Transcript of the Testimony of:

Second Officer Philip G. Torculas

Date: May 22, 2019

Case: In Re: Energetic Tank 1:18-CV-01359-PAC

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In the Matter of the)	DOCKET NO.
Complaint of)	1:18-cv-01359-PAC
ENERGETIC TANK, INC.,)	
as Owner of the M/V ALNIC)	
MC, for Exoneration From)	
or Limitation of Liability	7)	

Deposition of SECOND OFFICER PHILIP G.

TORCULAS, taken by counsel for the Petitioner,

pursuant to notice, under the Georgia Civil

Practice Act, before Georgia J. Winegeart,

Certified Court Reporter, at the offices of Blank

Rome, 717 Texas Avenue, Suite 1400, Houston,

Texas 77002 on Wednesday, May 22, 2019,

commencing at 9:12 a.m.

- - -

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1	INDEX	
2		Page
3	EXAMINATION	
4		
5	SECOND OFFICER PHILIP G. TORCULAS	
6	DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. BROWN	15
7	CROSS-EXAMINATION BY MR. WEIGEL	216
8	REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. BROWN	221
9	ATTESTATION	225
10	ERRATA SHEET	226
11	CERTIFICATE	227
12		
13		
14		
15		
16		
17		
18		
19		
20		
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

1		EXHIBITS MARKED	
2	No.	Description	Page
3	304	Notice of Deposition	15
4	305	Stealth Maritime Record of	26
5		Hours of Rest of Seafarers,	
6		Bates Nos. Energetic 015322	2 –
7		015323	
8	306	Bridge's Night Orders Book	34
9		Excerpt, Bates Nos, Energet	cic
LO		000309-000329	
L1	307	Screenshot	39
L2	308	NAV Bridge Deck Schematic,	44
L3		Bates No. Energetic 001123	
L4	309	Photograph	50
L5	310	Photograph	57
Lб	311	NAV Deck Layout Photograph	60
L7	312	Stealth Maritime Hours of	62
L8		Rest of Seafarers for Phili	-p
L9		Torculas, Energetic	
20		015306-015307	
21	313	Photographs of Kongsberg	69
22		Printer Roll	
23			
24			
25			

May 22, 2019

7

1		EXHIBITS MARKED	
2	314	Bridge Checklist 2 -	81
3		Preparation for Sea, Bates	
4		Nos. Energetic 002763 -	
5		002781	
6	315	Native Format Bridge	89
7		Equipment, Bates No.	
8		Energetic 0011270	
9	316 and 317	Printer Rolls	91
10	318	Photographs, A - D,	92
11	319	Voyage Plan, Bates Nos.	105
12		Energetics 015474 - 015475	
13	320	Bridge Logbook Dated April -	109
14		July 2017	
15	321	Voyage Plan, Bates Nos.	111
16		Energetic 015450 - 015451	
17	322	Voyage Plan, Bates Nos.	115
18		Energetic 015428 - 015429	
19	323	Voyage Plan, Bates Nos.	116
20		Energetic 015438 - 015439	
21	324	Voyage Plan, Bates Nos.	117
22		Energetic 015482 - 015483	
23	325	Voyage Plan, Bates Nos.	121
24		Energetic 001059 - 001063	
25			

1		EXHIBITS MARKED	
2	326	Photograph, Bates No.	123
3		Energetic 013105	
4	327	Photograph, Bates No.	123
5		Energetic 013104	
6	328	Crew Appraisal Report, Bates	129
7		Nos. Energetic 002880 -	
8		002882	
9	329	Crew Appraisal Report, Bates	135
10		Nos. Energetic 002883 -	
11		002885	
12	330	Photograph, Bates No.	141
13		Energetic 013509	
14	331	E-mail string/Ship	142
15		Requisition/Photographs,	
16		Bates Nos. Energetic 014341 -	
17		014351	
18	332	E-mail/Ship	147
19		Requisition/Photographs,	
20		Bates Nos. Energetic 014336 -	
21		014340	
22	333	Monthly Inspection of Bridge	149
23		Equipment, Bates Nos.	
24		Energetic 001038 - 001039	
25			

1		EXHIBITS MARKED	
2	334	Radar Logbook, Bates No.	151
3		Energetic 001079 - 001122	
4	335	Stowage Plan, Bates Nos.	156
5		Energetic 001075	
6	336	Ballast Water Handling Log,	158
7		Bates No. Energetic 015499	
8	337	Photograph, Bates No.	160
9		Energetic 013524	
10	338	Pilot Boarding Card, Bates	162
11		Nos. Energetic 002262 -	
12		002266	
13	339	Compass Error Book, Bates	163
14		Nos. Energetic 002364 -	
15		002366	
16	340	Photographs	165
17	341	Photographs A - C	168
18	342	Playback Screenshot, Bates	171
19	342	_	1/1
20		No. Energetic 013578	
21	344	Contract of Employment	216
22	344A	SEATRAIN Certificate Safe	220
		Navigation Course	
23			
24			
25			

1		PREVIOUSLY MARKED EXHIBITS		
2	No.	Description	Page	
3	4	E-mail String, Bates Nos.	185	
4		Energetic 012173 - 012177		
5	8	Signature Page for GMS	139	
6		Manual, Bates Nos. Energetic		
7		005872		
8	1	Video	176	
9	9В	GMS Manual M4 Navigation	202	
10		Procedures, Bates Nos.		
11		Energetic 004147 - 004239		
12	15-C	Bell Book for ALNIC MC	28	
13	16-B	GPS Logbook, Bates No.	31	
14		Energetic 000367		
15	19	Vessel Internal Audit	137	
16		Checklist, Bates Nos.		
17		Energetic 005925 - 005926		
18	28	M/V ALNIC MC - Master's	209	
19		Standing Orders, Bates Nos.		
20		Energetic 002645 - 002649,		
21		Final Report Safety		
22		Investigation, Bates Nos.		
23		Energetic 006206 - 606240		
24				
25				

1	2.0	Time 1 December Confidence	106
2	38	Final Report Safety	186
3		Investigation, Bates Nos.	
4		Energetic 006206 - 606240	
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
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BROWN - TORCULAS

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2	SECOND OFFICER PHILIP G. TORCULAS,
3	having been produced and first duly sworn as a
4	witness on behalf of the Claimant United States
5	of America, and after responding "yes, I do" to
6	the oath, then testified as follows:
7	KARL E. ALBARILLO, INTERPRETER
8	being first duly sworn or affirmed to interpret
9	from English to Tagalog and Tagalog to English
10	the proceedings to the best of his ability.
11	MR. ALBARILLO: I do.
12	MR. BOATRIGHT: Ms. Court Reporter, if
13	you don't mind, just for the record before
14	you get started with your questioning, my
15	name is Caj Boatright. I'm here for
16	numerous of the plaintiffs in this case. I
17	work with the law firm of Arnold Itkin. My

This morning at 5:30 a.m. Central Time, we got a notice from the court that indicates that the document has been reviewed at the court and there are no

pro hoc vice motion was submitted yesterday

with no objection from any of the folks in

this room or on the phone as far as I

understand it.

1	BROWN - TORCULAS
2	deficiencies by the clerk's office staff.
3	I'm not sure if that means it's been
4	officially granted or not. I just want to
5	make 100 percent sure that nobody sitting in
6	this room or on the phone has any objection
7	at all to me appearing at this deposition
8	today given the status of my pro hoc motion.
9	MR. BROWN: The United States has no
LO	objection.
L1	MR. WEIGEL: The petitioner has no
L2	objection.
L3	MR. ROBERTS: Tabak Mellusi Shisha has
L4	no objection.
L5	MR. CHINIGO: Hofmann & Schweitzer, no
L6	objection.
L7	MR. BARTLETT: Counsel for Jennifer
L8	Simon has no objection.
L9	MR. BOATRIGHT: Thank you.
20	MR. DRIPS: Roy Drips. I previously
21	sent a no objection by e-mail, and I still
22	have no objection.
23	MR. BOATRIGHT: Appreciate y'all.
24	MR. WEIGEL: Just for your information,
25	that is not what you got from the clerk's

1	BROWN - TORCULAS
2	office just says your papers are okay, that
3	they'll be giving them to the judge to
4	approve.
5	MR. BOATRIGHT: I suspected since we
6	didn't have an order granting it. I just
7	wanted to make sure that I've noted that for
8	the record and made sure there was nobody
9	that was going to have any objection at all.
10	MR. UNDERHILL: Appearances?
11	MR. WEIGEL: This is Alan Weigel for the
12	petitioner.
13	MR. BROWN: And Thomas Brown on behalf
14	of the United States.
15	MR. UNDERHILL: And Mike Underhill also
16	on behalf of the United States.
17	MR. BROWN: And you already do have
18	counsel on the phone in the record.
19	THE REPORTER: Please anybody on the
20	phone state your name if you make an
21	objection because I'm not going to remember
22	your voices.
23	MR. BROWN: So counsel on the phone, the
24	reporter asks please state your name if you
25	make an objection so she knows who is making

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 the objection.
- 3 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 4 BY MR. BROWN:
- 5 Q. Good morning, Mr. Torculas. My name is
- 6 Thomas Brown. I'm an attorney with the United
- 7 States government representing the United States
- 8 in this case. I'm handing you Exhibit 304 which
- 9 is a notice of deposition. Have you seen that
- 10 document before, sir?
- 11 (Torculas Exhibit 304, Notice of
- 12 Deposition, was marked for
- identification.)
- 14 THE WITNESS: No, only -- no.
- 15 BY MR. BROWN:
- 16 Q. It's just a piece of paper that says we
- have asked for you to come today to participate
- in this deposition. Are you willing to be
- 19 deposed today?
- 20 A. Yes, I agree. Yes, I am.
- 21 Q. I do want to get one matter of protocol.
- 22 I understand your English is quite capable, and I
- 23 will try to speak clearly --
- 24 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 25 Q. -- and not too fast for you today. If

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 at any time you don't understand my question and
- 3 need me to repeat it or rephrase it, let me know.
- 4 I'll do that. Okay?
- 5 **A.** Okay.
- 6 Q. And if you don't understand the question
- 7 because of any kind of language barrier between
- 8 us, please let us know that you need the question
- 9 interpreted and the interpreter will do that;
- 10 okay?
- 11 A. Understood.
- 12 Q. Thank you. Mr. Torculas, I'm going to
- hand you the bridge logbook for the ALNIC MC.
- 14 And if you could please read into the record the
- 15 date on the cover of that logbook. Can you see
- 16 the dates on the cover, sir, on the front cover,
- very front cover? What are the dates there?
- July to September; correct?
- 19 **A.** July 12, 2017, until 01 September 2017.
- MR. BROWN: And for the record, we have
- deemed this Exhibit 13. And we've also used
- 22 excerpts from it previously on the record as
- 23 13-B and 13-C. Today the witness is going
- 24 to look at the original document.
- 25 BY MR. BROWN:

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. Mr. Torculas if you could please turn to
- 3 August 21st, 2017, the date that ALNIC MC
- 4 collided with the USS JOHN MCCAIN. Are you on
- 5 that page, sir?
- 6 A. Yes I am.
- 7 Q. Do you see on there a page, loose paper
- 8 that's been stapled several times to the deck
- 9 logbook?
- 10 A. Yes, I can see now.
- 11 **Q.** Please lift that back without removing
- 12 it so we can look at the original ink entries on
- 13 the page. Do you recognize that page as
- August 21st, 2017, from the ALNIC?
- 15 A. Yes, I can see it's my handwritten
- 16 notes.
- 17 Q. That's your handwriting at the top of
- the page beginning at midnight, sir?
- 19 A. That's correct.
- 20 Q. And on that page in your handwriting, it
- 21 says that at 0300 Captain Nolasco was on the
- 22 bridge.
- 23 A. Yes, sir. My mistake.
- 24 **Q.** That was not true? He was not on the
- 25 bridge at that time, sir; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. No, he is not on the bridge.
- 3 Q. He was not on the bridge at 0300 on
- 4 August 21st; correct?
- 5 A. Yes, he is not on the bridge.
- 6 Q. So that entry in the log is a lie, isn't
- 7 it, sir?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 MR. WEIGEL: Objection.
- 10 BY MR. BROWN:
- 11 Q. If you look further on that same line,
- do you see where it says that Captain Nolasco has
- the CONN of the ship at 0300?
- 14 A. I just assumed during this time, sir,
- 15 because I called him around -- I don't
- 16 remember 0230 in the morning because we are about
- to enter the Singapore TSS.
- 18 Q. I'm asking you, sir, if you look on the
- 19 right side of your 0300 entry --
- 20 **A.** Uh-huh.
- 21 Q. -- very small writing squeezed into the
- 22 margin, do you see where you have written in your
- 23 handwriting that Captain Nolasco has the CONN of
- 24 the ship?
- 25 **A.** Yes.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. That was not a true statement in the
- 3 logbook; correct?
- 4 A. It's not true.
- 5 Q. So that's a lie as well; right?
- 6 **A.** Yes.
- 7 MR. WEIGEL: Objection to your
- 8 characterization of the witness's testimony.
- 9 BY MR. BROWN:
- 10 Q. And it also says, squeezed into the
- 11 margin at 0300, that the ALNIC MC was in what
- 12 mode of steering, sir?
- 13 A. It is -- which mode? I don't remember
- which...
- 15 Q. Mr. Torculas, I think you misunderstood
- there. I'm asking which mode of steering. Does
- 17 your log --
- 18 A. Which mode --
- 19 THE REPORTER: You're going to have to
- talk one at a time.
- 21 BY MR. BROWN:
- 22 Q. Let me get the whole question out so she
- 23 can write the full question on the record, and I
- will let you get the whole answer out; okay?
- 25 It's for the reporter's sake.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Okay, sorry.
- 3 Q. No problem.
- 4 So I'm specifically asking about mode of
- 5 steering, as in autopilot or hand steering; okay?
- 6 So if you could please look in the right side of
- your 0300 entry written very small in the margin.
- 8 What mode of steering did you say the ship was in
- 9 at 0300?
- 10 A. I wrote here "switch to hand steering."
- 11 Q. And that was not true; correct, sir?
- 12 A. Not true.
- 13 Q. That entry is false and a lie; correct?
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- MR. WEIGEL: Objection.
- 16 Mischaracterizes the witness's testimony.
- 17 BY MR. BROWN:
- 18 Q. Is that entry false, sir?
- 19 A. False. Yes, it's false.
- 20 Q. Was the ship in hand steering at 0300 on
- 21 21 August 2017?
- 22 A. It's in autopilot.
- 23 Q. It was in autopilot and you logged that
- it was in hand steering at that time; correct,
- 25 sir?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 **A.** Yes.
- 3 Q. Did you know that it was in hand
- 4 steering when you wrote down that it was in --
- 5 excuse me, strike that.
- 6 Did you know that the ship was, in fact,
- 7 in autopilot when you wrote that it was in hand
- 8 steering?
- 9 A. Yes, it is in autopilot.
- 10 Q. And you knew that when you wrote that it
- 11 was in hand steering; correct, sir?
- 12 A. First of all, it is in autopilot. I
- just only write hand steering because the
- 14 formality that we are going inside the port, we
- should put hand steering, sir. That's my
- 16 mistake, sir.
- 17 Q. We can discuss that further perhaps.
- But I'm asking about the ink entry what you wrote
- 19 with a pen in that logbook. You wrote that the
- 20 ship was in hand steering at 0300; correct?
- 21 A. No, it's in autopilot.
- 22 Q. Sir, in your own handwriting, you wrote
- 23 in that deck logbook that's in front of you --
- 24 **A.** Yes.
- 25 Q. -- that the ship was in hand steering at

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 0300.
- 3 A. Okay. I will just rephrase. In my
- 4 handwriting here I put hand steering, but the
- 5 truth is in autopilot.
- 6 Q. And when you wrote in your handwriting
- 7 that the ship was in hand steering, you knew the
- 8 truth was that ship was actually in autopilot;
- 9 correct?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. Referring again to that page -- and for
- the record is that page 41 of the deck logbook?
- 13 A. Yes, it is in page 41.
- 14 Q. Thank you, sir.
- Do you see anywhere in your entry from
- 16 midnight to 0400 where you have lined through any
- 17 entries? Have you stricken out or altered any
- 18 entries?
- 19 A. Inside, I don't strike anything. I
- don't change anything.
- 21 Q. So nothing you've written in that
- logbook from midnight to 0400 was changed by you;
- 23 correct, sir?
- 24 **A.** Yeah.
- 25 Q. If you would look, please, sir, on the

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 page that's in the left side, that shows courses,
- 3 wind, running lights, and lookouts; correct, sir?
- 4 A. Here, yes.
- 5 Q. And who -- well, let me ask: Is that
- 6 your handwriting under "lookouts" where you list
- 7 the names Balili and Secang?
- 8 A. Yeah, I wrote this.
- 9 MR. BROWN: For the record, it's AB
- Balili, B-a-l-i-l-i, and the other name is
- 11 Secang, S-e-c-a-n-g.
- 12 BY MR. BROWN:
- 13 Q. Do you see those names, sir?
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. Did you write in the logbook that those
- were your lookouts during your watch?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. Does this indicate that OS Secang was on
- 19 watch from midnight to 0400 on 21 August 2017?
- 20 **A.** He was -- actually he's not on the
- 21 bridge. That's only for the record, only for the
- 22 recording only, sir.
- 23 Q. Okay. So you build a -- you make a
- 24 record, this logbook that says he was your
- 25 lookout from midnight to 0400 --

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Yes, yes.
- 3 Q. Let me finish the question, please,
- 4 before you answer for the reporter. You're doing
- 5 fine.
- 6 So you write in the logbook to make a
- 7 record that OS Secang was your lookout from
- 8 midnight to 0400. Is that what you said?
- 9 A. Yes. Here I have wrote he is on the
- 10 bridge.
- 11 Q. And was he, in fact, on the bridge from
- midnight to 0400 on this day?
- 13 **A.** No.
- 14 Q. So that's also a false entry in the
- 15 logbook; correct?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. That's also a lie that says OS Secang
- was your lookout?
- 19 MR. WEIGEL: Objection, mischaracterizes
- the witness's testimony. You can answer.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Okay, sir. He is not on
- 22 the bridge.
- 23 BY MR. BROWN:
- Q. My question is: Was that a lie to write
- down in this deck logbook that he was your

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 lookout during that time?
- 3 MR. WEIGEL: Same objection,
- 4 mischaracterizes the witness's testimony.
- 5 You can answer. You can answer.
- 6 THE WITNESS: Yes, it's a lie.
- 7 BY MR. BROWN:
- 8 Q. Do you know when OS -- strike that.
- 9 Not looking at this logbook but thinking
- 10 back in your own memory, do you know when OS
- 11 Secang came to the bridge during that watch?
- 12 A. I don't remember because -- can I say
- 13 something more?
- MR. WEIGEL: No, no. You don't --
- there's no question pending.
- 16 BY MR. BROWN:
- 17 Q. Do you have more to add to that answer,
- 18 Mr. Torculas?
- 19 A. I forget, sir, no.
- 20 Q. You forget. Okay.
- 21 Do you have any memory today whether or
- 22 not OS Secang was on your watch at all from
- 23 midnight to 0400?
- A. He was not on the bridge. He was not
- 25 there.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. You never saw him at all until you got
- 3 off watch at 0400 on that day?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 Q. Did you see him after your watch ended
- 6 at 0400 that same morning?
- 7 A. I did not see him. After the collision,
- 8 I saw him. What time? I forgot the time.
- 9 That's it.
- 10 Q. So I understand it correctly, from the
- 11 time you were on watch at midnight until the
- 12 collision itself, you never saw OS Secang?
- 13 **A.** No.
- MR. DRIPS: Roy Drips. Did he say, no,
- 15 he did not?
- 16 MR. UNDERHILL: That is correct.
- 17 (Torculas Exhibit 305, Stealth
- 18 Maritime Record of Hours of Rest of
- 19 Seafarers, Bates Nos. Energetic 015322 -
- 20 015323, was marked for identification.)
- 21 BY MR. BROWN:
- 22 Q. Sir, we have handed you Exhibit 305,
- 23 which states at the top "Record of Hours of Rest
- of Seafarers," and the name listed is Secang,
- 25 George Anthony. Do you -- could you flip that

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- over, please, sir. Do you recognize this as a
- 3 crew rest log for OS Secang?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 Q. Looking at the page where it actually
- 6 lists the hours he worked -- are you generally
- 7 familiar with the way these rest logs are
- 8 completed?
- 9 A. Yeah, because -- wait a minute.
- 10 Q. Take your time.
- 11 **A.** Okay.
- 12 Q. You are generally familiar with the way
- 13 these logs are completed, sir?
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. And the X's indicate when a seafarer is
- on duty; correct?
- 17 A. Yes, correct.
- 18 Q. If it's a blank spot for that hour, that
- 19 means the seafarer was on a rest period; correct?
- 20 A. Yes, correct.
- 21 Q. If you look with me at OS Secang's rest
- log for August 21st -- do you see that line?
- 23 **A.** Yes.
- Q. -- it shows he was resting from 0 --
- excuse me, from midnight to 01, 01 to 02, and 02

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 to 0300; correct, sir?
- 3 A. Yes, I can see. It's empty.
- 4 Q. That's empty. So this record is
- 5 inconsistent with your deck logbook where you
- 6 said he was serving as the lookout from midnight
- 7 to 0400; correct?
- 8 A. Yeah.
- 9 MR. UNDERHILL: Madam Reporter, that was
- 10 a yes?
- 11 THE REPORTER: "Yeah."
- 12 (Exhibit 15-C, Bell Book for ALNIC
- MC, was previously marked.)
- 14 BY MR. BROWN:
- 15 Q. The next exhibit for the record is -- I
- have marked it as 15-C. It's an excerpt that
- 17 contains slightly different pages from prior
- 18 iterations. And, sir, do you recognize this as
- 19 the Bell Book for ALNIC MC?
- 20 A. Yes, I recognize.
- 21 Q. Now, you didn't actually use the Bell
- Book to record bells on your ship; is that
- 23 correct?
- 24 A. No.
- 25 Q. You don't see anywhere in here where

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 it's indicated something like half ahead, slow
- 3 ahead; correct?
- 4 A. No, it's not indicated.
- 5 Q. If you'd turn please to the page that's
- for August 21st, 2017, which is, for the record,
- 7 Bates Energetic 803. Are you on that page, sir?
- 8 A. Yes, I am. 803, yes.
- 9 Q. Now, this contains some similar log
- 10 entries to what we just reviewed in the deck log;
- 11 correct?
- 12 A. Correct.
- Q. At 0300 according to the Bell Book --
- well, let me back up. Is this your handwriting,
- 15 sir?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. So you have made these entries at 0300?
- 18 A. Say again, sir.
- 19 Q. This is your handwriting that makes the
- 20 entry for 0300; correct?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 Q. There's an entry for 0400. Is that your
- 23 handwriting as well, sir?
- 24 **A.** Yes.
- 25 Q. Okay. At 0300 this like the deck log

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 says "master on the bridge." That's a false
- 3 entry; correct?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 Q. So your entry in the Bell Book like your
- 6 entry in the deck logbook is false; correct?
- 7 **A.** Yes.
- 8 Q. And then it goes on to say "master at
- 9 conning." That, too, is a false entry; correct?
- 10 A. That's correct.
- 11 Q. And it says "steering switched to hand
- 12 steering." That wasn't true, was it?
- 13 A. It is not true.
- 14 Q. You didn't switch to hand steering at
- 15 0300.
- 16 **A.** No.
- 17 Q. But you wrote in the Bell Book that you
- 18 had done that; correct?
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- 20 Q. Do you see anywhere on this Bell Book
- 21 where you have made a line through an entry that
- 22 you realized later was wrong? Have you made any
- 23 line-throughs?
- A. No, I don't make any line after my watch
- 25 here. I didn't strike anything.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. At 0400 it says -- you wrote "steering
- 3 tested prior to arrival and no remarks. Do you
- 4 see that?
- 5 **A.** Yes.
- 6 Q. Did you, in fact, test steering at 0400?
- 7 **A.** In fact --
- 8 Q. Did you test steering at 0400?
- 9 **A.** No.
- 10 Q. Why did you write at 0400 that you had
- done that if it's not true?
- 12 A. Just for the recording, sir, and for
- 13 formality.
- 14 Q. You wanted to build a record for
- formality even though it wasn't true.
- 16 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 17 Q. You wanted the records to make it look
- 18 like the ship had done certain things even though
- 19 the ship hadn't done them.
- 20 A. Yes, sir. I'm sorry for that.
- 21 **Q.** Okay.
- 22 (Exhibit 16-B, GPS Logbook, Bates
- No. Energetic 000367, was previously
- 24 marked.)
- 25 BY MR. BROWN:

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. Sir, the next exhibit I'm going to hand
- 3 to you we've previously used, it's Exhibit 16-B.
- 4 It's two sides. Do you recognize this as the GMS
- 5 logbook for ALNIC MC?
- 6 MR. WEIGEL: Which one is this?
- 7 MR. BROWN: 16-B.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 9 BY MR. BROWN:
- 10 Q. And this covers the period from April to
- 11 September of 2017; correct?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. If you look on the back page -- first
- can you explain for the record what is a GPS
- 15 logbook?
- 16 A. GPS logbook is record of the position
- where we were during that time in every watch of
- 18 ours.
- 19 Q. When you're standing watch, you like --
- you keep a record of where the ship has been at
- 21 least each hour; correct?
- 22 **A.** Yes.
- 23 Q. And you fill that position into this GPS
- 24 logbook; correct?
- 25 A. Yes, correct.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. Now, there is a Remarks column. Do you
- 3 see that?
- 4 A. Remarks, yes, on this column.
- 5 **Q.** And then --
- 6 A. One second. I'm on a different --
- 7 sorry, sorry.
- 8 Q. Take your time.
- 9 A. We have to go on the 21st. 20th, 21st.
- 10 Okay. 1900.
- 11 Q. Now you're looking at the local time,
- 12 0300 entry; correct?
- 13 A. I'm now in the -- correct. Okay.
- 14 Continue, sir.
- 15 Q. You see the 0300 local time entry on
- 16 August 21st; correct?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. And just like with the deck logbook and
- 19 just like with the bell logbook, the GPS logbook
- says at 0300 the master is conning. Do you see
- 21 that?
- 22 A. Yes. I just make coincide with the
- other.
- 24 Q. So this is your handwriting; correct?
- 25 **A.** Yes.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. And that's your initials to the right
- 3 where it says "signature"?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 Q. And you wanted to make this record
- 6 coincide with the false record you had built with
- 7 the logbook; correct?
- 8 A. I'm sorry for that.
- 9 Q. But that's correct, isn't it?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. Sir, I want to go back with you to your
- watch leading up to 0400 when you were relieved.
- 13 You were sailing in the South China Sea towards
- 14 Singapore; correct?
- 15 A. Yes, correct.
- 16 Q. Did you have much traffic in the South
- 17 China Sea?
- 18 A. During that time, not so much traffic,
- 19 sir.
- 20 Q. You don't recall it being busy in the
- 21 South China Sea?
- A. No. During my watch, no.
- 23 (Discussion off record)
- 24 (Torculas Exhibit 306, Bridge's
- Night Orders Book Excerpt, Bates Nos,

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- Energetic 000309-000329, was marked for
- identification.)
- 4 BY MR. BROWN:
- 5 Q. Mr. Torculas, I've handed you
- 6 Exhibit 306. This says "Bridge's Night Orders
- 7 Book ALNIC MC"?
- 8 A. Yes, 306.
- 9 Q. Do you have that document, sir?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. Are you familiar with the Bridge's Night
- 12 Orders Book from ALNIC MC?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. This is the book the captain uses to
- issue orders to you and his mates while they
- 16 stand watch during the overnight; correct?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. This is just an excerpt, a small number
- 19 of pages from the bigger book. So you realize
- this isn't the full book; okay?
- 21 **A.** Yeah.
- 22 **Q.** Okay?
- 23 **A.** Yes.
- 24 Q. Turn please to the Night Orders Book for
- 25 20th August 2017 Energetic 329. Do you have that

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 page, sir?
- 3 A. 20 August 2017.
- 4 Q. If you're standing watch beginning at
- 5 midnight on August 21st, this is the page of
- 6 night orders that would apply to you; correct?
- 7 A. This is on the 20th, yes.
- 8 Q. So when you come on watch at midnight or
- 9 you come to the bridge to take your watch at
- 10 midnight going into August 21st, would you read
- 11 the Night Order Book before taking your watch?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. You can see highlighted on this page
- instructions -- well, there's a set of
- instructions from the captain on this page;
- 16 correct?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. Were you obliged to follow his
- 19 instructions?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- 21 Q. That was your responsibility; right?
- 22 A. Yes, that's true.
- 23 Q. And then you see where I have it
- 24 highlighted. It says, "Give a wide berth with
- 25 three nautical mile CPA to other vessels." Did I

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 read that correctly?
- 3 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 4 Q. You and the other officers have signed
- or initialed this page; correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And that's your signature where it says
- 8 "2/0 PG Torculas"; correct?
- 9 A. Yes, correct.
- 10 Q. Were you, in fact, able to give a
- 11 three-mile CPA or closest point of approach to
- 12 traffic when you were sailing in the South China
- 13 Sea --
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. -- heading into Singapore Strait?
- 16 A. Yes. As much as possible, we follow
- 17 that.
- 18 Q. As much as possible you follow the
- 19 orders?
- 20 A. I'm sorry, sorry, sir. Rephrase, sir.
- Yes, according here, we are following that one,
- 22 sir.
- 23 Q. You followed the captain's order to
- 24 keep -- let me finish my question for the record.
- You followed the captain's orders to keep a

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 three-mile CPA that overnight watch heading into
- 3 Singapore Straits; correct?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 Q. Do you recall having to call the captain
- 6 at any point during that watch to discuss traffic
- 7 or any other concerns you had?
- 8 A. I did not call him regarding for that,
- 9 but before we enter, I called him, if I remember
- 10 it correctly, around 0230 21st prior to entering
- 11 the TSS of Singapore.
- 12 Q. You recall calling Captain Nolasco at
- 13 around 0230 to --
- 14 A. Yes. I don't remember the time
- 15 actually, but I called him.
- 16 Q. I want to make sure I understand you
- 17 correctly. You don't remember exactly whether it
- was 0230, but around that time you recall calling
- 19 Captain Nolasco to let him know where the ship
- 20 was; is that correct?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 Q. But that call wasn't about traffic?
- 23 **A.** No.
- 24 Q. If you had traffic that was going to
- 25 come within three nautical miles, come within

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 this limit that he set, would you have to call
- 3 the captain?
- 4 A. Yes, I would call him.
- Now, you're aware that we've had access
- 6 to the ship's Voyage Data Recorder in the course
- 7 of this litigation; right?
- 8 A. Yes, you have access. I know.
- 9 O. And we can see the radar screenshots and
- 10 other data on there; correct?
- 11 **A.** Yes.
- 12 (Torculas Exhibit 307, Screenshot,
- was marked for identification.)
- 14 BY MR. BROWN:
- 15 Q. The next exhibit is 307. Do you
- 16 recognize what that image shows just generally?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. What does it show?
- 19 A. It's vessels around the ship and
- together with us, heading the same with us, the
- 21 headings, their headings.
- 22 Q. This is an image from the radar
- 23 ALNIC MC; correct?
- A. That's correct.
- 25 Q. Do you see what your -- do you know what

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 a VRM is?
- 3 A. Say again.
- 4 Q. Do you know what a VRM is?
- 5 A. VRM, variable range marker.
- 6 Q. Variable range marker. Can you see your
- 7 variable range marker on this screen?
- 8 A. Yes. That's the circle one.
- 9 Q. I'll represent to you and for the record
- 10 that I took this screenshot from ALNIC's VDR at
- 11 about 0300, which is one of the earlier moments
- basically when we've been provided data, although
- 13 I know much more exists than we've been given.
- Okay. What is the variable range marker set to,
- what distance here? Can you read that number?
- 16 A. Variable range marker during this
- 17 time...
- 18 Q. I can show you on my screen there. It's
- 19 zoomed in a little. Does this say 2.35 miles,
- 20 sir?
- 21 A. 2.35. Sir, I cannot see here. No, sir.
- 22 I mean, differently than -- that's why I forgot
- this screen. It shows 2.35, the ship itself...
- MR. WEIGEL: Mr. Brown, perhaps you
- 25 might want to point out where on this image

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 that information is located.
- 3 MR. BROWN: Yes. Do you mind if I
- 4 approach and look over his shoulder?
- 5 MR. WEIGEL: Certainly.
- 6 BY MR. BROWN:
- 7 Q. Mr. Torculas, I'm referring you to the
- 8 bottom right corner. Do you see that number
- 9 there? That's your VRM distance or range;
- 10 correct?
- 11 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 12 Q. And you see -- and I've got it zoomed in
- on the screen -- it's 2.35 miles; correct?
- 14 A. Uh-huh, that's correct. It's here.
- 15 Q. And can you see on this overall image
- 16 where the VRM ring is?
- 17 A. VRM ring is this one.
- 18 Q. That's that purple ring that circles
- 19 around your own ship; correct?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- 21 Q. So do we agree that that purple ring --
- is it measuring a distance of 2.35 miles from
- 23 ALNIC MC?
- A. (Nodding head.)
- 25 Q. How many ships do you see within that

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 ring?
- 3 A. Inside of this ring is one, two,
- 4 three -- let's say four.
- 5 Q. And there's a few others that are very
- 6 close outside of it; correct?
- 7 A. Yeah.
- 8 Q. Okay. Does this show that you observed
- 9 the captain's night orders to maintain a
- 10 three-mile CPA during your watch?
- 11 A. Yeah, but I did not follow during this
- 12 time.
- 13 Q. This shows that you let a number of
- ships get within three miles; correct?
- 15 **A.** Yes, sir --
- 16 Q. Go ahead.
- 17 A. -- but it's clear, sir.
- 18 Q. What's clear?
- 19 A. Passing clear. I mean, they are
- 20 together with us.
- 21 Q. So this didn't give you any concern?
- 22 A. No. But the caution is three miles that
- 23 we call the captain. I did not follow because I
- 24 can see from there it's clear.
- 25 Q. Would you agree with me that this shows

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 traffic throughout your radar screen?
- 3 A. Yes, that is there, traffic.
- 4 Q. There look to be well over a dozen
- 5 different contacts on this screen; correct?
- 6 A. Contact? No contact during this time.
- 7 I can see it's clear.
- 8 Q. Do you see -- well, I'm not referring
- 9 just to where you are but in the whole area and
- 10 what's coming ahead of you. There's a number of
- 11 vessels; correct?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. Is that normal for the South China Sea
- for it to be that congested?
- 15 A. Nautical mile, sir.
- 16 Q. It's heavy traffic over there; right?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. If you had to maintain three miles
- distance from all of these vessels, where would
- your ship go?
- 21 A. Yeah, if I will go to maybe somewhere
- 22 here (indicating).
- 23 Q. And you're pointing to the east?
- 24 A. I mean -- okay. I will be doing zigzags
- 25 if I were to follow this three nautical miles

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 CPA.
- 3 Q. You would do what, sorry?
- 4 A. I would be doing zigzags if I did this
- 5 three nautical miles. I would go like that here
- 6 mostly, out of this course line.
- 7 Q. That would delay your estimated time of
- 8 arrival to Singapore; correct?
- 9 A. That's true, sir.
- 10 (Torculas Exhibit 308, NAV Bridge
- 11 Deck Schematic, Bates No. Energetic
- 12 001123, was marked for identification.)
- 13 BY MR. BROWN:
- 14 Q. Mr. Torculas, the next exhibit is marked
- 15 308. It says "accommodation arrangement." Do
- 16 you recognize this as the bridge deck of
- 17 ALNIC MC?
- 18 **A.** Yes.
- 19 Q. And this is for the record stamped
- 20 Energetic -1123. This shows the location of the
- 21 bridge and the chart room, the radio space, and
- the head, the toilet, up there; correct?
- 23 **A.** Yes.
- 24 Q. I'll tell you one right up front. I
- 25 know that you had an ECDIS added after this

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 diagram. So I'm not trying to trick you. But
- 3 looking at this schematic, do you see anything
- 4 else that's different from the builder diagram
- 5 compared to when you were on the ship on
- 6 August 21st?
- 7 A. Actually, sir, I would say it's already
- 8 two years. I've not seen the bridge of ALNIC MC
- 9 for that reason other than the ECDIS. I don't
- 10 remember any other additional.
- 11 Q. And that's fair enough. But nothing on
- this image seems wrong to you; correct?
- 13 **A.** Yeah.
- 14 **Q.** Okay.
- MR. UNDERHILL: Yes, meaning he...
- 16 BY MR. BROWN:
- 17 Q. Yes, nothing seems wrong to you on this
- image. This image looks to be a good
- 19 representation of how you remember the bridge on
- 20 August 21st, 2017?
- 21 A. Yeah. It's almost the same, sir.
- 22 Q. Thank you.
- 23 A. Same actually.
- 24 Q. Now, at 0400 I understand -- or around
- 25 that time, the chief officer relieved you from

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 the watch; is that correct?
- 3 A. Yes, for earlier 4 o'clock. Before
- 4 4 o'clock, he was already on the bridge.
- 5 Q. And that's customary to come up a few
- 6 minutes before the hour to relieve the watch;
- 7 right?
- 8 A. That's true.
- 9 Q. So a few minutes before 0400, the chief
- officer has come to the bridge to relieve you;
- 11 correct?
- 12 A. Yeah. Exact time -- I don't remember
- exact time, but it's already before 4 o'clock
- 14 he's on the bridge.
- 15 Q. At that time, was Captain Nolasco on the
- 16 bridge?
- 17 **A.** No.
- 18 Q. He still was not on the bridge when the
- 19 chief officer relieved you?
- 20 **A.** No.
- 21 Q. After you were relieved, where did you
- 22 go?
- 23 A. Chart table. I can -- shall I point you
- 24 here?
- 25 Q. I'll get there with you. I appreciate

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 that. We'll get into that detail.
- 3 Did you do any kind of security round of
- 4 the vessel or the accommodation after your watch?
- 5 A. Security round, no.
- 6 Q. Did you go below for refreshment or to
- 7 use the head or to take a rest?
- 8 **A.** No.
- 9 Q. So you stayed on this deck that's in
- 10 Exhibit 308 from the time you were relieved --
- 11 even after the time you were relieved; correct?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. When you stayed on this bridge deck,
- were you still working, or were you resting and
- 15 having time off?
- 16 A. Working.
- 17 Q. What did you stay in the chart room to
- 18 do?
- 19 **A.** We were in the -- not this chart. So
- 20 I'm just double-checking the charts,
- 21 double-checking the chart because we are going to
- 22 Singapore and I just expect that port state will
- come and the vessel will be detained if they
- found that the charts are not fully corrected.
- 25 Q. I understand you. So let me back up a

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 hair because our judge may not understand all of
- 3 the duties you had. You were the ship's second
- 4 mate at the time of the collision; correct?
- 5 A. Yes, correct.
- 6 Q. And the second mate or second officer is
- 7 responsible, in particular, for navigation of the
- 8 ship. You're the ship's navigator; right?
- 9 A. Yes, correct.
- 10 Q. As the navigator, one of your
- 11 responsibilities was to conduct passage planning;
- 12 correct?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. And as part of passage planning, you had
- to make sure you had up-to-date, corrected
- 16 charts; right?
- 17 A. Yes, correct.
- 18 Q. And a chart correction is your marking
- on a paper chart when something about the
- 20 maritime environment has changed; right?
- 21 A. That's true, correct.
- 22 Q. So your testimony, if I understand
- correctly, is that after you were relieved at
- 24 0400, you went to the chart room to apply chart
- 25 corrections; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Yes, correct.
- 3 Q. And that was to apply corrections to the
- 4 charts you were going to use entering into
- 5 Singapore?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. You were concerned because they had not
- 8 yet been corrected and you were going to be
- 9 arriving in a few hours; correct?
- 10 A. No, sir. Before we arrive, it's already
- 11 corrected. I'm just double-checking.
- 12 Q. Okay. I'm going to hand you a red pen,
- 13 sir. Would you please mark a small X where you
- 14 were in the chart room.
- 15 A. This chart space. Can I put like this?
- 16 Q. Well, then let me do it that way. You
- were moving around the chart space. You didn't
- 18 stay in one spot; correct?
- 19 A. Yes, correct.
- 20 Q. I understand that the chart room is
- 21 surrounded by curtains.
- 22 A. Yes, correct.
- 23 Q. And just so you know, we had an
- 24 opportunity to go aboard ALNIC a few weeks ago in
- 25 San Francisco, so I've been able to see this

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 myself.
- Would you please mark with a zigzag line
- 4 where you remember the curtains actually hang in
- 5 that chart space. In fact, let me stop you
- 6 before you do that. Let me help you out. I've
- 7 got some pictures here.
- 8 (Discussion off record)
- 9 BY MR. BROWN:
- 10 Q. Okay. Mr. Torculas, before you make
- 11 that marking...
- 12 A. Okay, now I remember.
- 13 (Exhibit 309, Photograph, was marked
- for identification.)
- MR. WEIGEL: This is going to be two
- images on the front and back. Is this going
- to be one exhibit?
- MR. BROWN: Correct, one exhibit. I'm
- 19 saving paper. I'm with the government.
- THE WITNESS: Okay, sir, now I saw.
- 21 This is the new addition before that
- 22 collision. This is for -- and this is not
- on the ship.
- 24 BY MR. BROWN:
- 25 **Q.** Okay. Well --

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Okay. One moment. This is not in the
- 3 ship because this monitor is like this. There is
- 4 a different ECDIS during the -- or after the
- 5 collision -- I mean, on the day of the collision.
- 6 **Q.** Okay.
- 7 A. It's a different ECDIS.
- 8 Q. I hear you. Let me slow down a bit to
- 9 make sure we get it right.
- 10 **A.** Okay.
- 11 Q. You're pointing to a computer screen, an
- 12 electronic chart screen --
- 13 **A.** Uh-huh.
- 14 Q. -- that's on the first page of
- 15 Exhibit 309, the marked side of the page.
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. Okay. And I'll tell you these are
- 18 photos we were able to take on board the ship
- very recently, just a few weeks ago; okay?
- 20 **A.** Uh-huh.
- 21 Q. So this is not a photo from August of
- 22 2017. And you were just pointing to that
- 23 computer screen, and you said this screen was not
- there when you were on board the ship?
- 25 A. There is one more ECDIS here.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. There was a different ECDIS here?
- 3 A. Yeah. It was a FURUNO ECDIS.
- 4 Q. You recognize that this equipment in the
- 5 photograph is from a different manufacturer?
- 6 A. Yeah.
- 7 Q. And thank you for that. I handed you
- 8 these photos in case it helped your memory of the
- 9 curtains. Does that help your memory, seeing the
- 10 curtains in these two photographs?
- 11 A. Yes, something came back to my mind.
- 12 Q. Now, having -- especially on the back
- side, having looked at that, are you now able to
- 14 mark on the bridge schematic --
- 15 **A.** Yes.
- 16 Q. -- where the curtains were hanging?
- 17 A. Yes, I can.
- 18 THE INTERPRETER: A zigzag.
- 19 THE WITNESS: A zigzag.
- 20 MR. BROWN: Yes, thank you.
- 21 THE WITNESS: (Witness complies)
- 22 BY MR. BROWN:
- 23 Q. You can hold on to that for now, sir.
- 24 And just so it's clear on the record,
- 25 Exhibit 309, there is an image printed on both

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 sides of a single piece of paper and that's one
- 3 exhibit.
- 4 Okay. These are very heavy curtains;
- 5 right?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And they are meant to block any light
- 8 from coming through --
- 9 **A.** Yes.
- 10 Q. -- from the chart room out to the
- 11 bridge; correct?
- 12 A. Yes, can block.
- 13 Q. When you were in the chart room at 0400
- working on your chart corrections, you must have
- 15 needed some light to see your work; right?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. And I see on one side of Exhibit 309
- there is a lamp or a light there?
- 19 A. Uh-huh, yeah. Yes.
- 20 Q. And was that light there when you were
- on board the ship?
- 22 A. I don't remember with this light. I'm
- 23 sorry.
- 24 Q. Let me ask which way I'm going. When
- you would do your chart work in the chart room,

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 would you have the overhead lights on, or did you
- 3 use a lamp?
- 4 A. The over light, the overhead.
- 5 Q. You had the overhead lights on; right?
- 6 A. Yes, yes.
- 7 Q. Now, if all of the curtains were open
- 8 and you've got the overhead lights on, what would
- 9 that do to the watchstanders' night vision?
- 10 A. Their vision will be becoming -- they
- 11 cannot see around the vessel.
- 12 Q. So the watchstanders on the other side
- of the curtain from you need darkness for their
- 14 night vision; correct?
- 15 **A.** Yes, yes.
- 16 Q. And they wouldn't be able to keep a good
- 17 lookout if they had the curtains open; correct?
- 18 **A.** Yes.
- 19 Q. So I assume when you were doing your
- 20 chart work, you would keep the curtains closed;
- 21 is that correct?
- 22 A. Yes, it's closed.
- 23 Q. So at 0400 and following on August 21st,
- 24 did you have all of the curtains closed around
- 25 you in the chart room?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Yes, it's closed.
- 3 Q. And looking again at Exhibit 309 where
- 4 you see the -- strike that.
- 5 On Exhibit 309 I see the long curtain
- 6 with the lamp by it. That's looking forward;
- 7 correct?
- 8 A. Say again, sir.
- 9 Q. On the left side of the image, that long
- 10 curtain, that's looking forward; correct?
- 11 **A.** Yeah.
- 12 Q. And the image that has the ECDIS screen
- on the left side, that's facing forward; correct?
- 14 A. Facing forward, correct.
- 15 Q. And then if you turn that over to the
- 16 back side of 309, can you agree with me that
- 17 you're looking to starboard?
- 18 A. This is starboard, yes.
- 19 Q. So is that image, the back side of 309
- looking starboard -- no, the one you had, sir.
- 21 **A.** 309.
- 22 Q. The other one, yeah.
- 23 A. Okay. This one?
- 24 Q. Yes, sir. In that image, the overhead
- 25 lights are on; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. The lights on top, it's open.
- 3 Q. They're on; right?
- 4 A. Yes, they're on.
- 5 Q. Is that a good representation of what
- 6 your view was like from the chart room on
- 7 August 21st after you were relieved at 0400?
- 8 A. For me it's better to switch on this.
- 9 Because from this one, the lights is dim, so I
- 10 cannot see our corrections.
- 11 Q. You like the bright lights on in the
- 12 overhead?
- 13 **A.** Yes, yes.
- 14 Q. That picture, is that what your view
- 15 looked like from the chart room?
- 16 A. Yes, same as this.
- 17 Q. On August 21st, you were looking at
- 18 curtains; right?
- 19 **A.** Yeah.
- 20 Q. You cannot see the windows through the
- 21 curtains; right?
- 22 **A.** No.
- 23 Q. So you're not able after you were
- 24 relieved to be a lookout; correct?
- 25 A. Say again, sir. Say again.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. When you're in the chart room at 0400 on
- 3 August 21st applying your chart corrections,
- 4 you're not the ship's lookout, are you?
- 5 A. I am not.
- 6 Q. And you're not able to be a lookout
- 7 because there are curtains in your way; correct?
- 8 A. Yes, correct.
- 9 (Torculas Exhibit 310, Photograph,
- 10 was marked for identification.)
- 11 BY MR. BROWN:
- 12 Q. Mr. Torculas, I've handed you Exhibit
- 13 310 which is another photograph.
- 14 **A.** Uh-huh.
- 15 Q. Since we're on the topic of getting our
- orientation on the bridge, I wanted to look at
- 17 this photo. Do you recognize this as looking aft
- 18 from the chart room into the head?
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- 20 Q. Do you recall the head being there
- 21 through the open stairwell?
- 22 A. No, it was closed during that time.
- 23 Q. No, I'm not asking you to tell me
- 24 whether the doors were open or closed. I'm just
- 25 asking if you recall that the ship's head was --

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 **A.** Yes.
- 3 Q. -- was immediately aft of the chart
- 4 room; correct?
- 5 A. Yes, yes.
- 6 Q. And did you see anyone go into that head
- 7 when you were in the chart room from 0400 on?
- 8 **A.** No.
- 9 Q. I should have asked you earlier, did you
- 10 go anywhere from the chart room between 0400 and
- 11 the collision?
- 12 A. As I remember, only I am on the bridge
- in the chart room or sometimes I would go to the
- 14 computer to see some corrections if there is new
- 15 coming. That's it.
- 16 Q. Where is the computer you just
- 17 mentioned?
- 18 A. If this is the port side -- I mean, the
- 19 left side, it's over here (indicating).
- 20 Q. Look back with me on that schematic
- which is Exhibit 308. Are you referring to
- 22 what's marked as the radio space there?
- MR. BROWN: Alan, I'll point.
- MR. WEIGEL: Fine.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Radio space is somewhere

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 around here (indicating).
- 3 BY MR. BROWN:
- 4 Q. Mr. Torculas, looking at the radio space
- on Exhibit 308, is that where the computer was
- 6 you just mentioned?
- 7 **A.** Yes.
- 8 Q. So you looked on there to see if you had
- 9 any new chart corrections you needed to apply to
- 10 your paper charts; correct?
- 11 **A.** Yes, yes.
- 12 Q. Try and let me finish the question for
- 13 the reporter; okay?
- 14 A. Just getting excited, sir.
- 15 Q. You're doing well. I'm excited, too.
- 16 Other than working in the chart room
- itself and back in the radio space, did you go
- anywhere else between 0400 and the time of the
- 19 collision?
- 20 A. I don't remember actually, but I did not
- 21 go outside the -- I mean, from the bridge, as I
- remember, I did not go down. I just stay on the
- 23 bridge.
- 24 Q. You don't remember going below the
- 25 bridge deck?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Yes. Sorry, yes. Only somewhere here
- 3 on the bridge only walking around and doing the
- 4 correction. That's it.
- 5 Q. Do you have any memory of where OS
- 6 Secang's stateroom was? What deck was he on? Do
- 7 you know that?
- 8 A. Say again, sir. His position during
- 9 that time, I -- as I told before, I did not see
- 10 him, did not saw him.
- 11 O. Do you know where his stateroom was on
- the ship, what deck did he live on?
- 13 A. Below. It's B Deck.
- 14 Q. Let's --
- 15 **A.** B Deck.
- 16 Q. One second. One second.
- MR. BROWN: Could you mark this, please.
- MR. WEIGEL: Do you want him to finish
- 19 answering the question?
- MR. BROWN: I'm going to help him with
- this.
- 22 MR. WEIGEL: All right.
- 23 (Torculas Exhibit 311, NAV Deck
- 24 Layout Photograph, was marked for
- identification.)

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 BY MR. BROWN:
- 3 Q. Sir, I've handed you Exhibit 311 in case
- 4 that helps your memory. This is also a photo we
- 5 were able to take aboard ALNIC MC. Looking at
- 6 this, are you able to tell me where OS Secang's
- 7 stateroom was?
- 8 A. It's on the B Deck. B Deck. Which
- 9 room? I don't know which room. On the B Deck.
- 10 Q. B Deck is two decks below the bridge; is
- 11 that correct?
- 12 A. It's other side.
- 13 Q. Two decks below the wheelhouse itself?
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. He didn't live on the C Deck?
- 16 **A.** No.
- 17 Q. That C Deck is only for the officers;
- 18 correct?
- 19 A. Yes, correct.
- 20 Q. But, again, to be clear, you don't
- 21 remember seeing him at all from the time your
- watch ended until the collision; correct?
- 23 A. No, I did not see him.
- 24 Q. You testified a few minutes ago that you
- were working in the chart room; you weren't on a

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 rest period. Do I have that correct?
- 3 **A.** Yes.
- 4 (Torculas Exhibit 312, Stealth
- 5 Maritime Hours of Rest of Seafarers for
- 6 Philip Torculas, Energetic
- 7 015306-015307, was marked for
- 8 identification.)
- 9 BY MR. BROWN:
- 10 Q. The next exhibit we've handed you
- 11 Mr. Torculas is 312. Do you recognize this
- 12 document?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. What is this?
- 15 A. Rest hours.
- 16 Q. This is your rest hours for August 2017;
- 17 correct?
- 18 **A.** Yes.
- 19 Q. Energetic 311. On the front page, it
- 20 says "Stealth Maritime Record Hours of Rest," and
- it has your name on it; correct?
- 22 **A.** Yes.
- 23 Q. And it has your signature on it;
- 24 correct?
- 25 **A.** Yes.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. If you look above the signature lines,
- do you see where it says, "I agree this record is
- 4 an accurate reflection of the hours of work of
- 5 the seafarer concerned"?
- 6 **A.** Yes.
- 7 Q. Do you see that?
- 8 A. (Nodding head.)
- 9 **Q.** Yes?
- 10 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 11 Q. Did I read that correctly?
- 12 A. Yeah, I can see that.
- 13 Q. And you signed this; right?
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. If you look on the back side of this
- exhibit, it shows your hours of work and rest;
- 17 correct?
- 18 **A.** Yes.
- 19 Q. August 21st, doesn't it show your work
- 20 period ending in the morning?
- 21 A. It ends at 4 o'clock.
- 22 Q. At 0400. According to your rest log
- which you signed, you were off duty at 0400;
- 24 correct?
- 25 A. Yes.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 3 the way until 1300; correct?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 Q. According to this piece of paper which
- 6 you signed, you were not working --
- 7 A. No, not working.
- 8 **Q.** -- at 0400; correct?
- 9 A. No, not working. According to this rest
- 10 hour, I'm not working.
- 11 Q. Your testimony has been that you were --
- during that same time working in the chart room;
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. It did not appear, sir.
- 15 **Q.** What did not appear?
- 16 A. I mean, it is not recorded here.
- 17 Q. Okay. So this record --
- 18 A. Does not help for the --
- 19 MR. WEIGEL: Objection to that
- testimony.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Say again, sir.
- MR. WEIGEL: And I think you have also
- 23 mischaracterized that document.
- 24 BY MR. BROWN:
- 25 Q. This record of your rest log has your

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 signature on it; right?
- 3 **A.** Yes.
- 4 Q. It says you were resting after 0400;
- 5 right?
- 6 MR. WEIGEL: Objection. It
- 7 mischaracterizes that document.
- 8 BY MR. BROWN:
- 9 Q. Does the document say whether you were
- 10 working or resting after 0400?
- 11 A. This document said I am resting.
- 12 Q. This document says you were resting
- 13 after 0400; correct?
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. You were, in fact, working according to
- 16 your testimony today at 0400; correct?
- 17 A. Actually I am working during this time.
- 18 Q. So this record is not correct; right?
- 19 A. It's false.
- 20 Q. It's false. Thank you.
- 21 Do you know how much rest you had?
- 22 **A.** In one day?
- 23 MR. WEIGEL: Objection. What period of
- time are we talking about?
- MR. BROWN: I'll clarify. Thank you.

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- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 BY MR. BROWN:
- 3 Q. In the 24 hours before the collision,
- 4 can you tell me how much rest you had?
- 5 A. After the collision?
- 6 Q. In the 24-hour period before the
- 7 collision, leading up to the collision, how much
- 8 rest did you have?
- 9 A. 16 hours supposed to be, but I have the
- 10 overtimes that I don't declare here on the rest
- 11 hour.
- 12 Q. So you work overtime on the ALNIC on a
- daily basis?
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. But that's not indicated on this rest
- 16 log; correct?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. Is this also one of the records that you
- 19 want to look good for the company?
- 20 MR. WEIGEL: Objection. You can answer.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Yeah, just we have to
- follow the rest hours, supposed to be
- 23 submitted to the other authorities if there
- is something -- anybody coming, this will
- 25 look good for them.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 BY MR. BROWN:
- 3 Q. This is the record that will look good
- 4 to show the crew was well rested; correct?
- 5 A. Yes, correct.
- 6 Q. And this is the record that your company
- 7 would give to investigators after a casualty;
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. This is what I have, sir.
- 10 Q. Do you know why you had to maintain a
- 11 rest log on your ship? What required it?
- 12 A. What required for the rest hours for the
- 13 ship?
- 14 Q. You have to maintain a rest log because
- of the STCW Convention; correct?
- 16 A. Yes, correct.
- 17 Q. And your ship, to be compliant, has to
- 18 maintain these rest logs; right?
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- 20 Q. But your ship was maintaining false rest
- 21 logs; right?
- MR. WEIGEL: Objection, that
- 23 mischaracterizes his testimony.
- MR. BROWN: Well, I think he said it was
- 25 false.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 THE WITNESS: Sir --
- 3 MR. WEIGEL: No, he said that entry --
- 4 MR. UNDERHILL: We don't need counsel to
- 5 interpret what the witness says. That's why
- 6 the court reporter gets paid.
- 7 MR. WEIGEL: Let my make my objection,
- 8 please.
- 9 MR. UNDERHILL: Well, then make your
- objection, which is objection to the form.
- 11 MR. WEIGEL: You're mischaracterizing
- the testimony on the record and the
- document.
- 14 BY MR. BROWN:
- 15 Q. This rest log was false; correct?
- 16 A. Yes, it's false.
- 17 Q. This made it look as if you were well
- 18 rested going into the time of the collision;
- 19 right?
- 20 MR. WEIGEL: Objection, mischaracterizes
- 21 his testimony.
- 22 BY MR. BROWN:
- 23 Q. This record shows you had 16 hours of
- 24 rest; correct?
- 25 **A.** Yes.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. On August 20th and August 21st both, you
- 3 had 16 hours of rest according to this document;
- 4 correct?
- 5 **A.** Yes.
- 6 Q. But you were, in fact, working overtime;
- 7 correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 MR. BROWN: Alan, do we have the engine
- 10 order telegraph roll?
- 11 MR. WEIGEL: Right there.
- 12 (Torculas Exhibit 313, Photographs
- of Kongsberg Printer Roll, was marked
- for identification.)
- 15 BY MR. BROWN:
- 16 Q. Mr. Torculas, the next exhibit is 313.
- 17 I'll represent to you these are photographs we
- 18 also were able to take aboard the ALNIC MC a
- 19 couple of weeks ago. Do you recognize the piece
- of equipment shown in this exhibit?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 Q. What is this?
- 23 A. It's an engine telegraph record log,
- 24 something like that.
- 25 Q. This is the engine telegraph printer;

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 correct?
- 3 A. Printer, yes.
- 4 Q. This is a Kongsberg equipment; right?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. It says model OPU AC-C20; right?
- 7 A. Right.
- 8 Q. Do recognize this as the equipment you
- 9 carried aboard your ship at the time of the
- 10 collision?
- 11 **A.** Yes.
- 12 Q. You had this Kongsberg telegraph
- 13 printer; correct?
- 14 A. Yes, correct.
- 15 Q. As second mate, were you responsible for
- 16 navigation and bridge equipment?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. Did your responsibility for maintaining
- the paper supply of the electronic logs include
- 20 this printer?
- 21 A. Yes, that's my responsibility.
- 22 Q. If this printer ran out of paper, would
- 23 you be the person who changed it?
- A. Sorry, sir. This is my mistake also,
- 25 sir. This is my mistake. I forgot to change the

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 paper, sir.
- 3 Q. Well, that's nonresponsive. Are you the
- 4 person who is responsible for changing paper on
- 5 board the ship?
- 6 A. The person changing? What I can say
- 7 supposed to be, this is for the engine side, but
- 8 since it is on the bridge, I change it. I change
- 9 this.
- 10 Q. You, as a second mate, had the job of
- 11 making sure this printer roll was changed;
- 12 correct?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. In these images, do you see that there
- is a tray that's been pulled out of the
- 16 equipment?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. And there's two rolls there; correct?
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- 20 Q. If you look in the third image, the last
- 21 image --
- 22 A. Last image.
- 23 Q. -- you can see the roll -- there's a
- 24 roll in the right side; correct?
- 25 **A.** Yes.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. And there's a roll on the left side;
- 3 correct?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 Q. The one on the right side, that's the
- 6 supply roll. That's the new paper; right?
- 7 **A.** Yes.
- 8 Q. And then the system, after it prints, it
- 9 gets pulled into this roll on the left side;
- 10 correct?
- 11 **A.** Yes.
- 12 Q. So you interjected a minute or two ago
- and said that it was your mistake; you forgot to
- change the printer. Did I hear that correctly?
- 15 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 16 Q. Do you know for how long this engine
- order telegraph printer was without paper?
- 18 A. Since we left Taiwan. About a few days.
- 19 Maybe six days, five days. Because, sir, it was
- 20 just something -- because when this was finished,
- 21 the paper -- what I mean, the paper's already run
- 22 out -- we have -- we just diverted to another
- 23 port. So when this was run out, I am working
- with the other thing, because I thinking how much
- 25 this stuff is going to Singapore.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 So when this was run out, I know that
- 3 this was run out and then I have another job to
- 4 make, so I go with another one first. After that
- 5 I forget to replace this. I am still working,
- 6 sir.
- 7 **Q.** When you --
- 8 A. Because this -- it takes around one
- 9 month before finish this roll.
- 10 Q. Right. One roll is usually good for
- 11 about a month; right?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. Depending how much you're maneuvering,
- it could be longer, it could be less?
- 15 **A.** Yes, yes.
- 16 Q. When it's time to replace the roll -- I
- 17 want to talk to you -- I want to talk to you
- about the steps you take when you do replace a
- 19 roll.
- 20 **A.** Uh-huh.
- 21 Q. How do you know that the old roll is
- 22 empty?
- 23 A. There's a red light.
- 24 Q. Where does that red light appear?
- 25 A. Here on the error.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. Could you turn to the front page of
- 3 Exhibit 313 for me. And there's a white circle
- 4 under "error"; correct?
- 5 **A.** Yes.
- 6 Q. Would you mark with my red pen -- just
- 7 mark an X in that white circle, please. That
- 8 will be fine.
- 9 A. (Witness complies)
- 10 Q. So when the supply roll runs empty, that
- 11 red light turns on.
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. For reference, this piece of equipment
- is on the bridge console; correct?
- 15 A. That's true, yes.
- 16 **O.** And it's on the aft side of that
- 17 console --
- 18 **A.** Uh-huh.
- 19 **o.** -- correct?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- 21 Q. So if you're facing forward with the
- 22 console in front of you, you can see this
- 23 equipment; right?
- 24 **A.** Yes.
- 25 Q. So if you're at the console or anywhere

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 behind it on the bridge, you'd be able to see
- 3 that red light; right?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 Q. And that red light is an indication that
- 6 the telegraph printer is out of paper, it's not
- 7 running; correct?
- 8 A. Actually for that time, I did not
- 9 monitor this because some -- not this is -- not
- only this equipment on the panel, plenty of
- 11 equipment was there.
- 12 Q. Were you able to see this piece of
- equipment on August 21st?
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. If you're standing on the bridge, you
- 16 can see it?
- 17 A. Yes. That's the time I recall that, oh,
- 18 shit, I forgot to change the paper.
- 19 **Q.** And that was after the collision?
- 20 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 21 Q. So if you had noticed the red light and
- remembered to change the paper, I want to talk to
- 23 you about the steps you would take. You need to
- 24 go get a new roll of paper; right?
- 25 **A.** Right.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. Where did you keep the new rolls of
- 3 paper?
- 4 A. I forgot which place, but there are
- 5 drawers.
- 6 Q. Did you have extra paper on board when
- 7 this last roll ran out on August 11th?
- 8 **A.** I have.
- 9 Q. After you get the new roll of paper out,
- 10 what's the next step you take?
- 11 A. I take this, this one (indicating), this
- one, pull this, and this tray will come out.
- 13 Q. Okay. So let me redo that for the
- record. You're pointing to a little metal lever
- on the right side, right bottom side of
- Exhibit 313, the first photograph; right?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. When you pull that lever, that releases
- 19 the drawer; correct?
- 20 A. Yes. Moment, sir. Just place this
- 21 first, this on and off, then this one.
- 22 Q. So you pointed to the on/offline button.
- 23 You press that and then pull the metal tab;
- 24 correct?
- 25 A. That's correct.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. And then the drawer comes out; right?
- 3 **A.** Yes.
- 4 Q. Then what's the next step you take after
- 5 that?
- 6 A. Then take the roll of paper because this
- one would be stuck here. I mean, it will roll in
- 8 this area. And this will -- then this will be
- 9 empty. This supply paper will be empty.
- 10 Q. So your supply paper's empty and your
- 11 take-up reel is full; right?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- Q. Which one do you take off first?
- 14 A. Take one -- take out first? I don't
- 15 remember.
- 16 Q. It may not matter, Mr. Torculas. But
- let's talk about the take-up reel. You have to
- take that off, right, because it's full.
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- 20 Q. And do you pull the side on the right
- 21 side off of the take-up reel?
- 22 A. Okay, sir. I remember something. This
- one needs to be pulled because there's some
- 24 clipping on the paper. Pull this out so that it
- 25 will release that roll of paper which already

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 used and go in here.
- 3 Q. Very good. So the inside of the take-up
- 4 roll is clipped on to the roll itself --
- 5 A. Yes, yes.
- 6 Q. -- and you have to unclip it; right?
- 7 **A.** Yes.
- 8 Q. And after you unclip it, do you pull the
- 9 take-up roll off?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. And then what do you do next?
- 12 A. Do next? Then I will get the new -- the
- new paper roll. I will put here and put like
- that (indicating) on there, of the tray going
- 15 here.
- 16 Q. Okay. So you take the new -- empty
- 17 roll --
- 18 **A.** Uh-huh.
- 19 Q. -- and you have to put it on this
- 20 roller; correct?
- 21 A. Yes, to be clipped again.
- 22 Q. And to get to that roller, if you go to
- 23 the third page of Exhibit 313, you have to
- actually release a little lever here; right?
- 25 A. That I forgot, yes.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. And you release that lever to lift the
- 3 empty roll up; correct?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 Q. And then you have to slide the roller
- 6 through the cardboard of your new empty roll;
- 7 right?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And then you place it in. And you had
- 10 indicated with your hand, you run the paper
- 11 underneath --
- 12 A. Under.
- Q. -- the tray and up to the take-up site;
- 14 correct?
- 15 A. That's correct.
- 16 Q. Okay. That sounds like that job takes
- 17 several minutes to do; right?
- 18 A. Only several minutes, sir.
- 19 Q. And you do that job no more than once a
- 20 month.
- 21 A. I forgot, yes, sir, supposed to be.
- 22 Q. So this isn't something you do every
- 23 day --
- 24 A. No, no.
- 25 Q. -- and you have a good memory.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- A. No, not every day.
- 3 Q. You would agree with me that takes at
- 4 least several minutes to do that job.
- 5 A. Several minutes.
- 6 Q. Four, five, six minutes. Can you
- 7 estimate how long it takes you?
- 8 A. Yeah, around like that.
- 9 **Q.** Around like that?
- 10 A. Yeah, yeah, close. Four, seven minutes
- or ten minutes. Then put it back, clip.
- 12 Q. Okay. And then once all the rolls are
- in place again, you close the tray.
- 14 A. Uh-huh, yes. And then press feed so
- that it will tighten the roll of paper.
- 16 Q. I understand. You say press the feed
- 17 button and the take-up reel will spin a little to
- 18 pull in the slack; right?
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- 20 Q. And when you had rolled that new paper
- 21 through, you had to clip it back on to the
- 22 take-up reel; right?
- 23 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 24 Q. Then after it's fed, do you press the
- on/offline button again?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. It will be automatically in online once
- 3 you clip it, put it back.
- 4 Q. When you put the tray back in, does it
- 5 print any kind of record right away?
- A. Yes, there is. One moment, sir. I
- 7 don't remember, sir. Sorry. I don't remember.
- 8 **Q.** Okay.
- 9 A. But I meant it only make the feed, then
- 10 it will become tightened.
- 11 (Torculas Exhibit 314, Bridge
- 12 Checklist 2 Preparation for Sea, Bates
- 13 Nos. Energetic 002763 002781, was
- marked for identification.)
- 15 BY MR. BROWN:
- 16 **O.** The next exhibit is 314. This is an
- 17 excerpt from the Bridge Checklist. The beginning
- 18 Bates number is Energetic -2763. It goes to
- 19 -2781.
- 20 Do you recognize the pages in this
- 21 exhibit as checklists from the ALNIC MC?
- 22 **A.** Yes.
- 23 Q. On the very first page of Exhibit 314,
- it's "Bridge Checklist 2, Preparation For Sea."
- 25 Did I read that correctly?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 **A.** Yes.
- 3 Q. This was completed, according to the
- 4 page, on August 15th at 1730; correct?
- 5 **A.** Yes.
- 6 Q. Do you know who completed this page?
- 7 A. I complete the page, but for the timing,
- 8 it's chief officer that make the writing here, I
- 9 mean, for the time. But I did the checks.
- 10 Q. Okay. So you, as the second mate, would
- 11 make sure the bridge equipment was prepared for
- 12 sea; correct?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. So you would actually do the checks
- 15 yourself and mark the checks down this column --
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. -- on Exhibit 314; correct?
- 18 **A.** Yes.
- 19 Q. If you look at line 9 of this page, it
- 20 says, "Was the following equipment checked/tested
- 21 ready for use, and the next line says,
- 22 "Logbook/bridge movement book/course and engine
- 23 movement recorder." Did I read that correctly?
- 24 **A.** Yes.
- 25 Q. The engine movement recorder is this

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Kongsberg equipment we just looked at; right?
- 3 **A.** Yes.
- 4 Q. So according to this page, the Kongsberg
- 5 engine telegraph printer was checked and was
- 6 good.
- 7 A. Yes, true.
- 8 Q. And that's on August 15th; correct?
- 9 **A.** Yes.
- 10 Q. So if the red light was on on
- 11 August 15th, would you have completed this check?
- 12 A. No, I wouldn't complete this check if
- 13 it's on red light.
- 14 Q. So if you did a check, that means that
- 15 you corrected the red light by then.
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. Or the red light wasn't on yet; right?
- 18 A. No, not yet, not yet on.
- 19 Q. Okay. So looking at this record, you
- 20 believe that the engine telegraph printer was
- working at least until August 15th at 1730;
- 22 correct?
- 23 **A.** Yes.
- 24 Q. And you think it ran out of paper after
- 25 August 15th.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. After.
- 3 (Discussion off record)
- 4 BY MR. BROWN:
- 5 Q. So after August 15th, you think that the
- 6 engine telegraph printer ran out of paper;
- 7 correct?
- 8 A. After we cast off the port, that's the
- 9 time -- after the cast off, I mean, we are
- 10 already underway. That's the time the printer
- 11 paper is out on this bridge recorder, on this
- 12 Kongsberg -- I forgot.
- 13 Q. You just said after you left the port or
- 14 cast off lines.
- 15 A. Yes, yes -- no, no. Already underway.
- 16 Pilot is already off and we are now underway.
- 17 Q. Underway from which port, sir?
- 18 A. From the Taiwan. We are already out of
- 19 Taiwan.
- 20 Q. So after this checklist was completed on
- 21 August 15th --
- 22 A. Everything is okay.
- 23 Q. Let me finish, please.
- 24 After you completed this checklist on
- 25 August 15th, then the printer ran out of paper.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Is that your testimony?
- 3 A. Yes, after.
- 4 Q. After August 15th.
- 5 A. After August 15th.
- 6 Q. After Taiwan.
- 7 A. After Taiwan.
- 8 Q. Thank you. The next checklist in this
- 9 same exhibit is Bridge Checklist 3, Preparation
- 10 For Arrival in Port. Do you have that?
- 11 A. Yes, I have.
- 12 Q. What date was this checklist completed
- 13 on?
- 14 **A.** 21st.
- 15 Q. 21st of August 2017; correct?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. At what time, sir?
- 18 **A.** I put 0300. It's my watch.
- 19 Q. Was that when you, in fact, completed
- 20 this checklist preparing to arrive in Singapore?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 Q. So you did this checklist getting ready
- for Singapore while you were on watch at 0300 on
- 24 August 21st.
- 25 **A.** Yes, yes.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. If you to go the second page of that
- 3 same checklist, it's Energetic -2767. Line 17-A
- 4 says, "Has the following been checked, tested, or
- 5 verified: Steering gear tested and manual
- 6 steering engaged well in advance for the helmsman
- 7 to become accustomed before maneuvering
- 8 commences."
- 9 Did I read that correctly?
- 10 A. Yes. This one is not performed.
- 11 Q. I'll get there, sir. Trust me. Did I
- read that correctly?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. And this is your checkmark that at 0300
- this task was performed; correct?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. This is another false entry; correct?
- 18 **A.** Yes.
- 19 Q. You had not tested your steering gear at
- 20 0300 on the 21st; right?
- 21 **A.** No.
- 22 Q. We already talked earlier you had not
- even tested at 0400; correct?
- 24 **A.** No.
- 25 Q. And you were not in manual steering at

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 that time; right?
- 3 **A.** No.
- 4 Q. The next line, 17-B, says, "Course and
- 5 engine movement recorders." The engine movement
- 6 recorder would be that Kongsberg telegraph
- 7 printer; correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And that says it's been checked;
- 10 correct?
- 11 **A.** Yes.
- 12 Q. So according to this, your Kongsberg
- engine telegraph printer was running at 0300 on
- 14 August 21st; correct?
- 15 **A.** Yes.
- 16 Q. If you turn to the next page, which is
- 17 Energetic -2768, you see your signature there;
- 18 right, sir?
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- 20 Q. I'm sorry, Mr. Torculas, let me step
- 21 back one second. Looking again at Bridge
- 22 Checklist 3, please, I refer you to line 17-F,
- 23 which is on Energetic -2767. Let me know when
- 24 you have that?
- 25 A. Yes, letter F.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. What does that letter read, please.
- 3 A. 17 letter F, "Signal equipment including
- 4 whistles, flag, lights, shapes, et cetera."
- 5 MR. UNDERHILL: Could you read it into
- 6 the record.
- 7 BY MR. BROWN:
- 8 Q. So you checked off on this checklist
- 9 that the signaling equipment, including whistles,
- 10 flags, lights, shapes, et cetera, were in good
- 11 order; correct?
- 12 A. Yes, because --
- 13 **Q.** Go ahead.
- 14 A. Because we have this every noontime,
- 15 checking of these equipments. So I did the
- 16 testing of this every day.
- 17 Q. You tested the ship's whistle every day
- 18 at noon --
- 19 **A.** Yes, yes.
- 20 **Q.** -- correct?
- 21 Try and let me get my full question out
- 22 before you answer. It will help her a lot. I
- 23 know it's hard.
- So you did not, in fact, check the
- 25 ship's whistle at 0300; right?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 **A.** No.
- 3 Q. You would have woken everybody up;
- 4 right?
- 5 **A.** Yes.
- 6 Q. You put the check there even though you
- 7 didn't do that check.
- 8 MR. WEIGEL: Objection.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 10 BY MR. BROWN:
- 11 Q. You put the check there even though you
- 12 didn't do the check at 0300.
- 13 **A.** Yes, I did.
- 14 Q. You had done it at noon the day prior.
- 15 Is that your testimony?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. You tested the ship's whistle daily.
- 18 **A.** Yes.
- 19 Q. To your knowledge, did the ship's
- whistle work on August 21st, 2017?
- 21 A. Yes, it's working.
- 22 Q. Did it work? Did it have any problems?
- 23 A. No problem.
- 24 (Torculas Exhibit 315, Native Format
- 25 Bridge Equipment, Bates No. Energetic

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 0011270, was marked for identification.)
- 3 BY MR. BROWN:
- 4 Q. The next exhibit is 315. It's Energetic
- 5 -1127, which was produced in native as a
- 6 spreadsheet.
- 7 A. Yes, I have Energetic 001127.
- 8 Q. Do you recognize this as an inventory of
- 9 bridge equipment?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. Is this a spreadsheet document you
- controlled as the second mate on the ship?
- 13 A. Yes, I'm controlling this.
- 14 Q. You made the entries that are in this
- 15 document; correct?
- 16 A. Yes. I did the edits of this, yes.
- 17 Q. What is the date in the top right corner
- of the spreadsheet?
- 19 A. Which one? Say again, sir.
- 20 Q. What's the date shown there?
- 21 **A.** 21 August.
- 22 **Q.** 21 August 2017; correct?
- 23 **A.** Yeah.
- 24 Q. Look, please, at line 57.
- 25 **A.** Line 57.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. That says, "Main engine telegraph
- 3 transmitter logger and printer"; correct?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 **Q.** That's a reference to the Kongsberg
- 6 equipment we had seen in the photograph a few
- 7 minutes ago; right?
- 8 A. Yes, correct.
- 9 Q. Is that your entry there where it says,
- "The remark is satisfactory"?
- 11 **A.** Yes, yes.
- 12 Q. So according to this document, the
- 13 Kongsberg printer was working on 21 August;
- 14 correct?
- 15 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 16 Q. Mr. Torculas, I'm going to have you look
- 17 at the actual engine telegraph rolls we have from
- 18 your ship.
- 19 MR. UNDERHILL: Off the record for a
- 20 moment.
- 21 (Discussion off record)
- 22 (Torculas Exhibits 316 and 317,
- 23 Printer Rolls, were marked for
- identification.)
- 25 BY MR. BROWN:

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. For the record, I have two rolls
- 3 provided to us by the counsel for Energetic.
- 4 I've marked one Exhibit 316. And for people on
- 5 the phone, I've put the sticker on the reverse
- 6 side of the printer roll. And also for the
- 7 record, Exhibit 316 is the telegraph roll that
- 8 has the last entry order at sea, and the time is
- 9 00:44:25. So I'll hand you that, Mr. Torculas.
- 10 I'll explain to you what I want to look at in a
- 11 few minutes.
- 12 The other roll I've marked, also on the
- reverse side of the roll, as Exhibit 317. And
- this roll has a "first entry of order navigation"
- ahead, 004504." And I'll hand this Exhibit 317
- 16 to you as well, sir.
- MR. WEIGEL: Why don't we take a break?
- 18 (Discussion off record and recess
- 19 from 10:31 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.)
- 20 BY MR. BROWN:
- 21 Q. Mr. Torculas, before the break I handed
- you Exhibits 316 and 317, which are printer rolls
- from the engine telegraph printer; correct?
- 24 **A.** Yes.
- 25 (Torculas Exhibit 318, Photographs,

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A D, was marked for identification.)
- 3 BY MR. BROWN:
- 4 Q. I'm going to hand you some photos I have
- of those rolls, which is marked as Exhibit 318.
- 6 It's four photographs. I've lettered them A
- 7 through D.
- 8 A. Yes, I have 318 exhibit, Alpha.
- 9 Q. I'm going to talk to you about 318
- 10 compared to the rolls just so we have something a
- little easier to handle to show our judge; okay?
- 12 **A.** Okay.
- 13 Q. If you look at 318-A, you see the top of
- 14 a telegraph roll; correct?
- 15 **A.** Yes.
- 16 Q. Could you please look at 316 and confirm
- that that photograph is the top of Exhibit 316.
- 18 A. Yes, it's the same.
- 19 Q. Thank you. Turn to page B, please.
- 20 **A.** B.
- Q. Would you please confirm that that's a
- 22 photograph of the bottom of Exhibit 317.
- 23 A. It's not clear. 104. Yes, it is the
- 24 same.
- 25 Q. Thank you. Turn to page C, please.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Does that look to be the bottom of -- the very
- 3 bottom of the roll --
- 4 **A.** Yeah.
- 5 **Q.** -- that's Exhibit 317?
- 6 A. Yes, it's the same.
- 7 Q. Thank you.
- And on the last page, please, page D is
- 9 a close-up of the lines that appear, the printed
- 10 lines that appear at the bottom of 317. Can you
- 11 confirm that that's a match?
- 12 A. Yeah, it match.
- 13 Q. Thank you. Okay. Can you tell me when
- 14 Exhibit 316, which is our first roll -- when did
- this roll run out of paper?
- 16 A. Run out of paper, it shows 11
- 17 August 2017.
- 18 Q. This roll ends at the time of 004425 on
- 19 August 11th, 2017; correct, sir?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- 21 Q. And that's when this roll was all filled
- 22 up and out of -- empty paper; right?
- 23 A. Yes. It's long time, long time no
- paper.
- 25 Q. If you look on Exhibit 317, which is the

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 second roll, when does that roll begin, if you
- 3 can tell?
- 4 A. This one started 21 August at 0059.
- 5 Q. If you look at the periodic log -- did
- 6 you see where that's printed, "Periodic Log," at
- 7 the bottom of Exhibit 317?
- 8 A. Bottom? This one?
- 9 Q. We're both pointing. Do you see where
- 10 it says "Periodic Log" right there?
- 11 A. Yes, Periodic Log.
- 12 Q. And that Periodic Log was printed on
- 13 21 August 2017; correct?
- 14 A. Yes, correct.
- 15 Q. At midnight on that day; correct?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. And it goes on, it prints up the roll;
- 18 correct?
- 19 A. That's correct, going up.
- 20 Q. Can you tell there are six lines below
- 21 Periodic Log. Can you tell the date and time of
- those lines?
- 23 A. The date for this? I cannot say for the
- date here. Under here, I can see 21 August.
- 25 Q. You can't say -- sorry, go ahead.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Sorry, sir. Go ahead, sir.
- 3 Q. You can't say what date these six lines
- 4 were printed on because it's empty below them;
- 5 right?
- 6 A. Right.
- 7 Q. And on this record, you can only tell
- 8 the date of an event if you see a periodic log or
- 9 an event log that shows a date; correct?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. Can you please compare the last time on
- 12 Exhibit 316 to the first time on Exhibit 317.
- 13 A. I will compare.
- 14 Q. Let's do this: I'll hold one right up
- to the other, like so. Can you tell what's
- 16 happening with the engine on August 11th leading
- up to the very end of this roll, Exhibit 316?
- 18 A. After August 11th, it is gone out of
- 19 paper.
- 20 Q. And what is the engine doing according
- 21 to the log?
- 22 A. At sea. At sea. And here, full
- 23 navigation ahead.
- 24 O. So the last RPM shown on Exhibit 316 is
- 25 83 RPM; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Yes, 83 RPM.
- 3 Q. And then we see the bell recorded as "at
- 4 sea"; correct?
- 5 **A.** Yes.
- 6 Q. And then there's no other entries on
- 7 Exhibit 316 to tell what happened after the
- 8 engine was put "at sea" on August 11th; right?
- 9 A. Yes, that's correct. Nothing.
- 10 Q. You told me earlier that it takes you
- 11 maybe five, six, even seven minutes to change the
- 12 paper rolls; correct?
- 13 A. Yes, correct.
- 14 Q. So if that was the last -- if this "at
- 15 sea 00:44:25" was the last event on this roll on
- 16 Exhibit 316 --
- 17 A. Uh-huh, yes.
- 18 Q. -- you wouldn't see another event
- 19 recorded until about five, six, or seven minutes
- 20 later; correct?
- 21 A. Correct.
- MR. WEIGEL: Okay, continue.
- 23 BY MR. BROWN:
- 24 O. Neither of these rolls show what the
- ship's engine was doing on August 15th, 2017;

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 correct?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. So there are missing days from
- 5 August 11th to August 21st in these two records;
- 6 correct?
- 7 A. Correct.
- 8 Q. Do you know where the engine telegraph
- 9 printer roll went that you were using on
- 10 August 15th when you left Taiwan?
- 11 A. No, I don't know.
- 12 Q. But as far as you can tell from these
- two records, we don't have the August 15th roll
- that showed what the ship's engine was doing
- 15 leaving Taiwan; correct?
- 16 A. It doesn't show.
- 17 Q. During the break, Mr. Torculas, I
- 18 realized I wanted to cover one other thing with
- 19 the deck logbook, which is still in front of you.
- 20 So if you want to move those papers up and then
- 21 lift the sheet that was stapled to it.
- We've talked about the entries you have
- in the far right margin where you say, "The
- 24 master is conning, and the engine is in hand
- 25 steering." Do you remember discussing those

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 entries with me?
- 3 **A.** Yes.
- 4 Q. They're squeezed into the margin.
- 5 They're not on their own line; right?
- 6 **A.** Yes.
- 7 Q. You could have written those on the next
- 8 whole line; right?
- 9 A. Supposed to be, yes.
- 10 Q. Supposed to be on the next whole line,
- 11 not squeezed into the margin; correct?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. Did you add those after you had gotten
- off watch at 0400?
- 15 **A.** Yes.
- 16 Q. You wrote in the margins after your
- watch was done. You made a late entry; correct?
- 18 **A.** Yes.
- 19 Q. Does it indicate in the margin that that
- is a late entry?
- 21 A. Late entry, yes.
- 22 Q. Does it say on that page that it's a
- late entry?
- 24 **A.** Yes.
- 25 Q. Where does it say that it's a late

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 entry?
- 3 A. Because it is after my signature.
- 4 Q. Okay. So you write your signature and
- 5 then you squeeze the event into the margin, and
- 6 that means that you wrote it after you were off
- 7 watch; correct?
- A. Correct.
- 9 Q. Do you recall when you wrote it? When
- 10 did you write that margin entry?
- 11 **A.** After my watch, sir.
- 12 Q. Was it after the collision?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. And who talked to you about that entry
- before you wrote it in the logbook?
- 16 A. Nobody.
- 17 Q. Did you talk to the captain about
- 18 needing to write that he was conning the ship at
- 19 0300 before you made that entry?
- 20 **A.** No.
- 21 Q. Did you talk to anybody from Stealth or
- 22 the company about needing to make that entry?
- 23 A. No.
- 24 Q. The 0400 entry is squeezed in above a
- 25 line; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Yes, squeezed.
- 3 Q. Did you also write that after the
- 4 collision?
- 5 A. It is not my handwritten, sir, no.
- 6 Q. I may have misunderstood earlier. I
- 7 thought I asked you if that was your entry. So
- 8 the 0400 entry is not yours?
- 9 A. No, it's not mine.
- 10 Q. Did you make any other entries on that
- 11 midnight watch after the collision?
- 12 A. Only this, sir. Only until 0400.
- 13 Q. I may be confused. You tell me what
- lines on that page had you written before your
- ship collided into the JOHN S. MCCAIN.
- 16 **A.** Before colliding to -- all of this. All
- of this I wrote after my watch. And the
- collision happened 5:00, 5:24, 5:23. That's it.
- 19 Q. So you wrote all of those lines after
- 20 the collision occurred?
- 21 A. No. In my side -- in my side, sir, I
- wrote this 0400 after my watch, 4:00.
- 23 **Q.** Okay.
- 24 **A.** Maybe 4:10, 4:15. Like that, sir.
- 25 Q. I understand now. So those first four

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- lines describing your watch you wrote in your own
- 3 hand in the logbook after you were relieved a few
- 4 minutes after 0400; correct?
- 5 A. Sorry. I wrote these sentences after my
- 6 watch. Let's say 0410, 0415.
- 7 Q. Okay. And then after the collision, you
- 8 wrote the entry that's in the margin about the
- 9 captain having the CONN and the ship being in
- 10 hand steering.
- 11 A. Yes, sir. You're correct, sir, yes.
- 12 Q. You made that false entry in the logbook
- after the collision happened; right?
- 14 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 15 Q. Are you aware the ship's deck log is an
- 16 important legal document?
- 17 **A.** Yes, I am.
- 18 Q. And you're aware that it can be relied
- 19 upon by courts of law?
- 20 **A.** Yes, I am, sir.
- 21 Q. In fact, your ship's -- your company's
- 22 GMS manual describes that the logbooks are
- 23 important and can be relied upon by courts. Do
- 24 you know that?
- 25 **A.** Yes, sir.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. And you still made that false entry
- 3 after the collision happened?
- 4 A. Yes, sir. I'm very sorry.
- 5 MR. UNDERHILL: Just to make the record
- 6 clear, could we ask that post-collision
- 7 entries also be read into the record.
- 8 MR. BROWN: Very good.
- 9 BY MR. BROWN:
- 10 Q. Mr. Torculas, so it's very clear, I've
- 11 been making reference to your entries in the
- 12 margin. And I'll point, sir. We've been
- referring to those marginal entries; correct?
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. So it's clear for the record, could you
- 16 please read out loud the entries you made after
- 17 the collision happened.
- 18 A. After the collision happened, sir? Sir,
- 19 this BML2 what I put is after my watch. Let's
- say 0410 or 0415, just to make it clear, sir.
- 21 And this one, I squeezed it after my watch
- 22 because I have done -- I don't have some errors
- 23 here to be written. So I just squeezed in over
- 24 this area.
- 25 Q. We've been discussing the entry where it

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 says, "The master has the CONN," squeezed into
- 3 the margin; right?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 Q. And you told me several times now you
- 6 wrote that after the collision happened; right?
- 7 A. Make it -- I will repeat, sir. Not
- 8 after the collision. I put here -- I put this --
- 9 I put this -- no, sir, I'm sorry -- after my
- 10 watch, because I assumed -- because at 2:30 -- I
- 11 just repeat, sir, what I said before. At 2:30, I
- call him because of entering the TSS. So I
- assured that he would come at 3:00. And then
- 14 4:00 supposed to be he is on the bridge, but he's
- 15 not. I just only write it here that he was on
- 16 the bridge like that, sir.
- 17 MR. WEIGEL: I don't think that is
- really responsive, but maybe you want to
- 19 clarify it.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Only formality what I did,
- 21 sir. Nobody knows that it will happen, this
- collision, sir.
- 23 BY MR. BROWN:
- 24 Q. Did you write in the margin "the captain"
- 25 had the CONN" -- did you write that after the

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 collision happened or before?
- 3 A. Before.
- 4 Q. All right. I must have been confused.
- 5 Okay.
- 6 A. Can I add more, sir?
- 7 MR. WEIGEL: No. Let him ask a
- 8 question.
- 9 (Torculas Exhibit 319, Voyage Plan,
- 10 Bates Nos. Energetics 015474 015475,
- 11 was marked for identification.)
- 12 BY MR. BROWN:
- 13 Q. Mr. Torculas, I've handed you
- 14 Exhibit 319. This is a voyage plan dated
- 15 May 4th, 2017; correct?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. On this voyage plan -- did you complete
- 18 this voyage plan?
- 19 A. Yes, I did this voyage plan.
- 20 Q. That was one of your jobs as the ship's
- 21 navigator, to do voyage plans; correct?
- 22 A. Yes, correct, sir.
- 23 Q. Your signature appears on the back side
- of this exhibit; correct?
- 25 A. Yes, correct.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. Captain Nolasco always reviewed your
- 3 voyage plan, didn't he?
- 4 A. I just put on the table. I see that
- 5 he's checking also, sir.
- 6 Q. Captain Nolasco is checking your voyage
- 7 plan?
- 8 A. Yes, I see that he is checking. After
- 9 that, he will go and sign it.
- 10 Q. After Captain Nolasco checks your voyage
- 11 plan, he signs it as well; correct?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. The other officers on your ship, they'll
- 14 sign this too; right?
- 15 A. Yes, correct.
- 16 Q. This voyage plan reflects the ship
- 17 sailing from Sungai Linggi?
- 18 A. Sungai Linggi, sir, near Malaysia?
- 19 **Q.** In Malaysia?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- 21 Q. And going to Singapore; correct?
- 22 **A.** Yes.
- 23 Q. On this voyage plan, what anticipated
- 24 bridge watch condition did you list?
- 25 A. I put II, sir.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 MR. WEIGEL: For what times? What times
- 3 are you referring to?
- 4 BY MR. BROWN:
- 5 Q. I'll make a reference to the right-hand
- 6 side where it says, "Anticipated bridge watch
- 7 conditions, " and it has three checkboxes: I, II,
- 8 or III. Do you see that?
- 9 **A.** Yes.
- 10 Q. That's right under where it says,
- 11 "Dispense pilot to pilot 121." Do you see that?
- 12 **A.** 121. Yes.
- 13 Q. And there you anticipated Bridge Watch
- 14 Condition II; correct?
- 15 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 16 **O.** Is that a reference to the three levels
- of bridge manning that your GMS describes?
- 18 A. Sorry, sir. I will tell you the truth.
- 19 My mistake here. I should have put III.
- 20 Q. I understand that. But here you checked
- 21 II on May the 4th.
- 22 **A.** Yes.
- 23 Q. And then in the table below, there's a
- list of the waypoints you had selected for your
- voyage; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Correct.
- 3 Q. And at each waypoint, there's a bridge
- 4 watch level identified; correct?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. And those are II's and I's, but no
- 7 III's; correct?
- 8 A. Yes, correct.
- 9 Q. This would have -- this voyage would
- 10 have taken the ship through the Singapore
- 11 Straight; correct?
- 12 A. Singapore Strait, yes.
- 13 Q. Would you please look at the deck
- logbook from your ship from May the 4th.
- 15 **A.** May 4th.
- 16 Q. Do you have that page, sir?
- 17 MR. WEIGEL: Mr. Brown, did we mark
- 18 both -- did we deem both deck logs volumes
- marked as separate exhibits?
- MR. BROWN: It's a good question.
- 21 MR. UNDERHILL: Certainly the one the
- 22 day of the collision.
- MR. WEIGEL: Right.
- 24 MR. UNDERHILL: I'm not sure about the
- one before.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- MR. WEIGEL: Maybe we should make sure
- 3 it's been marked as an exhibit or deemed
- 4 marked as an exhibit.
- 5 MR. BROWN: So --
- 6 MR. UNDERHILL: If you hold, I might be
- 7 able to tell you in one second.
- 8 MR. BROWN: So for the record, we're
- 9 deeming as Exhibit 320 the bridge logbook
- 10 dated from April to July of 2017. And
- 11 that's also, for the record, the produced
- version starts at Energetic 119.
- 13 (Torculas Exhibit 320, Bridge
- 14 Logbook Dated April July 2017, was
- marked for identification.)
- 16 BY MR. BROWN:
- 17 Q. That was just a little housekeeping,
- 18 Mr. Torculas. Thank you for your patience. It's
- 19 important.
- 20 You're looking at page 23 from the deck
- 21 logbook; correct?
- 22 A. Yes, correct.
- 23 **Q.** That shows May 4th, 2017; right?
- 24 **A.** Yes.
- 25 Q. That deck log entry relates to the

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 voyage plan that we marked as Exhibit 319; right?
- 3 A. Yeah. Yes, sir.
- 4 Q. That is as the ship is doing the voyage
- 5 described in Exhibit 319, we see the events
- 6 recorded in the deck log at this page; right?
- 7 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 8 Q. And you'll see at 0954 on this date, we
- 9 have a master pilot exchange and BW3. Do you see
- 10 that?
- 11 A. Yes, I can see, sir.
- 12 Q. Is that a reference to Bridge Watch
- 13 Condition III?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. And then later on in that same watch at
- 16 10:42, do you see the entry that says "pilot off,
- 17 BW2"?
- 18 **A.** 10:42, yes, I can see.
- 19 **O.** And then the watch was relieved at noon
- 20 by you; correct?
- 21 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 22 Q. Your first entry, 1200 hours, says that
- 23 you took the watch; right?
- 24 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 25 Q. And then it goes on to say, "Vessel

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 underway under master conning, steering in
- 3 hand/manual mode, BWC2." Did I read that
- 4 correctly?
- 5 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 6 Q. And the next line, you wrote in your
- 7 handwriting, "Steering switched to autopilot,"
- 8 and it gives a position; correct?
- 9 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 10 Q. And later on that watch at -- you have
- 11 1800, it says, "NAV watch relieved by Third
- 12 Officer Garcia"; correct?
- 13 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 14 Q. And the next words, you say there are
- 15 "vessel transiting Singapore Strait"; right?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. So you -- according to this log page,
- 18 you were transiting the Singapore Strait on
- 19 May the 4th in autopilot; correct?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- MR. UNDERHILL: The deck log is what was
- 22 marked as Exhibit 10-A, in the original, it
- $_{23}$ was deemed 10-A.
- MR. BROWN: Okay.
- 25 (Torculas Exhibit 321, Voyage Plan,

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Bates Nos. Energetic 015450 015451,
- 3 was marked for identification.)
- 4 BY MR. BROWN:
- 5 Q. Mr. Torculas, the next exhibit I've
- 6 handed to you is 321, which is a voyage plan for
- 7 May 6th, 2017. Do you have that document, sir?
- 8 A. Yes, I have, sir.
- 9 Q. Is this a voyage plan you prepared?
- 10 **A.** Yes, I did.
- 11 Q. Did you sign this voyage plan?
- 12 A. I signed, yes.
- 13 Q. Did Captain Nolasco review this voyage
- 14 plan after you prepared it?
- 15 A. All I know, sir, I put in the table.
- 16 Once he see this, he checked.
- 17 Q. So you know that he's signed this sheet.
- 18 **A.** Yes.
- 19 Q. Your understanding is --
- 20 A. Indicated, yes, sir.
- 21 Q. You said he indicated? Yes?
- 22 **A.** Yes.
- 23 Q. And your understanding is when Captain
- Nolasco signs your passage plan, that means he's
- 25 reviewed it; right?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 **A.** Yes.
- 3 Q. The anticipated bridge watch condition
- 4 for this voyage was Watch Condition II; correct?
- 5 **A.** Yes.
- 6 Q. If you look down the bridge watch level
- 7 column with all of your waypoints, you have II's
- 8 and I's but no III's; correct?
- 9 A. That's correct, sir.
- 10 Q. This is a transit from Singapore to
- 11 India; correct?
- 12 A. That's correct, sir.
- 13 Q. This voyage would take you through the
- 14 Singapore Strait at least at some point; correct?
- 15 A. Yes, correct.
- 16 Q. Please turn to the May 5th page in the
- 17 deck logbook. Is that page 24, sir?
- 18 **A.** Yes, page 24.
- 19 Q. We see at 2054, "master pilot exchange,
- 20 Bridge Watch III." Do you see that?
- 21 A. Yes, I can see.
- 22 Q. And the pilot is off at 2118?
- 23 **A.** 2118, yes.
- 24 Q. What bridge watch condition did your
- 25 ship observe at 2118 according to this log?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Bridge Watch Level II.
- Q. And then at 2300, it says, "Shift to
- 4 autopilot"; correct?
- 5 **A.** 2300, yes.
- 6 Q. And it goes on to say at that same time,
- 7 "Master gave the CONN to officer of the watch";
- 8 correct?
- 9 A. Yes, correct.
- 10 Q. Onto the next page, please, for 6 May.
- 11 An hour later, you take the watch; correct, sir?
- 12 A. Yes, correct.
- 13 Q. And you say that the vessel's transiting
- the Singapore Strait; correct?
- 15 A. Yes, correct.
- 16 Q. At 0100 on this same day, you test
- 17 steering from auto to hand; correct?
- 18 A. Say again, sir. Say again. 0100?
- 19 Q. 0100, "Master hand over the CONN to
- 20 OOW"; correct?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 Q. That's you; right? The officer of the
- watch?
- A. Yes, that's me.
- 25 Q. And then at that same time, you tested

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 steering from auto to hand; correct?
- 3 **A.** Yes.
- 4 Q. And that means that you had been in
- 5 autopilot at least up until that test at 0100;
- 6 correct?
- 7 A. Yes. Tested.
- 8 (Torculas Exhibit 322, Voyage Plan,
- 9 Bates Nos. Energetic 015428 015429,
- 10 was marked for identification.)
- 11 BY MR. BROWN:
- 12 Q. Mr. Torculas, the next exhibit is 322.
- This is a voyage plan for May 16th; correct?
- 14 **A.** May 16th, yes, sir.
- 15 Q. Also prepared and signed by you;
- 16 correct, sir?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. This voyage plan also anticipates a
- 19 watch condition of Level II; correct?
- 20 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 21 Q. And like before, we see no bridge watch
- level of any waypoint higher than II; correct?
- 23 A. That's correct, sir.
- 24 Q. To sail from India to Singapore, we have
- 25 to go through the Singapore Strait again;

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 correct?
- 3 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 4 Q. If you look at page 40 in the deck
- 5 logbook, please, which is May 21st.
- 6 **A.** May 21st. 21st.
- 7 Q. Your midnight entry at the top of the
- 8 page says you took the watch from the third
- 9 officer; correct?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. You go on to say, "Vessel transiting
- 12 Singapore Strait, Bridge Watch Level I"; correct?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 (Torculas Exhibit 323, Voyage Plan,
- 15 Bates Nos. Energetic 015438 015439,
- 16 was marked for identification.)
- 17 BY MR. BROWN:
- 18 Q. Mr. Torculas, the next exhibit has been
- marked 323. This is a voyage plan for May 26th,
- 20 2017; correct?
- 21 A. Correct, sir.
- 22 Q. Like the others, this is one you
- 23 prepared and your captain signed after you signed
- 24 it; correct?
- 25 **A.** Yes, sir.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. And like the others, your anticipated
- 3 the bridge watch condition is II; correct?
- 4 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 5 Q. Please turn to May 27th in the deck
- 6 logbook. I think that's page 46.
- 7 **A.** 46.
- 8 Q. And at 1200, you took over the watch
- 9 from Third Officer Garcia; correct?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. And it says there, "Vessel transiting
- 12 Singapore Strait, Bridge Watch Level II";
- 13 correct?
- 14 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 15 Q. So these dates we've been looking at,
- 16 anyone who came on the ship after -- well, let me
- 17 do one more. Sorry. Strike that.
- 18 (Torculas Exhibit 324, Voyage Plan,
- 19 Bates Nos. Energetic 015482 015483,
- 20 was marked for identification.)
- 21 BY MR. BROWN:
- 22 Q. Mr. Torculas, Exhibit 324 is a voyage
- 23 plan for May 28th, 2017; correct?
- 24 A. Correct, sir.
- 25 Q. This was also prepared by you and signed

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 by you; right?
- 3 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 4 Q. And it's also been signed by Captain
- 5 Nolasco; correct?
- 6 A. That's correct.
- 7 Q. And like the others, this passage plan
- 8 shows Bridge Watch Condition II; correct?
- 9 A. Yes, correct.
- 10 Q. Now, to get from the Singapore EOPL
- anchorage to the port in Malaysia that I won't
- 12 try to pronounce --
- 13 **A.** Okay.
- 14 Q. -- you have to sail through the
- 15 Singapore Strait; correct?
- 16 A. Correct, sir.
- 17 Q. Please turn to the May 29th page in the
- 18 deck logbook.
- 19 **A.** 29?
- 20 Q. Do you see your midnight entry at the
- 21 top of that page?
- 22 **A.** Yes, 000.
- MR. WEIGEL: You're on page 48?
- MR. BROWN: Yes.
- 25 BY MR. BROWN:

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. This is page 48 of the deck log. And in
- 3 the produced version it's Energetic -220. Your
- 4 midnight entry says you took over the watch from
- 5 Third Officer Garcia; correct?
- 6 A. Yes, sir.
- 7 Q. And at that time, the vessel was
- 8 transiting Singapore Strait in Bridge Watch Level
- 9 II; correct?
- 10 A. Yes, correct.
- 11 Q. Not in Bridge Watch Level III.
- 12 **A.** No.
- 13 Q. So, sir, we've looked at voyage plans
- from May 4th, 6th, 16th, 26th, and 28th, and they
- all involved a transit of the Singapore Strait;
- 16 correct?
- 17 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 18 Q. And in all of those instances, your
- voyage plan reflected watch condition no higher
- than Level II; correct?
- 21 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 22 Q. Did anyone tell you after May 28th but
- 23 before the collision that you were supposed to
- stay on Watch Condition III in the Singapore
- 25 Strait?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Told me? My mistake. I did not put
- 3 this --
- 4 MR. WEIGEL: No, no.
- 5 THE WITNESS: I did not follow the...
- 6 BY MR. BROWN:
- 7 Q. Yeah, I think you're trying to answer a
- 8 different question than what I asked. Let me try
- 9 again; okay?
- 10 I'm not talking about after the
- 11 collision. Just before the collision, had anyone
- from your company or had Captain Nolasco told you
- that you should have been in Bridge Watch
- 14 Condition III during these transits?
- 15 **A.** No.
- 16 Q. If someone had told you that, would you
- have made voyage plans that put you in Bridge
- 18 Watch Condition III?
- 19 A. Yes, I will.
- 20 Q. So if you knew the company policy from
- 21 the GMS about standing Bridge Watch Condition III
- when in the Singapore Strait, you would have
- complied with that rule in your passage planning;
- 24 right?
- 25 A. Yes. I mislooked with this III anyway,

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 so forget it. I just put II. It's my mistake.
- 3 I should come to higher.
- 4 Q. So for those dates I just described, if
- 5 someone had been aboard your ship after May 28th
- 6 and looked in that deck logbook, they would have
- 7 been able to see in your handwriting that you
- 8 sailed in the Singapore Strait at Bridge Watch
- 9 Level I or II; correct?
- 10 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 11 Q. You didn't hide it anywhere that your
- ship wasn't in Watch Condition III in the
- 13 Singapore Strait. You put it right in your deck
- 14 logbook; right?
- 15 A. Yes, right.
- 16 Q. So anyone from the company or if your
- 17 captain reviewed back in the deck logbook, they
- 18 could have seen what watch conditions you stood
- in the Singapore Strait; correct?
- 20 A. Correct, sir.
- 21 (Torculas Exhibit 325, Voyage Plan,
- 22 Bates Nos. Energetic 001059 001063,
- 23 was marked for identification.)
- 24 BY MR. BROWN:
- 25 **Q.** For the record, we've marked

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Exhibit 325. This is a voyage plan of
- 3 August 15th and it's Energetic -1059. This was
- 4 previously marked in a similar excerpt as
- 5 Exhibit 11. I have some different pages here so
- 6 I'm just marking it again.
- 7 MR. WEIGEL: Okay.
- 8 BY MR. BROWN:
- 9 Q. Mr. Torculas, this is the voyage plan
- 10 that your ship was executing at the time of the
- 11 collision; correct?
- 12 A. Correct, sir.
- 13 Q. This took you from Taiwan to Singapore;
- 14 correct?
- 15 A. Correct, sir.
- 16 Q. Like the voyage plans we've been
- 17 reviewing, this was prepared by you; correct?
- 18 A. Correct, sir.
- 19 Q. This was signed by you and then signed
- 20 by your captain; correct?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 Q. And like the others we've reviewed, this
- 23 voyage was going to be executed at no higher than
- 24 Bridge Watch Level II; correct?
- 25 A. Correct, sir.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. You didn't anticipate needing Watch
- 3 Level III when you prepared this passage plan.
- 4 A. I did not anticipate, yes, sir.
- 5 Q. And on this day, too, if someone from
- 6 your company had told you you should have been in
- 7 Watch Condition III to transit the Singapore
- 8 Strait, this voyage plan would have been prepared
- 9 anticipating Watch Condition III; correct?
- 10 A. Correct, sir.
- 11 Q. But that didn't happen, did it?
- 12 A. It didn't happen.
- 13 (Torculas Exhibit 326, Photograph,
- Bates No. Energetic 013105, was marked
- for identification.)
- 16 (Torculas Exhibit 327, Photograph,
- 17 Bates No. Energetic 013104, was marked
- for identification.)
- 19 BY MR. BROWN:
- 20 Q. For the record, we've marked
- 21 Exhibit 326, which is Energetic -13105. It's a
- 22 photograph of a chart. And Exhibit 327 is
- 23 Energetic 13104. It's a different photograph of
- 24 a chart.
- Mr. Torculas, earlier we compared these

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 engine rolls to some photographs.
- 3 **A.** Yes.
- 4 Q. I'd like to do the same thing with the
- 5 chart; okay? So I'm going to ask you to step
- 6 over to the chart and compare it to these photos.
- 7 And once we're good, we'll just work off of these
- 8 photos; okay?
- 9 **A.** Okay.
- 10 Q. We'll need to speak up nice and loud for
- 11 the reporter.
- 12 Mr. Torculas, we're looking at a copy of
- BA -- British Admiralty Chart 3831; correct?
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. And the number your company has put on
- here is Energetic -1031; correct?
- 17 A. Correct.
- 18 Q. Do you recognize this as the chart you
- 19 were using at the time of the collision?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- 21 Q. Looking at Exhibit 327, the photograph
- of the chart, is that an accurate photograph of
- what you see on the right side of BA 3831?
- 24 **A.** Yes.
- 25 Q. So those words on the picture all appear

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 on the chart; correct?
- 3 A. Yes, correct.
- 4 Q. And similarly, Exhibit 326 is another
- 5 photograph showing Waypoint 9 and the area around
- it off of this same chart; correct?
- 7 **A.** Yes.
- 8 Q. Does that photograph appear to be an
- 9 accurate depiction of this chart?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 O. So we can sit back down. If you want to
- 12 look back at the original chart in answering any
- 13 questions, feel free to do so; okay?
- In Exhibit 326, there's a latitude and
- longitude given for Waypoint 9; correct?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. Can you please compare that and just
- confirm for me that it's the same as Waypoint 9
- in your voyage plan, which is Exhibit 325?
- 20 A. 325, Waypoint number -- Waypoint No. 9.
- 21 Yes. Yes, it's the same, sir.
- 22 Q. The charted Waypoint 9 on that BA chart
- is Waypoint 9 from the voyage plan you were
- 24 executing at the time of the collision; correct?
- 25 **A.** Yes, sir.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. And below that on the picture,
- 3 Exhibit 326, I see a Waypoint 10. And that
- 4 doesn't match Waypoint 10 from your voyage plan;
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. Yes, sir.
- 7 Q. Is that Waypoint 10 from a previous
- 8 trip?
- 9 A. I believe it's from the previous, sir.
- 10 I did not erase.
- 11 Q. So when you -- you're responsible for
- laying out the track lines on the charts before
- 13 your voyage; correct?
- 14 A. That's correct, sir.
- 15 Q. And the chart that we just looked at has
- 16 a variety of markings. For instance, it tells
- 17 you where the water's too shallow; right?
- 18 A. Correct, sir.
- 19 **O.** And it has handwritten notes on there
- like we see in Exhibit 327 to help the bridge
- 21 watchstanders; correct?
- 22 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 23 Q. And it has -- looking back at 326, the
- 24 straight line is the track line your ship would
- 25 try to follow; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 **A.** Yes.
- 3 Q. And so the line leading to and coming
- 4 from Waypoint 9, that's where you were going to
- 5 try and keep your ship; right?
- 6 A. Yes, sir.
- 7 Q. But this Waypoint 10 down here is
- 8 something you left for an outbound transit?
- 9 A. Yes, supposed to be. Yes, sir. I did
- 10 not erase it.
- 11 Q. You don't need to erase everything on
- the chart between each trip; correct?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- Q. What do you erase after the voyage? Do
- 15 you erase the track lines?
- 16 A. Yes, I am. And also the positions. I
- 17 usually deleted it.
- 18 Q. The positions being the fixes where your
- 19 ship was?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- 21 Q. Okay. But you can leave these markings
- 22 like on 326 where it says "monitor weather" --
- 23 A. "Under clearance" --
- 24 **Q.** I'll read it.
- 25 -- "under keel clearance" and now

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 "warnings"; correct?
- 3 A. Correct, sir.
- 4 Q. You leave those kinds of markings on the
- 5 chart between each trip?
- 6 A. Correct, sir.
- 7 Q. And the same thing with Exhibit 327
- 8 where we have your handwriting on this -- well,
- 9 let me back up. Is this your handwriting in this
- 10 box where it begins BML2?
- 11 A. This is not my handwriting, sir.
- 12 Q. Do you know who wrote this?
- 13 A. This is from the previous -- previous
- officers in ALNIC MC.
- 15 Q. Okay. And I understand that the -- you
- 16 relieved a second officer who had to go home
- 17 unexpectedly; is that right?
- 18 **A.** Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. So your testimony is that these
- 20 markings were on the chart before you joined the
- 21 ship?
- 22 **A.** Yes.
- 23 Q. So you didn't erase this box between
- each trip; correct?
- 25 A. Yes. It's pointless to erase. I would

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 write it again.
- 3 Q. You would write it again. So this box
- 4 which says "BML2," this would be available to
- 5 anybody who came on the ship while you were on
- 6 the ship? If they looked at that chart, they
- 7 would see BML2; correct?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. And this matches, in fact, your voyage
- 10 plan that you would stand an anticipated watch
- 11 condition of bridge manning Level II; correct?
- 12 A. Correct.
- 13 Q. So can we agree that the marking on the
- chart where it says BML2 in Exhibit 327, the
- indication on your passage plan, Exhibit 325, and
- 16 the entry in the deck logbook all indicate Bridge
- 17 Watch Level II for this transit; correct?
- 18 A. Correct, sir.
- 19 (Torculas Exhibit 328, Crew
- 20 Appraisal Report, Bates Nos. Energetic
- 21 002880 002882, was marked for
- identification.)
- 23 BY MR. BROWN:
- 24 Q. The next exhibit is 328, Energetic -2880
- 25 and following. This is a Crew Appraisal Report

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- with your name as the seafarer; correct?
- 3 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 4 Q. What is the date on this document,
- 5 please, sir?
- 6 **A.** The date is May 30th, 2017.
- 7 Q. On May 30th, 2017, you were appraised as
- 8 reflected in this document; correct?
- 9 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 10 Q. Were you ever given a chance to see this
- 11 document before you left the ALNIC MC?
- 12 A. No, I did not see this, sir.
- 13 Q. Have you seen it prior to today? Have
- 14 you seen it before?
- 15 A. Before, no.
- 16 Q. On this document, I'll go to the back
- where it says "Company Comments Superintendent."
- 18 That's on page -2882. Do you see the
- 19 superintendent's name there?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- 21 **Q.** What's that name?
- 22 A. Dimitris Theodosis-Zisimos, supposed to
- 23 be.
- 24 Q. And this was a superintendent from the
- company who came out to your ship; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Correct, sir.
- 3 Q. Do you recall meeting him in May of
- 4 2017?
- 5 A. Yes. He stayed on ship around 28 days,
- 6 I believe.
- 7 Q. How long?
- 8 A. Around 28 days or one month.
- 9 Q. Around 28 days or one month?
- 10 **A.** Yeah.
- 11 Q. Captain Theodosis-Zisimos was on board
- 12 your ship; correct?
- 13 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 14 Q. And during that time, your ship was
- still sailing and going port to port; correct?
- 16 A. Correct.
- 17 Q. You weren't laid up or in the shipyard.
- 18 You were navigating your ship then; right?
- 19 A. Say again, sir.
- 20 Q. You were actually navigating your ship;
- 21 you weren't in a shipyard.
- 22 A. No, we are not in the shipyard. We are
- 23 navigating, sir.
- 24 Q. And on this report -- and I don't mean
- to embarrass you, but Captain Theodosis says some

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 critical things. In his overall impression at
- 3 the top of page Energetic -2882, he says, "I
- 4 wasn't impressed from his skills and as for
- 5 navigation considered him as danger."
- 6 Did I read that correctly?
- 7 **A.** Yes.
- 8 Q. Did this captain ever tell you that he
- 9 had the observation that as for navigation, he
- 10 considered you as danger?
- 11 A. According to him, yes, sir.
- 12 Q. He told you that personally?
- 13 **A.** No.
- 14 Q. Okay. So you know he wrote it on this
- piece of paper, but he never gave you that kind
- 16 of information?
- 17 A. Only this time I saw this paper.
- 18 Q. On the front page of Exhibit 328, do you
- see the grades given for A-2, Awareness of Duties
- and Responsibilities?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 Q. He gave you a grade of 2 out of 5;
- 23 correct?
- 24 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 25 Q. Did you know before today that you had

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 received a grade of 2 out of 5 on your awareness
- 3 of duties and responsibilities?
- 4 A. Say again, sir? Can you repeat?
- 5 Q. Did you know before coming here today
- 6 that you had gotten that grade of 2 out of 5?
- 7 A. I didn't know this, sir.
- 8 Q. And then on line 4, it says,
- 9 "Compatibility with company's GMS procedures and
- 10 policies." He also gave you a 2; correct?
- 11 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 12 Q. Did you know that before today?
- 13 **A.** No.
- 14 Q. Did you receive any company GMS
- 15 procedures training from Captain
- 16 Theodosis-Zisimos after this May 30th appraisal
- 17 was done?
- 18 A. I don't remember, but it's nothing, sir.
- 19 Q. You don't remember receiving any
- 20 training in GMS procedures?
- 21 A. But this is also in the computer. We
- 22 can check it any time, sir.
- 23 Q. What is in the computer that you --
- 24 A. GMS policy and manuals and that.
- 25 Q. I understand you're telling me that the

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 GMS manuals are available. You can look at them
- 3 if you want to; right?
- 4 A. Yes, sir.
- 5 Q. But no one from the company after this
- 6 date said to you, "we need to give you extra
- 7 training in the GMS procedures"; right?
- 8 A. Nothing, sir.
- 9 MR. WEIGEL: Objection. That
- 10 mischaracterizes the witness's testimony.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Sir, can I defend myself
- 12 here, sir?
- MR. WEIGEL: No, no, no. Don't -- if he
- 14 asks you a question. Only answer a
- 15 question.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Okay, sir.
- 17 BY MR. BROWN:
- 18 Q. Energetic's counsel will have an
- 19 opportunity to ask you any questions at the end.
- 20 Okay, Mr. Torculas? Mr. Torculas?
- 21 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 22 Q. Energetic's counsel, their lawyer, will
- be able to ask you any questions at the end;
- 24 okay?
- 25 A. Okay, sir.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 (Torculas Exhibit 329, Crew
- 3 Appraisal Report, Bates Nos. Energetic
- 4 002883 002885, was marked for
- 5 identification.)
- 6 BY MR. BROWN:
- 7 Q. Exhibit 329 is Bates stamped Energetic
- 8 -2883. This is another appraisal report, but
- 9 this one is dated August 31st, 2017; correct?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. This is after the collision; correct,
- 12 sir?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. This one is also -- excuse me, what's
- 15 the name of the superintendent who completed this
- 16 one?
- 17 A. I forgot his first name, but it's
- 18 Chelios, sir.
- 19 Q. Chelios. Is he another representative
- 20 from the company?
- 21 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 22 Q. Did he come out to the ship after the
- 23 collision?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Have you ever seen this appraisal report

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 prior to today?
- 3 **A.** No.
- 4 Q. Do you see the comments under
- 5 Mr. Chelios' name? I have it highlighted.
- 6 A. I can see, sir.
- 7 Q. It says, "The passage planning was not
- 8 satisfactory." Do you see that?
- 9 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 10 Q. Did Mr. Chelios ever explain to you what
- about your passage planning was not satisfactory?
- 12 A. As I remember, sir, yes, he told me some
- 13 of it.
- 14 Q. What did he tell you?
- 15 **A.** I don't remember, sir. I already edit
- and changed already the passage plan. That's it,
- 17 sir.
- 18 Q. Do you remember if he talked to you
- about your passage plan having the wrong bridge
- 20 watch condition?
- 21 A. I don't remember, but something, yes,
- 22 sir.
- 23 Q. Something like that?
- 24 A. Yeah. But I did not focus on what he
- 25 said, sir.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. I'm curious. If you look at the front
- 3 page of Exhibit 329, do you see the grade for
- 4 C-24?
- 5 **A.** C-24, yes.
- 6 Q. That's the grade for passage planning;
- 7 right?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 **Q.** What grade did he give you?
- 10 A. Three.
- 11 Q. If you look back at the last page, 3 is
- 12 satisfactory; right?
- 13 A. That's correct, satisfactory.
- 14 Q. But he had just said in the comments the
- passage planning was not satisfactory; correct?
- 16 A. Yes, correct.
- 17 Q. And, in fact, you got 3's on every
- single one of these elements after the collision;
- 19 correct?
- 20 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 21 (Exhibit 19, Vessel Internal Audit
- 22 Checklist, Bates Nos. Energetic 005925 -
- 23 005926, was previously marked.)
- 24 BY MR. BROWN:
- 25 Q. Sir, I'm going to hand you an exhibit we

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 previously used. It's Exhibit 19. And this is
- 3 an excerpt from the vessel's internal audit
- 4 checklist. If you look on the back side of that
- 5 sheet...
- 6 MR. WEIGEL: Sorry. Could you say again
- 7 the exhibit number?
- 8 MR. BROWN: 19. And it's Energetic
- 9 -592. That's cut off. I think it's -5925.
- 10 BY MR. BROWN:
- 11 Q. Okay. On the back page, sir, which is
- 12 Energetic -5926, do you see the row D-1, "Are
- familiarization, handover, and all other relevant
- 14 GMS forms properly filled and duly signed?" Do
- 15 you see that?
- 16 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 17 Q. And the audit gave the ship a "no" on
- 18 that question; correct?
- 19 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 20 Q. What does it say under "Comments" there?
- 21 A. "Was missing the familiarization for
- 22 second officer, " sir.
- 23 Q. "Was missing the familiarization for
- 24 second officer"; correct?
- 25 **A.** Yes, sir.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. Do you know what that is referring to?
- 3 A. For the GMS, it's a sheet, it's a paper,
- 4 but was misplaced during the time of -- but this
- is found, sir, during this -- this paper, it was
- 6 missing during that time, but it was found.
- 7 Q. Okay. It's not missing for everyone;
- 8 it's just missing for the second officer --
- 9 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 10 Q. -- and that's you; right?
- 11 **A.** Yes.
- 12 Q. Is this familiarization form -- is it a
- 13 signature sheet?
- 14 A. Yes, sir, to be signed.
- 15 Q. Okay. So your signature was missing
- 16 from the sheet when they did this audit.
- 17 A. Yes, sir. It was missing, sir.
- 18 (Exhibit 8, Signature Page for GMS
- 19 Manual, Bates Nos. Energetic 005872, was
- 20 previously marked.)
- 21 BY MR. BROWN:
- 22 Q. I'm going to hand you Exhibit 8, which
- we've also used before. Is this the signature
- sheet you were just mentioning?
- 25 A. Yes, sir -- no, there is another sheet.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Another sheet. I mean, seem like a checklist --
- 3 seem like a checklist. And during that time, it
- 4 was missing, sir, when they conduct this vessel
- 5 inspection of the checklist, sir.
- 6 Q. Let me make sure I have it right. Your
- 7 testimony is you had completed a GMS
- 8 familiarization checklist before June 8th, 2017,
- 9 when this audit happened; right?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. But that checklist went missing;
- 12 correct?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. And then you filled it out again after?
- 15 A. No, I did not fill it out. We found it
- 16 after.
- 17 Q. I understand. Thank you.
- 18 Mr. Torculas, as second mate, did you
- 19 have responsibility for maintaining the ship's
- 20 radars?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 Q. You weren't actually an electrician or
- 23 technician, I realize that, but you -- let me
- 24 finish -- you had to make sure that the ship's
- 25 equipment was functioning for the officers to

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 use; correct?
- 3 A. Yes, sir. Sir, just thinking regarding
- 4 with the maintenance -- can you say that again,
- 5 sir?
- 6 Q. Let's keep moving. I think it's going
- 7 to be clear in a minute.
- 8 You aren't responsible as an electrician
- 9 for the radars; correct?
- 10 **A.** No.
- 11 Q. And you don't go replace wiring or
- 12 motors; correct?
- 13 **A.** Oh, no, no, no.
- 14 Q. But as a second mate, you would keep
- 15 track of when a magnetron needed to be replaced,
- 16 for instance.
- 17 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 18 Q. So you wanted to make sure your officers
- 19 had working radars available to them; correct?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- 21 (Torculas Exhibit 330, Photograph,
- 22 Bates No. Energetic 013509, was marked
- for identification.)
- 24 BY MR. BROWN:
- 25 Q. Exhibit 330, which we've handed you, is

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Energetic 13509. Is this a photograph of one of
- 3 the two radar consoles on the bridge of ALNIC MC?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 Q. You recognize this as your radar; right?
- 6 **A.** Yes.
- 7 Q. I may want to show the judge this so he
- 8 has an understanding of the layout. And it has a
- 9 keypad at the bottom; correct?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. And a screen above; right?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. It's not a touch screen. You have to
- 14 use the mouse; right?
- 15 **A.** Yes.
- 16 Q. Do you recall having a problem in July
- of 2017 with the S-band radar not turning?
- 18 **A.** Yeah.
- 19 **O.** The motor wasn't able to turn for some
- 20 reason; correct?
- 21 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 22 (Torculas Exhibit 331, E-mail
- 23 string/Ship Requisition/Photographs,
- 24 Bates Nos. Energetic 014341 014351,
- 25 was marked for identification.)

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 BY MR. BROWN:
- 3 Q. We've handed you Exhibit 331. And for
- 4 the record, this is Energetic -14341. It is a
- 5 three-page e-mail. And in the same exhibit, we
- 6 also printed the e-mail's original attachments
- 7 and included them here.
- 8 So, Mr. Torculas, the pages that follow
- 9 the e-mail, those were attachments to the e-mail;
- 10 okay?
- 11 **A.** Yeah.
- 12 Q. If you look at the -- let's start at the
- 13 bottom of this e-mail. Look at the bottom of
- 14 Energetic -14343.
- MR. WEIGEL: When you say bottom, you
- 16 mean the first e-mail in the string, end of
- 17 the e-mail string?
- 18 MR. BROWN: Thank you. Correct. Yeah,
- the beginning of the string.
- 20 BY MR. BROWN:
- 21 Q. We have an e-mail from the ship to Brave
- 22 and Stealth e-mail recipients, and it's dated
- 23 July 10th, 2017; correct?
- 24 **A.** Yes.
- 25 Q. And that's an e-mail from your captain;

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 right?
- 3 A. Yes, correct.
- 4 Q. He said he's attached a repair defect
- 5 form for his e-mail and the S-band radar is not
- 6 rotating; correct?
- 7 A. Yes, it's not rotating.
- 8 Q. And he's requesting shore service;
- 9 correct?
- 10 A. Yes, correct.
- 11 Q. That's on July 10th, 2017; correct?
- 12 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 13 Q. And the next e-mail up, we have Manos
- Nikolakis, who is a superintendent engineer from
- 15 Stealth; correct?
- 16 **A.** Which page?
- 17 Q. That's at the top of -14343.
- 18 **A.** Okay, sir.
- 19 Q. Do you see that e-mail from
- 20 Mr. Nikolakis?
- 21 **A.** Yeah.
- Q. He says, "Meanwhile, please check in the
- 23 brushes of the motor and advise by return with
- your findings." Do you see that?
- 25 A. Yes, sir, I can see.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. And the captain's response to that is
- 3 the next e-mail up, also on July 10th; correct?
- 4 A. Okay, sir. Go ahead, sir.
- 5 Q. And the captain says in response, "We'll
- 6 check at first daylight"; correct?
- 7 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 8 Q. And then the response to that later on,
- 9 on July 10th, Mr. Nikolakis says, "In addition of
- 10 our previous message, please to carry MSS bypass
- 11 as per the attachment received from maker."
- 12 Did I read that correctly?
- 13 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 14 Q. Do you recall getting instructions from
- the radar manufacturer to bypass a circuit board
- 16 on the S-band radar?
- 17 A. I don't see this in the manual, sir.
- 18 Q. Do you recall for how long your S-band
- 19 radar was not working?
- A. How long it's not working? I don't
- 21 remember, sir. But it is -- actually it was
- 22 carried out this -- it was fixed, only -- I don't
- 23 remember, sir.
- 24 Q. Mr. Torculas, I'll get to the fix. I
- 25 just wanted to ask if you remember how long it

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 was not able to spin.
- 3 A. Only -- I believe only that day.
- 4 Q. At the very top of this e-mail string --
- 5 A. I don't remember.
- 6 Q. -- Exhibit 331, Captain Nolasco says,
- 7 "Please find attached report after rectifying the
- 8 S-band radar antenna." Did I read that
- 9 correctly?
- 10 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 11 Q. That's dated July 11th; correct?
- 12 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 13 Q. So from July 10th, the defect is
- reported, and on July 11th they submit a repair
- form from the ship; correct?
- 16 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 17 Q. Were you involved in the repair to the
- 18 radar?
- 19 A. Only assist the electrician, sir.
- 20 Q. It was the electrician who primarily did
- 21 the work on the radar?
- 22 A. Yes, with instruction from the...
- 23 Q. Please turn to the third page of this
- 24 exhibit, which is Energetic -14344. It's a
- 25 maintenance/repair report on a Stealth Maritime

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 form; correct?
- 3 **A.** Yeah.
- 4 Q. This describes that the S-band radar
- 5 antenna is not rotating; correct?
- 6 A. Yes, sir.
- 7 Q. In the comments, it says, "Open the
- 8 cover of antenna unit and bypassed MSS 7497 board
- 9 by removing a cable." Do you see that?
- 10 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 11 Q. Do you know what the MSS 7497 circuit
- 12 board does?
- 13 A. Totally no idea.
- Q. Do you have any idea whether bypassing
- that circuit board affects the way the S-band
- 16 radar works?
- 17 **A.** No, no.
- 18 (Torculas Exhibit 332, E-mail/Ship
- 19 Requisition/Photographs, Bates Nos.
- 20 Energetic 014336 014340, was marked
- 21 for identification.)
- 22 BY MR. BROWN:
- 23 Q. Mr. Torculas, we've handed you
- 24 Exhibit 332. This is an e-mail from July 12th,
- 25 2017; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Yes, sir.
- 3 Q. And in it, your captain is writing to
- 4 submit a requisition for -- or related to the
- 5 S-band radar antenna; correct?
- 6 **A.** Yes.
- 7 Q. And for the record, similar to
- 8 Exhibit 331, we have printed the e-mail
- 9 attachments and stapled them together in this
- 10 exhibit.
- 11 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 12 Q. If you look at the second page of this
- exhibit, sir, it's Energetic -14337. It's a ship
- requisition form on Stealth Maritime paper;
- 15 right?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. This is an order for that same circuit
- 18 board, MSS 7497; correct?
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- 20 Q. Do you recall whether your ship ever
- 21 received this circuit board?
- 22 A. I don't recall, sir. Because this is an
- engine part, so they are the ones to receive
- 24 this.
- 25 Q. You're not aware of any further

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 electrical repair happening after July 11th to
- 3 the S-band radar?
- 4 A. I don't remember, sir.
- 5 (Torculas Exhibit 333, Monthly
- 6 Inspection of Bridge Equipment, Bates
- 7 Nos. Energetic 001038 001039, was
- 8 marked for identification.)
- 9 BY MR. BROWN:
- 10 Q. The next exhibit is 333, Energetic
- 11 -1038. This is your monthly inspection of bridge
- 12 equipment dated July 31st, 2017; correct?
- 13 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 14 Q. Would you go look at each piece of
- 15 equipment on this list before checking off that
- 16 it's good?
- 17 A. Yes, sir. Random check, sir.
- 18 Q. Does random mean you only looked at some
- 19 or did you look at every single item on this
- 20 list?
- 21 A. That's the day -- that's the day that I
- 22 was on the bridge. Every time I will check this
- on the next day this one, and the next day this
- 24 one.
- 25 Q. Okay. So this says date of inspection

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 31 July. You're telling me that that means you
- 3 did not look at each piece of equipment on
- 4 July 31st?
- 5 **A.** Yes.
- 6 Q. If you look on the back side of
- 7 Exhibit 333, it says "Other Remarks." Do you see
- 8 that?
- 9 **A.** Yes.
- 10 Q. And, again, from this July 31st
- 11 document, it says, "S-band radar MSS 7497
- bypassing done by ship's crew as per ship's
- personnel advice, and then it says, "See report
- of July 11th." Do you see that?
- 15 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 16 Q. If you had received the new circuit
- 17 board by July 31st and it had been replaced,
- would you have made a remark saying that the
- 19 circuit board was replaced?
- 20 A. Actually for the 31st, I don't know that
- 21 this ship board was received. And I did not see
- 22 also that it is replaced according to the part
- 23 that arrived.
- 24 Q. So you don't recall that circuit board
- being received or replaced on your ship; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Yes, sir.
- 3 Q. So as far as you know, the bypassing of
- 4 that circuit board --
- 5 A. Still exists.
- 6 Q. -- still exists at least on August 21st,
- 7 2017, right?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 (Torculas Exhibit 334, Radar
- 10 Logbook, Bates No. Energetic 001079 -
- 11 001122, was marked for identification.)
- 12 BY MR. BROWN:
- 13 Q. The next exhibit is 334, Bates Energetic
- 14 -1079. Do you recognize this document, sir?
- 15 A. Yes, sir, the radar logbook.
- 16 Q. This is your radar logbook from
- 17 ALNIC MC; correct?
- 18 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 19 Q. This shows entries from July 10th until
- 20 at least into August; correct?
- 21 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 22 Q. And on July 10th, according to the
- e-mail we just looked at, the S-band radar was
- 24 not turning; correct?
- 25 **A.** Yes.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. And that it didn't get worked on until
- 3 the next daylight, according to your captain's
- 4 e-mail that we saw; correct?
- 5 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 6 Q. And then they did an MSS circuit board
- 7 bypassing to rectify it.
- 8 A. That's correct, sir.
- 9 Q. Do you see any indication in the radar
- 10 logbook that the S-band radar had stopped
- 11 turning?
- 12 A. No, it don't indicate, sir.
- 13 Q. And on page Energetic -1081, July the
- 14 10th, we have a list of entries by the ship's
- 15 officers; correct?
- 16 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 17 Q. Now, is this completed by the deck
- officers on each watch of the day?
- 19 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 20 Q. So if you -- you stood two four-hour
- 21 watches a day; correct?
- 22 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 23 Q. If I understand correctly, then two
- times a day you would go in this logbook and make
- an entry about the radars; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Correct, sir.
- 3 Q. And your entry -- you would have stood
- 4 the noon to 4 p.m. watch; correct?
- 5 A. Correct, sir.
- 6 Q. Your entry on that watch on the 10th of
- 7 July is that the radar test is done and it's
- 8 okay; right?
- 9 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 10 Q. That indicates that both the X-band and
- 11 S-band radar were working according to this log;
- 12 correct?
- 13 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 14 Q. If you look at your next entry, which
- 15 would have been your midnight watch -- do you see
- 16 that on page -1082?
- 17 **A.** -1082. Okay, sir, I can see.
- 18 Q. According to your midnight entry there,
- 19 radar tests were done and the radars are okay;
- 20 correct?
- 21 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 22 Q. Was the S-band radar okay on that watch?
- 23 A. Yeah. For that time, sir, yes, we have
- a reading on that, yes.
- 25 Q. Was your S-band radar turning?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Yes, it is.
- 3 Q. Well, do you want to go back and look at
- 4 the captain's e-mail where he said it is not
- 5 turning?
- 6 A. I don't know. It's because of the
- 7 bypass. Maybe that's why it's turning.
- 8 **Q.** Okay.
- 9 A. Because there is a function that you can
- do the slave, master and slave like that. If you
- did the function, the other, it will turn.
- 12 Q. The other antenna will turn?
- 13 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 14 Q. So you're saying --
- 15 A. If I remember it correct, sir.
- 16 Q. So you're saying that from that radar
- 17 console we looked at, Exhibit 330, you could pull
- 18 up the feed from your X-band antenna or your
- 19 S-band antenna?
- 20 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 21 Q. So if your S-band antenna stops turning,
- 22 you would still say in the logbook that your
- 23 radars are okay because you can see X-band feed?
- A. Sir, as I said, there is a function of
- 25 that one, sir, but for the motor, if it's a

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- problem, I don't know, sir.
- 3 Q. Well, can you agree with me that if your
- 4 radar motor stops turning, the radar logbook
- 5 entry should say that the motor is not turning?
- 6 A. Not turning, sir.
- 7 Q. But you don't see any entries on
- 8 July 10th or 11th of Exhibit 334 reflecting that
- 9 your S-band motor was not turning; right?
- 10 A. Yes, sir, it doesn't reflect.
- 11 **Q.** If the S-band radar had stopped turning
- 12 like Captain Nolasco's e-mail says, then these
- entries in the radar logbook are false; correct?
- 14 MR. WEIGEL: Objection.
- 15 Mischaracterizes his testimony.
- THE WITNESS: I don't remember actually,
- 17 sir.
- 18 BY MR. BROWN:
- 19 Q. I didn't ask if you remembered. I said
- 20 assuming that the S-band motor is not turning
- when Captain Nolasco says it's not turning, the
- 22 radar logbook should say it's not turning;
- 23 correct?
- 24 **A.** Yes, yes.
- 25 Q. If it's not turning and a mate says that

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- it's okay, that's not a correct entry; right?
- 3 A. It's not a correct entry, sir.
- 4 Q. If it's not turning over multiple
- 5 watches, then you have multiple mates making an
- 6 incorrect entry in the radar logbook; correct?
- 7 A. Correct, sir.
- 8 MR. BROWN: Let's take a break.
- 9 (Discussion off record and recess
- 10 from 11:54 a.m. to 12:35 p.m.)
- 11 (Torculas Exhibit 335, Stowage Plan,
- Bates Nos. Energetic 001075, was marked
- for identification.)
- 14 BY MR. BROWN:
- 15 Q. Mr. Torculas, in front of you is
- 16 Exhibit 335, which is Energetic -1075.
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. I'll tell you right now I've got a few
- 19 very boring documents I need to just get through
- 20 to get on the record what they are. This won't
- 21 be terribly exciting. Is this the vessel's
- 22 arrival stowage plan for August 21st, 2017?
- 23 **A.** Yes.
- 24 Q. Did you work with the stowage plan at
- all as the second mate of the ship?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 **A.** No.
- 3 Q. When you worked cargo, did you have any
- 4 responsibility to know where to put the cargo or
- 5 which tanks to remove it from?
- 6 **A.** Yes.
- 7 Q. Have you seen this document prior to
- 8 today?
- 9 A. Before. Yeah, it was posted on the
- 10 bridge.
- 11 **Q.** Okay.
- 12 A. It was on there.
- 13 Q. So you do recognize this as the ship's
- 14 stow plan for the voyage --
- 15 **A.** No, I --
- 16 Q. Let me finish. You do recognize this as
- the ship's stow plan for the voyage that had the
- 18 collision with MCCAIN; right?
- 19 A. Right.
- 20 Q. Do you recall if your ship changed the
- 21 ballast after the collision?
- 22 A. No, I don't recall, sir.
- 23 Q. Do you recall if the chief officer
- deballasted to get the bulbous bow higher out of
- 25 the water?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. No, I don't recall.
- 3 Q. In the course of serving as an officer
- 4 on ALNIC, did you ever make entries in a ballast
- 5 water log?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. So you're familiar with the ballast
- 8 water log on the ship?
- 9 **A.** Yes.
- 10 MR. BROWN: Would you please mark that.
- 11 (Torculas Exhibit 336, Ballast Water
- 12 Handling Log, Bates No. Energetic
- 13 015499, was marked for identification.)
- 14 BY MR. BROWN:
- 15 Q. We've handed you Exhibit 337, which is
- 16 Energetic -15499. This is the ship's Ballast
- Water Handling Log, and it's from August of 2017;
- 18 correct?
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- 20 Q. Do you see the August 15th entry?
- 21 A. Yes, I can see.
- 22 Q. Can you explain what start point volume
- of 1,497 means?
- 24 A. This is in cubic meters, sir.
- 25 Q. Does that mean that the ship --

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 MR. BARTLETT: I'm starting late. This
- 3 is Jim Bartlett.
- 4 MR. BROWN: No problem, Jim. We just
- 5 started back up.
- 6 BY MR. BROWN:
- 7 Q. Does this mean that the ship was
- 8 carrying about 1500 cubic meters of ballast on
- 9 August 15th?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. And then what does end point mean where
- 12 it says 0 cubic meters?
- 13 A. It empty.
- 14 Q. So if I'm reading this line correctly,
- on August 15th the ship deballasted from 1500 or
- 16 so cubic meters down to 0; correct?
- 17 **A.** Yes, sir.
- MR. WEIGEL: Just so there's no
- confusion later, it's not the ship's ballast
- log; it's the ballast log for Tank 3-P.
- MR. BROWN: Very good. Thank you.
- 22 BY MR. BROWN:
- 23 Q. Okay. And then on 24 August, your start
- 24 point is volume 0 cubic meters; correct?
- 25 **A.** Yes.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. And then that Tank 3-P ballasted on that
- day to take about 1500 cubic meters; correct?
- 4 A. Correct, sir.
- 5 Q. Do you recall if the ship -- does this
- 6 record help you recollect whether the ship
- 7 ballasted or deballasted immediately after the
- 8 collision?
- 9 **A.** No.
- 10 Q. You don't remember either way; right?
- 11 A. I don't remember, sir.
- 12 Q. In the record we had just looked at,
- Exhibit 335, which is dated 21 August, towards
- the bottom right corner it has arrival drafts in
- 15 Singapore; correct?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. And that's the FA and M, and that's
- 18 fore, aft, and mid drafts; correct?
- 19 A. Yes, correct.
- 20 Q. And this document indicates 8.65 meters.
- 21 Did I read that correctly?
- 22 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 23 (Torculas Exhibit 337, Photograph,
- 24 Bates No. Energetic 013524, was marked
- for identification.)

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 BY MR. BROWN:
- 3 Q. Mr. Torculas, you're now looking at
- 4 Exhibit 337, which is Energetic -13524. This is
- 5 a photograph of the white board that's on the
- 6 bridge of ALNIC MC; correct?
- 7 **A.** Yes.
- 8 Q. This is showing information about the
- 9 ship's arrival to Singapore on 21 August 2017;
- 10 correct?
- 11 **A.** Yes.
- 12 Q. What does this show for the ship's
- 13 forward draft?
- 14 A. Forward draught shows 7.55 meter.
- 15 Q. And after draft, please.
- 16 A. After draught is 8.95.
- 17 Q. So this is different than the drafts
- indicated on the arrival stow plan which is
- 19 Exhibit 335; correct?
- 20 A. Yes, sir, it's different.
- 21 Q. Does this help you recollect whether or
- not the ship deballasted after the collision?
- 23 **A.** No.
- 24 **Q.** If the forward draft is a smaller number
- 25 than the after draft, that means that the bow is

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 raised up; correct?
- 3 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 4 (Torculas Exhibit 338, Pilot
- 5 Boarding Card, Bates Nos. Energetic
- 6 002262 002266, was marked for
- 7 identification.)
- 8 BY MR. BROWN:
- 9 Q. I've just handed you Exhibit 338,
- 10 Energetic -2262, which is a pilot boarding card;
- 11 correct?
- 12 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 13 Q. When you were back in the chart room
- after being relieved at 0400, did you prepare the
- pilot boarding card for arrival to Singapore?
- 16 **A.** Yes, I did.
- 17 Q. Did you update the pilot boarding card
- 18 after the collision?
- 19 A. After the collision, it's the same, sir.
- 20 I don't change anything.
- 21 Q. Okay. Do you recall when you -- let me
- ask, did you prepare personally this Exhibit 338?
- 23 **A.** Yes.
- 24 Q. And do you recall when you prepared it?
- 25 A. Before arrival.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. Before arrival to Singapore?
- 3 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 4 Q. And that was the arrival on August 21st,
- 5 2017?
- 6 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 7 Q. But you hadn't prepared it back when the
- 8 ship was in Taiwan when you made your voyage
- 9 plan; correct?
- 10 A. Say again that one.
- 11 Q. You made your voyage plan when the ship
- was still in Taiwan; correct?
- 13 A. Yes, correct.
- 14 Q. You didn't prepare this back when you
- 15 were still in Taiwan, did you?
- 16 **A.** No.
- 17 Q. This was closer to when you actually had
- a pilot come on board your ship?
- 19 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 20 Q. But you don't remember the exact time
- 21 when you prepared this?
- 22 **A.** No.
- 23 (Torculas Exhibit 339, Compass Error
- Book, Bates Nos. Energetic 002364 -
- 25 002366, was marked for identification.)

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- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 BY MR. BROWN:
- 3 Q. And the next exhibit is 339 Energetic
- 4 -2364. This is the ship's Compass Error Book;
- 5 correct?
- 6 A. Correct, sir.
- 7 Q. I should say this is an excerpt from it;
- 8 correct?
- 9 **A.** Yes.
- 10 Q. There are various entries in this book
- 11 beginning on 11 August going through to 20
- 12 August. These entries are signed by the ship's
- 13 deck officers; correct?
- 14 A. Correct, sir.
- 15 Q. You did many of these entries yourself;
- 16 correct?
- 17 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 18 Q. Just to state for the record -- and tell
- me if I have this wrong; okay? I think the
- 20 purpose of this book is to monitor whether your
- compass is developing any error; correct?
- 22 A. Correct, sir.
- 23 Q. So you can watch the error of the
- compass and see whether it's growing or not.
- 25 A. Correct, sir.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. So if we wanted to find out what compass
- 3 error the ship's gyrocompass was experiencing, we
- 4 could -- is this record to see what you -- the
- 5 deck officers observed; correct?
- 6 A. Correct, sir.
- 7 (Torculas Exhibit 340, Photographs,
- 8 was marked for identification.)
- 9 BY MR. BROWN:
- 10 Q. The next exhibit is 340. I'll represent
- 11 to you these are photos we had the opportunity to
- take when we were on board ALNIC MC a few weeks
- ago. Do you recognize this as the ship's AIS
- 14 unit?
- 15 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 16 Q. Was the AIS unit one of those pieces of
- 17 navigation equipment that you were responsible
- 18 for as second mate?
- 19 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 20 Q. The display shown in this Exhibit 340,
- it shows antenna positions; right?
- 22 **A.** Yes.
- 23 Q. And it's got numbers that measure
- 24 distances from the antenna to the bow, to the
- stern, and to each side; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Yes, sir.
- 3 Q. When you were sailing as second mate, do
- 4 you recall what numbers you had entered into this
- 5 system for the ALNIC's antenna position?
- 6 MR. WEIGEL: Object to the form of the
- 7 question. You're assuming he entered the
- 8 numbers in.
- 9 MR. BROWN: No, I asked if he recalled
- 10 what those numbers were.
- 11 MR. WEIGEL: Okay. That's a different
- 12 question, and that question is not
- objectionable.
- MR. BROWN: Fine.
- 15 BY MR. BROWN:
- 16 Q. That's all I mean to ask. Do you
- 17 remember what the numbers were inside this unit
- when you were sailing as second mate?
- 19 A. I don't remember the numbers.
- 20 Q. And I didn't expect you to. I needed to
- 21 make sure.
- Did you, as second mate, ever go into
- 23 the system and change the numbers that were
- 24 loaded into this unit?
- 25 **A.** No.

1	BROWN - TORCULAS
2	MR. WEIGEL: Mr. Brown
3	MR. BROWN: Yeah, I should have said.
4	MR. WEIGEL: It's printed on both sides.
5	Is it the same photograph?
6	MR. BROWN: No, it's not. So
7	Exhibit 340 is also double-sided, saving
8	trees. The one side reflects the INT,
9	interior antenna position, and the other is
10	the exterior antenna position. And the
11	numbers are the same.
12	MR. WEIGEL: Okay, thank you. As a
13	matter of logistics, I don't have any
14	objection to any of these photographs
15	because they just depict what you saw, but
16	I'm assuming at some point we're going to
17	get a full set of the pictures that were
18	taken.
19	MR. BROWN: Well, they will be exhibits
20	to the record today.
21	MR. WEIGEL: But, I mean, there are more
22	than these obviously that were taken.
23	MR. BROWN: We'll talk about that later.
24	MR. WEIGEL: That's fine.
25	(Torculas Exhibit 341,

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- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Photographs A C, was marked for
- 3 identification.)
- 4 BY MR. BROWN:
- 5 Q. The next exhibit is 341. These are also
- 6 photographs taken aboard the ALNIC in our recent
- 7 visit. And there are three photos which I have
- 8 marked within the exhibit as A, B, and C. Do you
- 9 have that document in front of you?
- 10 A. Yes, I have, sir.
- 11 Q. On Image A of Exhibit 341, do you
- recognize this diagram of antenna positions?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. Was this diagram in place when you were
- sailing on board the ship as second mate?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. And the second page is a closer view of
- 18 what the antennas are. Line 9 is AIS
- 19 transponder; correct?
- 20 A. Which one, sir?
- 21 **Q.** No. 9.
- 22 **A.** No. 9.
- 23 Q. That's the AIS transponder; correct?
- 24 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 25 Q. And if I look on the diagram and I see

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 the No. 9 in the circle, that tells me where that
- 3 particular antenna is; correct?
- 4 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 5 Q. And on Image C, this was actually taken
- 6 with the ship's camera because of concerns of
- 7 inherent safety of the equipment and the ship
- 8 later provided to us. You see the antenna there
- 9 in the very corner. Do you recognize that
- 10 antenna as the AIS antenna?
- 11 **A.** Yes.
- 12 Q. It's a whip antenna with a GPS unit at
- 13 the bottom of it; correct?
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. Would you please circle that with this
- 16 red pen, circle the whip antenna that is the AIS.
- 17 A. I don't recall which one is the antenna,
- 18 sir.
- 19 Q. Feel free to refer back to that diagram
- of the antennas if that helps your memory.
- 21 A. I don't recall, sir, which of these two
- 22 is the...
- 23 Q. If you don't recall, then you can't
- 24 circle it. That's fine.
- 25 At the time of the collision, your ship

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 had an FURUNO ECDIS on board; correct?
- 3 A. Correct, sir.
- 4 Q. Were you familiar with how to use that
- 5 FURUNO ECDIS?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. I understand from some of the records,
- 8 that the ship wasn't fully ECDIS certified at the
- 9 time of the collision; is that correct?
- 10 A. Correct, sir.
- 11 Q. And that's why you still maintained
- 12 paper charts aboard; correct?
- 13 A. Correct.
- 14 Q. But you were able to use the FURUNO
- 15 ECDIS to help you with your watchkeeping;
- 16 correct?
- 17 A. Correct, sir.
- 18 Q. Would you lay out your voyage plan
- 19 within the FURUNO ECDIS?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- 21 Q. So you could see the track lines on the
- 22 ECDIS screen if you looked at it; right?
- 23 A. Right, sir.
- 24 Q. Would that tell you your cross-track
- 25 error at any time during the voyage?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 **A.** Yes.
- 3 Q. You know what a cross-track error is?
- 4 A. Yes, yes.
- 5 Q. That's how far you are from your track
- 6 line; right?
- 7 A. Correct, sir.
- 8 (Torculas Exhibit 342, Playback
- 9 Screenshot, Bates No. Energetic 013578,
- 10 was marked for identification.)
- 11 BY MR. BROWN:
- 12 Q. Exhibit 342 is Energetic -13578. Do you
- recognize this as a screenshot from ALNIC MC's
- 14 ECDIS?
- 15 **A.** Yes.
- 16 Q. Now, this is an actual image taken from
- 17 a computer. This isn't someone holding a camera
- and taking a photograph of a computer screen;
- 19 right?
- 20 **A.** Can I --
- 21 Q. Please.
- 22 A. -- answer that? This is taken as --
- 23 moment -- there is a function of this ECDIS for
- 24 the screenshot itself.
- 25 Q. So you're able to send the screenshot

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 onto a disk and take it off a computer; right?
- 3 A. Yes, sir, if I remember it correct, sir.
- 4 Because I been there many times now with ECDIS, I
- 5 forgot the function of this ECDIS different
- 6 functions have. Different model some have --
- 7 Q. Were you involved in taking
- 8 screenshots -- were you involved in taking
- 9 screenshots from the ECDIS and putting them on a
- 10 disk so they could be taken off the machine?
- 11 A. I don't remember with this photo, but
- there a function on some of the ECDIS, sir. I
- don't remember with the FURUNO.
- 14 Q. You don't remember if you took exported
- 15 data from the FURUNO after the accident?
- 16 A. Yeah. But I make also a picture of this
- 17 with the camera.
- 18 Q. You took a camera --
- 19 **A.** Yeah.
- 20 Q. -- pictures of the screen; right?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 Q. And this playback screenshot shows time
- 23 21:22:52 on August 20th; correct?
- 24 A. Yes. This is in the function of the
- 25 FURUNO itself.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- Q. Within the FURUNO ECDIS itself, we're
- 3 doing a playback at that time; correct?
- 4 A. That's correct, sir.
- 5 Q. And this is in GMT. So this is just
- 6 moments before the collision; correct?
- 7 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 8 Q. And you see ALNIC depicted as the two
- 9 black circles inside the traffic separation lane
- 10 there; correct?
- 11 A. Correct, sir.
- 12 Q. Immediately to starboard and slightly
- forward of ALNIC, do you see that red dashed
- 14 circle?
- 15 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 16 Q. Do you know what the red dashed circle
- 17 symbol signifies or means in the FURUNO ECDIS?
- 18 A. This is a dangerous target, close, close
- 19 to the vessel.
- 20 Q. The ALNIC -- I'm sorry, the ECDIS would
- only track targets if one of the ship's two
- radars was giving the ECDIS that information;
- 23 correct?
- A. Correct, sir.
- 25 Q. So it would have to be either the X-band

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- or the S-band radar that gave that target over to
- 3 the ECDIS; correct?
- 4 **A.** Yes.
- 5 Q. It couldn't come from any other radar
- 6 because those are the only two radars you had;
- 7 right?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Do you agree with me that this playback
- 10 screen appears to show USS JOHN S. MCCAIN as a
- 11 target off ALNIC's starboard side at that time?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. So you can see targets -- even if
- there's not a ship transmitting AIS, you can see
- targets on the ECDIS playback; correct?
- 16 A. Just a moment, sir. Can I say
- 17 something?
- 18 Q. Of course.
- 19 A. Here in this -- in this ECDIS, even if
- we're going to acquire the target those far, it
- 21 is not registering here.
- 22 Q. If you're going --
- 23 A. I don't know how to explain, but...
- 24 Q. Why don't you explain to the
- 25 interpreter.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- THE WITNESS: (Speaking Tagalog)
- THE INTERPRETER: Mr. Philip is saying
- 4 that he's asked the representative of the
- 5 FURUNO device -- he asked them why some of
- the vessels around them are not registering
- 7 in that radar. So also the representative
- 8 of the FURUNO device added that this is the
- 9 older model or the older version, which is
- 10 why they can't pick up everything or every
- 11 vessel that's around them.
- 12 BY MR. BROWN:
- 13 Q. But the FURUNO model did pick up that
- 14 contact that shows as the dangerous circle to
- 15 ALNIC's starboard side; correct?
- 16 A. Only this one, sir. Only this one
- target only, the dangerous one only.
- 18 Q. But that one target did show up on the
- 19 screen; correct?
- 20 A. Yes, sir. I am the one that make this
- 21 playback to show --
- 22 Q. You're the one who made the playback.
- Thank you.
- 24 **A.** Yes.
- MR. BROWN: Alan, if I may, I'm going to

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- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- go on and show him the video.
- 3 MR. WEIGEL: Sure.
- 4 (Exhibit No. 1, Video was previously
- 5 marked for identification.)
- 6 BY MR. BROWN:
- 7 Q. This is Energetic -13552, a playback we
- 8 used at Captain Nolasco's deposition. I'm going
- 9 to play this for you, and I'm going to ask you if
- 10 you were involved in this video being made; okay?
- 11 **A.** Okay.
- 12 (Playing video)
- 13 BY MR. BROWN:
- 14 Q. I'll stop there at time 25. And my
- 15 question is: That is your voice I hear speaking
- 16 to the other gentleman?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. Do you remember speaking to that
- 19 gentleman while you made the playback appear on
- the screen?
- 21 **A.** Yeah.
- 22 Q. I'll keep playing.
- 23 A. I don't remember the face of the person.
- 24 Q. Can you say that again?
- 25 A. I don't remember the face of the person

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 I'm talking about.
- 3 Q. But you remember meeting with him on the
- 4 bridge of the ship and making this video?
- 5 **A.** Yeah.
- 6 (Playing video)
- 7 BY MR. BROWN:
- 8 Q. Did you hear the gentleman there say you
- 9 need to sign the time sheet?
- 10 A. Yes, I hear.
- 11 Q. Do you recall discussing signing time
- sheets with that gentleman when you were on the
- 13 bridge?
- 14 A. I don't remember this time sheet, sir.
- 15 Q. Okay. And for the record, I stopped at
- 16 1 minute 38 seconds.
- 17 MR. WEIGEL: Before you start over,
- 18 could you -- you said one minute -- is that
- 19 the time on the video or the time on the
- 20 replay?
- MR. BROWN: That's the time on this
- 22 exhibit's time stamp.
- MR. WEIGEL: Okay. Thank you.
- MR. BROWN: I'm playing again.
- 25 (Playing video)

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 MR. BROWN: So I have stopped at -- the
- 3 time stamp is 2 minutes and 54 seconds.
- 4 BY MR. BROWN:
- 5 Q. Did you hear the gentleman say,
- 6 "According to FURUNO, there is no way to save the
- 7 data"?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Do you recall discussing that with him?
- 10 A. Yeah, I asked him. Absolutely I asked
- 11 him if there is any possibility that this -- to
- 12 save this data, and he said -- okay, sir. What I
- 13 meant to say is those targets around are not
- appearing here, so that one cannot be saved on
- this FURUNO ECDIS itself. That's what I mean,
- 16 sir.
- 17 Q. I believe I understand you. So when
- 18 you're in this playback mode, you aren't
- 19 necessarily seeing all the same things that were
- shown on the screen at the time of the watch?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 Q. Okay. Thank you for that. And also
- 23 right before I clicked the pause button there --
- 24 well, let me just back up a little. We'll listen
- 25 to that again.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 (Playing video)
- 3 BY MR. BROWN:
- 4 Q. He said there, if you heard it, "It only
- 5 shows our vessel, not anything else"; correct?
- 6 **A.** Yes.
- 7 Q. But when it continues, we'll see that
- 8 red dashed line that shows the JOHN S. MCCAIN.
- 9 Do you recall that?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. I'll hit play again. Before I do, let
- 12 me ask: It looks like out the windows when this
- video was taken it's nighttime. Do you recall
- this gentleman being on the bridge at night?
- 15 **A.** Who, this one talking?
- 16 **Q.** Yes, sir.
- 17 A. Those investigators came on ship already
- 18 daytime.
- 19 Q. Daytime?
- 20 **A.** Yeah.
- 21 Q. Do you recall when he was with you on
- the bridge?
- 23 A. I don't recall actually, sir. But the
- investigators came already daytime, together with
- 25 the NTSB or MPA together with them.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. I'll hit play again starting at the time
- 3 stamp 2:55.
- 4 (Playing video)
- 5 Q. Did you hear a gentleman just say, "But
- 6 it does show the vessel maintained course"?
- 7 A. One more time, sir.
- 8 Q. Yes. Playing video from 2:55.
- 9 (Playing video)
- 10 BY MR. BROWN:
- 11 Q. And I stopped at 3:01. Did you hear it
- 12 that time?
- 13 **A.** Yeah.
- Q. Was that your voice or someone else's?
- 15 A. Someone else.
- 16 Q. Do you recognize whose voice that was?
- 17 A. No. Plenty of people, sir, after the
- 18 collision.
- 19 Q. All kinds of people on your bridge;
- 20 right?
- 21 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 22 **Q.** I'll hit play again at 3:01.
- 23 (Playing video)
- 24 BY MR. BROWN:
- 25 Q. I have stopped at 3 minutes and

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 24 seconds. Did you hear that gentleman saying
- 3 something like, "If this gets out, I can see the
- 4 headlines now. There was nobody driving the
- 5 car." Did you hear that?
- 6 **A.** Yes.
- 7 Q. Were you still standing on the bridge
- 8 with him when he said that?
- 9 A. I'm not sure, sir. I don't remember,
- 10 sir, because I am collecting also evidence. The
- 11 third mate is with me or -- yeah, third mate is
- 12 with me. Sometimes just left there. And I was
- 13 gathering...
- 14 Q. I understand. So now as you hear this
- video, you can hear the gentleman saying that?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. Do you agree with him that this image of
- 18 ALNIC going down the traffic scheme and not
- 19 changing course prior to the collision makes it
- look as if there was no one driving the car?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 MR. WEIGEL: Objection. That
- 23 mischaracterizes. And it's just speculation
- as to what is being said.
- MR. BROWN: He said yes. Did you get

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 that on the record?
- 3 THE REPORTER: Yes.
- 4 BY MR. BROWN:
- 5 Q. Restarting at 3 minutes and 26 seconds.
- 6 (Playing video)
- 7 BY MR. BROWN:
- 8 Q. I stopped at 3:49. Did you hear the
- 9 gentleman say something like, "In a minute,
- 10 you'll see an echo or a strange target"?
- 11 **A.** Yeah.
- 12 Q. Do you know if he had had a chance to
- see this playback before he made this recording?
- 14 A. I don't know, sir. No idea.
- 15 Q. And at this time, it's time stamped 3
- 16 minutes and 49 seconds. What does the clock time
- there say on the playback?
- 18 A. GMT time, sir.
- 19 **O.** What time is that?
- 20 A. Supposed to be -- it will be -- plus 8
- in Singapore.
- 22 Q. I understand. Could you just please
- read in the record, 21 hours and what?
- 24 **A.** 21:22:45.
- 25 Q. And at that time, can you see the

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- dangerous circle that is USS JOHN S. MCCAIN on
- 3 this screen?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. I think that's all I have on this.
- 6 Thank you.
- 7 MR. UNDERHILL: And I believe that was
- 8 Exhibit 1 to Captain Nolasco's deposition.
- 9 MR. WEIGEL: I think you're correct.
- 10 MR. UNDERHILL: That was the longer
- 11 clip. There was a shorter clip.
- MR. WEIGEL: Which was Exhibit 2.
- MR. UNDERHILL: Correct.
- MR. WEIGEL: Yes, I agree.
- MR. BROWN: Thank you.
- 16 BY MR. BROWN:
- 17 Q. Were you the one holding the camera in
- 18 this video we just reviewed?
- 19 A. Yes -- no, no. Sorry, sir. I don't
- 20 remember actually, sir, because twice or thrice
- 21 I'm doing this, taking picture of this. Because
- 22 other person coming also. They want a picture of
- 23 this.
- 24 Q. So you recall --
- 25 A. So I'm assisting them also. So for this

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 guy, I don't know if I am that person.
- 3 Q. You don't recall for sure whether you --
- 4 **A.** Yeah.
- 5 Q. -- or he was holding the camera in this
- 6 one; correct?
- 7 A. Yes, I hear my voice.
- 8 Q. You hear your voice in the beginning so
- 9 you're at least near him; right?
- 10 **A.** Maybe I pass the camera to other quy.
- 11 Q. I think you just said a moment ago there
- were multiple times where people came to
- photograph or video this playback; right?
- 14 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 15 Q. So you helped multiple people take
- 16 videos of the playback; right?
- 17 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 18 Q. Prior to our watching this video just
- 19 now, have you seen this video played back before?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- 21 Q. When did you see this video before?
- 22 A. After the collision. And we checked the
- 23 manual how to do this playback.
- 24 Q. Okay. So you had seen the playback
- 25 itself before; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 **A.** Yes.
- 3 Q. But this video we just watched where the
- 4 man says there was no one driving the car, have
- 5 you seen that video before today?
- 6 A. It's because it was in autopilot that --
- 7 Q. Right. I understand that. And I agree.
- 8 Have you seen this video before?
- 9 A. For that video, I don't recall.
- 10 Q. Fair enough.
- 11 A. I think it's plenty of person I'm
- 12 assisting, sir.
- 13 Q. I understand.
- 14 (Exhibit 4, E-mail String, Bates
- Nos. Energetic 012173 012177, was
- 16 previously marked.)
- 17 BY MR. BROWN:
- 18 Q. I'm handing you Exhibit 4, which has
- 19 been used in a previous deposition. This is
- 20 Energetic -12173. And I'm only going to look at
- 21 the very top of this one, sir.
- 22 At the very top, this is an e-mail from
- 23 Captain Nolasco to a person by the name of
- 24 Dretakis; right.
- 25 A. Dretakis.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. At the top of Exhibit 4, this e-mail is
- 3 from ALNIC MC; correct?
- 4 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 5 Q. It's to someone by the name of Dretakis;
- 6 correct?
- 7 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 8 Q. If you look in the signature block of
- 9 this e-mail, it's from Captain Nolasco; correct?
- 10 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 11 Q. And at the very first line of the
- 12 e-mail, Captain Nolasco says, "Kindly note that
- the ECDIS when playback, it only shows our vessel
- 14 without any other targets." Did I read that
- 15 correctly?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. But you agree with me, having looked at
- the ECDIS playback and Exhibit 342, this
- 19 screenshot, you can see other -- the other target
- of USS JOHN S. MCCAIN; correct?
- 21 A. For that, yes, I can see.
- 22 Q. You can set that aside, sir.
- 23 (Exhibit 38, Final Report Safety
- 24 Investigation, Bates Nos. Energetic
- 25 006206 606240, was previously marked.)

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 BY MR. BROWN:
- 3 Q. I'm going to hand you Exhibit 38 which
- 4 was used in Captain Nolasco's deposition. This
- is a copy of the final report of the Singapore
- 6 investigation into the collision. Do you see
- 7 that each paragraph has a number, sir, within
- 8 this report?
- 9 **A.** Yes.
- 10 Q. See the paragraphs? Each has a number.
- Okay. I'm going to refer to those numbers and
- 12 talk about a few of these paragraphs.
- 13 A. Which -- okay, -6212.
- 14 Q. If you could look at paragraph 1.2.3,
- 15 please. Now, this is someone else's report about
- 16 the collision.
- 17 **A.** Okay.
- 18 Q. I'm not asking you whether it's right or
- 19 wrong. I'm just asking you if you agree with
- things it says about what you did; okay?
- 21 A. All right, sir.
- 22 Q. On this paragraph, it says, "According
- 23 to deck logbook entries made during the second
- officer's watch, the master came up on the bridge
- about 0300 on 21 August." Do you see where I'm

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 reading?
- 3 A. Yes, sir, I can.
- 4 Q. That's the entry we discussed at the
- 5 beginning of today's deposition that was false --
- 6 **A.** Yes.
- 7 Q. -- and not right.
- 8 A. Yes, sir.
- 9 Q. The logbook also stated that the master
- 10 conning steering was switched to manual. That,
- 11 too, we already discussed today was a false
- 12 entry; correct?
- 13 A. False, yes.
- Q. At 0400, "The watch was handed over by
- 15 the second officer to the chief officer." And
- 16 I'll skip down. "The second officer continued to
- 17 remain on the bridge in the chart room." We have
- 18 discussed that today; correct?
- 19 A. Yes, correct.
- 20 Q. You remained on that same deck as the
- 21 wheelhouse, but you were in the chart room;
- 22 right?
- 23 A. Correct, sir.
- 24 Q. Thank you. It was separated by
- 25 curtains. We talked about that; right?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Correct, sir. Right.
- 3 Q. And it says here you went to perform
- 4 some pre-arrival port documents. Did you do
- 5 pre-arrival port documents, or did you do chart
- 6 corrections, or did you do both when you were --
- 7 A. Both of them, sir.
- 8 Q. It goes on to say, "But it was not a
- 9 part of the bridge team." Do you agree when you
- were in the chart room, you were not on watch?
- 11 A. Yeah, I'm not on watch.
- 12 Q. After 0400, you were not part of the
- 13 bridge team; correct?
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. So you didn't serve any role within the
- 16 Bridge Resource Management responsibilities of
- the bridge team; correct?
- 18 A. In my own, I just -- I can say just only
- 19 helping the chief officer do the position --
- 20 positioning on the chart because I am at the
- 21 chart table, so that they can perform the
- lookout.
- 23 Q. That's nonresponsive. My question was:
- Were you part of the bridge team when you were
- relieved and off watch at 0400?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 **A.** No.
- 3 Q. You had no formal role in terms of
- 4 bridge resource management in terms of helping
- 5 the chief serve his watch; correct?
- 6 **A.** No.
- 7 Q. Please turn to the paragraph 1.2.23.
- 8 **A.** 1.2.23.
- 9 MR. DRIPPS: Could I ask you a point of
- 10 clarification on that last answer?
- MR. BROWN: Go ahead.
- 12 MR. DRIPPS: I wasn't sure if he was
- agreeing with the question. The way he
- 14 answered was ambiguous.
- MR. BROWN: Okay.
- MR. DRIPS: Could I ask the reporter to
- 17 read the last question and answer?
- THE REPORTER: Question: "After 0400,
- 19 you were not part of the bridge team;
- 20 correct?"
- 21 Answer: "Yes."
- THE WITNESS: No, no --
- 23 BY MR. BROWN:
- 24 Q. It's my job to keep it clear and not
- 25 have you confused; okay? At 0400, you were not

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- part of the bridge team; correct?
- 3 A. Correct.
- 4 Q. You were not part of the bridge team
- 5 then.
- 6 A. Correct, sir.
- 7 Q. At 0400, you did not serve any role in
- 8 terms of bridge resource management to help the
- 9 chief officer; right?
- 10 A. Right, sir.
- 11 Q. In paragraph 1.2.23 -- before I do that,
- in the few minutes that preceded the collision,
- do you remember hearing any of the discussion
- that occurred outside -- in the wheelhouse?
- 15 **A.** Before the collision, sir?
- 16 Q. In the minutes before the collision,
- 17 could you hear any conversation from the people
- 18 on the bridge?
- 19 A. All I remember, sir, is that the chief
- officer said that, "sir, we are going to
- collide," and that's the time I went out of the
- 22 chart table.
- 23 Q. He said that in Tagalog?
- 24 A. Yes, sir, in Tagalog.
- 25 Q. He said, "Sir, we are going to collide?"

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 **A.** Yes.
- 3 Q. You told me earlier you stayed behind
- 4 the curtains all the way until the point of the
- 5 collision; is that right?
- 6 A. No, no, no, sir. Before the point
- 7 of the collision, before it hits on the JOHN
- 8 MCCAIN, I went out of the chart table maybe only
- 9 a few seconds, 30 seconds, 40 seconds, like that,
- 10 or a minute. Make it one minute. Because when I
- 11 came out of the chart table, I saw this blocking
- the ALNIC MC. A few seconds, hits bang. That's
- 13 it.
- 14 Q. When you stepped out of the chart room,
- at that point was JOHN MCCAIN or any part of the
- ship already forward of your own bow?
- 17 A. Yes, sir, same like a letter T.
- 18 Q. So by the time you stepped out, JOHN
- 19 MCCAIN wasn't still on the starboard beam of
- 20 ALNIC; correct?
- 21 A. No, sir. This is ALNIC.
- 22 Q. Referring to this paragraph 1.2.23, the
- 23 report indicates that "The master," referring to
- John S. MCCAIN, "remarked to his bridge team in
- 25 Tagalog, 'Good crossing action in the middle of

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 channel.'" Do you remember hearing anything in
- 3 Tagalog?
- 4 A. I don't remember that word, sir.
- 5 Q. Do you remember anything similar to this
- 6 being spoken?
- 7 A. No. Only that what I said -- can I say
- 8 to Mr. --
- 9 Q. Please do to your interpreter.
- 10 THE WITNESS: (Speaking Tagalog)
- 11 THE INTERPRETER: So Mr. Philip is
- saying that the other officer told the chief
- officer or the captain that they are going
- to hit and that's all that he heard.
- 15 BY MR. BROWN:
- 16 Q. That's the only words you remember
- 17 hearing?
- 18 A. Correct, sir.
- 19 Q. You didn't hear anyone ask you to come
- 20 help with serving as a lookout; right?
- 21 **A.** No.
- 22 Q. You didn't hear anyone to ask you help
- 23 try to acquire any targets on the radars;
- 24 correct?
- 25 A. No, sir.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. Did anyone ask you to plot the ship's
- 3 position on the chart in the few minutes before
- 4 the collision?
- 5 A. No, just only my initial team, sir.
- 6 Q. In paragraph 1.2.26, the report
- 7 indicates that "AM" -- and I'll represent to you
- 8 that's ALNIC MC -- "AM did not make any sound or
- 9 light signals to attract JOHN S. MCCAIN's
- 10 attention prior to the collision." My question
- 11 to you is: Do you recall hearing any five short
- 12 blasts from ALNIC MC before the collision?
- 13 A. I'm not sure which one is first, the
- 14 five short blast or after the collision. I'm not
- 15 sure with these two.
- 16 Q. It's not clear in your memory whether --
- 17 A. Yes. But I heard that once, sir.
- 18 Q. You don't recall hearing -- or you can't
- 19 say for sure today whether you heard five short
- 20 before the collision?
- 21 A. I heard that one, sir, but I don't know
- 22 which one -- it hit already or before hitting
- 23 this MCCAIN.
- 24 Q. You may have heard some alarm after the
- collision happened?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Plenty alarms, sir.
- 3 Q. Okay. Paragraph 1.3.7, please.
- 4 A. 1.3.7. Did I hear -- I didn't recall.
- 5 **Q.** Okay. 1.3.7, please.
- 6 **A.** 1.3.7.
- 7 Q. It says, "All key personnel had duly
- 8 recorded their hours of rest on a form."
- 9 A. I can see that one, sir.
- 10 Q. Do you know if that's a reference to the
- 11 STCW rest log that we looked at earlier?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. That's the one we discussed that had --
- 14 you had not indicated overtime you had worked;
- 15 correct?
- 16 **A.** Yes.
- 17 Q. So you had worked more than the rest log
- 18 indicated; correct?
- 19 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 20 Q. You can put that aside, sir.
- I understand you've come to the United
- 22 States on your present trip in order to join a
- 23 ship; is that correct?
- 24 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 25 **Q.** What ship are you joining?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Stealth FALCON and the name changed to
- 3 CLEAN THRASHER.
- 4 Q. Stealth -- what was -- the second word?
- 5 A. FALCON.
- 6 Q. And you said the name is going to be
- 7 changed?
- 8 A. To CLEAN THRASHER.
- 9 Q. And it's still going to be a Stealth
- ship after the name changes?
- 11 **A.** Yes.
- 12 Q. When did you leave ALNIC after the
- 13 collision; what month?
- A. When did I leave? If it's correct, sir,
- 15 October 15 or 16.
- 16 **o.** of 2017?
- 17 **A.** Yes.
- 18 Q. Do you recall what ship you joined after
- 19 that?
- 20 A. Different company, sir. I left the
- company.
- 22 Q. Have you worked for Stealth since the
- 23 collision?
- 24 A. Since or after?
- 25 Q. Okay. You worked for ALNIC or on ALNIC

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 until October of 2017; right?
- 3 **A.** Yes.
- 4 Q. Have you had a job with Stealth since
- 5 then?
- 6 **A.** No.
- 7 Q. So you came to the U.S. and you're
- 8 giving your deposition today and you're preparing
- 9 to join a Stealth ship; is that right?
- 10 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 11 Q. When did you first learn that you had an
- opportunity to join a Stealth ship this month?
- 13 A. After I signed up. Because this crewing
- manager, they came to our house and the staff is
- looking for us for this deposition and asking me
- am I willing to join this company again.
- 17 Q. This is your house in the Philippines?
- 18 **A.** Yes.
- 19 Q. So Stealth came to your house in the
- 20 Philippines?
- 21 A. No, sir, the crewing manager.
- 22 Q. What's the name of the crewing manager?
- 23 A. Can I say this Mandivas (phonetic),
- 24 Robert Mandivas.
- 25 **Q.** It's not Selandia?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 MR. WEIGEL: He may be -- you asked for
- 3 the name of the crewing manager, meaning a
- 4 person rather than a company. That's why
- 5 he's confused.
- 6 MR. BROWN: Thank you.
- 7 BY MR. BROWN:
- 8 Q. You work for a company that provides
- 9 mariners to the ships; right?
- 10 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 11 **Q.** Is that Selandia?
- 12 A. Selandia, yes. It's Selandia, sir.
- 13 Q. With Selandia, you've gotten jobs on
- 14 different ships; correct?
- 15 A. Actually I have only one contract in
- 16 Selandia. After the ALNIC MC, I left.
- 17 Q. So you didn't stay with Selandia after
- 18 the ALNIC MC job?
- 19 A. Yes. I am trauma. I got this trauma
- 20 from the collision. I had to leave.
- 21 Q. Are you going to be back with Selandia
- 22 now that you're joining Stealth FALCON?
- 23 A. Yes. I think I already adjusted.
- 24 Q. So your understanding was if you would
- 25 take this assignment on the Stealth FALCON, you

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 could come to the U.S. and have your deposition;
- 3 correct?
- 4 A. Yes, sir.
- 5 Q. Do you recall when that person came to
- 6 your door in the Philippines?
- 7 A. He came to our home April of -- I think
- 8 first week before the -- (Speaking in Tagalog)
- 9 THE INTERPRETER: Holy Week.
- 10 THE WITNESS: -- Holy Week.
- 11 BY MR. BROWN:
- 12 Q. That was April of this year; correct?
- 13 **A.** Sir?
- 14 Q. That was April of 2019; correct?
- 15 **A.** Yes.
- MR. UNDERHILL: For us non-practicing
- 17 Catholics, when would Holy Week be?
- 18 Actually practicing non-practicing
- 19 Catholics.
- THE WITNESS: Say again, sir, your
- 21 question.
- MR. BROWN: We can Google it.
- 23 BY MR. BROWN:
- 24 Q. This was early April you said; right?
- 25 A. I thought it was. But before the Holy

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- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- Week, sir, before the Holy Week. First week,
- 3 second week, like that.
- 4 Q. First or second week of April, you got
- 5 the knock on your door; correct?
- 6 A. Yes, sir.
- 7 Q. Are you signing on to Stealth FALCON as
- 8 second officer or something else?
- 9 A. Second officer, sir.
- 10 Q. Before you flew to the United States to
- 11 join Stealth FALCON, did you do any training with
- 12 Stealth on their GMS?
- 13 **A.** Yes.
- 14 Q. Where did you do that training?
- 15 A. On the -- in-house training, sir, in
- 16 their office.
- 17 Q. Is that in the Philippines or somewhere
- 18 else?
- 19 A. In their office, Philippines.
- 20 Q. When you did that training before coming
- 21 here to join the Stealth FALCON, did they discuss
- 22 manning levels for different watch conditions?
- 23 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 24 Q. Did you discuss the need to maintain
- 25 Watch Condition III in the Strait of Singapore in

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 that training?
- 3 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 4 Q. Before being deposed today, did you meet
- 5 with any lawyers for Stealth or Energetic?
- 6 A. Him and the other guy.
- 7 Q. So you're referring to the two gentlemen
- 8 from Blank Rome in the office today; right?
- 9 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 10 Q. When did you first meet with them?
- 11 **A.** The day after, because we arrive around
- 12 1 o'clock in the afternoon of 20th. Let's say
- 2 o'clock. And then on the next morning, morning
- on the next day. Let's say 21st, I met them.
- 15 Q. So yesterday and the day before; is that
- 16 right?
- 17 A. No. Like this, sir, I met them
- 18 personally yesterday morning. On the other day
- on 20th, no, I don't meet them. Only by voice.
- 20 I don't know which two of them I'm talking with.
- 21 O. That's fine. And I don't want to know
- 22 what you discussed.
- 23 Can you tell me approximately how long
- 24 you met with them yesterday morning, for how many
- 25 hours?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Two hours.
- 3 Q. Do you recall meeting Mr. Weigel in
- 4 Singapore after the collision happened?
- 5 A. I don't remember, but if I see -- I see
- 6 him, sir.
- 7 Q. He looks familiar, but you don't recall
- 8 having a meeting?
- 9 **A.** Yeah.
- 10 Q. That's fine.
- 11 A. And asking me what is -- who is -- I
- 12 forget. I don't know his name, what he looks
- 13 like. Because plenty people, sir. I see plenty
- people went there for the investigation.
- 15 (Plaintiff's Exhibit 9B, GMS Manual
- 16 M4 Navigation Procedures, Bates Nos.
- 17 Energetic 004147 004239, was
- 18 previously marked.)
- 19 BY MR. BROWN:
- 20 Q. I'm handing you an exhibit we've looked
- 21 at before, which is 9B. This is from Captain
- Nolasco's deposition. This is the company's GMS
- 23 manual and specifically their navigation
- 24 procedures; correct?
- 25 **A.** Yes, sir.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. This is Manual No. M4; correct?
- 3 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 4 Q. If you could please turn to the page
- 5 that's stamped Energetic -4157.
- 6 **A.** -4157. Yes, sir, I am in -4157.
- 7 Q. Okay. And on paragraph 2.1.1, it gives
- 8 a definition of bridge team management; correct?
- 9 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 10 Q. It says, "Bridge team management is a
- 11 concept that, when accepted by the mariner, is
- the single most important method for eliminating
- one person error." Do you see that?
- 14 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 15 Q. Do you agree that good bridge team
- 16 management or bridge resource management is a
- 17 safe way to avoid single person error?
- 18 A. I'm aware of that.
- 19 Q. So if mariners on the bridge work
- 20 together as a team, they can help avoid a mistake
- 21 that happens where just one person has made an
- 22 error; correct?
- 23 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 24 Q. And we can help each other out while we
- 25 are on watch and make sure that each person knows

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- what the other person is seeing or doing; right?
- 3 A. Right, sir.
- 4 Q. And, again, paragraph 2.1.2, it begins,
- 5 "The primary goal of bridge team management is
- 6 the elimination of one person errors." Do you
- 7 agree with that statement?
- 8 A. Understood, sir. I'm agreed.
- 9 Q. Turn, please, to page Energetic -4167.
- 10 Paragraph 9 on that page, the last sentence says,
- 11 "Helmsmen are not permitted to change the
- 12 steering mode, which must be carried out by the
- officer of the watch." Do you see that?
- 14 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 15 Q. Now, go back in time to August 21st,
- 16 2017, the day of the collision. Was it your
- 17 understanding that helmsmen were not allowed to
- change the steering mode, but only the officer of
- 19 the watch could do that?
- 20 A. Yes, I know that one, sir.
- 21 Q. So the AB wouldn't go change the
- 22 steering mode all on his own; right?
- 23 A. It's just only a single knob.
- 24 Q. It's a single knob to change from auto
- 25 to hand or hand to auto; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 A. Yes, sir.
- 3 Q. But do you agree that your company
- 4 policy is that changing the steering mode must be
- 5 carried out by the officer of the watch?
- 6 A. Correct, sir.
- 7 Q. Turning over, please, to Energetic
- 8 -4177.
- 9 **A.** -4177.
- 10 Q. Paragraph 2.3.6 is about helmsmen;
- 11 correct?
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. And near the end of that paragraph, it
- says, "The changeover from automatic to manual
- steering and vice versa must be supervised by a
- 16 responsible officer." Do you see that?
- 17 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 18 Q. Do you agree with me that it was Stealth
- 19 policy to only change over from automatic to
- 20 manual steering when supervised by a responsible
- 21 officer?
- 22 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 23 Q. Page Energetic -4181, please.
- 24 **A.** -4181.
- 25 Q. This is about the deck logbook; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 This page?
- 3 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 4 Q. And I'm going to look near the bottom.
- 5 It says, "All entries pertaining to the
- 6 navigation of the ship made in the deck logbook
- 7 should be written up by the officer of the watch
- 8 before leaving the bridge." Was that your
- 9 practice, to make sure you wrote all of your deck
- 10 log entries before you left the bridge?
- 11 **A.** Yes.
- 12 Q. On August 21st after you were relieved,
- did you complete your deck log entry before
- leaving the bridge?
- 15 **A.** Yes.
- 16 Q. Did you complete the entry in the GPS
- 17 logbook that we looked at earlier before you left
- 18 the bridge?
- 19 **A.** Yes.
- 20 Q. Did you complete your entry in the Bell
- 21 Book before you left the bridge that morning?
- 22 **A.** Yes.
- 23 Q. Turn one page over, please, to -4183.
- 24 **A.** -4183.
- 25 Q. At the very top of this page, it says,

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 "If an engine order printer is not fitted, then
- 3 engine movements are to be recorded in the deck
- 4 and engine movement books." Do you see that?
- 5 **A.** Yes.
- 6 Q. The deck movement book, that would be
- 7 the Bell Book we looked at; right?
- 8 A. Right, sir.
- 9 Q. Do you agree with me that Stealth's
- 10 policy was if your engine telegraph printer was
- 11 not working, the crew were supposed to make
- 12 entries in the Bell Book, recording bells?
- 13 MR. WEIGEL: Objection. You're
- misrepresenting what this document says.
- You can answer.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Say again, sir.
- 17 BY MR. BROWN:
- 18 Q. If your engine telegraph printer was not
- 19 working for any reason, do you think you should
- 20 have been using the Bell Book to record bells?
- 21 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 22 Q. But you weren't recording bells in the
- Bell Book on August 21st before the collision;
- 24 correct?
- 25 **A.** No, sir.

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Q. And a little further down on the same
- 3 page under 2.6.4, Documentary Evidence, it
- 4 says -- let me back up. Yeah, so immediately
- 5 below 2.6.4, it says, "All personnel should be
- 6 made aware that in the event of a marine casualty
- 7 involving the vessel, all bridge records may be
- 8 used as documentary evidence in a court of law."
- 9 Do you see that?
- 10 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 11 **Q.** We discussed that earlier today in your
- understanding of this statement; correct?
- 13 A. Correct, sir.
- 14 Q. "It is imperative" -- it goes on. "It
- is imperative that any corrections are made by
- 16 drawing a single line through the incorrect
- 17 entry."
- 18 Now, you didn't make any single
- 19 line-throughs in the deck logbook or the Bell
- 20 Book; correct?
- 21 A. I don't make.
- 22 Q. Even though those entries were false and
- wrong, you didn't make a line-through; correct?
- 24 **A.** Yes.
- 25 Q. This goes on to say, "which should be

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 initialed by the officer making such correction.
- 3 Entries should only be corrected by the officer
- 4 who made the incorrect entry."
- 5 You never made a correction to your
- 6 incorrect entries on the deck logbook from
- 7 August 21st; correct?
- 8 A. Yes, sir.
- 9 Q. That's true that you never made a
- 10 correction, isn't it?
- 11 A. I don't make correction, yes, sir.
- 12 Q. Someone else typed something up and
- 13 stapled it to the logbook, but you never made a
- line-through and a correction to your entries;
- 15 right?
- 16 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 17 MR. WEIGEL: This was -- I think this is
- in already.
- 19 MR. UNDERHILL: It's Exhibit 28.
- 20 MR. BROWN: Take it off.
- 21 (Exhibit 28, M/V ALNIC MC Master's
- 22 Standing Orders, Bates Nos. Energetic
- 23 002645 002649, Final Report Safety
- 24 Investigation, Bates Nos. Energetic
- 25 006206 606240, was previously marked.)

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 BY MR. BROWN:
- 3 Q. I've handed you what has previously been
- 4 marked as Exhibit 28. It's not Exhibit 343.
- 5 This is the master's standing orders; correct?
- 6 **A.** Yes.
- 7 Q. This is Captain Nolasco's orders to you
- 8 and the other deck officers on the ship that
- 9 applied on August 21st, 2017; correct?
- 10 **A.** Yes.
- 11 Q. You were bound to follow these just like
- 12 you were bound to follow the GMS manual; correct?
- 13 A. Correct, sir.
- 14 Q. On the front page --
- MR. BROWN: And actually, Alan, let me
- 16 do this real quick. This is out of order.
- 17 The pages are out of order. You can see on
- page -2647, it goes A through G and then H
- 19 picks up on -264.
- 20 MR. WEIGEL: I never noticed that
- 21 before.
- MR. BROWN: I think that's fine. My
- 23 request is can you go back and look and make
- sure there are no missing pages out of
- order. It's no big deal. Make sure nothing

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- is omitted, please. Thank you.
- 3 BY MR. BROWN:
- 4 Q. Mr. Torculas, if you could look at the
- 5 second paragraph under "general."
- 6 **A.** Yeah.
- 7 Q. On the front page of this Exhibit 28, it
- 8 says, "The second officer shall be responsible
- 9 for making the passage plan at the start of every
- 10 voyage." And that was your responsibility;
- 11 correct, sir?
- 12 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 13 Q. "He shall discuss the plan with the
- master at the planning stage." Would the
- 15 planning stage be while your ship was still in
- 16 Taiwan before you left for Singapore?
- 17 A. Say again, sir.
- 18 Q. This makes reference to the planning
- 19 stage of a passage plan. When do you plan your
- 20 passage?
- 21 A. When did I make the plan of this, the
- 22 passage plan?
- 23 **Q.** Yes, sir.
- 24 A. I prepared the plan before -- before the
- departure of this Taiwan Strait -- I mean, the

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 Taiwan -- Taiwan.
- 3 Q. Thank you. Before you left Taiwan, you
- 4 had prepared the passage plan; correct?
- 5 **A.** Yes.
- 6 Q. And did you discuss the plan with the
- 7 master prior to leaving Taiwan?
- 8 A. Actually I did not discuss because we
- 9 already coming come into Singapore going to --
- 10 it's already known to him.
- 11 Q. You go there frequently --
- 12 **A.** Yes.
- 13 Q. -- and you know Singapore.
- 14 **A.** Yes.
- 15 Q. So on this trip, you didn't need to
- 16 discuss --
- 17 A. No, no need to discuss, sir.
- 18 Q. Let met finish, please.
- 19 On this trip, you didn't need to discuss
- 20 the passage plan in particular with the captain,
- 21 you think?
- 22 A. Yeah, that's what I think.
- 23 Q. We've already looked at the passage plan
- 24 that applied on your trip from Taiwan to
- 25 Singapore in August; correct?

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 **A.** Yes.
- 3 Q. And the captain you saw had signed that
- 4 passage plan; right?
- 5 A. Yes, right.
- 6 Q. So his signature, like yours and the
- 7 other deck officers, all appeared on that passage
- 8 plan; correct?
- 9 A. Correct, sir.
- 10 Q. Would you agree with me that the captain
- 11 had signed that passage plan before the collision
- 12 happened?
- 13 A. I don't remember, sir. Because I know
- 14 he signed it before -- before the collision, sir.
- 15 Q. Thank you. At the very bottom of this
- 16 standing orders page --
- 17 A. First page.
- 18 Q. -- first page. It says, "The lookout
- 19 shall not leave the bridge without the permission
- 20 of the officer of the watch. He is not to leave
- 21 the bridge for coffee or smoke, but shall take it
- on the bridge. He shall also use bridge toilet
- 23 facilities." Do you see that?
- 24 **A.** Yes.
- 25 Q. Do you recall whether OS Secang used any

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 toilet facilities while you were in the chart
- 3 room prior to the collision? Do you have any
- 4 memory of that?
- 5 **A.** No.
- 6 Q. If he went to his stateroom two decks
- 7 down --
- 8 **A.** Uh-huh.
- 9 Q. -- would you agree with me that that's
- 10 not using the bridge toilet facilities?
- 11 A. Yes, he's not using if he's going down
- because it's how many steps going, two decks.
- 13 Q. In your logbooks, page -2646, sir --
- **A.** -2646.
- 15 Q. -- it says in the fourth sentence, "Any
- errors shall be corrected by a line through them
- and initial above or below." Do you see that?
- 18 A. Yes -- oh, wait. Yes.
- 19 Q. That's just like what we read in the GMS
- 20 manual; correct?
- 21 **A.** Yes.
- 22 Q. And then it says, "The Bell Book is to
- 23 be kept up to date during pilotage or
- 24 maneuvering. If the engine data logger is not
- working, all engine movements are to be

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 recorded"; correct?
- 3 A. Correct, sir.
- 4 Q. And they're to be recorded in the Bell
- 5 Book; correct?
- 6 A. Correct, sir.
- 7 Q. So you agree with me that with the
- 8 telegraph printer not working, the Bell Book
- 9 should have been maintained; correct?
- 10 A. Absolutely correct, sir.
- 11 MR. BROWN: Let's take a quick break.
- 12 (Discussion off record and recess
- 13 from 1:40 p.m. to 1:42 p.m.)
- MR. BROWN: I have no other questions at
- 15 this time. Thank you.
- MR. WEIGEL: I'm going to have some
- 17 questions, but does the rest -- are there
- other questions by counsel on the phone?
- 19 MR. ROBERTS: No, not as to Tabak
- 20 Mellusi.
- 21 MR. CHINIGO: Not from Hofmann &
- 22 Schweitzer.
- 23 MR. DRIPPS: None from Dripps.
- MR. BARTLETT: None from Bartlett.
- 25 MR. BOATRIGHT: Nothing from Itkin at

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- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 this time.
- 3 MR. WEIGEL: Anybody else?
- I just have one issue -- more than one
- 5 question, but just one issue. This is Alan
- 6 Weigel for those people on the phone who
- 7 don't recognize my voice. So I would like
- 8 the court reporter to mark this bundle of
- 9 documents.
- 10 (Torculas Exhibit 344, Contract of
- 11 Employment, was marked for
- identification.)
- 13 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 14 BY MR. WEIGEL:
- 15 Q. Mr. Torculas, I had the court reporter
- 16 put in front of you a bundle of documents which
- we had marked as Exhibit 344.
- 18 **A.** Yeah.
- 19 Q. And do you recognize these documents?
- 20 **A.** Yes.
- 21 Q. Tell me what these documents are.
- 22 A. These are the documents that I had. And
- on the front page, this is the contract of
- 24 employment. Do you want me one by one, sir?
- 25 Q. You don't go through them one by one.

]	_ WEIGEL -	TORCULAS

- 2 In general, what is this bundle of documents?
- 3 A. This is for my contract to Stealth.
- 4 Q. That's the first document. What about
- 5 the rest of the documents in this bundle? What
- 6 are they in general?
- 7 A. These are the certificates that I have.
- 8 **Q.** Okay.
- 9 MR. WEIGEL: I'll represent on the
- record some of these have been produced.
- 11 The rest of them the second brought with him
- to Houston, and we had not seen them before
- 13 so we want to make sure you had gotten
- 14 copies of them. I just want to --
- MR. BROWN: That would have been helpful
- 16 earlier in the day when I could have looked
- 17 at it over the break.
- 18 MR. WEIGEL: We just hadn't got copies
- 19 made during the break.
- MR. UNDERHILL: In any event, Alan, we
- 21 haven't looked through them, but I think we
- have an idea what they are. For the benefit
- of the folks on the phone, can you generally
- 24 describe what the documents are.
- MR. WEIGEL: Yes, yes. So what we have

1	WEIGEL	- TORCULAS
2		is, as Mr. Torculas represented, the first
3		couple of pages are his contract, his
4		current contract with Stealth, and then
5		there is a physical examination report and
6		then the rest of the documents include his
7		licenses, his Philippine license, and then
8		after that it's all of the different
9		training courses, the certificates for the
10		different training courses that he has
11		attended. Most of them are prior to the
12		prior to the collision. I only really want
13		to reference show him one. I'll find it
14		in just a second. The bundle of documents
15		is about 25 or 30 pages long.
16		MR. UNDERHILL: Alan, while you're doing
17		this, see if I've got this right.
18		Exhibit 43 [sic] essentially the current
19		contract that he is going to fulfill when he
20		boards the new Stealth or the next Stealth
21		vessel and the rest of it is essentially his
22		personnel file including prior
23		qualifications, some of which may have
24		existed or come about after the collision
25		and some of his qualifications preexisting

- 1 WEIGEL TORCULAS
- 2 the collision.
- 3 MR. WEIGEL: Correct.
- 4 MR. UNDERHILL: Thank you. And there's
- 5 nothing in there, other than to the extent
- 6 you think they are relevant, to training for
- 7 the ALNIC --
- 8 MR. WEIGEL: Right.
- 9 MR. UNDERHILL: -- there's nothing
- 10 specific to this particular collision in
- 11 that document bunch.
- MR. WEIGEL: Well, in terms of the
- collision, there is one document I'm going
- to refer to, I'm going to ask him about,
- that probably does have relevance.
- 16 BY MR. WEIGEL:
- 17 Q. I'm going show to you one document which
- 18 I think we should mark separately as
- 19 Exhibit 344A.
- 20 (Discussion off record)
- 21 MR. WEIGEL: This is the document I want
- to refer to.
- 23 MR. UNDERHILL: There are no Bates
- stamps on this; correct?
- MR. WEIGEL: No. We just got them

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- 1 WEIGEL TORCULAS
- 2 today.
- 3 MR. UNDERHILL: That's not a criticism.
- 4 I'm just trying to --
- 5 MR. WEIGEL: No, no. I'm just trying to
- 6 say the reason there's no Bates stamp
- 7 numbers is because we just got it today.
- 8 MR. UNDERHILL: Thank you.
- 9 (Torculas Exhibit 344A, SEATRAIN
- 10 Certificate Safe Navigation Course, was
- 11 marked for identification.)
- 12 BY MR. WEIGEL:
- 13 Q. Okay. Mr. Torculas, I'm going to put in
- 14 front of you a document which the court reporter
- 15 marked as Exhibit 344A. And could you tell me
- 16 what that document is?
- 17 A. What this document is for, this is for
- 18 the safe navigation course. It means for the
- 19 passage planning and the chart correction for the
- 20 publications following with the agendas of the
- 21 company together with the ECDIS, how to use.
- 22 Actually it's written also at the back.
- 23 Q. And when did you attend that course?
- 24 A. February of 2017 before I joined
- 25 ALNIC MC.

- 1 WEIGEL TORCULAS
- 2 Q. And where did you -- this says at the
- 3 top SEATRAIN Maritime Training Center. Where is
- 4 SEATRAIN Maritime Training Center?
- 5 A. It was conducted in the Philippines,
- 6 sir, in-house.
- 7 Q. In-house with Selandia? Is that what
- 8 you're referring to?
- 9 **A.** Yes, sir.
- 10 Q. And if you look on the back page, was
- there any training included in this course on
- 12 bridge watch level manning?
- 13 A. Sir, on this chart, which was watch
- level -- yes, sir, it is in here.
- 15 MR. WEIGEL: Okay. I have no further
- 16 questions.
- MR. BROWN: I have a follow-up only
- 18 because you mentioned Mr. Torculas having
- 19 received ECDIS training at this event.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Yes, we have -- what they
- 21 call this -- a simulator, yeah, a simulator
- on the ECDIS.
- 23 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 24 BY MR. BROWN:
- 25 Q. So this class lasted from February 1st

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- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 to February 3rd; correct?
- 3 A. Yes. Correct, sir.
- 4 Q. So it was two or three days long; right?
- 5 **A.** Yes.
- 6 Q. Have you had other ECDIS training in
- 7 your career --
- 8 A. Plenty.
- 9 Q. -- prior to the collision?
- 10 A. Plenty, sir.
- 11 Q. Okay. Were you already ECDIS certified
- 12 by the time you took this course?
- 13 A. Which one, sir? Come again.
- 14 Q. Were you certified for ECDIS operation?
- 15 **A.** Yes, I am.
- 16 Q. Were you certified before you took this
- 17 class?
- 18 **A.** Yes, I am.
- 19 Q. And then in the three-day class, you
- studied all of the topics on the back page of
- 21 Exhibit 344A; correct?
- 22 A. Correct, sir.
- 23 Q. Did you take home any records or a
- 24 certificate from this class besides what we're
- 25 holding here? I don't want you to look through

- 1 BROWN TORCULAS
- 2 your records. I don't want to take the time.
- 3 But did you get any -- did you take any tests
- 4 that they let you keep after you took this class?
- 5 A. Yes, we have one. What do they call
- 6 this? A brief examination in the Philippines
- 7 after this training.
- 8 Q. Did they give you a book --
- 9 **A.** Yeah.
- 10 Q. I didn't mean to interrupt you. I'm
- 11 sorry.
- 12 Did they give you a book or any printed
- material to keep when you took this class?
- 14 A. Yes, but a thin one only, sir. A thin
- 15 one.
- 16 Q. A thin one only. But you got some
- 17 material from this course; right?
- 18 A. Yes. Still have.
- 19 MR. BROWN: I have no other questions.
- MR. WEIGEL: Anyone else? I guess not.
- Okay. Thank you very much.
- 22 (Witness excused)
- 23 (Whereupon, the deposition was
- concluded at 1:51 p.m.)
- 25 - -

224

1	BROWN - TOP	RCULAS		
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1	ATTESTATION
2	
3	I, the undersigned, have read the foregoing
4	transcript, and, with the exception of any
5	corrections specified on the attached correction
6	sheet, attest it constitutes a true and correct
7	transcription of my testimony given at the time
8	and place specified therein.
9	
10	
11	(Signed):
12	SECOND OFFICER PHILIP G. TORCULAS
13	
14	
15	WITNESS:
16	
17	
18	DATE:
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1	ERRATA SHEET
2	STATE OF GEORGIA)
3	COUNTY OF CHATHAM)
4	I wish to make the following changes for
5	the following reasons:
6	PAGE LINE
7	CHANGE:
8	REASON:
9	CHANGE:
10	REASON:
11	CHANGE:
12	REASON:
13	CHANGE:
14	REASON:
15	CHANGE:
16	REASON:
17	CHANGE:
18	REASON:
19	CHANGE:
20	REASON:
21	
22	
23	(Signed)
24	SECOND OFFICER PHILIP G. TORCULAS
25	

25

1	CERTIFICATE
2	GEORGIA:
3	CHATHAM COUNTY :
4	I hereby certify that the foregoing
5	transcript was taken down, as stated in the
6	caption, and the questions and answers thereto
7	were reduced to typewriting under my direction;
8	that the foregoing Pages 1 through 227 represent
9	a true and correct transcript of the evidence
10	given upon said hearing, and I further certify
11	that I am not of kin or counsel to the parties in
12	the case; am not in the regular employ of counsel
13	for any of said parties; nor am I in anywise
14	interested in the result of said case.
15	This, the 28th day of May, 2019.
16	
17	Georgia J. Winegeart, RPR, CCR 2848
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24	

				Page 1
			İ	
A	165:13 184:11	220:25	174:10	assume 54:19
A-2 132:19	agree 15:20 41:21	ALNIC's 40:10	applied 210:9	assumed 18:14
a.m 1:22 12:22	42:25 55:16 63:3	166:5 174:11	212:24	104:10
92:19,19 156:10	80:3 129:13	175:15	apply 36:6 48:24	assuming 155:20
AB 23:9 204:21	155:3 174:9	Alpha 93:8	49:3 59:9	166:7 167:16
ability 12:10	181:17 183:14	altered 22:17	applying 57:3	assured 104:13
able 37:10 49:25	185:7 186:17	ambiguous	appraisal 8:6,9	attached 144:4
51:18 52:13	187:19 189:9	190:14	129:20,25	146:7 225:5
54:16 56:23 57:6	203:15 204:7	America 2:12 12:5	133:16 135:3,8	attachment
61:5,6 69:18	205:3,18 207:9	Americas 2:7	135:25	145:11
75:2,12 109:7	213:10 214:9	anchorage 118:11	appraised 130:7	attachments
121:7 134:23	215:7	answer 19:24 24:4	appreciate 13:23	143:6,9 148:9
142:19 146:2	agreed 204:8	24:20 25:5,5,17	46:25	attend 220:23
170:14 171:25	agreeing 190:13	66:20 88:22	approach 37:11	attended 218:11
aboard 49:24 61:5	ahead 29:2,3	120:7 134:14	41:4	attention 194:10
69:18 70:9 121:5	42:16 43:10	171:22 190:10	approve 14:4	attest 225:6
168:6 170:12	88:13 92:15	190:17,21	approximately	ATTESTATION 5:9
Absolutely 178:10	95:25 96:2,23	207:15	201:23	225:1
215:10	145:4 190:11	answered 190:14	April 7:13 32:10	attorney 15:6
AC-C20 70:6	AIS 165:13,16	answering 60:19	109:10,14 199:7	attract 194:9
accepted 203:11	168:18,23	125:12	199:12,14,24	audit 10:15 137:21
access 39:5,8	169:10,16	answers 227:6	200:4	138:3,17 139:16
accident 172:15	174:14	antenna 146:8	area 43:9 77:8	140:9
accommodation	AL 3:4,19	147:5,8 148:5	103:24 125:5	August 17:3,14
44:15 47:4	Alan 2:4 14:11	154:12,18,19,21	Armbruster 4:4	18:4 20:21 23:19
accurate 63:4	58:23 69:9	165:21,24 166:5	Arnold 3:6 12:17	27:22 29:6 33:16
124:22 125:9	175:25 210:15	167:9,10 168:12	arrangement	35:25 36:3,5,10
accustomed 86:7	216:5 217:20	169:3,8,10,10,12	44:15	45:6,20 51:21
acquire 174:20	218:16	169:16,17	arrival 31:3 44:8	54:23 56:7,17
193:23	alarm 194:24	antennas 168:18 169:20	85:10 156:22	57:3 62:16 63:19
Act 1:18	alarms 195:2		160:14 161:9,18	69:2,2 75:13
action 192:25	Albarillo 4:21 12:7 12:11	Anthony 26:25 anticipate 123:2,4	162:15,25 163:2	76:7 82:4 83:8
actual 91:17	ALEXIS 4:1	anticipated	163:4 arrive 49:10 85:20	83:11,21,25 84:5
171:16	allowed 204:17	106:23 107:6,13	201:11	84:21,25 85:4,5 85:15,24 87:14
add 25:17 99:13	ALNIC 1:8 10:12	113:3 117:2	arrived 150:23	89:20 90:21,22
105:6	10:18 16:13 17:3	129:10	arriving 49:9	91:13 94:17,19
added 44:25 175:8	17:14 19:11	anticipates 115:18		95:4,13,24 96:16
addition 50:21	28:12,19 32:5	anticipating 123:9	195:20	96:18 97:8,25
145:9	35:7,12 39:23	anybody 14:19	asked 15:17 58:9	98:5,5,10,13
additional 45:10	41:23 44:17 45:8	66:24 100:21	101:7 120:8	122:3 135:9
adjusted 198:23	49:24 61:5 66:12	129:5 216:3	166:9 175:4,5	151:6,20 156:22
Admiralty 124:13	69:18 81:21	anyway 120:25	178:10,10 198:2	158:17,20 159:9
advance 86:6	128:14 130:11	anywise 227:13	asking 18:18	159:15,23
advice 150:13	142:3 151:17	appear 64:14,15	19:16 20:4 21:18	160:13 161:9
advise 144:23	158:4 161:6	73:24 94:9,10	57:23,25 187:18	163:4 164:11,12
affirmed 12:8	165:12 168:6	124:25 125:8	187:19 197:15	172:23 187:25
aft 57:17 58:3	171:13 173:8,13	176:19	202:11	204:15 206:12
74:16 160:18	173:20 181:18	Appearances 2:1	asks 14:24 134:14	207:23 209:7
afternoon 201:12	186:3 192:12,20	14:10	assignment	210:9 212:25
agendas 220:20	192:21 194:8,12	appeared 213:7	198:25	authorities 66:23
ago 49:24 51:19	196:12,25,25	appearing 13:7	assist 146:19	auto 114:17 115:2
61:24 69:19 72:12 91:7	198:16,18	178:14	assisting 183:25	204:24,25
12.12 31.1	209:21 219:7	appears 105:23	185:12	automatic 205:14

205:19	barrier 16:7	207:20,22	95:7,8 142:9	192:24 203:8,10
	Bartlett 4:12 13:17	benefit 217:22	143:13,13,15	203:15,16,19
automatically 81:2			160:14 169:13	
autopilot 20:5,22	159:2,3 215:24	berth 36:24		204:5 206:8,10
20:23 21:7,9,12	215:24	best 12:10	206:4 213:15	206:14,18,21
21:21 22:5,8	basically 40:12	better 56:8	bound 210:11,12	208:7 213:19,21
111:7,19 114:4	basis 66:13	big 210:25	bow 157:24	213:22,22
115:5 185:6	Bates 6:6,9,13 7:3	bigger 35:19	161:25 165:24	214:10 221:12
available 129:4	7:7,11,15,17,19	bit 51:8	192:16	Bridge's 6:8 34:24
134:2 141:19	7:21,23 8:2,4,6,9	black 173:9	Bowen 4:14	35:6,11
Avenue 1:20 2:7	8:12,16,20,23	blank 1:19 2:6	box 2:15,22	brief 223:6
2:24	9:2,4,7,8,10,13	27:18 201:8	128:10,23 129:3	bright 56:11
avoid 203:17,20	9:18 10:3,6,10	blast 194:14	Brave 143:21	British 124:13
aware 39:5 102:15	10:13,16,19,22	blasts 194:12	break 92:17,21	Broadway 3:22
102:18 148:25	11:2 26:19 29:7	block 53:7,12	98:17 156:8	brought 217:11
203:18 208:6	31:22 34:25	186:8	215:11 217:17	Brown 2:13 5:6,8
awareness 132:19	44:11 81:12,18	blocking 192:11	217:19	12:1 13:1,9 14:1
133:2	89:25 105:10	Blotevogel 4:5	bridge 6:12 7:2,6	14:13,13,17,23
100.2	112:2 115:9	BML2 103:19	7:13 8:22 16:13	15:1,4,6,15 16:1
2:10	116:15 117:19	128:10 129:4,7	17:22,25 18:2,3	16:20,25 17:1
2.10	121:22 123:14	129:14	18:5 23:21 24:10	18:1,10 19:1,9
В	123:17 129:20			19:21 20:1,17
		board 51:18,24	24:11,22 25:11	
B 3:20 60:13,15	135:3,7 137:22	53:21 71:5 76:6	25:24 30:2 36:9	21:1 22:1 23:1,9
61:8,8,9,10	139:19 141:22	131:11 145:15	44:10,16,21 45:8	23:12 24:1,23
93:19,20 168:8	142:24 147:19	147:8,12,15	45:19 46:4,10,14	25:1,7,16 26:1
B-a-l-i-l-i 23:10	149:6 151:10,13	148:18,21	46:16,18 47:13	26:21 27:1 28:1
BA 124:13,23	156:12 158:12	150:17,19,21,24	52:14 53:11	28:14 29:1 30:1
125:22	160:24 162:5	151:4 152:6	57:16 58:12	31:1,25 32:1,7,9
back 17:11 25:10	163:24 171:9	161:5 163:18	59:21,23,25 60:3	33:1 34:1 35:1,4
29:14 32:13	185:14 186:24	165:12 168:15	61:10 70:16 71:8	36:1 37:1 38:1
34:11 47:25	202:16 209:22	170:2	74:14 75:2,15	39:1,14 40:1,24
50:16 52:11,12	209:24 219:23	boarding 9:10	81:11,17,24	41:1,3,6 42:1
55:16,19 58:20	220:6	162:5,10,15,17	82:11 84:11 85:9	43:1 44:1,13
59:17 63:15	beam 192:19	boards 218:20	87:21 89:25 90:9	45:1,16 46:1
80:11,21 81:3,4	becoming 54:10	Boatright 3:5	104:14,16	47:1 48:1 49:1
87:21 105:23	beginning 17:18	12:12,15 13:19	106:24 107:6,13	50:1,9,18,24
121:17 125:11	36:4 81:17	13:23 14:5	107:17 108:3	51:1 52:1,20,22
125:12 126:23	143:19 164:11	215:25	109:9,13 110:12	53:1 54:1 55:1
128:9 130:16	184:8 188:5	book 6:8 9:13	113:3,6,20,24	56:1 57:1,11
137:11 138:4,11	begins 128:10	10:12 28:12,19	114:2 115:21	58:1,23 59:1,3
150:6 154:3	204:4	28:22 29:13 30:5	116:12 117:3,12	60:1,17,20 61:1
159:5 162:13	behalf 12:4 14:13	30:17,20 34:25	118:8 119:8,11	61:2 62:1,9 63:1
163:7,14 169:19	14:16	35:7,12,14,19,20	120:13,17,21	64:1,24 65:1,8
178:24 184:19	believe 83:20	35:24 36:11	121:8 122:24	65:25 66:1,2
198:21 204:15	126:9 131:6	163:24 164:4,10	126:20 129:11	67:1,2,24 68:1
		-		
208:4 210:23	146:3 178:17	164:20 206:21	129:16 136:19	68:14,22 69:1,9
220:22 221:10	183:7	207:6,7,12,20,23	142:3 149:6,11	69:15 70:1 71:1
222:20	bell 10:12 28:12	208:20 214:22	149:22 157:10	72:1 73:1 74:1
Balili 23:7,10	28:19,21 29:13	215:5,8 223:8,12	161:6 177:4,13	75:1 76:1 77:1
ballast 9:6 157:21	30:5,17,20 33:19	book/course	179:14,22	78:1 79:1 80:1
158:4,7,11,16	97:3 206:20	82:22	180:19 181:7	81:1,15 82:1
159:8,19,20	207:7,12,20,23	books 207:4	187:24 188:17	83:1 84:1,4 85:1
ballasted 160:2,7	208:19 214:22	boring 156:19	189:9,13,16,17	86:1 87:1 88:1,7
Baltimore 4:16	215:4,8	bottom 41:8 76:15	189:24 190:4,19	89:1,10 90:1,3
bang 192:12	bells 28:22 207:12	93:22 94:2,3,10	191:2,4,8,18	91:1,25 92:1,20
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
·				

				rage 3
93:1,3 94:1 95:1	185:1,17 186:1	called 18:15 38:9	Contor 221:2 4	128:5,20 129:6
	187:1,2 188:1	38:15	Center 221:3,4 Central 12:22	129:14 162:13
96:1 97:1,23		NOTE TO SERVICE STATE OF THE S		
98:1 99:1 100:1	189:1 190:1,11	calling 38:12,18	certain 31:18	188:17,21 189:5
101:1 102:1	190:15,23 191:1	camera 169:6	Certainly 41:5	189:10,20,21
103:1,8,9 104:1	192:1 193:1,15	171:17 172:17	108:21	191:22 192:8,11
104:23 105:1,12	194:1 195:1	172:18 183:17	certificate 5:11	192:14 194:3
106:1 107:1,4	196:1 197:1	184:5,10	9:21 220:10	214:2 220:19
108:1,17,20	198:1,6,7 199:1	capable 15:22	222:24 227:1	221:13
109:1,5,8,16	199:11,22,23	captain 17:21	certificates 217:7	charted 125:22
110:1 111:1,24	200:1 201:1	18:12,23 35:14	218:9	charts 47:20,24
112:1,4 113:1	202:1,19 203:1	36:15 38:5,12,19	certified 1:19	48:16 49:4 59:10
114:1 115:1,11	204:1 205:1	39:3 42:23 46:15	170:8 222:11,14	126:12 170:12
116:1,17 117:1	206:1 207:1,17	100:17 102:9	222:16	CHATHAM 226:3
117:21 118:1,24	208:1 209:1,20	104:24 106:2,6	certify 227:4,10	227:3
118:25 119:1	210:1,2,15,22	106:10 112:13	cetera 88:4,10	check 83:11,12,14
120:1,6 121:1,24	211:1,3 212:1	112:23 116:23	chance 130:10	88:24 89:6,7,11
122:1,8 123:1,19	213:1 214:1	118:4 120:12	182:12	89:12 133:22
124:1 125:1	215:1,11,14	121:17 122:20	change 22:20	144:22 145:6
126:1 127:1	216:1 217:15	131:11,25 132:8	70:25 71:8,8	149:17,22
128:1 129:1,23	221:17,24 222:1	133:15 143:25	72:14 75:18,22	checkboxes 107:7
130:1 131:1	223:1,19 224:1	145:5 146:6	97:11 162:20	checked 83:5 86:4
132:1 133:1	brushes 144:23	148:3 155:12,21	166:23 204:11	87:9 88:8 107:20
134:1,17 135:1,6	build 23:23 31:14	176:8 183:8	204:18,21,24	112:16 184:22
136:1 137:1,24	builder 45:4	185:23 186:9,12	205:19 226:7,9	checked/tested
138:1,8,10 139:1	built 34:6	187:4 193:13	226:11,13,15,17	82:20
139:21 140:1	bulbous 157:24	202:21 210:7	226:19	checking 88:15
141:1,24 142:1	bunch 219:11	212:20 213:3,10	changed 22:22	106:5,6,8 149:15
143:1,2,18,20	bundle 216:8,16	captain's 37:23,25	48:20 70:23	checklist 7:2
144:1 145:1	217:2,5 218:14	42:9 145:2 152:3	71:11 136:16	10:16 81:12,17
146:1 147:1,22	busy 34:20	154:4	157:20 196:2,7	81:24 84:20,24
148:1 149:1,9	button 76:22	caption 227:6	changeover	85:8,9,12,20,22
150:1 151:1,12	80:17,25 178:23	car 181:5,20 185:4	205:14	86:3 87:22 88:8
152:1 153:1	BW2 110:17	card 9:10 162:5,10	changes 196:10	137:22 138:4
154:1 155:1,18	BW3 110:9	162:15,17	226:4	140:2,3,5,8,11
156:1,8,14 157:1	BWC2 111:3	cardboard 79:6	changing 71:4,6	checklists 81:21
158:1,10,14	bypass 145:10,15	career 222:7	181:19 205:4	checkmark 86:14
	154:7	cargo 157:3,4	channel.' 193:2	checks 82:9,14,15
159:1,4,6,21,22	bypassed 147:8		The state of the s	106:10
160:1 161:1,2		carried 70:9	characterization	Chelios 135:18,19
162:1,8 163:1	bypassing 147:14 150:12 151:3	145:22 204:12 205:5	19:8 Charles 4:15	136:10
164:1,2 165:1,9		l	Charles 4:15	CONTROL TO THE TRANSPORT OF THE PARTY OF THE
166:1,9,14,15	152:7	carry 145:10	chart 44:21 46:23	Chelios' 136:5
167:1,2,3,6,19	С	carrying 159:8	47:17,19,21	chief 45:25 46:9
167:23 168:1,4		case 12:16 15:8	48:18,19,24,24	46:19 82:8
169:1 170:1	C 9:17 61:15,17	52:8 61:3 227:12	49:14,15,17,20	157:23 188:15
171:1,11 172:1	93:25 168:2,8	227:14	50:5 51:12 53:10	189:19 190:5
173:1 174:1	169:5	cast 84:8,9,14	53:13,14,25,25	191:9,19 193:12
175:1,12,25	C-24 137:4,5	casualty 67:7	54:20,25 56:6,15	China 34:13,17,21
176:1,6,13 177:1	cable 147:9	208:6	57:2,3,18 58:3,7	37:12 43:13
177:7,21,24	Caj 3:5 12:15	Catholics 199:17	58:10,13 59:9,16	CHINIGO 3:12
178:1,2,4 179:1	California 2:25	199:19	61:25 64:12	13:15 215:21
179:3 180:1,10	call 38:5,8,22 39:2	caution 42:22	123:22,24 124:5	circle 40:8 74:3,7
180:24 181:1,25	39:4 42:23		124:6,13,18,22	169:2,15,16,24
182:1,4,7 183:1	104:12 221:21	3:10	125:2,6,9,12,22	173:14,16
183:15,16 184:1	223:5	CCR 227:17	126:15 127:12	175:14 183:2
		U s	<u>l</u>	

				<u> </u>
circles 41:18	48:4 50:22 51:5	121:16 123:6	140:4	33:12,13,16,24
173:9	51:5 58:11 59:19	124:15 130:17	conducted 221:5	34:7,9,14,15
circuit 145:15	61:22 66:3,5,7,7	130:25 133:14	confirm 93:16,21	35:16 36:6,16
147:11,15	68:18 70:10	134:5 135:20	94:11 125:18	37:5,8,9 38:3,20
148:17,21	75:19 100:12	196:20,21	confused 101:13	39:10,23,24
150:16,19,24	101:4,11,18,20	197:16 198:4,8	105:4 190:25	41:10,13,14,19
151:4 152:6	102:7,13 103:3	205:3 220:21	198:5	42:6,14 43:5,11
Civil 1:17	102:7,13 103:3		confusion 159:19	44:8,22 45:12
Claimant 2:12	104:8,22 105:2	company's 102:21 133:9 202:22	congested 43:14	46:2,11 47:11
3:19 4:11 12:4	104.6,22 103.2	compare 96:11,13	CONN 18:13,23	48:4,5,9,12,13
CLAIMANTS 3:4	120:11,11	124:6 125:17	102:9 104:2,25	48:17,21,25 49:2
4:1	122:11 124:19	compared 45:5	114:7,19	49:9,18,19,22
clarification	125:24 135:11	93:10 123:25	conning 30:9	50:18 53:11
190:10	135:23 137:18	compass 9:13	33:20 98:24	
clarify 65:25	157:18,21 160:8	163:23 164:4,21	100:18 111:2	54:14,17,21 55:7 55:10,13,14,25
104:19	161:22 162:18	164:24 165:2	188:10	56:24 57:7,8
class 221:25	162:19 169:25	Compatibility	considered 132:5	58:4 59:10 61:11
222:17,19,24	170:9 173:6	133:9	132:10	61:18,19,22 62:2
223:4,13	180:18 181:19	Complaint 1:6	console 74:14,17	62:17,21,24
CLEAN 196:3,8	184:22 187:6,16	complete 82:7	74:22,25 154:17	63:17,24,64:3,8
clear 42:17,18,19	191:12,15,16	83:12 105:17	consoles 142:3	64:13 65:13,16
42:24 43:7 52:24	192:5,7 194:4,10	206:13,16,20	constitutes 225:6	65:18 66:16 67:4
61:20 93:23	194:12,14,20,25	completed 27:8,13	contact 43:6,6	67:5,8,15,16
103:6,10,15,20	196:13,23	82:3,6 83:11	175:14	68:15,24 69:4,7
141:7 190:24	198:20 202:4	84:20,24 85:12	contacts 43:5	70:2,5,13,14
194:16	204:16 207:23	85:19 135:15	contains 28:17	71:12,18,24 72:3
clearance 127:23	213:11,14 214:3	140:7 152:17	29:9	72:10 74:4,14,19
127:25	218:12,24 219:2	compliant 67:17	continue 33:14	75:7 76:19,24,25
clearly 15:23	219:10,13 222:9	complied 120:23	97:22	78:20 79:3,14,15
clerk's 13:2,25	column 33:2,4	complies 52:21	continued 188:16	82:4,12,17 83:8
clicked 178:23	82:15 113:7	74:9	continues 179:7	83:22 84:7 85:15
clip 80:11,21 81:3	come 15:17 36:8,9	computer 51:11	contract 9:20	86:15,17,23 87:7
183:11,11	38:25,25 46:5,10	51:23 58:14,16	198:15 216:10	87:10,14 88:11
clipped 78:4,21	47:23 76:12	59:5 133:21,23	216:23 217:3	88:20 90:15,22
clipping 77:24	104:13 121:3	171:17,18 172:2	218:3,4,19	91:3,8,14 92:23
clock 182:16	135:22 163:18	concept 203:11	controlled 90:12	93:14 94:19
close 42:6 80:10	174:5 193:19	concern 42:21	controlling 90:13	95:13,14,15,18
80:13 173:18,18	195:21 199:2	concerned 49:7	Convention 67:15	95:19 96:9,10,25
close-up 94:9	212:9 218:24	63:5	conversation	97:4,9,12,13,20
closed 54:20,22	222:13	concerns 38:7	191:17	97:21 98:2,3,6,7
54:24 55:2 57:22	comes 77:2	169:6	copies 217:14,18	98:15 99:11,17
57:24	coming 43:10 53:8	concluded 223:24	copy 124:12 187:5	100:7,8,25 102:4
closer 163:17	58:15 66:24	condition 106:24	corner 41:8 90:17	102:11 103:13
168:17	127:3 133:5	107:14 110:13	160:14 169:9	105:15,21,22,24
closest 37:11	183:22 200:20	113:3,4,24	correct 16:18	105:25 106:11
coffee 213:21	212:9	115:19 117:3	17:19,25 18:4	106:15,21
coincide 33:22	commences 86:8	118:8 119:19,24	19:3 20:11,13,24	107:14,25 108:2
34:6	commencing 1:22	120:14,18,21	21:11,20 22:9,23	108:4,5,7,8,11
collecting 181:10	comments 130:17	121:12 123:7,9	23:3 24:15 26:16	109:21,22 110:7
collide 191:21,25	136:4 137:14	129:11 136:20	27:16,17,19,20	110:20,21,24
collided 17:4	138:20 147:7	200:25	28:2,7,23 29:3	111:8,9,12,13,19
101:15	company 66:19	conditions 107:7	29:11,12,20 30:3	113:4,8,9,11,12
colliding 101:16	67:6 100:22	121:18 200:22	30:6,9,10,18	113:14,15 114:4
collision 26:7,12	120:12,20	conduct 48:11	32:11,21,24,25	114:8,9,11,12,14
	•	•	•	

				rage 3
	l		- <u></u> -	
114:15,17,20	172:3,23 173:3,4	227:11,12	D	21:23 22:12
115:2,6,13,16,19	173:6,10,11,23	COUNTY 226:3	D 5:1 7:10 93:2,7	24:25 28:5 29:10
115:20,22,23	173:24 174:3,15	227:3	94:8	29:25 30:6 33:18
116:2,9,12,20,21	175:15,19 179:5	couple 69:19	D-1 138:12	44:11,16 47:9,13
116:24 117:3,4,9	183:9,13 184:6	218:3	daily 66:13 89:17	59:25 60:6,12,13
117:13,14,23,24	184:25 186:3,6,9	course 9:22 39:6	danger 132:5,10	60:15,23 61:8,8
118:5,6,8,9,15	186:20 188:12	44:6 87:4 158:3	dangerous 173:18	61:9,10,15,17
118:16 119:5,9	188:18,19,23	174:18 180:6	175:14,17 183:2	98:19 102:15
119:10,16,20	189:2,13,17	181:19 220:10	DARIO 3:12	108:13,18
121:9,19,20	190:5,20 191:2,3	220:18,23		109:20,25 110:6
122:11,12,14,15	191:6 192:20	221:11 222:12	darkness 54:13	111:21 113:17
122:17,12,14,13	193:18,24	223:17	dashed 173:13,16	116:4 117:5
122:25 123:9,10	195:15,18,23	courses 23:2	179:8	118:18 119:2
			data 39:6,10 40:12	
124:13,16,17	196:14 198:14	218:9,10	172:15 178:7,12	121:6,13,17
125:2,3,6,15,24	199:3,12,14	court 1:1,19 4:6	214:24	129:16 152:17
126:5,13,14,18	200:5 202:24	12:12,23,25 68:6	date 16:15 17:3	164:13 165:5
126:21,25	203:2,8,22	208:8 216:8,15	85:12 90:17,20	187:23 188:20
127:12 128:2,3,6	204:25 205:6,11	220:14	95:21,23,24 96:3	205:25 206:6,9
128:24 129:7,11	205:25 207:24	courts 102:19,23	96:8,9 110:8	206:13 207:3,6
129:12,17,18	208:12,13,20,23	cover 16:15,16,16	130:4,6 134:6	208:19 209:6
130:2,8,25 131:2	209:7 210:5,9,12	16:17 98:18	149:25 214:23	210:8 213:7
131:12,15,16	210:13 211:11	147:8	225:18	decks 61:10,13
132:23 133:10	212:4,25 213:8,9	covers 32:10	dated 7:13 105:14	214:6,12
135:9,11 137:13	214:20 215:2,3,5	CPA 36:25 37:11	109:10,14 135:9	declare 66:10
137:15,16,19,20	215:6,9,10 219:3	38:2 42:10 44:2	143:22 146:11	deem 108:18
138:18,24	219:24 222:2,3	crew 8:6,9 27:3	149:12 160:13	deemed 16:21
140:12 141:2,9	222:21,22 225:6	67:4 129:19,25	dates 16:16,17	109:3 111:23
141:12,19 142:9	227:9	135:2 150:12	117:15 121:4	deeming 109:9
142:20 143:18	corrected 47:24	207:11	day 24:12 26:3	defect 144:4
143:23 144:3,6,9	48:15 49:8,11	crewing 197:13,21	51:5 65:22 79:23	146:13
144:10,11,12,15	83:15 209:3	197:22 198:3	80:2 88:16,17	defend 134:11
145:3,6 146:11	214:16	critical 132:2	89:14 95:15	deficiencies 13:2
146:15 147:2,5	correction 48:18	criticism 220:3	108:22 114:16	definition 203:8
147:25 148:5,18	60:4 209:2,5,10	CROSS-EXAMIN		delay 44:7
149:12 150:25	209:11,14	5:7 216:13	123:5 146:3	deleted 127:17
151:17,20,24	220:19 225:5	cross-track	149:21,21,23,23	Department 2:14
152:4,8,15,21,25	corrections 48:25	170:24 171:3	152:18,21,24	2:21
153:2,4,5,12,20	49:3 53:14 56:10	crossing 192:25	160:3 201:11,14	departure 211:25
154:15 155:13	57:3 58:14 59:9	cubic 158:24	201:15,18	Depending 73:13
155:23 156:2,3,6	189:6 208:15	159:8,12,16,24	204:16 217:16	depict 167:15
156:7 158:18	225:5	160:3	227:15	depicted 173:8
159:16,24 160:3	correctly 26:10	curious 137:2	daylight 145:6	depicted 173.0 depiction 125:9
160:4,15,18,19	37:2 38:10,17	current 218:4,18	152:3	deposed 15:19
	48:23 63:11	curtain 54:13 55:5	days 72:18,19,19	201:4
160:22 161:6,10 161:19 162:2,3			98:4 131:5,8,9	
	72:14 81:25	55:10	222:4	deposition 1:15
162:11 163:9,12	82:23 86:9,12	curtains 49:21	daytime 179:18,19	6:3 13:7 15:9,12
163:13 164:5,6,8	111:4 132:6	50:4 52:9,10,16	179:24	15:18 176:8
164:13,14,16,21	145:12 146:9	53:4 54:7,17,20	DC 2:16	183:8 185:19
164:22,25 165:5	152:23 159:14	54:24 56:18,21	deal 210:25	187:4 188:5
165:6,25 168:19	160:21 186:15	57:7 188:25	deballasted	197:8,15 199:2
168:23 169:3,4	counsel 1:16 2:1	192:4	157:24 159:15	202:22 223:23
169:13 170:2,3,9	13:17 14:18,23	customary 46:5	160:7 161:22	describe 217:24
170:10,12,13,16	68:4 92:3 134:18	cut 138:9	deck 6:12,16 17:8	described 110:5
170:17 171:7	134:22 215:18			121:4
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	1	ı

describes 102:22	65:9,11,12 68:13		embarrass 131:25	engine 69:9,23,25
107:17 147:4	69:3 90:11,15	<u>E</u>	employ 227:12	71:7 72:16 82:22
describing 102:2	91:12 102:16	E 4:21 5:1 12:7	employment 9:20	82:25 83:5,20
Description 6:2	112:7 130:4,8,11	227:2	216:11,24	84:6 87:5,5,13
10:2	130:16 150:11	e-mail 8:14 10:3	empty 28:3,4	91:2,17 92:23
		13:21 142:22		96:16,20 97:8,25
detail 47:2	151:14 157:7	143:5,9,9,13,16	73:22 74:10 77:9	
detained 47:23	160:20 168:9	143:17,21,22,25	77:9,10 78:16	98:8,14,24 124:2
developing 164:21	207:14 217:4	144:5,13,19	79:3,6 94:22	148:23 207:2,3,4
device 175:5,8	219:11,13,17,21	145:3 146:4	96:4 159:13	207:10,18
diagram 45:2,4	220:14,16,17	147:24 148:8	ended 26:5 61:22	214:24,25
168:12,14,25	documentary	151:23 152:4	ends 63:21 94:18	engineer 144:14
169:19	208:3,8	154:4 155:12	Energetic 1:7 6:6	English 12:9,9
different 28:17	documents	185:14,22 186:2	6:9,13,19 7:4,8	15:22
33:6 43:5 45:4	156:19 189:4,5	186:9,12	7:16,18,20,22,24	enter 18:17 38:9
51:4,7 52:2,5	216:9,16,19,21	e-mail's 143:6	8:3,5,7,10,13,16	entered 166:4,7
120:8 122:5	216:22 217:2,5	E-mail/Ship 8:18	8:20,24 9:3,5,7,9	entering 38:10
123:23 161:17	217:24 218:6,14	147:18	9:11,14,19 10:4	49:4 104:12
161:20 166:11	doing 24:4 43:24	earlier 40:11 46:3	10:6,11,14,17,20	entries 17:12
172:5,6 196:20	44:4 54:19 59:15	58:9 86:22 97:10	10:23 11:3 26:19	22:17,18 29:10
198:14 200:22	60:3 96:20 97:25	101:6 123:25	29:7 31:23 35:2	29:17 90:14 97:6
218:8,10	98:14 110:4	192:3 195:11	35:25 44:11,20	98:22 99:2
differently 40:22	173:3 183:21	206:17 208:11	62:6,19 81:13,18	101:10 103:7,11
dim 56:9	204:2 218:16	217:16	86:3 87:17,23	103:13,16
Dimitris 130:22	door 199:6 200:5	early 199:24	89:25 90:4,7	151:19 152:14
DIRECT 5:6 15:3	doors 57:24	easier 93:11	92:3 109:12	155:7,13 158:4
direction 227:7	double-checking	east 43:23	112:2 115:9	164:10,12,15
discuss 21:17	47:20,21 49:11	ECDIS 44:25 45:9	116:15 117:19	187:23 206:5,10
38:6 200:21,24	double-sided	51:4,7,25 52:2,3	119:3 121:22	207:12 208:22
211:13 212:6,8	167:7	55:12 170:2,5,8	122:3 123:14,17	209:3,6,14
212:16,17,19	dozen 43:4	170:15,19,22	123:21,23	entry 18:6,19 20:7
discussed 188:4	draft 161:13,15,24	171:14,23 172:4	124:16 129:20	20:13,18 21:18
188:11,18	161:25	172:5,9,12 173:2	129:24 132:3	22:15 24:14
195:13 201:22	drafts 160:14,18	173:17,20,22	135:3,7 137:22	29:20,22 30:3,5
208:11	161:17	174:3,15,19	138:8,12 139:19	30:6,9,21 33:12
discussing 98:25	draught 161:14,16	178:15 186:13	141:22 142:2,24	33:15 68:3 86:17
103:25 177:11	drawer 76:19 77:2	186:18 220:21	143:4,14 146:24	91:9 92:8,14
178:9	drawers 76:5	221:19,22 222:6	147:20 148:13	99:17,20,21,23
discussion 34:23	drawing 208:16	222:11,14	149:7,10 151:10	100:2,10,14,19
50:8 84:3 91:21	Dretakis 185:24	echo 182:10	151:13 152:13	100:22,24 101:7
92:18 156:9	185:25 186:5	edit 136:15	156:12,16	101:8 102:8,12
191:13 215:12	Dripps 4:3,4 190:9	edits 90:16	158:12,16	103:2,25 109:25
219:20	190:12 215:23	either 160:10	160:24 161:4	110:16,22 116:7
disk 172:2,10	215:23	173:25	162:5,10 163:24	118:20 119:4
Dispense 107:11	Drips 13:20,20	electrical 149:2	164:3 171:9,12	129:16 152:25
display 165:20	26:14,14 190:16	electrician 149.2	176:7 185:15,20	153:3,6,14,18
distance 40:15	Drive 3:7	141:8 146:19,20	186:24 201:5	155:5 156:2,3,6
41:9,22 43:19	driving 181:4,20	electronic 51:12	202:17 203:5	158:20 188:4,12
distances 165:24	185:4	70:19	204:9 205:7,23	206:13,16,20
DISTRICT 1:1,2	duly 12:3,8 138:14	elements 137:18	209:22,24	208:17 209:4
diverted 72:22	195:7		Energetic's	environment
DOCKET 1:5	duties 48:3 132:19	eliminating 203:12 elimination 204:6	134:18,22	48:20
document 12:24	133:3	else's 180:14	Energetics 7:12	EOPL 118:10
15:10 16:24 35:9	duty 27:16 63:23		105:10	equipment 7:7
62:12 64:23 65:7		187:15	engaged 86:6	8:23 52:4 69:20
32.12 3 1.20 33.7			2.194904 00.0	0.20 02. 1 00.20

				i age i
70.4 0 16 71.16	oveited 50:14 15	158:11,15	FALCON 196:2,5	96:12 101:25
70:4,8,16 71:16 74:13,23 75:10	excited 59:14,15	160:13,23 161:4		110:22 135:17
I	exciting 156:21		198:22,25 200:7	
75:11,13 82:11	excuse 21:5 27:25	161:19 162:4,9	200:11,21	143:16 145:6
82:20 83:2 88:3	135:14	162:22 163:23	false 20:13,18,19	186:11 194:13
88:9 89:25 90:9	excused 223:22	164:3 165:7,10	20:19 24:14 30:2	197:11 199:8
91:6 140:25	executed 122:23	165:20 167:7,25	30:6,9 34:6	200:2,4 201:10
149:6,12,15	executing 122:10	168:5,8,11 171:8	65:19,20 67:20	213:17,18 217:4
150:3 165:17	125:24	171:12 176:4	67:25 68:15,16	218:2
169:7	Executive 4:6	183:8,12 185:14	86:17 102:12	fitted 207:2
equipments 88:15	exhibit 15:8,11	185:18 186:2,18	103:2 155:13	five 72:19 80:6
erase 126:10	16:21 26:17,22	186:23 187:3	188:5,11,13	97:11,19 194:11
127:10,11,14,15	28:12,15 31:22	202:15,20	208:22	194:14,19
128:23,25	32:2,3 34:24	209:19,21 210:4	familiar 27:7,12	fix 145:24
ERRATA 5:10	35:6 39:12,15	210:4 211:7	35:11 158:7	fixed 145:22
226:1	44:10,14 47:10	216:10,17	170:4 202:7	fixes 127:18
error 9:13 73:25	50:13,17,18	218:18 219:19	familiarization	flag 88:4
74:4 163:23	51:15 52:25 53:3	220:9,15 222:21	138:13,21,23	flags 88:10
164:4,21,23	53:17 55:3,5	exhibit's 177:22	139:12 140:8	flew 200:10
165:3 170:25	57:9,12 58:21	exhibits 6:1 7:1	far 12:20 98:12,23	flip 26:25
171:3 203:13,17	59:5 60:23 61:3	8:1 9:1 10:1	151:3 171:5	Floor 2:23 3:14
203:22	62:4,10 63:16	91:22 92:22	174:20	focus 136:24
errors 103:22	69:12,16,20 74:3	108:19 167:19	fast 15:25	folks 12:19 217:23
204:6 214:16	76:16 78:23	existed 218:24	February 220:24	follow 36:18 37:16
especially 52:12	81:11,16,21,23	exists 40:13 151:5	221:25 222:2	37:18 42:11,23
Esquire 2:4,5,13	82:17 85:9 89:24	151:6	fed 80:24	43:25 66:22
2:20 3:5,12,20	90:4 92:4,7,13	Exoneration 1:9	feed 80:14,16 81:9	120:5 126:25
4:3,12	92:15,25 93:5,8	expect 47:22	154:18,23	143:8 210:11,12
essentially 218:18	93:17,22 94:5,14	166:20	feel 125:13 169:19	follow-up 221:17
218:21	94:25 95:7 96:12	experiencing	file 218:22	followed 37:23,25
estimate 80:7	96:12,17,24 97:7	165:3	fill 32:23 140:15	following 37:21
estimated 44:7	97:16 105:9,14	explain 32:14	filled 94:21 138:14	54:23 82:20 86:4
et 3:4,19 88:4,10	105:24 109:3,4,9	92:10 136:10	140:14	129:25 220:20
event 96:8,9 97:15	109:13 110:2,5	158:22 174:23	final 10:21 11:1	226:4,5
97:18 100:5	111:22,25 112:5	174:24	186:23 187:5	follows 12:6
208:6 217:20	115:8,12 116:14	exported 172:14	209:23	fore 160:18
221:19	116:18 117:18	extent 219:5	find 146:7 165:2	foregoing 225:3
events 110:5	117:22 121:21	exterior 167:10	218:13	227:4,8
everybody 89:3	122:2,5 123:13	extra 76:6 134:6	findings 144:24	forget 25:19,20
evidence 181:10	123:16,21,22		fine 24:5 58:24	73:5 121:2
208:3,8 227:9	124:21 125:4,14	F	74:8 166:14	202:12
exact 46:12,13	125:19 126:3,20	F 87:25 88:3	167:24 169:24	forgot 26:8 40:22
163:20	128:7 129:14,15	FA 160:17	201:21 202:10	70:25 72:13
exactly 38:17	129:19,24	face 176:23,25	210:22	75:18 76:4 78:25
examination 5:3,6	132:18 135:2,7	facilities 213:23	finish 24:3 37:24	79:21 84:12
5:8 15:3 218:5	137:3,21,25	214:2,10	59:12 60:18 73:9	135:17 172:5
221:23 223:6	138:2,7 139:18	facing 55:13,14	84:23 140:24	form 68:10 139:12
exception 225:4	139:22 141:21	74:21	157:16 212:18	144:5 146:15
excerpt 6:9 28:16	141:25 142:22	fact 21:6 24:11	finished 72:20	147:2 148:14
34:25 35:18	143:3,5 146:6,24	31:6,7 37:10	firm 12:17	166:6 195:8
81:17 122:4	147:18,24 148:8	50:5 65:15 69:6	first 12:3,8 21:12	formal 190:3
138:3 164:7	148:10,13 149:5	85:19 88:24	32:13 51:14 73:4	formality 21:14
excerpts 16:22	149:10 150:7	102:21 129:9	76:16,21 77:13	31:13,15 104:20
exchange 110:9	151:9,13 154:17	137:17	77:14 81:23	Format 7:6 89:24
113:19	155:8 156:11,16	fair 45:11 185:10	92:14 94:14	forms 138:14
	<u> </u>		<u> </u>	

				i age o
forward 55:6,10	general 211:5	goog 20:0 01:10	granting 14:6	102:2 17 10
55:13,14 74:21	217:2,6	goes 30:8 81:18 95:17 110:25	growing 164:24	103:3,17,18 104:6 105:2
161:13,14,24	generally 27:6,12	114:6 189:8	guess 223:20	140:9 194:25
173:13 192:16	39:16 217:23	208:14,25	guy 184:2,10	202:4 213:12
	gentleman 176:16	210:18	201:6	
found 47:24 139:5				happening 96:16 149:2
139:6 140:15	176:19 177:8,12	going 14:9,21	gyrocompass 165:3	
four 42:4 80:6,10	178:5 179:14	16:12,23 19:19	100.5	happens 203:21
93:6 101:25	180:5 181:2,15	21:14 32:2 36:10	Н	hard 88:23
four-hour 152:20	182:9	38:24 47:21 49:4		head 41:24 44:22
fourth 214:15	gentlemen 201:7	49:8,12 50:15,16	H 210:18	47:7 57:18,20,25
FRANCESCO 4:1	George 26:25	53:24 59:24	hair 48:2	58:6 63:8
Francisco 2:25	Georgia 1:17,18	60:20 68:18	half 29:2	heading 37:15
49:25 free 125:13 169:19	226:2 227:17	72:25 78:14 91:16 93:4,9	HAMRA 2:5 hand 16:13 20:5	38:2 39:20
frequently 212:11	getting 57:15 59:14 85:22	95:19 106:21	20:10,20,24 21:3	headings 39:21,21 headlines 181:4
	145:14	122:23 124:5		hear 51:8 72:14
front 16:16,17 21:23 44:24	give 36:24 37:10		21:7,11,13,15,20 21:25 22:4,7	
50:16 62:19 74:2	42:21 67:7 134:6	127:4 131:15 137:25 139:22		176:15 177:8,10
	137:9 223:8,12		30:11,14 32:2	178:5 180:5,11
74:22 98:19	given 13:8 40:13	141:6 164:11 167:16 174:20	49:12 79:10 92:9 92:15 93:4 98:24	181:2,5,14,15 182:8 184:7,8
132:18 137:2 156:15 168:9	125:15 130:10	174:22 175:25	102:3,10 114:17	191:17 193:19
		176:8,9 181:18	114:19 115:2	193:22 195:4
210:14 211:7	132:19 225:7 227:10	185:20 187:3,11	137:25 139:22	heard 179:4
216:16,23 220:14	gives 111:8 203:7	191:20,25	187:3 204:25,25	193:14 194:17
fulfill 218:19	giving 14:3 173:22	193:13 196:6,9	hand/manual	194:19,21,24
full 19:23 35:20	197:8	198:21 206:4	111:3	hearing 191:13
77:11,18 88:21	GMS 10:5,9 32:4	212:9 214:11,12	handed 26:22 35:5	193:2,17 194:11
96:22 167:17	102:22 107:17	215:16 218:19	52:7 57:12 61:3	194:18 227:10
fully 47:24 170:8	120:21 133:9,14	219:13,14,17	62:10 92:21	heavy 43:16 53:4
function 154:9,11	133:20,24 134:2	220:13	105:13 112:6	helmsman 86:6
154:24 171:23	134:7 138:14	Golden 2:24	141:25 143:3	helmsmen 204:11
172:5,12,24	139:3,18 140:7	good 15:5 45:18	147:23 158:15	204:17 205:10
functioning	200:12 202:15	54:16 56:5 66:19	162:9 188:14	help 50:6 52:9
140:25	202:22 210:12	66:25 67:3 73:10	210:3	60:20 64:18
functions 172:6	214:19	78:3 79:25 83:6	handing 15:8	88:22 126:20
further 18:11	GMT 173:5 182:18	88:10 103:8	185:18 202:20	160:6 161:21
21:17 148:25	go 33:9 34:11	108:20 124:7	handle 93:11	170:15 191:8
208:2 221:15	42:16 43:20,21	149:16 159:21	Handling 9:6	193:20,22
227:10	44:5 46:22 47:6	192:25 203:15	158:12,17	203:20,24
FURUNO 52:3	49:24 58:6,10,13	Google 199:22	handover 138:13	helped 52:8
170:2,5,14,19	59:17,21,22 73:4	gotten 99:13	handwriting 17:17	184:15
172:13,15,25	75:24 78:2,22	133:6 198:13	17:20 18:23	helpful 217:15
173:2,17 175:5,8	86:2 88:13 95:25	217:13	21:22 22:4,6	helping 189:19
175:13 178:6,15	96:2 106:9	government 15:7	23:6 29:14,19,23	190:4
	115:25 116:11	50:19	33:24 111:7	helps 61:4 169:20
G	128:16 130:16	GPS 10:13 31:22	121:7 128:8,9,11	hide 121:11
G 1:15 5:5 12:2	141:11 145:4	32:14,16,23	handwritten 17:15	higher 115:22
210:18 225:11	149:14 152:24	33:19 169:12	101:5 126:19	119:19 121:3
226:23 227:2,2	154:3 166:22	206:16	hang 50:4	122:23 157:24
Garcia 111:12	176:2 190:11	grade 132:22	hanging 52:16	highlighted 36:13
117:9 119:5	204:15,21	133:2,6 137:3,6	happen 104:21	36:24 136:5
Gate 2:24	210:23 212:11	137:9	123:11,12	hit 179:11 180:2
gathering 181:13	216:25	grades 132:19	happened 97:7	180:22 193:14
gear 86:5,19	goal 204:5	granted 13:4	101:18 102:13	194:22
	1	1	1	I

				J
hits 192:7,12	162:7 163:25	indicate 23:18	186:24 187:6	June 140:8
hitting 194:22	165:8 168:3	27:15 99:19	202:14 209:24	Justice 2:14,21
HOAGLAND 3:4	171:10 176:5	129:16 152:12	investigators 67:7	0431100 2.14,21
hoc 12:18 13:8	216:12 220:11	indicated 29:2,4	179:17,24	K
Hofmann 3:13	identified 108:4	66:15 79:10	involved 119:15	Karl 4:21 12:7
13:15 215:21	II 106:25 107:7,14	112:20,21	146:17 172:7,8	keel 127:25
hold 52:23 96:14	107:21 113:4	161:18 195:14	176:10	keep 32:20 37:24
109:6	114:2 115:19,22	195:18	involving 208:7	37:25 54:16,20
holding 171:17	117:3,12 118:8	indicates 12:24	issue 35:15 216:4	76:2 127:5 141:6
183:17 184:5	119:9,20 121:2,9	153:10 160:20	216:5	141:14 176:22
222:25	122:24 129:11	192:23 194:7	item 149:19	190:24 223:4,13
Holy 199:9,10,17	129:17	indicating 43:22	iterations 28:18	kept 214:23
199:25 200:2	II's 108:6 113:7	58:19 59:2 76:11	Itkin 3:6 12:17	key 195:7
home 128:16	III 4:12 107:8,19	78:14	215:25	keypad 142:9
199:7 222:23	110:13 113:20	indication 75:5		kin 227:11
hour 27:18 32:21	119:11,24	129:15 152:9	J	kind 16:7 47:3
46:6 64:10 66:11	120:14,18,21,25	information 13:24	J 1:18 227:17	81:5 132:15
114:11	121:12 123:3,7,9	41:2 132:16	JAMES 4:12	Kindly 186:12
hours 6:5,17 26:18	200:25	161:8 173:22	JASON 3:19	kinds 128:4
26:23 27:6 49:9	III's 108:7 113:8	inherent 169:7		180:19
62:5,15,16,20	Illinois 4:7	initial 194:5	4:18	knew 21:10 22:7
63:4,16 66:3,9	image 39:16,22	214:17	Jennifer 4:11	120:20
66:22 67:12	40:25 41:15	initialed 37:5	13:17	knob 204:23,24
68:23 69:3	45:12,18,18	209:2	Jim 159:3,4	knock 200:5
110:22 182:23	52:25 55:9,12,19	initials 34:2	job 71:10 73:3	know 16:3,8 21:3
195:8 201:25	55:24 71:20,21	ink 17:12 21:18	79:16,19 80:4	21:6 25:8,10
202:2	71:22 168:11	inside 21:14 22:19	190:24 197:4	38:19 39:8,25
house 197:14,17	169:5 171:16	42:3 78:3 166:17	198:18	40:4,13 44:25
197:19	181:17	173:9	jobs 105:20	49:23 60:7,11
housekeeping	images 50:16	inspection 8:22	198:13	61:9 65:21 67:10
109:17	71:14	140:5 149:6,11	John 3:4 17:4	72:16 73:2,21
Houston 1:20 3:8	immediately 58:3	149:25	101:15 174:10	82:6 87:23 88:23
217:12	160:7 173:12	instance 126:16	179:8 183:2	98:8,11 102:24
	208:4	141:16	186:20 192:7,15	112:15,17
l's 108:6 113:8	imperative 208:14	instances 119:18 instruction 146:22	192:18,24 194:9	128:12 132:14
	208:15	instructions 36:14	join 195:22 197:9 197:12,16	132:25 133:5,7 133:12 139:2
idea 147:13,14 182:14 217:22	important 102:16 102:23 109:19	36:15,19 145:14	200:11,21	147:11 150:20
identification	203:12	INT 167:8	joined 128:20	151:3 154:6
15:13 26:20 35:3	impressed 132:4	interested 227:14	196:18 220:24	155:2 157:4
39:13 44:12	impression 132:2	interior 167:9	joining 195:25	171:3 173:16
50:14 57:10	in-house 200:15	interjected 72:12	198:22	174:23 182:12
60:25 62:8 69:14	221:6,7	internal 10:15	judge 14:3 48:2	182:14 184:2
81:14 90:2 91:24	include 70:19	137:21 138:3	93:11 142:7	194:21 195:10
93:2 105:11	218:6	interpret 12:8 68:5	July 7:14 16:18,19	201:20,21
109:15 112:3	included 143:7	interpreted 16:9	109:10,14	202:12 204:20
115:10 116:16	221:11	interpreter 4:22	142:16 143:23	212:13 213:13
117:20 121:23	including 88:3,9	12:7 16:9 52:18	144:11 145:3,9	knowledge 89:19
123:15,18	218:22	174:25 175:3	146:11,13,14	known 212:10
129:22 135:5	inconsistent 28:5	193:9,11 199:9	147:24 149:2,12	knows 14:25
141:23 142:25	incorrect 156:6	interrupt 223:10	150:2,4,10,14,17	104:21 203:25
147:21 149:8	208:16 209:4,6	inventory 90:8	151:19,22	Kongsberg 6:21
151:11 156:13	India 113:11	investigation	152:13 153:7	69:13 70:4,12
158:13 160:25	115:24	10:22 11:2	155:8	83:2,4 84:12
	l	l	l	l

Berein					
L L laid 131:17 L L lawp 53:18 54:3	87:6.12 91:5.13	levels 107:16	178:24 208:2	67:21 70:19	24:18 25:2 28:6
L laid 13t117 laid 13t112 laid 13t117 laid 13t112 laid 13t117 laid 13t112 laid 13t117 laid 13t112 laid 13t112 laid 13t117 laid 13t112 laid 13t117 laid 13t112 laid 13t117 laid 13t112 laid 13t112 laid 13t117 laid 13t112 laid 13t117 laid 13t112 laid 13t117 laid 13t112 laid 13t117 laid 13t17 la					
laid 131:17	. L		LLP 2:6 3:6	long 55:5,9 72:16	
lamp 53:18 54:3 Liability 1:10 located 41:2 location 44:20 language 16:7 licenses 218:7 licenses 228:7 licenses 228:7 licenses 228:7 licenses 218:7 licenses 228:7 licenses 228:7 licenses 228:7 location 44:20 locati	laid 131:17		loaded 166:24		
1.55.6	lamp 53:18 54:3	Liability 1:10	local 33:11,15		
language 16:7 asted 221:25 late 99:17;20;21 lift 17:11 79:2 99:23,25:159:2 98:21 late 19:17;20;21 99:23,25:159:2 98:21 late 12:17 102:19 208:8 73:24 74:11 75:3 95:11,12,21 96:8 208:8 22 29:25 63:22 98:21 law 12:17 102:19 53:22 54:4 73:23 96:92.1 102:15 law 12:17 102:19 53:22 54:4 73:23 96:92.1 102:15 law 12:17 102:19 53:22 54:4 73:23 96:92.1 102:15 law 12:17 102:19 208:8 33:15,17 194:9 109:25 110:6 lift 17:12 laying 126:12 layout 6:16 60:24 layout 6:16 60:24 layout 6:16 60:24 laze 17:12 learn 197:11 leave 127:21 learn 197:11 leave 127:21 leaving 98:15 206:8,14 212:7 leaving 98:15 206:8,14 212:7 leaving 98:15 206:8,14 212:7 leaving 98:15 206:8,14 212:7 leaving 98:10 203:2 20:14 lift 16:26:24,24 203:2 21:122 lift 16:12:3 lift 16:22:3 lift 16:31:1 lift 16:22:3 lift 16:31:1 lift 16:31:1 lift 16:32:3 lift 16:31:3 lift 16:31:3 lift 16:31:3 lift 16:31:3 lift 16:3	-		located 41:2	,	
Lasted 221:25 Late 99:17,20,21 99:23,25 159:2 18th 29:17,20,21 99:23,25 159:2 18th 29:17,20,21 18th 29:17,20,21 18th 29:17,20,21 208:8 275,52,1 83:10,13 295:25,447:31,75:3 295:25,447:31,75:3 295:21,12,21 96:8 31:17,32:13,41:4 206:6 124:10 22:25,22:1 22:25,22:1 22:25,22:1 22:25,22:1 23:13,10 20:21,24 24:6 24:12,21 24:16 2	lane 173:9	licenses 218:7	location 44:20		179:12 202:7,12
Lasted 221:25 Late 99:17,20,21 99:23,25 159:2 18th 29:17,20,21 99:23,25 159:2 18th 29:17,20,21 18th 29:17,20,21 18th 29:17,20,21 208:8 275,52,1 83:10,13 295:25,447:31,75:3 295:25,447:31,75:3 295:21,12,21 96:8 31:17,32:13,41:4 206:6 124:10 22:25,22:1 22:25,22:1 22:25,22:1 22:25,22:1 23:13,10 20:21,24 24:6 24:12,21 24:16 2	language 16:7	lie 18:6 19:5 20:13	log 9:6 18:6 19:17	longer 73:14	loose 17:7
99:23,25 159:2 19th 53:7,15,18,20 64:25 66:16 10ok 16:24 17:12 124:10 12	lasted 221:25	24:17,24 25:6	27:3,22 29:9,10	183:10	lot 88:22
latitude 125:14 law 12:17 102:19 53:22 54:4 73:23 69:29 155:6,10 22:25 27:21 31:17 32:13 41:4 M M M M M M M M M	late 99:17,20,21	lift 17:11 79:2	29:25 63:22	longitude 125:15	loud 103:16
law 12:17 102:19 208:8 208:8 33:22 54:4 73:23 69:23 95:5,6,10 22:25 27:21 M2	99:23,25 159:2	98:21	64:25 66:16	look 16:24 17:12	124:10
208:8	latitude 125:14	light 53:7,15,18,20	67:11,14 68:15	18:11,18 20:6	LUANGCO 3:19
lawyer 134:22 awyer 134:22 awyers 201:5 awyers 201:5 as 3:15,17 194:9 109:25 110:6 63:2,15 66:19,25 209:21 209:	law 12:17 102:19	53:22 54:4 73:23	69:23 95:5,6,10	22:25 27:21	
lawyers 201:5 lay 170:18 lights 23:3 54:2,5 54:8 55:25 56:2 13:25 110:6 63:2,15 66:19,25 209:21	208:8	73:24 74:11 75:3	95:11,12,21 96:8	31:17 32:13 41:4	M
lay 170:18 lay 170:18 lay 170:18 laying 126:12 54:8 55:25 56:2 111:17,21 67:3 68:17 71:20 209:21 May 10:9 20:16 203:21 Madam 28:9 96:16 127:3 leading 34:12 66:7 16:41 127:22 30:21,24 44:6 206:10,13 125:12 134:2 137:2,11 138:4 136:137:20 128:4 196:12,14 198:20 213:19 213:20 99:10 100:25 224:25 29:9.8 17:9 19:3 21:19 148:12 149:14 67:18 200:24 18:14 127:29,318 159:14 168:18 30:6 31:22 32:5 18:20 186:8 159:14 168:18 30:6 31:22 32:5 18:20 186:8 159:14 168:18 30:6 31:22 32:5 18:20 186:8 18:11 20:16 18:11 20:216 198:16 206:10 203:2 208:19 11:6 126:64 10:4 149:14 198:20 213:19 21:32 20:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 18:20 186:8 18:12 129:14 18:12 129:20 18:11 16 212:3 18:11 129:20 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:23 120 18:11 10:31 11 18:11 10:31 1	lawyer 134:22	75:5,21 83:10,13	96:9,21 102:15	43:4 57:16 58:20	M 2:4,13 160:17
laying 126:12	lawyers 201:5	83:15,17 194:9	109:25 110:6	63:2,15 66:19,25	M/V 1:8 10:18
layout 6:16 60:24 142:8	lay 170:18	lights 23:3 54:2,5	111:17,21	67:3 68:17 71:20	209:21
142:8 limit 39:2 Limitation 1:10 159:20,20 95:5 108:13 136:42;25 136:61 16:4 136:61	laying 126:12	54:8 55:25 56:2	113:25 119:2	82:19 90:24	M4 10:9 202:16
leading 34:12 66:7 96:16 127:3 line 18:11 27:22 195:11,17 126:16 116:4 206:10,13 125:12 134:2 137:2,11 138:4 138:20 213:19 213:20 195:10,15 213:20 116:6 126:4,24 206:8,14 212:7 206:8,14 212:7 206:8,14 212:7 206:8,14 212:7 217:3 133:8 24:25 25:9,13 58:19 772:2,9,18 171:6 179:8 32:15,624 33:18,19,19 34:7 213:19 213:19 213:19 214:16 226:6 213:19 211:16 212:3 30:23 209:14 line-through 208:23 209:14 line-decension 209:20 117:15 letter 87:25 88:2,3 196:21 26:12 127:11 letter 87:25 88:2,3 199:117 letter 93:6 level 108:4 113:6 listed 26:24 listed 17:24 listed 17:31 logged 20:23 logged 20:23 logistics 167:13 logistics 167:14 logistics 167:14 lo	layout 6:16 60:24		153:11 158:5,8	91:16 92:10	
96:16 127:3 larn 197:11 30:21,24 44:6 206:10,13 125:12 134:2 137:2,11 138:4 149:12 128:4 196:12,14 198:20 213:19 213:20 99:10 100:25 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:14 120:24 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:14 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:14 180:6 215:9 21:23 22:14 180:6 215:9 21:23 21:14 180:6 215:9 21:10 22:22 180:6 180:6 215:9 21:23 21:14 180:6 215:9 21:10 22:22 180:6 180:6 215:9 21:23 21:14 180:6 215:9 21:10 22:22 180:6 180:6 215:9 21:23 21:14 180:6 215:9 21:10 22:22 180:6 180:6 215:9 21:10 22		limit 39:2	158:12,17	93:13,16 94:2,25	machine 172:10
learn 197:11	leading 34:12 66:7	Limitation 1:10		95:5 108:13	Madam 28:9
leave 127:21	96:16 127:3	line 18:11 27:22	195:11,17	113:6 116:4	magnetron 141:15
128:4 196:12,14 86:3 87:4,22 10:13 16:13,15 143:12,13 43:18 67:10,14 198:20 213:19 90:24,25 99:5,8 17:9 19:3 21:19 148:12 149:14 67:18 200:24 213:20 99:10 100:25 21:23 22:12,22 149:19 150:3,6 maintained 170:11 206:8,14 212:7 127:3 133:8 24:25 25:9 28:5 168:25 181:20 maintained 170:11 189:19 72:2,9,18 159:14 168:18 30:6 31:22 32:5 185:20 186:8 maintaining 67:20 58:19 72:2,9,18 185:11 208:16 33:18,19,19 34:7 210:23 211:4 maintaining 67:20 181:12 196:20 1ine-through 102:3,12 108:14 100:23 189:19 100:15 119:13 121:6 198:16 206:10 208:23 209:14 109:9,14,21 56:15 59:8 83:2 maker 145:11 201:16 21:3 30:23 208:19 117:6 118:18 126:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 1et's 42:4 60:14 16med 22:16 121:6,14,17 149:18 151:23 156:5 177:4 1et's 42:4 60:14 10:22 126:12 154:22 155:4,13 206:17 207:7 MALATE 3:19 102:6 103:19 96:3 101:14,19 155:22 156:	learn 197:11	30:21,24 44:6	206:10,13	125:12 134:2	Main 91:2
198:20 213:19 20:24,25 99:5,8 17:9 19:3 21:19 148:12 149:14 67:18 200:24 maintained 170:11 149:19 150:3,6 153:14 154:3 150:24,24 149:19 150:3,6 150:24 150:24,24 149:19 150:3,6 150:24 150:24 150:24 150:24 160:25 150:24 160:25	leave 127:21	50:3 82:19,21		137:2,11 138:4	maintain 42:9
213:20	128:4 196:12,14	86:3 87:4,22	10:13 16:13,15	143:12,13	43:18 67:10,14
leaving 98:15 206:8,14 212:7 127:3 133:8 24:25 25:9 28:5 168:25 181:20 169:20 186:11 208:16 206:17,21 208:23 209:14 109:9,14,21 100:60:14 209:21 100:22 126:12 100:22 126:12 100:22 126:12 100:22 126:12 100:22 126:12 100:22 126:12 100:23 12:23 12:3 198:10 141:2 196:20 100:23 12:3 188:9 100:15 100:3,12 108:14 100:3,12 108:14 100:40:40:40 100:3,12 108:14 100:40:40:40 100:40:40:40:40:40:40:40:40:40:40:40:40:4	198:20 213:19	90:24,25 99:5,8	17:9 19:3 21:19	148:12 149:14	67:18 200:24
206:8,14 212:7 127:3 133:8 24:25 25:9 28:5 168:25 181:20 maintaining 67:20 left 23:2 55:9,13 159:14 168:18 30:6 31:22 32:5 185:20 186:8 maintaining 67:20 58:19 72:29,18 171:6 179:8 32:15,16,24 187:14 206:4 187:14 206:4 70:18 140:19 84:13 98:10 186:11 208:16 33:18,19,19 34:7 210:23 211:4 221:10 222:25 maintenance 181:12 196:20 line-through 102:3,12 108:14 100:0ked 52:13 146:25 maker 145:11 146:25 198:16 206:10 208:23 209:14 109:9,14,21 56:15 59:8 83:2 146:25 maker 145:11 146:25 198:16 206:10 208:23 208:19 117:6 118:18 126:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 146:25 1egal 102:16 lined 22:16 11med 22:16 149:16 151:10 154:17 160:12 209:2 211:9 71:11 103:11 102:6 103:19 96:3 101:14,19 152:10,24 195:11 202:20 Malaysia 106:18 192:17 102:2 126:12 155:22 156:6 217:21 106:19 118:11 106:19 118:11 letter ed 93:6 <th< td=""><td>213:20</td><td>99:10 100:25</td><td>21:23 22:12,22</td><td>149:19 150:3,6</td><td>maintained 170:11</td></th<>	213:20	99:10 100:25	21:23 22:12,22	149:19 150:3,6	maintained 170:11
left 23:2 55:9,13 159:14 168:18 30:6 31:22 32:5 185:20 186:8 70:18 140:19 maintenance 84:13 98:10 186:11 208:16 33:18,19,19 34:7 210:23 21:4 141:4 141:4 127:8 130:11 214:16 226:6 98:19 100:15 221:10 222:25 146:25 188:12 196:20 line-through 102:3,12 108:14 100ked 52:13 146:25 198:16 206:10 208:23 209:14 109:9,14,21 100ked 52:13 146:25 206:17,21 211:16 21:3 30:23 208:19 117:6 118:18 126:15 59:8 83:2 119:13 121:6 146:25 1egal 102:16 lined 22:16 121:6,14,17 149:18 151:23 156:15 59:8 83:2 71:11 103:11 156:5 177:4 209:2 211:9 209:2 211:9 71:11 103:11 156:5 177:4 209:2 211:9 209:2 211:9 71:11 103:11 156:5 177:4 209:2 211:9 209:2 211:9 MALATE 3:19 MALATE 3:19 Malaysia 106:18 106:19 118:11 106:19 118:11 man 185:4 106:19 118:11 106:19 118:11 106:19 118:11 106:19 118:11 106:19 118:11 106:19 118:11 106:19 118:11 106:19 11		111:6 126:24,24		153:14 154:3	
58:19 72:2,9,18 171:6 179:8 32:15,16,24 187:14 206:4 maintenance 84:13 98:10 186:11 208:16 33:18,19,19 34:7 210:23 211:4 141:4 127:8 130:11 214:16 226:6 line-through 102:3,12 108:14 221:10 222:25 maintenance/re 188:16 206:10 208:23 209:14 109:9,14,21 56:15 59:8 83:2 maker 145:11 206:17,21 line-throughs 113:17 116:5 119:13 121:6 maker 145:11 201:16 212:3 30:23 208:19 117:6 118:18 126:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 1egal 102:16 let's 42:4 60:14 lines 63:2 84:14 129:16 151:10 154:17 160:12 209:2 211:9 77:17 96:14 7:17 96:14 94:9,10 95:20,22 151:15,16 170:22 186:17 MALATE 3:19 141:6 143:12 102:2 126:12 154:22 155:4,13 206:17 207:7 Malaysia 106:18 156:8 201:12,14 215:11 127:15 170:21 155:22 156:6 212:23 217:16 106:19 118:11 1ettered 93:6 level 108:4 113:6 149:20 152:14 120gbook/bridge 82:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 191:8 203:8,10 19:8,11,20 119:8,11,20	206:8,14 212:7	127:3 133:8	24:25 25:9 28:5	168:25 181:20	maintaining 67:20
84:13 98:10 186:11 208:16 33:18,19,19 34:7 210:23 211:4 141:4 maintenance/re 181:12 196:20 line-through 102:3,12 108:14 102:3,12 108:14 102:3,12 108:14 146:25 198:16 206:10 208:23 209:14 109:9,14,21 56:15 59:8 83:2 maker 145:11 146:25 201:16 212:3 30:23 208:19 117:6 118:18 126:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 177:4 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 186:15 129:6 195:11 20:20 186:17 129:20 186:18 129:19 186:11 20:20 186:11 20:20 186:11 20:20 186:11 20:	left 23:2 55:9,13	159:14 168:18		185:20 186:8	70:18 140:19
127:8 130:11 214:16 226:6 98:19 100:15 221:10 222:25 maintenance/re 181:12 196:20 198:16 206:10 208:23 209:14 109:9,14,21 156:15 59:8 83:2 146:25 206:17,21 208:23 208:19 113:17 116:5 119:13 121:6 making 14:25 211:16 212:3 30:23 208:19 117:6 118:18 126:15 129:6 7:11 103:11 legal 102:16 lined 22:16 121:6,14,17 149:18 151:23 156:5 177:4 let's 42:4 60:14 94:9,10 95:20,22 151:15,16 170:22 186:17 209:2 211:9 77:77 96:14 94:9,10 95:20,22 151:15,16 170:22 186:17 209:2 211:9 141:6 143:12 102:2 126:12 152:10,24 195:11 202:20 Malaysia 106:18 141:6 143:12 102:2 126:12 155:22 156:6 212:23 217:16 106:19 118:11 156:8 201:12,14 127:15 170:21 155:22 156:6 217:21 106:19 118:11 1etter 87:25 88:2,3 149:20 152:14 Logbook/bridge 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 1evel 108:4 113:6 177:12 Logbooks 102:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 <td>58:19 72:2,9,18</td> <td>171:6 179:8</td> <td>32:15,16,24</td> <td>187:14 206:4</td> <td>maintenance</td>	58:19 72:2,9,18	171:6 179:8	32:15,16,24	187:14 206:4	maintenance
181:12 196:20 line-through 102:3,12 108:14 looked 52:13 146:25 198:16 206:10 208:23 209:14 109:9,14,21 56:15 59:8 83:2 maker 145:11 206:17,21 line-throughs 30:23 208:19 117:6 118:18 126:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 208:17 20:16 lined 22:16 121:6,14,17 149:18 151:23 156:5 177:4 let's 42:4 60:14 lines 63:2 84:14 129:16 151:10 154:17 160:12 209:2 211:9 77:17 96:14 94:9,10 95:20,22 151:15,16 170:22 186:17 40:22 186:17 102:6 103:19 96:3 101:14,19 152:10,24 195:11 202:20 MALATE 3:19 141:6 143:12 102:2 126:12 155:22 155:4,13 206:17 207:7 106:19 118:11 18tter 87:25 88:2,3 1st 23:6 106:24 187:23 188:9 217:21 106:19 118:11 1etter 87:25 88:2,3 149:20 152:14 Logbook/bridge 55:6,10,17,20 189:16 190:4 114:2 115:19,22 15ten 178:24 Logbooks 102:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 197:21,22 198:3 119:8,11,20 11itigation 39:7 Logged 20:23 1		186:11 208:16	33:18,19,19 34:7	210:23 211:4	
198:16 206:10 208:23 209:14 109:9,14,21 56:15 59:8 83:2 maker 145:11 206:17,21 30:23 208:19 113:17 116:5 119:13 121:6 119:13 121:6 211:16 212:3 30:23 208:19 117:6 118:18 126:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 legal 102:16 lined 22:16 121:6,14,17 149:18 151:23 156:5 177:4 let's 42:4 60:14 94:9,10 95:20,22 151:15,16 170:22 186:17 209:2 211:9 77:17 96:14 94:9,10 95:20,22 151:15,16 170:22 186:17 MALATE 3:19 102:6 103:19 96:3 101:14,19 152:10,24 195:11 202:20 Malaysia 106:18 141:6 143:12 102:2 126:12 154:22 155:4,13 206:17 207:7 106:19 118:11 1etter 87:25 88:2,3 192:17 155:22 156:6 217:21 106:19 118:11 lettered 93:6 1ist 23:6 106:24 205:25 206:6,17 208:19 209:6,13 191:8 203:8,10 192:17 107:24 149:15 208:19 209:6,13 191:8 203:8,10 203:16,16 204:5 level 108:4 113:6 118te 27:6 82:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 197:21,22 198:3				221:10 222:25	maintenance/re
206:17,21 line-throughs 113:17 116:5 119:13 121:6 making 14:25 211:16 212:3 30:23 208:19 117:6 118:18 126:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 legal 102:16 lined 22:16 121:6,14,17 149:18 151:23 156:5 177:4 let's 42:4 60:14 94:9,10 95:20,22 151:15,16 170:22 186:17 MALATE 3:19 77:17 96:14 94:9,10 95:20,22 151:15,16 170:22 186:17 MALATE 3:19 102:6 103:19 96:3 101:14,19 152:10,24 195:11 202:20 Malaysia 106:18 141:6 143:12 102:2 126:12 154:22 155:4,13 206:17 207:7 106:19 118:11 156:8 201:12,14 127:15 170:21 155:22 156:6 212:23 217:16 man 185:4 215:11 Linggi 106:17,18 187:23 188:9 217:21 management lettere 87:25 88:2,3 149:20 152:14 Logbook/bridge 82:22 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 119:8,11,20 15ted 26:24 lists 27:6 16:5 83:19 87:21 197:24 197:24 119:8,11,20 15ted 40:19 76:14 10gged 20:23 124:12,21			*		
211:16 212:3 30:23 208:19 117:6 118:18 126:15 129:6 71:11 103:11 legal 102:16 lined 22:16 121:6,14,17 149:18 151:23 156:5 177:4 let's 42:4 60:14 94:9,10 95:20,22 151:15,16 170:22 186:17 MALATE 3:19 102:6 103:19 96:3 101:14,19 152:10,24 195:11 202:20 Malaysia 106:18 141:6 143:12 102:2 126:12 154:22 155:4,13 206:17 207:7 106:19 118:11 156:8 201:12,14 127:15 170:21 155:22 156:6 212:23 217:16 man 185:4 215:11 Linggi 106:17,18 187:23 188:9 217:21 management lettere 87:25 88:2,3 149:20 152:14 208:19 209:6,13 100king 25:9 27:5 189:16 190:4 192:17 107:24 149:15 208:19 209:6,13 33:11 45:3 55:3 191:8 203:8,10 lettered 93:6 149:20 152:14 Logbook/bridge 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 level 108:4 113:6 listed 26:24 listes 27:6 10gbooks 102:22 61:5 83:19 87:21 197:21,22 198:3 119:8,11,20 litigation 39:7 logged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 maneuvering 129:19 12:24 <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td>					
legal 102:16 lined 22:16 121:6,14,17 149:18 151:23 156:5 177:4 let's 42:4 60:14 lines 63:2 84:14 129:16 151:10 154:17 160:12 209:2 211:9 77:17 96:14 94:9,10 95:20,22 151:15,16 170:22 186:17 MALATE 3:19 102:6 103:19 96:3 101:14,19 152:10,24 195:11 202:20 Malaysia 106:18 141:6 143:12 102:2 126:12 154:22 155:4,13 206:17 207:7 106:19 118:11 156:8 201:12,14 127:15 170:21 155:22 156:6 212:23 217:16 man 185:4 man 185:4 215:11 Linggi 106:17,18 187:23 188:9 217:21 looking 25:9 27:5 189:16 190:4 192:17 107:24 149:15 208:19 209:6,13 23:31 45:3 55:3 191:8 203:8,10 1ettered 93:6 149:20 152:14 Logbook/bridge 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 149:21 17:12 15ts 27:6 82:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 197:21,22 198:3 119:8,11,20 litigation 39:7 logged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 maneuvering 121:9 122:24 little 40:19 76:14 <t< td=""><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></t<>					
let's 42:4 60:14 lines 63:2 84:14 129:16 151:10 154:17 160:12 209:2 211:9 77:17 96:14 94:9,10 95:20,22 151:15,16 170:22 186:17 MALATE 3:19 102:6 103:19 96:3 101:14,19 152:10,24 195:11 202:20 Malaysia 106:18 141:6 143:12 102:2 126:12 154:22 155:4,13 206:17 207:7 106:19 118:11 156:8 201:12,14 127:15 170:21 155:22 156:6 212:23 217:16 106:19 118:11 215:11 187:23 188:9 217:21 189:16 190:4 192:17 107:24 149:15 208:19 209:6,13 33:11 45:3 55:3 189:16 190:4 192:17 107:24 149:15 208:19 209:6,13 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 192:17 16ttered 93:6 149:20 152:14 10gbook/bridge 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 114:2 115:19,22 116:12 117:12 115ts 27:6 10gbooks 102:22 61:5 83:19 87:21 197:21,22 198:3 119:8,11,20 121:9 122:24 121:9 122:24 124:12,21 197:24 121:9 122:24 122:24 80:17 10gistics 167:13 126:23 161:3					
77:17 96:14 94:9,10 95:20,22 151:15,16 170:22 186:17 MALATE 3:19 102:6 103:19 96:3 101:14,19 152:10,24 195:11 202:20 Malaysia 106:18 141:6 143:12 102:2 126:12 154:22 155:4,13 206:17 207:7 106:19 118:11 156:8 201:12,14 127:15 170:21 155:22 156:6 212:23 217:16 106:19 118:11 215:11 215:11 215:23 217:16 215:23 217:16 217:21 215:17 208:19 209:6,13 208:19 209:6,13 208:19 209:6,13 208:19 209:6,13 208:19 209:6,13 191:8 203:8,10 216:12 117:12 214:24 215:24 208:22 208:17 57:17 59:4 208:19 209:6,13 208:19 209:	. •				
102:6 103:19 96:3 101:14,19 152:10,24 195:11 202:20 Malaysia 106:18 141:6 143:12 102:2 126:12 154:22 155:4,13 206:17 207:7 106:19 118:11 156:8 201:12,14 127:15 170:21 155:22 156:6 212:23 217:16 man 185:4 215:11 Linggi 106:17,18 187:23 188:9 217:21 management letter 87:25 88:2,3 107:24 149:15 205:25 206:6,17 33:11 45:3 55:3 189:16 190:4 192:17 107:24 149:15 208:19 209:6,13 33:11 45:3 55:3 191:8 203:8,10 lettered 93:6 149:20 152:14 listed 26:24 10gbook/bridge 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 114:2 115:19,22 listen 178:24 logbooks 102:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 197:21,22 198:3 119:8,11,20 litigation 39:7 10gged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 121:9 122:24 little 40:19 76:14 10gistics 167:13 197:15 73:13 86:7					
141:6 143:12 102:2 126:12 154:22 155:4,13 206:17 207:7 106:19 118:11 156:8 201:12,14 127:15 170:21 155:22 156:6 212:23 217:16 man 185:4 215:11 Linggi 106:17,18 187:23 188:9 217:21 management letter 87:25 88:2,3 192:17 107:24 149:15 208:19 209:6,13 33:11 45:3 55:3 189:16 190:4 lettered 93:6 149:20 152:14 listed 26:24 Logbook/bridge 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 level 108:4 113:6 listen 178:24 listen 178:24 logbooks 102:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 197:21,22 198:3 119:8,11,20 litigation 39:7 litigation 39:7 10gged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 123:3 129:11,17 78:24 80:17 logistics 167:13 197:15 73:13 86:7					
156:8 201:12,14 127:15 170:21 155:22 156:6 212:23 217:16 man 185:4 215:11 Linggi 106:17,18 187:23 188:9 217:21 management letter 87:25 88:2,3 192:17 107:24 149:15 205:25 206:6,17 looking 25:9 27:5 189:16 190:4 lettered 93:6 149:20 152:14 Logbook/bridge 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 level 108:4 113:6 listed 26:24 listen 178:24 logbooks 102:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 manager 197:14 119:8,11,20 litigation 39:7 litigation 39:7 10gged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 123:3 129:11,17 78:24 80:17 logistics 167:13 197:15 73:13 86:7		*			
215:11 Linggi 106:17,18 187:23 188:9 217:21 management letter 87:25 88:2,3 192:17 107:24 149:15 208:19 209:6,13 33:11 45:3 55:3 191:8 203:8,10 lettered 93:6 149:20 152:14 Logbook/bridge 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 level 108:4 113:6 listed 26:24 82:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 manager 197:14 114:2 115:19,22 listen 178:24 logbooks 102:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 197:21,22 198:3 119:8,11,20 litigation 39:7 10gged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 121:9 122:24 little 40:19 76:14 10gger 91:3 214:24 126:23 161:3 maneuvering 123:3 129:11,17 78:24 80:17 logistics 167:13 197:15 73:13 86:7			· ·		
letter 87:25 88:2,3 list 23:6 106:24 205:25 206:6,17 looking 25:9 27:5 189:16 190:4 192:17 107:24 149:15 208:19 209:6,13 33:11 45:3 55:3 191:8 203:8,10 lettered 93:6 149:20 152:14 Logbook/bridge 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 level 108:4 113:6 listed 26:24 listen 178:24 logbooks 102:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 manager 197:14 116:12 117:12 lists 27:6 214:13 109:20 117:15 Mandivas 197:23 119:8,11,20 litigation 39:7 logged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 121:9 122:24 little 40:19 76:14 10gistics 167:13 197:15 73:13 86:7					
192:17 107:24 149:15 208:19 209:6,13 33:11 45:3 55:3 191:8 203:8,10 lettered 93:6 149:20 152:14 Logbook/bridge 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 level 108:4 113:6 listed 26:24 82:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 manager 197:14 116:12 117:12 lists 27:6 119:8,11,20 11itigation 39:7 10gged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 121:9 122:24 little 40:19 76:14 10gger 91:3 214:24 126:23 161:3 197:15 maneuvering 123:3 129:11,17 78:24 80:17 logistics 167:13 197:15 73:13 86:7					_
lettered 93:6 149:20 152:14 Logbook/bridge 55:6,10,17,20 203:16,16 204:5 level 108:4 113:6 listed 26:24 82:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 manager 197:14 114:2 115:19,22 listen 178:24 logbooks 102:22 61:5 83:19 87:21 197:21,22 198:3 119:8,11,20 litigation 39:7 logged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 121:9 122:24 little 40:19 76:14 logger 91:3 214:24 126:23 161:3 maneuvering 123:3 129:11,17 78:24 80:17 logistics 167:13 197:15 73:13 86:7			· ·		
level 108:4 113:6 listed 26:24 82:22 56:17 57:17 59:4 manager 197:14 114:2 115:19,22 listen 178:24 logbooks 102:22 61:5 83:19 87:21 197:21,22 198:3 116:12 117:12 lists 27:6 214:13 109:20 117:15 Mandivas 197:23 119:8,11,20 litigation 39:7 logged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 121:9 122:24 little 40:19 76:14 logger 91:3 214:24 126:23 161:3 maneuvering 123:3 129:11,17 78:24 80:17 logistics 167:13 197:15 73:13 86:7			-		· ·
114:2 115:19,22 listen 178:24 logbooks 102:22 61:5 83:19 87:21 197:21,22 198:3 116:12 117:12 lists 27:6 214:13 109:20 117:15 Mandivas 197:23 119:8,11,20 litigation 39:7 logged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 121:9 122:24 little 40:19 76:14 logger 91:3 214:24 126:23 161:3 maneuvering 123:3 129:11,17 78:24 80:17 logistics 167:13 197:15 73:13 86:7					
116:12 117:12 lists 27:6 214:13 109:20 117:15 Mandivas 197:23 119:8,11,20 litigation 39:7 logged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 121:9 122:24 little 40:19 76:14 logger 91:3 214:24 126:23 161:3 maneuvering 123:3 129:11,17 78:24 80:17 logistics 167:13 197:15 73:13 86:7			_		_
119:8,11,20 litigation 39:7 logged 20:23 124:12,21 197:24 121:9 122:24 little 40:19 76:14 logger 91:3 214:24 126:23 161:3 maneuvering 123:3 129:11,17 78:24 80:17 logistics 167:13 197:15 73:13 86:7	The state of the s				-
121:9 122:24 little 40:19 76:14 logger 91:3 214:24 126:23 161:3 maneuvering 123:3 129:11,17 78:24 80:17 logistics 167:13 197:15 73:13 86:7					
123:3 129:11,17				*	
					_
221:12,14 93:11 109:17 logs 27:7,13 67:18 lookout 23:25 24:7 214:24			_		
ı ı ı ı	221:12,14	93:11 109:17	logs 27:7,13 67:18	lookout 23:25 24:7	214:24
		I	I	I	I

				raye ii
manning 107:17	141:22 142:25	186:3 192:12	159:8,12,16,24	mistake 17:23
129:11 200:22	147:20 149:8	194:8,12 198:16	160:3,20	21:16 70:24,25
221:12	151:11 156:12	198:18 209:21	method 203:12	72:13 107:19
Manos 144:13	158:13 160:24	220:25	MICHAEL 2:20	120:2 121:2
manual 10:6,9	162:6 163:25	MC's 171:13	mid 160:18	203:20
86:5,25 102:22	165:8 168:2,8	MCCAIN 17:4	middle 192:25	misunderstood
139:19 145:17	171:10 176:5	101:15 157:18	midnight 17:18	19:15 101:6
184:23 188:10	185:16 186:25	174:10 179:8	22:16,22 23:19	mode 19:12,13,16
202:15,23 203:2	202:18 209:25	183:2 186:20	23:25 24:8,12	19:18 20:4,8
205:14,20	210:4 216:11,17	192:8,15,19,24	25:23 26:11	111:3 178:18
210:12 214:20	220:11,15	194:23	27:25 28:6 36:5	204:12,18,22
manuals 133:24	marker 40:5,6,7,14	MCCAIN's 194:9	36:8,10 95:15	205:4
134:2	40:16	mean 40:22 42:19	101:11 116:7	model 70:6 172:6
manufacturer	marking 48:18	43:24 51:5 58:18	118:20 119:4	175:9,13
52:5 145:15	50:11 122:6	59:21 64:16	153:15,18	moment 51:2
margin 18:22	129:13	72:21 77:7 82:9	Mike 14:15	76:20 81:6 91:20
19:11 20:7 98:23	markings 126:16	84:9 131:24		171:23 174:16
99:4,11,19 100:5	127:21 128:4,20	140:2 143:16	3:2	184:11
100:10 102:8	Maryland 4:16	149:18 158:25	mile 36:25 43:15	moments 40:11
103:12 104:3,24	Maryville 4:7	159:7,11 166:16	miles 38:25 40:19	173:6
marginal 103:13	master 30:2,8	167:21 178:15	41:13,22 42:14	monitor 51:3 75:9
margins 99:16	33:20 98:24	211:25 223:10	42:22 43:18,25	127:22 164:20
marine 208:6	104:2 110:9	meaning 45:15	44:5	month 73:9,11
mariner 203:11	111:2 113:19	198:3	mind 12:13 41:3	79:20 131:8,9
mariners 198:9	114:7,19 154:10	means 13:3 27:19	52:11	196:13 197:12
203:19	187:24 188:9	83:14 100:6	mine 101:9	monthly 8:22
maritime 6:4,17	192:23 211:14	112:24 115:4	minute 27:9 72:12	149:5,11
26:18 48:20 62:5	212:7	150:2 158:23	141:7 177:16,18	morning 12:22
62:20 146:25	master's 10:18	161:25 173:17	182:9 192:10,10	15:5 18:16 26:6
148:14 221:3,4	209:21 210:5	220:18	minutes 46:6,9	63:20 201:13,13
mark 49:13 50:3	match 94:11,12	meant 53:7 81:9	61:24 79:17,18	201:18,24
52:14 60:17 74:6	126:4	178:13	80:4,5,6,10,11	206:21
74:7 82:15	matches 129:9	measure 165:23	91:7 92:11 97:11	motion 12:18 13:8
108:17 158:10	mate 48:4,6 70:15	measuring 41:22	97:19 102:4	motor 142:19
216:8 219:18	71:10 82:10	meet 201:4,10,19	178:3 180:25	144:23 154:25
marked 6:1 7:1 8:1	90:12 140:18	meeting 131:3	182:5,16 191:12	155:4,5,9,20
9:1 10:1 15:12	141:14 155:25	177:3 202:3,8	191:16 194:3	motors 141:12
26:20 28:13,16	156:25 165:18	Mellusi 3:21 13:13	mischaracterized	mouse 142:14
31:24 35:2 39:13	166:3,18,22	215:20	64:23	move 98:20
44:12,14 50:13	168:15 181:11	Memorial 3:7	mischaracterizes	movement 82:22
51:15 57:10	181:11	memory 25:10,21	20:16 24:19 25:4	82:23,25 87:5,5
58:22 60:24 62:7	material 223:13,17	52:8,9 60:5 61:4	65:7 67:23 68:20	207:4,6
69:13 81:14 90:2	mates 35:15 156:5	79:25 169:20	134:10 155:15	movements 207:3
91:23 92:4,12	matter 1:5 15:21	194:16 214:4	181:23	214:25
93:2,5 105:11	77:16 167:13	mentioned 58:17	mischaracterizing	moving 49:17
108:19 109:3,4	MC 1:9 10:12,18	59:6 221:18	68:11	141:6
109:15 110:2	16:13 17:3 19:11	mentioning	mislooked 120:25	MPA 179:25
111:22 112:3	28:13,19 32:5	139:24	misplaced 139:4	MSS 145:10 147:8
115:10 116:16	35:7,12 39:23	message 145:10	misrepresenting	147:11 148:18
116:19 117:20	41:23 44:17 45:8	met 201:14,17,24	207:14	150:11 152:6
121:23,25 122:4	61:5 69:18 81:21	212:18	missing 98:4	multiple 156:4,5
123:14,17,20	128:14 130:11	metal 76:14,23	138:21,23 139:6	184:12,15
129:21 135:4	142:3 151:17	meter 161:14	139:7,8,15,17	
137:23 139:20	161:6 165:12	meters 158:24	140:4,11 210:24	N
	l	l	l	l

				raye 12
N 5:1	nice 124:10	noticed 75:21	100:15 15 16	176:10,11
name 12:15 14:20	night 6:8 34:25	210:20	188:15,15,16 189:19 191:9,20	177:15,23
14:24 15:5 23:10	35:6,11,24 36:6	NTSB 179:25	193:12,13 200:8	177:15,23
26:24 62:21	36:11 42:9 54:9	number 35:18	200:9 204:13,18	184:24 187:11
	54:14 179:14	40:15 41:8 42:13	205:5,16,21	187:13,17,20
130:2,19,21	nighttime 179:13			190:15,25 195:3
135:15,17 136:5	Nikolakis 144:14	43:10 81:18 124:15 125:20	206:7 209:2,3 211:8 213:20	195:5 196:25
185:23 186:5	144:20 145:9	138:7 161:24	225:11 226:23	
196:2,6,10		187:7,10		203:7 217:8 220:13 221:15
197:22 198:3 202:12	Nodding 41:24	numbers 165:23	officer's 187:24	222:11 223:21
	63:8 NOE 2:5		officers 37:4	old 73:21
names 23:7,13		166:4,8,10,17,19	61:17 106:13	
native 7:6 89:24	Nolasco 17:21	166:23 167:11	128:14 140:25	older 175:9,9
90:5	18:12,23 38:12	187:11 220:7	141:18 152:15	omitted 211:2
nautical 36:25	38:19 46:15	numerous 12:16	152:18 164:13	on/offline 76:22
38:25 43:15,25	106:2,6,10	0	165:5 210:8	80:25
44:5	112:13,24 118:5		213:7	once 79:19 80:12
NAV 6:12,16 44:10	120:12 146:6	0 227:2	offices 1:19	81:2 112:16
60:23 111:11	155:21 185:23	o'clock 46:3,4,13	officially 13:4	124:7 194:17
navigating 131:18	186:9,12	63:21 201:12,13	oh 75:17 141:13	ones 148:23
131:20,23	Nolasco's 155:12	oath 12:6	214:18	online 81:2
navigation 9:22	176:8 183:8	Object 166:6	okay 14:2 16:4,5	OOW 114:20
10:9 48:7 70:16	187:4 202:22	objection 12:19	16:10 19:24 20:2	open 54:7,17 56:2
92:14 96:23	210:7	13:6,10,12,14,16	20:5 22:3 23:23	57:21,24 147:7
132:5,9 165:17	non-practicing	13:18,21,22 14:9	24:21 25:20	operation 222:14
202:16,23 206:6	199:16,18	14:21,25 15:2	27:11 29:25	opportunity 49:24
220:10,18	nonresponsive	18:9 19:7 20:15	31:21 33:10,13	134:19 165:11
navigator 48:8,10	71:3 189:23	24:19 25:3 64:19	35:20,22 40:14	197:12
105:21	noon 88:18 89:14	65:6,23 66:20	42:8 43:24 45:14	OPU 70:6
near 106:18 184:9	110:19 153:4	67:22 68:7,10,10	49:12 50:10,12	order 14:6 36:11
205:13 206:4	noontime 88:14	68:20 89:8 134:9	50:20,25 51:2,6	37:23 69:10
necessarily	normal 43:13	155:14 167:14	51:10,17,19 53:4	72:17 88:11 92:8
178:19	Nos 6:6,9 7:4,11	181:22 207:13	55:23 59:13	92:14 148:17
need 16:3,8 54:13	7:15,17,19,21,23	objectionable	64:17 76:13	195:22 207:2
68:4 75:23	8:7,10,16,20,23	166:13	77:22 78:16	210:16,17,25
124:10 127:11	9:4,11,14 10:3,6	obliged 36:18	79:16 80:12 81:8	orders 6:8 10:19
134:6 156:19	10:10,16,19,22	observation 132:9	82:10 83:19	34:25 35:6,12,15
177:9 200:24	11:2 26:19 34:25	observe 113:25	84:22 93:11,12	35:24 36:6 37:19
212:15,17,19	81:13 105:10	observed 42:8	94:13 97:22	37:25 42:9
needed 53:15 59:9	112:2 115:9	165:5	100:4 101:23	209:22 210:5,7
141:15 166:20	116:15 117:19	obviously 167:22	102:7 105:5	213:16
needing 100:18,22	121:22 129:20	occurred 101:20	111:24 118:13	orientation 57:16
123:2	135:3 137:22	191:14	120:9 122:7	original 16:24
needs 77:23	139:19 142:24	October 196:15	124:5,8,9 125:13	17:12 111:22
Neither 97:24	147:19 149:7	197:2	127:21 128:15	125:12 143:6
never 26:2,12	156:12 162:5	office 13:2 14:2	128:19 132:14	OS 23:18 24:7,17
132:15 209:5,9	163:24 185:15	200:16,19 201:8	134:16,20,24,25	25:8,10,22 26:12
209:13 210:20	186:24 202:16	officer 1:15 5:5	138:11 139:7,15	27:3,21 60:5
new 1:2 2:8,8 3:15	209:22,24	12:2 45:25 46:10	143:10 144:18	61:6 213:25
3:15,23,23 50:21	note 186:12	46:19 48:6 82:8	145:4 149:25	outbound 127:8
58:14 59:9 72:6	noted 14:7	111:12 114:7,22	153:8,17,19,22	outside 42:6 59:21
75:24 76:2,9	notes 17:16	116:9 117:9	154:8,23 156:2	191:14
78:12,13,16 79:6	126:19	119:5 128:16	157:11 159:23	overall 41:15
80:20 150:16	notice 1:17 6:3	138:22,24 139:8	162:21 164:19	132:2 overhead 54:2,4,5
218:20	12:23 15:9,11	157:23 158:3	166:11 167:12	0verneau 54.2,4,5

			4046490455	
54:8 55:24 56:12	70:22 71:2,4	191:17 202:13	124:21,22 125:5	136:16,19
overnight 35:16	72:6,17,21 75:6	202:14 216:6	125:8 141:21	156:11,22,24
38:2	75:18,22,24 76:3	percent 13:5	142:2 160:23	157:14,17
overtime 66:12	76:6,9 77:6,9,24	perform 189:3,21	161:5 167:5	161:18 163:9,11
69:6 195:14	77:25 78:13	performed 86:10	171:18 184:13	170:18 211:9,13
overtimes 66:10	79:10 80:15,20	86:15	photographs 6:21	211:19,19,21,22
Owner 1:8	83:24 84:6,11,25	period 27:19 32:10	7:10 9:16,17	211:24 212:4,6
P	94:15,16,22,24	62:2 63:20 64:2	52:10 69:12,17	212:20,23 213:4
	96:19 97:12	65:23 66:6	92:25 93:6 124:2	213:8,11
p.m 153:4 156:10	132:15,17 139:3	periodic 95:5,6,10 95:11,12,21 96:8	165:7 167:14	planning 48:11,14
215:13,13 223:24	139:5 148:14	permission	168:2,6 photos 51:18 52:8	120:23 136:7,11
P.O 2:15,22	170:12	213:19	93:4 124:6,8	137:6,15 211:14 211:15,18
page 5:2 6:2 10:2	paper's 72:21 77:10	permitted 204:11	165:11 168:7	220:19
10:5 17:5,7,13	papers 14:2 98:20	person 70:23 71:4	physical 218:5	plans 105:21
17:13,18,20	paragraph 187:7	71:6 176:23,25	pick 175:10,13	119:13 120:17
22:11,12,13 23:2	187:14,22 190:7	183:22 184:2	picks 210:19	122:16
27:5 29:5,7	191:11 192:22	185:11,23 198:4	picture 56:14	play 176:9 179:11
32:13 36:2,5,13	194:6 195:3	199:5 203:13,17	124:25 126:2	180:2,22
36:15 37:5 51:14	203:7 204:4,10	203:21,25 204:2	172:16 183:21	playback 9:18
51:15 62:19 74:2	205:10,13 211:5	204:6	183:22	171:8 172:22
78:23 81:23 82:4	paragraphs	personally 132:12	pictures 50:7	173:3 174:9,15
82:6,7,19 83:4	187:10,12	162:22 201:18	167:17 172:20	175:21,22 176:7
86:2 87:16 93:19	part 48:14 148:23	personnel 150:13	piece 15:16 53:2	176:19 178:18
93:25 94:8,8	150:22 189:9,12	195:7 208:5	64:5 69:19 74:13	182:13,17
99:22 101:14	189:24 190:19	218:22	75:12 132:15	184:13,16,23,24
108:16 109:20	191:2,4 192:15	pertaining 206:5	149:14 150:3	186:13,18
110:6 111:17	participate 15:17	petitioner 1:16 2:3	pieces 165:16	played 184:19
113:16,17,18	particular 48:7	13:11 14:12	pilot 9:10 84:16	playing 176:12,22
114:10 116:4,8	169:3 212:20	PG 37:8	107:11,11 110:9	177:6,24,25
117:6 118:17,21	219:10	Philip 1:15 5:5	110:16 113:19	179:2 180:4,8,9
118:23 119:2	parties 227:11,13	6:18 12:2 62:6	113:22 162:4,10	180:23 182:6
130:18 132:3,18	pass 184:10	175:3 193:11	162:15,17	Plaza 4:6
137:3,11 138:11	passage 48:11,14	225:11 226:23	163:18	please 14:19,24
139:18 144:16	112:24 118:7	Philippine 218:7	pilotage 214:23	16:8,14 17:2,11
146:23 148:12	120:23 123:3	Philippines	place 76:4,20 79:9	20:6 22:25 24:3
152:13 153:16	129:15 136:7,11	197:17,20 199:6	80:13 168:14	27:2 29:5 35:24
168:17 203:4	136:16,19 137:6	200:17,19 221:5	225:8	49:13 50:3 60:17
204:9,10 205:23	137:15 211:9,19	223:6	Plaintiff's 202:15	68:8 74:7 84:23
206:2,23,25	211:20,22 212:4	phone 3:12,20 4:3	plaintiffs 12:16	87:22 88:2 90:24
208:3 210:14,18	212:20,23 213:4	4:13 12:20 13:6	plan 7:11,15,17,19	93:16,19,21,25
211:7 213:16,17	213:7,11 220:19	14:18,20,23 92:5	7:21,23 9:4	94:8 96:11
213:18 214:13	Passing 42:19	215:18 216:6	105:9,14,17,18	103:16 108:13
216:23 221:10	patience 109:18	217:23	105:19 106:3,7	113:16 114:10
222:20 226:6		phonetic 197:23	106:11,16,23	116:5 117:5
pages 28:17 35:19	3:17	photo 51:21 57:17	110:2 111:25	118:17 125:17
81:20 122:5	pause 178:23	61:4 172:11	112:6,9,11,14,24	130:5 144:22
143:8 210:17,24	PC 4:14	photograph 6:14	115:8,13,18	145:10 146:7,23
218:3,15 227:8	pen 21:19 49:12 74:6 169:16	6:15,16 8:2,4,12 9:8 50:13 52:5	116:14,19 117:18,23 118:7	158:10 161:15 169:15 171:21
paid 68:6 panel 75:10	pending 25:15	57:9,13 60:24	119:19 121:21	182:22 187:15
paner 15:16 17:7	pending 25.15 people 92:4	76:16 91:6 93:17	122:2,9 123:3,8	190:7 193:9
48:19 50:19 53:2	180:17,19	93:22 123:13,16	125:19,23 126:4	195:3,5 203:4
59:10 64:5 70:19		· ·	· ·	1
1 00.10 0T.0 10.10	18477775	17.57773		
	184:12,15	123:22,23	129:10,15	204:9 205:7,23

				1 age 14
206.22 244.2	propored 90:44	problems 90:22	guestioning 10:44	140:22
206:23 211:2	prepared 82:11	problems 89:22	questioning 12:14	140:23
212:18	112:9,14 115:15	procedures 10:10	questions 125:13	realized 30:22
plenty 75:10	116:23 117:25	133:9,15,20	134:19,23	98:18
180:17 185:11	122:17 123:3,8	134:7 202:16,24	215:14,17,18	really 104:18
195:2 202:13,13	162:24 163:7,21	proceedings	221:16 223:19	218:12
222:8,10	211:24 212:4	12:10	227:6	reason 45:9
plot 194:2	preparing 85:20	produced 12:3	quick 210:16	142:20 207:19
plus 182:20	197:8	90:5 109:11	215:11	220:6 226:8,10
point 37:11 38:6	present 4:21	119:3 217:10	quite 15:22	226:12,14,16,18
40:25 46:23	195:22	pronounce 118:12		226:20
58:23 103:12	press 76:23 80:14	properly 138:14	R	reasons 226:5
113:14 158:22	80:16,24	protocol 15:21	R 2:20 227:2	recall 34:20 38:5
159:11,24	previous 126:7,9	provided 40:12	radar 9:2 39:9,22	38:12,18 57:20
167:16 190:9	128:13,13	92:3 169:8	43:2 142:3,5,17	57:25 75:17
192:4,6,15	145:10 185:19	provides 198:8	144:5 145:15,16	100:9 131:3
pointed 76:22	previously 10:1	publications	145:19 146:8,18	142:16 145:14
pointing 43:23	13:20 16:22	220:20	146:21 147:4,16	145:18 148:20
51:11,22 76:14	28:13 31:23 32:3	pull 76:12,18,23	148:5 149:3	148:22 150:24
95:9	122:4 137:23	77:20,24 78:8	150:11 151:9,15	157:20,22,23
pointless 128:25	138:2 139:20	80:18 154:17	151:16,23 152:9	158:2 160:5
policies 133:10	176:4 185:16	pulled 71:15 72:9	152:10 153:7,11	162:21,24 166:4
policy 120:20	186:25 202:18	77:23	153:19,22,25	169:17,21,23
133:24 205:4,19	209:25 210:3	purple 41:18,21	154:16 155:4,4	177:11 178:9
207:10	primarily 146:20	purpose 164:20	155:11,13,22	179:9,13,21,23
port 21:14 47:22	primary 204:5	pursuant 1:17	156:6 174:2,5	183:24 184:3
58:18 72:23 84:8	print 81:5	put 21:15 22:4	175:7	185:9 194:11,18
84:13,17 85:10	printed 52:25 94:9	49:15 78:13,13	radars 140:20	195:4 196:18
118:11 131:15	95:6,12 96:4	78:19 80:11 81:3	141:9,19 152:25	199:5 202:3,7
131:15 189:4,5	143:6 148:8	81:4 85:18 89:6	153:19 154:23	213:25
position 32:16,23	167:4 223:12	89:11 92:5 97:8	173:22 174:6	recalled 166:9
60:8 111:8 166:5	printer 6:22 7:9	103:19 104:8,8,9	193:23	receive 133:14
167:9,10 189:19	69:13,25 70:3,13	106:4,25 107:19	radio 44:21 58:22	148:23
194:3	70:20,22 71:11	112:15 120:2,17	58:25 59:4,17	received 133:2
positioning	72:14,17 75:6	121:2,13 124:15	raised 162:2	145:11 148:21
189:20	83:5,20 84:6,10	157:4 195:20	ran 70:22 76:7	150:16,21,25
positions 127:16	84:25 87:7,13	216:16 220:13	83:24 84:6,25	221:19
127:18 165:21	91:3,13,23 92:6	putting 172:9	random 149:17,18	receiving 133:19
168:12	92:22,23 98:9		range 40:5,6,7,14	recess 92:18
possibility 178:11	207:2,10,18	Q	40:16 41:9	156:9 215:12
possible 37:16,18	215:8	qualifications	read 16:14 36:10	recipients 143:22
post-collision	prints 72:8 95:17	218:23,25	37:2 40:15 63:11	recognize 17:13
103:6	prior 28:17 31:3	question 16:2,6,8	81:25 82:23 86:9	27:2 28:18,20
posted 157:9	38:10 89:14	19:22,23 24:3,24	86:12 88:2,5	32:4 39:16 44:16
practice 1:18	130:13 136:2	25:15 37:24	103:7,16 111:3	52:4 57:17 62:11
206:9	157:7 181:19	59:12 60:19	127:24 132:6	69:19 70:8 81:20
practicing 199:18	184:18 194:10	88:21 105:8	145:12 146:8	90:8 124:18
pre-arrival 189:4,5	212:7 214:3	108:20 120:8	160:21 182:23	142:5 151:14
preceded 191:12	218:11,12,22	134:14,15	186:14 190:17	157:13,16
preexisting	222:9	138:18 166:7,12	214:19 225:3	165:13 168:12
218:25	pro 12:18 13:8	166:12 176:15	reading 153:24	169:9 171:13
Preparation 7:3	probably 219:15	189:23 190:13	159:14 188:2	180:16 216:7,19
81:12,24 85:9	problem 20:3	190:17,18	ready 82:21 85:22	recollect 160:6
prepare 162:14,22	89:23 142:16	194:10 199:21	real 210:16	161:21
163:14	155:2 159:4	216:5	realize 35:19	record 6:4 12:13
103.14	100.2 103.4	210.0	1 Galize 33.18	1600100.4 12.13
L				

14:8,18 16:14,20	219:22	59:24 61:21	representation	review 112:13
16:22 19:23	reference 74:13	77:15,22 81:7,7	45:19 56:5	reviewed 12:25
22:12 23:9,21,24	91:5 103:11	98:25 133:18,19	representative	29:10 106:2
24:7 26:18,23	107:5,16 110:12	136:12,15,18,21	135:19 175:4,7	112:25 121:17
28:4,15,22 29:6	195:10 211:18	145:21,23,25	represented 218:2	122:22 183:18
31:14 32:14,16	218:13	146:5 149:4	representing 15:7	reviewing 122:17
32:20 34:5,6,23	referring 22:11	154:15 155:16	request 210:23	right 18:19 19:5
37:24 40:9 44:19	41:7 43:8 58:21	160:10,11	requesting 144:8	20:6 34:2 36:21
	103:13 107:3	163:20 166:17	requesting 144.8	39:7 41:8 43:16
50:8 52:24 62:20	139:2 192:22,23	166:19 172:3,11	required 67.11,12	44:24 46:7 48:8
63:3 64:17,25	201:7 221:8	172:13,14	148:14	48:16,20 51:9
65:18 67:3,6 68:12,23 69:23	reflect 155:10	176:18,23,25	Requisition/Pho	53:5,15 54:5
76:14 81:5 83:19	reflected 119:19	177:3,14 181:9	8:15,19 142:23	
	130:8	183:20 191:13	147:19	56:3,18,21 60:22
84:3 88:6 91:19		191:19 193:2,4,5	resource 189:16	63:13 65:2,5,18
91:21 92:2,7,18	reflecting 155:8 reflection 63:4	193:16 202:5	190:4 191:8	67:18,21 68:19
96:7 103:5,7,15	reflects 106:16	213:13	203:16	69:11 70:4,6,7
109:8,11 121:25				71:24 72:5,6
123:20 143:4 148:7 156:9,20	167:8 refreshment 47:6	remembered 75:22 155:19	responding 12:5	73:10,11 74:23 75:3,24,25 76:15
160:6,12 164:18		remove 157:5	response 145:2,5 145:8	76:15,16 77:2,11
165:4 167:20	regarding 38:8 141:3	remove 137.3		77:18,20 78:6,24
	registering 174:21	147:9	responsibilities 48:11 132:20	79:7,17 80:18,22
177:15 182:2,23 207:20 215:12	175:6	repair 144:4	133:3 189:16	81:5 83:2,17
217:10 219:20	regular 227:12	146:14,17 149:2	responsibility	86:20 87:2,18
recorded 64:16	related 148:4	repeat 16:3 104:7	36:21 70:18,21	88:25 89:4 90:17
97:3,19 110:6	relates 109:25	104:11 133:4	140:19 157:4	91:7 94:22 95:10
195:8 207:3	release 77:25	rephrase 16:3	211:10	96:5,6,14 97:8
215:2,4	78:24 79:2	22:3 37:20	responsible 48:7	98:23 99:5,8
recorder 39:6	releases 76:18	replace 73:5,16,18	70:15 71:4	102:13 104:3,6
82:23,25 84:11	relevance 219:15	141:11	126:11 141:8	105:4 106:14
87:6	relevant 138:13	replaced 141:15	165:17 205:16	107:10 108:23
recorders 87:5	219:6	150:17,19,22,25	205:20 211:8	109:23 110:2,6
recording 23:22	relied 102:18,23	replay 177:20	responsive	110:23 111:15
31:12 182:13	relieve 46:6,10	report 8:6,9 10:21	104:18	112:25 114:22
207:12,22	relieved 34:12	11:1 129:20,25	rest 6:5,18 26:18	118:2 120:24
records 31:17	45:25 46:19,21	131:24 135:3,8	26:23 27:3,7,19	121:13,14,15
66:18 98:5,13	47:10,11 48:23	135:25 146:7,25	27:21 47:7 62:2	124:23 126:17
170:7 208:7	56:7,24 102:3	150:13 186:23	62:5,15,16,20	127:5 128:17
222:23 223:2	110:19 111:11	187:5,8,15	63:16,22 64:2,9	131:18 134:3,7
rectify 152:7	128:16 162:14	192:23 194:6	64:25 65:21 66:4	137:7,12 139:10
rectifying 146:7	189:25 206:12	209:23 218:5	66:8,10,15,22	140:6,9 142:5,11
red 49:12 73:23,24	remain 188:17	reported 146:14	67:11,12,14,18	142:14 144:2
74:6,11 75:3,5	remained 188:20	reporter 1:19	67:20 68:15,24	148:15 151:7
75:21 83:10,13	remark 91:10	12:12 14:19,24	69:3 195:8,11,17	153:8 155:9
83:15,17 169:16	150:18	19:19 24:4 28:9	215:17 217:5,11	156:2,18 157:18
173:13,16 179:8	remarked 192:24	28:11 59:13 68:6	218:6,21	157:19 160:10
REDIRECT 5:8	remarks 31:3 33:2	124:11 182:3	Restarting 182:5	160:14 165:21
221:23	33:4 150:7	190:16,18 216:8	rested 67:4 68:18	170:22,23 171:6
redo 76:13	remember 14:21	216:15 220:14	resting 27:24	171:19 172:2,20
reduced 227:7	18:16 19:13	reporter's 19:25	47:14 65:4,10,11	174:7 178:23
reel 77:11,17,21	25:12 38:9,14,17	represent 40:9	65:12	180:20 184:9,13
80:17,22	45:10,19 46:12	69:17 165:10	result 227:14	184:16 185:7,24
refer 87:22 169:19	50:4,12 53:22	194:7 217:9	return 144:23	187:18,21 188:7
187:11 219:14	58:12 59:20,22	227:8	reverse 92:5,13	188:22,25 189:2
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	l

				raye 10
404 0 40 400 5	B 404000	040.0		F0:40 00 F0:0 44
191:9,10 192:5	Roy 4:3 13:20	213:3	screenshots 39:9	56:10,20 58:6,14
193:20 197:2,9	26:14	saying 150:18	172:8,9	59:8 60:9 61:23
198:9 199:24		154:14,16 175:3	sea 7:3 34:13,17	63:3,7,12 71:14
201:8,16 204:2,3	4:9	181:2,15 193:12	34:21 37:13	71:23 74:22 75:2
204:22 207:7,8	RPM 96:24,25 97:2	says 14:2 15:16	43:13 81:12,24	75:12,16 87:17
209:15 213:4,5	RPR 227:17	17:21 18:12	82:12 92:8 96:22	93:13 95:6,9,24
218:17 219:8	rule 120:23	19:10 23:24	96:22 97:4,8,15	96:8 97:3,18
222:4 223:17	run 72:21,23 73:2	24:17 30:2,11	seafarer 27:15,19	106:4,8 107:8,11
right-hand 107:5	73:3 79:10 94:15	31:2 33:20 34:3	63:5 130:2	110:5,8,9,11,16
ring 41:16,17,18	94:16	35:6 36:24 37:7	Seafarers 6:5,18	110:18 112:16
41:21 42:2,3	running 23:3 75:7	44:15 62:20 63:3	26:19,24 62:5	113:19,20,21
Robert 197:24	87:13	65:4,12 68:5	SEATRAIN 9:21	115:21 118:20
ROBERTS 3:20	runs 74:10	70:6 82:20,21	220:9 221:3,4	121:7 124:23
13:13 215:19		86:4 87:4,9 91:2	Secang 23:7,11,18	126:3,20 129:7
role 189:15 190:3	S	91:9 95:10 104:2	24:7,17 25:11,22	130:10,12,18
191:7	S 2:5 101:15	107:6,10 110:16	26:12,24 27:3	132:19 136:4,6,8
roll 6:22 69:10,13	174:10 179:8	110:22 111:11	213:25	137:3 138:12,15
71:11,23,24 72:2	183:2 186:20	114:3 116:8	Secang's 27:21	144:19,24,25
72:6,9 73:9,10	192:24 194:9	117:11 119:4	60:6 61:6	145:17 147:9
73:16,19,21	S-band 142:17	127:22 129:4,14	second 1:15 5:5	150:7,13,14,21
74:10 75:24 76:7	144:5 145:16,18	130:17 131:25	12:2 33:6 48:3,6	152:9 153:15,17
76:9 77:6,7,25	146:8 147:4,15	132:3 133:8	48:6 60:16,16	154:23 155:7
78:4,4,9,13,17	148:5 149:3	136:7 144:22	70:15 71:10	158:20,21
79:3,6 80:15	150:11 151:23	145:5,9 146:6	82:10 86:2 87:21	164:24 165:4
92:6,7,12,13,14	152:10 153:11	147:7 149:25	90:12 95:2 109:7	168:25 169:8
93:14 94:3,14,15	153:22,25	150:7,11,13	128:16 138:22	170:21 173:8,13
94:18,21 95:2,2	154:19,21 155:9	155:12,21,25	138:24 139:8	174:13,14 179:7
95:17 96:17	155:11,20 174:2	159:12 185:4	140:18 141:14	181:3 182:10,13
97:15 98:9,13	S-e-c-a-n-g 23:11	186:12 187:20	148:12 156:25	182:25 184:21
rolled 80:20	safe 9:21 203:17	187:22 189:3	165:18 166:3,18	186:19,21 187:6
roller 78:20,22	220:10,18	195:7 203:10	166:22 168:15	187:10,25 195:9
79:5	safety 10:21 11:1	204:10 205:14	168:17 187:23	202:5,5,13
rolls 7:9 71:18	169:7 186:23	206:5,25 207:14	188:15,16 196:4	203:13 204:13
76:2 80:12 91:17	209:23	208:4,5 211:8	200:3,4,8,9	205:16 207:4
91:23 92:2,22	sail 115:24 118:14	213:18 214:15	211:5,8 217:11	208:9 210:17
93:5,10 97:12,24	sailed 121:8	214:22 221:2	218:14 225:11	213:23 214:17
124:2	sailing 34:13	schematic 6:12	226:23	218:17
Rome 1:20 2:6	37:12 106:17	44:11 45:3 52:14	seconds 177:16	seeing 52:9 61:21
201:8	131:15 166:3,18	58:20	178:3 181:2	178:19 204:2
room 2:23 12:20	168:15	scheme 181:18	182:5,16 192:9,9	seen 15:9 45:8
13:6 44:21 47:17	sake 19:25	Schweitzer 3:13	192:9,12	91:6 121:18
48:24 49:14,20	San 2:25 49:25	13:15 215:22	security 47:3,5	130:13,14
53:10,13,25	SANFILIPPO 4:2	screen 40:7,18,23	see 16:15 17:7,10	135:25 157:7
54:25 56:6,15	satisfactory 91:10	41:13 43:2,5	17:15 18:12,22	184:19,24 185:5
57:2,18 58:4,7	136:8,11 137:12	51:11,12,23,23	22:15 23:13 26:5	185:8 217:12
58:10,13 59:16	137:13,15	55:12 142:11,13	26:7 27:22 28:3	Selandia 197:25
61:9,9,25 64:12	save 178:6,12	170:22 171:18	28:25 30:20 31:4	198:11,12,12,13
162:13 188:17	saved 178:14	172:20 174:10	33:3,15,20 36:13	198:16,17,21
188:21 189:10	saving 50:19	175:19 176:20	36:23 39:9,25	221:7
192:14 214:3	167:7	178:20 183:3	40:6,21 41:8,12	selected 107:24
rotating 144:6,7	saw 26:2,8,12	screenshot 6:11	41:15,25 42:24	Semmes 4:14,14
147:5	50:20 60:10	9:18 39:12 40:10	43:7,8 45:3	send 171:25
round 47:3,5	132:17 152:4	171:9,13,24,25	49:25 53:15,17	sent 13:21
row 138:12	167:15 192:11	172:22 186:19	54:11 55:4,5	sentence 204:10
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

214:15	158:8,25 159:7	109:23 118:8	221:21	81:6,7 84:17
sentences 102:5	159:15 160:5,6	151:19 161:14	Singapore 18:17	85:17 86:11
separate 108:19	161:22 163:8,11	165:21 172:22	34:14 37:15 38:3	87:18 90:19
separated 188:24	163:18 168:15	175:14 179:5,8	38:11 44:8 47:22	91:15 92:16
separately 219:18	169:7,25 170:8	186:13	49:5 72:25 85:20	94:19 96:2,2
separation 173:9	174:14 177:4	sic 218:18	85:23 106:21	100:11 101:5,12
	179:17 192:16	side 18:19 20:6	108:10,12	100:11 101:5,12
September 16:18 16:19 32:11	195:23,25	23:2 51:15 52:13	111:15,18	101.21,24
serve 189:15	196:10,18 197:9	53:17 54:12 55:9	113:10,14	102:11,11,14,20
190:5 191:7	197:12 206:6	55:13,16,19	114:14 115:24	103:18,18,20
service 144:8	210:8 211:15	' '		103.16,16,20
	ship's 39:6 48:3,8	58:18,19 61:12 63:15 71:7,24	115:25 116:12 117:12 118:10	104.7,9,11,16,21
_	-	T		· ·
193:20	57:4,25 88:17,25	72:2,5,9 74:16	118:15 119:8,15	106:5,18,25
set 36:14 39:2	89:17,19 97:25	76:15,15 77:20 77:21 92:6,13	119:24 120:22	107:15,18
40:14 167:17	98:14 102:15,21	T	121:8,13,19	108:16 110:3,7
186:22	105:20 140:19	101:21,21 105:23 107:6	122:13 123:7	110:11,21,24
seven 80:10 97:11 97:19	140:24 150:12	124:23 138:4	160:15 161:9 162:15 163:2	111:5,9,13 112:7 112:8,15,20
	150:12 152:14 157:13 17			, ,
shallow 126:17	157:13,17 158:16 159:19	150:6 165:25 167:8 174:11	182:21 187:5	113:9,12,17 114:11,18
shapes 88:4,10	161:9,12 164:4	175:15	200:25 202:4	115:14,16,20,23
sheet 5:10 98:21 112:17 138:5	164:12 165:3,13	sides 32:4 53:2	211:16 212:9,13 212:25	
	169:6 173:21	167:4	single 53:2 137:18	116:3,21,25 117:4,14,24
139:3,13,16,24 139:25 140:2	194:2	sign 106:9,14	149:19 203:12	118:3,16 119:6
	ships 41:25 42:14	112:11 177:9	203:17 204:23	119:13,17,21
226:1	198:9,14	Signal 88:3	204:24 208:16	121:10,20
	shipyard 131:17	signaling 88:9	208:18	122:12,15,18,25
Shift 114:3	131:21,22	signals 194:9	sir 15:10,24 16:16	123:4,10 125:21
	Shisha 3:21 13:13	signature 10:5	17:5,18,23,25	125:25 126:6,9
-	shit 75:18	34:3 37:7 62:23	18:7,14,18 19:12	126:14,18,22
	shore 144:8	63:2 65:2 87:17	20:11,18,25	127:6,9 128:3,6
	short 194:11,14	100:3,4 105:23	21:11,15,16,22	128:11 129:18
38:19 39:19	194:19	139:13,15,18,23	22:14,23,25 23:3	130:3,5,9,12
	shorter 183:11	186:8 213:6	23:13,22 24:21	131:2,13,19,23
	shoulder 41:4	signed 37:4 63:13	25:19 26:22 27:2	132:11,24 133:4
	show 39:18 40:18	63:23 64:6	27:13 28:2,18	133:7,11,18,22
53:21 60:12	42:8 63:19 67:4	112:12,17	29:7,15,18,23	134:4,8,11,12,16
67:11,13,17,20	93:11 97:24	115:15 [°] 116:23	31:12,16,20 32:2	134:21,25
70:9 71:5 90:12	98:16 142:7	116:23 117:25	33:14 34:11,19	135:12,18,21
91:18 100:18	161:12 174:10	118:4 122:19,19	35:9 36:2 37:3	136:6,9,12,15,17
101:15 102:9	175:18,21 176:2	138:14 139:14	37:20,20,22	136:22,25
106:13,16	180:6 218:13	164:12 197:13	40:20,21,21	137:20,25
108:10,14 110:4	219:17	213:3,11,14	41:11 42:15,17	138:11,16,19,22
	showed 98:14	225:11 226:23	43:15 44:9 45:7	138:25 139:5,9
	showing 125:5	signifies 173:17	45:21 49:10,13	139:14,17,17,25
126:24 127:5,19	161:8	signing 177:11	50:20 52:23 55:8	140:4,5 141:3,3
,	shown 69:20	200:7	55:20,24 56:25	141:5,17 142:21
130:25 131:5,12	90:20 96:24	signs 106:11	59:14 60:8 61:3	144:12,18,25
131:14,18,20	165:20 178:20	112:24	63:10 64:14,21	145:4,4,7,13,17
135:22 138:17	shows 23:2 27:24	similar 29:9 122:4	67:9 68:2 70:24	145:21,23
143:21 146:15	39:16 40:23	148:7 193:5	70:25 71:2 72:15	146:10,12,16,19
148:13,20	42:13,25 44:20	similarly 125:4	72:19 73:6 75:20	147:6,10 148:2
150:21,25	63:16 68:23	Simon 4:11 13:18	76:20 77:22	148:11,13,22
156:25 157:20	94:16 96:9	simulator 221:21	79:18,21 80:23	149:4,13,17,17
		I	<u> </u>	

				Page 18
		000.00		l
150:15 151:2,14	209:11,16	202:23	states 1:1 2:12	155:4
151:15,18,21	210:13 211:11	specified 225:5,8	12:4 13:9 14:14	stow 157:14,17
152:5,8,12,16,19	211:12,17,23	speculation	14:16 15:7,7	161:18
152:22 153:2,5,9	212:17 213:9,13	181:23	26:23 195:22	stowage 9:4
153:13,17,21,23	213:14 214:13	spin 80:17 146:2	200:10	156:11,22,24
154:13,15,20,24	215:3,6,10	spoken 193:6	status 13:8	straight 108:11
154:25 155:2,6	216:24 221:6,9	spot 27:18 49:18	stay 47:17 49:18	126:24
155:10,17 156:3	221:13,14 222:3	spreadsheet 90:6	59:22 119:24	Strait 37:15
156:7 157:22	222:10,13,22	90:11,18	198:17	108:12 111:15
158:24 159:17	223:14	squeeze 100:5	stayed 47:9,13	111:18 113:14
160:4,11,22	sit 125:11	squeezed 18:21	131:5 192:3	114:14 115:25
161:20 162:3,12	site 79:13	19:10 99:4,11	STCW 67:15	116:12 117:12
162:19 163:3,6	sitting 13:5	100:24 101:2	195:11	118:15 119:8,15
163:19 164:6,14	six 72:19 80:6	103:21,23 104:2	Stealth 6:4,17	119:25 120:22
164:17,22,25	95:20 96:3 97:11	staff 13:2 197:14	26:17 62:4,20	121:8,13,19
165:6,15,19	97:19	stage 211:14,15	100:21 143:22	123:8 200:25
166:2 168:10,20	skills 132:4	211:19	144:15 146:25	211:25
168:24 169:4,18	skip 188:16	stairwell 57:21	148:14 196:2,4,9	Straits 38:3
169:21 170:3,10	slack 80:18	stamp 177:22	196:22 197:4,9	strange 182:10
170:17,23 171:7	slave 154:10,10	178:3 180:3	197:12,19	Street 3:14 4:15
172:3,3,12 173:4	slide 79:5	220:6	198:22,25 200:7	stricken 22:17
173:7,11,15,24	slightly 28:17	stamped 44:19	200:11,12,21	strike 21:5 22:19
174:16 175:16	173:12	135:7 182:15	201:5 205:18	25:8 30:25 55:4
175:20 177:14	slow 29:2 51:8	203:5	217:3 218:4,20	117:17
178:12,16	small 18:21 20:7	stamps 219:24	218:20	string 10:3 143:16
179:16,23 180:7	35:18 49:13	stand 35:16	Stealth's 207:9	143:17,19 146:4
180:17,21 181:9	smaller 161:24	129:10	steering 19:12,16	185:14
181:10 182:14	smoke 213:21	standing 10:19	20:5,5,8,10,20	string/Ship 8:14
182:18 183:19	sorry 20:2 31:20	32:19 36:4 75:15	20:24 21:4,8,11	142:23
183:20 184:14	33:7,7 34:8	120:21 181:7	21:13,15,20,25	stuck 77:7
184:17 185:12	37:20,20 44:3	209:22 210:5	22:4,7 30:11,12	studied 222:20
185:21 186:4,7	53:23 60:2 70:24	213:16	30:14 31:2,6,8	stuff 72:25
186:10,22 187:7	81:7 87:20 95:25	stapled 17:8 98:21	86:5,6,19,25	submit 146:14
187:21 188:3,8	96:2 102:5 103:4	148:9 209:13	98:25 102:10	148:4
188:23 189:2,7	104:9 107:18	starboard 55:17	111:2,7 114:17	submitted 12:18
191:6,10,15,19	117:17 138:6	55:18,20 173:12	115:2 188:10	66:23
191:20,24,25	173:20 183:19	174:11 175:15	204:12,18,22	Suite 1:20 3:22
192:6,17,21	223:11	192:19	205:4,15,20	4:15
193:4,18,25	sound 194:8	start 143:12	step 76:10 77:4	Sungai 106:17,18
194:5,17,21	sounds 79:16	158:22 159:23	87:20 124:5	superintendent
195:2,9,19,20,24	South 4:15 34:13	177:17 211:9	STEPHEN 3:20	130:17,24
196:14,20	34:16,21 37:12	started 12:14 95:4	stepped 192:14,18	135:15 144:14
197:10,21	43:13	159:5	steps 73:18 75:23	superintendent's
198:10,12 199:4	SOUTHERN 1:2	starting 159:2	214:12	130:19
199:13,20 200:2	space 44:21 49:15	180:2	stern 165:25	supervised
200:6,9,15,23	49:17 50:5 58:22	starts 109:12	sticker 92:5	205:15,20
201:3,9,17 202:6	58:25 59:4,17	state 14:20,24	stood 121:18	supply 70:19 72:6
202:13,25 203:3	speak 15:23	47:22 164:18	152:20 153:3	74:10 77:9,10
203:6,9,14,23	124:10	226:2	stop 50:5 176:14	supposed 66:9,22
204:3,8,14,20	speaking 175:2	stated 188:9 227:5	stopped 152:10	71:7 79:21 99:9
205:2,6,17,22	176:15,18	statement 19:2	155:11 177:15	99:10 104:14
206:3 207:8,16	193:10 199:8	204:7 208:12	178:2 180:11,25	119:23 127:9
207:21,25	specific 219:10	stateroom 60:6,11	182:8	130:22 182:20
208:10,13 209:8	specifically 20:4	61:7 214:6	stops 154:21	207:11
			<u> </u>	l

				i age is
sure 13:3,5 14:7,8	172:2 184:15	96:7,15 97:7	thing 72:24 98:18	65:17,24 68:18
38:16 48:15 51:9	198:25 209:20	98:12 101:13	124:4 128:7	70:9 73:16 75:8
71:11 82:11	213:21 215:11	107:18 109:7	things 31:18 132:2	75:17 82:9 84:9
108:24 109:2	222:23 223:2,3	119:22 132:8	178:19 187:20	84:10 85:17 87:2
140:6,24 141:18	take-up 77:11,17	136:14 156:18	think 19:15 64:22	92:8 94:18,23,23
,			67:24 83:24 84:5	
166:21 176:3	77:21 78:3,9	164:18 170:24	104:17 117:6	95:21 96:11,12
181:9 184:3	79:13 80:17,22	201:23 216:21	120:7 138:9	114:6,25 119:7
190:12 194:13	taken 1:16 108:10	220:15		122:10 124:19
194:15,19	167:18,22 168:6	telling 133:25	141:6 164:19	125:24 131:14
203:25 206:9	169:5 171:16,22	150:2	183:5,9 184:11	132:17 133:22
210:24,25	172:10 179:13	tells 126:16 169:2	185:11 198:23	139:4,6 140:3
217:13	227:5	ten 80:11	199:7 207:19	149:22 153:23
surrounded 49:21	takes 73:8 79:16	terms 190:3,4	209:17 210:22	163:20 169:25
suspected 14:5	80:3,7 97:10	191:8 219:12	212:21,22	170:9,25 172:22
switch 20:10	talk 19:20 73:17	terribly 156:21	217:21 219:6,18	173:3 174:11
30:14 56:8	73:17 75:22	test 31:6,8 114:16	thinking 25:9	176:14 177:9,11
switched 30:11	77:17 93:9	115:5 153:7	72:24 141:3	177:14,19,19,21
111:7 188:10	100:17,21	tested 31:3 86:4,5	third 71:20 78:23	177:22 178:3,20
sworn 12:3,8	167:23 187:12	86:19,23 88:17	111:11 116:8	180:2,7,12
symbol 173:17	talked 86:22 98:22	89:17 114:25	117:9 119:5	182:15,15,16,18
system 72:8 166:5	100:14 136:18	115:7	146:23 181:11	182:19,25
166:23	188:25	testified 12:6	181:11	191:21 192:18
	talking 65:24	61:24	Thomas 2:13	204:15 215:15
T	120:10 177:2	testimony 19:8	14:13 15:6	216:2 222:12
T 192:17	179:15 201:20	20:16 24:20 25:4		223:2 225:7
tab 76:23	Tank 1:7 159:20	48:22 64:11,20	2:18	times 17:8 104:5
Tabak 3:21 13:13	160:2	65:16 67:23	thought 101:7	107:2,2 152:24
215:19	tanks 157:5	68:12,21 85:2	199:25	172:4 184:12
	target 173:18	89:15 128:19	THRASHER 196:3	timing 82:7
3:25	174:2,11,20	134:10 140:7	196:8	today 13:8 15:17
table 46:23 106:4	175:17,18	155:15 225:7	three 36:25 38:25	15:19,25 16:23
107:23 112:15	182:10 186:19	testing 88:16	42:4,14,22 43:18	25:21 65:16
189:21 191:22	targets 173:21	tests 153:19 223:3	43:25 44:5 107:7	130:13 132:25
192:8,11	174:13,15	Texas 1:20,21 3:8	107:16 137:10	133:5,12 136:2
Tagalog 4:22 12:9	178:13 186:14	thank 13:19 16:12	168:7 222:4	157:8 167:20
12:9 175:2	193:23	22:14 45:22 52:7	three-day 222:19	185:5 188:11,18
191:23,24	task 86:15	52:20 65:20,25	three-mile 37:11	194:19 197:8
192:25 193:3,10	team 189:9,13,17	85:8 93:19,25	38:2 42:10	201:4,8 208:11
199:8	189:24 190:19	94:7,13 109:18	three-page 143:5	220:2,7
Taiwan 72:18	191:2,4 192:24	140:17 143:18	thrice 183:20	today's 188:5
84:18,19 85:6,7	194:5 203:8,10	159:21 167:12	tighten 80:15	toilet 44:22 213:22
98:10,15 122:13	203:15,20 204:5	175:23 177:23	tightened 81:10	214:2,10
163:8,12,15	technician 140:23	178:22 183:6,15	time 12:22 16:2	told 60:9 97:10
211:16,25 212:2	telegraph 69:10	188:24 198:6	17:25 18:14	104:5 120:2,12
212:2,3,7,24	69:23,25 70:12	211:2 212:3	19:20 20:24 25:2	120:16 123:6
take 27:10 33:8	72:17 75:6 83:5	213:15 215:15	26:8,8,11 27:10	132:12 136:12
36:9 47:7 51:18	83:20 84:6 87:6	219:4 220:8	32:17 33:8,11,15	192:3 193:12
61:5 69:18 73:18	87:13 91:2,17	223:21	34:18 38:14,18	top 17:17 26:23
75:23 76:10,11	92:7,23 93:14	Theodosis 131:25	40:17 42:12 43:6	56:2 90:17 93:13
77:4,6,13,14,14	98:8 207:10,18	Theodosis-Zisi	44:7 45:25 46:12	93:17 116:7
77:18 78:16	215:8	130:22 131:11	46:13,15 47:10	118:21 132:3
92:17 113:13	tell 44:24 51:17	133:16	47:11,15 48:4	144:17 146:4
114:11 156:8	57:23 61:6 66:4	thereto 227:6	57:22 59:18 60:9	185:21,22 186:2
160:3 165:12	94:13 95:3,20,21	thin 223:14,14,16	61:21 64:12	206:25 221:3
	00 00.0,20,21		0	

				raye 20
topic 57:15	124:1,12 125:1	Totally 147:13	120:8 126:25	183:13 199:16
topics 222:20	126:1 127:1	touch 142:13	127:5 193:23	209:19 217:20
Torculas 1:16 5:5	128:1 129:1,19	track 126:12,24	trying 45:2 120:7	218:16 219:4,9
6:19 12:1,2 13:1	130:1 131:1	127:15 141:15	220:4,5	219:23 220:3,8
14:1 15:1,5,11	132:1 133:1	170:21 171:5	TSS 18:17 38:11	underneath 79:11
16:1,12 17:1,2	134:1,20,20	173:21	104:12	undersigned
18:1 19:1,15	135:1,2 136:1	traffic 34:16,18	turn 17:2 29:5	225:3
20:1 21:1 22:1	137:1 138:1	37:12 38:6,22,24	35:24 55:15 74:2	understand 12:21
23:1 24:1 25:1	139:1 140:1,18	43:2,3,16 173:9	87:16 93:19,25	15:22 16:2,6
25:18 26:1,17	141:1,21 142:1	181:18	113:16 117:5	26:10 38:16
27:1 28:1 29:1	142:22 143:1,8	training 133:15,20	118:17 142:19	45:24 47:25 48:2
30:1 31:1 32:1	144:1 145:1,24	134:7 200:11,14	146:23 154:11	48:22 49:20
33:1 34:1,24	146:1 147:1,18	200:15,20 201:2	154:12 190:7	80:16 101:25
35:1,5 36:1 37:1	147:23 148:1	218:9,10 219:6	203:4 204:9	107:20 128:15
37:8 38:1 39:1	149:1,5 150:1	221:3,4,11,19	206:23	133:25 140:17
39:12 40:1 41:1	151:1,9 152:1	222:6 223:7	turning 142:17	152:23 170:7
41:7 42:1 43:1	153:1 154:1	transcript 225:4	151:24 152:11	178:17 181:14
44:1,10,14 45:1	155:1 156:1,11	227:5,9	153:25 154:5,7	182:22 185:7,13
46:1 47:1 48:1	156:15 157:1	transcription	154:21 155:4,5,6	195:21
49:1 50:1,10	158:1,11 159:1	225:7	155:9,11,20,21	understanding
51:1 52:1 53:1	160:1,23 161:1,3	transit 113:10	155:22,25 156:4	112:19,23 142:8
54:1 55:1 56:1	162:1,4 163:1,23	119:15 123:7	205:7	198:24 204:17
57:1,9,12 58:1	164:1 165:1,7	127:8 129:17	turns 74:11	208:12
59:1,4 60:1,23	166:1 167:1,25	transiting 111:15	twice 183:20	Understood 16:11
61:1 62:1,4,6,11	168:1 169:1	111:18 114:13	two 32:4 42:3 45:8	204:8
63:1 64:1 65:1	170:1 171:1,8	116:11 117:11	50:15 52:10	underway 84:10
66:1 67:1 68:1	172:1 173:1	119:8	61:10,13 71:18	84:15,16,17
69:1,12,16 70:1	174:1 175:1	transits 120:14	72:12 92:2 98:5	111:2
71:1 72:1 73:1	176:1 177:1	transmitter 91:3	98:13 142:3	unexpectedly
74:1 75:1 76:1	178:1 179:1	transmitting	152:20,23	128:17
77:1,16 78:1	180:1 181:1	174:14	169:21 173:8,21	unit 147:8 165:14
79:1 80:1 81:1	182:1 183:1	transponder	174:6 194:15	165:16 166:17
81:11 82:1 83:1	184:1 185:1	168:19,23	201:7,20 202:2	166:24 169:12
84:1 85:1 86:1	186:1 187:1	trauma 198:19,19	214:6,12 222:4	United 1:1 2:12
87:1,20 88:1	188:1 189:1	tray 71:15 76:12	typed 209:12	12:4 13:9 14:14
89:1,24 90:1	190:1 191:1	78:14 79:13	typewriting 227:7	14:16 15:6,7
91:1,16,22 92:1	192:1 193:1	80:13 81:4	·, po	195:21 200:10
92:9,21,25 93:1	194:1 195:1	trees 167:8	U	up-to-date 48:15
94:1 95:1 96:1	196:1 197:1	trick 45:2	U.S 2:14,21 197:7	update 162:17
97:1 98:1,17	198:1 199:1	trip 126:8 127:12	199:2	use 28:21 47:7
99:1 100:1 101:1	200:1 201:1	128:5,24 195:22	Uh-huh 18:20	49:4 54:3 82:21
102:1 103:1,10	202:1 203:1	212:15,19,24	41:14 51:13,20	141:2 142:14
104:1 105:1,9,13	204:1 205:1	true 17:24 19:2,4	53:19 57:14	170:4,14 213:22
106:1 107:1	206:1 207:1	20:11,12 30:12	73:20 74:18	220:21
108:1 109:1,13	208:1 209:1	30:13 31:11,15	78:18 80:14	uses 35:14
109:18 110:1	210:1 211:1,4	36:22 44:9 46:8	97:17 214:8	USS 17:4 174:10
111:1,25 112:1,5	212:1 213:1 [°]	48:21 74:15 83:7	unclip 78:6,8	183:2 186:20
113:1 114:1	214:1 215:1	209:9 225:6	Underhill 2:20	usually 73:10
115:1,8,12 116:1	216:1,10,15	227:9	14:10,15,15	127:17
116:14,18 117:1	217:1 218:1,2	Trust 86:11	26:16 28:9 45:15	
117:18,22 118:1	219:1 220:1,9,13	truth 22:5,8	68:4,9 88:5	V
119:1 120:1	221:1,18 222:1	107:18	91:19 103:5	variable 40:5,6,7
121:1,21 122:1,9	223:1 224:1	try 15:23 59:12	108:21,24 109:6	40:14,16
123:1,13,16,25	225:11 226:23	88:21 118:12	111:21 183:7,10	variety 126:16
			<u> </u>	

				raye z i
- 1 - 40440	1404040	140 40 45 40 00		404.47.04
various 164:10	119:13,19	110:12,15,19,23	we've 16:21 32:3	131:17,21
VDR 40:10	120:17 121:21	111:10,11 113:3	39:5 40:12,13	140:22 207:22
verified 86:5	122:2,9,16,23	113:4,6,20,24	62:10 98:22	West 3:14
versa 205:15	123:8 125:19,23	114:2,7,11,23	103:12,25	wheelhouse 61:13
version 109:12	126:4,13 127:14	115:19,21 116:8	117:15 119:13	188:21 191:14
119:3 175:9	129:9 157:14,17	116:12 117:3,8	121:25 122:16	whip 169:12,16
vessel 10:15 47:4	163:8,11 170:18	117:12 118:8	122:22 123:20	whistle 88:17,25
47:23 54:11	170:25 211:10	119:4,8,11,19,24	139:23 141:25	89:17,20
110:25 111:15	VRM 40:2,4,5 41:9	120:13,18,21	143:3 147:23	whistles 88:4,9
116:11 117:11	41:16,17	121:8,12,18	158:15 202:20	white 74:3,7 161:5
119:7 137:21		122:24 123:2,7,9	212:23	wide 36:24
140:4 173:19	W	129:10,17	weather 127:22	willing 15:18
175:11 179:5	W 4:12	136:20 152:18	Wednesday 1:21	197:16
180:6 186:13	wait 27:9 214:18	153:4,6,15,22	week 199:8,9,10	wind 23:3
208:7 218:21	walking 60:3	164:23 178:20	199:17 200:2,2,2	windows 56:20
vessel's 114:13	want 13:4 15:21	187:24 188:14	200:3,4	179:12
138:3 156:21	34:11 38:16	189:10,11,25	weeks 49:24 51:19	Winegeart 1:18
vessels 36:25	40:25 60:18	190:5 200:22,25	69:19 165:12	227:17
39:19 43:11,19	66:19 73:17,17	203:25 204:13	Weigel 2:4 5:7	Winterscheidt 4:4
175:6	75:22 92:10	204:19 205:5	13:11,24 14:11	wiring 141:11
vice 12:18 205:15	98:20 104:18	206:7 213:20	14:11 18:9 19:7	wish 226:4
video 10:8 176:2,4	125:11 134:3	221:12,13	20:15 24:19 25:3	witness 12:4
176:10,12 177:4	142:7 154:3	watched 185:3	25:14 32:6 40:24	15:14 16:23
177:6,19,25	183:22 201:21	watches 152:21	41:5 50:15 58:24	24:21 25:6 32:8
179:2,13 180:4,8	216:24 217:13	156:5	60:18,22 64:19	50:20 52:19,21
180:9,23 181:15	217:14 218:12	watching 184:18	64:22 65:6,23	52:21 58:25
182:6 183:18	219:21 222:25	watchkeeping	66:20 67:22 68:3	64:21 66:21 68:2
184:13,18,19,21	223:2	170:15	68:7,11,20 69:11	68:5 74:9 89:9
185:3,5,8,9	wanted 14:7 31:14	watchstanders	89:8 92:17 97:22	104:20 120:5
videos 184:16	31:17 34:5 57:16	54:12 126:21	104:17 105:7	134:11,16
view 56:6,14	98:18 141:18	watchstanders'	107:2 108:17,23	155:16 175:2
168:17	145:25 165:2	54:9	109:2 118:23	190:22 193:10
vision 54:9,10,14	warnings 128:2	water 9:6 157:25	120:4 122:7	199:10,20
visit 168:7	Washington 2:16	158:5,8,11,17	134:9,13 138:6	207:16 221:20
voice 176:15	wasn't 30:12	water's 126:17	143:15 155:14	223:22 225:15
180:14,16 184:7	31:15 38:22	way 27:7,12 49:16	159:18 166:6,11	witness's 19:8
184:8 201:19	83:17 121:12	53:24 57:7 64:3	167:2,4,12,21,24	20:16 24:20 25:4
216:7	132:4 142:19	147:15 160:10	176:3 177:17,23	134:10
voices 14:22	170:8 190:12	178:6 190:13	181:22 183:9,12	woken 89:3
volume 158:22	192:19	192:4 203:17	183:14 198:2	word 193:4 196:4
159:24	watch 23:16,19	waypoint 108:3	202:3 207:13	words 111:14
volumes 108:18	25:11,22 26:3,5	115:22 125:5,15	209:17 210:20	124:25 193:16
voyage 7:11,15,17	26:11 30:24	125:18,20,20,22	215:16 216:3,6	work 12:17 53:15
7:19,21,23 39:6	32:17,19 34:12	125:23 126:3,4,7	216:14 217:1,9	53:25 54:20 63:4
105:9,14,17,18	34:22 35:16 36:4	127:4,7	217:18,25 218:1	63:16,19 66:12
105:19,21 106:3	36:8,9,11 38:2,6	waypoints 107:24	219:1,3,8,12,16	89:20,22 124:7
106:6,10,16,23	42:10 46:2,6	113:7	219:21,25 220:1	146:21 156:24
107:25 108:9	47:4 61:22 85:18	we'll 47:2 124:7,10	220:5,12 221:1	198:8 203:19
110:2,4 111:25	85:23 99:14,17	145:5 167:23	221:15 223:20	worked 27:6 152:2
112:6,9,11,13	100:7,11 101:11	178:24 179:7	went 48:24 98:9	157:3 195:14,17
113:4,13 115:8	101:17,22 102:2	we're 57:15 95:9	140:11 189:3	196:22,25
115:13,18	102:6 103:19,21	109:8 124:7,12	191:21 192:8	working 47:14,16
116:14,19	104:10 106:24	167:16 173:2	202:14 214:6	53:14 59:16
117:18,22	107:6,13 108:4	174:20 222:24	weren't 61:25	61:25 64:6,7,9
-,				
-				

				raye 22
04.40.40.05.40	00.04 00.0 40 40	000000 0:44 400:0	04 5000 0.0 00.40	
64:10,12 65:10	66:21 80:8,10,10	002262 9:11 162:6	015322 6:6 26:19	1
65:15,17 69:6	90:23 94:4,12	002266 9:12 162:6	015323 6:7 26:20	1 10:8 176:4
72:23 73:5 83:21	110:3 120:7	002364 9:14	015428 7:18 115:9	177:16 183:8
89:21 91:13	131:10 136:24	163:24	015429 7:18 115:9	201:12 227:8
141:19 145:19	142:18 143:11	002366 9:15	015438 7:20	1,497 158:23
145:20 153:11	143:18 144:21	163:25	116:15	1.2.23 190:7,8
207:11,19	147:3 153:23	002645 10:20	015439 7:20	191:11 192:22
214:25 215:8	157:9 167:3	209:23	116:15	1.2.26 194:6
works 147:16	172:16,19	002649 10:20	015450 7:16 112:2	1.2.3 187:14
wouldn't 54:16	176:21 177:5	209:23	015451 7:16 112:2	1.3.7 195:3,4,5,6
83:12 97:18	178:10 179:20	002763 7:4 81:13	015474 7:12	1:18-cv-01359-P
204:21	180:13 181:11	002781 7:5 81:13	105:10	1:6
write 19:23 21:13	182:11 184:4	002880 8:7 129:21	015475 7:12	1:40 215:13
23:15 24:6,24	189:11 202:9	002882 8:8 129:21	105:10	1:42 215:13
31:10 100:4,10	208:4 211:6	002883 8:10 135:4	015482 7:22	1:51 223:24
100:18 101:3	212:22 216:18	002885 8:11 135:4	117:19	10 126:3,4,7 127:7
104:15,24,25	221:21 223:9	004147 10:11	015483 7:22	10-A 111:22,23
129:2,3	year 199:12	202:17	117:19	10:31 92:19
writing 18:21 82:8	years 45:8	004239 10:11	015499 9:7 158:13	10:42 110:16,18
148:3	yesterday 12:18	202:17	02 27:25,25	10:45 92:19
written 18:22 20:7	201:15,18,24	004425 94:18	0230 18:16 38:10	100 13:5
22:21 99:7	York 1:2 2:8,8 3:15	004504 92:15	38:13,18	10001 3:15
101:14 103:23	3:15,23,23	005872 10:7	0300 17:21 18:3	10020 2:8
206:7 220:22		139:19	18:13,19 19:11	1031 124:16
wrong 30:22 45:12	Z	0059 95:4	20:7,9,20 21:20	1038 149:11
45:17 136:19	zigzag 50:3 52:18	005925 10:17	22:2 28:2 29:13	104 93:23
164:19 187:19	52:19	137:22	29:17,20,25	105 7:11
208:23	zigzags 43:24	005926 10:17	30:15 33:12,15	1059 122:3
wrote 20:10 21:4,7	44:4	137:23	33:20 40:11	1075 156:16
21:10,18,19,22	zoomed 40:19	006206 10:23 11:3	85:18,23 86:14	1079 151:14
22:6 23:8 24:9	41:12	186:25 209:25	86:20 87:13	1081 152:13
30:17 31:2 99:16		01 16:19 27:25,25	88:25 89:12	1082 153:16,17
100:6,9,15	0	0100 114:16,18,19	100:19 187:25	109 7:13
101:17,19,22	0 27:24 159:12,16	115:5	04 64:2	10th 143:23
102:2,5,8 104:6	159:24	012173 10:4	0400 22:16,22	144:11 145:3,9
111:6 128:12	00:44:25 92:9	185:15	23:19,25 24:8,12	146:13 151:19
132:14 206:9	97:15	012177 10:4	25:23 26:3,6	151:22 152:14
	000 118:22	185:15	28:7 29:22 31:2	153:6 155:8
X	000309-000329	013104 8:5 123:17	31:6,8,10 34:12	11 94:16 122:5
X 5:1 49:13 74:7	6:10 35:2	013105 8:3 123:14	45:24 46:9 48:24	164:11
X's 27:15	000367 10:14	013509 8:13	53:13 54:23 56:7	11:54 156:10
X-band 153:10	31:23	141:22	57:2 58:7,10	111 7:15
154:18,23	001038 8:24 149:7	013524 9:9 160:24	59:18 63:22,23	1123 44:20
173:25	001039 8:24 149:7	013578 9:19 171:9	64:8 65:4,10,13	1123 44.20 1127 90:5
	001059 7:24	014336 8:20	65:16 86:23	1127 90.3 115 7:17
Υ	121:22	147:20	99:14 100:24	116 7:17
y'all 13:23	001063 7:24	014340 8:21	101:8,12,22	117 7:21
yeah 22:24 23:8	121:22	147:20	102:4 162:14	119 109:12
27:9 28:8,11	001075 9:5 156:12	014341 8:16	188:14 189:12	11th 76:7 94:19
35:21 42:7,11	001079 9:3 151:10	142:24	189:25 190:18	96:16,18 97:8
43:21 45:13,21	001122 9:3 151:11	014351 8:17	190:25 191:7	98:5 146:11,14
46:12 52:3,6	001123 6:13 44:12	142:24	0410 102:6 103:20	149:2 150:14
53:19 55:11,22	001127 90:7	015306-015307	0415 102:6 103:20	155:8
56:19 63:12	0011270 7:8 90:2	6:20 62:7	0954 110:8	100.0
	1	1	<u> </u>	1

12 16:19	162 9:10	151:7 156:22	159:23 181:2	311 6:16 60:23
12 16.19 12:35 156:10		158:17 161:9	24-hour 66:6	
	163 9:13			61:3 62:19
1200 110:22 117:8	165 9:16	163:5 196:16	25 4:15 176:14	312 6:17 62:4,11
121 7:23 107:11	168 9:17	197:2 204:16	218:15	313 6:21 69:12,16
107:12	16th 115:13,14	210:9 220:24	26 6:4 182:5	74:3 76:16 78:23
12173 185:20	119:14	2019 1:21 199:14	264 210:19	314 7:2 81:11,16
123 8:2,4	17 88:3	227:15	2646 214:13,14	81:23 82:17
1271 2:7	17-A 86:3	202 10:9	2647 210:18	315 7:6 89:24 90:4
129 8:6	17-B 87:4	2:17	26th 116:19	316 7:9 91:22 92:4
12th 3:14 147:24	17-F 87:22	2054 113:19	119:14	92:7,22 93:16,17
13 16:21	171 9:18	209 10:18	2763 81:18	94:14 96:12,17
13-B 16:23	1730 82:4 83:21	20th 33:9 35:25	2767 86:3 87:23	96:24 97:7,16
13-C 16:23	176 10:8	36:7 69:2 172:23	2768 87:17	317 7:9 91:22
1300 64:3	1800 111:11	201:12,19	2781 81:19	92:13,15,22
13104 123:23	185 10:3	21 20:21 23:19	27th 117:5	93:22 94:5,10,25
13105 123:21	186 11:1	90:21,22 91:13	28 10:12,18 131:5	95:7 96:12
135 8:9	19 10:15 137:21	95:4,13,24	131:8,9 209:19	318 7:10 92:25
13509 142:2	138:2,8	160:13 161:9	209:21 210:4	93:5,8,9
13524 161:4	1900 33:10	182:23 187:25	211:7	318-A 93:13
13552 176:7	1st 221:25	21:22:45 182:24	2848 227:17	319 7:11 105:9,14
13578 171:12		21:22:52 172:23	2880 129:24	110:2,5
137 10:15	2	2118 113:22,23,25	2882 130:18 132:3	31st 135:9 149:12
139 10:5	2 7:2 81:12,24	212 3:14	2883 135:8	150:4,10,17,20
1400 1:20 4:15	132:22 133:2,6	3:16	28th 117:23	320 7:13 109:9,13
141 8:12	133:10 178:3	3:24	119:14,22 121:5	321 7:15 103:3,16
142 8:14	183:12 201:13	212-885-5000 2:9	227:15	112:6
14271 2:15	2.1.1 203:7	21201 4:16	29 3:22 118:19	322 7:17 115:8,12
14337 148:13	2.1.2 204:4	216 5:7 9:20	29th 118:17	323 7:19 116:14
14341 143:4	2.3.6 205:10	21st 17:3,14 18:4	2311 110.17	116:19
14341 143.4 14343 143:14	2.35 40:19,21,23	27:22 29:6 33:9	3	324 7:21 117:18
144:17	41:13,22	33:9,16 36:5,10	3 85:9 87:22	117:22
14344 146:24	2.6.4 208:3,5	38:10 45:6,20	137:11 180:25	325 7:23 121:21
	2/0 37:8		182:5,15	
147 8:18		54:23 56:7,17		122:2 125:19,20
149 8:22	2:30 104:10,11	57:3 63:19 69:2	3's 137:17	129:15
15 5:6 6:3 196:15	2:55 180:3,8	75:13 85:14,15	3-P 159:20 160:2	326 8:2 123:13,21
15-C 10:12 28:12	20 36:3 164:11	85:24 86:20	3:00 104:13	125:4,14 126:3
28:16	20006 3:23	87:14 89:20 98:5	3:01 180:11,22	126:23 127:22
1500 159:8,15	20044-4271 2:16	116:5,6,6 151:6	3:49 182:8	327 8:4 123:16,22
160:3	2017 7:14 16:19	156:22 163:4	30 192:9 218:15	124:21 126:20
151 9:2	16:19 17:3,14	201:14 204:15	304 6:3 15:8,11	128:7 129:14
15499 158:16	20:21 23:19 29:6	206:12 207:23	305 6:4 26:17,22	328 8:6 129:19,24
156 9:4	32:11 35:25 36:3	209:7 210:9	306 6:8 34:24 35:6	132:18
158 9:6	45:20 51:22	22 1:21	35:8	329 8:9 35:25
15th 82:4 83:8,11	62:16 85:15	220 9:21 119:3	307 6:11 39:12,15	135:2,7 137:3
83:21,25 84:5,21	89:20 90:22	221 5:8	308 6:12 44:10,15	330 8:12 141:21
84:25 85:4,5	94:17,19 95:13	225 5:9	47:10 58:21 59:5	141:25 154:17
97:25 98:10,13	97:25 105:15	226 5:10	309 6:14 50:13	331 8:14 142:22
122:3 158:20	109:10,14,23	2262 162:10	51:15 52:25	143:3 146:6
159:9,15	112:7 116:20	227 5:11 227:8	53:17 55:3,5,16	148:8
16 66:9 68:23 69:3	117:23 130:6,7	23 109:20	55:19,21	332 8:18 147:18
196:15	131:4 135:9	2300 114:3,5	30th 130:6,7	147:24
16-B 10:13 31:22	140:8 142:17	2311 3:22	133:16	333 8:22 149:5,10
32:3,7	143:23 144:11	2364 164:4	31 10:13 150:2	150:7
160 9:8	147:25 149:12	24 66:3 113:17,18	310 6:15 57:9,13	334 9:2 151:9,13
		ĺ	· · · · · ·	ĺ
-				

Page 24

> -			Page 24
155:8 335 9:4 156:11,16 160:13 161:19 336 9:6 158:11 337 9:8 158:15 160:23 161:4 338 9:10 162:4,9 162:22 339 9:13 163:23 164:3 34 6:8 340 9:16 165:7,10 165:20 167:7 341 9:17 167:25 168:5,11 342 9:18 171:8,12 186:18 343 210:4 344 9:20 216:10 216:17 344A 9:21 219:19 220:9,15 222:21 35th 3:14 36028 2:22 38 11:1 177:16 186:23 187:3 3831 124:13,23 39 6:11	4th 105:15 107:21 108:14,15 109:23 111:19 119:14 5 5 132:22 133:2,6 5:00 101:18 5:23 101:18 5:24 101:18 5:30 12:22 50 6:14 51 4:6 54 178:3 57 6:15 90:24,25 592 138:9 5925 138:9 5926 138:12 5th 113:16 6 6 114:10 60 6:16 6009 3:7 606240 10:23 11:3 186:25 209:25 62 6:17 62062 4:7	9 9 82:19 125:5,15 125:18,20,22,23 127:4 168:18,21 168:22 169:2 204:10 9:12 1:22 4:8 91 7:9 92 7:10 94102 2:25 9B 10:9 202:15,21	
3rd 222:2 4 4 10:3 46:3,4,13 63:21 133:8 153:4 185:14,18 186:2 4:00 101:22 104:14 4:10 101:24 4:15 101:24 40 116:4 192:9 41 22:12,13 4:17 3:1 4157 203:5,6,6 4167 204:9 4177 205:8,9 4181 205:23,24 4183 206:23,24 43 218:18 44 6:12 450 2:24 46 117:6,7 48 118:23 119:2 49 182:16	6212 187:13 69 6:21 6th 112:7 119:14 7 7-5395 2:23 7.55 161:14 713-222-3800 3:9 717 1:20 7497 147:8,11 148:18 150:11 77002 1:21 77007 3:8 7th 2:23 8 8 10:5 139:18,22 182:20 8.65 160:20 8.95 161:16 803 29:7,8 81 7:2 83 96:25 97:2 89 7:6 8th 140:8		