IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

et al.

Plaintiffs

vs

S : CASE NUMBER: CAL06-02604

MARTINO GALEAZ, et al.

Defendants

COPY

January 24, 2007

PURSUANT TO NOTICE, the following videotaped deposition of ROBERT O. GORDON, M.D. was taken before me, Daniel W. Wilson, Notary Public, in and for the State of Maryland, at 7474 Greenway Center Drive, Suite 500, Greenbelt, Maryland 20770, commencing at 4:47 o'clock, p.m., when were present on behalf of the respective parties:

APPEARANCES

LAURA G. ZOIS, ESQUIRE Miller & Zois, LLC Empire Towers, Suite 1001 7310 Ritchie Highway Glen Burnie, Maryland 21061

On Behalf Of The Plaintiffs

GIANCARLO M. GHIARDI, ESQUIRE

and

JENNIFER LANCASTER, ESQUIRE

Law Offices of Timothy S. Smith & Associates
7474 Greenway Center Drive

Suite 500

Greenbelt, Maryland 20770

On Behalf Of Defendant, State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company

ALSO PRESENT

Don Patterson, Video Operator

I-N-D-E-X

WITNESS

ROBERT O. GORDON, M.D.

Voir Dire Examination by Mr. Ghiardi	Page	1
Direct Examination by Mr. Ghiardi	Page	9
Cross Examination by Ms. Zois	Page 2	
Redirect Examination by Mr. Ghiardi	Page 5	9

EXHIBITS

No. 1	Curriculum Vitae	Page	4
No. 2	Medical Bills	Page	4
No. 3	List of Cases	Page	28
	(Retained by Counsel)		

1 Whereupon,

ROBERT O. GORDON, M.D.,

was called as a witness by counsel for a

Defendant, State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance

Company, and after having first been duly sworn by
the Notary Reporter, was examined and testified as
follows:

(Whereupon, Deposition Exhibits Number One and Two were premarked for identification.)

THE VIDEO OPERATOR: In the Circuit Court for Prince George's County, Maryland. The Plaintiff is the plaintif

The date is -- correction -- the Case

Number is CAL06-02604. Today's date is January

24th, 2007. The name of the witness is Dr. Robert

O. Gordon. The location of the video deposition

is 7474 Greenway Center Drive, Greenbelt,

Maryland.

The party giving notice of video deposition and on behalf of the Defendant is John

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1	Ghiardi, Esquire, and Jennifer Lancaster, Esquire.
2	Appearance on behalf of the Plaintiff is Laura G.
3	Zois, Esquire.
4	Officers before whom this videotaped
5	deposition is taken and sworn by is Don Patterson
6	and Dan Wilson, Notary Public. The video camera
7	operator is Don Patterson, employed by Patterson
8	Video and Photography. This videotaped deposition
9	commenced at 4:47.
10	Would you swear the doctor, please.
11	(Whereupon, the witness was duly sworn.)
12	THE REPORTER: State your name with the
13	address and ZIP Code for the record.
14	THE WITNESS: Dr. Robert Gordon. One of
15	my offices is at Georgetown University Medical
16	School in Washington, D.C. I don't know what the
17	ZIP is. Maybe if I look on here, I can tell you.
18	20007.
19	THE REPORTER: Thank you. Counsel.
20	VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION
21	BY MR. GHIARDI:
I	

4	licenses?
5	A. D.C., Maryland, and Virginia.
6	Q. And where do you have hospital
7	privileges?
8	A. Georgetown University Medical Center and
9	their sister hospital in the Medstar Program in
10	Washington, which is the Washington Hospital
11	Center.
12	Q. Doctor, are you board certified?
13	A. I am.
14	Q. And in what specialty and when did you
15	obtain that?
16	A. Orthopaedic surgery. The first time I
17	took the exam, which I think was '76.
18	Q. And just explain to the jury what is the
19	field of orthopaedics and orthopaedic surgery?
20	What do those fields cover in medicine?
21	A. Orthopaedics is the specialty or branch
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Doctor, good evening.

Where do you currently hold medical

Good evening.

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Q.

A.

Q.

of medicine that deals with either injuries or
diseases that involve bones, joints, muscles, the
spine, what you might call the musculoskeletal
system.

- Q. And are you currently in private practice?
 - A. I am.

- Q. And could you describe to the jury the nature of your private practice? What type of patients do you see?
- A. I've been a general orthopaedist all my life. My main surgical sub-specialty for many years was arthritis surgery, but I have done just about every type of surgery and treat all types of patients with orthopaedic problems and have for many years.

And I'm also very involved with academic, teaching of students, interns, and residents for the last 30 years at Georgetown. I started as an instructor and then I became assistant professor, associate professor, and now I'm a clinical full

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professor of orthopaedics at Georgetown University

Medical Center.

Q. You are currently a clinical professor at

Georgetown University?

A. That's correct. And I see patients

there.

- Q. And do you have occasion to perform peer reviews?
- A. As far as my volunteer work in medicine, and most of my volunteer time in medicine, either at the hospital and primarily at the medical society, over the last maybe 25 years, have been serving on committees that deal with utilization and peer review. For the last maybe -- I don't know for sure exactly how long, but probably around six years or so, I have been the orthopaedic surgeon on the Professional Standards Committee of our medical society.
- Q. Doctor, before you, I think, is Exhibit Number One, which is your curriculum vitae. Is that correct?

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Т	A. Sorry. Yes, it appears to be.
2	Q. Is that current and complete with regard
3	to your education, your experience, and your
4	professional qualifications?
5	A. That looks fairly recent.
6	MR. GHIARDI: At this time I would offer
7	Defendants' Exhibit One and offer Dr. Gordon as an
8	exhibit I'm sorry as an expert in the field
9	of orthopaedics and orthopaedic surgery.
10	MS. ZOIS: No objection as to either.
11	DIRECT EXAMINATION
12	BY MR. GHIARDI:
13	Q. Doctor, if you could explain to the jury,
14	in this particular case you performed what's
15	called a records review?
16	A. Yes, sir.
17	Q. Is that correct?
18	A. Yes, sir.
19	Q. What is a records review?
20	A. Well, when you review a record, it means
21	you are not actually seeing a patient. You are
- 1	

just reviewing the patient's records, or films, or whatever is available, and giving an opinion. And that can be done either in a -- in a practice situation. Being at Georgetown and Washington, I have had many occasions over the years, or I've been sent records and x-rays from overseas, various embassies and from government officials, and so on, for me to give an opinion to help determine whether or not certain people in other countries should come and need surgery, so they don't have to come over here just to get an opinion, if it can be done without them being there.

It can be done in a medical legal situation, such as what was done here, where sometimes it is done, I think, when a patient isn't claiming any permanent injuries. So it is mostly just a question of the treatment that had been rendered in the past.

Q. Now, excuse me, in this particular case, have you reviewed the medical records of

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1	from Laurel Regional Hospital of October 16,
2	
4	2004, from Maryland Orthopaedics, beginning in
3	October 21st, 2004, and involving an MRI test that
4	was done on November 2nd, 2004?
5	A. Yes.
6	Q. Have you also reviewed some medical
7	records regarding with regard also
8	to her evaluation at Maryland Orthopaedics'
9	offices?
10	A. Yes.
11	Q. Now, Doctor, let me ask you I'm going
12	to ask you a few questions about opinion
13	questions. And I would ask you today if you are
14	if you are able to, would you give those
15	opinions to a reasonable degree of medical
16	probability?
17	A. I will.
18	Q. And if you are not, would you tell the
19	jury you are unable to do so?
20	A. Sure.

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I'm going to start with

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Q.

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Α. Okay.

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And in this particular, your review of Q. the medical records of the medical records of



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had what's called an MRI test?

5

Α. I did.

6

And tell the jury what is an MRI test?

7

Α. MRI means magnetic resonance imaging.

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It's a way to scan parts of the body that you

9

can't see on an x-ray or that you can -- or that

10

you can see sometimes even better on a scan than

11

on an x-ray. It uses magnetic imaging, rather

12

than x-ray, so it is probably a much safer test.

13

At least we think it is now. And it is used a lot

14

in orthopaedics to look at the things other than

15

bones, such as spinal cord, nerves, and things of

In this case, the MRI scan was done for

16

that nature.

17

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the head.

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And I'm showing you an Exhibit Two, which Q. purports to be the medical bills of

20 21

Does Exhibit Two include a billing for the MRI

2	what date that was done.
3	A. It's a bill for a brain and brain stem
4	MRI scan from November 2nd, of 2004.
5	Q. Do you have an opinion as to whether that
6	MRI test for was necessary and indicated
7	as a result of the accident of October 16, 2004?
8	A. I don't believe that the neurological
9	consultation that was done in the same office of
10	the orthopaedist that he was sent to, or the brain
11	scan, was something I would have ordered, or that
12	I think was indicated or necessary as related to
13	this accident.
14	Q. And why not, Doctor? Would you explain
15	the reasons for your opinion?
16	A. Well, first of all, there was nothing in
17	the emergency room report, or in the report of the
18	doctors that he was sent to by his attorney, that
19	indicated that
20	MS. ZOIS: Objection. Move to strike.
21	THE WITNESS: Do you want me to continue?

scan of

And if you could tell the jury

MR. GHIARDI: You may continue, Doctor.

THE WITNESS: -- that he had any head injury that would warrant anything of this nature. He had nothing to indicate he had a concussion. He had no loss of -- neither one of them had any loss of consciousness, any amnesia for the event, and they had totally normal neurological examinations, both when they were examined by the orthopaedist and by the neurologist.

Under those circumstances, I personally don't believe that -- that neurological evaluation was -- a test like this was indicated or necessary and, not surprisingly, they were normal.

BY MR. GHIARDI:

- Q. And what is a neurologic exam?
- A. Neurological examinations can consist of testing for brain function. And they can also consist of testing for peripheral nerve function. And they can consist of testing for spinal cord function. And that was all done by the neurologist and I presume by the -- by the

1	orthopaedist as well.
2	Q. Now, was seen and examined at
3	the hospital on October 16 of 2004.
4	A. That's correct.
5	Q. And also by Dr. Cohen about five days
6	later?
7	A. That's correct.
8	Q. And with regard to your review of those
9	records, did you see any findings of abnormalities
10	with regard to a neurologic exam?
11	A. I did not.
12	Q. Based on your review of the records for
13	was there any need or necessity for a
14	referral to a neurologist?
15	A. I can't imagine why an orthopaedist would
16	send a patient to a neurologist who has no
17	neurological findings whatsoever, had no

in that -- of that regard.

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other billings for . If I could direct

concussion, or any -- any objective abnormalities

Q. Now, Exhibit Two also purports to show

your attention to what's called page 29, have you had a chance to review that document or that billing?

A. I have.

- Q. And do you -- based on your experience, do you have any opinions with regard to the reasonableness and necessity of the billings indicated on that -- that page?
 - A. I do.
 - Q. And what are your opinions?
- A. Well, first of all, the office visit charge for the new visit was twice what I charge for new patient visits and nobody has ever accused me of being inexpensive.

The doctor that saw him on the initial office visit charged a large sum of money to review the x-rays. Anybody -- any orthopaedist knows that -- that x-rays -- reviewing x-rays is part of an office visit and that you -- at least if you are dealing with a patient where you have to charge based on the usual rules and regulations

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that are -- that Blue Cross, Medicare, and so on provide, don't do that.

And there was an x-ray done of a toe that had already been done in the emergency room. I don't understand the necessity to repeat that x-ray or to expose the patient to additional radiation.

There were a number of orthopaedic supplies provided. It appears that this practice is -- besides being doctors, are also in the business of orthopaedic supply -- of an orthopaedic supply company.

And the other thing that I mentioned in my report, which I had never seen before, is that this office appears to also have their own pharmacy or drugstore and actually sold medication to the -- to the patient as well.

They also, in their follow-up office visits, charged significantly more than I charge for follow-up visits for patients that I treat.

Q. And what would be the difference in your

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1	experience?
2	A. I charge \$87 for routine office follow-up
3	and they charged, on one occasion, 125, and on two
4	occasions, 165.
5	Q. Now, Doctor, I'd like to turn your
6	attention to the passenger plaintiff in this case,
7	
8	A. I'm sorry. I missed that.
9	Q. The second
10	A. Oh, okay.
11	Q plaintiff in this case, the passenger
12	plaintiff, I'm sorry.
13	When did she first seek medical
14	attention?
15	A. She did not go to the emergency room, as
16	far as I could tell from reviewing the records.
17	And she first went to the same office that the
18	other person in the car went to. And the first

visit to that office was on 10/21/04.

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visit with a Dr. Kurlanzik on October 27, 2004?

Have you had a chance to review her exam

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Ο. Now, with regard to Dr. Kurlanzik, did he range of motion of her neck? assess |

normal, as it was with the other person.

- Α. He said that her neck had full range of motion, but that it hurt her when she did it.
- Do you have any opinion, with regard to whether or not the MRI test for reasonable and necessary, as a result of the

1 | accident of October 16, 2004?

- A. I would not have recommended that, if I had been treating this patient, and I don't think it was indicated or necessary.
- Q. And why do you feel it wasn't indicated or necessary?
- A. The same reasons as I gave for the other patient. She had no neurological findings. She had nothing to indicate that she had a concussion or anything of that nature. And in view of the lack of any findings, whatsoever, and the amount of time since the injury, I don't believe that such a test was indicated.
- Q. I'm going to show you, on page nine of Exhibit Number Two, what appears to be the billings of Maryland Orthopaedics for Queen Do you have any opinions with regard to the reasonableness of those billings?
- A. It was all just about the same as the other person -- selling drugs to the patient, selling appliances, orthopaedic appliances to the

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1	patient, charging to review x-rays that were done
2	elsewhere. And I have the same opinions about
3	those, as I do about the about the other the
4	bills that I saw for the other person in the car.
5	Q. In your experience, what is the ordinary
6	and customary charge for an initial visit by an
7	orthopaedic doctor?
8	A. I charge \$150, and as I I usually
9	don't get paid quite that much.
10	MR. GHIARDI: I have no further
11	questions.
12	THE WITNESS: Good.
13	CROSS EXAMINATION
14	BY MS. ZOIS:
15	Q. Good evening, Dr. Gordon.
16	A. Hi. How are you? Is it evening? Almost
17	evening.
18	Q. Is it evening?
19	When did you come to your opinions in
20	this case? On what date?
21	A. Let's see. I prepared my reports on

October 10, 2006, which is when I did the record 1 2 review. I guess two years after this accident. Okay. Is it fair to say that that is the 3 Q. 4 date you came up with your opinions, October 10th, 2006? 5 6 Α. I presume so, if I never reviewed the 7 records before then. I presume that's --8 Q. Are you aware that you were designated as 9 an expert in this case by the Defendant, State 10 Farm, before that date? 11 Α. No. 12 Before rendering opinions in this case, Q. 13 you reviewed the medical records; correct? 14 Yes. That's right. Α. 15 Q. And those were the records that were provided to you by the defense attorneys; right? 16 17 Α. I presume that's where I got them.

- Q. You did not review any of the x-rays personally yourself?
 - A. No. That's correct.

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Q. And you did not review either one of the

1	MRI's yourself?
2	A. That's cor
3	Q. You did no
4	one of the patients
5	A. That's cor
6	they gave to the em
7	and to the orthopae
8	other, by both peop
9	Q. And you di
10	these patients?
11	A. That's cor

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rect.

- ot take a history from either ; correct?
- rect. I only read the history mergency room for the one person dists and neurologists by the le.
- dn't examine either one of
 - rect.
- And you have never met or talked to either one of these patients over the phone?
 - Α. Not that I'm aware of. No, ma'am.
- Would you agree with me, Doctor, that the trip to the emergency room for reasonable?
- Α. If this was a significant impact accident and he didn't have access to his -- his regular physician at that time, it was certainly not unreasonable.

1 Do you agree that the plaintiffs were Q. injured in the accident? 2 If it was a significant impact accident, 3 it's certainly possible that strains could have 4 5 occurred in this accident. 6 Q. Do you agree that if strains occurred in this accident, that the length of physical therapy 7 8 -- the time that they went to physical therapy was 9 reasonable? 10 I think that passive physical therapy modalities, treatment up to four weeks after such 11 12 a -- a significant soft tissue injury is not unreasonable, and I think that was approximately 13 14 how long they were treated. 15 Okay. And in one of your reports, you Ο. 16 indicated that you thought six weeks was -- was warranted. 17 I think what I said was -- at least what 18 Α.

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I think, is that usually four weeks of passive

for up to six weeks. Usually what I do, if I

physical therapy modalities and treatment overall

think somebody has a significant strain, I'll give 1 2 them passive physical therapy modalities, if they have time, and -- and after explaining to them 3 4 that it's nothing that is going to make any 5 difference in the long run, but it may make them more comfortable, if they are uncomfortable. And 6 7 then at the end of four weeks, I will generally just teach them a good exercise program to start 8 9 doing on their own. And then I might check them again at six weeks, just to make sure they are 10 11 fine.

- Q. So six weeks of physical therapy isn't uncommon with strains of this nature?
- A. No. Four to six weeks is probably not terribly unusual.
 - Q. Okay. Do you --
- A. Assuming, again, that these are -- you said "of this nature" and that's assuming that these were significant strains.
- Q. Your practice generally, you were with a group practice from 1975 to 2001?

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Q. Okay. So you are a non-salaried professor at Georgetown?

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- A. That's correct. Clinical professor of orthopaedics. I see patients at Georgetown. I see patients at the other Medstar hospital, which is the Washington Hospital Center. And I see patients at our Georgetown University Department of Orthopaedic Surgery suburban office in Chevy Chase.
 - Q. So you are self-employed?
 - A. Yeah. I guess you could say that. I

2	Q. Okay. And you've been out on your own			
3	since 2001?			
4	A. I've been basically on my own since 1975.			
5	I've been in practice with other people, still am			
6	I mean, I share office space with a whole lot of			
7	other faculty at Georgetown.			
8	Q. Do you have any partners?			
9	A. They are not they're not financial			
10	partners. No.			
11	Q. Okay.			
12	A. I just call them associates or			
13	colleagues.			
14	Q. So, essentially, you are a self-employed			
15	practice of one?			
16	A. Uh-huh. That's			
17	Q. Correct?			
18	A correct.			
19	Q. Okay. And you no longer perform surgery;			
20	correct?			
21	A. I stopped not too long ago. Yeah. I'm			

always have been.

1	going to be 65 in a year, and I
2	Q. Late 2002 or early 2003?
3	A. Somewhere in there. Yeah.
4	Q. Okay. And since 2001, you've been
5	keeping track of cases that you have testified in?
6	A. Yes.
7	Q. And you have provided me and counsel
8	with, I think, your most recent case list, as of
9	December 4th, of 2006; is that correct?
10	A. I don't recall. My office probably did.
11	I doubt if I did, but
12	MS. ZOIS: I'm going to show you what we
13	can mark as an exhibit, which was provided to me.
14	THE REPORTER: I'll mark this Gordon
15	Number Three.
16	THE WITNESS: Okay.
17	(Whereupon, Deposition Exhibit Number
18	Three was marked for identification.)
19	BY MS. ZOIS:
20	Q. Is that your most recent case list of
21	cases where you've testified?

Ţ	A. wait. What did you say the one you had		
2	went up to? To what		
3	Q. 2001 through 2006.		
4	A. This only goes up to June of '06. I		
5	thought you said December of '06.		
6	Q. That's when the list was provided to me.		
7	A. Oh, okay. Yeah. I presume I mean, I		
8	imagine it could be updated, because I've kept		
9	track. I		
10	Q. Have you updated it?		
11	A. I haven't. I didn't even know about this		
12	until just this second, but I'm sure it could be		
13	updated, because I keep track.		
14	Q. Is this a document that has been prepared		
15	by you?		
16	A. Yeah. It's been prepared by me, but I		
17	give this information to my staff so they can		
18	prepare it.		
19	Q. Okay. Do you		
20	A. Yes. I could probably update it for the		
21	last six months. I don't think it has been very		
1:			

often that I've, you know, been in court in the 1 2 last six months, but I can certainly look and see. 3 Q. Okay. If you could get the updated --4 Α. Get it updated. Sure. -- information --5 6 Α. For the last six months of last year. I 7 can do that. 8 Ο. -- to counsel and he can provide --9 No problem at all. Α. 10 Ο. -- that to me. Is this an accurate list of the cases 11 12 that you have testified in? 13 Α. I presume so. 14 Q. Is it a comprehensive list? Does it 15 include all of the cases that you've testified in? 16 I think when I started preparing it, it 17 was probably maybe sometime after 2001, so it took 18 some work to go back and find out. But I think it 19 is as accurate as I -- as I could have made it, 20 based on the cases that I have gone to court in.

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This does not include any times I've done

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a deposition because, you know, I was out of town or something like that. I only kept track of the cases where I actually went to court.

- Q. So the list that you have in front of you is a list of cases where you've actually provided live testimony in courts?
 - A. That's correct.

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- Q. Okay. And it does not represent cases where you have testified by way of videotaped deposition to be played in court?
- A. Well, I have -- I occasionally do a videotape, if I'm going to be out of town, or if there is any other reason. I don't know how many of those ever get to court, but I -- I'm sure I have done some, just like I am today.
- Q. And are those recorded on that list or not?
- A. No. These are the ones where I've actually -- I know that I have gone to court or that my testimony has gone to court.
 - Q. Okay. So, that list, again, just so I'm

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clear, reflects only the cases where you have gone 1 to court and have testified in court? 2 Yes. That's correct. 3 4 Ο. So it doesn't include cases where you 5 have provided discovery depositions? A. That's correct. 6 7 Q. And it doesn't include cases where you 8 have provided testimony for court by way of video, 9 like what we are doing today? 10 Α. That's correct. 11 Q. Okay. You have done peer review work for 12 State Farm in the past; correct? 13 A. Occasionally. 14 Ο. And you've done evaluations for other 15 lawyers in the office that we are in this evening; correct? 16 Primarily one office. One attorney in 17 Α. this office. Yes. 18

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have provided deposition testimony before?

So you've been to this office and

I think I've done maybe two others, that

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Q.

Α.

Okay.

I can recall, in this office over the years. 1 2 And you've testified on behalf of defense attorneys, other than Mr. Giancarlo, Ms. 3 Lancaster, and Shireen Jayatilaka in this office; 4 5 correct? 6 Α. I think that -- you know, Ms. Jayatilaka 7 is the one that I've -- that I've -- whose name I remember the most, but there may have been others. 8 And you've done work for other State Farm 9 attorneys outside of this office; correct? 10 11 I don't know. I thought these were the 12 State Farm attorneys. I don't know if there are any outside of this office. 13 Have you testified on behalf of -- any 14 Ο. 15 peer reviews at the request of anybody from H. Barritt Peterson's office? 16 H. Barritt -- that was not this office at 17 Α. one time? I thought that was this office. 18 19 Okay. There are two different offices Ο. 20 now, but you've -- so just so the record is clear,

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you --

1	A. This is the only one I know about.
2	Q. Okay. And you are considering this to be
3	H. Barritt Peterson's office?
4	A. I thought it was at one point, anyway.
5	It's the
6	Q. It was.
7	A only one I knew about. So
8	Q. It was.
9	And you've testified in cases involving
10	attorneys at Budow and Noble, who also do State
11	Farm work; correct?
12	A. Very rarely, but on occasion. But I
13	don't know who they who they represent.
14	Q. Allen Noble actually represented you
15	before; correct?
16	A. I don't know if you'd say he represented
17	me. There was a case once when when he did an
18	affidavit regarding work that I did, many years
19	ago.
20	Q. And the affidavit that you did regarding

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forensic legal work; correct?

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A. Right.

Q. And Sullivan and Talbot. They do State

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Farm defense work and you've been involved with attorneys --

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A. I didn't know who --

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Q. -- at their office as well?

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A. -- they did it -- I don't know who they do work for. I know that Jim Sullivan retired

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sometime ago and I have occasionally done cases

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where Mr. Talbot has been involved. I don't know

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who he represented.

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Q. Okay. Now, as far as your peer review work that you do, and I know you do records review work as well, because that's what you did in this case; right?

- A. Yeah. But that's not nearly as common as actually examining a patient.
 - Q. Okay. How --
- A. Because most of the patients in these accidents keep complaining, you know, so they -- so they usually get examined.

Q. How many record reviews do you do over the course of a month?

A. Oh, gosh. I don't know. I can't give you a number on that. I can tell you that in terms of actually examining patients in these situations, I probably see one patient a day, and I'm usually in the office now usually three days a week.

- Q. Okay. Back to the peer review --
- A. But in terms of the -- in terms of the record review, I would say that that's significantly less frequent in these types of cases than the ones that I have actually --
 - Q. What is your best estimate?
- A. I'm sorry. You interrupted my train of thought. I think I said that I think I -- in terms of doing a record review, rather than seeing the patient in these types of cases, I think they are probably significantly less than the ones I would do if I -- the number of patients that I would see in the office.

+	Q. And my question is, what is your best
2	estimate as to how many peer reviews you do?
3	A. Oh, gosh. I don't know. I have never
4	even thought about it.
5	Q. One a week?
6	A. Maybe. I don't know.
7	Q. Is that your best estimate? One a week?
8	A. I wouldn't even want to try to guess
9	because I don't I've never kept track. I have
10	kept track, on various occasions, about how many
11	patients I see in the office, and that's why I
12	gave you that answer.
13	Q. Okay.
14	A. And I think it is significantly less.
15	Q. How much do you charge to do a peer
16	review?
17	A. I do everything based on time. When I
18	started doing these exams, I had a totally full
19	office and surgical practice, and I didn't do them
20	because I needed work to do. And I wanted to do

it in a way that I wouldn't make any more or less

38 money, so I charged -- figured out every year what 1 2 my average hourly billing was and I would apply that to the time doing this. And the last year or 3 so -- maybe more than a year -- it's been -- I've 4 5 been charging at 480 an hour. Not, what I make, but what I bill. 6 7 So your charge is 480 an hour? ο. Α. That's right. 8 Okay. And how much did you charge for 9 Ο. the reviews in this case? 10

- I think one of them was \$360 for the review, the preparation of the report, the review of the report. And I think the other was 400. I guess they were both, what, 45 minutes or a little more.
- ο. Okay. So for doing peer reviews, you charge by the hour, and it's \$480 an hour?
 - Α. That's correct.
- And the best estimate you can give me as 0. to how many you do a year is maybe one a week?
 - Oh, these? Α.

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1.	Q. Yes.
2	A. Yeah. I think a I think a lot less
3	than I do seeing patients
4	Q. Okay.
5	A you know, for exams.
6	Q. As far as the medical exams that you do
7	for legal medical forensic work, how many do you
8	do a week?
9	A. Well, I I didn't discuss with you the
10	number of patients that I've seen over the years
11	that I treat that are involved in
12	Q. I haven't asked.
13	A things, but
14	Q. We'll get to that.
15	A. A ton of those. But in terms of these
16	one time examinations, I probably do about one a
17	day, as I said, which would be about three a week,
18	and I do it at the same hourly rate.
19	Q. So you do about three a week at \$480 an
20	hour?

That's correct.

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A.

- A. No. No. Just -- just the ones that I have done at the request of an attorney in a personal injury case.
- Q. Okay. And that's -- so how many do you do at the request of anyone?
 - A. Oh, I see patients all the time.
- Q. I'm not asking -- that's different. How many -- how many evaluations do you do a week for people that you aren't providing medical treatment to, that you're simply providing an evaluation for, whether it be medical legal forensic work or the other evaluations you talked about for embassies, governments, employers, or anyone else, Worker's Comp, if you do that?
 - A. Well, I -- being at Georgetown over the

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years, a lot of embassies have sent me either patients or things to review, but that's not really a medical legal evaluation.

And in terms of the medical legal evaluations, it's probably, you know, one a day for the days I'm in the office. I've treated enormous numbers, as most orthopaedists have in this area, of people that get hurt at work, and sometimes I do -- I see patients that have been -- I'm on a list in D.C., I think, and maybe in Maryland, to evaluate and/or treat Workman's Compensation patients, so I do some of that work.

- Q. Do you do evaluations --
- A. Some of them are evaluations. Some of them are -- you know, if I think the patient needs treatment, then I have an option to treat the patient as well.
- Q. So you do do Worker's Compensation evaluations?
- A. Yeah. As part of -- sometimes it's an evaluate and treat, which means a patient is --

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you know, sent in, and if it -- it says evaluate and treat, or at least that's the way I've always thought of it, and you evaluate somebody, and if you -- if you think they need further treatment, you can provide it, if the patient wants you to.

- Q. Let's take out the treat part.
- A. Okay.

- Q. How many evaluations do you do a week for Worker's Compensation work?
- A. It varies, because some of them aren't just evaluations. Some of them are optional, depending on, you know, what -- whether or not I think the patient needs treatment, or whether the patient chooses for me to provide the treatment. But I would say that most days that I'm in the office, I'll see somebody that, you know, it has got to do with Workman's Compensation.
- Q. Okay. I'm not sure I'm getting the answer I'm looking for, but my question is, how many evaluations do you do a week for Worker's Compensation cases that don't involve treatment?

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You're not asked to treat the patient. You're 1 just asked to evaluate the patient. 2 3 I have never kept track of that. really can't tell you. But I do some of that 4 work, too. 5 6

- Ο. Can you give me an estimate?
- Α. I don't like to give estimates when I'm not certain and -- but I do do some of that work. But nowhere near the number of patients that I have treated over the years and operated on that have been hurt at work.
- What is your best estimate as to how many evaluations you do a week --
 - Α. I have no idea.
 - Ο. -- for Worker's Compensation?
- Α. It varies from time to time. Occasionally -- some days I'll do several. days I'll do none.
 - So what is your best estimate for a week?
- Α. I don't want to give you an estimate, because it might not be accurate. I wouldn't want

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1	to do that.
2	Q. An estimate over the course of a month?
3	A. No.
4	Q. Over the course of a year?
5	A. No. Why don't you ask this Maryland
6	Orthopaedics how many patients they see at the
7	request of attorneys every day?
8	Q. Because this isn't their deposition.
9	A. If you want to get rich doing
10	MS. ZOIS: Objection. Move to strike.
11	THE WITNESS: medical legal work,
12	that's what you do.
13	MS. ZOIS: Objection. Move to strike.
14	BY MS. ZOIS:
15	Q. All right. So you are unable to give me
16	an estimate as to how many evaluations you do in
17	Worker's Compensation cases?
18	A. I never kept track and I'm not going to
19	give you an estimate.
20	Q. Okay. Do you charge the same \$480 an
21	hour?

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1	A. Everything I do is you know, that's
2	not strictly treating, I base on an hourly basis,
3	a wage consistent with what I would be billing if
4	I was treating treating during that time. And
5	I don't bill for I don't sell medicine. I
6	don't sell appliances. I don't have my own
7	MS. ZOIS: Objection. Move to strike
8	THE WITNESS: x-ray machines or
9	anything like that.
10	MS. ZOIS: as not responsive.
11	BY MS. ZOIS:
12	Q. How many times a year do you testify in
13	court?
14	A. I guess you've got the list here, so you
15	can add them up, as best as I can.
16	Q. Well, how about 2006, since we don't have
17	a complete list for that?
18	A. Well, first the list here for the
19	first half of for six months was one, two,
20	three, four, five. I would say probably once a
21	month is a reasonable average.

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1	Q. So right now
2	A. It might have been less than that,
3	though, the end of last year. I don't know. I'll
4	be able to tell you that, though.
5	Q. Okay. You think on average you're
6	testifying 12 times a year in court?
7	A. Yeah. Here's 12 for '05. And there was
8	five in the first half of of '06. I think
9	that's pretty close. Close close estimate.
10	Q. And in '01, I think I counted to be
11	accurate, I'm going to count. 20. Does that
12	A. Yeah.
13	Q sound about right?
14	A. Yeah. Well, I'm not doing as much of
15	that as I used to, but I did do more in '01.
16	Q. And how much do you charge for
17	depositions?
18	A. The same thing. It's time.
19	Q. \$480 an hour?

That's correct.

Do you have a minimum?

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Α.

Q.

1	A. I usually will block off an hour and a
2	half, unless I'm asked to do more or less.
3	Q. So do you have a minimum charge for
4	depositions?
5	A. No. If somebody says they want an hour,
6	they get charged for an hour. But if if they
7	don't, they get charged for an hour and a half for
8	a deposition.
9	Q. Okay. And you also testified doing
10	discovery depositions or depositions for use at
11	trial; correct?
12	A. Well, discovery depositions are not
13	anything I'm asked to do by the people that I
14	by the person that has asked me to do an
15	examination. That's done usually by the other
16	side to find out what I'm going to say at trial
17	before the trial comes. And that's done at the
18	same hourly rate as 480 an hour.
19	Q. So in addition to the times you testify

in court live, you also participate in discovery

depositions; correct?

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A. Occasionally. Not very often.
Q. And those are not on that list; right?
A. That's correct.
Q. And you also do videotaped de bene esse
depositions like this one for use at trial?
A. That's correct.
Q. And you are compensated for those as
well?
A. Usually.
Q. When is the last time you were deposed?
A. I can't remember the last time I
testified, to be honest with you.
Q. Is it fair to say that back in 2001, you
would do as many as eight IME's a week?
A. There was a time earlier, when I was a
little younger, that I was maybe doing one or two
of these examinations a day, rather than one.
Q. And is it fair to say that there was a
time that you would testify as often as five times
a month with all the different types of testimony

considered, in court and discovery depositions?

1	A. I think probably at one point I would
2	testify closer to twice a month in court, and I
3	probably did some depositions then as well.
4	Q. So that's not
5	A. Maybe four or five times a month.
6	Q. Four or five times a month isn't off
7	base?
8	A. Maybe once a week.
9	Q. Okay. Now, historically, the work that
10	you've done in the forensic legal community work
11	has been for defense attorneys?
12	A. That's absolutely incorrect. The vast
13	majority of patients that I have seen over the
14	years, that I treat, are people that get hurt in
15	accidents and come to me as their treating doctor.
16	I'm not a doctor that
17	MS. ZOIS: Objection. Move to strike as
18	not responsive. That wasn't my question, Doctor.
19	THE WITNESS: I thought it was.
20	BY MS. ZOIS:
21	Q. My question was, of the evaluations that

1 you do and of the -- let me rephrase the question. 2 Of the legal forensic work that you do 3 when you're hired by attorneys to render opinions in cases, the overwhelming majority of those are 4 for defense attorneys? 5 6 Oh, yeah. If you're hired by an Α. 7 attorney. That's not what you said the first time. 8 Q. Okay. 10 Α. My answer was accurate. So is it fair to say that if 11 Okay. 12 you're retained by an attorney to render an 13 opinion in a case, 90 percent at least of those 14 cases are for the defense? 15 Α. I would say that's accurate. Okay. Do you keep a calendar? 16 Q. A calendar? I know when I go to the 17 Α. office every day, they print out or write out what 18

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I'm going to be doing that day, but I don't keep

Okay. How is that generated?

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that.

Q.

1	A. I don't know. My office does it.
2	Q. Who is your office manager?
3	A. That's none of your business.
4	Q. Okay. Do you have an office manager?
5	A. I have people that work for me.
6	Q. Okay. Who do you have as your staff?
7	A. I have staff. I'm not going to tell you
8	who they are, because I get harassed by people
9	like you all the time.
10	MS. ZOIS: Objection.
11	THE WITNESS: I get phone calls at home.
12	MS. ZOIS: Move to strike.
13	THE WITNESS: I get people knocking on my
14	door at midnight. I would like to explain why I'm
15	not giving you that information. If you did that
16	to my employees, I wouldn't have any employees.
17	MS. ZOIS: Objection. Move to strike.
18	BY MS. ZOIS:
19	Q. Without identifying the names of your
20	employees, how do you have an office manager
21	and a bookkeeper, or who keeps

2	detail is not is irrelevant, as far as I'm
3	concerned.
4	Q. Okay. How many employees do you have?
5	A. I have a full-time employee and I have
6	several part-time employees.
7	Q. So okay. And they keep track of your
8	calendar?
9	A. Well, they the receptionist makes the
10	schedule and every day that I'm told you know,
11	I'm given a schedule of what I'm going to do that
12	day.
13	Q. Okay. And how is the calendar kept? Is
14	it computerized or on a hard calendar?
15	A. Nothing is done on the computer.
16	Q. So it's all a hard calendar?
17	A. Uh-huh.
18	Q. And as far as the calendar itself, I'm
19	assuming that you don't destroy these calendars?
20	A. I don't keep any extra paperwork that I
21	don't need to, because I you know, I don't have

A. I have employees. I think any more

1 room for everything. So I do not keep anything 2 that -- except what I have to keep. What's -- how long do you typically keep 3 a calendar? 4 5 Α. I don't know that I keep it after the day that I see the patient. I don't keep it. 6 7 Ο. Okay. So, for example, you knew you 8 needed to be here this morning because the receptionist said, "You have a video" --9 10 Α. That's correct. -- "on this day"? 11 Ο. 12 Α. That's correct. 13 And they are the ones that schedule your Q. depositions and, your court appearances, and 14 15 things like that? Sometimes. 16 Α. 17 Do you do any of the scheduling yourself? Q. 18 Α. Sometimes. Sometimes I will, depending

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and all of the legal medical forensic work that

Okay. Based on your fees of \$480 an hour

on the situation and my schedule.

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you do, how much do you generate in fees in any 1 2 given year for doing that kind of work? 3 I don't know. Many years ago, when I was 4 doing at least twice this amount of work, I 5 actually kept track for something like six months, and my -- my billing that year was doing anything 6 7 related to medical legal work, including testifying, giving depositions, seeing patients, 8 doing record reviews, I think was about \$175,000, 9 10 which was about a third of what my overhead was 11 that year. And was the \$175,000 number that you're 12 Ο. 13 talking about for the six month period that you kept track? 14 15 Α. No. It was for the whole year. That --16 I multiplied it by two. 17 Okay. So the \$175,000, is that based on Q. 18 what you have charged? 19 Α. What do you mean? 20 Well, there's a difference between what Ο.

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you charge and after expenses come out; right?

Τ.	A. NO. I just said that.
2	Q. So that
3	A. No. That's what that's what I charged
4	and I said at the end of that, it was about a
5	third of what my overhead was that year, as I
6	recall, that 175.
7	Q. I guess I was just thrown off by why you
8	included the overhead.
9	A. Well, because I think it's nice for you
10	to get an idea that, unlike the doctors that
11	treated this patient, the vast majority of my
12	income has been from taking care of people
13	MS. ZOIS: Objection. Move to strike.
14	THE WITNESS: and not from selling
15	drugs, not from
16	MS. ZOIS: Objection. Move to strike.
17	THE WITNESS: taking x-rays, and
18	selling appliances.
19	MS. ZOIS: Objection. Move to strike as
20	non-responsive.
21	BY MS. ZOIS:

1	Q. Do you know, based on how much legal
2	forensic work you're doing now, how much money you
3	generate in a year, in charges?
4	A. No. I haven't kept track since oh,
5	since several years ago. And at that time, I was
6	I guess I was doing probably twice as much as
7	I'm doing now. That would be my guess, in terms
8	of these personal injury cases.
9	Q. And you are only working three days a
10	week now?
11	A. Well, they changed my schedule around a
12	little bit at Georgetown. I was working four days
13	a week, but now I've changed it they have
14	changed it to three days a week, but I'm working a
15	little longer on one of the days. So it's
16	probably turning out to be about the same amount
17	of work.
18	Q. What office do you go into every day?
19	A. All of them. Not every day, but I I

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letterhead.

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see patients in all of the offices on my

Q. Okay. What's your usual schedule?

A. Oh, it varies from time to time. But I usually go once -- once to the hospital center. I see patients at Georgetown Department of Orthopaedic Surgery at least once a week. And I see patients at -- at the -- we had an office in -- Georgetown had a -- University had a big building in Northern Virginia until -- until recently, when we lost the lease and decided not to renew it, but I --

- Q. That was awhile ago; right?
- A. Yeah. That was a couple years -- about two years ago. But I continued to see -- our department was going to lease some new space near there and they haven't done it yet, but I didn't want to lose my practice I had there, in case they did go back there. So I've been subletting some space in Virginia since the Georgetown Orthopaedic -- excuse me, the Georgetown Hospital office building no longer was a Georgetown facility.
 - Q. Okay. What's your annual income?

1	A. My what?
2	Q. Your annual income.
3	A. That's none of your business.
4	Q. Okay. What did you claim in charges for
5	your practice in 2006?
6	A. I'm sorry?
7	Q. What did you claim as income from your
8	practice in 2006?
9	A. Well, that's none of your business
10	either.
11	Q. Okay. What portion of your income is
12	derived from doing medical legal forensic work?
13	A. I have never my doing these one time
14	exams or record reviews and testifying doesn't
15	even come close to covering my overhead and I
16	would say, therefore, that a small percentage of
17	my income is from these one time medical legal
18	examinations and testifying or doing record
19	reviews.

forensic work, you bill at \$480 an hour?

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Okay. And by doing the medical legal

2	Q. And you I think you mentioned earlier
3	that a follow-up office visit for you is \$87 an
4	hour?
5	A. That's right.
6	Q. Okay.
7	A. Not an hour. \$87.
8	Q. \$87 for the
9	A. Yeah.
10	Q follow-up office visit?
11	A. Yeah. And 150 for most of the initial
12	office visits and 87 for most of the follow-up
13	visits.
14	Q. Okay.
15	A. And injections are we get paid for
16	injections and other things.
17	MS. ZOIS: No further questions.
18	REDIRECT EXAMINATION
19	BY MR. GHIARDI:
20	Q. Doctor, just in follow-up.
21	attended physical therapy a total of six visits.

A. Yes. That's right.

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1	A. Right.
2	Q. And I believe the last visit was on
3	November the 10th of 2004?
4	A. Yes. That's right.
5	Q. And attended a total of five
6	physical therapy visits.
7	A. That's right.
8	Q. And I believe her last visit may have
9	been on the same day, November 10th, of 2004.
10	A. I believe that's correct. Yes, sir.
11	Q. So the last physical therapy visit is
12	less than a month after this accident occurred; is
13	that fair?
14	A. Well, the accident was 10/16 and yeah.
15	That's fair. About four four weeks or so.
16	Q. About three - three and a half weeks.
17	A. Yes.
18	Q. Is that correct?
19	A. Yes.
20	Q. So, in your experience, how would you
21	assess this this amount of physical therapy?

1	A. Oh, I think as I said, anything up to
2	four weeks is certainly not unreasonable when
	patients have had a if they have had
4	significant strains.

- Q. You referred to passive physical therapy. Is that -- what does that mean? What does that term mean?
- A. Well, the reason I said that is because some of these therapy places that have a big practice in treating patients that lawyers send them to --

MS. ZOIS: Objection. Move to strike.

THE WITNESS: -- charge for things called therapeutic exercises. And what some of these places do is they -- and particularly the doctor owned facilities -- is they buy an exercise bicycle and they'll put the patient on an exercise bicycle and they'll charge them "therapeutic exercise." It just means riding on an exercise bicycle, which -- which is a bit -- is a bit preposterous. I mean, they get -- the bicycle can

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1	be paid for in a week and then the rest of it is
2	just that's why doctors who do this kind of
3	work can be on the golf course and making a
4	fortune.
5	MS. ZOIS: Objection. Move to strike.
6	MR. GHIARDI: Okay. Doctor
7	MS. ZOIS: Non-responsive.
8	THE REPORTER: I am going to change the
9	tape.
10	THE VIDEO OPERATOR: Do you want the
11	video off?
12	MR. GHIARDI: Yes.
13	THE VIDEO OPERATOR: The time is 5:31.
14	This deposition will be temporarily interrupted.
15	(Whereupon, the deposition was
16	temporarily interupted.)
17	THE VIDEO OPERATOR: The time is 5:32.
18	This deposition can resume.
19	BY MR. GHIARDI:
20	Q. Doctor, what is a hot pack, in terms of
21	its use as a physical therapy modality?

1	A. It's
2	THE REPORTER: Would you re-ask that
3	question?
4	MR. GHIARDI: Yes.
5	BY MR. GHIARDI:
6	Q. What is a hot pack and how is that used
7	in terms of physical therapy?
8	MS. ZOIS: Objection. Outside the scope
9	of cross.
10	THE WITNESS: It's just it's just
11	heat. It's putting just putting either an
12	electric or a something that has been kept in a
13	warm in something warm and then put on the
14	patient's part of the body that that they are
15	complaining of.
16	BY MR. GHIARDI:
17	Q. And is that what is referred to as a
18	passive type of treatment?
19	A. Yes.
20	Q. According to your review of the records,
21	did either or seek any medical

1	attention after mid November of 2004?
2	A. There were no medical records sent to me
3	that indicated that they did.
4	MR. GHIARDI: Thank you, Doctor. I have
5	no further questions for you.
6	THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you, very
7	much.
8	MS. ZOIS: Nothing based on that.
9	THE VIDEO OPERATOR: The time is 5:33.
10	This deposition is concluded.
11	(By agreement of counsel and with consent
12	of the witness, signature waived.)
13	(Whereupon, at 5:33 p.m., the deposition
14	was concluded.)
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CERTIFICATE OF NOTARY REPORTER

I, Daniel Wilson, a Notary Reporter, in and for the State of Maryland, County of Anne Arundel, do hereby certify that the Witness whose testimony appears in the foregoing transcript was first duly sworn by me; that the testimony of said witness was taken by me and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under my direction; said transcript is a true and accurate record of the testimony given to the best of my ability; that I am neither counsel for, related to nor employed by any of the parties to the action in which this deposition was taken; and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto, nor financially or otherwise interested in the outcome of this action.

> Daniel Wilson Notary Reporter

My Commission Expires February 1, 2008