,
17 or any witness, then they review Transcript 1 from
18 mid-December and Transcript 2 on March 29, and
19 then you say which one do you choose, I would hope
20 everybody on the line appreciates the
21 cooperativeness of our approach. I just am
22 extremely uncomfortable with going over the same
23 ground that we've already covered. And we let
24 some of it go on to try to assist the Committee,
25 but it just -- this is not an appropriate way to

1 proceed, with all respect. So to take a break, if
2 we have to appear again via videoconference after
3 lawyers have discussed it and/or we have the
4 transcript in front of us or you can discuss with
5 Bernard and I offline anything that you are
6 concerned about -- and by "you" I include
7 everybody in the room -- that's fine. We want to
8 be cooperative. But I'm going to repeat myself, I
9 realize, but to cover the same ground a second
10 time months apart without us having the
11 transcript, that's not fair.

12 MS. SAWYER: Well, I understand your
13 position, so let me just clarify. These questions
14 came out of a document that we did not have when
15 we interviewed your client the first time, a
16 document that indicates he was read Don Trump,
17 Jr.'s statement as early as June 27th. That's not
18 something he testified to the last time, so I
19 think it's fair ground for us to ask him some of
20 the same questions because he never told us -- and
21 I'm not saying it was anything he meant to omit,
22 but he didn't tell us about it because none of us
23 had this document at the time.

24 So when we talked to him about the
25 conversations he had on June 27th before, it was

1 without the knowledge that part of what happened
2 in that conversation was Trump Organization
3 lawyers reading Donald Trump, Jr.'s prepared
4 statement to him.

5 So to the extent there is some
6 duplication, it is by virtue of the fact that
7 we've been given a new document and we have been
8 given new testimony that does touch on testimony
9 he gave before. So I am more than happy, if you
10 would prefer, to have him come back or us
11 reconvene if there is some lack of clarity as
12 between the two transcripts. All I am trying to
13 do is give Mr. Goldstone an opportunity to, now
14 that we have these documents in front of us, give
15 us his best recollection as to when the
16 conversation occurred about -- with the Trump
17 Organization lawyers about the email. If he
18 cannot recall, that is fine. I'm just trying to
19 give him the opportunity to explain that.

20 MR. GOLDSTONE: Can I just say with respect
21 -- I understand my lawyer wants to speak. Again,
22 maybe I wasn't very clear, but I have said I think
23 three times that I don't recall exactly when it
24 was. That's all I've said. And now I'll back out
25 of this conversation for the moment.

1 MR. GAGE: I think that is what he said, and
2 I do think -- and I didn't do a deposition-type
3 objection, "Asked and answered," but I do think
4 that's correct. So if this area needs to be
5 probed further, and we remain in a fully
6 cooperative mode, then I think, yes, we'll have to
7 look at the transcript and probably this
8 transcript, glad to discuss it with everybody in
9 the room, in your room, and if we need to identify
10 other lines of inquiry, then Rob will be
11 available. But for reasons I've discussed, yeah,
12 I think we'll have to -- I don't want to go over
13 the same area twice without looking at the
14 transcript. So we can handle it any way you like.

15 MS. SAWYER: I think we are perfectly fine
16 with handling it that way.

17 MR. GAGE: Because, look, we're all
18 interested in getting Rob's best recollection in
19 the fairest possible way, and it seems to me
20 that's what we have to do.

21 MS. SAWYER: Yeah, I don't think there's any
22 disagreement here unless the majority has
23 something they wanted to add.

24 MR. DAVIS: I think -- well, we'd need to
25 think it over on our end about proceeding that

1 way, but, obviously, for purposes of right now, if
2 there are other topics you'd like to move on to or
3 probe, we would be fine with that.

4 MR. GAGE: We've also gone on for coming up
5 on 3 hours. I mean, if we're going to get back
6 together again -- if there's a brief follow-up on
7 something, that's fine. But my suggestion is at
8 this point if we're going to go over this area, we
9 should recess and figure out the best way forward,
10 which I think includes our review of that
11 transcript.

12 MS. SAWYER: Well, just to be clear, this
13 was our last line of inquiry, so we actually, Mr.
14 Gage, don't have other questions. We don't. Now,
15 I don't know if Patrick had any follow-up on what
16 we have asked. So I don't know if you want to at
17 least conclude that. And my understanding was
18 that what we are going to try to do is give you
19 the opportunity certainly to read the two
20 transcripts, see if there is anything that you
21 would like to clarify, and then proceed from
22 there. I don't know that anyone has stated that
23 there's a definite need to have your client appear
24 before the Committee again at this point in time.

25 MR. DAVIS: And with that understanding,

1 yeah, we don't have any objection to that. That
2 would be the normal procedure anyway. And, of
3 course, again, it is a voluntary interview, and
4 your client is free to answer or not answer any
5 questions that he wants. Of course, the Committee
6 may have reactions to that as well.

7 MR. GAGE: No, no, we -- just to be very
8 clear, which I think everybody knows but for the
9 record, we have been and will remain in a fully
10 cooperative mode. So I see affirmative shakes of
11 the head on the camera, just to put that on the
12 record. So, yes, we'll review the transcripts and
13 be in touch, and you should feel free to be in
14 touch with us, too.

15 MR. DAVIS: Okay. I would like to finish up
16 with a few supplemental questions from our side.

17 EXAMINATION BY COUNSEL FOR THE MAJORITY

18 BY MR. DAVIS:

19 Q. Mr. Goldstone, you had mentioned in
20 reference to the Miss Universe Pageant in Moscow
21 the request from Mr. Trump to meet with Mr. Putin.
22 You had said that you had believed you had seen -
23 - or had sent copies of what the text would be of
24 a formal written request. Do you know if you
25 retain or if you still have possession of any

1 copies of what the text would have been?

2 A. I believe I don't have that currently,

3 no.

4 Q. Do you recall if that would have been

5 sent from your oui2 email account?

6 A. Most likely it would be, yes.

7 Q. And why do you believe that you no longer

8 have a copy of that?

9 A. Because I did a thorough search of all

10 the key words, the key parties, as per the request

11 from the Committee, and I don't recall that coming

12 -- in fact, I know that didn't come up.

13 Q. Do you have any memory of deleting that

14 email?

15 A. I do not.

16 Q. Okay. You also mentioned that there was

17 a physical letter, and I believe you said you

18 didn't know if you took possession of it or if

19 someone else did. Do you recall -- other than not

20 knowing whether you or someone else took it, do

21 you recall where, who it came from?

22 A. Could you just clarify the who and --

23 could you clarify?

24 Q. Sure. You mentioned sort of a chain of

25 custody of a written letter, the formal request

1 from Mr. Trump that he would like to meet with Mr.
2 Putin, and I believe you said to my colleagues
3 that you weren't sure if you had possession of it
4 at some point or if someone else did. Even if you
5 don't recall whether you did or did not have
6 possession as part of that chain, do you remember
7 who would have sent that letter to you or someone
8 else? Who was the person --

9 A. I believe the letter ultimately came most
10 likely through Rhona Graff on behalf of Mr. Trump.

11 Q. Now, between the copy of what the text
12 would have been and the letter itself, do you have
13 any recollection of the actual content of that
14 letter?

15 A. No, I mean, not really. Just a request
16 to meet, and an invitation to attend the pageant.

17 Q. You also mentioned that there had been an
18 offer from Mr. Peskov to have Mr. Trump meet Mr.
19 Putin at the Sochi Olympics or at some other
20 future date. Do you know if any such meeting ever
21 occurred?

22 A. Not to my knowledge. I have no idea.

23 Q. You also mentioned that during the Miss
24 Universe Pageant in Moscow that Mr. Trump departed
25 on a friend's plane. Do you recall who that

1 friend was?

2 A. I believe his name was or is Phil Ruffin,
3 and I don't know if that's R-U-F-F-I-N or R-A.

4 Q. And did Mr. Ruffin attend the pageant?

5 A. I believe so, yes.

6 MR. DAVIS: Okay. I believe those are all
7 the questions from our side.

8 MS. SAWYER: Okay. So I think we can
9 finish, and we will certainly notify you all when
10 we have the transcript back, and you will have the
11 opportunity to review that. And, Mr. Goldstone,
12 again, as we started, we would like to finish by
13 thanking you for your patience and your time and
14 your cooperation with the Committee. It is
15 appreciated certainly by the Ranking Member, I
16 believe also by the Chair, and their respective
17 staffs. So, you know, thank you for that, and we
18 will let you know as soon as we have the
19 transcript.

20 MR. GOLDSTONE: Thank you.

21 MR. DAVIS: Just on behalf of the Chairman,
22 I'd also like to say thank you for the
23 supplemental production and for the supplemental
24 interview.

25 MR. GOLDSTONE: Thank you all for your time.

1 Thank you.

2 MR. PRIVOR: Thank you.

3 MR. DAVIS: We'll go off the record at 6:09
4 p.m.

5 [Whereupon the proceedings were adjourned at
6 6:09 p.m.]

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ERRATA SHEET

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

INTERVIEW OF:

DATE OF INTERVIEW:

PAGE LINE

86 20 CHANGE: Strike "oh, we've all turned blue"

REASON: Videoconference Blip

93 16 CHANGE: "Agalarov" → "Agalarova"

REASON: Spelling (female form)

93 17 CHANGE: "Agalarov" → ~~Agar~~ "Agalarova"

REASON: Spelling (female form)

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Submitted by: (Signed)



Date: May 7, 2018

PRINT NAME:

Bernard Ozarowski