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Dolores Clayton, et al. v. Ford Motor Company : Brief of Appellant

Utah Court of Appeals

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Recommended Citation

Brief of Appellant, *Clayton v. Ford Motor Company*, No. 20070517 (Utah Court of Appeals, 2007). https://digitalcommons.law.byu.edu/byu_ca3/341

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IN THE UTAH COURT OF APPEALS

DOLORES CLAYTON, et al. Plaintiffs/Appellants,	APPELLANTS' ADDENDUM VOL. 1
vs.	
FORD MOTOR COMPANY,	Appellate Case No. 20070517-CA Civil No. 000909522
Defendant/Appellee.	

Appeal from the Judgment of the Honorable Joseph C. Fratto Judge of the Third Judicial District Court, Salt Lake County, State of Utah

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Appellants request oral argument and a published opinion

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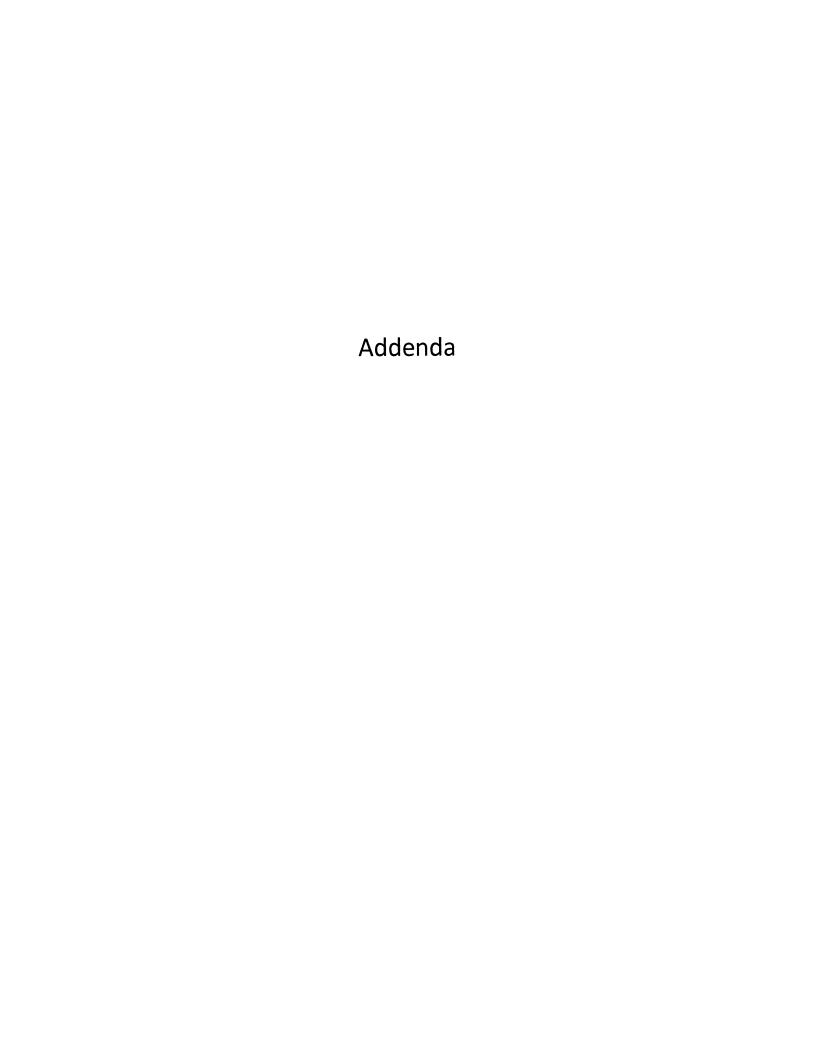
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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

DOLORES CLAYTON , an individual;	
FRED CLAYTON, an individual;) FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT AND
and as Special Administrator for the) DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL
ESTATE OF ANTHONY CLAYTON,)
and KELLIE MARIE MONTOYA,)
an individual,)
)
Plaintiffs,	
V.	
) Civil No: 000909522
UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, a Utah) Consolidated with Case No: 020904142
Corporation and successor in interest to) Judge: Joseph C. Fratto, Jr.
WARNER SUPER FORD STORE, a	
Utah Corporation; FORD MOTOR	
COMPANY , a foreign corporation doing)
business in Utah, and JOHN DOES 1)
through X,)
Defendants.	
)
)

COME NOW PLAINTIFFS, Dolores and Fred Clayton, for themselves, and Fred Clayton, as Special Administrator for the Estate of Anthony Clayton, and Kellie Montoya, by and through their counsel of record, Law Offices of Thor O. Emblem and Steffensen Law Office, and complain against defendants, Utah Auto Collection, Warner Truckland/Warner Super Ford Store, Ford Motor Company and John Does I through X, and for their claims for relief, allege and aver as follows:

PARTIES

- 1. Plaintiffs, Dolores Clayton and Fred Clayton, are the parents and natural and legal heirs of the decedent, Anthony Clayton, an unmarried man who resided in Salt Lake County, Utah at the time of his death. Anthony Clayton died without issue. The jurisdiction over the Estate of Anthony Clayton is Salt Lake County, Utah. Plaintiff Fred Clayton is special Administrator over the Estate of Anthony Clayton. Fred Clayton is the owner of a 1997 Ford Explorer purchased new from Warner Ford.
- 2. Plaintiff, Kellie Montoya, was the fiancé of Anthony Clayton and the front seat passenger of the 1997 Ford Explorer driven by Anthony Clayton on November 27, 1998. At all times relevant herein, Kellie Montoya was a resident of Salt Lake City, Utah.
- 3. Defendant, Utah Auto Collection (hereinafter referred to as UAC) is a Utah Corporation, licensed and doing business in Salt Lake City, Utah. Plaintiff alleges, on information and belief, that UAC is successor in interest to Warner Ford Super Ford Store, having received all assets and assumed all liabilities of Warner Super Ford Store. Upon information and belief, plaintiff alleges Warner Super Ford Store also does or did business as Warner Truckland (The Warner defendants are hereinafter referred to as WARNER). Plaintiff alleges on information and belief that WARNER was the duly licensed dealer and local agent for Ford Motor Company. Plaintiff further alleges, that WARNER sold plaintiff the Ford Explorer which is the subject of this

- litigation. UAC and the WARNER defendants are sued collectively as the selling and servicing agent/dealer of Ford Motor Company.
- Defendant, Ford Motor Company, is a foreign corporation, doing business in the state of Utah.

 Defendant, Ford Motor Company, (hereinafter referred to as FORD) designed and manufactured the Ford Explorer which is the subject of this litigation. Plaintiff further alleges FORD advertised and sold, through its exclusive agents UAC/WARNER, the subject vehicle and other FORD vehicles within the state of Utah.

JURISDICTION AND VENUE

- 5. The Court has jurisdiction over the defendants pursuant to Utah Code § 78-27-24(1), (2) and (3) in that all defendants are presently conducting business within the State of Utah.
- 6. Venue is appropriate in this district pursuant to Utah Code Ann. Code §§ 13-5 and 13-7.

FACTS

- On information and belief, Plaintiffs allege that on November 27, 1998, decedent Anthony
 Clayton was the restrained driver of his father's 1997 Ford Explorer operating said vehicle in a
 reasonable and prudent manner while driving eastbound on 1-80 in Utah. For reasons as further
 alleged, the Ford Explorer went out of control, ejected and rolled over Anthony Clayton, who
 died at the scene, and severely injured Kellie Montoya, who remained restrained inside the
 vehicle as the front seat passenger.
- 8. As a result of the above described accident, the vehicle was deemed a total loss.

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF – Strict Liability (FORD, UAC AND WARNER,)

9. The Plaintiffs incorporate herein all allegations made elsewhere in this Complaint.

- 10. The Defendants designed, manufactured, distributed and sold the Explorer which is the subject of this action. Moreover, Defendants engaged in the business of designing, manufacturing, distributing and selling the Explorer and / or its parts, which are the subject of this litigation.
- 11. The Explorer, and various of its component parts (as identified with more particularity hereafter) were each and all defective when sold. Specifically, the Explorer and the specifically identified component parts were each:
 - a. defective in manufacture, and / or;
 - b. defective in design, and / or;
 - c. sold without sufficient warnings regarding the propensity to rollover and other unreasonably dangerous aspects of the vehicle as are more fully described hereafter.
- 12. At the time the Explorer left the control of FORD, and when it was sold by UAC and/or WARNER, it was defective in design and manufacture and unreasonably dangerous when used in the manner for which it was intended. These defects include, but are not limited to, the conditions described in the following subparagraphs:
 - a. The Explorer's design for stability and handling is defective because when a reasonably prudent driver, faced with reasonably foreseeable road hazards or distractions, attempts to make reasonable corrective maneuvers, the Explorer crashes and rolls. As such the Explorer is unreasonably dangerous to the user or consumer. Furthermore, given the purpose for which the Explorer was designed and marketed, its defective lack of stability was even more unreasonable and dangerous in that;
 - i. The Explorer was defectively designed and manufactured because it does not have an effective design, system and/or sufficiently strong component parts for controlling the up and down travel of the front wheel so as not to over stress the

front end component parts; overstress of the front end component parts due to excessive and/or improperly restrained up and down travel causes them to bend, degrade and ultimately to fail and/or break; and in this case, did in fact cause the sway bar link, shock absorber and right front tie rod end to fail and/or break.

- ii. In an attempt to prevent sway or roll of the vehicle, the Explorer was equipped with an anti sway bar system. However, the stabilizer bar's sway bar link is defective in its design and/or manufacture because it is not strong enough to refrain from breaking under normal use especially in light of the insufficiently controlled up and down travel of the front wheels; and in this particular case, the sway bar link had in fact broken, fallen out and was not present in the subject vehicle immediately after the accident and could not be found at the accident site;
- The Explorer is defectively designed in that it utilizes or otherwise has to rely in part upon its shock absorbers to limit up and down travel in the front wheels relative to the steering tie rods and other components; and/or the shock absorbers with which the Explorer was equipped were faulty and/or defective because they can not and did not limit up and down travel; which causes and caused component parts of the front end suspension and handling system to overstress and fail; and in this case, one of the front shock absorbers did in fact fail and break;
- iv. The Explorer was defectively designed and manufactured with respect to the steering tie rods; the tie rods are subjected to reverse bending due to the insufficiently controlled up and down movement of the wheels, and are not sufficiently strong or designed to withstand these bending forces which occur in normal; breaking under normal use; and in this case did in fact fail and break,

- causing unreasonably dangerous loss of control of the vehicle, and an unreasonably high risk of loss of steering control while operating the vehicle;
- v. The Explorer was defectively designed with an unreasonably dangerous high center of gravity, which further contributed to the Explorer's overall propensity to roll, sway and ultimately crash and/or roll;
- b. The Explorer's design and manufacture was defective and unreasonably dangerous because it did not adequately protect its occupants from injury during crashes and/or roll overs; this includes lack of reasonable and necessary safety/occupant protection features as well as incorporating structural design defects, including but not limited to:
 - The passenger compartment of the vehicle was not soft enough to cushion occupants in the event of foreseeable crash, including rollover.
 - ii. The outside of the vehicle was not hard or sturdy enough to withstand a rollover accident and/or to protect occupants during a roll over; the roof structure and windows were and are not strong enough to withstand and protect the occupants from reasonably foreseeable roof crushing; the roof structure and windows were and are not strong enough to keep the door from crushing causing a shortening of the distance between the exterior door handle and door latch mechanism, which results in the spontaneous operation of the door latch release and/or causes the spontaneous operation of the connecting rod between the inside door handle and the latch which opens the latch, which thus opens the door, providing an unreasonably dangerous exit route for the occupant; and in this case the door did in fact fail to remain latched, but opened and allowed Anthony Clayton to be ejected and then crushed by the rolling vehicle.

- The Explorer was designed and manufactured with unreasonably dangerous, faulty and defective door latch locking mechanism, including without limitation the following:
 - A. The design of the mechanism allows, during a foreseeable rollover and impact to the roof, the inertia of the impact to disengage door locks allowing the exterior door handle connecting rod to operate and open the door latch when the door crunches and/or without door crunch due to inertia.
 - B. The interior door handle to door latch connecting rod design is defective because inertia from an impact can and does cause the rod to operate when the door crunches and/or without door crunch due to inertia or impact from occupant. The rod will also allow the door to unlatch due to a side impact crash, or force from occupant or ground onto door.
 - C. The interior and exterior door handle operating rods are insufficiently flexible and could have been replaced by an inexpensive cable device known to existing technology and used by Ford in other vehicle models.
- iv. The Explorer was and is defective and unreasonably dangerous because the seat belt systems, including all of their component parts (such as the belt webbing, retractors, anchors and anchor points), as well as the overall design and geometry of the system, were inadequate to reasonably restrain and protect occupants when exposed to foreseeable crash forces in rollover accidents. In particular, but not by way of limitation, the restraint systems routinely fail and allow occupants to become unrestrained and sometimes ejected from Explorers during roll over

accidents. In this case, the seat belt in fact failed and did not restrain Anthony
Clayton, thereby allowing him to be ejected from and killed by the rolling vehicle.
Some of the problems with the seat belt system include:

- A. The seat belt systems were defectively designed and unreasonably dangerous because they failed to incorporate known excursion-mitigating devices which are known to prevent or limit excursion of occupants during rollover accidents, including but not limited to pretensioners and cinching latch plates;
- B. The seatbelt systems and their components were not fit for the particular purposes for which they were intended, and for which they were used;
- C. The seat belt latch was and is defective and unreasonably dangerous because it is unreasonably susceptible to inertial unlatch and to foreign matter impeding proper latching. As indicated, in this case the seat belt did unlatch permitting the ejection of Anthony Clayton through the open door.
- c. The Explorer lacked adequate and sufficient warnings and instructions about the risks, dangers and harms presented by the subject Explorer and reasonable means to reduce such risk.
- 13. Due to each and / or all of these defects, the Explorer, tie rods, and / or other component parts were unreasonably dangerous.
- 14. The subject Explorer was expected by FORD, UAC and WARNER to reach, and did reach, the user without substantial change in the condition in which it was placed on the market.

- 15. Anthony Clayton and Kellie Montoya were people who would reasonably be expected to use the subject Explorer. They were foreseeable "users" and/or "consumers" as those terms are used in UCA 78-15-6(1).
- 16. At time that the subject Explorer was sold to Fred Clayton and then used by Anthony and Kellie Montoya, the vehicle was defective for the reasons cited above, which defects and/or defective conditions made the subject Explorer unreasonably dangerous to Anthony and Kellie, as users and/or consumers.
- 17. The aforementioned defects in the subject Explorer were the direct, natural and proximate cause of the rollover accident, property damage, bodily injuries and death of Anthony Clayton and a proximate cause of the bodily injuries of Kellie Montoya.
- Wherefore, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court enter a finding that each of the Defendants are strictly liable to Plaintiffs, jointly and severally, for all damages identified herein in amounts to be proven at trial.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF – Breach of Warranty and / or Contract (FORD, UAC and WARNER)

- 19. The Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference all of the above allegations of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 20. Defendants knew the purpose for which parties such as the Plaintiffs purchased and / or operated and/or used Explorers. In fact, Ford, UAC and WARNER directly solicited Plaintiffs and other parties to purchase Explorers for their intended use as sport utility vehicles.
- 21. The Plaintiffs relied upon the expertise, skill, and judgment of Ford, UAC and WARNER to produce and sell a product which was capable of safe use in its intended purpose as advertised.

- 22. As set forth above, there was a defect in the design and/or manufacture, or a lack of appropriate warnings, in the Explorer. Due to these defects, the Explorer as sold was unfit for its intended purpose.
- 23. The defects in the Explorer and the identified component parts directly, naturally, and proximately caused the accident which resulted in the death of Anthony Clayton and the serious injuries to Kellie Montoya. The Plaintiffs have suffered damages as a direct result of this accident.
- 24. Wherefore, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court enter a finding that each of the Defendants are liable to Plaintiffs for breach of implied warranty of fitness for a particular purpose and therefore jointly and severally liable to Plaintiffs for all damages identified herein in amounts to be proven at trial.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF - Negligence

(FORD, UAC and WARNER)

- 25. The Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference all of the allegations of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 26. UAC/ WARNER were the local agent acting on behalf of FORD. They also had an independent duty, as indicated below, to verify and make sure that the vehicles they were selling were not in fact defective.
- 27. The Defendants each and all owed duties to the Plaintiffs and other foreseeable users of the Explorer. Specifically, the Defendants had at least the duty to use reasonable care in the design, testing, manufacture, and inspection of the Explorer, its tie rods and other component parts, and to warn users of potential hazards associated with the use of the Explorer. Additionally, UAC/

- WARNER, as the sellers of the Explorer, had the same duty as the manufacturer of the Explorer because the Explorer was potentially dangerous by reason of its defects.
- 28. Each and all of the Defendants breached these duties to the Plaintiffs inasmuch as the Explorer when sold was defective and unreasonably dangerous. As set forth above, the Explorer, its Tie rods and / or other component parts each and all had defects either in design, manufacture, and / or lack of sufficient warnings regarding the Explorer's propensity to roll over and the other unreasonably dangerous aspects of the vehicle.
- As indicated above, FORD had a duty to design and manufacture a vehicle that was free from defects and safe to operate in the manner for which it was intended. Specifically, but not by way of limitation, the vehicle should have been stable and/or capable of being adequately controlled/handled under normal driving conditions; it should have provided reasonable protection to occupants in the event of a rollover accident, including having a safe roof structure, safe door construction, defect free seatbelts, properly designed door latches, and otherwise as further alleged above.
- 30. FORD breached its duty to design and manufacture a vehicle which was free from defect, including those defects listed above.
- 31. FORD's breach of duty includes but is not limited by the following:
 - a. FORD engaged in inadequate stability and rollover crash worthiness testing of the
 Explorer and similar vehicles;
 - b. Even though it should have been obvious that occupants were at risk of sustaining catastrophic injuries during foreseeable rollovers, FORD failed to provide an appropriate restraint system that would restrain and protect occupants during rollovers.

- c. Even though it should have been obvious that occupants were at risk of sustaining catastrophic injuries during foreseeable rollovers, FORD failed to provide an appropriate door latching system that would prevent the opening of a door and creation of an ejection route if in fact the restraint system should fail.
- d. Even though it should have been obvious that occupants were at risk of sustaining catastrophic injuries during foreseeable rollovers, FORD failed to provide a strong enough roof structure to maintain the integrity of the vehicle, so that occupants had a lessened chance of injury.
- e. The factual basis for FORD's negligence is also further detailed in the First Claim for Relief.
- 32. Plaintiff alleges that Defendant FORD had a duty to the Plaintiffs and the motoring public generally to ensure that the Explorer manufactured, designed, and assembled by them was not defective and dangerous in the manner alleged above. FORD, by placing the defective Ford Explorer on the market, impliedly represented that it was safe for the purpose for which it was intended; and that the defendants, by placing it on the market and otherwise representing it as able to perform safely, intended that customers and unknowing public should rely on their representations.
- 33. Had it not been for the Defendants' negligence, no damage would have been sustained by Plaintiffs.
- 34. The defects in the Explorer, its tie rods and / or its other component parts directly, naturally, and proximately caused the accident which resulted in the death of Anthony Clayton and the serious injuries to Kellie Montoya, and destruction of the vehicle. The Plaintiffs have suffered damages as a direct result of this accident.

- 35. As a result of the Defendants' breach of duty, the Plaintiffs have suffered damages both in the past and the future, which are more fully set forth in the damage allegations.
- Wherefore, Plaintiffs respectfully request that this Court enter a finding that each of the Defendants are liable to Plaintiffs for negligence and therefore jointly and severally liable to Plaintiffs for all damages identified herein in amounts to be proven at trial.

FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF - Wrongful Death

(FORD, UAC and WARNER)

- 37. The Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference all of the allegations of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 38. The defects existing in the Explorer, its tie rods and / or its other component parts directly, naturally, and proximately caused the accident which resulted in the death of Anthony Clayton.

 That death was premature and wrongful.
- 39. Pursuant to Utah Code Ann. § 78-11-6.5 and 7, the Dolores and Fred Clayton are entitled to maintain this action for damages against the parties who caused the death of Anthony.
- 40. These Plaintiffs are entitled to judgment for compensatory and exemplary damages in amounts to be proven at trial, jointly and severally against each and all of the Defendants for the wrongful death of Anthony Clayton.

FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF - Consumer Sales Practices Act

(FORD, UAC and WARNER)

- 41. The Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference all of the allegations of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 42. The Utah Consumer Sales Practices Act (UCA 13-11 et seq) is designed to protect consumers from suppliers who commit deceptive and/or unconscionable sales practices. The conduct of the

- defendants complained of herein constitutes deceptive and/or unconscionable acts or practices in violation of said Act.
- 43. Plaintiffs are entitled as consumers who have suffered a loss as a result of the defendants' violation of this ACT, to recover their actual damages resulting therefrom, plus court costs and attorney's fees.

SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF - Negligent Infliction of Emotional Distress (Montoya) (FORD, UAC and WARNER)

- 44. The Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference all of the allegations of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 45. Plaintiffs incorporate herein all allegations made elsewhere in this Complaint.
- 46. At the time of the accident giving rise to this Complaint and at all other relevant times, Kellie Montoya enjoyed a personal relationship with her fiancé Anthony Clayton.
- 47. As a result of the Defendants' acts and omissions, Kellie Montoya witnessed the rollover accident and contemporaneously observed immediate resulting harm and catastrophic and fatal injuries to Anthony Clayton.
- **48.** Kellie Montoya suffered severe emotional shock and distress as a result of witnessing the rollover accident and observing the immediate, serious and fatal injuries to Anthony Clayton.
- 49. Defendants are liable to Kellie Montoya for the emotional shock and distress she suffered as a result of witnessing the rollover accident and observing the immediate, serious and fatal injuries to Anthony Clayton, in amounts to be determined at trial.

SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF – Fraud

(FORD, UAC and WARNER)

- 50. The Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference all of the allegations of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- On an almost daily basis for years prior to the day that the accident complained of herein occurred, FORD spent hundreds of millions of dollars advertised (print, radio, television) to the buying and using public including plaintiffs that the Explorer was a safe and reliable vehicle. The plaintiffs did not know that this advertising was inaccurate in any way. They reasonably relied upon it in: (a) purchasing the subject Explorer, (b) allowing Anthony and Kellie to drive the subject Explorer, and in (c) driving and/or riding in the subject Explorer. They have now suffered damage as a result of this reasonable reliance due to Anthony's death and Kellie's injuries arising from the accident.
- 52. During this entire time period, FORD conducted tests of the Explorer and its component parts.

 FORD also received reports and/or other information from its employees, vendors, government agencies, lawyers and others, including without limitation, information about actual accidents, relating to the Explorer, its handling and its propensity to roll and cause injuries to its occupants. From this information, FORD learned about the defects complained of herein. Yet, despite this knowledge, FORD omitted to disclose to the plaintiffs and the rest of the buying public that the Explorer was defective and prone to lose control and roll over under normal driving conditions, and that these defects often resulted in serious injuries and/or death to the occupants of the vehicles involved in such incidents. FORD did not disclose that the door latching and occupant restraint systems also were not performing properly. Ford did not disclose anything about any of the defects that it was aware of that are described herein.
- As a result of FORD's knowledge of these defects and the danger to occupants posed thereby, all of FORD's advertising which omitted to disclose these material facts was fraudulent and

- intentionally designed to lull the plaintiffs and the rest of the buying public into a false sense of security so that FORD could continue to sell massive numbers of Explorer vehicles.
- 54. FORD's conduct constitutes fraud. Plaintiffs are each entitled to judgment against FORD for compensatory and exemplary damages in such amounts as are determined trial.

EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF – Punitive Damages

(FORD, WARNER and UAC)

- 55. The Plaintiffs reallege and incorporate by reference all of the allegations of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.
- 56. In the event the trier of fact determines that one or more of the defendants' actions in designing, manufacturing, distributing, warranting and / or selling the Explorer and / or its tie rods, and / or other component parts rise to a level of willfulness and maliciousness or manifest a knowing and reckless disregard toward the rights of the Plaintiffs, punitive damages should be assessed.

CAUSATION AND DAMAGES

- 57. Plaintiffs incorporate herein all allegations made elsewhere in this Complaint.
- As a direct and proximate result of the Defendants' acts and omissions set forth above, Plaintiff
 Fred Clayton, individually, as Special Administrator for the Estate of Anthony Clayton and
 Plaintiffs Dolores Clayton and Kellie Montoya have incurred and seek the following general and special damages:
 - a. The Estate of Anthony Clayton seeks all damages allowed by law and equity arising from the actions and omissions of the defendants, including without limitation, the following damages which the Estate will seek at trial:
 - i. Loss of future earning capacity and other pecuniary losses, and all other relief appropriate under UCA 78-11-12 and as allowed in <u>Kynaston v. United States</u>,

- 717 F. 2d 506(1983)(the damages which may be recovered are "those the injured person might have recovered had he lived")
- ii. Burial and funeral expenses;
- iii. Physical and emotional pain and suffering (See Kynaston);
- iv. The value of Anthony Clayton's life;
- v. For Anthony's loss of the enjoyment of life and his association with loved ones;
- vi. The aggravating circumstances attending the wrongful acts and negligence of

 Defendants
- vii. Any appropriate exemplary damages; and
- viii. Any other losses and damages sustained by the Estate of Anthony Clayton and to which it is legally entitled, including costs and attorneys' fees.
- b. Plaintiffs Fred Clayton and Dolores Clayton, individually, and as surviving parents of Anthony Clayton seek all damages to which at law and in equity they are entitled, including but not by way of limitation, the following which they will seek at trial:
 - i. Loss of financial security and stability;
 - ii. Loss of love, companionship, counsel and comfort from Anthony;
 - iii. Loss of the Explorer;
 - iv. Any appropriate exemplary damages; and
 - v. Any other losses and damages sustained by Fred Clayton and to which he is legally entitled, including costs and attorneys' fees.
- c. Plaintiff Kellie Montoya seeks all damages to which at law and in equity she is entitled, including but not by way of limitation, the following which she will seek at trial:

i. Compensation for her physical and mental injuries suffered as a result of the

accident;

ii. Loss of love, support, companionship, affection and society of Anthony

Clayton.

iii. Extreme mental anguish in the form of physical pain, emotional pain, torment and

suffering;

iv. The aggravating circumstances attending the wrongful acts and negligence of

defendants;

v. Any appropriate exemplary damages;

vi. Any other losses and damages sustained by Kellie Montoya to which she is legally

entitled, including costs and attorneys' fees.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiffs pray and demand an award of damages to be fixed by the trier

of fact in a reasonable amount, including punitive damages. Additionally, Plaintiffs ask for the

trebling of actual damages to the extent allowed by law, costs of this action, reasonable attorneys' fees,

all pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as provided by law, and for all such other relief to which

they are legally entitled and as the court deems appropriate.

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiffs demand a jury trial on all issues.

Dated this 29 day of September 2003.

THOR O. EMBLEM, ESQ.

BRIAN W. STEFFENSEN, ESQ.

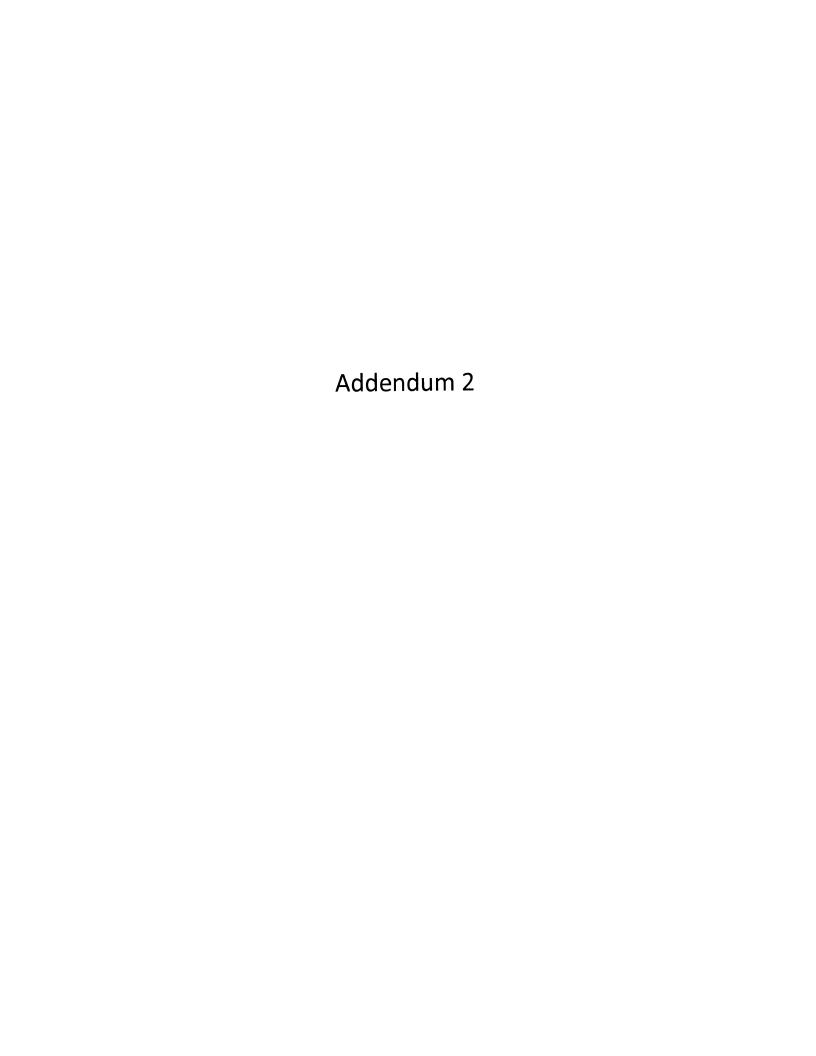
Brian W. Steffens

18

I hereby certify that on the 30th day of September, 2003, a true and correct copy of the foregoing instrument, was mailed, First Class, postage prepaid, to:

David Wolf Tim Schade SNELL & WILMER 12 West South Temple, Suite 1200 Salt Lake City, UT 84101

STEFFENSEN LAW OFFICE



Tim O'Neill (Pro Hac Vice) Dan R. Larsen (4865) Kimberly Neville (9067) Karthik Nadesan (10217) Snell & Wilmer L.L.P. 15 West South Temple, Suite 1200

Salt Lake City, UT 84101-1004 Telephone: (801) 257-1900 Facsimile: (801) 257-1800

Attorneys for Defendant

FILED DISTRICT COURT Third Judicial District

MAR 1 2 2007

SALT LAKE COUNTY

ENTERED IN REGISTR'

OF JUDGMENTS

IN THE THIRD DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs.

٧.

FORD MOTOR COMPANY

Defendant.

JUDGMENT

Case No. 000909522

Judge Joseph C. Fratto

This action came on for trial before the court and a jury between January 2, 2007 and February 9, 2007, the Honorable Joseph C. Fratto, District Court Judge, presiding The issues having been tried and the jury having rendered a unanignous verdict in favor of defendant Ford Motor Company, no cause of action,

It is Ordered, Adjudged and Decreed that plaintiffs take nothing, that the action be dismissed on the merits, and that defendant Ford Motor Company recover costs from plaintiffs in an amount to be taxed or ascertained and to be inserted in the blank left in this judgment for that purpose. Costs are taxed and awarded against plaintiffs and in favor of defendants Ford Motor

Company in the amount of \$ 4,4/2.

Judgment @J

000909522 CLAYTON, DEE

Judge Jb Third District Court

431311.1

Recorded 7/2/07



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ORIGINAL

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY

STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,)
) Case No. 000909522
Plaintiffs,)
)
VS.) JUDGE:
) JOSEPH C. FRATTO, JR.
UTAH AUTO COLLECTION,)
et al.,)
)
Defendants.)

TRIAL TESTIMONY OF DAVID INGEBRETSEN VOLUME II

TAKEN AT:

SCOTT MATHESON COURTHOUSE

450 South State Salt Lake City, Utah

DATE:

Wednesday, January 17, 2007

REPORTED BY:

Catherine L. Kennedy, RPR, CSR

Wendy Alcock, RPR, CSR

FILED DISTRICT COURT
Third Judicial District

OCT 2 4 2007

SALT LAKE COUNTY

Deputy Clerk

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

JUDGE:

JOSEPH C. FRATTO, JR.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION,

et al.,

Defendants.

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		Page 2		Page 4
1	APPEARANCES	,	1	Wednesday, January 17, 2007, at 9:09 a.m.
2 3	FOR THE PLAINTIFFS.		2	Wednesday, Surday 17, 2007, at 5.05 and
1	THOR O. EMBLEM, ESQ		3	PROCEEDINGS
5	TRACY EMBLEM, ESQ. LAW OFFICES OF THOR EMBLEM		4	THE COURT: Good morning.
	205 West Fifth Avenue, Suite 105		5	THE PARTICIPANTS: Good morning.
1	Escondido, CA 92025 (760) 738-9301		6	THE COURT: Back in the matter of
7	MATTHEW H. RATY, ESQ.		7	Clayton versus The Ford Motor Company and others, and
8	LAW OF OFFICES OF MATTHEW H. RATY		8	I hope everybody had a good weekend. I observe that
9	9677 South 700 East, Suite D Sandy, UT 84070		9	everyone is present who needs to be present. The
	(801) 495-2252		10	jury is in the box. When last we met, Mr. Emblem was
10 11	FOR THE DEFENDANTS:		11	examining Mr. Ingebretsen.
12	DAN R. LARSEN, ESQ.		12	MR. EMBLEM: Right.
	KIMBERLY NEVILLE, ESQ SNELL & WILMER		13	THE COURT: Mr. Ingebretsen, if you'll
j	15 West South Temple, Suite 1200		14	come up and have a seat in this chair, please.
	Salt Lake City, UT 84101 (801) 257-1900		15	THE COURT I It I was it was direct.
15			16	THE COURT: I believe it was direct
	TIMOTHY O'NEILL, ESQ. SNELL & WILMER		17 18	examination. CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION
	1200 17th Street, Suite 1900		19	BY MR. EMBLEM:
	Denver, CO 80202 (303) 634-2003		20	Q Good morning.
18 19	* * *		21	A Good morning.
20			22	Q I'll start you off with a little recap
21 22			23	on I have the third iteration up, with permission,
23			24	of 27-C to Mr. Germane's diagram.
24 25			25	A Yes.
	те с объетия этиметти и одноствоения от	Page 3		Page 5
1	INDEX		1	Q Have you reviewed that?
2	EXAMINATION	PAGE	2	A Yes.
3	Continued Direct by Mr. Emblem	4	3	Q I'll place eight and a half by elevens
4	Voir Dire by Mr. O'Neill	53	4	of these three in front of you, 27-A and that
5	Continued Direct by Mr. Emblem	57	5	will pass that right up there. Thank you. No,
6	Voir Dire by Mr. O'Neill	85	6	not that one 27-B and now 27-C. Right?
7	Voir Dire by Mr. Emblem	87	7	A I just have A and C.
8	Further Voir Dire by Mr. O'Neill	90	8	Q A and C?
9	Continued Direct by Mr. Emblem	138	9	A Yeah.
10			10	Q That's B.
11			11	Okay. A little ceremony there, but
12			12	thank you for that.
13			13	Do you recognize the document you are
14			14	looking at? Is that correct, sir?
15 16			15	A Yes. But 27-C doesn't be the
17			16 17	reproduction of No. 3 down there. Q 27-C is not this one?
18			18	Q 27-C is not this one? A No. It looks like another copy of 27-B.
19			19	Q 27-B without the "draft" on it?
20			20	A Yes.
21			21	Q Okay.
22			22	THE COURT: So our record is clear, I
23			23	have 27-A, B, and C?
24			24	MR. EMBLEM: Right.
25			25	THE COURT: And the larger diagram is

2 (Pages 2 to 5)

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that the -- we had an objection from Mr. O'Neill in terms of 35-C, the first page, that this was really just a memorialization of his -- of, that is, the witness's testimony. And then to the following still photographs of the animation, I determined that the still photographs of the animation were appropriately received. The first page, however, I've

reconsidered in terms of the language below the schematic that the witness is now testifying about at the top of the page, and so I've determined to reconsider. I'm going to receive the exhibit, but I'm going to redact the language below the schematic on the first page, that is, No. 1 through 16.

MR. O'NEILL: Your Honor, I assume that means that that language next to the numbers 1 through 16 will not be displayed.

THE COURT: Yes.

19 MR. O'NEILL: Thank you, your Honor. 20

(End of side bar conference.)

21 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Okay. So position

22 No. 1 — the one to the left of position No. 1 — let

23 me show you now the first -- oh. Is that what we're 24

looking at? 25

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Α Yes. The little schematic with the happening to the occupants?

A Well, they're falling. They're under the influence of gravity too. It's really rather complicated. This is after the trip point, where we've had that first pulse when we've built up and built up that ground in front of the right front tire. The occupants have moved to their right in the direction that the vehicle is traveling, the direction they were traveling.

As the vehicle lifts up and over, they start interacting with the interior components. They can come down and contact the roof structure. The vehicle is crushing a little bit on that driver side, caving in not only top to bottom but from left to right, from driver side over to passenger side.

Q So between -- remember, I did this the other day. Tony is going to his right and forward?

A Right. Between zero and 1, he is going right and forward.

And Kellie is going against the door and Q forward?

Α

Is that what's happening?

24 Okay. And when the -- when it gets to 25 this position here, impact to the roof, how is Tony

(Pages 22 to 25)

positioned inside that vehicle?

A Well, he's upside-down. The cent -excuse me -- centripetal acceleration is starting to take effect. He has been over towards the center of the vehicle. He is going to start now coming back towards the outsides.

We know that eventually he is thrown against the outside because he comes out of the car. At this point in time, he's up -- like I said, he's upside-down. It's at this point in time where it's my opinion that the seat belt came unlatched --

Okav.

13 Α -- and he's now more free to move about 14 the cabin.

Q So he's over the console and turning 16 upside-down --

17 A Yes.

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O -- as he comes over?

Tony's door. Okay.

20 So when he hits the roof, when the car 21 hits upside-down on the roof, Tony's not standing 22 straight up and down or sitting straight up and down?

23 A Probably not. He's probably angled 24 still to some degree.

Towards the center?

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A Well, we do. We work backwards from all the evidence, and evidence of injury and the type of injuries that are being diagnosed help me to understand what kinds of forces were being applied to the individual. And so we can back up, and that's the reconstruction tool that I can use because of my education and training.

Q Now, in the case -- in Kellie's case, she is in the passenger seat?

A Yes.

12 Q Kind of against the door, I think you 13 said; right?

A Yes.

Does she get hit on the top of the head?

I don't think she has injuries that are consistent with that. We have injuries that are consistent with high angular accelerations and also other impacts to her head.

Q All right. What is a high angular acceleration?

A Angular acceleration is how quickly we go from not rotating to rotating, and the faster we do that, the greater forces are built up, particularly in soft, gelatinous tissues.

Page 27

Yes. Α

Q So the impact to him is kind of down the side of him as opposed to right on the top of the head?

A It's difficult to really tell. There are no real witness marks inside the cab. But we do know that his injuries are not consistent with a compression type injury on his neck. We have no fractures. There's -- no basilar skull fracture was identified or diagnosed. So we know he didn't come down like some people do in a rollover where they come straight down onto the roof and they literally break their neck. We don't have those injuries on Tony.

So the conclusion is he wasn't in that kind of a position, so he probably was rotated a little bit, distributing the forces more along the side of his body than straight up and down with his neck.

Q As a biomechanical engineer, is that some of the things that you study to obtain your Masters in biomechanical engineering?

Α Yes.

Q And that is you use that to reconstruct the position of people based upon the medical

Page 29

1 The brain can be thought of as kind of 2 Jell-O, really, when you look at it as a structure, 3 not as an organ, but as a mechanical structure. And if we rotate that organ, we get shearing forces. 5 Different layers are trying to move at different 6 rates, and so we develop a shearing action between 7 those layers. And if we have high angular 8 accelerations, we create damage in that tissue.

O Okay. Is the head then moving and stopping? Is that what you are saying?

A It does. Her head is hitting hard interior structures, and it's being rotated. And so as the vehicle rotates and we have these multiple small impacts, her head is going side to side primarily. And that's actually the -- the direction that's easiest to actually cause damage. You get damage between bridging vessels and tissues between the two halves of the brain.

19 In -- for example, in boxing, if you 20 want to knock somebody out, you come around with a 21 hook and hit them in the side of the head to make 22 their head go side to side. It's easier to cause 23 damage to the brain in that plane rotating than it is

24 front to back or like this (indicating). 25

O Does that cause shear frontal lobe

(Pages 26 to 29)

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vehicle. Mr. Clayton will come out of the vehicle. And because again, as we're coming up and over, his actual speed with respect to the ground is -- can be as much as twice the linear speed of the vehicle with respect to the ground, he'll come ahead and be ejected ahead of the vehicle.

Q In terms of -- I'll come back to that. I was going to ask how many opportunities is there to eject Tony and have him land where he lands. Is this the only time it can happen?

A During this roll sequence, it has to 13 14 happen somewhere in there. If we wait until the next 15 one, then it's -- we've gone too far.

Q Okay.

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And I don't think he's ejected with the vehicle down because we wouldn't get the crushing injuries that he sustained.

Q Thank you.

21 Okay. So we've heard testimony that the 22 door was unlatched in the first impact?

> Yes. Α

And then in the next quarter roll the door is unlatched but down against the ground with

Q Eighth quarter turn, this is where the vehicle, according to your calculations, is running over Mr. Clayton; right?

A Unfortunately, yes.

Q Now, he's -- since his wheel is down, sometimes you might think that you can, you know, maybe crawl under it and not run into something. But you've kind of placed him right about where the differential is; is that correct?

In -- yes. In this, he is.

But we also have to remember that, as the vehicle comes down again, we will be compressing the suspension and taking up space that could be used to survive in if you are just working under your car.

We're still -- we still have some rotational energy, and when that comes down again, we will compress the suspension. And so he -- the differential clearly hangs down lower than other components under the vehicle. But whether he's there or maybe a little bit more towards the center of the car, we're still having a significant amount of weight coming down on top of him.

Q When we use the word "differential,"

9 (Pages 30 to 33)

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A The differential is that little pumpkin-shaped thing that the driver shaft comes into and then it goes out to the axles, to the wheels. There's that big round thing hanging underneath the back of your car if you have a rear-wheel-drive car.

Q Ninth quarter turn?

A We're passenger side down again, coming up onto the cement on the freeway. Right front tire is contacting that, getting damaged, and going through the yellow paint.

Q Let me show you an exhibit that is marked 26, Exhibit 26. Do you recognize this document?

15 I do. These are photographs which I Α 16 took.

Q Okay. 26, for the record, is the -- of all of your photographs, we selected four here for your discussion at this point; is that correct?

A That's correct.

Okay. The first one --Q

MR. EMBLEM: Any objections?

MR. O'NEILL: No objection if they're offered.

THE COURT: You are offering them?

see there. It's difficult to see on this print.

Q Let me use -- you can use the pointer.

Thank you.

Q And point on the big screen, please.

There is some yellow paint. In fact, Mr. Emblem, if you'd zoom it back out again, too, there's two locations. There's one that may be a little bit easier to see.

Wrong thing.

Q That's the far — there you go.

A In here, it's a little bit out of focus, but there's -- it's easier to see some yellow coloring right there, and there's also some yellow paint in these gouges along here.

O Okay. So --

A It's actually right in this area would be the easiest to see on the actual exhibit. The color is a little washed out up here. But right in that area, there's some yellow coloring. And then off again to the left, if we could go up over there in this area, on the exhibit it's easier to see some yellow. Looking at the tire itself, it's much easier

Q We can bring that up later. We don't have it right now.

Page 35

MR. EMBLEM: They are offered. THE COURT: They are identified three photographs or actually four photographs, 26-3356, 3358, 3372, and 3373, in that order. There being no objection, they are received.

(Exhibits as identified received.)

Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Looking first at the last page, David, what are we looking at there, Mr. Ingebretsen?

A This is what I identified and my partner identified as the right front tire from Mr. Clayton's vehicle.

And what we see at the ninth quarter turn, you've got that right front tire laying in the, what, westbound yellow fog line?

A Yes.

Q What about this photograph, 26-3373, supports that, if anything?

19 A It's hard to see on this because it's 20 taken a little bit back, but there's actually some 21 yellow paint in the gouging and scratching just below 22 and to the right of the valve stem that's --

Q Let me take you to 3372, the next one.

24 I think that's a close-up.

A It is. And, again, it is difficult to

Okay. So then those two photographs, because there's yellow paint in that rim, is that the only place that you can get yellow paint in that rim in this incident?

A That's my opinion, yes. This rim is an alloy rim. It isn't rusting. That is not rust or dirt. It was very clearly yellow paint, which, to my eye, matched the yellow paint of the fog line.

9 Q Okay. It couldn't have picked up yellow 10 paint when it left eastbound lanes? 11

A No.

Q Any reason why?

A I don't believe that tire was debeaded at that time, and there were no marks on the roadway that say that that rim was dragging. You can see some significant damage on that rim where it was dragged across the cement and broken. If we had done that on the eastbound lanes, there would be some very clear gouging and marks in the middle of that big dark skid mark.

Q Which is a different kind of an impact 22 than occurred when he entered the westbound lanes?

Yes. Α

24 And also the yaw marks that were left on 25 the road were not consistent with a flat tire; is

10 (Pages 34 to 37)

Page 38 Page 40 1 that correct? 1 wheels; correct? 2 2 A No, I don't think they were. There's a A Yes. 3 3 different look to a flat tire skid mark. O Thirteenth quarter turn? 4 4 Q Position No. 9, that position, and Α Yes. 5 quarter turn 10. First of all, 9 and 10, again we 5 Q Kellie is back down against the right 6 have -- is this correct, Kellie is down on the right 6 door again? 7 7 side of 9 and on her head again at 10? A Correct. And we have one of the 8 8 A Yes. passenger side windows coming out of its frame at 9 9 Q Okay. At 10, you've got the vehicle on that point. 10 its roof, and then at 11 quarter turn you've got the Q Okay. So that's another pretty good 11 driver side rear in the yellow fog line. Am I right? 11 piece of evidence that you've got that vehicle 12 A Yes. 12 positioned correctly in that westbound lane, is the 13 Q Okay. Referring to Exhibit 26 again, 13 window? 14 those photographs, first 3356, will you point out to 14 Α Yes. 15 the jury what we are looking at right there? 15 MR. O'NEILL: Your Honor, let me object 16 A Yes. This is that D pillar. If you 16 to the continuing leading form. 17 17 look at the vehicle, we are looking at this top THE COURT: Sustained. 18 corner. So this is the roof of the vehicle, this is 18 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) And let me take you now 19 19 the rear window, and this is the pillar. And right to the 14th quarter turn. On the roof again? 20 20 up here, if we zoom in, you'll see yellow paint in 21 those scratches. 21 Q Kellie's upside-down? 22 22 A close-up view right there, this is Α Yes. 23 23 the -- if you could rotate that 90 degrees, On the roof again? 24 24 Mr. Emblem. Thank you. This is the same Fifteenth quarter turn? 25 orientation. This is the top of the vehicle, rear 25 Yes. Page 39 Page 41 window is over here, and you can see the yellow paint 1 Tony's side down; right? 2 2 in these last set of gouges here. A Yes. 3 3 And one of the things we look for, too, Q So Kellie's falling towards the center 4 4 is we look at layers, and these scratches are again? 5 5 essentially on top of all these other scratches that She would be a little bit, yes. 6 6 are going all these different ways. You can see that Sixteenth quarter turn? 0 7 7 because the yellow paint isn't disturbed by scratches Α Yes. going through it. So this tells me that this 8 Where we come to stop? O 9 9 happened on one of the last rolls. This was down, Α That's correct. 10 10 and so that I can tell you that that is when it's You said something a minute ago. You 11 coming up onto the westbound lanes of traffic. 11 said there was a series of relatively light contacts. 12 Q Okay. And because there's scratches, 12 Did you -- how did you say that? 13 13 does that mean that the Explorer is also still A The rollover is a series of -- well, I 14 traveling laterally sideways? 14 don't know that I used the word "light," but the 15 A Yes. 15 impacts are just simply -- in and of themselves, 16 16 Even though it's on its roof? they're not terrible impacts. 17 17 A That's right. It's not -- it's just not We have a lot of energy in this vehicle 18 18 rolling on a spit. As we're rolling, we're coming but we're burning up that energy over 178 feet or so, 19 down and we have translational motion like this, as 19 and it's being burned up by a succession of 16 hits 20 20 well as rotational motion. as we rotate, plus all of the sliding and dragging 21 21 Q So there's still a little bit of energy that's being burned up as we slide and drag 22 22 scraping going on there? through the dirt and up onto the cement onto the 23 23 other side. A Yes. 24 24 Okay. Eleven. The speed of the vehicle at the time 25 25 Twelfth quarter turn, back on the that it reaches the end of the dirt, the point you've

Page 50 Page 52 1 here, Mr. Ingebretsen? like anything else. 2 2 A I recognize this as the eastbound lanes Q And does it matter whether the material 3 of I-80 in the vicinity of the rollover. This is the 3 that is feeling the forces is soft or hard? 4 straight portion of the roadway coming into the 4 A That has an effect on the acceleration. 5 curve. Soft objects, when -- to take the example of an egg, 6 6 if I drop an egg onto a piece of foam rubber, it's Q Okay. A moment ago we saw the green 7 7 sign on the right. Do you recognize that? going just as fast as if I drop it onto tile, but 8 A Yes, I do. That's in several of the 8 because the foam rubber is soft, that time underneath 9 Highway Patrol scene photographs. 9 the delta-V -- the delta-V is the same, but the time 10 10 MR. EMBLEM: Okay. Stop there. gets much bigger because there's more distance that 11 (BY MR. EMBLEM) Okay. So you've 11 the egg takes to slow down. And so when you do that, 12 confirmed that that is a -- the video of the piece of 12 you make - when you make the acceleration small, you 13 highway leading up to the crash scene? 13 make the forces small. 14 14 A Yes. And that's a common way to protect soft 15 15 MR. EMBLEM: Okay. We move 21-B. objects like people. You put foam around them. 16 16 Football helmets and padding, shock absorbers in your Correct? 17 17 shoes, there's all sorts of examples that we can use. THE WITNESS: Yes, 21-B. 18 THE COURT: Any objection to 21-B? 18 Padded dashboards was -- were brought out in the 19 MR. O'NEILL: No objection to that 19 sixties because it saved people when you hit the 20 20 portion of 21-B, your Honor. There are other dash. 21 materials, but no objection to that, just the 21 Q I guess it's I'd rather be hit in the 22 display. 22 thumb with a pound of feathers than a pound of lead? 23 MR. EMBLEM: Okay. That's all. 23 A Yeah. 24 24 THE COURT: 21-B is received. Q Is that what we are talking about? 25 25 (Exhibit 21-B received.) Actually, you would because the pound of Page 51 Page 53 1 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Was there any rainfall lead isn't going to deform much and that time is 2 that day, November 27th, 1998? 2 going to be very small. Feathers are going to 3 3 A My understanding is no. The police conform and squish, and that time gets much bigger, 4 4 report didn't record any. There was none noted in and so the forces get small. 5 5 the photographs. And I believe Mr. Probert did some Q Concerning the injuries that were 6 research that's part of our file that showed there 6 suffered by Ms. Montoya in this incident, what would 7 7 have made a difference in terms of things that were was no precipitation that day. 8 8 Q Also, what -- do you know the available to the technology at the time that this car 9 9 temperature of that day? was built? 10 10 A Yes. I think it was around 55 degrees. MR. O'NEILL: Your Honor, let me object, and may I voir dire the witness? 11 That sounds a little summery to me right now. 11 12 12 THE COURT: Voir dire towards an Q Right. And what was the posted speed on 13 the highway out there? 13 objection, you may. 14 Posted speed was 75 miles per hour. 14 **VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION** 15 The speed -- the safe speed, in other 15 BY MR. O'NEILL: 16 Q Mr. Ingebretsen, is it true, sir, that 16 words? 17 That's okay. 17 you don't have any evidence of where Ms. Montoya may 18 A I didn't understand. Sorry. 18 have contacted the vehicle? 19 19 Q During the discussion about acceleration A I don't think that is strictly true. 20 and time, does it matter -- you said this is what an 20 There's some blood evidence that tells me the type of 21 object feels, or I guess that also means what a 21 plane in which she is rotating. 22 person feels. Would that be correct? 22 Q Mr. Ingebretsen, if I may just cut you 23 23 A Right. I meant that applies to off, we're talking about impacts because that's what 24 everything, persons, inanimate and animate objects. 24 you have just been talking about. We are not exempt. We feel forces of accelerations 25 Where in the vehicle, sir, did

is, in my opinion, most likely from Ms. Montoya.

Q Okay. And also in this photograph, what is that that we see up here on the upper corner?

This is part of a handle meant to use to help people enter and exit the vehicle.

Q And over here in this part of the photograph?

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A Again, we see the -- another handle that's above and to the right of the passenger door.

Q And on the B pillar, is there anything here in this region of interest?

A There are some markings here. They're a

14 page 255, he admits that, quote, There were really no

15 witness marks on the interior of the vehicle that 16 were still available or recognizable of significant

17 interior contact with either Ms. Montoya or 18

Mr. Clayton, closed quote. And that's on page 255. 19 The question starts on line 12. The answer goes

20 through line 24. 21

And we've had no disclosure since then, your Honor, about any specific witness marks within the vehicle. And so - and he's already admitted he can't tell exactly where she contacted.

So now, after a break, they're back and

16 (Pages 58 to 61)

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his opinion as to why the seat belt failed. Your objections are noted -- your exception is noted.

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Now back to -- like I said, I'd like to resolve this quickly if possible, and that is in terms of the expert report and other approaches. How were these people notified that Ms. Montoya's restraint was an issue?

MR. EMBLEM: Ms. Ford Corrigan was deposed, their expert in biomechanics. And her testimony, which to some portion was relied upon by Mr. Ingebretsen when he gave the declaration and affidavit in opposition to motion for summary judgment, notifying the defendants that this new information, including the photographs, in large as opinions go.

14 And what he says in point 6, in Corrigan it 15 talks about the blood embedded in the various parts of the 16 inside. It says, "Ms. Corrigan testified that Anthony 17 Clayton's head would have been forced into the door groove 18 juncture during the rollover event whether he was belted or not. Based on that, it is evident the same is true 20 with Kellie Montoya, indisputably belted, who suffered 21 sheer frontal lobe brain injury, facial lacerations, teeth 22 knocked out, and vision knocked virtually askew, requiring 23 prisms to correct her vision for life."

So actually they have a couple of zones to which they've received notice. One, Mr. Ingebretsen has said so

THE COURT: And Mr. Ingebretsen's affidavit regarding his expert report -- and that may be in the unknown. But other than the affidavit, anything else?

MR. EMBLEM: Yeah. It advises them of his opinion in that regard. And they were certainly free to say, "Hey, Thor, I need to take his deposition on that." But they wouldn't have needed to because they had already had their sworn testimony of their witnesses on that point.

THE COURT: So I'm clear here, his report to them identified the Kellie Montoya seat belt and its sufficiency as an issue?

MR. EMBLEM: Sure.

THE COURT: He was going to opine on?

MR. EMBLEM: Yeah. But did he say that exactly 16 in those words? No. And if you ask that question exactly in those words, the witness say no, because he's such a 18 precise person. He doesn't want to say the wrong thing. 19 The fact is, he says that he agrees with Ms. Corrigan that 20 the seat belt does not contain Tony Clayton; therefore, it does not contain Kellie Montoya. Belted or unbelted, she's going to be hitting the roof. Ms. Corrigan says so, and Mr. Ingebretsen says so.

THE COURT: Now so I have the language, the question is that it doesn't contain them or doesn't --

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in March of 2006, but also in January and February of 2006, whenever I took Ms. Corrigan's deposition, they were also notified of that fact.

Now, there's one other witness of theirs, but I can't think of his name, that also told us --

MS. EMBLEM: Caulfield.

MR. EMBLEM: Mr. Caulfield, the door guy, who I presume will later testify, has testified that the loading would have occurred laterally, whether belted or not belted.

11 THE COURT: You're speaking of Ms. Montoya? 12 MR. EMBLEM: Yeah, lateral movement within the 13 seat. Caulfield talked about Tony Clayton, but the 14 operation, the failure mode, is exactly the same. There's 15 nothing to protect Kellie Montoya from banging back and 16 forth as this thing is rolling over. And even if it's 17 hitting her face on the glass or on the pavement when the glass is broken out, that's still a failure to protect the 19 occupants in a foreseeable event, and that makes it 20 uncrashworthy.

21 THE COURT: So the notification is as a result 22 of the questioning at depositions?

23 MR. EMBLEM: Of their witnesses, and then also 24 repeated with Mr. Ingebretsen's affidavit in March of 25 2006.

Mr. Montoya --

MR. EMBLEM: Ms. Montoya?

THE COURT: -- or Mr. Clayton, the idea is -- or the theory is that the seat belt failed and he is not restrained to any degree. The theory with Ms. Montoya is that she's wearing her seat belt, but it's insufficient restraint.

MR. EMBLEM: There you go. Exactly.

THE COURT: And so the language regarding insufficient restraint was used?

MR. EMBLEM: Not that exact language, no, but the language was --

THE COURT: I guess I see the difference between saying that the seat belt failed and the seat belt did not sufficiently restrain. Two different concepts.

MR. EMBLEM: Yeah. It says, "Belted or unbelted, her head -- Ms. Montoya's head, even though she was indisputably belted, would also be forced up in the roof/door juncture, as Ms. Corrigan as testified under oath."

THE COURT: Well, wouldn't that be a notification that actually the seat belt didn't matter? Isn't that what that says, that the seat belt didn't matter? It's not a matter of the seat belt is insufficient, it didn't do what it should do. That it didn't matter. That

We convert some energy. Mr. Clayton and Ms. Montoya are going to move forward and to their right, because that's the way they were traveling before.

The vehicle will lift and start to come up. There will be some interaction with their buttocks and pelvis area with the seats, but their torsos are still trying to go the same direction they were until they get acted upon by some other force.

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So as the vehicle comes over and we hit on that first impact, we haven't really developed enough time for them to be thrown outward. So Ms. Montoya is still against the door, Mr. Clayton is somewhere in between where he was normally and where he was as he was going over the console, towards the front and to the right.

Q So is it your opinion that if Mr. Clayton was 16 not sitting straight up at the time of the first primary contact with the ground?

A No. And straight up -- I mean, we're upsidedown, so he is upside-down and still in a position where I don't think he has yet moved back towards the door.

Q So am I correct, then, that your testimony is that he was more to the right so that that contact with the roof was distributed over a greater part of his body than the top of his head?

MR. O'NEILL: Object to form.

quarter-and-half -- first quarter, second quarter, and

third quarter, because the physical evidence on the seat

belt is a very light witness mark. We don't have

significant loading of the seat belt, and so if it came

open, it has to come open in that area, because as soon as

we start to come over again, the door opens and he comes out of the door.

Is this the approximate location of the buckle?

A Yeah. It will be close to somewhere where you can easily access it with your hand. Not too low, but not

11 too high.

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12 I'll show you some photographs that were 13 previously admitted. I think you might have seen them, so I'll ask you a couple questions about that. So the time 15 you believe this buckle opened was when Tony was headed 16 for the right front; is that correct.

MR. O'NEILL: Leading question.

18 THE COURT: Sustained.

19 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) What was Tony Clayton doing 20 physically, because of the physics of the dynamics of this

21 crash, when you believe the buckle came open?

22 A As I just explained, Tony is still -- his torso 23 and mass is primarily over to the right. His hip would be

24 pushing into the center console, his torso would be

leaning still to the right, and wouldn't start coming back

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THE COURT: Sustained.

(BY MR. EMBLEM) Could you describe the position that you believe is your testimony that Tony Clayton was in on the primary contact?

Yes. Based on the physics of the problem, based on the injury pattern that we have on Mr. Clayton, the absence of injury to his neck and to his head, he can't be in the area where we're going to have direct contact. So he needs to be a little bit to the right of where we have the crushing going on.

So the impact of Tony Clayton's body is where?

The impact of his body is going to be on his left side, distributed probably around his shoulder area, maybe a little bit to the side of his head. But there's no real evidence of any significant contact or impact.

16 Q You have expressed an opinion that you believe 17 that the seat belt opened at a certain point during this 18 rollover.

19 MR. O'NEILL: Objection, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Sustained.

21 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Have you expressed an opinion 22 as to when the seat belt opened for Mr. Clayton?

23 Yes. Α

24 0 When is that?

A I believe the seat belt opened during this first

again until after we start coming around and centrifugal acceleration can bring him to the outside.

Q Is there anything about the shoulder strap that would prevent him from moving to the right, as you just described?

No. In fact, when you move at an angle greater than about 45 degrees to the front -- if I take the front and I turn just 45 degrees, that shoulder harness provides little, if any, restraint capability. You come out of the shoulder harness.

11 Q Is there anything within the systems of the car 12 to prevent lateral movement of the occupants during a 13 rollover?

Α Yes.

What is that?

16 A The doors. Seat belts don't contain, seat belts 17 restrain. And they're primarily designed for frontal 18 collisions. They don't restrain side to side well at all.

19 Q Let me talk a minute about the stability of the 20 Explorer.

21 Okay.

22 Q I'll ask you about that. You're able to -- in 23 documents which we've received in this case, are you able 24 to talk about the center of gravity versus the track

25 width -- height versus track width of this Explorer?

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1 to use. We don't have a Firestone tire case. It's not 2 about the tires, so don't let it distract you. That was a 3 test that was done on a UN105 Explorer. It was suspended 4 with four cables, they did measurements, they did specific 5 measurements with the specific size tires that are on our 6 car, P235 tires.

It's not a tire case, but it is a center-ofgravity case. It's a track width case. It's rollover case. And this is specific testing done by a reputable firm which establishes some other results with center of gravity related to the size of the tires. We gave it to them in discovery, also.

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THE COURT: Well, I guess specifically this was provided to you as one of their exhibits?

15 MR. O'NEILL: It was. And we filed our pretrial 16 objections. And our objection said it was subject to 17 motion of limine, referring for the Firestone tire recall 18 motion in limine. This was basically put together by 19 Tandy Engineering and Carr Engineering during the 20 Firestone tire recall. That's why I moved to exclude it. 21 And our motion to exclude includes everything. That's why 22 it is not admissible.

23 MS. EMBLEM: We didn't say anything about 24 Firestone.

MR. O'NEILL: Your Honor, I believe the only

1 objection essentially is that the entire body of testing

- 2 done by Carr Engineering, as reflected in this report, was
- 3 done as part of the Firestone Winderness AD recall. And
- 4 this was prepared essentially for testimony before
- 5 Congress. Secondly -- and that goes with the 403
- 6 prejudice as well. We don't have a Firestone tire case
- 7 here. It interjects an issue as to why it was done and 8
- what was being studied. And, again, it isn't our case
- 9 having to do with a tie rod.

Furthermore, this is not testing that was done by or on behalf of this witness. He was not participating in the tests, he doesn't know their purpose, and he's trying to get up and opine about something he wasn't involved with.

And then further, Your Honor, on the relevance, on page 3 you can see something called -- and this is page 3 of Exhibit 46A as has been produced to us -- that we have several different vehicles being tested, all with the Firestone AT tire, which you can see on the tire and wheel information heading with a number of different tire sizes. And you can see here there's a 255 tire, which isn't involved in our case. There is a 235, which is. All of them have different centers of gravity than this witness just calculated. And, again, the entire package, Judge, we think

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tires tested were Firestone tires in that report.

MR. EMBLEM: Doesn't matter, same size tire.

MR. O'NEILL: It's the Firestone.

MR. EMBLEM: Doesn't have anything to do with it. Doesn't have anything to do with it.

THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, we have a matter of law that requires more than a bench conference to resolve. You will please be patient with us while we resolve this. We'll excuse you to go back to the room during this period of time without expressing any opinions among yourselves or with others. You're excused.

(Jury excused.)

THE COURT: It may well be that we needed to explore all the proposed exhibits to see whether they have been precluded by the prior order or by a prior order and in terms of their foundation so that we have - we won't have to excuse the jury so often.

But it's very difficult for me to resolve these issues until I've had an opportunity to see what the exhibit is and hear you out here in terms of whether --I'm getting a conflicting message here as to whether this was covered by one of the orders or not. Let's flesh it out. What's your objection?

24 MR. O'NEILL: Your Honor, again, it's -- it is 25 relevance, foundation, and Rule 403. The relevance

falls under the prior motion in limine in addition to the 2 lack of foundation that this witness has we're talking 3 about.

THE COURT: I think I understand that. There's also apparently pictures -- photographs, I should say.

MR. EMBLEM: I think they just demonstrate how they arrived at their calculations.

THE COURT: For what purpose are you offering this?

10 MR. EMBLEM: To show that the particular 11 vehicle -- which is actually on page 4, which I have 12 tabbed on my copy -- which has the 235 tires, as ours do. 13 And the fact that it says "Firestone" is just a red 14 herring. It has nothing to do with Firestone. We don't 15 have Firestone tires. But we have P235 tires. And the 16 tires are important to the stability of this vehicle. As 17 counsel just pointed out, at page 3 you have the 255 tires 18 and the T/2h goes down. P235 tires, at least according to 19 Lee Carr, is 1.11 on page 4.

THE COURT: May I -- I don't mean to interrupt you, but is the purpose for this to explore - I apologize for the use of that word -- to further give some information regarding the tires?

24 MR. EMBLEM: It's regarding how the size of the 25 tires affects the stability factor.

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THE COURT: The size of the tire affects the stability factor.

MR. EMBLEM: Right, because the tires are different heights. A larger tire affects stability.

THE COURT: And the purpose of this exhibit is to give the opinion of the engineering firm that put this together, apparently?

MR. EMBLEM: No, this is no different really than an SAE document. This is testing that was done and was reported. As counsel said, they asked Congress to rely on it. I think the reliability is very high here.

THE COURT: What I'm trying to get to is why you want the jury to see this entire document.

MR. EMBLEM: Well, they don't need to see the entire document, and I would not object to redacting the document down to the pages that relate to --

THE COURT: What do they need to see?

MR. EMBLEM: They need to see at least page 4. We may have a couple more.

20 THE COURT: And I guess the purpose -- and then 21 my question is: What is the purpose in terms of page 4?

22 MR. EMBLEM: The purpose shows -- page 4 --23 THE COURT: What do you offer -- why do you

24 offer it?

MR. EMBLEM: The stability factor is 1.11. It's

relevant to our car, I don't know. He just testified that the track width is 58.8 on our subject vehicle.

MR. EMBLEM: He didn't say that.

MR. O'NEILL: He just talked about the exhibit.

MR. EMBLEM: It's in the exhibit. He didn't say our subject vehicle.

MS. EMBLEM: It's your exhibit from your expert.

8 MR. O'NEILL: And it's 58.7. And in this

9 document, Exhibit 46, it's 58.8. In the exhibit he just 10 discussed, the CG height is listed at 26.4 in this test.

11 That exhibit for the '96 Explorer shows 26.1. And we have 12 a document that says "CG height calculated from tests with 13 different tires."

14 And the problem is that, you know, he's got 15 these third-party tests -- and this was part of our 16 expert's file, I don't disagree with that. And it was 17 there because at the time and before your rulings, we 18 didn't know whether Firestone was going to be an issue and 19 whether we would be trying a Firestone case. And the 20 testing we did is to remove the Firestone tire theory.

This witness has no business leaving the jury with some impression that, you know, these tires, in our case, mattered. They're not Firestone tires. He can't 24 lay the foundation that these measurements relate to our vehicle.

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1 THE COURT: Well, if I understand, Mr. Emblem, 2 what you seem to be indicating is that to make a

calculation, calculations regarding the center of gravity, one must take into account the height of the tire.

MR. EMBLEM: Yes, one must. And, Your Honor, this car was released --

THE COURT: But you're not claiming that the height of the tire that was actually on the vehicle was either defective or the wrong height?

MR. EMBLEM: Actually, we are. The car was released for 225-size tires, but it was marketed and sold with 235-size tires. We don't believe there's sufficient evidence to prove that this car was stable with 235 size tires on it, so it is a part of the case.

And all we want to do with this exhibit is show that there is a difference in the results based upon the size of the tires, that the center of gravity height changes, and therefore the T/2h, the safety stability factor, changes based on that.

MR. O'NEILL: But, Your Honor, back to this exhibit. On the very face of it it says the CG height was calculated from tests with different tires than the 235. This witness doesn't have the foundation to make this relevant.

MR. EMBLEM: I have another exhibit we should

our tires, P235 tires. This is measured at curb weight, so it shows you the stability factor virtually unloaded.

And page 11 -- page 12 is the P235 tires. It's at curb-

4 plus, which means curb plus the instrumentation. The 5 other pages explain the instrumentation. The stability

6 factor is 1.12. 7

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And then at page 20 — I should say 21, P235 tires, the stability factor is back at 1.11. And it says "GVW," which means it's totally loaded to the maximum loaded weight.

So it's to show that the tires have an effect on the overall stability factor. And the overall stability factor shows a way for the jury to understand what is meant when someone says that the vehicle is not stable.

THE COURT: So 4, 12 and 20 are the pages?

MR. EMBLEM: Right, 4, 12 and 20.

MR. O'NEILL: Your Honor, can I --

18 THE COURT: Mr. O'Neill, of course. 19

MR. O'NEILL: Thanks. Your Honor, on page 4, the first page they would like to offer, you can see that it says under the "Loading Conditions Tested" section, toward the bottom third of the page, it says, "CG height calculated from test with different tires." And we just

23 24 heard from this witness that the static stability factor

is merely math, T/2h. And how this could passibly be

Mr. Ingebretsen, if we could have you come back up and be seated so that we're ready to proceed when the jury comes.

(Jury enters.)

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THE COURT: The jury has returned to the courtroom. Ladies and gentlemen, it is 3:30. We normally would take our break at this point. Because of what's transpired here, we won't take a break in terms of our afternoon break, if that's agreeable. But we are going to let you go early, about 4:30, as we need to take up another matter. And so we will be breaking early. So that's an agreeable schedule, and then we'll proceed that way.

14 Mr. Ingebretsen is being examined by Mr. Emblem. 15 It's direct examination. Mr. Emblem?

- 16 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Yes. Thank you. Good 17 afternoon again.
 - Α Good afternoon.
- 19 When we looked at Exhibit 46B, can the safety 20 stability factor change if the center of gravity changes?
 - A Oh, clearly. That's exactly what it will do.
- 22 So if the center of gravity changes, can that 23 happen based upon the size of the tire?
- 24 A Oh, yes. The diameter of the tire -- if you get 25 a bigger diameter tire you'll raise the vehicle by half of

- in the rim, primarily. It can be seen right here to the
- side of the valve stand. There's a little dirt in there.
- I loathe to try to do anything to it because I don't want
- to remove anything that's there. There's also some yellow
- paint right here as well. That tells me that this was
- sliding through something yellow, and the only yellow on 7 the roadway is that fog line as you're coming up onto the

freeway.

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Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Can you explain why this piece of aluminum is missing from the rim?

11 A Yes, it was broken off. As the vehicle comes up 12 on the roadway, the tires are probably still spinning a little bit, and as we go from the soft soil onto the hard 14 cement, we have an impact that has caused this to break 15 off.

16 You can see -- I hope I'm not making it so 17 people can't see, but if you look at the rim back here, you can see that the metal is deformed towards the center. That means that it was pushing in that direction. It's 20 been pushed that way.

Q Can I ask you to maybe show half of the jurors and turn it and show the other half?

A Sure. Right here in the rim you can see that the metal is bent towards the center. Right here. You can see that the metal has been bent toward the center.

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- the diameter, and that raises the center of gravity up by that same amount.
- Q So there's a direct relationship then between the size of the tire, the center of gravity, and the safety factor in terms of resistance of rollover?
 - Α Yes.
- We did bring up the tire from the car, and I was going to ask you to show the jury where the yellow paint is.
- 10 Α Yes.
- 11 Q And I'd just again reiterate that no tires blew 12 out on the highway.
- 13 A There's absolutely no evidence of that.
 - This is not a tire failure case in any way?
- 15 A No. not at all.
- 16 MR. EMBLEM: We marked the tire as Exhibit 32.
- 17 THE COURT: 32?
- 18 MR. EMBLEM: I've got no objection?
 - MR. O'NEILL: No objection, Your Honor.
- 20 THE COURT: Received.
- 21 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Can you come down and 22
- demonstrate where the paint is here?
- 23 THE COURT: You may. And you're welcome to
- 24 position yourself as you need to.
- 25 THE WITNESS: The paint -- the yellow paint is

- That tells me that the direction of force is coming in like that.
- 3 Q Okay.
- 4 A And this is something that we commonly see when 5 we have a rollover. You see pieces of these alloy rims 6 broken.
- 7 Q Thank you. I want to show you Exhibit 46. What 8 is Exhibit 46?
- 9 A Exhibit 46 depicts a vehicle, and what we in 10 physics and engineering like to call a coordinate frame or 11 coordinate axis. It lets us talk about directions and talk about the same things. So we take and we draw lines 13 at right angles to each other, and one is pointing 14 straight down, we call that the Z.
- 15 Q Let me ask it this way. No. 46, is that a 16 demonstrative exhibit to demonstrate a scientific or
- 17 engineering principle? 18
 - A Yes, it is.
- 19 MR. EMBLEM: Move for 46.
- 20 MR. O'NEILL: No objection, Your Honor.
- 21 THE COURT: Received.
- 22 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) We'll put it up and take a look 23 at it now so you can describe the directions, and maybe
- 24 you can use your model, too, to help us with that.
 - Sure. When we talk about vehicle dynamics, we

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1 need to be able to talk about things on a common ground, 2 and so we need to be able to define directions. X --3 positive X is forward. So if I'm moving forward, I say I'm moving in an X direction. Y comes out the passenger 4 5 door. So if I'm moving towards the passenger side, I'm 6 positive Y. Negative Y would be the other way.

Z we take to be pointing down. That's by convention and agreement. We could have Z pointing up and rotate things, but it's just easier to do it this way. And so Z points in the direction of gravity. And it just 10 11 gives us -- and then we have an arrow talking about pitch. 12 Pitch is when the vehicle does this (indicating.) That's 13 called pitching. Rolling is when it does this 14 (indicating). Just like we were talking about today in a 15 rollover, it's like this. 16

Yaw is when the vehicle turns like this on the roadway (indicating). It's not standing on its nose, it's just so you can see that yaw is when we steer it, we --(indicating) -- that's called yaw.

- 20 Q When the rear end breaks loose and starts to 21 pass the front end it leaves yaw marks; is that right?
- 22 A That's correct. It means that the rear end is 23 coming around and the vehicle is yawing. It's rotating 24 about the Z axis.
- 25 During the course of preparing for your

suspension design that may actually tend to raise the 2 center of mass, which is bad. That makes it more likely 3 to roll.

Tire size. How the tire -- how the vehicle is originally tested and what tires are on the vehicle make a difference because bigger tires make the center of mass higher, and that's bad. That makes it more easy to roll. It makes it unsafe.

- 9 O With this vehicle, 1997 Explorer, you mentioned 10 that antisway device.
 - Α Yes.
 - Q That's the safety device that keeps it from rolling too much on a curve?
 - A Yeah, that's really the primary purpose of it. As a side effect it makes us feel a little more comfortable in the car, but its primary purpose is to keep that center of mass from migrating.
- 18 O Do you have a way of demonstrating what happens 19 to the tires when it starts to get a lot of lateral 20 forces? Side forces in a curve?
- 21 A Yes, I can draw you a picture, if I may.
- 22 O Would you do that?
- 23 THE COURT: You may step down. There's a board 24 here that you can use.
 - THE WITNESS: Can everybody see this?

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testimony in this case, did you consider the resistance to rollover of the 1997 Explorer?

Α Yes.

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- Q What factors are important in arriving at your decision concerning the resistance to rollover?
- A There are several factors. Of prime importance, of course, is the track width and the CG height. The height of the center of gravity. That allows me to calculate the static stability factor.

Beyond that there are other factors that come into play. Actually, the type of suspension comes into play. Do we have an antisway bar that is in place and functioning? Do we have -- do we have a suspension system 14 that's designed to keep things low, if you will, roll centers. We might get into that. But we need to understand what causes these vehicle to roll. And there are other parameters besides just the track and the CG height, but those are important.

Again, the type of suspension. Is there something in there that as the car goes into a corner or starts to slide, does the body roll or does it stay pretty level? If the body starts to roll, that changes things. That changes where the center of mass is. It moves the center of mass to the side, which is bad. It makes it more likely to roll. There are other effects due to the

(Jury nods.)

Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) What happens to the tires, and how does that affect the stability related to resistance to rollover when you're in a turn or curve?

- A (Drawing.)
- What is that?
- A I'm drawing the shape of a car body here. And when we're driving down the road, when we're driving straight, our vehicle looks like this. May I have your
- blue pen, Mr. Emblem? Or maybe a red pen. Something that 11 is contrasting to black.
- 12 Q Here's blue and red.
- 13 A When we go into a corner -- and I'm going to draw this looking as if we were turning left. What will start to happen is the body wants to roll, the tires will start to deform. They're made of rubber. They have
- 17 stiffening cords in them, but they're pliant, they're

18 rubber, they can bend, and they flex.

- 19 And so what happens is now -- and we're not 20 rolling about a point over here like we were in our box model, we'd be rolling about this point, we're not. The
- body as is rolling about a point down here called the roll
- 23 center. And what happens then is our center of mass 24
- migrates to the outside. 25
 - Our track width is now this. Instead of having

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- our original track width, half of the track width of that. 2 So that number underneath there, that T/2, is now much 3 smaller because we've migrated the center of mass to one 4 side and the tire has flexed. And so dynamic coefficient, 5 the dynamic stability factor -- I couldn't pull the word 6 out -- the dynamic stability factor will be less than the 7 static stability factor.
- 8 An antisway bar is in there trying to keep the 9 body from rolling. When that sway bar isn't functioning, 10 you get a vehicle that is more unstable and more unsteady.
- 11 Q More likely to roll over in an accident 12 avoidance maneuver?
 - MR. O'NEILL: Objection, Your Honor.
 - THE COURT: Sustained.
- 15 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Can you explain what you were 16 saying? You get a vehicle that is more -
- 17 A When a vehicle is like this, it is more likely 18 to roll over when we're trying to avoid an accident and put the steer input in. The static stability factor says we're fine or very close to being unstable. When we 21 factor in these sorts of components, instead of being 1.1, we get much, much closer to 1, and sometimes even less
- 23 than that, and then we roll over. 24
- So what you've demonstrated -- maybe you can 25 label it -- is what happens in a dynamic event. Is that

- appropriate number.
- 2 A Sure. 1, body roll moves CG; 2, tire flex 3 reduces track width.
 - So the center of gravity moves -- would that be --
 - Outward. I'll say outward. Α
 - Thank you. O
 - You're welcome.
- You mentioned that there was yaw marks from the 10 right front tire leaving the road to give you some cause for concern to which you followed up on. What did you 12 follow up on? What was the next part of your assignment?
- 13 A The next part was why am I seeing a big black 14 tire mark there with gravel spewing and I'm seeing nothing 15 from the left front. I started to investigate further and 16 I found that the right front tie rod had fractured. And I
- 17 investigated the cause and the reason for that tie rod fracture and determined to what I will testify is a
- 19 reasonable degree of scientific probability that that 20 right front tie rod had fractured prior the accident.
- 21 Q What else - did you discover anything else 22 concerning the vehicle?
 - Α Yes, I did.
 - What did you discover? Q
 - There were several other contributing factors.

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Page 192

what you called it? 2

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- A I'll call it static versus dynamic. We live in a world of dynamics, not static. Things move.
 - Q Explain what dynamics is.
- Dynamics is the study of motion. It's how things move. That's what I've spent more than 20 years
- doing is looking at how things move and how they break.
- And dynamics is motion. Static means when I'm standing
- 9 here, I have my weight on the ground, that's static. But 10
- when I start moving, it changes. The forces change. 11 Q So before you leave, let me just ask you a 12 couple of things. The static stability factor that we
- 13 talked about in 42A, that's fine when everything is 14 standing still?
- 15 A That's correct.
- 16 But when it's in motion, that changes?
 - That's absolutely correct.
- 18 Q When it changes, does it change to the worse or 19 to the better?
- 20 A Generally speaking, it changes to the worse.
- 21 The static stability factor overestimates what the real 22 stability is. When you add these effects, it will always
- 23 go down.
- 24 I'll ask you to list there what you just
- 25 described, No. 1, No. 2, No. 3, No. 4, whatever is the

- I found that the right front antisway bar link -- the sway
- 2 bar was there, but the link that ties it to the other side 3 was missing. It was just gone. There was no evidence of
- it anywhere in the vehicle. There was no evidence of it
- 5 anywhere at the site. I looked, defense experts looked.
- 6 It was nowhere.
 - I looked also at other suspension elements. The left front shock absorber had pulled through the upper shock absorber mount. The shock absorber plays a factor
- 10 into the suspension characteristics of the Ford vehicle,
- 11 acting not only as a dampening device, but as a stop for 12 downward suspension travel.
 - And I found other evidence on the tie rods
- 14 themselves that told me that we have -- even with a fully 15 functioning suspension system, we have an interference
- 16 problem causing bending stresses on the tie rod itself,
- 17 which, in my opinion, led to a fatigue fracture of that
- 18 tie rod.
- 19 Q Is that a design error?
- 20 Oh, yes.
- 21 Q Is that a defect?
 - Yes, it is.
- 23 Q You mentioned several things. Let me see if I
- 24 can bring them down into something that I might
- 25 understand.

- 1 MR. O'NEILL: No objection, Your Honor.
- 2 THE COURT: Received.

MR. EMBLEM: I wonder if we could dim the center
 core of lights there to help with that presentation.
 Thank you.

- Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) All right. This is a 1996 Ford Explorer 4x4. Is that the same thing as the '97 that's involved with the Clayton case?
- 9 A My understanding is yes, it is.
- 10 Q It's a UN105; is that correct?
- 11 A That's correct.
- 12 Q If you use your pointer -- I'll walk over here.
- 13 Can you see that okay from there?
- 14 A Yes.
- Q What's this part that's painted white on both 16 sides?
- 17 A That's a tie rod. This is the rack. That's a 18 tie rod.
- Q This is the part called the rack and pinion, when you speak of rack and pinion steering; is that correct?
- A That's correct. That's the part when you're turning your steering wheel, you're turning a little shaft
- and gear, and you're moving the rack that in turn moves
- 25 the tie rods in and out.

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- It sounds kind of mathematical.
 - A It is.

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- Q Are we talking about -- what exactly, when you're speaking about geometry related to functions of the steer and suspension of the vehicle?
- A When I'm talking about geometry, I'm talking about really the shape of things and how they fit
- 8 together. When we have a certain geometry, it refers to a
- 9 certain orientation and space that we're trying to put
- 10 things in. And you have to have a geometry that allows
- 11 for the operation and function of the components that are
- 12 in that space. But that is to say you don't want things
- 13 hitting each other. You don't want interference. You
- don't want one part getting in the way of another part
- while this vehicle is working. That's bad.

 MR FMBLEM: Your Honor if Lee
- MR. EMBLEM: Your Honor, if I could borrow your copy back, I would like to pass that among the jury. I know how difficult it is to see up there. Can I do that
- know how difficult it is to see up there. Can I do the with your permission?
- THE COURT: Well, we should publish the actual exhibit.
- 22 MR. EMBLEM: Okay.
- THE COURT: If you wish to do that, you may.
- MR. EMBLEM: (Proffers exhibit to the jury.)
 - Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) I show you what's been marked

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Does that work hydraulically or mechanically?

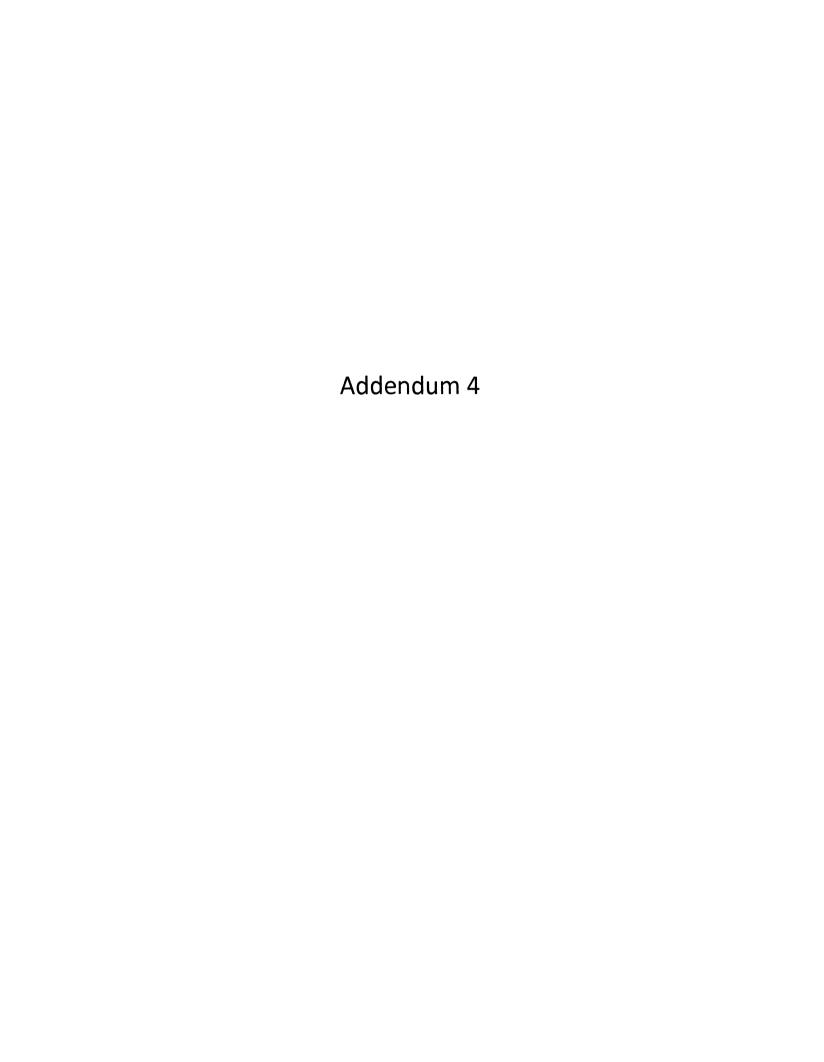
- 2 A It's hydraulic assist.
- Q And so then the tie rod is what connects the wheel to the steering?
- 5 A That's correct.
 - Q So if the tie rod is broken, the steering wheel
- 7 is not connected to the wheel?
 - A That's correct.
- 9 Q Okay. Do you see this as being green? Can you 10 see that back there as being green?
- 11 A I can, but I've seen it up close. That bar,
- 12 that green bar across there, is the sway bar. Antisway
- 13 bar. And going down on either end are the sway bar links.
- 14 Sometimes they're called sta bar links. Right there.
- Q So there we have kind of a close-up of the tie rod, the sway bar, and the sway bar link; is that correct?
- 17 A That's correct.
- 18 Q What's the part yellow on the bottom?
- 19 A It's called the lower control arm. This is a
- double wishbone or SLA, short long-arm suspension. That's
- 21 the lower control arm that connects the chassis through a
- 22 pivot point here to the hub assembly out here. And so
- that allows the wheel to travel up and down and maintains a geometry, a suspension geometry that they want to have.
 - Q You used that word "geometry" a couple times.

- as 85A1, and I'll ask you what that is we're looking at.
- A Oh, sorry. You're asking what this is a sway
- 3 bar link. This is what connects one end of the sway bar
- 4 down to that lower control arm. So when that lower
- 5 control arm moves up, it moves this link up and pushes on
- 6 it. This link pushes on one end of the antisway bar.
- 7 It's another torsion bar that's shaped kind of like a U
- 8 with very short ends to it.
- And so when that pushes up on one end, it starts 10 to twist the bar. So the bar naturally doesn't want to
- 11 twist and it tries to pull the other wheel up. And when
- twist and it tries to pull the other wheel up. And when
- 12 that happens, you keep the body roll to a minimum. If one
- 13 wheel drops, it tries to push the other wheel down in a
- 14 like fashion.
- So we have whatever compressing on one side is tension on the other. So I'm smashing on one side and pulling on the other and the force is balanced. And the
- net effect of that, Mr. Emblem and members of the jury, is
- that we have minimized body roll. It keeps us safer when that thing is working right.
- that thing is working right.
 O Concerning the link
 - Q Concerning the link that you have there, is that the part in the photograph that's been passed around that's painted green in the vertical position?
- 24 A That's correct.
 - MR. EMBLEM: I believe we have moved for these

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THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,
) Case No. 000909522

Plaintiffs,
)

VS.
) JUDGE:
) JOSEPH C. FRATTO, JR.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION,
)
et al.,
)
Defendants.
)

TRIAL TESTIMONY OF HECTOR CANTU

TAKEN AT: SCOTT MATHESON COURTHOUSE

450 South State

Salt Lake City, Utah

DATE: Monday, January 29, 2007

REPORTED BY: Catherine L. Kennedy, RPR, CSR

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		Page 2		Page 4
1 2	APPEARANCES		1	Monday, January 29, 2007, at 10:03 a.m.
3	FOR THE PLAINTIFFS:		2	DD O CHEDINGS
4	THOR O. EMBLEM, ESQ. TRACY EMBLEM, ESQ.		3	PROCEEDINGS
5	LAW OFFICES OF THOR EMBLEM		5	THE COURT. Mr. Emblane years north
6	205 West Fifth Avenue, Suite 105 Escondido, CA 92025		6	THE COURT: Mr. Emblem, your next witness?
	(760) 738-9301		7	MR. EMBLEM: We would call Hector Cantu.
7 8	FOR THE DEFENDANTS:		8	THE COURT: Let me have you get
9	DAN R. LARSEN, ESQ.		9	Mr. Cantu or get him.
10	KIMBERLY NEVILLE, ESQ. SNELL & WILMER		10	MR. EMBLEM: Someone is getting him.
1	15 West South Temple, Suite 1200		11	THE COURT: Mr. Cantu? Mr. Cantu, if
11	Salt Lake City, UT 84101 (801) 257-1900		12	you'll come forward here into the well just right in
12	(801) 237-1900		13	front of me, please, and raise your right hand and
12	TIMOTHY O'NEILL, ESQ.		14	the clerk will swear you in. Just right there would
13	SNELL & WILMER 1200 17th Street, Suite 1900	÷	15	be fine, if you'll raise your right hand.
14	Denver, CO 80202		16	(The witness was sworn.)
15	(303) 634-2003		17 18	THE COURT: And if you'll come here and
16	* * *		19	have a seat in this chair, please, and position
17 18			20	yourself right up to the microphone, if you would. Mr. Emblem?
19			21	* * *
20 21			22	///
22			23	/// ///
23			24	
25			25	
			 	
1		Page 3		Page 5
1	INDEX	Page 3	1	
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2 (Pages 2 to 5)

Page 6 Page 8 1 Now, that particular day, why was it 1 Q Right. And on that particular day, do 2 you recall how fast you were driving? that you were on the road? 3 3 Somewhere around 72 to 74 miles an hour. A We had come over to Salt Lake to pick up 4 4 supplies. And the posted speed up there is how 5 fast? 5 Q Were you -- what were you driving? 6 6 A It's hard to say. I had so many Α 75. 7 7 pickups. It must have been a 150 -- Ford 150. I So coming up then out of Echo Canyon, 8 believe at that time it was white. along there somewhere this person in the Ford 9 9 Q You were driving a pickup? Explorer passed you? A Yes. It was on the last climb of the 10 10 Yes. 11 With a camper shell? 11 hill. Q 12 12 Q And as you break out on top of the hill, A No. 13 13 does it start to decline slightly? Q But you had picked up supplies. Did you MS. NEVILLE: Objection. Leading. 14 have a load? 14 15 15 THE COURT: Sustained. Α 16 16 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) As you break out over Q Okay. And at some point in driving from 17 Salt Lake, where were you going to then after getting 17 the top of the hill, does the road change its grade? 18 your supplies? 18 A Very slightly, not very much. 19 19 Q Were you thinking that you might pass A Back to Evanston. 20 20 Q Is that where you live? Mr. Clayton again? 21 Well, I didn't plan on it. 21 Α Yes. Α 22 Q So on the drive then from Salt Lake City 22 Q You didn't --23 23 to Evanston, did you come to notice a Ford Explorer Α It just -- you know, sometimes it 24 that was traveling the same direction as yourself? 24 happens whether you do or you don't. At this particular time, I was just -- if I remember 25 A Yes. We met -- I caught up with him or 25 Page 9 he caught up with me, I don't remember exactly. But correctly, I was just behind him. 2 2 it was around Echo Canyon. Q And then was anyone with you? 3 3 Q Uh-huh. My wife. Α 4 4 A And proceeding up the canyon, why, I Q And how was she seated? 5 passed him and he passed me a couple of times or so. 5 A Well, she was sitting in the passenger 6 6 Q So you guys were going at approximately side, and she was dozing off and on, just resting. 7 7 the same speed, and he had passed you maybe on the Q Was she leaning against the door or 8 uphills? 8 leaning against your shoulder or kind of --9 9 A No. She just reclined back on the seat. A Yes. 10 10 Q Because you were loaded and were slowing Q And she was dozing; correct? 11 down a little bit on the uphills? 11 A Yes. 12 12 A Yes. Q And then you saw something. What did 13 13 Q And then you'd pass him on the you see? 14 14 downhills? A Yeah. I seen the vehicle veer to the 15 A Yes. 15 right, you know, like -- like he was going to pull 16 Q So did you have your cruise control set 16 over. 17 to a particular speed? 17 Q Uh-huh. 18 A No. When I have a load and that, I 18 A And then all of a sudden, he made a 19 usually don't use a cruise control. I just use my 19 quick left turn. I won't say left turn, but, I mean, 20 foot. 20 a quick change to where the vehicle was traveling to 21 21 Q Do you have a habit of driving some the left rapidly. 22 number of miles below the speed limit? 22 Q From the right to the left? 23 A Well, I try to keep at the speed limit 23 Α Yes. 24 or a little bit below because, if you don't, DOT 24 So you saw him --O 25 tends to want to give you a lunch ticket. That's ---

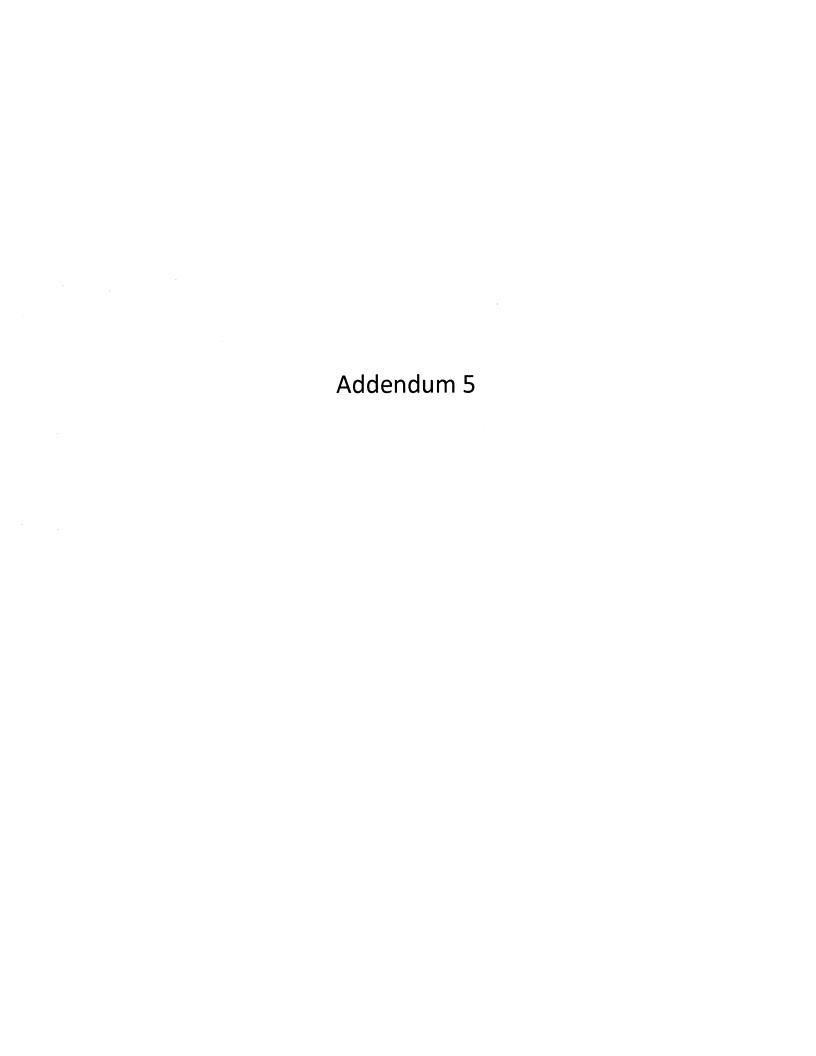
Page 10 Page 12 1 Q You saw him turn, go to the right, and the right to the left, he was up on two wheels? 2 then you saw him go to the left? 2 A Yes. 3 3 A Yes. MS. NEVILLE: Objection. Leading. 4 4 Q And then from the right side to the left THE COURT: Sustained. 5 5 side, what was the orientation of the Explorer? Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Did you see him up on 6 6 A Well, he made such a quick left hand on two wheels? 7 7 it that he went on two wheels. A Yes. 8 Q So he was -- had two wheels up. Which 8 Q And then you saw the vehicle going into 9 9 two wheels were up? the median? 10 A The left side, the driver's. 10 MS. NEVILLE: Objection. Leading. 11 11 Q And was he also going away from you? At THE WITNESS: Yes. 12 12 the same time he was going from the right side to the THE COURT: Sustained. 13 left side, was he also going away from you? 13 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Did you see the vehicle 14 MS. NEVILLE: Objection, your Honor. 14 go into the median? 15 15 Leading. A I seen him leave the highway where we 16 THE COURT: Sustained. 16 were on onto the medium (sic), yes. 17 17 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Which way was he going, Q And that is the dirt area between the straight 90 degrees or some other angle? 18 18 two highways? 19 19 A Not really straight 90 degrees and he A Yes. 20 wasn't really following -- he was going, I would say, 20 Q Were the wheels still in the air? 21 21 oh, about 10 degrees more. Not a full 90. Not a 22 22 full 90 degrees, but... Q Did you see him come down in the median? 23 Q Okay. Did the -- did it appear to you 23 A No. I took my eyes off at that moment 24 that the rear-end was passing the front-end? 24 so I could pull over and make sure that I was still 25 25 A No. on the right spot. Page 11 Page 13 1 1 Q Was he sliding broadside? Q And that's what I was going to ask you 2 Α back here, when you saw him go to the right and then No. 3 3 Was he -- did you see any smoke from the to the left, you turned to talk to your wife; is that Q 4 tires or anything like that? correct? 5 5 A No. 6 6 Q And what did you see next? Q You just kept your eyes straight ahead 7 7 A He just started to leave the road, and and you just talked sideways to her? 8 that's when I said -- I said, "You're going to lose A Well, yeah. I don't -- I don't look to 9 it." And my wife looked up and then it happened --9 turn, because if you're driving and you look to turn 10 you know, it happened so fast there that I just 10 to your right or that, you tend to lean the vehicle 11 11 started to pull off to the road. to the right. If you turn to the left and talk, you 12 12 tend to lean the vehicle to the left. Q Let me walk over here and get the model 13 just a second. 13 Q I see. So he goes down in the median, 14 14 It looks a little bit like a Ford and then did you pull over to stop? 15 15 Yes. Explorer? 16 16 So from your point of view, you are Q Did you see him roll? 17 17 behind, back some ways? A I seen him leave the road. And then by 18 A Yes. 18 the time I stopped, there was a lot of dirt and dust 19 19 Q Right so far? and stuff flying. 20 And you saw him go to the right and you 20 Q Did you see the vehicle come to rest in 21 the Exhibit 23-23? 21 saw him --22 22 MS. NEVILLE: Objection, your Honor. A Yes. 23 Leading. 23 Is this what it looked like that day? 24 24 THE COURT: Sustained. Well, I didn't pay too much attention to 25 25 that side of the vehicle because I was more paying **Q** (BY MR. EMBLEM) When he was going from

Page 18 Page 20 morning to buy supplies and then you were on your 1 place? 1 2 return trip home; is that correct? A Yes. Somewhere where those vehicles 3 3 A Yes. are, just before that. 4 4 Q Referring to the --And you brought your wife with you to 5 5 A Up in the area. Yes, up in that area. the courtroom today. Is that who was with you on 6 this trip to Salt Lake and back to Evanston? 6 And then you -- did you leave then or 7 7 A Uh-huh. I try to keep her with me a what happened next? 8 8 A As soon as the sheriff came over and lot. 9 9 said he would direct traffic and that, I said, "Okay, Q Did your wife see any of this accident? 10 10 see you." Α 11 11 And they said, "Okay." Was she sleeping the entire time? 12 Q Did you walk back through the median? 12 Well, she was dozing off and on. 13 13 On the road trip, she was dozing off? 14 14 Q Did you walk near Mr. Clayton or did you Α Uh-huh. 15 15 go a different path? Q Now, I believe you told us that you A No. No. I -- it was further down. If 16 first encountered the Explorer around Echo Canyon; is 16 17 17 I recall, Mr. Clayton was down here, the vehicle was that right? 18 18 here, and I was parked over in here. A Yes. 19 19 Q When you saw Mr. Clayton laying in the Are there windy parts in Echo Canyon, 20 20 dirt, was he faceup or facedown? any windy parts of the road at all, or curves? 21 21 A I believe he was facedown, but I A Well, the whole canyon going up there is 22 22 not a straight shot. It meanders up and down and couldn't say for sure. 23 23 right- and left-hand turns. Q Do you recall how his arms or legs were 24 24 Q And you followed the Explorer all the positioned? 25 25 No, not really, because I didn't pay way from Echo Canyon to the point of the accident; is Page 19 Page 21 that much attention to him because the gentleman was 1 that right? 2 2 already checking him out. So I didn't interfere. Well, we passed each other. Α 3 3 MR. EMBLEM: Okay. Thank you. Q So you were kind of leapfrogging back 4 MS. NEVILLE: Good morning, Mr. Cantu. 4 and forth? 5 5 THE WITNESS: Good morning. A Yeah. 6 THE COURT: Ms. Neville, 6 Q About how many miles would you be doing 7 7 this leapfrogging with the Explorer? What is the cross-examination? 8 8 **CROSS EXAMINATION** distance there? 9 9 BY MS. NEVILLE: A Oh, from -- let's see. From Coalville 10 10 Q I'm Kim Neville. I don't think we've up to the top of the ridge is probably like 40 11 had an opportunity to meet before. Sir, I just want 11 something miles, 38, 40, something like that. 12 to make sure we have a clear understanding of the Q So you were following the Explorer for 13 events you saw that day. 13 38 to 40 miles? 14 14 A Well, we traveled the same direction --A Okay. 15 15 And I believe this was the day after Q Back and forth? Thanksgiving, November '98; is that correct? 16 -- back and forth, yes. 17 17 A Somewhere along in there. Q I want you to focus on this part of the 18 18 trip, that 38 to 40 miles that you were following the Q Okay. 19 19 Explorer from roughly Echo until the point of the A I run into so many days that sometimes 20 20 one day is just the same as the other. accident, just that time frame. Okay? 21 Q Sure. And this was quite a while ago. 21 A Okay. 22 22 This was almost eight years ago? Q And you are relatively close to the 23 23 A I guess, somewhere along in there. Explorer during this time, is that correct, a few car 24 Okay. And I believe you already told 24 lengths away? us, but you were actually going to Salt Lake that 25 A Yeah.

Page 22 Page 24 1 Q Do you know if there was anything 1 Yes, it is. 2 unusual about how this Explorer is handling while 2 You see lots of cars on this road? 3 3 it's passing you and you are passing it? Uh-huh. Α 4 A You mean the vehicle? 4 Q I want to go back to now where we are 5 Q The vehicle, yes. 5 talking about the accident itself. And if I 6 6 No different than anybody else. understand your testimony correctly, basically you 7 7 Q Nothing draws your attention this whole have two movements of the vehicle; right? You first 8 8 38 to 40 miles? see a drift towards the right? 9 9 A No. Yes. Α 10 10 Q No swerving of any kind? Q And then you see a sharper turn towards 11 A Just -- well, from the slight meandering 11 the left; is that correct? 12 from one side to the other, I mean, everybody does 12 A Yes. 13 that. But that's a natural case. 13 Q Okay. I want to focus on this first --14 Q You don't see any broken parts come off 14 this right drift that you see first, just that 15 this vehicle during this 38 to 40 miles, do you? 15 movement. Now, would you characterize this as kind 16 A No. 16 of a slow drift towards the right? 17 17 Q And you don't see any tires wobbling or Yes. Α 18 bobbling along in the road, do you? 18 Q It's almost like the driver had lost 19 19 A Not that I noticed any, no. attention or maybe fallen asleep? 20 Q You don't hear any sounds or screeches 20 A Something like that. Either that or he 21 21 coming from the vehicle during this 38- to 40-mile was going to stop, but he didn't -- I didn't see no 22 stretch, do you? 22 stoplights come on, so... 23 23 A No. Why do you say you thought he was going 24 24 Q Okay. So it's just basically traveling to stop? 25 25 straight in its lane like any other vehicle would be Well, because of the way he just drifted Page 23 Page 25 1 on the road? down through, and I thought, any time that anybody 1 2 2 A Yeah. drifts to the right, their intentions is to pull 3 3 Q Okay. Sir, I'm going to take a look at over. this photo, which is already in evidence, and this is 4 And since you are following him at this 5 5 Plaintiffs 23-24. And I believe you've already told time, were you able to see the tires on this vehicle 6 us -- is this an accurate picture of where the 6 as it makes this drift? 7 7 accident site would be? A Sure. 8 8 A Yes. Q And did they appear to be tracking the 9 9 Q Okay. And, sir, are you -- you've vehicle normally? 10 driven this roadway several times; is that right? 10 11 A Well, I think sometimes I seen my tire 11 You didn't see any broken parts or turns 12 12 marks on the highway often. of the vehicle at that point? 13 Q You feel fairly comfortable telling us 13 A No. 14 if this roadway is what it looked like in '98? Is 14 Did the brake lights come on at any time 15 during this drift? that an accurate depiction? 15 16 A Yes. 16 A No. 17 Q And, sir, can we agree that this is a 17 Q Now, the next move we see is a turn to fairly gradual turn? the left; is that right? 18 18 19 19 Yes. It's not a steep turn. This is Yeah, sharp. A 20 gradual. 20 Q And this isn't a drift, this is a sharp 21 21 turn; right? O And this is a fairly well-traveled road, 22 isn't it? 22 Yes. 23 A Oh, about 100,000 cars and trucks pass 23 And, sir, would you characterize that as 24 24 an overcorrection? that particular spot, yes. 25 25 Q Fairly major trucking route? A Yes.

Page 30 Page 32 1 A Yes. 1 day? 2 2 And I believe you told us earlier in As far as the skid marks, you mean? 3 3 your deposition that you actually saw the vehicle get 0 4 4 airborne as it came off of the roadway and into the Α I don't know, because I didn't go look 5 5 median. at them. 6 6 Q But you wouldn't -- okay. But you A Well, you'd have to get airborne if --7 7 wouldn't have any reason to dispute the police photo, you know, if you are getting any amount of speed, in 8 order not to get airborne in that particular spot, 8 would you? 9 9 The way those skid marks go, that you'd have to be traveling five miles an hour. 10 Q And that's because of the steepness of vehicle that we are discussing, it's not -- those are 10 11 the angle? 11 not their tracks. 12 12 Q Okay. So it would be your belief that Α Yes. 13 13 these wouldn't be the vehicle's tracks? Q Sir, I want to show you another photo. This is Plaintiffs 23-17, which is already in 14 A Right. 14 15 15 Would you agree with me, sir, that if a evidence. 16 16 vehicle made these marks, that we would have three Let me ask you first, I believe you 17 testified that, after witnessing the rollover, you 17 marks going off into the median? 18 pull over and you immediately go try to help the 18 MR. EMBLEM: No foundation, your 19 people who are in the car; is that correct? 19 Honor --20 20 THE COURT: Sustained. A Yes. 21 21 Q And you are also helping to try to MR. EMBLEM: -- not an expert witness. 22 control traffic; is that right? 22 Q (BY MS. NEVILLE) Sir, this accident 23 23 happened eight years ago, and if I remember A Yes. 24 24 correctly, you've been contacted several times by --Q Did you actually go up on the road and 25 25 try to look and see whether there was any skid marks A Yes. Page 31 Page 33 Q -- people to talk about what happened at 1 or yaw marks or tire marks associated with this 2 2 the accident; is that right? accident? 3 3 A Back to where he left the road? Yes. 4 4 Q Yes. And you've been contacted by the police 5 5 or you talked with the police at the scene; is that A No. 6 6 That was not something you were worried correct? 7 7 about, you were worried about helping the people; is Α No. I didn't talk to the police on the 8 that right? 8 scene. 9 9 You didn't talk to them at all? A Yes. Q 10 10 No. I just talked to the sheriff about Q Okay. I want to show you Plaintiffs 11 23-17, which is a police photo already in evidence. 11 the -- you know, controlling the traffic. 12 12 Oh, that's what I understood. Sir, do you see those tire marks on the 13 13 And that was all. road? 14 14 Q And you also had given a deposition A Uh-huh. 15 15 Q And would you agree there's probably at prior on this case; is that right? 16 least one, two, three tire marks for sure? 16 A Only when I got contacted, which was --17 17 oh, I don't remember how long ago. I mean, after the A Well, if you actually looked at the road at that time, there must have been about 100 or 200 18 accident, it was quite a spell. 18 19 of them --19 Q And you also had some attorneys come to 20 20 your house and talk to you about this case; is that Q Okay. 21 A -- in that particular area on both sides 21 right? 22 22 of the highway. Yes. 23 23 Well, would you agree with me, sir, that And do you remember being asked to sign O 24 this police photo would depict what the road looked 24 a written statement about this accident? like at the time of the accident, that was taken that 25 25 I didn't write one. I imagine I -- they

	Page 34		Page 36
1	took some notes and stuff.	1	saw, sir, you didn't see any parts break on this
2	Q Sure. And do you remember being given a	2	vehicle at any time; is that correct?
3	written statement and being asked to review it?	3	A Nothing that came off from the road, no.
4	A That was the last time, I believe.	4	MS. NEVILLE: Okay. Thank you, sir.
5	Q Okay. And do you remember having an	5	THE COURT: Let's take our morning break
6	opportunity to look at that written statement and	6	at this point. Mr. Cantu, you may step down. Please
7	change things that weren't correct?	7	watch your step on the way down.
8	A Probably did.	8	Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, we'll
9	Q Okay. Let me just refresh your	9	be in recess until 10 minutes to 11 o'clock. That's
10	recollection briefly. I'm handing you a document.	10	10:50. And during this break, you are not to form or
11	MR. EMBLEM: This has gone well beyond	11	to express any opinions among yourselves or with
12	the direct on this thing. She hasn't identified any	12	others. We'll excuse you, and be in recess until
13	former statements that were inconsistent with today.	13	10:50.
14	THE COURT: Sustained.	14	THE BAILIFF: All rise.
15	Q (BY MS. NEVILLE) Mr. Cantu, were you	15	(Jury excused and recess taken.)
16	asked before to sign a written statement saying that	16	THE BAILIFF: All rise.
17	the tie rod broke on this vehicle?	17	(Jury entered.)
18	A Somebody mentioned about a tie rod being	18	THE COURT: Please be seated.
19	broke.	19	We are back in the matter of Clayton
20	Q And you had two men come to your house	20	versus Ford Motor Company and others. Everyone is
21	and identify themselves as attorneys, who asked you	21	present who needs to be present. The jury is in the
22	to sign a statement indicating that the tie rod	22	box.
23	broke; is that true?	23	Mr. Cantu, if you'll come forward here.
24	MR. EMBLEM: Your Honor	24	Mr. Cantu is testifying, and I believe Ms. Neville
25	THE WITNESS: I don't recall if they	25	was
			••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••
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	Page 35		Page 37
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2	asked me to sign a statement that that was broke. Q (BY MS. NEVILLE) But you didn't sign a	2	MR. EMBLEM: I was on she had just completed, your Honor, and we are not going to have
2 3	asked me to sign a statement that that was broke. Q (BY MS. NEVILLE) But you didn't sign a statement that that was broke, did you?	2 3	MR. EMBLEM: I was on she had just completed, your Honor, and we are not going to have any further redirect.
2 3 4	asked me to sign a statement that that was broke. Q (BY MS. NEVILLE) But you didn't sign a statement that that was broke, did you? A I don't think so.	2 3 4	MR. EMBLEM: I was on she had just completed, your Honor, and we are not going to have any further redirect. THE COURT: Oh.
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THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY
STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,
) Case No. 000909522

Plaintiffs,
)

VS.
) JUDGE:
) JOSEPH C. FRATTO, JR.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION,
et al.,
)
Defendants.
)

HEARING REGARDING EXHIBITS AND TESTIMONY OF DAVID INGEBRETSEN, VOLUME V

TAKEN AT: SCOTT MATHESON COURTHOUSE

450 South State Salt Lake City, Utah

DATE: Tuesday, January 23, 2007

REPORTED BY: Catherine L. Kennedy, RPR, CSR

Wendy Alcock, RPR, CSR

FILED DISTRICT COURT

Third Judicial District

NOV - 1 2007

SALT LAKE COUNTY

Deputy Clerk



333 SOUTH RIO GRANDE SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84101 WWW DEPOMAXMERIT COM TOLL FREE 800-337-6629 PHONE 801-328-1188 FAX 801-328-1189

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY STATE OF UTAH

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Page 2	Page 4
1 APPEARANCES	1 Tuesday, January 23, 2007, at 9:04 a.m.
2 3 FOR THE PLAINTIFFS:	2
4 THOR O. EMBLEM, ESQ.	3 PROCEEDINGS
TRACY EMBLEM, ESQ. 5 LAW OFFICES OF THOR EMBLEM	4
205 West Fifth Avenue, Suite 105	5 THE COURT: Good morning.
6 Escondido, CA 92025 (760) 738-9301	6 THE PARTICIPANTS: Good morning.
7 ` '	7 THE COURT: Well, before we begin let
MATTHEW H. RATY, ESQ. 8 LAW OF OFFICES OF MATTHEW H. RATY	8 me call the matter, Clayton versus The Ford Motor
9677 South 700 East, Suite D	9 Company and others. The jury is not in the
9 Sandy, UT 84070 (801) 495-2252	10 courtroom.
10	When last we met, which was Friday, we
11 FOR THE DEFENDANTS: 12 DAN R. LARSEN, ESQ.	12 were conducting a hearing concerning the admission of
KIMBERLY NEVILLE, ESQ.	13 a group of documents and the foundation for them to
13 SNELL & WILMER 15 West South Temple, Suite 1200	14 be received and considered by the jury as part of the
14 Salt Lake City, UT 84101	15 evidence in the matter. And we had gotten through
(801) 257-1900 15	16 the proffer of evidence for me to consider so that
TIMOTHY O'NEILL, ESQ.	17 I'll have the facts in front of me.
16 SNELL & WILMER 1200 17th Street, Suite 1900	Before the jury comes in, of course, I
17 Denver, CO 80202	19 would like to hear a brief argument concerning what I
(303) 634-2003	20 think I guess is the issue here, which is whether
19 * * *	21 the foundation is sufficient for these to be
20 21	22 admitted. And then another issue we need to resolve,
22	23 brief argument on that, and that is whether
23 24	24 Mr. Ingebretsen can testify about these exhibits and
25	25 to what extent he can do so.
Page 3	Page 5
1 INDEX	1 So with that, Mr. Emblem, how and I
2 PROCEEDINGS PAGE 3 Hearing Regarding Exhibits 4	2 should indicate to you, of course, I have gone
4	3 through these exhibits, so I'm familiar with what
EXAMINATION OF DAVID INGEBRESEN PAGE 5	4 they contain also and, of course, are considering
Continued Direct by Mr. Emblem 136	5 that.
6 Direct on Exhibit 41 by Mr. Emblem 180	6 MR. EMBLEM: Your Honor, the exhibits
7 Cross on Exhibit 41 by Mr. O'Neill 182	7 are of the type normally relied upon and typically
Direct on Exhibit 278 by Mr. Emblem 186 8 Cross on Exhibit 278 by Mr. O'Neill 188	8 relied upon by experts who do the kind of work that
Direct on Exhibit 293 by Mr. Emblem 192	9 Mr. Ingebretsen does. So they're foundational to his
9 Cross on Exhibit 293 by Mr. O'Neill 194 Direct on Exhibit 272-A by Mr. Emblem 200	opinion, and they're typical of those types of
10 Cross on Exhibit 272-A by Mr. O'Neill 203	11 exhibits.
Redirect on Exhibit 41 by Mr. Emblem 207 11 Recross on Exhibit 41 by Mr. O'Neill 209	The proponent of the proffered exhibit
Further Redirect on Exhibit 41 by Mr. Emblem 211	13 need only make a prima facie showing that the exhibit
12 Direct on Exhibit 279 by Mr. Emblem 215 Cross on Exhibit 279 by Mr. O'Neill 217	14 is what the proponent claims it to be, United States
13 Redirect on Exhibit 279 by Mr. Emblem 219	15 versus Riley. And the Court, of course, has broad
Direct on Exhibit 296-A by Mr. Emblem 222 14 Direct on Exhibit 296-B by Mr. Emblem 227	16 discretion on whether the evidence needs further
15	17 authentication, and that's kind of what we've been 18 talking about.
* * * * 16	8
17	1
18 19	,
20	Wilmer that is signed by Timothy Schade, who says, Certain documents you requested are available on the
21 22	1
23	FordDocs Web site and can be viewed and printed from the Web site. Documents responsive to the following
	127 THE WED SHE FOCHMENTS TESTIONSIVE TO THE TOHOWING
24 25	25 request are available on the Web site," and he lists

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THE COURT: And I'm wondering how you, in terms of just with that factual background, are able -- if you are relying on either one --

MR. EMBLEM: Sure.

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THE COURT: -- how that might -- how we have the sufficient background for videotape, granted, obtained from discovery, but which is testimony.

MR. EMBLEM: Well, these are selfauthenticating. They contain, at the beginning of the run, the information sheet about the vehicle that's being run and what test is being run, whether it is a Consumer Union short course or Consumer Union long course.

But the videos were only offered at this stage as demonstrative of what it takes to fail the test and that's to get two wheels off the ground, and which establishes kind of the foundation for Ford's decision to rename the vehicle, Ford's decision to market it differently.

THE COURT: Let me ask you this. I don't -- if under 901 it is what you purport it to be, what do you purport it to be?

24 MR. EMBLEM: Well, it's purported to be 25 engineering testing, admissible under both

that the tests were conducted and it shows an example 2 of tests that failed. We are going to hear the 3 testimony of an eyewitness that saw two wheels up on 4 this 1997 Explorer, and that's what two wheels up 5 means. It means it's failed the test, so ... 6 THE COURT: But is failure of the

test -- the results of the test a statement under 801(a)? 801(a) is the definition of what a statement

10 MR. EMBLEM: Party's own statement. 11 THE COURT: Yeah. I mean, as to what a 12 statement is. And as I look at that definition, 13 is -- are test results -- that's what you want to get 14 in, are the test results.

MR. EMBLEM: Well, sure.

16 THE COURT: Are those statements? 17 That's 801(a). An oral or written assertion, 18 nonverbal conduct of a person if it is intended by 19 the person as an assertion.

20 MR. EMBLEM: Right. 21

THE COURT: So I guess my question is:

22 How are test results --

MR. EMBLEM: An assertion?

THE COURT: Well, an assertion, either verbally or by action.

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Page 13

801(d)(2)(d) and 801(d)(2)(a). A is the party's own statement this is their records. B is the statement by the party's agent or employee concerning the matter within the scope of agency, so...

THE COURT: I guess what I'm struggling with a bit here is I do some testing and this is a view of the testing I am conducting, but is that -how does that fit into a statement under 801? I don't -- how does that fit into a statement, a videotape of --

MR. EMBLEM: Okay.

12 THE COURT: -- my action conducting 13 tests?

MR. EMBLEM: Well, it's the statement is referring to any kind of a communication. If a person was deaf, as an example, their statement would be communicated by sign language.

17 18 THE COURT: Well, but what's the 19 relevance that I conducted tests? Wouldn't that be 20 sort of the linchpin here? I mean, granted, if it was relevant whether I conducted tests or not 22 conducted tests, this is a statement that I conducted 23 tests. But is that relevant in this trial, whether 24 or not tests were conducted?

MR. EMBLEM: Well, what's relevant is

MR. EMBLEM: Right. Well, Ford relies upon their test results to certify the vehicles as being safe. Ford tests their vehicles to see if -to establish that statement and then make some adjustments, whatever they do to make that happen. And in the course of that, they have

defined what a failure of a test is. So if we have in the record two wheels up is a failure of the test and we show the jury what two wheels up means, and the eyewitness says he saw two wheels up, we've established that, on the road, this vehicle is not stable according to Ford's own standards.

13 So is it an assertion? Yes. It's a 14 record kept by a person who's responsible to do so 15 within the scope of his employment. And even if they 16 ran 10,000 tests and only failed five of them, it's a 17 demonstration of what a failure is. It only needs to

18 be intended as an assertion to become an assertion. 19

THE COURT: All right. Then the other 20 was -- and I don't know if I had isolated all of the 21 exhibits. We have Bronco II and the U -- I want to 22 say U-195.

23 MR. EMBLEM: U105?

24 THE COURT: But U-2. U-195? 25

MR. EMBLEM: There's Bronco II, which

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Ford identifies in 1988 as the UN46.

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THE COURT: Or UN46.

MR. EMBLEM: Which is to be released in 1990 and a half. And then they changed the name, after failing Consumer Reports' testing, to Explorer and released it as the Explorer.

THE COURT: Now, there seem to be, as I went through these, certain -- at least they referred to Bronco II, and I know we have an issue here regarding, I suppose, the relevance of -- whatever the argument is going to be, but the relevance of Bronco II documents, if I can identify it that way. But I want to make certain I have all those that fall into that category in front of me.

MR. EMBLEM: I have them on my list as 49 through 75-B on the list. There's three or four more we'd probably like to talk about we haven't mentioned yet.

THE COURT: 49 through 75-B.

MR. EMBLEM: But it's not just that these are Bronco II documents. These are --Bronco II is an SUV, and these are engineers' statements concerning their concerns about SUV rates

24 of rollover, ejection rates, and survivability. So 25

the concerns -- as each iteration of the vehicle is

1 documents which will contain factual information 2 about the car that is at issue in this case. So the 3 fact that they've characterized it as being in a 4 class of documents, BR2 or, you know, the 1998 150, 5 doesn't change the fact that it's talking about 6 specifically the issues in this case.

THE COURT: And let me -- and I understand, Mr. Emblem, I think your argument in that regard.

No. 65, and appreciating that it may deal -- this exhibit may deal with something more than tires, but it seemed to me, in going over this, that this seemed to be a statement more concerned with the quality of the tire or the safety of the tire rather than what seems to be the relevant issue in terms of tires, and that is the size of the tire.

And my first question -- and that's 65. And my first question is whether I'm reading this exhibit correctly, whether there's something beyond the tires in this exhibit, and whether that -whether I've identified a correct distinction here. that is, relevance is the size of the tire, not the quality of the tire and safety of the tire and so forth, only the size of the tire.

MR. EMBLEM: The size of the tire and

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developed, engineers look back to see what it was we were trying to engineer out, what flaws we were trying to engineer out when we are designing the next version.

So it establishes -- these documents establish the engineers have been concerned about these doors opening, as is in our case, about these cars rolling over, these Explorers rolling over four times as frequently as automobiles and twice as often as pickup trucks. It makes it a category higher in terms of degree of scrutiny. I guess a term that we'd use in our fields. In other words, they have to be more careful because there are issues that relate to human safety. So just because they are characterized by Ford as Bronco II documents doesn't change the fact that it's engineers working on the very product which is at issue.

Likewise, there are documents which appear in the UN150, which began in 1998 and went through 2001, which contain review of the UN105, which is our car, and what went wrong with that and what they need to do about that. There is evidence there is knowledge early, I mean, talking about UN150 development before the UN105 was built in our case.

So there would be UN150 and even UN152

Page 17

1 how it affects stability. It wasn't an issue in this 2 case that the tires had broken down on the road, and 3 when they did break down, that was not an issue 4 because they were expected to break down when they 5 did. So this was not an issue in this case. 6

But that document talks about the fact that the stability factor or the rollover propensities greatly increase when you change that tire from 225 to a different tire.

If I could look at the document a second, I could be more specific.

THE COURT: As I say, maybe I don't read it correctly. It seemed that it was more concerned with the safety of the tire rather than the size of the tire as that might add height to the vehicle affecting the center of gravity, which seemed to be the relevant --

MR. EMBLEM: Sure.

THE COURT: -- issue in this case.

MR. EMBLEM: Right. This is an e-mail thread that's gone between two senior engineers at Ford, and starting at the bottom on page -- the first page of Exhibit 65, Mr. Stornad is saying, "Nothing new on tires or tests indicate a high confidence in passing CU, Consumers Union, with 225 tires and less

5 (Pages 14 to 17)

confident on the P235s."

So this is a discussion in September of 1989 they don't have any confidence of passing with the tires used in our car. Now, remember, the UN46, that's after they've widened the track to the same track that we have. So we are talking about the same center of gravities and the same track width, so that the static and dynamic stability factors are going to be essentially the same.

When he talks about what tires is at issue, they are talking about the size of the tire as opposed to where the tire is going to fail or break down because it might be a particular brand.

THE COURT: Well, I took the -- all tires meeting engineer's J-turn test as dealing with the quality of the tire.

MR. EMBLEM: That's not the way I read it, your Honor.

THE COURT: I see.

MR. EMBLEM: Mr. Stornad goes on in the upper paragraphs to say that he would accept testing of the 235 in the two-door model but not on the four-door model, so it's not the quality of the tire. We are talking about the size of it.

Are you thinking of the saturation

I mentioned on Friday that we would be offering also a thing called CQIS, CQIS, in this issue. MORS -- now, these are documents which are -- these are recorded by a technician, a skilled person taking the reports at Ford. So the reports are made by a person employed by Ford, making the reports, with the duty to do so.

THE COURT: Well, that's what I needed to clarify. I didn't know whether these were customer -- these were statements by an employee. I mean, the actual document is a Ford form -- format, but it seemed to be reporting complaints by customers.

MR. EMBLEM: That's correct. It is doing that.

THE COURT: And so to the extent that it's a statement by a customer that's being reported, it's -- is it a statement under 801 of the party or the agent? It seems to me, in other words, that these were complaints by customers.

MR. EMBLEM: Well --

THE COURT: Is that how -- how would you characterize that?

MR. EMBLEM: Yes. It's also an indication -- two things. One, several of the

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Page 21

tendency? Is that what you are thinking of in the first paragraph?

THE COURT: Well, as I read the document, I need clarification here. It seemed to me that the only issue that was relevant here was the size of the tires because the size of the tires affected the center of gravity. It raised the automobile.

MR. EMBLEM: Right.

THE COURT: Maybe by a small amount, but a significant amount, if that be believed. But beyond the size of the tire as it affects the center of gravity, the quality of the tire and so forth is not an issue in the case and --

MR. EMBLEM: It's not, and I don't believe 65 discusses the tire quality. I think it's merely discussing the size of the quality -- I mean, the size of the tire and how the vehicle performs with those sizes on the Consumer Union testing.

THE COURT: All right. And then also turning to Exhibit, I believe to be, 220-A.

MR. EMBLEM: 220-A I believe is a video.

23 MS. EMBLEM: No.

24 THE COURT: Well, what I have --

MR. EMBLEM: It's MORS, M-O-R-S. And as 25

30(b)(6) deponents told me that they -- in deposition, that Ford engineers rely on these when evaluating failures in component parts. These are -- although they may be lay reports, they are lay reports of real roll events. And Ford makes a record of those and the engineers rely on them.

So even though the customer might say, "I had a steering failure," it doesn't identify what the steering failure is.

THE COURT: Well, under what theory would you have a customer's complaint admissible for the jury to consider a customer's complaint about the Explorer?

MR. EMBLEM: Well, these are lay persons driving their vehicles that have experienced problems with how they are handling, how they are operating.

THE COURT: Well, I think I understand what it is, but I guess what I'm struggling with here is -- especially under 801, which deals with statements of parties -- how a customer's statement falls into that category or, beyond that, into any category.

MR. EMBLEM: Well, I understand the problem, and I guess the only thing I can say about that is that Ford invites the comments, they provide

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tie rod near the ball in relatively large percentage of the low mileage tie rod failures -- fractures. While vehicle control can easily be maintained if there is a fracture, in the interest of customer satisfaction, we would like the inspection and necessary repairs being completed promptly.

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"On the question of review steering control, that sounds pretty dangerous. Why haven't customers been told not to drive their vehicles?

"Answer: Based on extensive vehicle evaluations with the deliberately separated tie rod, we're confident that the steering control is easily maintained even if the tie rod fractures. Typically, the most a driver will encounter is a shake or shimmy at certain vehicle speeds. In extreme cases, the wheel on the side of the broken tie rod may tuck, turn in or out, and begin sliding. Even if this happens, vehicle steering can be controlled by the other front wheel."

So we have taken out of the MORS and out of the CQIS Explorers that were built between -- and those documents, by the way, give the manufacturing date on them. So we've taken out of those MORS and CQIS those vehicles built between November 28th and February 15th. That would be 1994 to 1995. And the

MR. EMBLEM: Yes. Yes. And I could further cull them, too, because we don't actually need 108. I think we've got 35. And, you know, a sufficient number to show that there is a number and dates that shows that they knew for a long time, and I think that meets our criteria.

THE COURT: Well, I think I understand. Let's go back to the Bronco II and the UN46.

MR. EMBLEM: Right. Exhibit 75-B is a good example.

THE COURT: Well, let me ask you this. Mr. O'Neill thinks that really is all sideshow, as the words used here, that to get into problems with the Bronco II and how they were addressed and how they were talked about and what was done or what was not done.

MR. EMBLEM: Sure.

THE COURT: And it boils down to two things. One is the relevance of all of that, and No. 2, even if there is some relevance, that it's outweighed by prejudice.

MR. EMBLEM: Some prejudice.

THE COURT: And that it's confusing. It's too confusing to let the jury speculate on that. So we are giving them something that's too confusing

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Page 45

remainder of those were built within the relevant period which contained tie rods that Ford claims are not defective.

Well, the --

THE COURT: Well, the argument, though, from Mr. O'Neill -- and we are talking about now 220-A, which are these MORS.

MR. EMBLEM: Right.

THE COURT: That unless you have one that addresses the relevant complaint, if you will --

MR. EMBLEM: Right.

THE COURT: -- then they're irrelevant.

MR. EMBLEM: Well, I believe that it would be fair to say that if it addresses broken tie rods, regardless of how they broke, that they would be relevant, and Ford can simply explain that that was not caused by reverse bending as the -- as

18 Mr. Ingebretsen has testified. It reverse bends 19 because the wheel travels too far in a downward

20 direction, causing the tie rod to bottom out in its

21 socket and bend and repeat that over and over, until

22 it finally is ready to break and eventually breaks.

23 THE COURT: Well, is there any of those 24 that fit into that category that talk about the tie 25 rod?

to speculate on.

MR. EMBLEM: If the Bronco II contains problems -- it's an SUV -- that were not corrected, then knowledge of those problems is relevant to the fact that they knew that there was a problem with this UN46 and the subsequent UN105, that when they had an opportunity to make the corrections, they didn't do so. That's one point.

An example of what Ford says about those things in 75-B is an agenda. It's a planning committee meeting. All the vice presidents are present. The minutes are recorded by the corporate secretary.

THE COURT: Let me get that in front of me. 75-B?

MR. EMBLEM: All right. It's November 27, 1987.

THE COURT: I have it.

MR. EMBLEM: Important to this document are three major factors. One, it's a report to management.

On the third page, which is page 2 of the report, the discussion is regarding spending, truck spending. It talks about Ranger and UN146, but

it also talks about a PN38 and the strategy for the

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strawman to Consumer Union to pass their testing, which is a smoking hot document.

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Also in here is a strategy among Ford employees about how to go to Consumers Union and talk them out of focusing on the Ford Explorer, as they had on the Suzuki Samurai, and, rather, report the Ford Explorer as a group or as a class of documents as opposed to -- vehicles as opposed to the focus on the Ford Explorer itself.

So the fact that, you know, that it fails the test, it fails the test with the UN35 tires -- I mean, the P235 tires; the fact that they changed the name and market it in a different fashion to cover the fact that they would lose sales in a wholesale way if they continued with the Bronco II name, even though they don't change the vehicle, just the name of the vehicle.

THE COURT: Well, you don't see that, though. Maybe this is too simplistic, but it seems to me don't you have to have some sort of a tie between the problems with the Bronco II as they may -- if there's any relevance at all, as they may carry over regardless of what the vehicle is called?

> MR. EMBLEM: That's what we have. THE COURT: It seems what you are saying

than a Chevy Blazer or no worse than maybe Toyota's 2 vehicle. And based upon that, then they shouldn't 3 find that the Ford Explorer is defective. So they 4 want to prevent us from talking about its 5 relationship among its own corporate cars and then,

6 at the same time, come back and talk about its 7 relationship among its peers. So it just seems a 8 little bit unfair in their argument. 9

Here's some -- Exhibit No. 40 I think is a very classic exhibit to talk about the specific points that I want to review. It's an automotive 12 safety research office document. It's obviously a 13 Ford document. In Friday's arguments, Mr. Larsen 14 three times on the record says, "Judge, there's no discussion about the authenticity of these documents. 16 We're not arguing about them being authentic."

17 That's a stipulation. That's an admission made by 18 counsel on behalf of his client.

19 So the document is authentic. It's a 20 19 -- I can't read it this well -- 68, I think, 21 document. And Bromeier says that the documents will 22 show -- he is the corporate secretary who signs the 23 minutes on behalf of the corporation, and some of 24 these other people -- if I had the name right, but 25 that doesn't matter to what I want to say.

Page 51

Page 53

here is it doesn't matter what the vehicle is called. It's we had problems, we became aware of problems with the Bronco II, and then carried it over to the Explorer?

MR. EMBLEM: Right. And we didn't do enough to fix those problems, so the problems were man rated. They were human safety problems. They had an opportunity to correct the problems, but they only made minor Band-aids instead of addressing the real issue. And the real issue was that this thing was turned over way too easy, the doors came open, occupants were ejected. So these documents -- these early Bronco II documents simply identify the fact that these are human life concerns and that we should be addressing them.

Subsequent documents will show that they didn't address them. So as a foundational requirement to show that they knew of them and should have done something about them, that's the reason they are offered. Not to show -- not that the Bronco II is on trial here. As we said in our opening statement and have repeated over and over, only the Ford Explorer is on trial here.

At the same time, Ford is going to ask this jury to consider the fact that it's no worse

1 On the bottom of the second page, it 2 talks about upper torso restraints. At present, they 3 are rare. Okay. It talks about -- okay. I think 4 probably the fourth page is the best page, roof 5 forces. In many rollover accidents, the vehicle 6 comes to rest on its roof. This fact provides a 7 starting point in developing a roof strength 8 standard. 9

So they've been needing a standard obviously since 1968. Roof structure must support the weight of the vehicle. The vehicle is suspended from the roof and touches the ground and said to release the load factor conservatively two or twice the weight of the vehicle.

So this one is a development document. In '68, they understood that they needed to deal with roof strength. In the 1997 vehicle, they still have not sufficiently dealt with roof strength.

In Exhibit No. 41, the rollover statistics are being discussed by Ford engineers.

21 THE COURT: Mr. Emblem, I'm going to --22 rather than go through the rest of the documents, I 23 know that -- in terms of those that are sort of 24 identified as maybe problematic here, if you have 25 further comment about those.

14 (Pages 50 to 53)

MR. EMBLEM: Sure. Just to close on 41, we are talking about the fact here that Ford engineers are concerned about the number of rollovers of SUVs versus automobiles and the numbers of people ejected from SUVs and the fact that they are — if you are ejected, you don't survive; and if you are contained, you do, unless the door comes open.

So without any further questions, I

So without any further questions, I guess we submit it.

vehicle.

THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Emblem. MR. O'NEILL: Your Honor, may I address new matters raised there very, very briefly?

THE COURT: No. I think I'm prepared to rule on what we have here.

As I say, the exercise has been whether there's evidence here or the evidence that these are what they purport them to be and, specifically, that they are statements of the party opponent under 801.

And one takes into account, in terms of the evidence, both the method in which they were obtained and the look of the document, the substance of the document, the format of the document, and similar visual dynamics. And as I carved out a second, I suppose, possibility here and that is that there had been a specific request that identified a

to be relevant in that regard, that is, the document -- not the argument, but the document --that it has to identify a specific -- the specific area of complaint relevant in this case. And what I seem to be confronted with in these documents, as I look through them, that have been identified, if you will, as Bronco II and UN46 documents, is a wide range of statements dealing with many more things than what's our complaint. And so I add to the problem here that a confusion of the jury --confusion by the jury regarding the document.

So 49 to 75-B will not — will not be received at this point. I am not convinced that there's been an identification in any of those documents of something so specific regarding the complaints of this case that would make it relevant.

Said another way, if I could, and that is I see the relevance of -- or I see where one would examine statements regarding the Bronco II, but only to the extent that they deal with problems identified, concerns, if you will, identified in this case. And what I have is the whole -- sort of the quality of the vehicle as a whole without either that or not specifically dealing with the problems at issue in this case.

Page 55

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document and requested its production and it was produced. And, consequently, we have, both in that connection and also in terms of the format of the document, a Bate number -- Bates stamp number.

All that considered, in terms of the authenticity of the document and -- well, its identification or authenticity, it seems to me that all of these documents are qualified. I am convinced from the evidence that they are in fact -- except for a couple of exceptions, that -- well, a couple of exceptions, I suppose, that I'm going to note in particular -- statements of -- statements that are identified under 801.

Dealing now with what has been identified as the Bronco II and the UN46 documents, and it seems to me that the approach here is not the authenticity anymore or the identification of the document, but its relevance and whether its probative value is outweighed by its prejudicial effect. It seems to me that in order -- understanding that it's a question of knowledge of defect as it extends over what is asserted here as a line of vehicle. Well, as I say, regardless of what we call it, it's a line of

But it seems to me that in order for it

So I am not -- I am not -- if there's such a document that can be identified, will entertain the request to admit it into evidence. But at this point, 49 to 75-B do not fit into that category. So I'm not going to receive, in other words, 49 to 75-B.

Turning to Exhibit 220-A, which has been offered as an indication of knowledge of the problem, and I think this suffers, if you will, from the same deficiency that 49 to 75-B has. It -- these are complaints reported by Ford to the company through their MORS system and so forth. And I see the relevance of that as it is relevant to knowledge of a problem.

But it seems to me, in going through these in some fashion -- I'm not going to say I read every word of every one of these documents. But it seems to me that it's hard to identify any that deal with the specific problems complained of in this trial. And my determination is that, unless that can be -- unless you can identify a complaint about a problem dealing with this -- that have been identified in this trial, that they are not relevant. So I'm not receiving 220-A.

Turning to 65, and this may be a matter

15 (Pages 54 to 57)

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1 Clayton vehicle is 85A2.

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2 THE COURT: All right, 8581 and 85A2. Your 3 question, Mr. Emblem?

- Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) First, I'll ask you if I'm right. There is stiffening present in the sway bar bushings?
- A It's hard for me to tell with my fingers. I'm not real sure that I'm feeling any.
- 9 Q All right. And then in the next column -- we're 10 still looking at Exhibit 117. In the column after
- 11 "Occurrences" it says "Feel." Do you see that down there?
- 12 "When link fails vehicle exhibits."
 - I missed the column you asked me to look at.
- 14 Where it says "Feel." O
- 15 Α Yes, on 117, "Feel."
- 16 What is that discussing? What is the purpose of O
- 17 the discussion and what is it discussing?
- 18 A That this is essentially detection by customer.
- 19 This is how the customer would respond and what the
- 20 customer would feel if this occurred.
- 21 Q What is the report?
- 22 Α "Feel. When link fails, the vehicle exhibits
- 23 significantly more roll."
- 24 Q I show you an exhibit that's been marked and 25 entered as Exhibit 118. Is that a Ford engineering

- 1 A Well, the study found -- after the initial 2 studies they found a couple of things. First of all, they 3 did experience a simultaneous two-wheel lift, which means 4 that they have -- the two inside wheels came up off the 5 ground.
 - Q Is this a 1995 Explorer? Is that the same as the '97 Explorer?
- 8 A Yes, to my understanding they're the same 9 chassis, same design.
- 10 Q UN105, in other words?
 - That's correct.
- 12 Q So the computer found that there was two-wheel 13 lift with the sway bar link removed?
- MR. O'NEILL: Your Honor, let me object, 15 leading.
 - THE COURT: Sustained.
- 17 MR. O'NEILL: May I voir dire the witness?
- 18 THE COURT: I've already sustained the 19
 - objection.
- 20 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) I want to show you Exhibit
- 21 No. 120. Is this a Ford engineering document, 120? 22
 - Α Yes.
- 23 0 And what is it we're looking at here?
 - A Essentially the same as the last one, except
- 25 this appears to be a final copy, signed. It's a 1995

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Page 157

1 exhibit? 2

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- Yes, it is. Α
- 3 O What is it?
- 4 A It's entitled, "1995 Explorer Sway Bar CAE" --
- 5 which is computer-aided engineering -- "Study."
 - Q And there in the summary it uses the word "ADAMS" again. Is that what we were discussing a few
- 8 minutes ago about computer modeling?
- 9 Yes, it is.
- 10 O What is the purpose of this particular study?
- 11 The purpose is to use the computer to evaluate 12 the performance of the vehicle in what's called a J-turn
- 13 test without a sway bar link. So in the computer model
- 14 they remove the sway bar link and they put it through a 15 J-turn maneuver.
- 16 Q Is that the same maneuver that's used for 17 accident avoidance?
- 18 A Yes, it is. It can be. It's a hard-steering 19 maneuver. You essentially make a J.
- 20 Q So it's a hard-steering maneuver which you might 21 incur - which you might experience if you're trying to 22 avoid hitting a child or something like that?
- 23 Α Yes.
- 24 Q And so we can understand how to read these charts, what did the study find?

- Explorer sway bar computer-aided engineering study.
- 2 Q So it's about the sway bar. Is it considering 3 the link?
 - A Yes, it's considering, again, the J-turn
 - maneuver. Simulating it without the sway bar in.
 - Q I'm leafing through to page 4. There's a graph, does that tell us anything?
 - A Yes, it does.
- 9 MR. EMBLEM: May I display, Your Honor? THE COURT: You may.
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- 11 MR. EMBLEM: Dim the lights again. I'm sorry, 12 Wendy.
 - Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) What is the graph telling us?
- 14 A This is just sort of a little table that lets us
- 15 take a quick and easy look at whether or not the vehicle 16 passed or failed this particular analysis.
 - Q Okay. What's happening here? First of all, let me ask you what's being tested in terms of tires?
- 19 A We have two different size tires, the P235/75R15 20 is the tire that was on Mr. Clayton's vehicle.
- 21 Q Okay. And then concerning the P's and F's, what 22 do those mean?
- 23 Well, P's are passes and F's are fails. And we 24 see with the 4x4, four-door, curb weight plus driver, the 25 vehicle failed.

- 1 O Okay. And then it has some other failures on 2 the other car, right? The 4x2?
 - A Yes, we do.

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- Q So it's confirmation of the conclusion that they have tip-up of two wheels; is that correct?
- MR. O'NEILL: Objection, Your Honor.
- 7 THE COURT: Sustained.
 - Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) What does that confirm?
- 9 A It confirms that with those tires, curb plus 10 driver, the vehicle failed. It had two-wheel tip-up, 11 which is a failure.
- 12 Q I'm going to refer you to page 8. Maybe I need 13 to borrow yours to display because mine's all marked up.
- 14 THE COURT: Mr. Emblem, I would prefer that the 15 actual exhibit be displayed.
- 16 MR. EMBLEM: That's what I'm doing.
- 17 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) I'm displaying page 8. What is 18 this we're looking at here?
- 19 A We're looking at some changes that were made.
- 20 In the ADAMS model, for the most part, the initial
- conditions were never safe. But in this document we have
- 22 a history of some of the many parameters that were used,
- 23 how they modified them from an initial condition where we
- 24 had failure to a revised condition where there was no
- 25 failure.

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means. Adding another 20 pounds means that you don't pass 2 their safety test.

3 MR. EMBLEM: I need to ask a clerical question 4 about 119. I wasn't sure that was among the group set. I think it should have been, but I want to verify.

THE COURT: I don't show 119 received.

- Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) 121, I'll show you that next.
- Is 121 a Ford engineering document?
- A Yes, it is.

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- Q And explain what it is to the jury.
- 11 A This is a test report. The subject is,
- 12 "Subjective assessment of disconnected sway bar link on an
- Explorer." What that means by "subjective" is it's not
- where they're measuring things, it's just kind of a feel.
- It's subjective. It's going to be asking opinions of the 16
- people who are driving this vehicle. 17 Q So this is a test on a track or road as opposed
- to in the computer, would that be correct? 19 Yes, that's correct.
 - And can you give us a summary of the results? O
- 21 A Yes. The summary of the results with one front 22 sway bar link disconnected, the vehicle did not meet
 - Ford's extremely severe handling criteria.
- Q I'm going to show you a document that's been 25 marked as 122B and accepted. I'd ask you what this

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- Q Okay. I see in line B it says, "gross vehicle 2 weight in loading pounds"?
- Α Yes.
- 4 Q What is the initial input and what is the 5 revised input?
- 6 The initial input is 5,440 pounds. The revised 7 input of 5,420 pounds.
 - Q Is that a 20-pound change in the weight?
 - Α Yes.
- 10 Q Turn to page 9. And here at the top it says "9 11 of 9."
- 12 Yes.
- 13 Do we now have a pass on the P235 tires after 14 adjusting 20 pounds?
- 15 Yes, we have passes all the way across the Α 16 board.
- 17 From an engineering standpoint, what does the 18 document mean to you?
- 19 To me it's saying that with very subtle changes, 20 they're going from a fail to a pass. Changing one
- 21 parameter by 20 pounds. And that tells me that there's
- something that is right on the very edge when it's running
- the gross vehicle weight, which is something that the
- vehicle is capable of doing. You can load that vehicle to 25 that weight, that's what "gross vehicle weight rating"

- document is. First, is it a Ford engineering document?
 - Yes, it is.
- Q And would you explain from an engineering standpoint what it is we're looking at?
- A This is the results of the fatigue test where we're taking a component and putting it into a repetitive loading environment to see how long it lasts.
- 8 Q It's called a "Discipline Problem Analysis 9 Report"; is that correct?
 - Α Yes.
 - Can you explain what that means?
- 12 They've got a problem and they're trying to 13 analyze what they've done and trying to take some sort of 14 corrective measure for it.
- O And then do the charts -- if you could explain 16 what the charts mean. As an example, on page 5 there's a 17 chart that might not be easy to be understood.
- 18 Well, it's not. It's a plot. Basically what 19 we're trying to look at here is reliability. Given the 20 number of cycles on this part, how long that part is 21 expected to last. How many cycles it will go through.
- 22 Q Is there any way to apply that to real life 23 driving? The number of cycles which a sway bar might 24 experience in a lifetime?
 - Yeah. I mean, that's sort of the whole idea.

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- A It's entitled, "Tie Rod Summary."
- 2 Q Does the document provide engineering 3 information useful to engineers?
 - Yes, it does.
 - What information does it provide? Q
- 6 It talks about a problem that was being
- 7 experienced. There was reverse bending fatigue on the
- neck of the tie rods, and some lash in that joint in the 9 coupling.
- 10 Q And ultimately does the document discuss or give 11 you information about what was done about it?
- 12 A Yes.

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- 13 Q What was done about it? From an engineer's 14 standpoint, what was done?
- 15 A Well, a redesign was undertaken. A larger tie 16 rod was explored and tried, but it was found to have some
- 17 problems of its own, noise and problems. So they went
- 18 back to the original design except they then went to 100
- 19 percent checking of the design, a different grease in --
- 20 and I'm going to pick up Exhibit 31A. There will be
- 21 different grease in here, and then the crimping is
- 22
- different, how they crimp this down around the end of tie 23
- 24 Q It's your information that that successfully
- solved the problem of that breaking that was experienced
 - Page 167
- 1 in the early tie rods?
- 2 To my understanding, it did.
- 3 0 And it was breaking that was occurring where?
- 4 That was reverse bending fatigue right here in Α 5 the neck.
- 6 Q And the reverse bending fatigue experienced in 7 the Clayton vehicle was where?
- 8 A The reverse bending fatigue is here, next to the 9 threads of the tie rod.
- 10 Q I show you a document that's been marked and 11 received as 185A. Is this an engineering document?
 - Yes, it is.

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- 13 Q And what is the type of document that we're 14 looking at here?
- 15 A They're minutes from a meeting, and this is a 16 design meeting where some of the engineers are together
- 17 discussing ideas and comments, problems, suggestions. 18 It's just the minutes of that meeting. It was a design
- 19 versus system level targets meeting.
- 20 Q On the second page there's a wheel travel issue 21 discussed by Ken Tandy. Is that important to the issues 22 in this case?
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 Q And from an engineer's standpoint, what is it that we're looking at here?

- A Well, we're looking at some concerns that
- 2 Mr. Tandy was expressing in their ADAMS model. Their
- 3 ADAMS model was predicting travel greater than what they
 - were thinking they could have. They were getting metal-
- to-metal contact as a result of their ADAMS modeling. And
 - he was concerned that that was occurring.
- 7 Q I'll place an exhibit in front of you that's 8 been marked and entered as 389, Exhibit 389. Is that an
- 9 engineering document?
 - Yes, it is.
- 11 Q Does this document contain information important 12 to engineering decisions?
 - A Yes, it is.
 - Is it part of an engineer's job to consider the feasibility of a design including the cost of it?
- 16 A Of course it is. As you're designing something 17 as an engineer, you have to be aware of costs. And there 18 are all sorts of costs, hard cost, labor costs, warranty 19 costs, repair costs.
- 20 When a design is going out the door to somebody 21 who's buying it, you have to be aware of what all the costs are going to be when you make a proposal. The companies I've worked for gave great incentives if you could save costs.
 - This document is entitled what?

Page 169

- A This is entitled, "Rods vs. Cables Study."
- 2 Is that referring to the operation of the door 3
 - latch?
 - A Yes, it is.
 - Q Is there any magic language in the document, or can this be understood by a layperson if they read it?
 - A It really is pretty self-explanatory.
 - MR. EMBLEM: Your Honor, if I could have a few minutes to discuss with counsel, I think I'm close to wrapping up with the witness. I notice it might be time for a break.
 - THE COURT: Well, let's take our break here.
- 13 Mr. Ingebretsen, you may step down.
 - THE WITNESS: Thank you.
 - THE COURT: Watch your step on the way down.
- 16 Ladies and gentlemen, we'll have our break here.
- 17 It's about ten after. Let's take fifteen minutes. About
- 18 25 after 3:00. During this break you're not to express
- 19 any opinions among yourselves or with others. You're 20 excused.
- 21 (Whereupon, a recess was taken.)
- 22 THE COURT: We're back with Clayton vs. Ford
- 23 Motor Company and others. The jury is not in the
- 24 courtroom. Mr. Emblem indicated as we took our break here
 - that we needed further discussion, and you may be at the

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because they say "ejected." If I can't relate it to a 2 door, then I can't relate it to a window, and then I can't 3 relate it to ejection. But that's not true because it 4 talks about ejected people, so they have to be coming out 5 of somewhere. 6

MR. O'NEILL: Fair enough.

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THE COURT: Well, it appears to me we had this discussion before, as I say. We established the protocol. I won't say it again, but it seems to me that where the document talks about ejection, and indeed through a door, 11 damaged, partially opened, so forth, or a window or 12 windshield, or in some other fashion -- although 13 apparently there is no other fashion -- we call upon the jury to speculate, even with the one page, in terms of inferring that this related only to open doors.

16 And apparently on the face of it it doesn't seem 17 that way, but testimony does not narrow that down to, as I 18 say, the door, the door system and its integrity. And 19 beyond that, I suppose we would have to pick and choose a 20 bit from this document. It includes really an analysis 21 apparently of roof crush as it relates to damage in 22 various ways, including ejection.

23 So, specifically, the document that comes close 24 is not close enough. And the rest is not relevant. For 25 those reasons, 272, the objection is sustained.

1 A 41 talks about ESV rollover test methods. 2 They're considering different methods for analyzing and 3 testing rollovers and rollover crashworthiness.

4 Q Okay. So is this document helpful in explaining 5 in any way the relationship between the roof deformation 6 and the failures experienced in the A and B pillars in the 7 Clayton vehicle?

A Well, yes. In fact, on the page handwritten 10 it says, "Next to the doors remaining closed, retention of the vehicle's fixed and side glass is the most important 11 factor." It's specifically looking at doors remaining 12 closed in roof crush.

Q Page 10? What page is that?

14 A Well, it's typewritten page 3, there's 15 handwritten page 10. Bates stamp 0073786. 16

Q Okay. "Rollover Techniques," "Handling Stability," and then IT goes down to "Occupant Containment." That's the second one you're referring to?

Well, "Occupant Containment" and "Structural Integrity" is where I just read from, the last paragraph.

Q In "Occupant Containment," the last sentence 22 says, "Our test techniques should demonstrate, therefore, that should rollover occur, an occupant would not be ejected." Is that some kind of a directive, engineering directive on where to go looking forward?

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Page 209

MR. EMBLEM: Your Honor, just to be clear on that, this may be the type of document relied upon by an engineer, but otherwise not necessarily admissible? THE COURT: Well --

MR. EMBLEM: Or he could testify regarding it, but we wouldn't be admitting the document? I believe I read that in the comments on the 801 cheat sheet that I have here.

THE COURT: That may be. I don't know that I 10 need to resolve either that question or that objection to 11 that question.

MR. EMBLEM: It's only Tuesday it feels like Friday afternoon.

14 **REDIRECT EXAMINATION ON EXHIBIT 41** 15 BY MR. EMBLEM:

Q Take out Exhibit 41.

A I didn't hear the number.

Q Exhibit 41. Is Exhibit 41 a Ford engineering

19 document?

20 Α Yes.

21 Let me just clarify one thing. Counsel asked 22 you a couple times about passenger cars. Is the Explorer

23 a passenger car?

It is part of that general class, yes.

25 What is Exhibit 41?

A It is. I mean, it's there. They're telling 2 people that we need to contain occupants in the vehicle.

3 Q And this is an analysis specifically to roof crush testing design which absolutely and assuredly 5 contains reference to keeping the door closed; is that 6 correct?

Α Yes.

8 Q And then in the lower section, "Next to the doors remaining closed, the retention of the vehicle's 10 fixed and side glass is the next most important factor"; 11 is that correct?

A Yes.

Q So it looks like keeping the door closed is one of the primary objectives; is that correct?

15 Well, it says, "Next to the door remaining 16 closed," so it actually is the highest priority. After the doors remaining closed, they consider the windows. 18

The fixed glass and side glass is the next most important. 19 MR. EMBLEM: Your Honor, plaintiffs would move

20 for Exhibit 41.

THE COURT: Cross?

22 **RECROSS-EXAMINATION ON EXHIBIT 41**

23 BY MR. O'NEILL:

24 Q Mr. Ingebretsen, the date of this document is 25 1971, true?



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THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY
STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,) Case No. 000909522
Plaintiffs,) JUDGE:) JUDGE: UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,) Defendants.)

TRIAL TESTIMONY OF ROSS PACE

TAKEN AT: SCOTT MATHESON COURTHOUSE

450 South State

Salt Lake City, Utah

DATE: Tuesday, January 30, 2007

REPORTED BY: Catherine L. Kennedy, RPR, CSR

FILED DISTRICT COURT
Third Judicial District

NOV - 1 2007 SALT LAKE COUNTY

Deputy Clerk



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THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY STATE OF UTAH

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Plaintiffs,) JUDGE:) JOSEPH C. FRATTO, JR.

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stable object, and then you measure from that object to put the vehicles and the highway exactly as it is relative to the stationary mark that's on the highway or, you know, a pole or median drain, cement, or something like that. And that's how you measure. You measure from that that's always going to be there to what you have on the highway. Q And in the Clayton accident, did you have any assistance in taking measurements and

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drawing that diagram? I didn't have assistance, but I didn't

It is, yeah. Α

Q And did you take photos of the Clayton accident?

I believe I took the photos, yes.

And you have had a chance to review O those photos?

A I have.

22 And did you have any specific training 23 in evaluating whether or not an accident was caused 24 by an inattentive or asleep driver? 25

Yes, we did. We had the training, and

(Pages 10 to 13)

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also there's a -- you investigate a lot of accidents, so you pretty much can determine what happened.

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- Q Can you describe what your training and experience is in investigating accidents involving drivers who fell asleep or were inattentive or distracted?
- A The training again is the same. You put -- any accident investigation course that you go through, anything that's even as basic as the POST was, you go through different scenarios of what vehicles do and why they do this and whether their brakes are on or whether they're not on or whether they're turning.

But, again, when it comes down to investigating, I've probably investigated at least 80 accidents per year. You get to pretty well know what a vehicle is doing, and what you can see on the highway's pretty well what happened.

- Q And in your career, did you investigate a lot of accidents that involved only one vehicle or a single vehicle accident?
- A I did. In fact, on a rural interstate area, most -- probably 50 percent of your accidents will be one vehicle rollovers.
 - And in your experience, what are the

Q And did you apply that experience and training in investigating the Clayton accident?

A I did.

4 Q I want to show you your accident report 5 and have you identify that, and I'm showing you what's marked as Plaintiffs' Exhibit No. 22, and I 7 will represent that this has already been marked into 8 evidence.

Have you had -- can you look at that document and tell me if you recognize it?

A I do.

0 And what is it?

13 Α It is my -- I believe it's called an 14 SR-22 form that on any accident must be filled out 15 and sent into the State of Utah.

- Q And so is this the standard form that's used by the Department of Public Safety that all law 18 enforcement agencies must use?
 - A That is correct.
- 20 Q And does this have certain codes that 21 are used to fill in certain boxes and blanks on this 22 accident form that are uniform in all accidents?

A It does.

24 Q And so is it necessary to be able to 25 have a key to the code to be able to understand what

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primary causes for those types of single vehicle rollover accidents?

- A Generally speaking, inattention or asleep.
- Q And in your training, did you learn any certain markers or circumstances to look for to determine whether or not a driver may have been asleep or inattentive?

A I did.

- And can you describe what those are?
- What you'll normally see on a person that's either asleep or not paying attention is, when they run off the road, they will be off the road for a certain amount of time, and you can see that the tire is just turning and it's free flowing.

And then all of a sudden, you will see that the vehicle is turned back. You'll see that they've now decided that, I'm off the highway, and you will see them turn the steering wheel and it will start -- instead of being a complete roll on the 21 rocks and stuff, you will see that the vehicle, the tire turns. It will start throwing gravel up.

22 23 But you can see all of them marks, and 24 you can see exactly when he decided he better get back on the road or he better slam on his brakes.

- the numbers are on your accident report?
- You have to have a key in order to decipher what's on the accident report.
- O I'm going to hand you what's marked as Defendants' Exhibit 685 and ask if you can identify

MR. EMBLEM: What is the number now? MR. LARSEN: 685.

THE WITNESS: Yes, sir. That is the key 10 that you use to fill out the form.

- 11 Q (BY MR. LARSEN) And how do you use that 12 key to be able to understand what's on the report?
- 13 A The key -- these are copies. The key 14 here is actually cut off. It's exactly the size that 15 fits over the top of the standard form. It's got

arrows pointing to boxes, and it fits exactly on it. 17 And all of these boxes call for a number that's

18 written inside of this key. It will ask you things, 19

and you put a number relative to what it is from the 20 key.

- 21 Q So you just line them up side by side 22 and you are able to --
- 23 A Line them up one on top of each other. 24 The key goes on top of the form. 25
 - Q I'm going to hand you what are a series

(Pages 14 to 17)

Page 18 Page 20 1 of photographs that have been blown up and put on 1 County at the time? 2 2 some foam boards and ask have you had a chance to A I believe at this particular time we 3 3 review the photographs that I'm handing you, which is did. We always had Morgan County involved in that 4 4 also, but I can't remember whether in 1998 we still marked as Defendants' Exhibit 684-1 through 684-26? 5 5 A I have. was doing Morgan County. 6 Okay. And are those the Highway Patrol 6 Q Typically, how many officers were 7 7 patrolling those counties? photographs from the Clayton accident? 8 8 Typically, about one per county. There Yes, they are. 9 9 And do they truly and accurately depict would either be two or possibly three. 10 what the physical evidence was on the roadway that 10 Q And were you the first Utah Highway was documented during your accident investigation? 11 Patrol officer to arrive at the accident scene? 11 12 12 A They do. A I was. 13 13 MR. LARSEN: We move to admit O And had Wyoming emergency personnel 14 14 Defendants' 684-1 through 684-26. already arrived? 15 15 THE COURT: Any objection? A The emergency personnel, yes, had been. 16 MR. EMBLEM: The only objection, your 16 Q And why did you investigate the accident 17 Honor, is that they are already in as Plaintiffs' 23, 17 scene rather than Wyoming officers? 18 all of the Highway Patrol photographs, so I think it Because it was in the State of Utah. It 19 19 might certainly be confusing if they refer to was only one mile from the Wyoming line, but it was 20 different numbers. 20 in the State of Utah. 21 21 THE COURT: Your objection is overruled, Q And does your report indicate whether or 22 and I will receive 684-1 through and including 26. 22 not there were any witnesses that were identified at 23 23 MR. LARSEN: Right. Thank you. the accident scene? 24 24 (BY MR. LARSEN) When were you first A According to the report, it says there 25 25 notified of the accident? was no witnesses that I could find. Page 19 Page 21 1 A If I refer back to my -- the accident 1 Q And do you recall seeing Mr. Clayton or 2 investigation form, I was notified at 1415 hours, 2 Ms. Montoya at the accident scene when you arrived? 3 3 A I do not. which is 2:15 p.m. 4 4 0 And where is that indicated on your O And are there certain tasks that are 5 5 report? required to be performed in investigating a fatal 6 6 On the second page, down near the accident as opposed to a nonfatal accident? Α 7 7 A No, there is not. bottom. 8 And is it required to prepare a report 8 Okay. And what time did you arrive? 9 A I arrived at 1450 hours, which is 9 on a fatal accident? 10 2:50 p.m. 10 A It is. 11 11 So approximately 35 minutes to get And when there's a fatal accident, is it Q 12 12 there? also required that a supervisor be present? 13 13 Approximately, yes, sir. That is correct. 14 And do you know where you had to come 14 O And was your supervisor present that 15 from that day? 15 day? 16 16 A I do not remember, no, sir. A He was. 17 Q And how far is it from where you usually 17 And that was who? 18 18 patrol or reside to the accident scene? Sergeant Jeff Peterson. 19 19 A There is no usually patrol or usually Q And one other officer you said arrived 20 reside. However, the Summit County consists of 20 and assisted as well; is that right? 21 approximately 300 miles of freeway, and we was 21 A That is correct. 22 22 assigned to two different counties at this particular 0 So there were three of you total? 23 time. So it could have been -- well, it had to have Α Yes, sir. 24 been a long ways. 24 And I'd like you to describe for the O 25 25 So you had Summit County and Wasatch jury what you do, in chronological order, when you

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arrive at an accident scene, like the Clayton accident scene, and you begin your investigation.

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A The very first thing that I always done when I showed up on an accident is protect the scene. I didn't want anything else happening. I wanted to make sure that the scene was protected, that nobody else was injured, that everything went smooth from the time I got there till we got everything cleaned up and the roadway would have been clear.

After that, the first thing I generally done on an accident was take photographs. They are the things that -- things that leave the earliest. They need to be taken care of. So the very first thing I generally done was take photographs of the scene.

And when you photographed the scene, how do you typically progress in taking your photographs? What do you start with and what do you finish with?

A I would generally go to the very first of the accident, where it very first started. Whatever started the initial events of that accident, I would like to start from there. And then I would 23 move in the same direction that the accident happened and take photographs every so many feet so that I could get everything into all photographs that

Q (BY MR. LARSEN) And can you tell us what this photo depicts?

A The photograph that you are looking at is actually the eastbound lane of traffic.

MR. LARSEN: Maybe could we have a laser pointer that we can use that could maybe identify that for us?

Thank you.

Q (BY MR. LARSEN) Perhaps you can use this laser pointer and push the red button and describe the areas that you're talking about.

Which is the eastbound?

13 A This is eastbound lane of traffic. All 14 this traffic would be coming right at you. As you 15 can see, over there is the westbound lane of traffic. 16

What you are looking at here is right where the vehicle -- right here is where the vehicle was trying to come back onto the highway.

Back up here is where the vehicle left the highway with only one set of tires. Only the left-side tires left the highway. The rest of the vehicle stayed up on the highway itself.

Q And what lane of travel was the vehicle 24 in before it left the highway?

The vehicle was in the fast lane of

Page 23

happened in this accident scene.

Q And in taking those photographs at the accident scene, do you try to follow and walk through the path that the vehicle traveled during the accident?

A I try to follow the path exactly. You try to stay right in the path of the accident, take photographs every so many feet, just to make sure that everything is photographed inside of the accident scene.

Q And, Trooper Pace, I'd like to walk through the accident scene photographs with you, and, hopefully, we'll try to start at the beginning of the accident and have you describe what you see and what you did in documenting the accident scene. And I have in front of you what are some of the photographs or all of the photographs that were taken, and we'll also use those on the overhead at the same time.

So turning to the first photograph, which is D 64-11, which should be on top, does that say photo 11 on the back?

A It does.

23 MR. LARSEN: Okay. If we could put that 24 on the overhead.

Thanks.

traffic, which is that one, and you can see -- it's not very good from this photograph, but right there is where the vehicle left the highway.

Q And on that particular corner on that particular stretch of road, is that a pretty flat road at that point?

A It's a very flat road and not a very sharp corner.

Q Okay. And before that corner, going back the other direction, going back westbound, is that a straight road for quite a long distance?

A It is. It's straight. It's a straightaway.

Q And in your experience in driving that road, when you approach that corner, is it a little bit deceptive that the road is turning going to the right?

A It's not. It's just like any other turn on any freeway. It's not deceptive. It's not marked 20 to be a sharp corner. It's just a small corner on a 21 freeway.

Q And in your investigation, did you determine where the marks were on the gravel part of the road in relationship to where the -- the

25 direction the vehicle would have been traveling if it

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just kept going straight in the fast lane? 1 2

A I did.

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And what did you determine?

A I determined that if you did not make any type of vehicle maneuver and kept going right straight, you would run off the road at the exact spot just about every time. The same spot you'd run off the road.

And in your 24 years in traveling that particular stretch of road, did you see other similar runoffs at this particular location?

There has been a few, yes, sir.

And in this photograph, can you identify where he first went off the road or you first identified the gravel marks?

A You cannot see where he first ran off the road, but you can see where he decided that he was off the road. You can see where the gravel changes and starts to throw gravel. All the gravel is moved in that particular area right there. But you cannot see back there where he first went off the highway.

O And why can't you see that?

running over the top of the gravel.

Because it's a smooth tire. It's a roll on a tire, and it's not moving any gravel. It's just

Q And can you tell us what the significance of that is?

A It means that the vehicle is going too fast to make a corner, which leaves black marks on the road. They've turned too -- too sharp, and that's when you almost start into a slide, and that's what leaves the tire marks on the highway.

Q Does it appear that those marks crossed the yellow line?

A They do.

Is that called a fog line? O

Yes, sir.

13 O Okay. And the next photograph, which is 14 No. 18?

15 Α That's correct.

> Q And can you tell us why you took this photograph?

A This is basically at the start of the accident, where he first ran off the road, where the left tires first ran off the road.

Q So now we are looking the other direction; is that right?

You are now looking back eastbound.

And from where you took those last photographs we just took -- we looked at, can you

Page 27

Q Okay. And on the left shoulder of the road, can you -- what are the purposes of those striations or those cut-outs on the edge of the road?

They call them a rumble strip or whatever you want to call them. They was initially made in highways to alert you that you are off the highway.

Q Maybe wake up or startle an inattentive or sleeping driver?

MR. EMBLEM: Leading. THE COURT: Sustained.

Q (BY MR. LARSEN) We can turn to the next photograph, which is photograph No. -- is it 3?

A Mine is photo 3, yes, sir.

And can you tell us what this photo shows that's different from the last photograph?

A I've moved further east. The first one I had taken right there. This one, of course, back here. It shows the tire mark as it's coming back on the road from the left side of the vehicle.

Q And what would you call that kind of a tire mark?

24 That's actually a critical curve or a Α 25 yaw mark.

just show us where you would have been in taking those photographs?

A I would have been approximately in that area right there.

Q Okay. And can you identify in this photograph the areas where you can first see the tire marks leaving the road?

A You can. It's approximately right in that area right there, and you could see the tire mark going right up in there. You can see where the tire is rolling. Then you can all of a sudden see where there's some type of evasive action taken, and that's where the tire starts to -- you either turn your tire or slam on your brakes or something to that effect to take that evasive action.

And then in the upper left part of that photograph, can you just tell me what all those vehicles are?

A That is where the automobile accident ended. It ended in the westbound lane of traffic. That appears to be a wrecker.

Q Is that your truck in there?

No. But my vehicle should be back there somewhere. I think that -- I don't...

Okay. And that sign on the right, do

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- Q And based on those tire marks, in your experience, would he have been in the right-hand lane or the slow lane when he made that sudden left turn?
 - A He was, yes, sir.

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- Q And can you -- okay. Are you -- can you identify where the tire marks are in this photograph so we can --
- A Tire marks here. See, they are coming from the slow lane of traffic. They are not a whole lot -- the vehicle wasn't from here. It was here, trying to make this corner like that.

The vehicle is now spun around to where it's just about facing across -- facing from this lane of traffic over to this lane of traffic. The mark right there is the right-side front tire, and the mark over here is the right-side rear tire.

The vehicle has spun around. It's facing this direction. However, it's sliding this direction. So the front of the vehicle is facing this way. The momentum, of course, as you can see, is still moving in that direction.

Q And, Trooper Pace, did you -- when you were documenting the scene, did you walk up the roadway far enough to be able to satisfy yourself that you took all the evidence of the tire marks on

It's metal to whatever the surface of the road is, and it will generally make a gouge mark of some sort.

- Q And what do the tire marks look like?
- A I'm not -- I don't understand what you are asking.
- Q But in -- have you investigated any accident where there's a broken tie rod and there are tire marks that are on the road that indicate basically a broken front-end suspension or steering?
- A The tire marks are not -- there's not going to be much of an indication on a tire mark. It's just a metal to the road mark, because your tire mark is, generally speaking, going to stay straight, but -- so you don't have a lot of tire marks, but you do have the gouge in the road from the metal part of the vehicle gouging into the roadway.
- Q Did you find any gouge marks or tire marks that indicated that the tires on this vehicle -- the front tires on this vehicle were no longer connected to the steering system?
 - A I did not.
- Q Moving on to the next photograph, which I believe is photograph 24, can you tell us what we are looking at in this photograph in relation to the last?

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Page 37

- the roadway that occurred from this accident?
- A I did.
- Q And did you find any other tire marks other than what are in your photographs?
- A I found no other marks indicating any accident.
- Q Did you find any marks from the accident on the right side of the fog line on the right shoulder of the road?
- 10 A I did not.
- 11 Q Okay. And did it appear to you that 12 this driver had drifted off to the right side of the 13 road initially?
 - A No, it did not.
- Q And in looking at those tire marks, did you see any evidence on the road of any sudden mechanical failures involving the wheel?
 - A I did not.
- Q And in your experience, have you seen that before in other types of accidents where there may be a broken tie rod, for instance?
- 22 A I have.
- Q And in your experience, what does that look like on the road?
 - A It will generally gouge into the road.

- A Again, I've just moved further east. The last one is back here. I've moved real quite close to where the marks starts. Again, they're just showing the marks and just before it goes off the highway.
- Q And, again, which tire mark is the right front tire?
 - A It is that one.
- 9 Q And why would the right tire be on the 10 left side of the photograph?
- 11 A Because the vehicle is now facing back 12 this direction.
 - Q So it's rotated clockwise?
 - A It's rotated --
- 15 Q Or counter --
- 16 A -- counterclockwise.
- Q About how far, in your estimation?
- 18 A It would be over halfway. No, it
- wouldn't quite be halfway. It'd just be almost to the halfway mark.
 - Q So almost a 90-degree left turn?
- 22 A Correct.
- Q And turning to the next photograph,
- which is photograph No. 17, can you orient us what weare looking at in this photograph in relationship to

10 (Pages 34 to 37)

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- And were you able to identify any particular areas in these photographs where there were impact marks in the median?
- A No, not particularly good impact marks. But it shows kind of where a vehicle had hit, but they aren't really good impact marks.
- Q And do you recall whether or not there was an impact mark down in the bottom of the median that was significant?
 - A I do not.

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- Q And do you -- how long ago was that?
- It was in 1998.
- 13 I think we'll move to the next 14 photograph, which I believe is photo exhibit No. 8. 15 Do you have that?
 - A This is photograph No. 20, is the one that I have.
 - MR. LARSEN: Excuse me. Let's just go to the next one.

Thanks.

- Q (BY MR. LARSEN) Now we are looking at photo exhibit 15? Can you tell us what we're looking at in relation to the last?
- 24 A Would you like me to find it in here, 25 because I have -- my next one was No. 20.

- A Just mark where the tires are, and the mark going away from the vehicle is where the axle
- Q And other than the front windshield and that little side window on the right rear passenger door, was all the glass broken out of this vehicle?
- A I believe all of the glass was broken out but the windshield and that little piece.
- O And is there a reason why on the right side of this vehicle it doesn't appear to be scratched or damaged as much as maybe the left side?
- There is. And, again, that comes back to the law of physics. When a vehicle rolls, it's going to roll past that area. Because it's rolling that direction, it rolls past that area up and the force of the impact comes down on the other side of the vehicle, because that's just the way it has to happen.
- Q And can you identify with the marker where on this photograph the accident would have started in relationship to where we are looking at where it ended?
- A Almost back there where you can see the vehicle start around the little corner.
 - That's quite a distance that it rolled?

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- Q If you can just look at the one on the overhead, maybe that will be easier to move along.
- A Again, that's just moving down the scene again a little bit further. There's the delineator post we was looking at. There's the marks coming off of the highway and the debris scattered throughout
- Q And then moving on to the next photograph, which I believe is No. 1, can you tell us what we are looking at in this photograph?
- A I can. That is the final rest of the vehicle. That's where it came to rest, and it's the -- that's where I found it when I arrived at the
- 15 Q And did you put this -- the orange spray 16 paint on the road?
 - A I did.
 - And what does that indicate?
 - A It is -- it indicates where the tires ended up. But the reason you put it there is if in
- 21 case the vehicle gets moved before you get around to 22 diagramming or photographing or something like that, 23 you've got a true recollection of where it was.
 - Q And do you use certain symbols on the tire marks to identify the orientation of the tire?

- It's quite a distance, yes, sir.
- Q And on the right-side rear tire, does it appear that there's damage to the wheel of the rim?
- 4 The right-side rear tire is flat, yes, 5

sir.

- 0 And the wheel of the rim?
- It is damaged also in that area. Α
- Moving on to the next photograph, which is photo 13, what is the purpose of taking that photograph?
- When you photograph a vehicle in an accident scene, I always try to get all four sides of the vehicle so you get a perfect view of what the vehicle actually looked like.

That shows mainly right there that the windshield was still intact.

- Q And as you said before, is the left side more damaged than the right?
 - A Yes, it is.
- O And that's consistent with the law of physics that you explained?
 - A It is.
- 23 Q And did you ever try to investigate what 24 had broken that -- well, why the right front wheel 25 was turned in like that?

12 (Pages 42 to 45)

Page 46 Page 48 1 I did not. 1 Q And how did you make that conclusion? 2 Q Okay. Did that appear to be significant 2 The seat belt appeared to be working 3 3 at all in investigating this accident? properly, and he had been thrown out of the vehicle. 4 4 A It did not at the time, no, sir. Q And do you know if the occupant on the 5 And why not? 5 passenger side was wearing a seat belt? Q Because back on the road, before you 6 6 A To my recollection, she was still 7 7 seat-belted in the vehicle when the emergency could see where it was -- where it come off the 8 highway, all four tire marks, you could see -- at 8 personnel arrived. 9 9 least all three you could see really well. Going Q Okay. And is whether or not the 10 10 back to recollection, I think that I could possibly occupants are belted or not something that's 11 see a little bit of the fourth one also, but it 11 indicated in your investigation report? 12 12 didn't show up in the photographs. So there was A It is. 13 13 nothing showing that there was anything broken on the O And what did your investigation report 14 vehicle before it left the highway. 14 indicate regarding the driver seat belt? 15 Q I show you an enlargement of one of 15 A In my report, it shows that was not 16 these photographs, which is marked as Plaintiffs' 16 wearing a seat belt. 17 17 Exhibit 23-17, and ask if you can take a look at that Q And where does that -- where is that 18 photograph and if you can identify a fourth mark in 18 indicated on the report? 19 A It is about in the middle of the page. that photograph. 19 20 A It appears to me that it's right there. 20 It shows the driver is -- driver's license number, 21 I haven't seen this blown-up photograph before. 21 his date of birth. And then again it has codes --22 22 You mean that quality of a photograph? little box codes that you get off of this. It 23 23 That quality of a photograph. says --24 THE COURT: Which exhibit is that 24 That's the same photograph we saw 25 before, but it's just a little bit clearer? 25 referring to? Page 47 Page 49 1 A It is. 1 THE WITNESS: 22. 2 Q Okay. And is the location of that tire 2 THE COURT: 22? 3 3 mark consistent with coming from this accident? THE WITNESS: The little box says 4 4 "Safety equipment." And if you go back to the key, A That's correct. 5 5 Q And moving on to Exhibit No. 14, did you safety equipment No. 3 says there was none worn. 6 6 inspect the driver's area of the vehicle? It's right there. 7 7 MR. LARSEN: Can you blow that up? A Sorry. 8 8 THE WITNESS: Right there. I did. Q (BY MR. LARSEN) Okay. And it says "Safe 9 9 And why did you take this photograph? 10 Basically, for the seat belt and the 10 equip"? Is that what it says for that box? 11 seat being intact, if I remember correctly. 11 A I think that's what it says. 12 12 And is that your writing that says "no" Q Did there appear to be any damage to the 13 13 center console? or is that somebody else's? A It is not my writing, no, sir. 14 Α There did not, no, sir. 14 15 Did there appear to be anything between 15 And you just typed in the number "3"? 0 16 I did or the secretary did. 16 the center console and the seat belt latch? A 17 17 There did not, no, sir. And then down with the passenger, let's take a look and see. Is there a similar box for 18 And did you draw any conclusions as to 18 19 whether or not the driver was restrained or 19 that? 20 20 unrestrained based on the photograph and your own There is. Α investigation? 21 21 And is that down --Q 22 22 A It's right --A I did. 23 23 And what was your conclusion? -- on the bottom page? 24 24 My conclusion is he was not wearing his -- there. Α 25 25 And what does the number "2" indicate? seat belt.

13 (Pages 46 to 49)

Page 50 Page 52 1 1 A The number "2," according to the key, Q And so what does that mean when you say 2 2 means yes. it's a prime contributor? 3 3 Q Meaning yes, that restrained? A That's what was the most likely cause of 4 4 Α That was restrained. the accident. 5 5 Q Okay. On this photograph or -- excuse Q And why did you choose "asleep"? 6 6 me -- on your report, are there certain boxes on the Because that's what my investigation and 7 7 left-hand side of the report that indicate conditions what I went through showed me, that it was either 8 8 at the scene of the accident? inattentive driving or asleep. 9 9 A I believe that's on the left-hand side, Q And were there any other contributors 10 these key boxes here. 10 that you listed on your accident report? 11 11 A Secondary contributor would be under Q And can you use that code key and kind 12 12 of walk us through what those -- what those No. 21 right there. I put down "01." 13 13 indicators are that you recorded in your accident What does that mean? 14 report and what they mean? 14 Which is speed too fast. 15 A I could if I could see it. 15 And why did you indicate "speed too 16 16 Do you need more light? fast"? 17 This low light, I'm having a hard time 17 A Because I felt that, when you are seeing. 18 18 asleep, any type of speed is too fast. 19 19 That's better. Q And, Trooper Pace, did you get any 20 20 O That kind of fades it out for us to see information from the occupant, Ms. Montoya, as to it as well. 21 21 whether or not she was wearing her seat belt? 22 22 THE COURT: You should refer to the A I don't recall actually getting any 23 23 information, no, sir. exhibit, yes. 24 24 Q (BY MR. LARSEN) And on the left-hand Q And did you get any information from her 25 25 side, does that indicate what that -- the weather about whether or not she was awake or asleep during Page 51 Page 53 1 conditions, the road conditions were at the time? 1 the accident? 2 2 A It does. A As far as memory, no, sir, I don't. 3 3 And what does your report indicate? It's been too long? 4 A It would be right in there, and it says 4 It's been too long ago. 5 5 a "1" and No. 1 is clear. Do you know if you talked to her? Q 6 6 Q Okay. And that's consistent with the Α I don't know that I talked to her, no, 7 7 photographs that were taken on that day? sir. 8 8 That's correct. Q And do you seem to have a recollection 9 9 Q And then on the right side of this of going to the hospital in Evanston? 10 10 report, are there codes that indicate what the causes A I do. 11 11 of the accident are in your --And what did you do at the hospital? 12 A Yes, there is. 12 Again, going back strictly memory, I can 13 13 Q And can you identify which box indicates remember talking to the doctor and I think I remember 14 what the cause of the accident is? 14 talking to the passenger also. 15 15 A I think No. 19, right there, is the Q And do you know what information you got 16 16 prime contributor. from the doctor or passenger? 17 17 Q And that little box, then, on the Talking to the doctor, I remember him 18 right-hand side has "19" up in the little right-hand 18 telling me it was a fatality. 19 19 corner? Talking to the passenger, I -- again, 20 20 A Right there is the 19. it's just sheer memory, and it could be another 21 21 Q Okay. And -person, but I remember asking her if she remembers 22 A And the cause -- I have put down as the 22 anything about the --23 23 cause -- according to this key, I put down No. 12. MR. EMBLEM: No foundation, your Honor. 24 And what does that indicate? 24 THE COURT: Sustained. 25 Which is asleep. 25 MR. LARSEN: No. It's sustained.

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THE COURT: I sustain the objection. Your next question.

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- Q (BY MR. LARSEN) Trooper Pace, after completing your investigation and completing your report and taking the photographs, can you please give us what your general conclusion was as to what the cause of the accident was and why this vehicle rolled over?
- A My general conclusion was either the driver was asleep or it was inattentive driving. He was either picking something up or something like that. Ran off the road to the left, overcorrected back to the right, overcorrected back to the left.
- Q And did you find any evidence or information at the scene or from any of the witnesses that would indicate that there was some kind of a sudden event that initiated this accident sequence?
 - A No, I did not.
- O Okay. Did -- and in your investigation of the physical evidence, what appeared to initiate the accident sequence?
- A To initiate the sequence was when he ran off the road, when he straightened out the corner.
- 24 And can you give us an estimate as to 25 how many accidents in your career that you have

does everything in this accident investigation seem consistent with an asleep driver?

- A It is very consistent with somebody being asleep.
- Q And then after the accident, did you have a meeting with Fred Clayton?
 - A To my recollection, yes, I did, sir.
- Q And when you met with Mr. Clayton, was that -- can you tell me everything you remember about 10 your meeting with Mr. Clayton?
- A I remember being at the scene with Mr. Clayton and going through the accident with 13 Mr. Clayton.
- 14 Q And did you explain to Mr. Clayton what 15 your findings and conclusions were from your accident 16 investigation?
 - A I did.
- 18 Q And how did Mr. Clayton react to that?
- 19 A Mr. Clayton was very upset and for a 20 very good reason, yeah. He was a very, very nice 21 gentleman, and we just went through the accident 22 scene. And I have -- I couldn't read what he was 23 saying. He never said anything about that, but we 24 just talked about his boy and the accident scene. 25
 - Q Did Mr. Clayton appear to disagree with

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- investigated over the years that involved inattentive or sleeping drivers, at least in a percentage?
- A Percentage is probably -- again, on the interstate highways, it's probably around the 50 percent mark out in the big rural areas and long driving. I've probably investigated 30 to 40 a year, I would presume.
- Q Along this same stretch of highway between Echo Junction and Evanston?
- A They all wouldn't be in that area, no. Just all of the interstates in the areas that I covered.
- And in these inattentive or asleep driver accidents, rollover accidents, that you have investigated, do they often occur during the day?
 - They do.
- Q And in your experience, why would that occur during the day rather than at night as well?
- They do occur at night also, but they also occur during the day. It's just dozy and warm and nice and radio going, and you just kind of drift asleep. You just nod off to sleep.
- 23 Q And comparing this accident to your 24 experience of other accidents that you have investigated with sleeping or inattentive drivers.

- your conclusions as to what the cause of the accident 2 was?
- 3 A I don't remember any disagreeance, no, 4 sir. 5
 - Q Did he disagree with your conclusion that his son fell asleep?
 - A I -- again, I don't remember any disagreeance.
- Q And did -- do you recall Mr. Clayton 10 saying anything about how his son couldn't have 11 caused the accident?
- 12 A I don't remember that, no, sir.
- 13 Or that his son always wore his seat 14 belt?
 - A I don't remember that either.
- 16 Q Did Mr. Clayton say anything to you that 17 he had any suspicions or concerns that maybe the 18 vehicle was defective and caused the accident?
- 19 A I don't recall any conversation like 20 that either.
- 21 Q Okay. And just one more area that I 22 wanted to cover, about how fast was he going when he 23 drifted off the road to the left-hand side?
- 24 A Our investigation showed him about the 25 speed limit, 75 miles per hour.

15 (Pages 54 to 57)

Page 62 Page 64 1 1 Q What apartment number do you have for O It is -- would it be fair to say that it 2 2 Mr. Clayton? is merely a -- I'm thinking of Sergeant Joe Friday on 3 3 Dragnet -- just the facts? A What is that, sir? 4 4 Q What apartment number do you have for A Just the facts. 5 5 Mr. Clayton? Q Okay. And concerning just the facts, 6 A 76. 6 just the fact that Mr. Clayton was found outside of 7 7 the vehicle was the basis of your opinion that he was O And apartment number for Ms. Montoya? 8 8 not belted? It looks like No. 66. 9 9 We didn't go through the dimensions that Α Yes, sir. were taken by the other two officers on your direct 10 10 Q And just the fact that the seat belt 11 11 examination. appeared to operate when you checked it out later 12 12 indicated to you that it was probably not connected? A Correct. 13 Right? 13 A That's correct. Q 14 14 But do you know where the -- what the O Now, during your training, I think you went two or three times to two weeks of training and 15 permanent marker was selected by them to take their 15 16 measurements from? 16 in one of those programs you were shown how seat 17 A I do not know, no, sir. 17 belts operate? 18 18 Does the report give you any clue? Α That's correct. Q 19 19 And were you also shown how seat belts It should, yes, sir. 0 20 20 sometimes don't latch? Is that a requirement that they identify 21 21 the permanent marker from which you are going to take A We was. 22 22 your measurements? Q All right. And, in fact, sometimes they 23 23 A A requirement? don't latch: isn't that true? 24 24 That's correct. Yes. Q 25 25 All right. And but you didn't factor I don't know whether you would call it a Q Page 63 Page 65 that into your analysis in Mr. Clayton's case as 1 requirement, but you should find something pretty 2 stable that's going to be there for a long time. being a possibility? 3 A I didn't put it down as a possibility, 3 Q Is that a policy or protocol, based upon 4 your training and experience, that such a place is 4 no, sir. 5 5 correctly marked on the report so that it may be And concerning just the facts, you don't 6 6 have any facts, other than the fact that Mr. Clayton later reviewed for accuracy? 7 7 A I don't believe "policy" or "protocol" left the road, that he was asleep? 8 8 is the word that you want, but that -- that's how you That's correct. 9 draw a diagram. 9 Q And you don't have any fact that he was 10 10 inattentive either? Q Okay. Based upon the training, the 11 11 officers taking the measurements would select the That is also correct. 12 12 permanent marker? And I think you testified that the 13 13 Α That's correct. rumble strips are placed on the highway to alert a 14 14 driver when they've left the road? Q And that permanent marker would be 15 15 indicated then on the detail of the scene A Correct. 16 16 reconstruction? Q Now, is that because leaving the road is 17 a very common occurrence? A That's correct. 18 18 Q Is that a reconstruction? I'm sure it is, yes, sir. 19 A Yes, sir. 19 Something that auto manufacturers have Q 20 20 Q Is that the correct term, the officers to take into consideration? 21 21 MR. LARSEN: Objection. Foundation. have reconstructed the accident scene based upon the 22 22 evidence which they found? THE COURT: Sustained. 23 23 A Not reconstructed, no, sir. Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) But certainly the 24 24 Okay. So it is not a reconstruction? investigating officers take that into consideration. 25 25 It is not a reconstruction. Were you able to determine how many rumble strips had

Page 66 Page 68 1 been run over by Mr. Clayton? 1 Q Is it appropriate or inappropriate to 2 actually put that "A, B, C" or "D" over on the A I do not recall that, sir. 3 3 Q And how far apart are the rumble strips diagram part of this so a person could figure out 4 4 along that stretch of highway? what they meant? 5 5 A I have no idea, sir. A Is it appropriate? Was that the 6 6 Q Is that measurement indicated anywhere question? 7 7 in the police diagram that was drawn by the officers Q Right. 8 who took the physical measurements at the scene? 8 A It is. 9 9 A I have no idea. I haven't examined Q Should they have done that? 10 10 Yes, they should have. that. 11 11 Q Could you take a look at it there Q But they didn't? 12 briefly and see if that information is contained in 12 I can't see it, no, sir. Α 13 13 there? Well, coming down that column there O 14 A From what I'm looking at, I see it 14 that's got "A, B, C" and "D" in it, can you tell us 15 nowhere on the field diagram. 15 what is being reported there in "D"? Something 16 Q I see you are looking at the second page "leaves the" some "shoulder"? 16 17 of that. Let me just ask you if this is the same as 17 A It was probably photographed from a copy like this that has the holes put in it, by the looks 18 that, and if it is, I'll trade you for the original. 18 19 They're both copies, but --19 of it to me, but I can't -- I don't know whether it 20 Q Can we put this -- but this one is the 20 would be "tire" or "vehicle" or what it would be. 21 21 official record. Let me display this one, Q Do you have any other notes in your file 22 Exhibit 22, page 2. 22 of the investigation which you have conducted related 23 23 MR. EMBLEM: May I have the lights down, to this crash? 24 24 please? A I do not, no, sir. 25 25 So you have no notes of any interviews Thank you. Page 69 Page 67 1 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) I'm looking in the upper you had with anybody? 2 2 left corner. Do you see that part of the form there? A I don't. 3 3 A I do. Q And you arrived at the scene at what 4 Q Now, that indicates who diagramed the 4 time? 5 5 scene; is that correct? A I believe it was 1415, but you have 6 6 A That's correct. that -- I arrived at the scene at 1450, 5-0. 7 7 Q And you mentioned their names earlier, O 5-0, okay. 8 8 Jeff Peterson and Paul Brown? That's ten minutes before 3:00 in the 9 9 A That is correct. afternoon? 10 10 O The date and time that's indicated here A Correct. 11 on the form, was that the date and time that these 11 And what time did you get the call? O 12 12 officers took the measurements? A I think 1415, if I'm not mistaken. 13 A I have no idea, sir. I didn't do that 13 So Ms. Montoya was already gone when you Q 14 part of the accident investigation. 14 arrived? 15 15 Q And you have not tried to plot these Α To my recollection, yes. 16 dimensions here to see if they were correct; is that 16 The ambulance was already gone when you Q 17 correct? Am I right? 17 arrived? 18 18 A I did not, no, sir. Α To my recollection, yes. 19 Q At point D there, I see that – where it 19 And, of course, Mr. Clayton was already O 20 says "letter location" -- you understand how this 20 gone? 21 21 form is filled out? I'm pretty sure about that. A To my recollection, yes, sir. 22 22 MR. EMBLEM: Is it time for a break, 23 Q And it has "A, B, C, D" going down that 23 your Honor? 24 24 second column? THE COURT: Let's go for a few more 25 minutes. 25 A Right.

Page 70 Page 72 1 1 A I don't, no, sir. MR. EMBLEM: Okay. 2 2 Q And if it was important to you, you Almost all of them. 3 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) I'm going to show you a 3 would have; is that correct? few of the photos of the vehicle at rest at its final 4 4 A That's correct. 5 5 location, starting with --O Looking at the front view of 23-13, 6 THE COURT: Wendy, we need the lights there we see the right front wheel turned completely 7 7 to the left; correct? up, please. 8 8 A Correct. Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) -- Plaintiffs' 23-5. 9 9 Thank you very much. Can you see that okay? Q And we see the left front wheel just 10 A I can. 10 maybe barely turned to the left. Would that be a 11 Q Okay. You took this photograph? 11 fair statement? A I presume I took this photograph. 12 12 Α That's correct. 13 13 Q All right. You recall the firefighters There is a huge difference or 14 discrepancy between the angle of the two wheels? 14 still being there? 15 A I don't recall very much, no, sir. 15 A Correct. 16 16 Q Do you recall the fire hose still But you have no independent recollection Q 17 running on the road? 17 of that? 18 18 A I do not. Α I do not, no, sir. 19 Q Okay, 23-21. Did you inventory the 19 And if you had found it to be important, Q you would have made a note of it? contents of the vehicle? 20 21 A I don't remember, sir. 21 That's correct. Α 22 22 Q If you had, would it be on the police And there's no note in the police Q 23 23 report that we just looked at? report? 24 24 It would not, no, sir. There is not. 25 25 Did you inspect the vehicle to determine THE COURT: I think with that, Page 71 Page 73 Mr. Emblem, let's take our morning break. 1 whether there was an open container or some other 2 kind of drugs or contraband? Mr. Pace, you may step down. Please 3 A I'm sure I did, but I don't remember watch your step on the way down. 4 doing that. 4 Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, we'll 5 5 take our morning break and be in recess until ten Q And if you had found something, you certainly would have made a record of that? minutes to 11 o'clock, which is, of course, 10:50. 6 7 7 A That's correct. During this break, you are not to form or express any 8 Q No medication? Nothing which might have opinions among yourselves or with others. 9 9 We'll be -- you are excused, and we will been a contributor? 10 A There is no record of anything like 10 be in recess until 10:50. 11 11 THE BAILIFF: All rise. that. 12 12 Q 23-23. Did you make any inquiry (Jury excused and recess taken.) yourself as to when -- did you try to determine when 13 13 THE BAILIFF: All rise. 14 14 the tires blew out? (Jury entered.) 15 15 THE COURT: We are back in the matter of A I'm sure we probably did, but I don't 16 remember. 16 Clayton versus The Ford Motor Company, and it appears 17 And if it had been important to your 17 to me everyone is present who needs to be present. 18 18 investigation, you would have made a note of it. The jury is in the box. 19 Would that be fair enough? 19 Mr. Pace is testifying. Mr. Emblem is 20 20 doing the cross-examination. That's correct. Α 21 21 Q 23-1, the photograph here shows the Mr. Pace. 22 22 right front tire turned completely to the left? (BY MR. EMBLEM) Mr. Pace, I started to 23 call you "officer" earlier, and you said, "No, I'm That's correct. 24 Q And you don't recall making any 24 retired." particular note regarding that? 25 Retired. Α

Page 74 Page 76 1 Q Do you prefer to be called Mr. Pace now 1 like --2 that you are retired? 2 A I'm sure I would have cut across 3 3 A I do. somewhere. 4 4 Now, when you took the photographs here, O So a lot of the marks we see here on the 5 can you tell me where you had parked your car related 5 scene, you know, may not be related to this accident? 6 6 to these photos, Exhibits 23-15, 13, 23-5, 23-1? That's correct. 7 7 A I cannot recall that, but it would be --Would that be a fair statement? 8 8 looking at that, it would be somewhere around the In particular, I'd like to draw your 9 9 fire truck area. attention to Exhibit 23-17, and if you recall that 10 10 Q Maybe behind -counsel was asking you about this mark and related to 11 11 the fact you had testified that there was three tire A Again, to protect the scene for the 12 12 lights so that people could see coming into the marks that you identified at the point the vehicle 13 13 scene. left the road for the last time; correct? 14 14 Q I see. Let me show you an overhead, an A Correct. 15 aerial photograph, which has been marked as 15 Q And he asked you about this phantom mark 16 Exhibit 24. Can you see that okay from there? 16 here, as to whether that could or could not be 17 A Better from there than up there. 17 related to this incident? 18 Q Is it -- does it look like the piece of 18 A Correct. 19 19 highway in question? Did you arrive at any opinion concerning A It does. I don't see any real marks 20 20 that? 21 21 that stand out, but it -- it does. A I did not. 22 Q If I had told you the Amoco tanks were 22 Q And you didn't identify it as being 23 down here somewhere, would that be --23 related to the -- to this incident? 24 24 A That is the main thing I was trying to Α I do not, no, sir. 25 find. 25 And, indeed, the officers that took the Q Page 75 Page 77 1 Q Kind of an orientation? measurements likewise didn't take any measurements of 2 2 Let me ask you just a couple of things that mark? 3 3 here about this. I think we've identified earlier A That I don't know. I did not go over 4 that these are the westbound lanes with another 4 their field sketch. 5 witness and these are the eastbound lanes, and that 5 Q But counsel asked you in particular 6 6 this thing here is that green sign that we've been about the gravel that got thrown back up on the road 7 7 talking about. That's from earlier testimony. here. 8 Does that help you orient to the aerial 8 A Correct. 9 9 photograph? Did you have any idea that this was a 10 10 four-wheel vehicle, meaning an off-road kind of a A It does. 11 11 Q Let me ask you about -- all of these vehicle? 12 marks in the median here where the -- apparently 12 A I'm sure we did, yes, sir. 13 13 vehicles have driven through there, is that common It was a Ford Explorer; correct? 14 14 out on the interstate? Correct. Α 15 15 A Common, but illegal. Q Did you know anything about the control 16 Q Isn't that where the police and the 16 track system and how that four-wheel drive apparatus 17 17 safety vehicles make a turn around when they need to worked? 18 go the other way? 18 A I did not look at that, no, sir. 19 19 Q So you didn't make any determination as A Correct. 20 Q And when -- you were coming from the 20 to whether the four-wheel drive had kicked in and 21 21 west, coming east, responding to this call; is that somehow thrown him off of the highway? 22 22 correct? I did not. 23 23 We'll look now at 23-24, which is -- can A I would presume, yes, sir. Q 24 24 Q Did you go on up to the Port of Entry to you see it okay? 25 25 turn around, or maybe you just cut across here A I can.

Page 86 Page 88 1 1 re-entered the road? THE BAILIFF: We're okay. It's just --2 2 A There is a distance, yes, sir. we're okay. It's just a test. You may proceed. 3 3 MR. EMBLEM: A test. Okay. In that earlier photo, we 4 identified the two tire marks as crossing the same 4 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Concerning all of the --5 5 rumble strip. Do you remember that? your training, procedure and protocol, I suppose, of Uh-huh, I do. 6 6 working with the highway department or Highway 7 7 Q I'm going to show you 23-26. Is this a Patrol, would it be your typical accident scene 8 8 investigation to inventory the debris? tire mark? 9 9 Looks like a tire mark to me. A Not protocol, not -- a lot of times it 10 Is that related to this crash? 10 was picked up by the wrecker divers themselves, 0 11 generally speaking. 11 I have no idea. Α 12 Q Okay. Is there any concern on the part 12 Q I'm going to show you now Plaintiffs' of the highway department -- Highway Patrol to 13 Exhibit 23-7. Counsel asked you about this photo 13 14 protect the personal possessions of the person that's 14 earlier --15 been in the crash? 15 A Correct. 16 Q -- and about this marker being bent 16 A There is, and we will go back through 17 17 and make sure that it's all been picked up. over. 18 Q 23-6, is this your car back there with 18 Other than the fact that it is bent, did 19 the lights on? 19 you identify any other evidence that said that the --20 20 this Explorer hit it? A It looks like it. 21 21 Q Okay. That's the appearance of a Utah A I do not recall, no, sir. 22 Highway Patrol vehicle in those days? 22 And this photo also shows a skid mark in 23 23 the westbound lanes. Do you see that? A That's correct. 24 A It doesn't look like a skid mark to me, 24 Q I'll give you that re -- do you have the 25 25 accident report still in front of you? Do you have but --Page 87 Page 89 1 the measurement page? 1 Q Let me show you a different photo, 2 2 A I do not. I have a measurement page. 23-15. 3 A Yeah. That looks -- that one certainly 3 Q Did they -- the other officers that did the measurements, did they measure the length of this 4 4 looks like a skid mark, yes, sir. 5 5 Q All right. And that's not related to mark in the dirt? 6 this crash? 6 Α I would presume they did, but I don't 7 A It doesn't look like it to me. 7 know. 8 8 O Concerning all the debris which is out Q Is it reported in the report? 9 9 in this median, did you inventory the debris? I'll give you Exhibit 22, if that helps. 10 10 A Again, I can't recall, sir. The question is: Did they measure that 11 11 mark? (Alarm sounded.) THE COURT: I believe that to be an 12 12 Q Yes. 13 13 alarm. We'll need to follow a direction on -- what Again, it looks to me like they probably 14 is our direction? 14 did, but I'm not sure. 15 15 THE BAILIFF: Let me find out what's Q You can't tell from the report the 16 going on real quick, Judge. 16 length of that? 17 17 THE COURT: We'll give him about a (Shaking head.) 18 moment, but then we'll need to exit and leave the 18 Q When we started out, counsel asked you 19 building. 19 about the many things that you undertake in 20 20 investigating such an accident scene, and you (Alarm discontinued.) 21 21 described your training involving the use of MR. EMBLEM: Should I continue? 22 22 formulas, algebraic equations. Did you say drag THE COURT: Well, let's give it a moment 23 23 here. I think the alarm having stopped, maybe we factors or friction factors, something like that? 24 24 can -- unless we get a direction otherwise, we'll I might have done, yes. just proceed forward here, Mr. Emblem. 25 What was the procedure that you used to

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Page 90 Page 92 calculate Mr. Clayton's initial speed as reported at kind of in the middle as opposed to one end, and when 2 2 75 miles an hour? it's broken, neither end can reach the ground. 3 3 A I do not remember, sir. Would that affect your opinion on 4 4 And what was your procedure in those whether or not you could tell from the marks left on 5 5 days, eight years ago? the scene whether there was a broken part? 6 6 A I am sure, between the three of us, we A It wouldn't affect my opinion, but it --7 got together and determined the speed. 7 Q Well, you said -- I think you said 8 8 Q I see. Did you calculate how much speed something about having gouged the road? 9 9 was lost when he came down that slope? A Correct. 10 10 A I did not. Q So would that affect your opinion if the 11 Q Counsel asked you about biomechanics in 11 tie rods in this case, the way they were broken, 12 determining the cause of injury. You didn't attempt 12 could not reach the road? 13 to determine the cause of injury in this case, did 13 A Yes, it could, I guess. 14 14 you? When the wheel slides off the -- you 15 A I did not. 15 said that this right front tire was probably not 16 Q And concerning the control track system, 16 turning because it was sliding sideways? 17 17 A That's correct. you didn't know about that, so you didn't know 18 18 whether to factor that into -- I'm looking at 23-26 Q And that just hitting the gravel would 19 here of plaintiffs -- to factor that into how that 19 cause that gravel to be thrown up on the highway? 20 20 might have been that Mr. Clayton regained the A It could do, yes. 21 highway? 21 Q Where is the left front tire marks? 22 A I do not remember doing that, no, sir. 22 Where is the gravel from the left front tire? 23 23 O You did say, though, that when A Down past this. Mr. Clayton had reached a certain point in the middle 24 24 Oh, it's out here somewhere? Q 25 of the road, counsel asked you, well, where was it 25 Α More. Page 91 Page 93 1 1 Okay. Now, you didn't get a picture of where it was impossible to recover, and you qualified 2 2 that answer with the term like, "Well, in this type that? 3 3 of vehicle." Do you recall that? You have your pictures in front of you, 4 4 A I don't remember "this type of vehicle," if you want to check. 5 5 no, sir. A I have no idea. 6 6 Is this type of vehicle important to Photograph No. 8 shows a little bit on O 7 7 your determination, based upon your education and where it come off the highway and shows the gravel. 8 8 experience, and where it was where -- if everything Do you want these back in order or do 9 was working perfectly, where it became absolutely 9 you care? 10 10 impossible to recover from this crash? O I don't care. 11 11 The type of vehicle considered? Defendants 684-8. 12 12 Q Yes. MR. EMBLEM: Can we have the lights down 13 13 a little bit, please? A No. sir. 14 14 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Could you use your laser Q So it would make no difference to you if 15 it was a sports car or an SUV? 15 and point out to the jury where you see the gravel 16 16 A It would not. from the left front tire? 17 17 A It looks to me that that is probably Q The fatal accident report that is 18 18 required by law, where is that sent? where it is. 19 19 A I do not remember. It was all sent in MR. EMBLEM: Okay. Could we have the 20 20 by my secretary. lights back up, please? 21 21 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Counsel asked you about Q Counsel asked you about a broken tie 22 rod. Do you recall that? 22 the lack of scratches on the right side of the 23 A I do. 23 vehicle, and you said the reason for that is laws of 24 24 Q Now, in this case, we've learned that physics? 25 the tie rod broken in the Clayton Explorer was broken A Some, yes, sir.

Page 94 1 What laws of physics? STATE OF UTAH.) 2 Beats me. Just in my training, that's) SS: Α COUNTY OF SALT LAKE) 3 2 what they told us. 4 3 THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing trial Q Okay. Did you get trained by Ron 4 proceedings were taken before me, CATHERINE L. 5 Probert, by any chance? 5 KENNEDY, a Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary 6 A I did not. 6 Public in and for the State of Utah, residing at Salt 7 Q That accident report is missing some 7 Lake County, Utah. 8 kind of critical information, and you don't have your 8 That said trial proceedings were reported by me 9 notes of any investigation that you did and you don't 9 in Stenotype and thereafter caused by me to be 10 have any independent recollection. All we can refer 10 transcribed into typewriting, and that a full, true 11 to is the report and the photographs to assist you 11 and correct transcription of said testimony so taken 12 with your testimony. Am I correct? 12 and transcribed is set forth in the foregoing pages. 13 You are correct. 13 I further certify that I am not of kin or 14 MR. EMBLEM: Okay. Your Honor, 14 otherwise associated with any of the parties to said 15 plaintiffs moved to strike the entire testimony of 15 cause of action, and that I am not interested in the 16 Officer Pace, particularly related to any conclusions 16 event thereof. 17 or opinions which border on expert opinions. 17 WITNESS MY HAND and official seal at Salt Lake THE COURT: The motion is overruled. 18 18 County, Utah, this 2nd day of February, 2007. 19 MR. EMBLEM: Nothing further. 19 20 MR. LARSEN: Just one quick area, 20 Catherine L. Kennedy, RPR, CSR 21 Trooper Pace. 21 22 REDIRECT EXAMINATION 22 23 BY MR. LARSEN: 23 24 Q Did you -- these photographs were taken. 24 25 Were these taken because it was understood or 25 Page 95 believed that the tire marks in these photographs 1 2 related to this accident? 3 A That's correct. 4 Q Including, I think it was, 26-6? That 5 one -- let me see where that one went. 6 Rather than waste any more time, all the 7 photographs that we went through on the overhead and 8 as we walked through the accident scene, all those 9 photographs related to evidence that you believe 10 related to this accident? 11 That's correct. 12 MR. LARSEN: Okay. Nothing further. 13 Thanks. 14 THE COURT: Any further cross? 15 MR. EMBLEM: Nothing further, your 16 Honor. 17 THE COURT: Mr. Pace, you may step down. 18 Please watch your step on the way down. 19 THE WITNESS: Am I excused? 20 THE COURT: Is there any objection that 21 Mr. Pace be excused? 22 MR. EMBLEM: No objection. 23 THE COURT: Mr. Pace, you are free to 24 leave. 25 (Witness concluded at 11:26 a.m.)

25 (Pages 94 to 96)



THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,
) Case No. 000909522

Plaintiffs,
)

VS.
) JUDGE:
) JOSEPH C. FRATTO, JR.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION,
et al.,
)

Defendants.
)

TRIAL TESTIMONY OF JACK BINGHAM

TAKEN AT: SCOTT MATHESON COURTHOUSE

450 South State

Salt Lake City, Utah

DATE: Monday, January 29, 2007

REPORTED BY: Catherine L. Kennedy, RPR, CSR

Page 6 Page 8 1 please, into the well, right in front of me, please. A Most of them, just around the area here 2 Raise your right hand and the clerk will swear you in Salt Lake. 3 3 And the -- you bought the Clayton 4 THE WITNESS: Right here? 4 vehicle; is that correct? 5 5 THE COURT: That's good. A Correct. 6 6 (The witness was sworn.) Q The first exhibits that are right there 7 7 THE COURT: Then if you'll have a seat, in front of you on the left have been marked as 29-A 8 please, in this chair and position yourself, if you 8 and 29-B. Do you see those right in front of you? 9 9 would, right up to the microphone. A Okay. That's my right. 10 10 THE WITNESS: Let me get rid of this Well, I meant on the left end of the 11 11 stack. coat. 12 12 Okay. Right here? 13 JACK BINGHAM, 13 Right here. Q 14 14 called as a witness on behalf of the plaintiffs, Okay. Α 15 15 and having been duly sworn, testified as follows: 0 Do you recognize 29-A and 29-B? 16 **DIRECT EXAMINATION** 16 Α 17 17 BY MR. EMBLEM: Q And what is that we're looking at? 18 18 Q Good morning, Mr. Bingham. That's a '97 Explorer that I bought at Α 19 Α Good morning. 19 Copart. 20 20 Q Would you please say your name and spell Q Is that the Clayton Explorer? 21 it for the record? 21 Yes. 22 22 A My name is Jack Paul Bingham, J-A-C-K O Where were those photographs taken? 23 23 P-A-U-L B-I-N-G-H-A-M. They was taken out at Copart in North Α 24 Q Mr. Bingham, what do you do for a 24 Salt Lake. 25 25 living? MR. EMBLEM: We'd move 29-A and 29-B, Page 7 Page 9 1 A I rebuild crashed pickup trucks and your Honor. 2 2 Explorers. MR. LARSEN: No objection. 3 3 Q Did you, during the course of your THE COURT: Received. 4 4 vocation, where you earn your living, did you happen (Exhibits 29-A and 29-B received.) 5 5 to come to be aware of the Clayton Explorer? Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) I'm going to trade with 6 Yes. 6 you for a moment and use the color photographs on the 7 7 And how did you come to be aware of the overhead. 8 8 MR. EMBLEM: Could we have the lights Clayton Explorer? 9 9 A I purchased it at a live auction at down just a little bit, please, Wendy? 10 Copart in North Salt Lake. 10 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Exhibit 29-A, now, is 11 11 Q What is Copart? this the -- was this photograph taken at any -- close 12 A It's a salvage pool that runs every 12 in time at all to when you purchased the vehicle at 13 week, and dealers and salvage dealers and buyers are 13 auction or do you know? 14 the only one that's invited. 14 A This was probably their -- probably 15 15 Q Are you an auto dealer? their place where they checked the vehicles in. 16 16 Is it their file photo from Copart? A Yes. Q 17 And you purchase wrecks; is that 17 Q Α Yes. 18 correct? 18 Q And that was the condition of the 19 19 vehicle on the day that you bought it? A Correct. 20 Q At auction? 20 Α Yes. 21 21 Q With the windshield as we see it here? Α Yes. 22 22 Is Copart's a regional auction? Yes. 23 23 They're a nationwide. Now I'll show you 29-B and ask if it 24 24 And the Copart here in Salt Lake, where changed any between the time that this photo was 25 do they get their wrecks from? taken and the time that you bought it.

after I owned it.

Q Is that parked where you parked it?

A Yes. Yeah. That's -- once we got done playing with it, we parked it right there for quite some time.

Q So you recognize Exhibit 30-1 through 30-5 as being true and correct photographs of the Clayton Explorer; is that correct?

A Yes.

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MR. EMBLEM: We'd move 30-1 through 30-5, your Honor.

MR. LARSEN: No objection.

23 THE COURT: Received.

(Exhibits 30-1 through 30-5 received.)

(BY MR. EMBLEM) I'll trade you again so

vehicle during those years that you were storing it for him?

A We covered it up with tarps and plastic. And then as time went on, we've give it some inside storage.

Q At some point in time, did the plan change on how you would store the vehicle?

A Yes.

Q And what was that change in plan?

20 They wanted inside storage, and Ford 21 chipped in and paid a little extra money for the 22 inside storage.

23 So then you continued to store it for 24 both the Clayton family and for Ford; is that 25 correct?

(Pages 10 to 13)

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Page 14 Page 16 1 A Correct. 1 The sway bar link bolt. 2 2 And from that point on, you stored it Was that missing when you bought the 3 3 indoors? car? 4 4 A Yes. Yes. Α 5 5 Q The -- this looks a little strange right Q Let me show you 30-2 and ask you what 6 6 that is that we're looking at there. What is that there. Can you explain that? 7 7 that we're looking at there? A That was broken when we -- when we got 8 A That's the back tailgate of the '97 8 it. And then just to make it to where we could move 9 Explorer that belongs to Fred Clayton. 9 it around, we kind of temporarily welded it up to --10 Q And the Warner Truck Land emblem was on 10 just so that it would steer and we could move it back 11 11 that vehicle when you got it? and forth without turning --12 12 A Yes. Q Did you -- I'm sorry. Continue. 13 13 The Explorer control track; is that So we could steer with the steering Q Α 14 correct? 14 wheel. 15 15 A Yes. So you welded the right tie rod 16 Q Was this the first control track vehicle 16 together, and then what did you do? 17 that you had purchased? 17 A We wanted to test-drive it a little bit, 18 A Yes. 18 so we drove it around the yard just a little bit. 19 19 And then we've got a little hill that we wanted to Q Let me show you 30-3. Is this the --20 what the inside looked like pretty much since the see how the four-wheel drive worked in and out. It's 21 21 time you bought it? kind of a automatic which wheel slips/grips type of 22 A Oh, we had taken a lot of fishing tackle 22 thing. We wanted to make sure all that stuff was 23 and stuff out of it that was kind of live bait just 23 sound and worked, because we weren't sure what we was 24 24 to kind of clean it out. We didn't detail it by any going to do with the vehicle yet. So that feature is 25 means. 25 not on a Ranger, so... Page 17 Page 15 1 1 Q Okay. I show you 30-4, and I will ask Q And did something happen while you were you to explain what we are looking at there. trying out the vehicle around the yard? 3 A Okay. That's the -- it looks like the 3 Yes. The other tie rod broke. 4 left-hand side of the front suspension. 4 When you -- let me go back to that 5 5 O Is this the driver side -picture. 6 6 A It's the driver side. When you welded the tie rod on the 7 7 Q -- underneath? passenger side, did you look to see if there was 8 Okay. And what is this thing here that 8 anything wrong with the tie rod on the driver side? 9 I'm pointing at with the laser? 9 A We didn't. 10 A That is the stabilizer bar that goes 10 Q But it wasn't broken? 11 11 from right to left. It wasn't broken. 12 12 Q Did it appear bent or do you recall? Q And this part right here? 13 13 A That's a stabilizer bolt or link, It looked -- appeared to be reasonably Α 14 whatever you want to call it. 14 straight, so... 15 Q That part right back there? 15 Q And then while you were driving around the yard, the left side broke? 16 That is the tie rod. 16 17 Q Let me show you 30-5 and ask you what it 17 A Yes. is that we're looking at there. 18 18 Q And what did you do about that? 19 A That's the passenger side suspension. 19 A We wasn't done playing with it yet, so we rolled it back over by the garage where the welder 20 Q Okay. And this part right here that I'm 20 21 pointing at with -21 machine is and tack welded it back together. 22 22 Q Is that the tack weld that we see right A That is the stabilizer. 23 23 This part right here? there? 0 24 24 A That's the tie rod. Α Yes. 25 And is there something missing here? 25 When you got the car, it had running



THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,
) Case No. 000909522
Plaintiffs,
) JUDGE:
) JOSEPH C. FRATTO, JR.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION,
et al.,
)
Defendants.
)

TRIAL TESTIMONY OF DAVID INGEBRETSEN VOLUME III

TAKEN AT: SCOTT MATHESON COURTHOUSE

450 South State

Salt Lake City, Utah

DATE: Thursday, January 18, 2007

REPORTED BY: Catherine L. Kennedy, RPR, CSR

Kelly L. Wilburn, RPR, CSR

R. 11527

Page 38 Page 40 1 arm here; correct? photograph has a sequential letter, 26-B --2 2 THE WITNESS: That's how I think it A Yes. 3 3 should be numbered, yes. So it's 26-A, B, and so O On one end? 4 A It is. That's correct. forth. I think there were eight. 5 Q And on the upper end, it's going to 5 MR. EMBLEM: Okay. Great. 6 6 connect to the antisway roll device? THE COURT: The exhibit is now numbered 7 7 A That's correct. 26-A through --8 Q As part of your photos, 26 -- I probably 8 MR. EMBLEM: H. 9 9 ought to have a 26 sticker. This will be -- this is THE COURT: -- through H. 10 10 going to be 26, holes. And they have been offered and no 11 Now, what are these photographs we are 11 objection? 12 12 looking at here, Mr. Ingebretsen? MR. O'NEILL: No objection, your Honor. 13 13 A These are photographs which I took at an THE COURT: 26-A through H, they are 14 received. 14 inspection that I attended with defense expert where 15 we were looking at the vehicle and I was looking at 15 (Exhibits 26-A through H received.) 16 16 the sway bar links. Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Mr. Ingebretsen, I would 17 17 THE COURT: And in terms of the ask you to come down and avail yourself of the Elmo 18 identification, this is 26? for just a moment and explain each of those 19 19 MR. EMBLEM: 26, which is photographs for the jury. Let me ask you two 20 20 Mr. Ingebretsen's and Mr. Probert's photos in gross, foundational questions, and then I'll have you do 21 21 and this section is the eight holes photograph, 22 22 H-O-L-E-S. One, the photographs depict holes, as 23 23 THE COURT: But the identification we've mentioned. Some of them are in the control 24 24 number is 26? arm; is that correct? 25 25 MR. EMBLEM: 26. A Yes. Page 39 Page 41 1 THE COURT: Thank you. 1 And some of those are in the antiroll 2 2 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Do you recognize your device: correct? 3 3 photograph? Yes. Α 4 4 A I do. O And some are from the driver side of the 5 5 Q Okay. Great. vehicle? 6 6 A I do. There were a lot of photographs, A That's correct. 7 7 but I do recognize these. Q And some are from the passenger side of 8 8 MR. EMBLEM: We'd move 26, your Honor, the vehicle? 9 9 26, eight holes. That's correct. Α 10 10 MR. O'NEILL: No objection, your Honor. Q Now, is there some significance between 11 Although, there are several pages. And if you're the holes on the driver side and the holes on the 11 12 going to talk about different pages, we'll probably 12 passenger side? 13 13 need a page reference in Exhibit 26, holes. A Yes. 14 MR. EMBLEM: You're thinking ahead here. 14 O And what is the significance? 15 What I would do is ask Mr. Probert to come down --15 A Well, there are two points, really. 16 16 The -- the amount of -- well, if you THE COURT: Let's resolve that, then. 17 17 will, the amount and the look of the corrosion and Is it eight pages that I count? 18 MR. EMBLEM: Yes. rubbing on the one side as opposed to the other is 19 THE COURT: Let's -- Mr. Emblem, let me 19 different in my eye. 20 have you do this. Let's put a letter on each one of 20 Secondly, and on the passenger side, 21 21 there is some damage to the holes on the up -- on the those beside 26. 22 22 MR. EMBLEM: Okay. lower control arm and on the sway bar. 23 23 Q Okay. Would you mind coming down and THE COURT: Show Mr. O'Neill so he has 24 24 the same numbers on his photographs. explaining to the jury what it is we're looking at? 25 MR. O'NEILL: Your Honor, every Because these are close-ups. Remember, you talked

Page 42 Page 44 about looking at thing microscopically? 1 I'm looking at the driver side as compared to the 1 2 2 passenger side. Yes. 3 3 And there maybe we are talking about And then this is -- the final picture is 4 4 looking at things in more of a global view? looking up at the bottom of the driver side control 5 5 That's correct. arm, looking up through the hole where the sway bar 6 6 link goes. THE WITNESS: May I step down? 7 7 THE COURT: You may step down. THE COURT: Which is H? 8 8 THE WITNESS: This is a photograph that THE WITNESS: And that's H. Thank you, 9 9 I took. This is the passenger side looking down onto your Honor. 10 10 the lower control arm, and what we see is here And that brings us back to 26-A. 11 11 there's a little dent on the hole. And, in my O (BY MR. EMBLEM) Mr. Ingebretsen, I'm opinion, that's caused because the spacer has broken 12 12 going to have to hand you back 26 -- Exhibit 26-A to 13 away and the sway bar link has been wedged and is 13 H and ask you to find the two corresponding views 14 14 where you wanted to demonstrate to the jury how one causing some damage right there. We see a little bit 15 15 of corrosion around the hole where the -- where those side was more worn than the other. Can you do that? 16 rubber grommets had compressed and had rubbed. 16 Yes. Α 17 17 Okay. On 26-B, this is looking from the bottom Q 18 18 up at the bottom of the antisway bar. And, again, we Α Yeah. I think I've got them paired up. 19 Q Okay. I'd ask you to come down and then 19 can see here a little bit of damage coming from that 20 20 hold them side by side and then indicate the stud in the hole. You can see there's just some 21 21 difference. The photos do much more justice than the faint wear patterns from the rubber grommet there. 22 22 This is the passenger side looking down overhead. 23 23 at the top of the antisway bar. This is the axle of Just stand and show the jury the photos? 24 24 the vehicle. And you can see there's no damage on Q Please. 25 this side of it and some rubbing. 25 Α Okay. Page 43 Page 45

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2 reference to 26-C, Mr. Ingebretsen? 3 THE WITNESS: Yes. Thank you. Thank 4 you, Mr. O'Neill. 26-C, as in Charlie. 5 26-D, as in Delta, this is on the ground 6 looking up at the bottom of the lower control arm, on 7 the passenger side still. We can see a little bit of 8 corrosion around the hole. 9 On 26-E, this is now on the driver side, 10 and I'm looking down at the top of the antisway bar. 11 Is there a way to change the contrast 12 and make this not quite so bright? I wanted them to 13 see better the corrosion around the top here. 14 26-F --15 MR. EMBLEM: I'm just going to help you

MR. O'NEILL: Again, that was a

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with that contrast for a second. THE WITNESS: I think that's as good as

it's going to get.

On 26-F, Frank, this is the bottom of the antisway bar on the driver side.

26-G, this is the top of the lower 22 control arm looking towards the ground, and 23 there's -- as I was looking at it and inspecting it in person, there seemed to be a lot more corrosion, a 24

25 lot more evidence of rubbing and contact around as 1 THE WITNESS: May I approach the jury, 2 your Honor? 3

THE COURT: You may step down, yes. THE WITNESS: May I address the jury as I'm explaining?

MR. EMBLEM: I'll ask you questions and you can answer.

THE COURT: You should proceed as a question and answer.

MR. O'NEILL: Your Honor, may I --THE COURT: And you may position yourself so -- as you like.

Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Mr. Ingebretsen, you selected at first two photos, and which two have you selected?

> 26-B and 26-F. Α

17 Okay. And what do we see in 26-B and 0 18 26-F?

26-B is a photo of the passenger side, top surface of the antisway bar. No. Let me make sure I'm saying that right. Yes, this is the top surface of the antisway bar. You see the damage where my finger is pointing?

23 24 And as you look around the hole,

25 there's -- the corrosion is minimal over here. There

(Pages 42 to 45)

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Page 49

1 is some -- there was a sway bar in there and there is 2 some rubbing from the grommet. 3

On the driver side, on the top, the -it's just a little more pronounced. The scale is a little bit unfortunate, because this is smaller than this one. But if you take the holes and put them the same size in your mind, as I inspected this visually, I saw less corrosion on the passenger side.

- Q Let me show you the next two photos that you have selected and ask you which one you selected.
- 11 A These are the top surfaces. Again, 12 the --
- 13 Which two photos? Q
- 14 A 26-A and 26-G.

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- Q Okay. And what are we looking at in 16 those two photos?
- 17 A The top surface of the lower control 18 arm. 26-A, in my right hand, is the passenger side. 19 26-G is the driver side.
 - Q Which side was missing the sway bar link when you inspected the vehicle?
- 22 A The passenger side, the one in my right 23 hand.
- 24 Q Okay. The next two photos that you 25 selected are which photos?

Q Which side is which?

A 26-D is the passenger side with the missing sway bar. 26-H is the driver side.

Q Okay. You may take your position up there again.

Is there anything about the damage or wear as exhibited in those photographs that gives you any indication of how long before the crash that right sway bar link or passenger side sway bar link may have come out?

A It's subtle. And looking at those photographs, some -- it isn't as distinct. In others it's more distinct.

14 What it tells me -- it can't tell me if 15 it was one day or one week or one month, but it's one 16 piece of the puzzle that leads me to conclude that 17 the sway bar link was missing before the accident. 18 If --

THE COURT: Mr. Emblem, I wonder if you could retrieve 26, please.

MR. EMBLEM: Yes.

22 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) You mentioned that, 23 because there is damage in the holes on the passenger 24 · side --

25 Α Yes.

Page 47

A 26-C, as in Charlie, and 26-E, as in echo.

> Which side of the vehicle is 26-C? Q

A 26-E is the driver side and 26-C is the passenger side.

I think I misidentified the first two. This is the sway bar, and this is looking down on the sway bar. This is the top surface of the sway bar.

MR. O'NEILL: And, your Honor, this --THE WITNESS: The right hand, 26-C, is the passenger side. My left hand, 26-E, is the driver side.

Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Did you want to correct something about the first two?

A I -- you know, I'm not sure. I don't think I misidentified them.

This is looking -- 26-F and 26-B is looking at the under surface of the sway bar. I think I said that right when I started. I just questioned myself when I saw this again, because this is the top surface on 26-C and 26-E is the top surface.

23 Q Okay. The final two that you paired up, 24 what are those photos?

Exhibit 26-D, as in Delta, and 26-H.

Q -- it's clear that the link came out due to it being broken out? Did I get that right?

A Well, the spacer broke and left that stud in there for a while.

O For a while?

A And what happens, then, is we now don't have a way to keep the sway bar from compressing along the length of the stud. And so, as we go into jounce and rebound, the end of the sway bar is going 10 to come back and hit and hit on that stud, and we 11 have some impact loading going on. And, eventually, 12 that can fatigue and break the stud. And as the stud 13 is being compressed in that hole, it can get wedged 14 and cause the damage that we're seeing.

MR. EMBLEM: Can you dim the lights again, please, Wendy? We're going to look at 77-A. Thank you.

Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Would you use your 18 19 pointer and indicate what you are talking about 20 there?

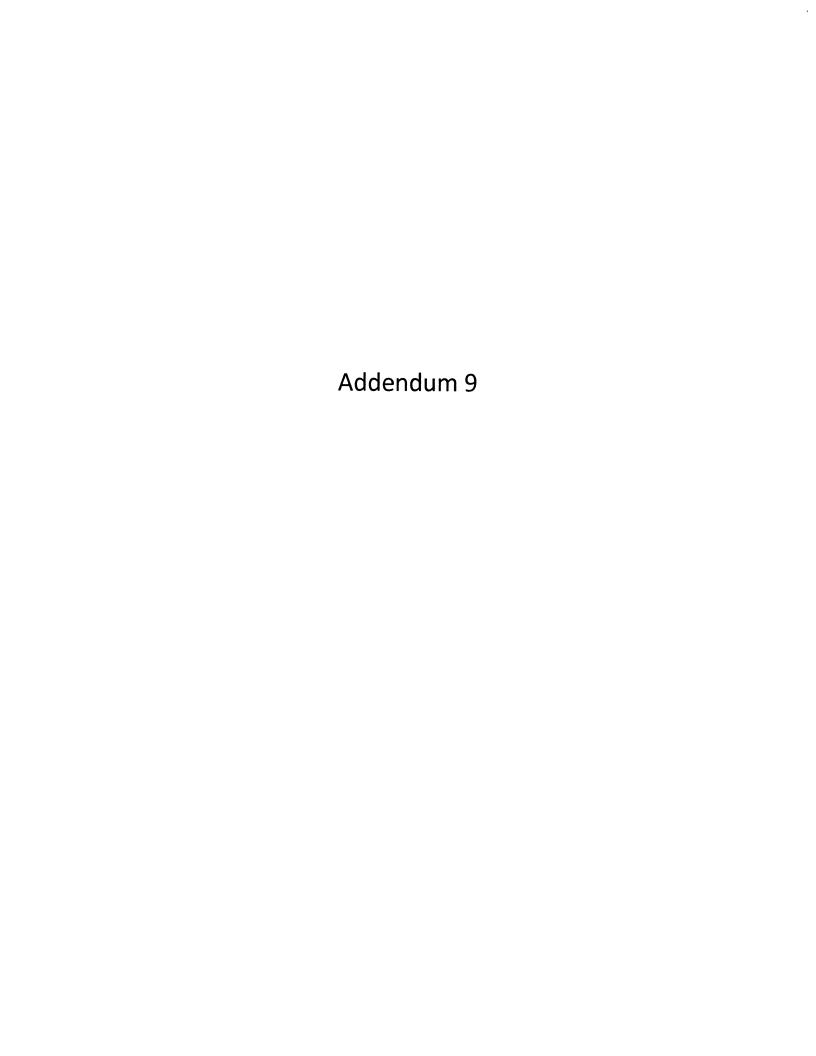
21 What came out first, according to your 22 evidence?

Α This -- the plastic spacer broke --

24 O

-- shattered, and came out first.

13 (Pages 46 to 49)



OOOOOORIGINAL!

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY
STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,) Case No. 000909522
Plaintiffs,))
VS.) JUDGE:) JOSEPH C. FRATTO, JR.
UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,)))
Defendants.)

TRIAL TESTIMONY OF DAVID INGEBRETSEN VOLUME IV

TAKEN AT: SCOTT MATHESON COURTHOUSE

450 South State

Salt Lake City, Utah

DATE: Friday, January 19, 2007

REPORTED BY: Catherine L. Kennedy, RPR, CSR

FILED DISTRICT COURT
Third Judicial District

UCI 24 2007 SALT LAKE COUNTY

Deputy Clerk

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,)
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Page 2	Page 2
1 APPEARANCES	1 Friday, January 19, 2007, at 9:12 a.m.
3 FOR THE PLAINTIFFS 4 THOR O EMBLEM, ESQ	3 PROCEEDINGS
TRACY EMBLEM, ESQ	4
5 LAW OFFICES OF THOR EMBLEM 205 West Fifth Avenue, Suite 105	5 THE COURT: Good morning.
6 Escondido, CA 92025 (760) 738-9301	6 THE PARTICIPANTS: Good morning.
7 MATTHEW H RATY, ESQ	7 THE COURT: We are gathered in the 8 matter of Clayton versus The Ford Motor Company and
8 LAW OF OFFICES OF MATTHEW H RATY	8 matter of Clayton versus The Ford Motor Company and 9 others. Everyone is appears who needs to be present
9677 South 700 Fast, Suite D 9 Sandy, UT 84070	10 is present, and the jury is in the box. My hope, of
(801) 495-2252 10	11 course, is that your evening was all that you could
11 FOR THE DEFENDANTS 12 DAN R LARSEN, ESQ	12 have possibly hoped it would be.
KIMBERLY NEVILLE, ESQ	13 And when last we met, Mr. Emblem was 14 examining Mr. Ingebretsen. Mr. Ingebretsen, if
13 SNELL & WILMER 15 West South Temple, Suite 1200	15 you'll come and have a seat in the chair, please.
14 Salt Lake City, UT 84101 (801) 257-1900	16 THE WITNESS: Thank you, your Honor.
Ì5 TIMOTHY O'NEILL, ESQ	17 CONTINUED DIRECT EXAMINATION
16 SNELL & WILMER	18 BY MR. EMBLEM: 19 Q Good morning.
1200 17th Street, Suite 1900 17 Denver, CO 80202	20 A It is a good morning.
(303) 634-2003 18	21 Q Friday morning.
19 * * * * 20	We were going through your report
21	23 yesterday afternoon kind of piece by piece, and we
22 23	 had talked about tie rods and sway bar links. And while we were in the tie rods, you recall we found
24 25	25 mile we note in the tio tous, you result we found
CATHERINE L KENNEDY, RPR, CSR Page 2	CATHERINE L. KENNEDY, RPR, CSR Page 4 DEPOMAXMERIT LITIGATION SERVICES - (801) 328-1188
DEPOMAXMERIT LITIGATION SERVICES - (801) 328-1188	
Page 20	Page 5
1 INDEX 2 EXAMINATION PAGE	the Clayton right side sway bar link. Do you have
3 Continued Direct by Mr. Emblem 4	 that in front of you? A Yes, I do.
4 Voir Dire by Mr. O'Neill 56	 A Yes, I do. Q What exhibit number is that?
5 Continued Direct by Mr. Emblem 58	5 A This is Exhibit No. 85-A2.
6 * * *	6 MR. EMBLEM: Now, I just can't recall
7	7 that I moved it. So if I haven't, I would move it.
8	8 THE COURT: 85-A2.
9 10	9 MR. O'NEILL: It's in, but no objection.
11	THE COURT: I think we have that
12	11 already. I believe that's already been received. 12 O (BY MR, EMBLEM) I'm going to place two
13 14	12 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) I'm going to place two 13 photographs in front of you that's been marked as
15	14 26-6 and 26-7.
16	15 THE COURT: Thank you, sir.
17 18	16 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Now, that — the two
19	17 photographs I've just shown you, are those what
	18 are those?
21	A These are photographs I took, I believe
22 23	20 it was May of 2004, when we did a thorough
24	21 investigation and examination of the sway bar links, 22 both sides. Well, the one was missing. But we did
25	both sides. Well, the one was missing. But we did a of where it would have been.
CATHEDINE I VENNENV DDD CCD Dawn 2	24 Q Okay. And the photographs are
CATHERINE L. KENNEDY, RPR, CSR Page 3 DEPOMAXMERIT LITIGATION SERVICES - (801) 328-1188	25 photographs of what exactly?
OWNERS DEFICITION SERVICES * (001) 320-1100	photographs of what exactly:

Page 10 built; is that correct? one. This is, "Deployment of Polyurethane Foam in Roof 1 2 A Yes. Crush System for Weight Reduction Analytical/Experimental 3 3 Verification." Q Is this a recommendation? 4 A It is. It's a study and it ends up with some 4 O Is this a document that verifies the recommendations and conclusions. recommendation of which we saw in Exhibit 293? 6 6 Q And what is the abstract of this particular A Yes, it is. 7 7 study or summary? And the key words here are "roof crush"; is that 8 A The summary is to understand the effect of 8 correct? 9 9 polyurethane structural foam on the strength and stiffness A Yes. 10 and energy absorption of the structural components. And does that relate in any way to the 11 11 discussion we've been having about the door frame Primarily, they're looking at the roof and door 12 structures, the A pillar, B pillar, and roof rail. 12 strength? 13 13 Q Did the engineers conclude that the foam filling Α Yes. 14 would delay buckling of the A and B pillars? 14 O To protect against foreshortening? 15 15 A I believe they do, yes. Yes, it does. 16 16 Is Phase II completed then of the study? Q Is this related to the demonstration that you Q showed us with the foam-filled tubes? 17 Α 18 18 A Yes, it is. 0 And what is the date of completion of that? 19 19 This document is dated May 20th, 1996. Q Do they make any further recommendations in this 20 particular paper? 20 Q And does the study support the thought process 21 21 related to the recommendation that we saw in 293? A I don't recall if it's this one or the other one 22 that talks about high-strength steel. 22 Α Yes, it does. 23 23 Q Are you saying that there's another paper And where can we see that? In the summary? Q 24 24 related to this one? Α 25 Yes. 25 Is there a determination about the increase in Α Page 11 1

2 it's recognizable. Exhibit 293. In the upper left -- I'm 3 going to turn it now so we can see it under the Ford logo. Do you see the AVT? 5 A Yes. 6 What does that mean, if you know? 7 I don't recall that acronym. 8 Does that say something about safety methods? 9 Oh, I thought you were asking me what AVT means. 10 No, "Safety Methods" is there. 11

Q Let me just display the front page of this so

Q "Crashworthiness and Energy Management of 12 Polyurethane Foam-Filled Structural Components"; is that 13 correct?

14

A That's correct.

15 That's the title of the paper?

16 Yes. Α

17 Q I'll return this to you and give you

Exhibit 294, which also has been admitted. On Exhibit 293

19 did you determine that the engineers were also

20 recommending high-strength steel to reinforce those A and

21 B pillars?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And Exhibit 294, what is this document we're

24 looking at?

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This is sort of a sister document to the other

strength just due to the foam filling? 2

Yes, there is.

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Q And what is that increase in strength due to foam filling?

The increase in strength was 26 percent.

Does the document also make a finding on the

7 increase in strength related to the high-strength steel? 8

A I believe it does. I'm not seeing that right off.

O Are there graphs or diagrams within the study to support the findings?

A Yes, there are.

13 Q Are there different strengths, I guess, or

14 densities in the type of foam that can be used in a

15 structure like this?

Yes, there are.

17 Q Higher-strength foam, would that result in an

increase in structural strength? 18

Yes, it would.

O Let me switch with you so I can put up the

21 exhibit so it will be recognized. Exhibit 224 -- I'm

22 sorry, 294. Mr. Ingebretsen?

23 A Yes.

24 Q The exhibit title is, "Safety Methods," is that

25 correct?

(Pages 10 to 13)

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1 one.

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- 0 Let's go right there. What does that say?
- 3 Α It says, "Strengthened door pillars. The A and 4 B door pillars are reinforced with a composite material 5 which acts like concrete and strengthens roof

6 construction."

- O That's a Ford statement, right?
- Α Yes.
- 9 Q And that's pointing to what?
- 10 A It's pointing to the B pillar and the A pillar.
- 11 And you can see the shadows of the same sort of - what we saw in the color rendition where they have strengthened 13 and added this composite material.
- 14 Q And was there another section that you wanted to 15 point to?
- 16 I think so. Right up there. I think it's that Α 17
- 18 Q Okay. What does that say there? Do you need 19 magnifying glass?
- 20 A No, I think I can read that. It says,
- 21 "Strengthen roof construction. Roof crush strength
- 22 significantly exceeds USA requirements." "Stringent" - I
- 23 believe that says -- "USA requirements."
- 24 Q These are features being – is it a fair
- 25 conclusion these are features being used by Ford for the

- reasonable way is that there was a false latch Something was caught in between the latch plate and the buckle and 3 it didn't latch properly. Physics says that we can also have inertial unlatches given the right circumstances. 5
 - It could also have been something -- there's a console adjacent to the buckle here as well, and an object that is caught between the console and this could also be pushed into it as Tony is moving to this right and to the forward.
- 10 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Something bouncing around 11 inside the vehicle can get between the buckle and the 12 console?
- 13 MR. O'NEILL: Objection, leading, Your Honor. 14 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 15 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Can you explain what you just 16 said a little bit better, please?
- 17 A Yeah. An object that's sitting on the console 18 or in the compartment could slip off and get wedged in there, and if it's small enough it could push on it. I
- 20 think it's more likely that something just prevented it
- from latching completely. And that's happened to people.
- 22 It's happened to me. 23
 - Q It's happened to you?
- 24 Α Yeah.
- 25 In this case, since the door came open, does the

Page 21

exact purpose before the Clayton vehicle was built? MR. O'NEILL: Objection to the form, Your Honor,

3 leading. 4

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THE COURT: Sustained.

- Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) We talked about occupant protection. We didn't spend a lot of time on the seat belt.
- 8 No. Α
- 9 You did have an opinion concerning Tony
- 10 Clayton's seat belt, and what is that opinion?
- 11 That opinion was that he was originally belted 12 and that the seat belt unlatched in that first rollover 13 sequence.
- 14 Q How is it possible for -- first let me ask you: 15 Is this the type of seat belt used, No. 312, in the
- 16 Clayton vehicle?
 - A Exhibit No. 312, yes, it is.
- 18 Q How is it possible that this seat belt system or 19 latch would fail in this case?
- 20 MR. O'NEILL: Let me object. It goes beyond the 21 scope of what you directed was admissible.
- 22 THE COURT: Overruled. You can answer the 23 question.
- 24 THE WITNESS: There are a couple ways seat belts can come unlatched. I think that in this case the most

- fact that the seat belt failed really make any difference 1 2 to Tony's injuries?
 - A Probably not. Probably not.
 - And what is the reason for that?
- 5 With that door open, the seat belts are not
- 6 meant to contain. They're a restraint. They're called a 7 safety restraint. My understanding as a biomechanical
- engineer and looking at accidents, seat belts are
- primarily designed to help in frontal collisions to keep 10 you back and away from the front of the car.

11 In a rollover like this, even with a seat belt 12 on, there's some significant side-to-side motion that can 13 occur. As it rolls over, that person can become partially 14 ejected. And partially ejected persons don't just come 15 out the door and land on the ground, they flip around and

- 16 hit every time the car goes over and can get caught
- between the roof rail and the vehicle, or the A pillar or
- 18 B pillar, most likely, and the vehicle and become crushed.
- 19 And so people die when they're partially ejected.
- 20 Q So your conclusions then concerning the door 21 opening, belted or unbelted Tony Clayton is more likely to 22 live or die?
- 23 A With the door open, belted or unbelted, I think 24 Mr. Clayton is going to die. It's that door opening that

(Pages 18 to 21)

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we need.

7 (Pages 22 to 25)

see if proper foundation is laid, you make a judgment

that procedure, and I see no other purpose. And I

apologize for the repeated interruption, but I can't

And this appears to be an end run around

on that, and then we proceed forward.

see any reason why he is going there.

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case?

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And the historical engineering

typically relied upon by engineers that are engaged

documents, are those of the type of documents

in the field of expertise that you are?

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if we start to go faster, we have to turn a little 2 bit more to keep the car going around in the same 3 arc.

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Oversteer is an unstable condition. It's like if I took a bowl and placed it down -upside-down on a table and placed a marble on it, I don't have to do much to make that marble roll off the bowl. That's unstable.

Understeer is if I take the bowl the other way and put the marble in it, I can push it up the side. But when I let it go, it comes back down to the bottom. Oversteer simply means that if I turn it a little bit, the car turns a lot more than I'm expecting and I can lose control very easily.

So we want understeer in a car, but not extreme. Otherwise, we'd be turning our wheels to the extremes trying to just do daily life. We want it to steer, but not steer us. We want to steer the

Q So even though we're going to use a term here in this discussion which some people would say is a desirable condition, in this case, since the tie rod is disconnected, is it not a desirable condition?

24 MR. O'NEILL: Object. Leading, your 25 Honor.

Honor.

THE COURT: Overruled. THE WITNESS: Yes, it did.

Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) We talked about the broken sway bar link and the effect of what that does, and, without reviewing all the testimony, is the condition that's set up by the broken and missing sway bar link, is that -- from an engineering standpoint, is that a foreseeable event? 10

Absolutely.

Did the fact of a defective and broken sway bar link contribute to the cause of this wreck? MR. O'NEILL: Object. Your Honor, lack of -- or object to the form. Assumes facts not in evidence.

> THE COURT: Overruled. THE WITNESS: Absolutely, it did.

Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Concerning the functioning of the steering components in that space, with the safety antisway device in that space, that geometry that you described --

A Yes.

Q -- is that metal-to-metal contact, from an engineering standpoint, foreseeable with the missing sway bar link?

Page 87

THE COURT: Sustained.

O (BY MR. EMBLEM) Describe the desirability of the condition of the understeer in the Clayton circumstance.

A What we want is regular steering. We want to be able to -- when we turn the wheel, we want the car to turn what we're accustomed to having it turn. Most cars when you turn a little bit, you turn a little.

And the desirability in the Clayton case would have it to be steering normally. What happened was he now has to steer much greater to get the same turning response of his vehicle. We've now lost one of our steering tires. We only have half as much force to turn the car, so we have to steer much greater. And that's unnatural, particularly in an emergency situation, to try to compensate for that.

Q Is that condition -- what's happened here in terms of being able to steer the vehicle because one tie rod is broken, is that -- from an engineering standpoint, is that foreseeable?

A Yes.

Q Did the fact of a defective and broken tie rod contribute to the cause of this crash?

MR. O'NEILL: Objection. Leading, your

Absolutely, it is. Absolutely.

Did the fact of that defect in design, the function of geometry, contribute to the cause of this wreck?

> Α Yes, it certainly did.

Q Did the fact of the weakened design of the A and the B pillar system frame for the door -is its bendability foreseeable from an engineering standpoint?

> A Yes. Of course, it is.

Q Is it foreseeable that if you strengthen those in the manner that you have suggested, that that would greatly enhance or enhance to some degree that you can describe the safety of that door system?

A Oh. absolutely, it would.

Q Did the weakness in the design of the door frame system contribute to the cause of the injuries to Tony Clayton?

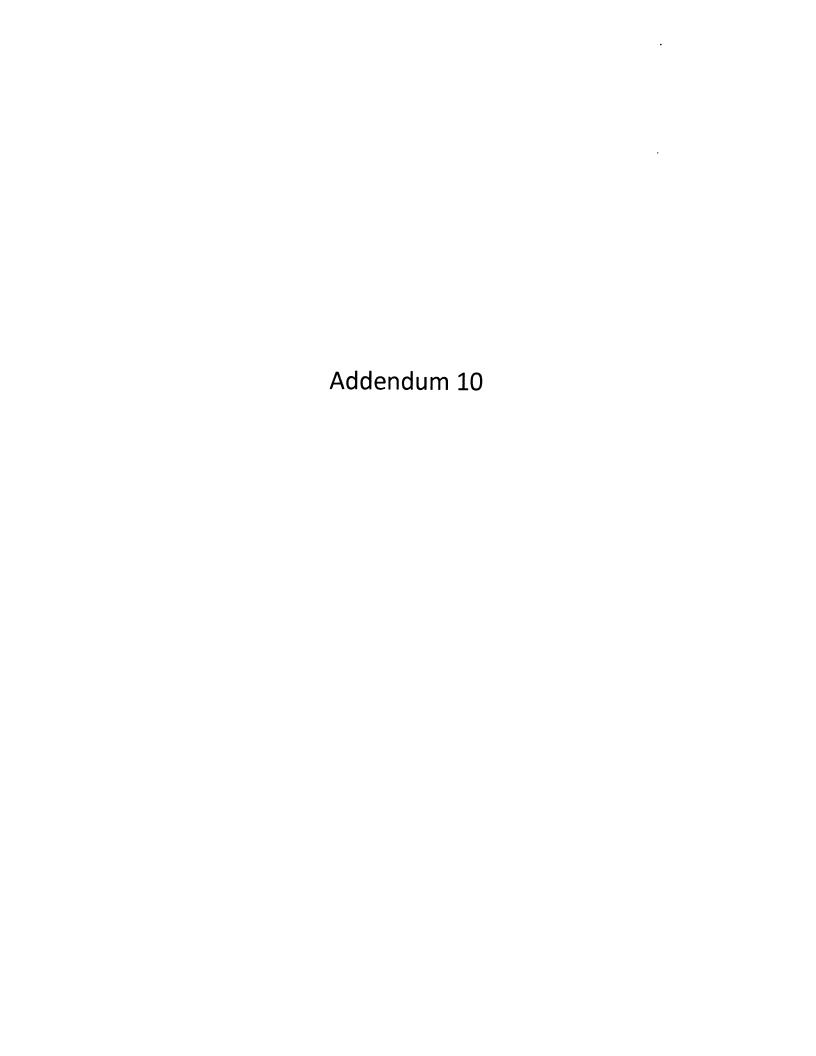
A Yes. By allowing the door to come open and him to be ejected, yes.

Q Did the factor of the tire size on this vehicle -- was it foreseeable, from an engineering standpoint, that a higher, taller tire is going to lift the center of gravity?

Oh, absolutely. Absolutely, it is.

23 (Pages 86 to 89)

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Page 90
          Q Is it foreseeable, from an engineering
     standpoint, that lifting the center of gravity is
 3
     going to lower the stability of the vehicle?
 4
          A Yes. That's right out of the math.
 5
          Q Is it foreseeable, from an engineering
 6
    standpoint, that the lifting of the center of gravity
 7
     will have the deletery effect in the dynamics of the
 8
     center of gravity?
 9
          A A what effect?
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          Q A negative effect.
11
          A Yes, it clearly would.
12
          Q Did the use of the larger tire than
13
    recommended in the sales brochure contribute in any
14
     degree to the instability of the Clayton vehicle?
15
          A Yes, it did, adversely.
16
             THE COURT: Mr. Emblem, we are at -- our
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     point in time I think has been reached.
18
             MR. EMBLEM: Oh, okay.
19
             THE COURT: And we'll have
20
     Mr. Ingebretsen step down. Please watch your step on
21
     the way down.
22
             THE WITNESS: Thank you, your Honor.
23
             (Instructions given to jury regarding
24
    viewing the vehicle, the jury was excused, and court
    adjourned for lunch at 11:36 a.m.)
    STATE OF UTAH
                 ) SS:
    COUNTY OF SALT LAKE )
 3
         THIS IS TO CERTIFY that the foregoing trial
 4
    testimony was taken before me, CATHERINE L. KENNEDY,
 5
    a Certified Shorthand Reporter and Notary Public in
    and for the State of Utah, residing at Salt Lake
 7
    County, Utah.
 8
       That said trial testimony was reported by me in
 9
    Stenotype and thereafter caused by me to be
10
    transcribed into typewriting, and that a full, true
11
    and correct transcription of said testimony so taken
12
    and transcribed is set forth in the foregoing pages.
13
       I further certify that I am not of kin or
14
    otherwise associated with any of the parties to said
15
    cause of action, and that I am not interested in the
16
    event thereof.
17
       WITNESS MY HAND and official seal at Salt Lake
18
    County, Utah, this 24th day of January, 2007.
19
20
                Catherine L. Kennedy, RPR, CSR
21
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25
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IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT SALT LAKE CITY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTO	ON, et al.,)		
	Plaintiffs,)	Civil No.	000909522
vs.))
UTAH AUTO	COLLECTION,	et al.,)		
	Defendants.) 		

TRIAL TESTIMONY OF:

FRED CLAYTON

January 9th & 10th, 2007

Wendy Alcock Registered Professional Reporter

FILED DISTRICT COURT
Third Judicial District

OCT 24 2007

SALT LAKE COUNTY

Deputy Clerk

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT SALT LAKE CITY, STATE OF UTAH

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Plaintiffs,

Vs.

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Page 13

- 1 A Yes. I had asked Tony, I'd said, "You're living 2 there, you know where the car dealerships are and so forth 3 and so on, and you know what people are driving, what it 4 looks like you might want to have, and so you narrow it 5 down to what you think you want to have." 6
 - And Tony suggested the Explorer then?
- 7 Yes, he told me he wanted to buy an Explorer. 8
 - Did you concur with him on that?
- 9 Α I did.
- 10 Q When you went to the -- to buy the vehicle, did 11 the -- was your mind made up or were you going to just 12 check it out and make a decision after you took a look at 13 it?
- 14 A Well, in my mind I wanted to see the car, hear 15 what the salesman had to tell me, look at any information they had. You know, I wanted to like finally confirm in 17 my mind what it was that he wanted to buy.
- 18 Q And did the salesman talk to you then about this 19 vehicle?
- 20 Α Yes.
- 21 Q What was the date that you were there at Warner
- 22 Truckland?

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- 23 A I don't really recall the date. It was sometime 24 in early January. I think it was the 2nd.
- 25 O If I said January 2nd, 1997, would that refresh

- MR. LARSEN: No objection.
 - THE COURT: Received.
- 3 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Now, Mr. Clayton --
 - A Yes?

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- 5 O I want to come back to this in just a minute. I 6 want to show you -- excuse me just a second.
- 7 MR. EMBLEM: May we approach, Your Honor?
- 8 THE COURT: You may.
- 9 (Sidebar conference.)
- Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) During the time, weeks, months 11 or years leading up to your decision to purchase the Ford Explorer, did you see any commercials, Ford commercials on 13 television?
 - A Yes, that was right after football season. They were on all the time during the football game.
- Q But not just specifically those months, but some 17 years leading up to it?
- 18 A Yeah. I watch television. You see them on 19 quite a bit, yeah.
- 20 Q Did you see Ford commercials which specifically 21 discussed or advertised Ford Explorers?
- 22 Yes. A
- 23 I have a couple of exhibits, one is an ad which 0
- 24 contains a moose, and I have another which contains Green
- 25 Acres. Do you recall seeing those commercials?

Page 11

- your recollection?
 - A Yes. I just said I think it was the 2nd.
- Q I want to show you an exhibit that's been marked as Exhibit 3. I'll ask you if you've seen this particular exhibit before?
- A Yes, it looks like the one that I was reading while I was waiting for the salesman at the dealership.
- Q Did the salesman give you a brochure to look at while you were waiting for him to show you around?
- 10 A Well, they were laying on the table. He said, 11 "If you want to look at something, there they are." Yeah.
- 12 What is that exhibit? What does it identify?
- 13 A It's a 1997 Explorer.
- 14 MR. EMBLEM: Don't display it until we get 15 permission.
 - Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) 1997 Explorer?
- 17 A Yeah.
- 18 Q This was the same year model that you were
- 19 looking, correct?
- 20 That's correct.
- 21 This was a brochure, then, that you saw when you
- 22 went to Warner Truckland; is that correct?
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 MR. EMBLEM: We'd move to admit Exhibit No. 3,
- 25 Your Honor.

- 1 A I can't recall specifically seeing those, but I 2
- saw a lot of Ford commercials, so more than likely I did. 3 Q So if they ran, you probably saw them because
 - you are a television watcher, would that be fair enough to say?
 - A My wife and I enjoy television, yes.
- 7 Q And you did during those months leading up to 8 your decision to purchase this Explorer; is that correct?
 - Α Yes.
- 10 Q So if Ford ran them, it would be fair to say you 11 saw them?
 - A If they ran them --
- 13 MR. LARSEN: Objection, speculation.
 - THE COURT: Objection sustained.
- 15 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Is there anything you recall in 16 particular about Ford's advertising about the Ford
- 17 products?
- 18 A Yeah, the thing that always sticks in my mind is 19 the hearing, "Built Ford tough." I'm hitting this because 20 they make a strong sound when they say that.
- 21 Q Like a big steel stamp or something?
- 22 Α Something liking a loud noise, "Built Ford 23 tough."
- 24 MR. EMBLEM: Your Honor, I have only a general foundation to show these videos. I would ask permission

Page 14 Page 16 to show the two commercials, one entitled "Moose," one "Tires," do you see that? 2 entitled "Green Acres." 2 A I do. 3 3 MR. EMBLEM: I wonder if we can dim the lights a THE COURT: The exhibit numbers? 4 4 MR. EMBLEM: Exhibit 2A and Exhibit 2B. little bit more, would that be okay? 5 5 THE COURT: 2A and 2B. Any objection? O (BY MR, EMBLEM) So the XLT, down here it says 6 MR. LARSEN: Yes, foundation and relevance. "Tires." It says "XL Sport" and "XLT" right there in the 7 THE COURT: On foundation I sustain the bottom section. Do you see that? 8 objection. A I see it. 9 9 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Next I'll show you, Did the salesman say to you that the XLT was 10 10 Mr. Clayton -- let's go back to Exhibit No. 3, which is supposed to have P225 tires on it? 11 still in front of you, is that correct? That's the 11 A No. 12 12 brochure. Q Did you discover what size tires were actually 13 13 on the vehicle when you got the vehicle? Α Yes. 14 Tell me a little bit -- while you have that in 14 A Eventually, yes. O 15 What did you eventually discover? 15 front of you, tell me a little more about what the Q 16 16 salesman said and did during the purchase just before you P235 tires. 17 17 decided to purchase the vehicle finally. In other words, Q I'm going to show you the warranty guide of 18 18 did he show you the vehicle? Exhibit No. 7. Do you recognize the exhibit I've just 19 Yes. We had a ride to a lot where it was, and 19 shown you? 20 20 A Yes, it's a photocopy of the warranty guide. we rode with the salesman. 21 21 Q Okay. And what did the salesman do or say when Q It's a warranty guide that came with your new 22 22 Explorer? he demonstrated to you the features of the Explorer? 23 23 A He asked us if we wanted to take a ride in it, Α 24 24 and we did. Did you read the warranty guide? 25 25 Did he give you a walk-around? A· Yes. Page 15 Page 17 1 1 Q Did you read what is covered? 2 2 O Did he show you how the hatch worked in the Yes. I did at the time. I don't remember 3 3 back? everything now. 4 4 A Yeah. He took us around the vehicle and showed THE COURT: May I display, Your Honor? 5 us all the features of the vehicle, the doors, the MR. LARSEN: Did you move to admit it? 6 6 headlights, the rear hatch, and the way there was a thing MR. EMBLEM: Yes, I move to admit it. 7 7 MR. LARSEN: No objection. you could pull down and cover up the suitcases and stuff 8 THE COURT: Received. so people looking in wouldn't see them, you know, some 9 9 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Turn to page 7, please. It kind of a plastic thing you pulled out. 10 10 says what is not covered. Do you see that section there, Q Did the salesman explain to you anything about 11 the four-wheel drive features? 11 Mr. Clayton? 12 12 A Yes. Α Yes. 13 13 And what did he say about that? What's not covered is alteration, misuse, or 14 14 damage caused by accident. Do you see that? Well, I didn't drive the car that much, so I had 15 15 to read the manual, too, but it had the four-wheel drive. A I do. 16 I think it was called "all wheel drive" or something of 16 Q Did the salesman point out to you that it would 17 be misuse of the vehicle to driver over curbs? 17 that nature where if you kept the switch in that 18 particular position, when you needed more power to the A No. 19 19 front wheels from the back wheels it would automatically Q Now, I'm going to show you Exhibit No. 8, which 20 kick in. 20 is the owner's guide. 21 21 THE COURT: Which number is this? Would you turn to page 20 of the exhibit? Did 22 MR. EMBLEM: 8, Your Honor. 22 you buy an Explorer XLT? 23 23 Yes. THE COURT: 8? Α 24 24 On page 20, called the specs page -- do you see Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Do you know what that document 25 is that you're looking at there, Mr. Clayton? 25 that? Specs? Down here in the lower right where it says

Page 22 Page 24 1 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Right about the middle of the 1 Q March 11, 1998? 2 2 ticket it says, "Warranty repair." I'm going to draw your A It went in March 10, it was ready March 11th. 3 3 attention to the middle of the document where it says, Q Okay. So on this date in March 1998, let's see, 4 "Warranty repair for driver's side seat belt buckle. 4 third month, about eight months before the crash? 5 5 A That's correct. Won't release. Make sure all of the other ones work." 6 6 Now, do you have any information or knowledge This is your vehicle? This is a service ticket why Tony would have the car in for a seat belt buckle 7 on your vehicle? 8 problem? Yes. Α 9 MR. EMBLEM: I move to admit Exhibit No. 11. I have none. Α 10 10 MR. LARSEN: No objection. It's your experience that Tony wore his seat 0 11 11 belt? THE COURT: Received. 12 12 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) On the front page, the first 13 13 Was Tony concerned about everyone wearing a seat page of Exhibit No. 11, the top line, "Repair shudder, 0 14 belt? 14 binding sensation in tight turns while vehicle is in 4x4 15 15 mode." Do you see that, sir? A Yes. 16 16 Q Would this be consistent with Tony's behavior to A I see it, yes. 17 Q Did Tony talk to you about any problems with a 17 be certain that all these safety features are working? MR. LARSEN: Objection, speculation. 18 18 binding sensation with the steering in the 4x4 mode? 19 19 A No. He handled all the things on the car. THE COURT: Sustained. 20 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Do you have information about 20 Q In the middle of the document it says, "Enter 21 GEM mode." Do you know anything about that, GEM mode? Tony's behavior concerning keeping the vehicle in top 22 22 shape or not? Does that mean anything to you? 23 23 A Yes. A Doesn't mean anything to me. 24 24 O What is that information? Q During opening statement I mentioned to the jury 25 25 Well, when he was living at home there in San about your desire to find the real cause. I'd like to ask Page 25 Page 23 1 Diego, he and I always made sure that my car and his car you some questions about that. had the proper maintenance and so forth. 2 You went out to the crash site with Officer 3 Pace; is that correct? Q Did you have any -- I'm sorry. 4 He carried those things over from my airline A I did, yes. 5 training. That's what we do. Q Can you tell the jury when that was? 6 Q From airline training, before you fly, you check That was -- we got the news the day after the 7 accident. I was out of town and they didn't know how to out the vehicle? The airplane? 8 A We maintained the airplane. If we see that the contact me. Finally I called for my phone messages on -9 mechanics maintain it, we check it out, yes. the accident happened on Friday, the day after 10 Did you teach Tony to do that with his cars? Thanksgiving. Saturday morning we were staying at our 11 I taught him to do that with all his cars. friend's house in Phoenix. 12 Let me show you another exhibit which has been We -- I called in for my phone messages and I 13 13 marked as No. 11. It's a two-page document. Do you know had a message to call American Express. And I called 14 what that is that we're looking at there, Mr. Clayton? them, and they had traced me through -- the police had A It's another repair order. 15 traced me through a credit card, a mutual credit card that 16 Also for your 1997 Explorer? Tony and I had, an American Express card. And they told 17 Yes, same five digits. me to call the hospital in Evanston. 18 Q And this has a mileage in at 15,506 miles; is I called the hospital in Evanston and I spoke

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that correct?

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see it?

That's correct.

March 11, '98.

Service date, let's see here.

It's on the next page. Do you see it?

And I'm looking for the service date. Do you

7 (Pages 22 to 25)

with the doctor who took care of Tony when he came in, and

remember who picked us up - and we went to my daughter's

house where I met my nephew, Phil, and my uncle. And we

made arrangements to go to Salt Lake. We got a plane out

he told me he passed away. So I immediately got to the

to Los Angeles. And somebody picked me up - I can't

airport with my wife, and we went back to my daughter's,

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brochure, you don't remember looking at anything else that was a brochure or advertisement for the vehicle? A I remember looking at a brochure. No. Other than the brochure, nothing else?

A I had seen some newspaper advertisements.

You don't recall anything specifically about Q

23 those? 24 A No.

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25 And that's it? That's all you remember? MR. LARSEN: Your Honor, we move to admit

18 Defendant's Exhibit 710.

19 THE WITNESS: Wait a minute. Yes, the VIN is

20 correct. That's the last thing at the bottom and I hadn't 21 checked that.

22 THE COURT: Any objection to 710?

23 MR. EMBLEM: No objection.

24 THE COURT: Received. I think that's a two-page 25 exhibit, and here's a clip so we can hold those pages

Page 78 Page 80 in the back country when he bought the car. research. 2 2 Q Did he do that, do you know? Q I'm not asking about your own research. That's 3 3 A I don't know. He had his fishing equipment in nonresponsive. the car, but... 4 A You opened the door. 5 Q And Tony never indicated to you that he had any 5 MR. LARSEN: Objection, nonresponsive, move to 6 6 problems with the vehicle; is that correct? strike. 7 7 A No, he took care of his things. THE COURT: Sustained. I'm going to strike the 8 Q Would it be also accurate to say that you don't 8 last comment of the witness, and you're instructed to 9 have any personal knowledge of maintenance or repair that disregard that last comment. 10 was ever performed on the vehicle? 10 Q (BY MR. LARSEN) And does it also say on this 11 A I do now. Since the case got investigated I saw 11 invoice. "Make sure all of the other ones work"? 12 12 where he took it in for the chattering in the right front, A Yes, it does. 13 13 or the noise, the squeaking noise. And he took it in for Q I want to talk about the accident. I'm done 14 a seat belt problem. 14 with Exhibit 10. Now, was it your understanding that on 15 Q But at the time you didn't have any personal 15 the day of the accident Tony was driving to Evanston to go 16 knowledge of that? 16 watch a horse race? 17 17 A I didn't, no. On the day of the crash; that is correct. 18 18 Q And you mentioned some of the maintenance And whose horse was it? 0 19 records that Mr. Emblem showed you, and some of those have My horse. Α 20 been entered into evidence. Exhibits 10 and 11, I Where was your horse racing? 21 21 believe. You had never seen those before this lawsuit; is In Phoenix, Arizona. Α 22 22 that right? How was Tony going to watch your horse race in Q 23 23 Arizona? A That's right. 24 24 A Because in Wyoming they have a place where you And so you don't have any personal knowledge 25 about any of the problems that were being reported in can watch all sorts of sports and horse racing. Page 79 Page 81 1 those? 1 And he was about a mile short of the Wyoming 2 A No, I don't. 2 border when the accident happened; is that fair? 3 3 Q I would like to show you Exhibit 10, which is a Α Yes. 4 repair record. I think you took a look at this yesterday. 4 Q And I think you testified that you met with 5 Do you have Exhibit 10 in front of you, Mr. Clayton? Trooper Pace at the accident site, and this was on 6 A I think so. Hold on a sec. 10, yes. 6 Thanksgiving weekend; is that right? 7 7 Q This is kind of a bad copy. It's hard to see. On Thanksgiving weekend. 8 8

I'm going to try and see if I can read along. I'll see if

9 I can read this correctly as we go along. Under the

10 highlighted version that I'm pointing to on the screen,

does it appear to say, "3 HRS, customer pay, remove

12 quarter from seat belt IR" or "LR"?

> Yeah. Α

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14 Q And that was apparently what repair or

15 performance was performed after there was a complaint that

16 the left rear seat belt would not unbuckle?

A Yes.

18 Q There was a quarter in it. Was that your

19 understanding of it from reading Exhibit 4?

20 A Yeah, there was a quarter in it. And that led

21 me to understand how the seat belt can unlatch by itself

22 in a rollover accident.

23 Q It didn't say the belt was unlatching, it says

24 the belt was not -

A No, it did not, but I did some of my own

On Sunday? Q

9 Α Sunday.

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About noon? O

11 I think about noon, yeah.

12 Q And Trooper Pace, he came out to the meet you

13 that day in his patrol car?

14 Yeah, I think it was a patrol car. I can't

15 recall for sure. I was in a real fog. I was a wreck.

16 And Trooper Pace was very professional and kind

17 to you that day, wasn't he?

> Yes. Α

19 Q And he wanted to be able to explain to you what

20 he knew about the accident?

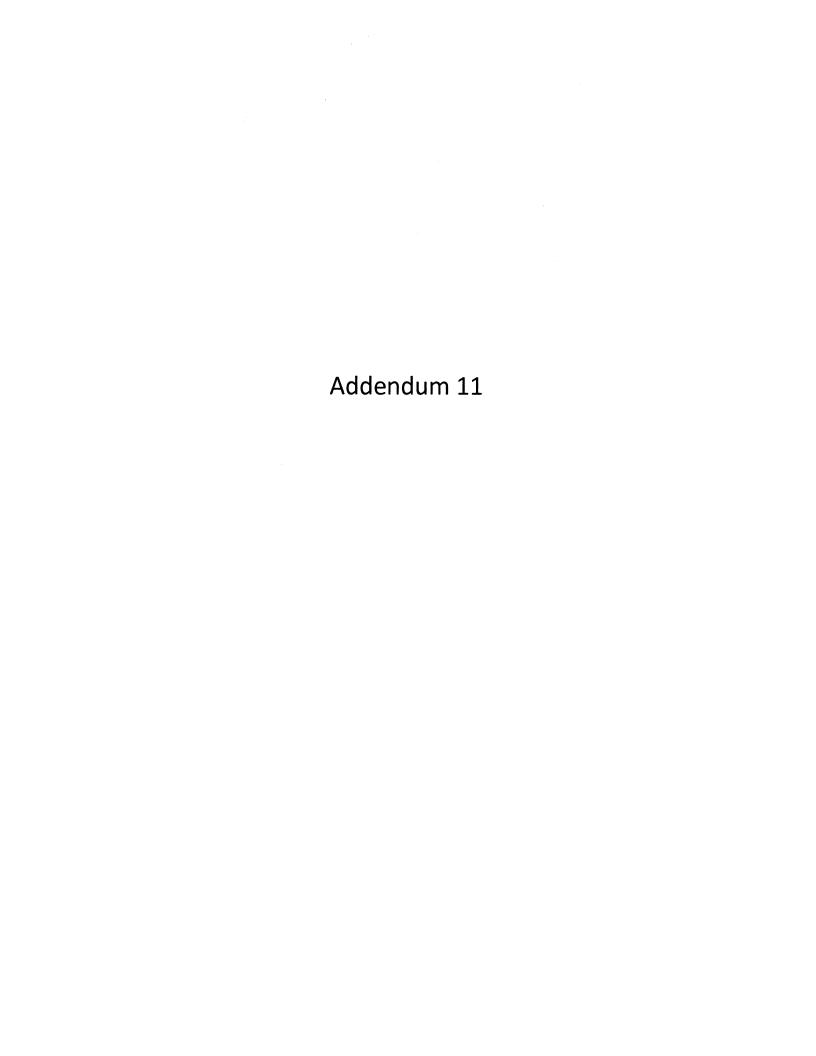
21 Α Yes.

22 And he was the officer that had investigated the Q

23 accident; is that right?

I don't know if he investigated the accident. I 24

saw on some of the reports some other officers' names or



IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT

SALT LAKE CITY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

Civil No. 000909522

vs.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,)

Defendants.

)

TESTIMONY OF DAVID INGEBRETSEN

VOLUME VI

FILED DISTRICT COURT

Third Judicial District

January 24, 2007 9:00 a.m.

NOV - 1 2007

SALT LAKE COUNTY

Deputy Clerk

Wendy Alcock Registered Professional Reporter

Régistered Professional Réporte



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IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT SALT LAKE CITY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,)

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vs.)

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,)

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TESTIMONY OF DAVID INGEBRETSEN

VOLUME VI

January 24, 2007 9:00 a.m.

Wendy Alcock Registered Professional Reporter

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Q Let's go right there. What does that say?

3 A It says, "Strengthened door pillars. The A and 4 B door pillars are reinforced with a composite material 5 which acts like concrete and strengthens roof 6 construction."

- That's a Ford statement, right? O
- Α Yes.
- 9 0 And that's pointing to what?
- 10 A It's pointing to the B pillar and the A pillar.

11 And you can see the shadows of the same sort of -- what we 12 saw in the color rendition where they have strengthened 13 and added this composite material.

14 Q And was there another section that you wanted to 15 point to?

16 Α I think so. Right up there. I think it's that 17 one.

18 Q Okay. What does that say there? Do you need 19 magnifying glass?

20 A No, I think I can read that. It says,

21 "Strengthen roof construction. Roof crush strength

22 significantly exceeds USA requirements." "Stringent" - I

23 believe that says -- "USA requirements."

24 Q These are features being -- is it a fair 25 conclusion these are features being used by Ford for the reasonable way is that there was a false latch. Something was caught in between the latch plate and the buckle and it didn't latch properly. Physics says that we can also have inertial unlatches given the right circumstances.

It could also have been something -- there's a console adjacent to the buckle here as well, and an object that is caught between the console and this could also be pushed into it as Tony is moving to this right and to the forward.

Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Something bouncing around inside the vehicle can get between the buckle and the console?

MR. O'NEILL: Objection, leading, Your Honor. THE COURT: Sustained.

15 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) Can you explain what you just 16 said a little bit better, please?

17 Yeah. An object that's sitting on the console 18 or in the compartment could slip off and get wedged in 19 there, and if it's small enough it could push on it. I 20 think it's more likely that something just prevented it 21 from latching completely. And that's happened to people. 22 It's happened to me.

Q It's happened to you?

24 Α Yeah.

> O In this case, since the door came open, does the

exact purpose before the Clayton vehicle was built?

2 MR. O'NEILL: Objection to the form, Your Honor, 3 leading. 4

THE COURT: Sustained.

5 Q (BY MR. EMBLEM) We talked about occupant 6 protection. We didn't spend a lot of time on the seat 7 belt.

Α No.

9 You did have an opinion concerning Tony

10 Clayton's seat belt, and what is that opinion?

11 A That opinion was that he was originally belted 12 and that the seat belt unlatched in that first rollover 13 sequence.

14 Q How is it possible for -- first let me ask you: 15 Is this the type of seat belt used, No. 312, in the

16 Clayton vehicle?

Exhibit No. 312, yes, it is.

18 Q How is it possible that this seat belt system or

19 latch would fail in this case?

> MR. O'NEILL: Let me object. It goes beyond the scope of what you directed was admissible.

22 THE COURT: Overruled. You can answer the 23 question.

24 THE WITNESS: There are a couple ways seat belts 25 can come unlatched. I think that in this case the most

fact that the seat belt failed really make any difference

to Tony's injuries? A Probably not. Probably not.

And what is the reason for that?

With that door open, the seat belts are not meant to contain. They're a restraint. They're called a safety restraint. My understanding as a biomechanical engineer and looking at accidents, seat belts are primarily designed to help in frontal collisions to keep

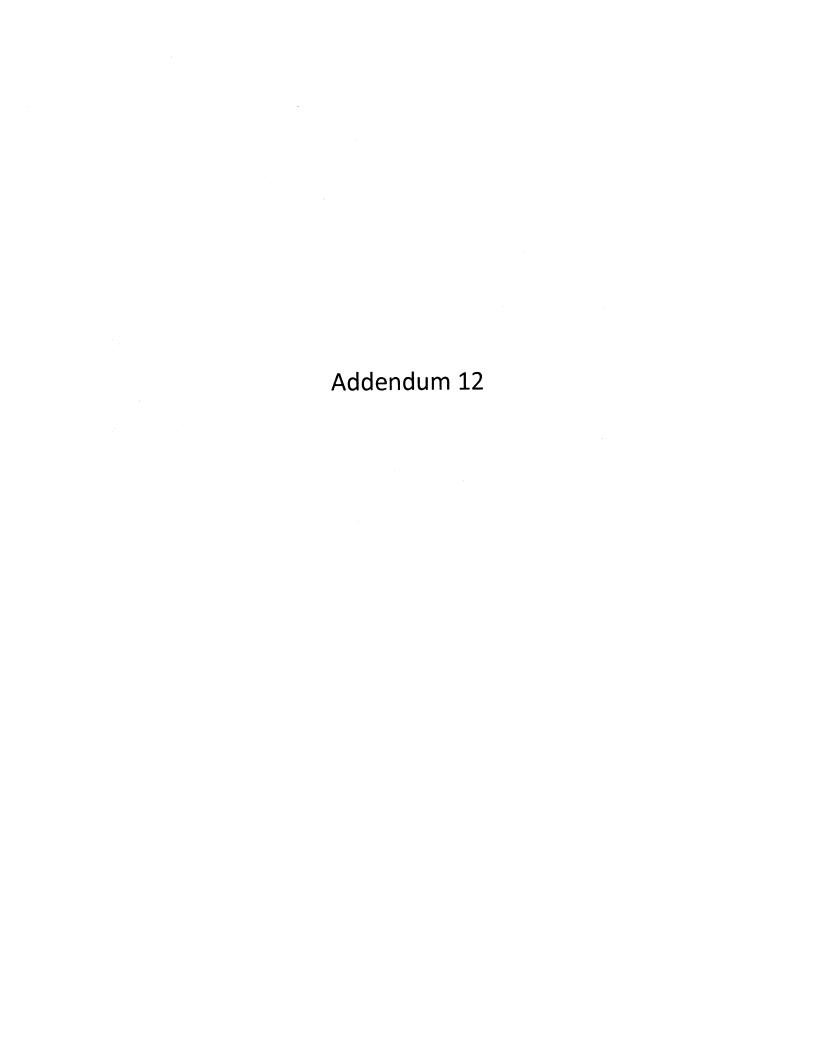
10 you back and away from the front of the car. 11 In a rollover like this, even with a seat belt

on, there's some significant side-to-side motion that can occur. As it rolls over, that person can become partially ejected. And partially ejected persons don't just come out the door and land on the ground, they flip around and hit every time the car goes over and can get caught between the roof rail and the vehicle, or the A pillar or B pillar, most likely, and the vehicle and become crushed.

19 And so people die when they're partially ejected. 20

Q So your conclusions then concerning the door 21 opening, belted or unbelted Tony Clayton is more likely to 22 live or die?

23 A With the door open, belted or unbelted, I think 24 Mr. Clayton is going to die. It's that door opening that 25 we need.



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IN THE THIRD DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

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Plaintiffs,

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VS.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,

Defendants.

Judge Joseph C. Fratto

REPORTER'S TRANSCRIPT OF PREVIOUSLY-RECORDED PROCEEDINGS

DATE RECORDED:

February 9, 2007 - PM SESSION

DATE TRANSCRIBED:

February 21, 2007

TRANSCRIBED BY:

Kelly L. Wilburn, CSR, RPR

FILED DISTRICT COURT
Third Judicial District

NOV - 1 2007 SALT LAKE COUNTY

Deputy Clerk



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IN THE THIRD DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,
)
Case No. 000909522

Plaintiffs,
)
vs.
)
Judge Joseph C. Fratto

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION,
et al.,
)
Defendants.
)

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Page 2 **APPEARANCES** 2 For the Plaintiffs 3 THOR O. EMBLEM, ESO. TRACY EMBLEM ÉSO LAW OFFICES OF THOR O. EMBLEM, ESQ. 205 West Fifth Avenue, Suite 105 Escondido, California 92025 (760) 738-9301 (760) 738-9409 (fax) MATTHEW H. RATY, ESQ. LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW H. RATY, PC 9677 South 700 East, Suite D Sandy, Utah 84070 (801) 495-2262 (fax) 10 For the Defendants: 11 TIMOTHY O'NEILL, ESO. 12 LAW OFFICE OF TIMOTHY O'NEILL 1200 17th Street, Suite 1900 13 Denver, Colorado 80202 (303) 634-2003 14 DAN'R LARSEN ESO KIMBERLY NEVILLE, ESQ. 15 SNELL & WILMER 15 West South Temple, Suite 1200 Gateway Tower West 17 Salt Lake City, Utah 84101 (801) 257-1900 18 (801) 257-1800 (fax) 19 -oOo-20 21 22 23 24 25

and there are some corporations that are scared to death of what civil juries can do, because they can be accused of profits over safety. They can be accused of injustice. And they can be accused of contributing to death.

Page 4

In a very technical case, with technical issues, with a jury, a lot of companies do things to avoid that. Do anything they can, other than submit it to a jury.

Well, Ford Motor Company is not afraid of that. Ford Motor Company believes in the jury system. Ford Motor Company believes that a jury of citizens and peers can look at these claims for what they are, and see the truth behind these allegations of profits for safety and disregard of people's rights. Because they believe it's wrong, it's unfair, it's untrue, and it's why we're here.

And that's your job now. You've had a lot of evidence. We've been here for five weeks. And we are pleased to be able to submit this for your decision making. And you know in the end, folks, it is a very simple case.

A driver was inattentive and asleep, and left the roadway. He then became alerted, as always happens, and there was an overcorrection to the right.

Page 3

PROCEEDINGS

THE COURT: Back in the matter of Ford versus -- or Clayton versus the Ford Motor Company. Everyone is present who needs to be present. The jury is in the box.

Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, lest I be accused of cruelty, appreciate we've gone past what is the normal lunch hour. And would anticipate, if we continue on of course, of quite frankly missing lunch.

I don't want to do that if that presents a problem for any of you. We would take an hour and have a lunch break here. So I ask you whether anyone wants to take that hour break, or if you would prefer to just go forward?

15 Anyone want to take the hour break? That's 16 no? Continue on?

17 All right, that's what we'll do. 18

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Mr. O'Neill, closing argument?

MR. O'NEILL: Thank you, your Honor.

20 Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. We have 21 a very unique system in the United States regarding civil jury trials. And there are about 173 countries

22 23 around the world, and there are about three or four 24 that allow civil juries to resolve disputes like this.

And you know what? There are some companies

Driver error. That overcorrection led to a yaw. And you are gonna see the evidence in a moment. We'll talk about it.

He was just about to go off the other side of the highway and he made another overcorrection. Another driver error. And in doing that, in the

second overcorrection, he put the vehicle sideways. He put the vehicle sideways going down the highway

above 65 miles an hour. 10

And he put that vehicle sideways and it slid on all four tires. Very significant. We'll talk about that. And it was on all four tires, everybody agrees, until the very edge of the asphalt. Hadn't tipped up. Hadn't done anything. Was sliding.

And then it went off the edge and down a slope. Down a slope of 38 feet in the dirt, furrowed into the ground, and was tripped and rolled over. And it rolled over four full times. And all of that, ladies and gentlemen, took about 8 to 11 seconds, depending upon which reconstructionist you want to talk about.

That's what happened. And the story begins and ends in those 8 or 11 seconds. Because it started with the driver drifting off the road, and it ended with a fatality and some injuries. Because of driver

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error, because of failure to wear a seat belt, because of the massive forces that happened in this accident.

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Those are the basic truths that we've seen in these five weeks. And you have all been very courteous. You've been very patient with the lawyers and the witnesses. And you've taken notes. And so I am not going to go back and review every photograph, and every document, and every issue.

Instead what I want to do is spend some time just looking at the highlights and touching on the issues. And one of the things that I do want to do is share with you the testimony that you've heard, so you 13 don't have to believe it's just Mr. O'Neill up there 14 telling you what he remembers. I want you to be able 15 to see the actual testimony from the certified court 16 reporter, so that you can see again what some of those truths were.

So let's begin a little bit. And the first thing I want to talk about, at the beginning I told you that we're gonna prove some things. And we'll go through these very quickly. The first theme was the fact that this was caused by driver error.

23 That Mr. Clayton drifted off the curve, he 24 overcorrected, and he caused it to go off the road and 25 trip in the median. Circumstances that would cause

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And then we're gonna talk about, again, the forces that were generated on the side of this vehicle and why it tipped over. And why no vehicle will be immune to tipping over when it's subjected to those kind of circumstances.

So let's go through some of this. And again, I just want to start with Plaintiff's Exhibit 23-22. It's in evidence. It's a big board. You will see it. This is the curve in the roadway.

And Wendy, may we have some lights? (Inaudible) just dim those slightly? Thank you.

12 This is the curve in the roadway. And the 13 vehicle, by this time, is already off road. And we 14 know that it goes off road for 116 feet. And you're gonna hear some evidence in a moment that that is about a second -- a little more than a second that 17 it's off the road on that gravel.

18 So let's go through and talk about 19 Dr. Germane's reconstruction diagram for a moment. And we'll just put that up, and get that out of the 21 way so that you can see the screen. 22

One of the first things I thought I'd mention to you folks is it was very important, to understand the accident, to be very precise about where things

were found and where the marks were so you can begin

Page 7

many vehicles to rollover. We'll go and look at the evidence that we've proved there.

We'll talk about the injuries to Kellie Montoya and Mr. Clayton being caused by the severity of this very high energy, high speed crash. We're gonna talk about the design of the occupant protection systems in this vehicle.

And why it is these injuries occurred. And why this vehicle is not defective in the way in which it protects passengers. And then finally, in summary, talk about some of the things to think about as you consider the jury verdict form.

So let me start with evidence point No. 1. 14 Again, this regards the cause of the accident, and so let me get to a summary of what the facts have shown. 16 The facts have shown that the Explorer didn't cause Tony Clayton to lose control. He lost control because he was asleep, inattentive, and he went off the highway exactly where the road curves.

20 That is not a coincidence, folks. And you're 21 gonna see some evidence about that that we've heard at 22 trial. And we know what happened. Two severe 23 steering maneuvers. We're gonna talk about that. The timing between those maneuvers and how the vehicle was 25 responding.

to understand exactly what happened.

And I just want to start with this one thought. Where is Mr. Ingebretsen's reconstruction diagram? He didn't have one. He made this video for you. But, you know, when you really want to do a scientific job -- and I'm not picking on him just because he didn't do it.

When you really want to do a scientific job, and understand which marks go with which tires, and 10 exactly the angle of the vehicle, and what might have happened, how a vehicle is responding, you need to do 12 this. And that's what he did.

And he, he presented this for you, and for the plaintiff's experts. So that they could come in and say, Oop, you're wrong here. This measurement is off. No, the vehicle couldn't have hit there.

17 We didn't want to leave it to guess. We 18 wanted precision, so that you could understand what 19 happened. You could understand exactly when movements were made. And so it's more than just a -- you know, 21 I think we were criticized for having little cars and 22 little hat pins. 23

It's there so that you can truly understand 24 exactly the distances that occurred in this accident. And so let's go through some of these again. The

3 (Pages 6 to 9)

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first harmful event, up in the upper left-hand corner, is drift off the edge of the highway.

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It's a shallow angle of departure. That means there wasn't any big steering input before it happened, or big maneuver. It was a drift right off the curve, or just as the highway curved. There was no evidence of any swerve of any kind. And all of it is consistent with the driver being asleep. There's the diagram.

10 I'm gonna take this down so that some of 11 those -- of you in that front row can see some of 12 these things. (Inaudible) the reconstruction.

13 Again, the vehicle covers 105 feet in about a 14 second. A little less than a second. Followed by this violent steering maneuver. And what happened, folks, is the Explorer responded exactly as it was 17 designed.

18 And you are gonna see in the evidence that 19 that first maneuver was a yaw maneuver. And it can only happen if the tie rod is connected. You can't get the vehicle to respond that way. And then there was the second maneuver. And the vehicle responded 23 exactly as it was designed. And it can't do that if 24 the tie rod is disconnected.

And you are gonna see that the loss of

first told us, again, that at about the time the vehicle left the roadway it was going 75 miles an hour. Left, left-hand side.

Then he goes to another photo. He's going 5 further east. And he's showing a mark. And let's get to that mark for a moment. And this is in evidence as 7 Plaintiff's Exhibit 23-22. Let's blow it up for a 8 second.

Page 12

And again, you are seeing the two marks here 10 as the vehicle reenters the roadway. Here's what Officer Pace was asked about that. He said -- he was 12

13 "And what would you call that kind 14 of a tire mark?

15 "That's actually a critical curve or 16 yaw mark."

17 Okay? Who is this individual? He's been on 18 the force for more than 20 years. Investigated thousands and thousands of accidents. And he is disinterested. He's not here as an advocate for 21 anybody.

22 It was his job to figure out what happened in this accident. And he recognizes this is a critical 24 curve or yaw mark. And then he was asked again: 25

"What's the significance of that?

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control was caused by those driver inputs, not because 2 of some problem with the vehicle. And the other thing

that you are gonna see is in this entire accident, if 3

there was this tie rod, and this noise, and this 4

rattling, there is not a single bit of evidence about

6 breaking in the entire sequence. And it doesn't make

7 sense. And you are gonna have to consider those

8 things. You are gonna have to weigh those things.

9 Another thing that doesn't make sense is this 10 idea that the tie rod goes away and he's fighting for his life. It's wrong. You've seen the evidence.

12 When that tie rod breaks, the vehicle is less 13 responsive.

14 And so if there was a sudden steering to the right, instead of going where it normally does it's 15 gonna go more directly down the highway. And if it 16 17 goes more directly down the highway, there isn't gonna 18 be the need for the second turn.

19 It doesn't add up. The only thing that makes 20 sense in this evidence is that the vehicle was acting 21 as -- exactly as it was designed. And there were two

major overcorrections that caused this. 22

23 Let's now go into some of this testimony. 24 Because I want you to see what happened, not just my

recollection. And you remember Officer Pace. He

Page 13

1 "Well, it's -- means the vehicle is 2 going to make a fast corner. Leaves a 3

black mark on the road. You've turned too sharp, and you are starting into a

5 slide. And that's what leaves the tire 6

marks on the highway."

7 Okay? That's Officer Pace, folks. And you 8 know what he's saying? He's saying it's getting into

a yaw. And you know from the evidence you cannot get

a yaw with a broken right front tie rod. That isn't 10

11 Mr. Germane.

12 And we'll talk about all the criticism that's 13 been afforded all the witnesses that we brought. This is an individual whose job it is to figure out what occurred. It's a yaw mark, okay? And then he was 15 16 asked himself:

"What are those two tire marks 17 18 coming back on? Which tires are they? 19 "The first mark right there would be

20 the left front, and then the other one

21 would be the left rear."

22 Folks, you know, I -- there are gonna be some 23 things we're gonna talk about here. And, and, and why

we've invested time in them, I'm not sure. But this is D-363-I-1. Do you remember where Mr. Pascarella

4 (Pages 10 to 13)

Page 14 Page 16 did his test? And then he compares it to the crash the furrow mark in the upper right-hand corner of the test? And which tire was which? And you remember all 2 picture we're looking at. And it goes down into that that discussion? median, and it's tripped. And just so that there's no 4 This is Officer Pace telling you the same argument or confusion in your own mind, the vehicle thing. That this is, again, the first mark is the trips when it's down in the median. And that's, left front tire coming on. And the further one down again, will become significant in a minute as we talk is the left rear tire, because it started a yaw. You 7 through that. can't get a yaw if you have a broken tie rod. All 8 And again, here we are approaching -- you are 9 right? And again he was asked: looking at Defendant's D-684-24. We're approaching 10 "How do you know the left front tire that last set of yaw marks. Here is 10 11 was first? 11 Defendant's 23-18-A, with the last four set of tire 12 "Because the vehicle started into 12 marks. Left front tire there. And again, coming 13 kind of a slide." 13 toward us. 14 Again, Officer Pace. This isn't a paid 14 We're looking at this, this is expert. This is the guy whose job it was to 15 15 Plaintiff's 23-17. Again, that set of tire marks. understand what happened. Okay? 16 16 Looking at a photograph, 23-25, as it comes down the 17 And then we were also questioning median. And finally to the furrow, and the trip point Mr. Probert, the plaintiff's own expert about this: right there in the median. Okay? That's the evidence 18 18 19 "Is that radical steering to the 19 of what happened, folks. 20 right something you think is unusual?" 20 Let's now go through some issues that you've 21 21 heard about, about whether the driver was asleep. And 22 22 "No, that's certainly a possibility. about whether or not somehow the tie rod had some 23 "And that could explain, would it 23 effect on this. All right? And I think you heard 24 2.4 not, how the vehicle mark -- started that, Oh, well, the officer just checked the box 25 into a yaw?" because that's what he ordinarily does. Page 15 Page 17 1 Mr. Probert agrees, we're starting into a yaw That isn't the evidence that you've heard. as he's going back on the roadway. 2 Let's go through the evidence that you've heard. First of all with Officer Pace. He did an "And the steering input is such that 3 4 you would agree it's an overcorrection?" 4 investigation: 5 He agrees that it's an overcorrection, one --5 "What did you determine about the 6 from one side to the other. 6 marks on the gravel as part of the 7 7 And so now we're back to Officer Pace. And roadway? 8 we're back on the highway. And here's what he says. 8 "I determined if you do not make any 9 He says: 9 type of vehicle maneuver and keep going 10 "He is headed off road that 10 right straight, you would run off the direction, now going off to the right 11 road at exactly the spot just about 11 side of the road. He's headed kind of 12 12 every time. The same spot on that 13 toward that side." 13 road." 14 14 Let me get back to this picture, 23-22. He's That's why that curve's significant. It back on the roadway, right here, headed toward that 15 isn't just happenstance. It's inattention, and no 15 sign. He knows he's gonna be off road in a matter of change to the condition in front of you, and so you go 16 16 seconds. Okay? So then there's another steering right off the roadway. He's studied it. He's 17 17 18 18 investigated it. 19 And then we get to the edge of the roadway. 19 "Trooper Pace, after completing your And by this time the vehicle is now in a full yaw at 20 investigation and completing your 20 75 degrees. The vehicle goes off the edge of the 21 report, can you tell us your general 21 22 roadway on a 20-degree slope. Fairly steep slope. 22 conclusion?" And this is the testimony from the plaintiff's expert, 23 23 He says: folks. 24 "My general conclusion is the driver 24

5 (Pages 14 to 17)

was asleep or inattentive. He was

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And then we talked with Officer Pace about

	Page 18		Page 20
1	either picking something up, ran off the	1	were in the No. 1 lane?"
2	road to the left, overcorrected back to	2	"Yes."
3	the right, overcorrected back to the	3	Mr. Probert agrees. He said in answer to a
4	left."	4	question:
5	Okay? This isn't a paid expert. This is the	5	"You've investigated a lot of these.
6	man on the scene that day. Trying to understand what	6	Are these just like the result we see of
7	happened. Looking at the roadway. Looking at the	7	inattention, where someone misses a
8	vehicle movements. Inattentive. Off the road.	8	curve?"
9	Asleep. He was asked:	9	He agrees. There isn't much dispute about
10	"Is there anything out there that	10	this. That's what the physical evidence adds up to,
11	would indicate something that	11	as we start this accident and why it left the roadway.
12	precipitated this accident sequence?"	12	Okay?
13	And here's what he told you. And this is	13	Mr. Ingebretsen. As you can see, the
14	right to the heart of the matter:	14	questions were longer and the answers were longer.
15	"He straightened out the corner."	15	And this is one where I had to read him what he had
16	Just went right through the corner. All	16	already testified to under oath. We had to kind of
17	right? That isn't guess work. That isn't checking	17	remind him a little bit of what he had already said
18	the box on the form. It's looking at the road exactly	18	under oath. And so I asked him, I was reading his
19	where the tire marks left. Understanding what the	19	deposition:
20	vehicle was doing. Straightened out a corner.	20	"Up to this point in time, is that
21 22	Officer Pace again:	21	evidence on the roadway also consistent
23	"You have training about inattentiveness or asleep?"	22 23	with Mr. Clayton just basically not
24	This isn't guess. He says:	24	paying attention to the road starting to gently turn. Direction of travel would
25	"Yes. We're given training. We're	25	be consistent with basically going
		23	
	Page 19		Page 21
1	taught to understand when you can	1	straight down the freeway, and not
2	perceive that that happened and when	2	noticing the freeway was turning right?"
3	not."	3	And back then, before trial, before he might
4	It's part of his training. And then he was	4	have realized what he was getting himself into, he
5	asked:	5	gives an honest answer:
6	"Comparing this accident to other	6	"Could be. He'd been in on the
7	accidents, is this consistent with	7 8	curve for some time. Not a long time,
ľ	sleeping and inattentiveness?"	9	but the curve had already started. I
9 10	And he says: "Yes, very consistent."	10	don't know. It's not inconsistent with that scenario. He certainly could have
11	Again, Officer Pace's testimony. And then we	11	not been paying attention, and gone off
12	talked about a little bit about his accident	12	the roadway to the left, and then tried
13	report, where he determines that it was a prime	13	to come back on."
14	contributor that he was asleep or inattentive, okay?	14	All right? Again, this isn't the paid
15	And then we also asked Mr. Probert. Okay?	15	experts by Ford. It's the officer. It's Mr. Probert.
16	So now we've covered Officer Pace. Not a paid expert.	16	And Mr. Ingebretsen, before he realized that it wasn't
17	Now we're going to a paid expert, but it's the	17	consistent with his other theories, all right? And
18	plaintiff's paid expert. Mr. Pace excuse me,	18	again, another Mr. Ingebretsen:
19	Mr. Probert. We asked Mr. Probert:	19	"He certainly could not have been
20	"I want you to notice something about	20	paying attention as he went off the
21	the photograph. If you assume the	21	roadway?"
22	driver was simply driving off that	22	That was his sworn testimony. He answered
23	stretch, would his tire marks get right	23	that one again affirmatively.
24	on top of the marks you see in this	24	And again, we'll finish off this section
25	photo" the 116-feet photo "if they	25	about the reconstruction with Mr. Probert. One of the

6 (Pages 18 to 21)

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sway bar hadn't broke long before, how come he didn't find it. Okay?

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On, on the surface, you know, that may sound okay. Well, let's examine that for a minute though, all right? First of all, there's the vehicle. And I want to have you notice something. And I'm gonna move over to a different photograph here.

This is 23-13. Plaintiff's 23-13. What's that? Did anybody grab that and bring it back with, 10 and inventory it, and try and study it and see what that was? No. Okay. We know what happened with this vehicle. It was put on the back of a wrecker and it 13 was sent to an auction house. And it sat in an 14 auction house. And parts might have jingled around 15 and fell off the truck.

And then it was bought by Jack Bingham. And then it sat in his yard for a few years. And so this idea that somehow they didn't find the missing sway bar link, and that's why it had to have been gone earlier. That photograph right there tells you, we 21 lost all sorts of things.

Back to the tire for a moment. Okay? In evidence, 32. Big, gaping gash, you know, missing, missing off that aluminum rim. Where's that? So don't believe it. You know, examine it with a, a very

second point, again, has to do with the severity of this accident. And you've seen these charts. This is 3 Defendant's Exhibit 436. And what does it mean? 4 Okav?

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Page 49

5 It means that in this Clayton accident we're 6 at 16 quarter turns. And therefore it is worse, as 7 measured by quarter turns, than 99.9 percent of the accidents. And again, I think I've heard some 9 criticism, Oh, statistics don't tell you what 10 happened.

You can look at that chart and see exactly what happened. They were in one of the worst accidents in rollovers that are studied in the country. Ninety-nine point nine percent are less severe. Okay?

16 Now, the idea that, you know, by one there's 17 a lot of them. Well, that's all interesting. We had 18 four. And it puts it way out there on the edge. This 19 is an injury slide. You've seen this.

20 Defendant's 459. Doesn't that look just like the last 21 one?

22 And what this shows is that as there are more 23 quarter rolls, there is greater injury. And you know 24 what's in this version? Light vehicles. And Mr. Ingebretsen testified that includes passenger

Page 47

cars. It includes that mini bug. It includes the

careful eye. You know what happened. It wasn't there, because it was destroyed 2 Explorers. with a lot of other parts. And the vehicle wasn't --3 4 no one was inventorying any of the material. And I'm 5 gonna show you some testimony now from Dr. Pace:

"Did anybody inventory the debris?

"No, I don't think we did that.

"Concerning all of your training and, and, and so forth, is it typical at the accident scene to inventory the debris? "No, not really. The wrecker drivers kind of do it, generally speaking."

Okay? And so let's just kind of conclude now on this tie rod. The evidence on that 23-17, and all of the other photographs from the police, show no two-wheel lift. And that means the tie rod had to be connected, and that there couldn't have been any right-hand steer in that vehicle.

The caster effect doesn't let it happen. You 21 can't generate the lateral force to develop those kind of tire marks. And again, concluding, Dr. Fowler told you -- and you can see it yourself -- it was caused by an overload one-time fracture. All right?

So let's move to point No. 2. And, and the

People aren't injured because there's some problem with the Explorer. People are injured because of the severity of the rollover. No matter what car they're in. All right?

Again, the risk of ejection, even with a door opening, if you're not wearing your belt, 86 percent. And you see that small 2 percent? Okay? That means

restrained down there, and the 86 is unrestrained.

Ms. Montoya is with us and was belted. Two percent.

12 Mr. Clayton was not belted. Eighty-six percent. 13

Those accident statistics mean something. As in a high-speed, high-energy rollover, you don't give 15 yourself a chance if you don't take time to use the 16 occupant protection system designed to help you. I 17 asked Mr. Ingebretsen about it as well: 18

"Have you done an analysis to determine the relative severity, sir? "Yes, I have. I've seen those

20 21 numbers."

22 He agrees, this is a very severe accident. 23 All right?

"Based upon that analysis that the severity of this accident was out there

13 (Pages 46 to 49)

	Page 50		Page 52				
1	on the edge?"	1	that, Oh, there could be something wrong with the seat				
2	That was his quote. He says:	2	belt. I want to kind of get right down to it. The				
3	"Yes. I think you're quoting me.	3	judge gave you an instruction. There is no claim left				
4	Forty per all deaths and more severe	4	in this case that there's any problem with the seat				
5	rollers more, more than a quarter	5	belt at all.				
6	turn, the more severe it is, the more	6	There is no defect you're asked to consider.				
7	likely one will be ejected and killed."	7	It's gone. Why, then, are we seeing the parlor trick.				
8	All right?	8	Okay? Slap-across-your-knee trick. Diversion? Cloud				
9	"And this one is out there on the	9	the issue? Maybe make you confused about what might				
10	edge, Mr. Ingebretsen, statistically	10	have happened or what didn't happen?				
11	speaking, 2 percent of rollovers, worst?	11	You know, Mr. Clayton didn't slap the belt				
12	"Yes.	12	across his knee as the vehicle was rolling. He had				
13	"And again, most rollover accidents	13	it, you know, allegedly on. And you can't get forces				
14	are not this severe, in your opinion?	14	like that. It didn't happen, folks. It's stored. It				
15	"That's correct. Fatalities occur	15	was stowed away. It was not used. And that's why he				
16	in the most serious ones."	16	loaded the door.				
17	This is Mr. Ingebretsen.	17	And because he loaded the door, that's how he				
18	"You would agree with me, sir, that	18	was ejected. So I want to kind of go through some of				
19	according to a national automotive	19	this. Seat belts are the most important part of this				
20	sampling statistics, this is really one	20	system. So as you're considering the design, think				
21	of the very worst accidents?"	21	about that.				
22	Okay?	22	Think about the number one occupant				
23	"That were studied in this	23	protection system that's available. And the physical				
24	five-or-six-year period?"	24	evidence we saw shows he was not wearing it. And				
25	And he says:	25	because of that, he increased the inertial forces up				
	Page 51		Page 53				
1	"That's right. This chart shows	1	against that door to overwhelm that latch. That's				
2	that just 1 or 2 percent of the total	2	what happened. And let's go through some of those.				
3	rollovers were 16 or more quarter	3	First of all let's look at and I'm gonna				
4	turns."	4	leave that up, the drivers latch, so you can take a				
5	Okay? And then I asked him about fatalities:	5	look at that. Let's look at Ms. Montoya's sliding				
6	"And does this graph show, then,	6	r				
7	that the more rolls that occur, the more	7	have a mark. It's 419.				
8	fatalities?"	8	And you remember Mr. James explaining this.				
9	And he said:	9	That because of the force on the belt it leaves these				
10	"I wouldn't expect anything else."	10	ridges, these marks. Okay? Telltale signs it was on				
11	This is their own expert. Okay? This isn't	11	when force was applied. Okay? And then we look				
12	specific to something with the Explorer. It's life.	12	across and we see Mr. Clayton's driver's latch. It's				
13	It's tragic, but it's true, that when you put a	13	pristine, okay?				
14	vehicle sideways at 48 to 50 miles an hour and trip it	14	And then you heard about the web grabber				
15	in a median, fatalities occur. No matter what vehicle	15	mark. Remember? That when an accident occurs, when				
16	you happen to be in.	16	this unit tips, that bar clamps down on it. And he				
17 18	And again, we'll kind of skip through these.	17	did find a clamp. And it was at a position on the				
19	Sixty-five, seventy miles-an-hour trip. It's a	18 19	belt that can only happen if it's stored nicely up against the B-pillar.				
20	life-threatening type of accident circumstance.	20	č i				
1	So now let's move on to evidence point No. 3.		And the web grabber mark is right here. Not				
21	And again, there's a claim here, folks, that somehow	21	further down on the belt if it's out and extended.				
22	this door unlatched during this rollover sequence	22					
23	because of rod foreshortening and just swung right	23	all. Didn't happen. And you know what the warnings				
24	open.	24	say within this vehicle. Every vehicle.				
25	And there's been maybe some suggestion here	25	And it's common sense. Everybody knows it.				

14 (Pages 50 to 53)

Page 62 Page 64 1 proof. All right? And again, I asked him again: In the, in the rod foreshortening theory, 2 "There's no horizontal force from that's Exhibit 478-138. In the rod foreshortening 3 3 the outside? theory, bing, the latch is open. It's not holding on 4 "I don't think there was." to anything. Not this latch. Not the Clayton latch. 5 And then I asked him: The four pawls were bent partially open, and the, and 6 "That kind of summarizes where we're 6 the entire latch mechanism was bent. 7 7 at. You said vertical, and Mr. Gilberg Here it is again. And here's 956-B. These 8 8 said can't happen. He says horizontal, are in evidence. The latch itself is in evidence. 9 9 and you say that didn't happen." Look at the bowing there. Very much like the 10 That's kind of right where we're at. And you 10 transverse test that Dr. Caulfield did. And the 11 remember that chart. I drew those two doors. And 11 exemplar is straight up and down. that's where we're at. The reason why the door opened 12 You don't get that, folks, from this latch was the force of -- the inertial forces of 13 theory. The physical evidence shows it didn't happen 14 14 Mr. Clayton. that way. It was the force coming from inside out the 15 15 And we understand that from the damage that door that overwhelmed that latch. Okay? Again he's you've seen. And I want to now kind of talk briefly talking about his test here where he smashes it 17 17 about Dr. Caulfield's testimony. 4 inches front to back. Door recovered at 2 1/2. And 18 18 "Can you explain or list the there are 8,700 pounds of pressure used to do that. 19 19 opinions?" There was no rod foreshortening. And you 20 20 I'll go through this quickly. know, again, I want to talk a little bit about 21 21 "Yes. The door opened, left side Mr. Gilberg's theory. Do you recall what he did? He diver's door, due to overload. The 22 22 just sort of put a rod all the way out here and he 23 23 latch was actually overloaded and said, Well look, you know, if you just move that you 24 24 can kind of move that rod, you know. That's all you breaking -- broken." 25 Means it no longer works. You remember need to do. Well, you know, what does that show you? Page 63 Page 65 Dr. Caulfield. He does this. He consults with The question is, is there crush back here? 2 manufacturers, helps design things. And again, his 2 And, you know, it doesn't matter that you put a switch 3 opinion No. 1: It was overload from collision forces. 3 out here. Dr. Caulfield did the test, and he shows 4 4 And secondly: The forces were the occupant, you. You can crush it 4 inches, and it doesn't move. 5 5 Mr. Clayton, loading the door to overload the latch. In fact, it moves the opposite direction. And remember, he's unrestrained, which caused 6 All right? And again, he talks about 7 7 misalignment of the pawls. He talks about breaking the latch to release. And the third opinion is that 8 8 the latch. There's that rubber boot. Back to their, the door did not open due to some rod foreshortening. 9 9 And again, he talked about the 214 bar, this sturdy ping, open theory. The pawls don't rip the boot if it member, somehow cut out of Mr. Gilberg's model, that 10 just pings open. Okay? 11 prevents foreshortening. 11 All the physical evidence adds up. It was 12 12 He talked about the test he did. About not some type of foreshortening. And then he was 13 13

ramming this 4 inches, trying to compress the A and B-pillar, still wouldn't open. Okay? All because of the structure of the door. It didn't happen.

16 Let me review some of his materials with you 17 very quickly.

(Pause.)

18 19 MR. O'NEILL: He explained about the striker. 20 Should be pointing directly toward the front of the vehicle. It's rotated out at 25 degrees. Okay? In 22 the foreshortening theory it opens the latch. There's nothing left hanging onto the striker. The force was so great that it rotated it away from the vehicle to that 25-degree angle.

asked about the "g" force: "Fourteen to 20 'g's, in that range, loading the door, is that gonna have enough force to overwhelmed the latch?" He said: "Absolutely. Twenty 'g's, he's 240, he's gonna pile on 4,800 pounds of Okay? And what -- then he was asked: "What did you find that it could withstand?" And did he that test. A transverse force 25 test. And he explains that:

17 (Pages 62 to 65)

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Page 66 Page 68 1 "Three times 40 is 7,200 pounds on cement is heavy and affects stability. 2 2 the door system in that 'g' level. I wouldn't entertain it in the first 3 3 "And would that be sufficient to place. That's gonna not make it." 4 4 And, you know, why, why raise that issue? overwhelm the latch?" 5 5 His testimony is: There isn't anything about the stiffness of that upper 6 6 "Yes, it would." A-frame that's gonna do anything, because of the way 7 7 Okay? But now another diversion, okay? In the vehicle is designed. And the stoutest part of the 8 8 Australia they're supposedly putting foam in the body is exactly where the door frame is mounted. All 9 9 A-pillar, and that's supposed to help something about right? 10 fore to aft, you know. You were left with this So that's, that brings us to point No. 4. 10 impression that somehow the door and the foam might 11 And this is about the handling and stability. And have made a difference. Okay? Let's look at the 12 again, I appreciate your patience. There's so many 12 13 13 truth: claims, we have to address every one. And we had to 14 "Can you please again describe the 14 bring in experts to address every single one. 15 15 components? And this one is very interesting. We brought 16 16 you the two men who put their signatures on the "Yes. The A-pillar that we're 17 looking at here. And the A-pillar lower 17 certification that this vehicle was safe from rollover 18 going into the rocker. See that on the, 18 resistance. And you know what? They've been accused 19 on the buck?" 19 now of, first of all being fired because there 20 20 And then he talks about these sections. And apparently were some problems with the UN105 steering. 21 21 But then they were hired and paid a lot of he said: 22 22 "The main beef, a non-technical money to defend. You know, when they run out of 23 23 substantive things to say, people turn it into a term, of the entire car, very boxy, 24 24 thick members on the door hood where personal attack. And that's what you've seen with 25 this door is latched to. The A-pillar 25 Mr. Tandy. Page 67 Page 69 1 lower is probably the stoutest member on 1 But we wanted you to get to know Mr. Tandy. 2 the car," that he can think of, "and a 2 We wanted you to get to know Mr. Pascarella. They did 3 3 uni-body construction is probably the the work. They got in the vehicles themselves and 4 4 stiffest." went out on test tracks and did the work. Okay? And, 5 5 and -- so that you could evaluate the work that they And so he was asked: 6 6 "Well, if you push down on the roof, did. 7 7 what would happen?" So let's kind of go through this point very 8 8 quickly. We all understand, I think now, why an SUV And he said: 9 9 is an SUV. You can't go off road unless you have "Well, that would be the main pivot 10 point for the roof, right at the cowl 10 higher clearances. Ford set that mission. Set that area." 11 11 target. And all SUVs are that way. 12 12 We talked about their design process. About Okay? Right here is where he's talking 13 13 about. At that pivot point. And so he was asked establishing the mission. Setting the targets. You 14 14 about that. And so then he was asked: got to select the dimensions. You have to build and 15 15 "Okay. And if I fill the upper rebuild prototypes. And that's what Ford does. And 16 A-pillar with foam, would it make any 16 then they test those prototypes. And then they go 17 difference in resisting fore/aft 17 back to design. 18 18 movement of the A-pillar?" And they do this loop back and forth. And 19 19 they don't release it until it meets their own And he said: 20 "You fill it with foam, the A-pillar guidelines and their own standards. And they have 21 21 in this vehicle, the roof crush standards far above what any governmental agency 22 situation wouldn't make a bit of 22 requires of them. Particularly in rollover 23 23 difference. resistance. And they confirm design intent by these 24 "How about if you fill it with 24 testings. 25 25 cement? "Wouldn't do that because And so here's, here's a summary of what we

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learned, I think from Mr. Tandy. The Explorer is a compact SUV. It's built on a truck chassis. It's required to have a higher CG to be able to get off road. To be sure that it had high rollover resistance, Ford designed it to pass track testing, 6 the J-turn testing, the ADAMS model.

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And Ford is the only manufacturer that makes itself do that. And everybody who's tested the vehicle knows that it can withstand at least .8 "g's" of force before it rolls over. Which is far above what you're gonna experience in normal driving.

Defendant's Exhibit 938, Ford's resistance to rollover guidelines. Not required. Nobody makes them do this. They impose it on themselves. They won't let the vehicle out to the public unless it passes.

They do the ADAMS J-turn simulation. It's correlated to on track testing. They use the computer model so that they can do very quick design changes, test many different parameters, do thousands of configurations in a single day. Instead of the old days, where you had to make one prototype at a time and test it. All right?

But then there was the allegation, Well, they 24 just do the model and they don't, they don't correlate. That's false. We brought in Mr. Tandy, Page 72

him about anything having to do with these tests. 2 Why? Because they know the work was done. They know 3 the tests were done. They know the certification was based on his own experience on track. 5

And you're gonna see these thick binders that are those data books that we talked about. And the DVDs showing the video tests. And they're there for one reason: So that you can see and understand exactly what they did.

This isn't the Mr. Ingebretsen style: Trust me. These are my words. But I don't need to do tests.

13 We believe you do have to do tests if you 14 want to prove something. Ford did that as they were 15 designing the vehicle. They've done it afterward. It is not sensitive to this 235 versus 255 tire. It is 17 not some 20 pounds in the simulation makes a 18 difference. That isn't the truth.

The truth is what was done on the track. The truth is what was done at Ford to demonstrate that this vehicle had good rollover resistance, and good handling and stability. And I wanted to talk for a second about Mr. Tandy's safety chart. You'll see it. And I won't invest the time to take it out. But the three circles. All right?

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the guy that did the work. Here's the exhibits. They're in evidence, okay?

This exhibit shows, in 1983, Greg Stevens doing the on test track work. This is Exhibit D-112. And remember this discussion. It's comparing the straight-line ADAMS to actual on-track tests. And this is done at APG on 6/18/93, right when the vehicle is being built.

They're out there on the track, measuring with real prototypes against the model. It passed. It tracks. The work was done. Another one, okay? This is in '94 now. This is Defendant's 96. And this is the reliability review summary. Showing the tests that were done to comply with those standards.

Here's another one now in 1998. Objective handling of the 1997 Explorer compared to ADAMS. This one is about 128 pages thick. They're all in evidence for you to see that work. Okay? So that's, that's the work that was done.

And I want you to think about this for a moment. What was Mr. Tandy questioned about? Almost nothing. They went into his charts and asked about the CG heights. And then went to his other chart and said, Well, really maybe it's up here.

Didn't ask him about his work. Didn't ask

And that safety, it has to do with the driver, the vehicle, and the environment. And as much 3 time that you can invest, as Ford did, in designing a very safe and reliable product, you cannot avoid all accidents that have to do with driver error and environment.

You do the best that you can, but you can't avoid those all together. And again, I'll spend just a few moments on these. This track width comparison. Center of gravity, height, and static stability factor. And this one is interesting.

Mr. Emblem sort of did something funny. He said: "Well, what if you load it all up? Doesn't that red line kind of move up?"

Yes, it does. But then you'd be comparing a fully-loaded Explorer, against an empty everything else. And those of you who are statisticians and engineers understand that the way you compare is apples to apples. And so if you're going to load up the Explorer, you need to load everything else up.

And you are back right where you are here. It shows you there are no unusual characteristics about this vehicle. It shows you that it was an appropriate set of choices by Ford. But more importantly, it was tested by Ford to make sure that

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his son the same thing. They all read those warnings. They all knew those warnings. And there they are:

"Avoid unnecessarily sharp turns or other abrupt maneuvers."

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Okay? It's right in front of them. It's in the manual several different times. It also tells them to wear your seat belt.

All right, let me come to kind of another part. The judge told you about some questions concerning when Kellie should have understood her injury. I'm not gonna spend much time on this. But you need, on the verdict form, because of the legal issues in the case, to pick a date on which she understood the harm and the cause of the harm.

So I want to go through very quickly the fact that she hired an attorney, Keith Barton. She signed a contract with him. Her mother was present when that contract was signed, at all times, and she read it.

And then we, we saw the agreement, the scope of services. And again, this is 1999. Okay? November of 1990 -- about the accident, 1998. Scope of services:

"The attorney was being hired to represent you in the matter of your claims against all parties arising out Page 80

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1 Do not, please, go into the jury room and assume that somehow, because a party is a company or a 3 corporation, they're not entitled to the same justice 4 that an individual is. Give Ford that same chance. 5 Give Ford the same chance to be able to prove to you that this wasn't the kind of claim and the kind of 7 defect that's being alleged in this case.

We've talked about the expert opinion. I want you to consider, as you think about that instruction, who did tests. Mr. Ingebretsen put a chain on a, on a vehicle and kind of racheted it up until it might be able to touch. Okay? And that was one of his tests. And then the other one, he squished a rod and did this. But he didn't do anything else, okay?

We've tried to examine everything that was claimed. We did off road tests to reenter. We did tests with the tie rod out, to see how it performed. We took the tie rod out in the double steer maneuver. We did drop tests, to show how much force can occur in an accident and what can be fractured.

We did SEM tests. We brought in all of the pictures and the data so that people could examine it carefully. That's something to consider as you weigh this evidence. Seat belt use. We've talked about

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of injuries."

Okay? So the date on which she knew the harm and knew who was responsible, she is hiring an attorney to pursue, as it says here: "Your claims against all parties." Okay?

All right. So I just want to sort of conclude with a couple of thoughts on jury instructions. And I do appreciate your patience. The judge has given you several instructions. And rather than read them to you, I'm gonna quickly touch on them. And then go to the verdict form.

Number 3 was an important jury instruction. And it says that sympathy is not to, to guide your decision.

And it's very difficult, but it is the foundation of justice in our system. Every one of us here feels for the loss of a loved one. Every one of us here knows that this family is hurting. You can see it. You can see it when certain things are said in the evidence. But you can't allow that to guide your thoughts. You must base your decision on evidence. And that's what that instruction is about.

23 Instruction No. 7 tells you that a 24 corporation is entitled to the same rights as an individual.

that and what it's appropriate for. And we've talked 2 about the idea of using reasonable care as a

3 plaintiff. 4

And then the final point. That a party who's making a plain -- a claim has the obligation to prove each and every element. And we do not have, as the defendant, any obligation to disprove anything. But we believe that we have.

It is not our obligation. We can stand silent. But we believe that we have shown that to you. You're gonna be the judges of those facts. Please weigh them carefully. And I think as you do, you can see the truth behind these claims.

The accident happened in a very simple, tragic way. It was driver inattention and overcorrection. And some massive forces that hammered that vehicle and broke those components.

And this theory is inconsistent with every single dimension that you can think of. What people noticed. What people did. The physical evidence. The testing of vehicles with and without tie rods. It doesn't add up. Okay?

23 I'm almost through. I have one more set of 24 comments. And again, it goes to burden of proof. And when my remarks are done, I'm gonna sit down and

(Pages 78 to 81)

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you're never gonna hear from me in this case again. And you're probably happy about that.

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And there's a reason for that. It's because of that burden of proof. And that affords the plaintiff that last opportunity to be able to share with you final thoughts.

And good lawyers -- and Mr. Emblem certainly is one, and he's, he's been a gentleman as well -always save their zingers for last. And so you're probably gonna hear some. But as you're hearing them I want to have you think about some things as he's asking you those questions.

Why is it that no one noticed any problem with the vehicle after this alignment? Not a noise. Not a vibration. Not a body roll. Nothing. Why is it that there's no physical evidence of any damage to this tie rod? Why is it pristine, if it's getting hammered because the sway bar link is out?

Why is there no evidence in the roadway that would suggest some type of breakage in the tie rod? Why is it that the vehicle is able to reenter the roadway in an aggressive yaw if the tie rod is broken? Why are there yaw marks, when the tests show you can't get it?

Why are you claiming that there was rod

really happened here. 2

It's wrong. It's tragic. And it was very preventable by the individual that was behind the wheel of a very safe vehicle. Thank you for your

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THE COURT: Wendy, can we have the lights please?

8 I think before we get to the rebuttal we'll 9 take a break here, ladies and gentlemen. We'll take 10 15 minutes. I should tell you, this will be your last 11 break before you become a sequestered jury. And as I 12 told you before, what that means is that we'll not 13 allow contact with the outside world.

So if there's phone calls that need to be made and those sort of things, now would be the time to do that. During this break you're not to form or express any opinions among yourselves or with others.

And we'll be in recess until about 12 minutes to 3:00. You're excused, and we will be in recess.

(A recess was taken.)

21 MR. EMBLEM: Reverse bending fracture looks 22 like, and agreed that the Clayton tie rod looks like 23 that. That wasn't necessary. As a matter of fact, I

believe he said the reverse bending fatigue was the

most prominent and common failure mode. That's why

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foreshortening, when the measurement doesn't even exist to show that you can foreshorten that rod? Why are you saying the door came open, when the latch is deformed and it doesn't deform on foreshortening?

Why is it that you're doing parlor tricks with the seat belt, when there isn't such a claim? Folks, when you weigh all of that evidence and add it up, it comes to one thing. It's all about trying to divert you. Trying to say a lot of different things, and hoping that something sticks.

It isn't there. And you have a jury verdict form, and there's one question that it starts with:

"Do you find that there is a defect in this Ford Explorer? Yes or no?"

And if you answer no, then your work is done. It says: "Go to question 11." You'll see the signature. But that is what I would suggest to you. And you are the finders of the fact that the evidence amounts to.

Please weigh it carefully. You've done a great job, and you've been very courteous. And as you carefully weigh that evidence I ask you, please, put 23 the plaintiffs to their burden of proof. Don't allow 24 the kind of theories, and guesses, and words without tests, words without proof to sway you from what

you don't have to do it over, and over, and over 2 again. 3

And even more interesting, I think, than, than those comments was the fact that -- of Mr. Fowler's ability to do the impact -- since that was their defense -- to do the impact test to show that that could have been broken in that way.

But the only impact test we saw was the lateral impact that was the breaking of the sway bar link, and then the tie rod being hit with the (Inaudible) sway bar. That's the test that we saw. And it certainly bent the rod. If it had, as in our case, been subjected to reverse bending, it surely

16 testing that they had. When Mr. Tandy was on the 17 stand we talked about the sign offs, which are 784 and 18 785. These are sign offs by Mr. Pascarella. I think that Mr. Tandy's was, was in 1995 -- or 1994 for the

Mr. O'Neill talked a lot about all the

20 '95 model, and then in '96 for the '96 model, et

21 cetera. Something like that.

would have broken the rod.

22 But the testing criteria that they showed 23 you -- and I can't find the exhibit right now, was the P-6-101 -- testing criteria for the J-turn testing. When we find that exhibit - you'll find it in the --

22 (Pages 82 to 85)

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to have it in there.

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THE COURT: Well, we want to make certain that they're guided as much as possible. It seems to me that that's a correct instruction to them in terms of how to work their way through the special verdict. That will be our special verdict.

Exceptions now to the, the charge to the jury? Mr. Raty?

MR. RATY: Yes, your Honor.

THE COURT: And I wonder if you could do that at the podium? As I say, we're on our other system -we're on zeroes and ones now and we could use the microphones, I think.

MR. RATY: All right. Thank you, your Honor. I don't know if you specifically want me to address you on these things or just to make a record of them.

THE COURT: You have the convenience of the 18 record for your exceptions.

MR. RATY: All right. The first thing I would like to state is that we except, as outlined in our objections filed with the court, our written objections to defendant's proposed jury instructions which were excepted -- or those ones which were excepted.

We also except to jury instruction No. 25.

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and -- the injury and the harm caused by the Explorer 2 defects.

Those are our exceptions to the jury instructions. Should I make my exceptions to the special verdict form at this time, your Honor?

THE COURT: Yes.

MR. RATY: Okay. The jury verdict form is erroneous. It does not allow the jury to consider or make findings on plaintiff's causes of action for negligence and failure to warn.

The, the Court determined, based on defense counsel's argument, that negligence and failure to warn claims are subsumed in and obviated by question No. 1 of the jury instruction -- or the jury special verdict form.

16 Question No. 1 asks the jury to determine if 17 the Explorer was in a defective condition and 18 reasonably dangerous to the plaintiff. The defendant 19 argued, and the Court accepted the argument, that 20 under the Bishop case there is no claim in products 21 liability for negligence or for failure to warn 22 separate from a claim of strict liability.

In other words, the, the special verdict form is crafted as such to reflect the, the notion that one cannot obj -- that one cannot prove a defect through

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That is the proximate cause instruction. The jury has been instructed only on proximate cause in regard to strict liability pursuant to defendant's argument that there are no causes of action without first proving a defect in strict product liability.

We next except to jury instruction No. 27, which is argumentative, and implies that the -- to the, to the court, as a matter of law, that the Explorer was, was safe.

We take exception to jury instruction No. 30. There's been no evidence whatsoever that Tony Clayton failed to keep a proper lookout. And that was also the subject of a motion for directed verdict.

The same for jury instruction No. 31, we take 15 exception. There's no evidence that Mr. Clayton failed to exercise reasonable care. Take exception to 17 jury instruction No. 31, as no government standards are applicable to these specific defects alleged in --19 and evidenced in the case. And so there's no reason to have a jury instruction on government standards.

20 21 Take exception to jury instruction No. 46. 22 There's been no evidence presented. Or if there were, the evidence is insufficient in order for the jury to find a date, a specific date upon which plaintiff, Kellie Montoya, knew or should have known of the harm Page 117

negligence or failure to warn unless it's first been proven that there's been a defect, in terms of strict liability.

The jury form is also -- the special verdict form is also erroneous in that it does not permit the iury to determine a breach of warranty unless, again, it's first found by the jury that there's been a defect in terms of strict liability.

Jury verdict form is also erroneous in that it requires the jury to find that the plaintiff's injuries -- or that the defective condition in the case at bar was the proximate cause rather than a proximate cause of the plaintiff's injuries.

The jury verdict form is erroneous in that, on the breach of warranty, that question does not use the language "breach of warranty," or the -- it does not use the language "breach of warranty," and is confusing as to what the, the claims are which the jury is being asked to find.

The special -- jury special verdict form is also erroneous in that it requires the jury to find a specific date on which Kellie Montoya knew, or through exercise of reasonable diligence should have discovered both her harm and its cause. There's no specific date in evidence that could reasonably be

30 (Pages 114 to 117)

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Page 122

know what we have here going, but you don't have that 2 capability, maybe.

MS. NEVILLE: My guess is we have a electronic copy, so we'll just e-mail it to the clerk.

THE COURT: Well, I'll -- I think we could just redo it without that line.

And with that -- and we'll ask Francisco to come forward too, because I don't know if I had introduced him. Francisco (Inaudible) is a, an intern here going to the college of law at the -- S.J. Quinney College of Law. And he will help us.

12 If you would, take these exhibits back to the 13 jury room. So I'll need the officer and -- although I 14 do need counsel to make certain as we put them 15 together -- and I'm not sure whether we need to 16 prioritize them. The room will hold so much, if you 17 will -- maybe to direct us.

18 It's probably just the larger -- very larger 19 things that won't fit in there. But if we put the 20 other things. I think all the photographs, all the 21 various binders. Even the smaller tie rods and so 22 forth go back there. 23

MR. LARSEN: One other issue. We did have a laptop that was available, if the --

25 THE COURT: Yeah.

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Page 124

THE COURT: In terms of where you can go, if you have a cell phone -- and I think everyone does -if you'll give Wendy the cell phone number. And vow to be no lon -- no further away than 15 minutes. So. (Inaudible speaker.)

THE COURT: I -- maybe I'm anticipating some questions, possibly, so that we can gather together quickly.

We'll be in recess.

(A recess was taken.)

11 THE COURT: We're back here in the matter of 12 Clayton versus Ford Motor Company. And everyone is present who needs to be present. The jury is in the box. We're a bit formal about this but we need to do 15 this, of course, on the record.

16 You have made a request to see the doors and 17 the buck. And they have their relative exhibit numbers. I won't identify them particularly. We need to -- the rules re -- require that I accommodate you 20 on that, to allow you to view these larger exhibits 21 that will not be accommodated in the jury room.

22 But that does have to be done in a certain 23 way. And this is the way we're gonna do this. We will leave you in this courtroom for five minutes, allowing you to take a look at these exhibits. Rock

Page 123

Page 125

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MR. LARSEN: -- jury requests it. Or we
could send it in without a request and just
(Inaudible.) It's up to you.
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THE COURT: Well, I think I would prefer this. Would be -- if they request -- if they want to look at the CDs, that we'll provide what you have. And you know what -- we were talking about the same machine and everyone?

MR. LARSEN: It's a machine that I showed to 10 plaintiff's counsel table this morning and asked 11 them --

MR. EMBLEM: We haven't looked at it yet, but I'm sure it's gonna be fine. We'll just check it out.

THE COURT: We'll, just handle it that way. On, on request, we'll provide the machine. And if you'll look it over to -- anticipating that request, so that we can see if there's any perceived problems with that.

MR. LARSEN: We'll give the laptop to Wendy 20 so that she can give it to them, (Inaudible) not available.

THE COURT: All right. Let me see. I don't 23 know that there's anything else. We'll be then in 24 recess awaiting this verdict.

(Inaudible speaker.)

will be on this side. We'll have this other door secured.

At -- in five minutes, Rock will come back in to escort you back out. If you're finished before five minutes, then if you'll knock on the door, he'll come and get you and take you back into the courtroom.

And so we'll leave now. And -- well, maybe we'll give you some symmetry here. Seven minutes. A quarter to 8:00. Seven forty-five. And we'll excuse ourselves.

(A recess was taken.)

12 THE COURT: We're here in the matter of 13 Clayton versus Ford Motor Company. Appears to me that 14 everyone is present who needs to be present. And the 15 jury is in the box. 16

Mr. Shelley, you are the foreperson?

17 JUROR: Yes, your Honor. 18

THE COURT: Has this jury reached a verdict?

19 JUROR: We have, your Honor.

20 THE COURT: If you'll hand the verdict to 21

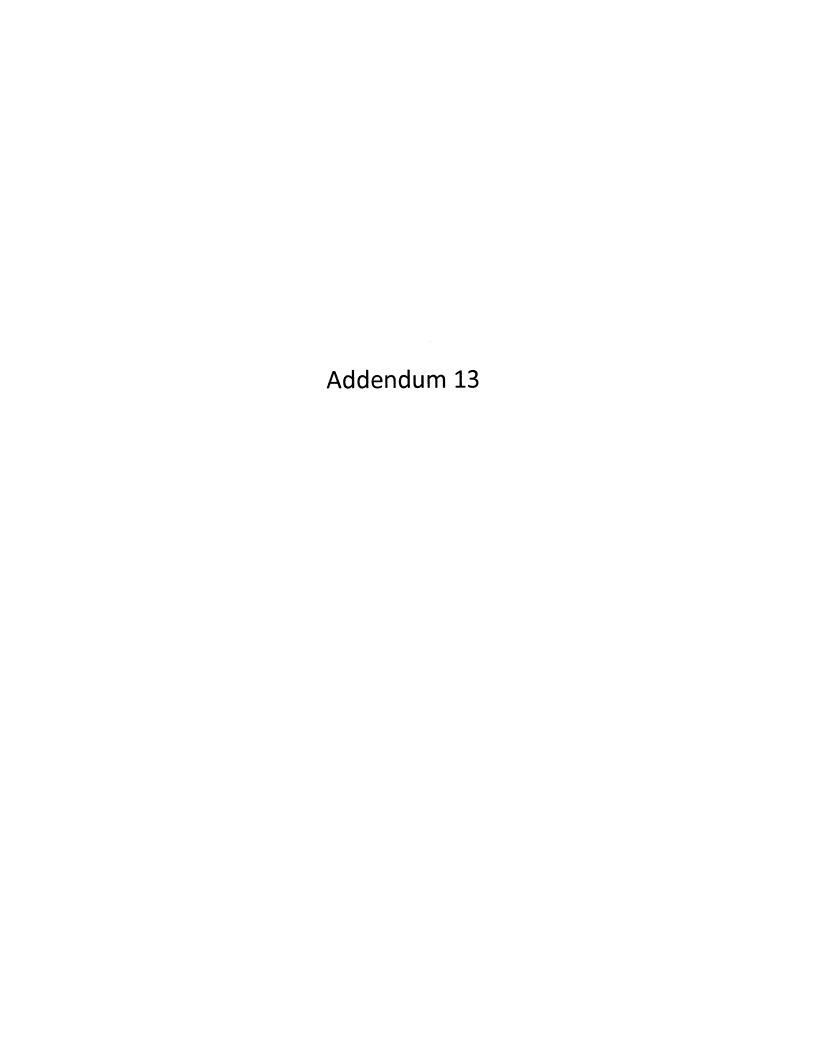
Rock. 22

(Pause.)

23 THE COURT: I'll publish the verdict. This 24 is in the matter of D. Clayton and others versus Ford Motor Company.

32 (Pages 122 to 125)

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Page 126
                                                                                                                         Page 128
              "Special verdict. Case num -- Case
                                                                     1
                                                                          experience that you will long remember.
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                                                                     2
                                                                                Know that we do it with thanks. The check is
 2
           No. 000909522.
 3
                                                                     3
                                                                          in the mail. You are excused with our thanks.
              "Interrogatory No. 1: When the
           subject 1997 Ford Explorer left Ford
                                                                     4
                                                                                     (The jury was excused.)
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 5
           Motor Company, was it in a defective
                                                                     5
                                                                                THE COURT: The jury has left the courtroom.
 6
           condition, unreasonably dangerous to the
                                                                     6
                                                                          We'll inform the alternates that they are no longer
 7
           plaintiffs?
                                                                     7
                                                                          needed and are discharged. And Mr. O'Neill.
                                                                     8
              "Answer: No."
                                                                                MR. O'NEILL: Yes, sir.
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                                                                                THE COURT: And Mr. Larsen, and Ms. Neville,
             (There was a glitch in the tape.)
                                                                     9
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             THE COURT: I'm going to begin again so that
                                                                          if you'll prepare a judgment based on this special
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                                                                   10
       we can have a good record of everything that's said.
                                                                    11
                                                                          verdict.
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                                                                   12
      My first question of you all is, is this the verdict
                                                                                Your presentation is appreciated. I expected
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13
      of the jury, so say you all?
                                                                          the best. I was not disappointed.
                                                                   14
                                                                                MR. O'NEILL: Thank you, your Honor.
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              (Responses in the affirmative.)
             THE COURT: Everyone has answered in the
                                                                   15
                                                                                THE COURT: We'll be in recess.
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      affirmative. I'll poll individ -- each individual of
                                                                   16
                                                                                  (The recording was concluded.)
16
      you. And the question is, was this and is this now
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       the verdict of this jury? Paul DeJane?
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             JUROR: Yes, your Honor.
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             THE COURT: Gerri Cowley?
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             JUROR: Yes, your Honor.
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22
             THE COURT: Lam H. Thai?
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                                                                    23
23
             JUROR: Yes.
24
             THE COURT: Edith Ruth Reyes?
                                                                    24
                                                                    25
25
             JUROR: (Inaudible.)
                                                      Page 127
                                                                                                                          Page 129
                                                                                 CERTIFICATE
 1
             THE COURT: Danny K. Baker?
             JUROR: (Inaudible.)
  2
                                                                          STATE OF UTAH
                                                                          ) ss.
COUNTY OF SALT LAKE )
  3
             THE COURT: Angela T. Mouritsen?
  4
             JUROR: Yes.
                                                                           This is to certify that the foregoing transcript
  5
             THE COURT: Adam Douglas Shelley?
                                                                          was prepared by me, KELLY L. WILBURN, a Registered
  6
             JUROR: Yes, your Honor.
                                                                          Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the
                                                                          State of Utah.
  7
             THE COURT: Shirley Marie Oakley?
             JUROR: Yes.
                                                                           That the transcript was prepared from a
  8
                                                                          previously-recorded proceeding that was provided to me
by means of a CD. That said recording was then
  9
             THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, that
                                                                          written in stenotype by me and thereafter caused by me
       concludes your service. Let me indicate to you, in
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                                                                          to be transcribed into typewriting. That I was not
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       the strongest terms, our deep appreciation. This, I
                                                                     10
                                                                          personally present at the said proceeding.
                                                                            And that a full, true, and correct transcription
12
       know, has been quite an experience for the last
                                                                          of said recording so taken and transcribed to the best
13
       several weeks. And I want you to know that all of us
                                                                     12
                                                                          of my ability is set forth in the foregoing pages,
                                                                          numbered 1 through 128, inclusive.
14
       appreciate very much your sacrifice.
                                                                           I further certify that I am not of kin or
             I know jury service at the least is
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                                                                     14
                                                                          otherwise associated with any of the parties to said
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       inconvenient, but many times represents a substantial
                                                                          cause of action, and that I am not interested in the
                                                                    15
17
       sacrifice, both to fulfill your duty and to make this
                                                                            WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL AT KEARNS, UTAH
       system work. Tonight you'll go home and someone will
18
                                                                          THIS 21st DAY OF February, 2007.
                                                                     17
19
       ask you what you did today. And I want you to tell
                                                                                  Kelly L. Wilburn, CSR, RPR
20
       them -- well, you can tell them anything you want.
                                                                     18
                                                                                  My Commission Expires:
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             You're now free to talk to or not talk to
                                                                     19
                                                                                  May 16, 2009
                                                                     20
       anybody about this experience. But I hope that when
22
                                                                     21
       you go home tonight you'll tell them, if you're gonna
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24
       tell them anything, that you were part of this great
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       system that we have. And I know that this is an
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DEE CLAYTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

Civil No. 000909522

vs.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,)

Defendants.

JURY SELECTION

January 2, 2007 10:55 a.m.

Wendy Alcock Registered Professional Reporter

FILED DISTRICT COURT Third Judicial District

NOV - 1 2007

SALT LAKE COUNTY

Deputy Clark



333 SOUTH RIO GRANDE SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84101 WWW DEPOMAXMERIT COM TOLL FREE 800-337-6629 PHONE 801-328 1188 FAX 801-328-1189

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT SALT LAKE CITY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

Vs.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,

Defendants.

)

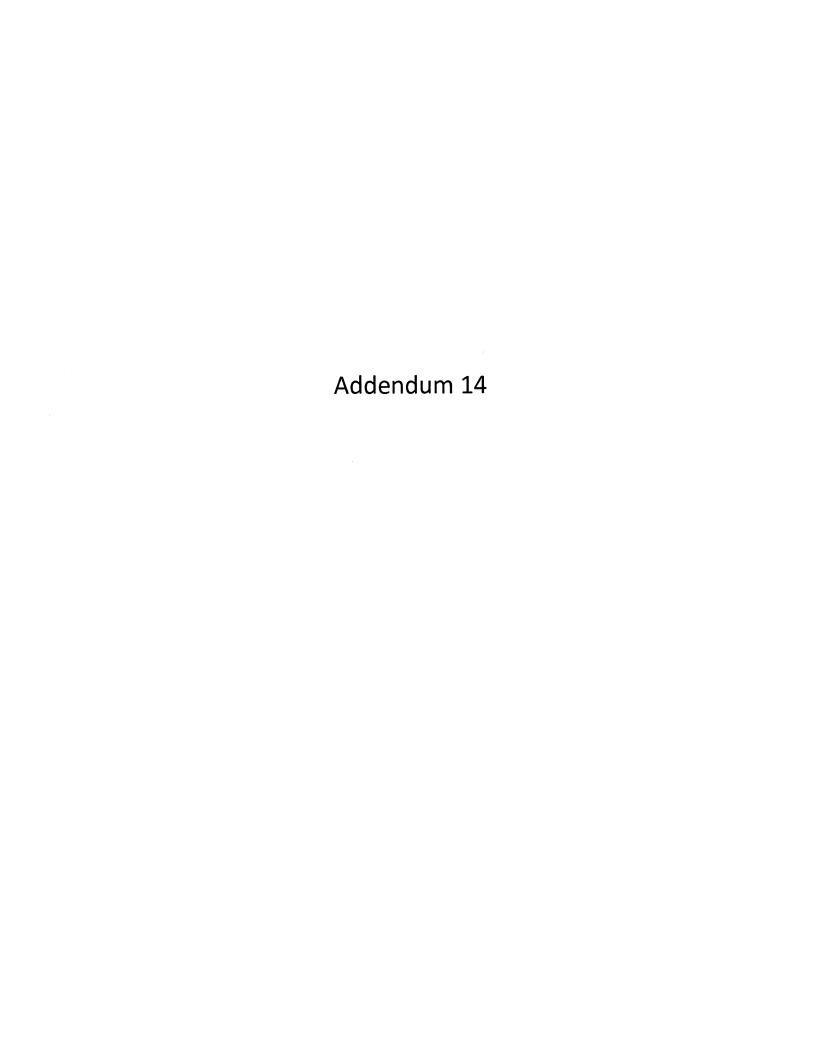
JURY SELECTION

January 2, 2007 10:55 a.m.

Wendy Alcock Registered Professional Reporter

Page 26 Page 28 1 1 a supervisor in the mail and distribution department. THE COURT: It's an engineering consulting? 2 2 THE COURT: And you're a computer programmer? PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. 3 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Well, no. I'm a 3 THE COURT: You're an engineer? 4 4 telecommunications installation technician. Internet data PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Yes. 5 5 communications. THE COURT: What type of engineer? 6 6 THE COURT: How long have you done that? PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Mechanical. I'm not going 7 7 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Over eight years. to school right now. I'm married with two kids, a boy and 8 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Dejane. Ms. Cowley? 8 girl. My wife works for Social Security Administration in 9 9 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 39 years. Associate's Murray. 10 10 degree. I work for Jordan School District as a teacher's THE COURT: How long has she worked for Social 11 11 Security? assistant. 12 12 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I think 15 years or so. THE COURT: Your degree is in what field of 13 study? 13 THE COURT: Thank you. Ms. Erickson? 14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: General studies. And I'm 14 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I've lived in Salt Lake 15 15 also -- not this quarter, but I go to the University of County most of the 40 years. I have a barber's license Utah for a psychology degree. I am married, and my 16 from Salt Lake Community College. I work at Beesley's 17 17 husband works for Saia Motor Company. Barber Shop, self-employed. Been there together with him 18 18 THE COURT: I haven't asked the others. I don't for 30 years. Not attending school. I'm single. I have 19 19 have that on the list, but you're welcome to tell us how three sons. 20 20 many children you have and their ages. THE COURT: Ages? 21 21 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Two. 15 and 14. PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 45, 44 and 43. 22 22 THE COURT: You're also welcome to, if you want THE COURT: I presume all these children are 23 23 to describe them as beautiful or some adjective, you're beautiful children. 24 24 certainly welcome to take this opportunity. Thank you, PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Definitely. 25 25 Ms. Cowley. Ms. Rost-Hainsworth? THE COURT: Before, Mr. Dinan, we call upon you Page 27 Page 29 1 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I believe I've been in Salt to answer the questions, let me indicate to you, as I say, 2 2 Lake County 45 years. I have a GED from Salt Lake we all you need to speak up. And I'm speaking up also. 3 3 Community College. I work for Steve Evans doing business And it's being recorded here, what we're talking about, so 4 4 at Sell Antiques. we have to make sure we all speak up. And I may 5 5 THE COURT: What do you do for him? occasionally speak into the air, meaning that I'm 6 6 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: It's varied. I answer describing something for the record. So if it seems like 7 7 phones, I help customers, I might do housekeeping if it's I'm describing what is the obvious, it is because the 8 8 required, invoicing, I do all their computer work online. record needs to be clear in terms of who you are and what 9 9 I'm not attending school right now. I am widowed, but I were we're seeing here. 10 10 had not lived with my husband for seven years prior to his Mr. Dinan? 11 11 death. PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I've lived here for 12 12 12 THE COURT: What type of work did he do? years. I attended a few years of college back in New 13 13 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: He was a carpenter. I have York. Work for Zions Bank in the investment department. 14 four children. That's it. Not currently attending school. I'm divorced. 15 15 THE COURT: What are their ages? THE COURT: Employment -- your ex-wife, any 16 16 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: 16, 26, 27, 31. employment outside the home? 17 THE COURT: Thank you. Mr. Thai? 17 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: Allstate Insurance Company. 18 18 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I've been in Salt Lake about THE COURT: Doing what sort of work for 19 19 20 years. I have a Bachelor's degree in mechanical Allstate? 20 20 engineering. I have a Master's in Business PROSPECTIVE JUROR: At the time I believe she 21 21 Administration. Let's see. I own my own company. was involved with claims and things. That was quite a 22 22 THE COURT: I'm sorry, Mr. Thia, could you speak while ago. 23 23 THE COURT: And in New York, which institution up? in New York? Which school? 24 PROSPECTIVE JUROR: I own my own engineering 24 25 25 consulting company. PROSPECTIVE JUROR: City College.

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IN THE THIRD DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,

Defendants.

Case No. 000909522

Judge Joseph C. Fratto

TRANSCRIPT OF TRIAL PROCEEDINGS

DATE: January 5, 2007

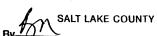
TIME: 9:13 a.m.

REPORTED BY: Kelly L. Wilburn, CSR, RPR

FILED DISTRICT COURT

Third Judicial District

NOV - 1 2007



Deputy Clerk



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IN THE THIRD DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,)

(Case No. 000909522

Plaintiffs,)

vs.)

Judge Joseph C. Fratto

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION,)

et al.,)

Defendants.)

TRANSCRIPT OF TRIAL PROCEEDINGS

DATE: January 5, 2007

TIME: 9:13 a.m.

REPORTED BY: Kelly L. Wilburn, CSR, RPR

	Page 2		Page 4
1 APPEARANCES 2 For the Plantiffs 3 THOR O. EMBLEM, ESQ TRACY EMBLEM, ESQ 4 LAW OFFICES OF THOR O EMBLEM, ESQ 205 West Fifth Avenue, Sutte 105 5 Escondido, California 92025 (760) 738-9301 6 (760) 738-9409 (fax) 7 MATTHEW H. RATY, ESQ LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW H RATY, PC 9 9677 South 700 East, Sutte D Sandy, Utah 84070 9 (801) 495-2252 (801) 495-2262 (fax) 10 For the Defendants 11 TIMOTHY O'NEILL, ESQ 12 LAW OFFICE OF TIMOTHY O'NEILL 1200 17th Street, Suite 1900 13 Denver, Colorado 80202 (303) 634-2003 14 DAN R. LARSEN, ESQ 15 KIMBERLY NEVILLE, ESQ. SNELL & WILMER 16 15 West South Temple, Suite 1200 Gateway Tower West 17 Salt Lake City, Utah 84101 (801) 257-1800 (fax) 19 -0Oo- 20 21 22 23 24 25		4 i 5 6 7 1 8 9 j 10 t 11 v 12 (13 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	Mr. Emblem, what's your view of it? MR. EMBLEM: Well, I'd sure hate to lose him, your Honor, but I'm here and listening. I understand it would limit our, our reserves to two. Any thoughts? I think an unhappy juror is not gonna be good for anybody. What do you think? MR. O'NEILL: Your Honor, I agree, unhappy jurors are not good for any of us. But the effect of that would be just as Mr. Emblem said, reduced to two, which puts us all in a position where we might run out of jurors and have to redo that again. And absolutely no one would want that. Number two I think for both of us Mr. Lam, for better or worse, was central to all of the efforts in voir dire. The three days that we spent. And there's just absolutely no way that I would voluntarily say release him. I think we all heard all of the hardships. And there were many, many that are still on this jury that still have very difficult things they have to deal with. So I feel for the guy, but I can't voluntarily let that one go. That served three days as part of our focus. THE COURT: Well, first and my position is
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JANUARY 5, 2007
                                     9:13 A.M.
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            PROCEEDINGS
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        MR. EMBLEM: Morning your Honor.
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        THE COURT: Good morning. We're gathered
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   here in the matter of Dee Clayton and others --
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   Dolores Clayton versus the Ford motor company and
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   others. Appears to me that everyone is present who
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   needs to be present. The jury, however, is not in the
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   courtroom.
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I come in here first because I wanted to 11 inform everybody about a situation and solicit 12 everyone's view in terms of what you would like to do. 13 Juror No. 3, Lam Thai, was sort of clearly not happy 14 that he had been selected as Juror No. 3.

And has come in this morning with the bailiff 16 and posed these questions, which are that he is wondering why his -- the burdens of service that he outlined were insufficient to excuse him. And an indication, apparently, that he has babysitter 20 problems. His wife cannot get off of work and, and 21 these sorts of things.

22 I solicit your view in terms of what you 23 would like to do with Mr. Thai, if anything. Or what 24 you think would be appropriate in terms of addressing his questions and his situation.

that the decision has been made regarding his situation. And I made a determination. I'm not inclined, of course, to reevaluate with what we have.

I don't know if -- and would not, unless you both either agreed to release him, for whatever reason, and we called upon one of the alternates to fill his spot. Or if you would want some further inquiry in terms of his situation to see if there should be a reconsideration of, of that.

I'm not inclined to do that. But if the two of you would like to do that, I will. So it's either you both agree that -- or both sides agree that he should be released, given the circumstance. Or -- and/or inquire of him further. Or we'll just proceed forward.

16 MR. EMBLEM: For me, your Honor, I think the 17 decision of hardship is a decision for the Bench. And for Mr. O'Neill and myself, I think we're in the same position that we have to advocate for our clients in 20 our best, best efforts.

With that in mind, if further voir dire would help the Court make that decision, then I think that would be fine.

24 THE COURT: Okay. I'm not inclined to -- as 25 I say, if both of you urged me to do that, I would do

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Page 6

it and maybe look and -- take another look at it. But I'm not inclined to reevaluate that unless you both agree to do that -- that I should do that.

Should we proceed forward?

MR. EMBLEM: I think we should, your Honor.

THE COURT: Let's bring the jury in.

MR. EMBLEM: Your Honor, my clients are present this morning. Mr. Clayton, Mrs. Clayton. This is the first cousin, Phil. And Kellie Montoya.

THE COURT: Good morning.

(Pause.)

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MR. O'NEILL: Your Honor, I thought I would just make a note. I just asked Mr. Emblem. He expects to finish before lunch, of course. And I don't know how that will fall on break, but it will take us just a few minutes to shuffle all the technology for -- so for purposes of a little break in between --

(The jury entered the courtroom.)

THE COURT: The jury is now in the courtroom. Before we begin let me maybe make some adjustments.

22 Mr. Penrose, I'm wondering if on the back row would be

23 a better place for you. Would that --24

MR. PENROSE: I'm, I'm open. Wherever you

25 think is best. the -- all the jury in here and everybody raised their opinion about why they can't be -- and there were a

> lot of, you know, financial hardship that they can't be here. Be jurors.

So, and I -- one thing I do notice is that, you know, a lot of them are gone except for me, you know. And one thing I want to make sure that I have a peace of mind that, you know, I know what -- how this process work.

Page 8

Page 9

10 Is that well -- is it my, my financial well-being not as important as so-and-so, you know, financial well-being, you know. That's the thing I 13 need to clarify for me to, you know, to fully 14 understand what.

THE COURT: Well, I'd like to give you the courtesy of an answer to that. I understand your concern. It's my decision to make. There's statutory standards in terms of hardship, undue hardships and extreme inconvenience.

And Rule 47 is the rule that governs these sorts of things. And I must make a determination. We had found ourself down to pretty well all of the jurors. And if we were not able to select a panel we would have necessarily had to -- this considerable preparation for this would have gone for naught, and

Page 7

THE COURT: All right. Well, Mr. --MR. PENROSE: Oh, good. Yeah, with this 2 3

thing, sure, that probably is a good idea.

THE COURT: If we, if we switched places with Mr. Thai. And we do have two -- three extra chairs. Now, that would permit maybe some spreading out when you get to the point where you, where that might be more comfortable.

It's not necessary that you stay in this order completely in terms of your comfort. If your, if your seat is not as comfortable as maybe one other seat might be, we can make an adjustment to that. So we'll start with this.

And as I say, if we need to adjust a bit for comfort. Hopefully that jury box is not too bad. It's -- the design of the jury box is sort of an art that we get involved with.

Mr. Thai, I understand that you had some 19 concerns about your selection. And you had some, some problems that have been -- had arisen.

20 21 MR. THAI: Yeah, you know, I, you know, I 22 just, I mean, you know, I'm doing my best to, to be impartial on this. But the thing I have a question

24 about is, you know, to ease my, my, my understanding 25

of the process is that, you know, I -- when we had

the matter would have been delayed for a considerable

period of time.

You can imagine the coordination that must go into this sort of an event. So I needed to make an evaluation here in terms of everybody's situation, in terms of their hardship. Appreciating that it's a difficult -- and I hope you appreciate that it's a difficult decision.

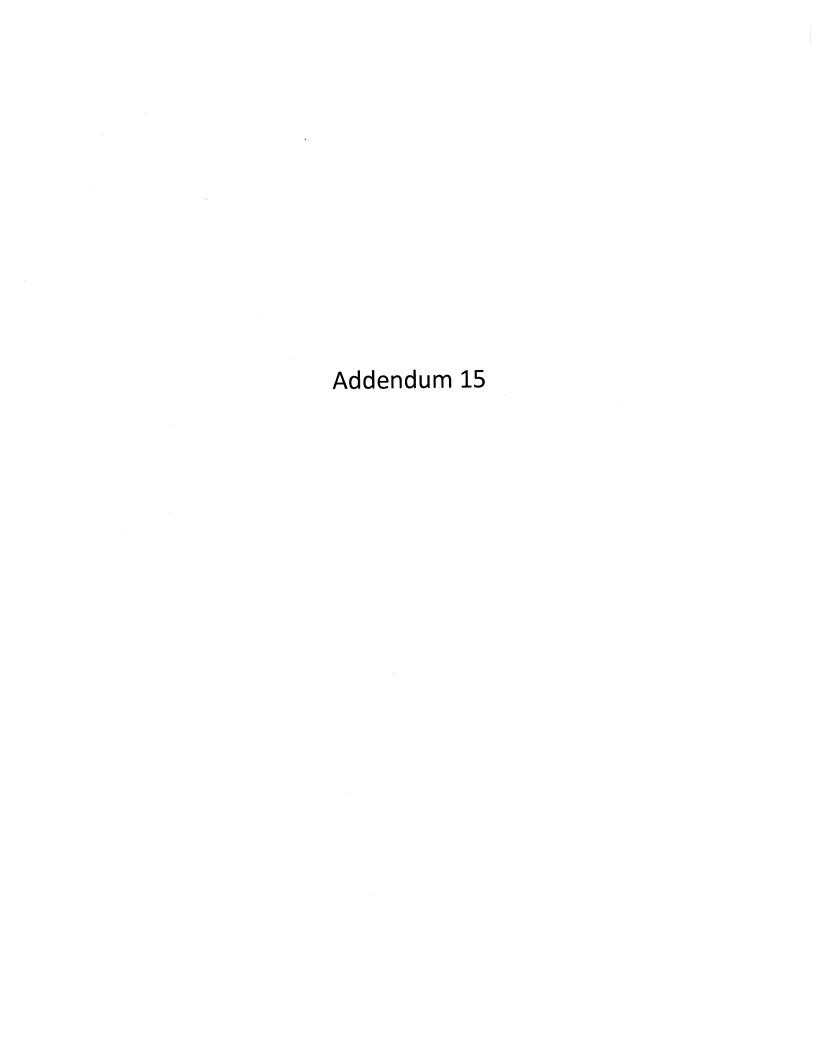
I mean, it's not easy to do this. And even for those who do this for a living, let alone those who must sacrifice so much to do it. I've made my determination. It was not comparing one to the other. I don't compare you one to the other.

I take the statutory standard and see whether your situation in my view, in my judgment, reaches that point of hardship in which you would be excused. That decision was made. And I want you to know it was made in good faith. I took everything into account.

And, and as we go along I know there are 20 other situations that might arise. I'd like to accommodate them as much as possible. But you understand our situation here.

23 And our, and our appreciation also for your 24 sacrifice. See, it doesn't go certainly un --25 unnoticed and unappreciated at all. It's very much

3 (Pages 6 to 9)



VOOO O O RIGINAL

IN THE THIRD DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al., Plaintiffs,	Case No. 000909522
vs. UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,	Judge Joseph C. Fratto
Defendants.	

PARTIAL TRIAL TRANSCRIPT BEGINNING OF PM SESSION

DATE:

January 10, 2007

TIME:

1:39 p.m.

REPORTED BY:

Kelly L. Wilburn, CSR, RPR

FILED DISTRICT COURT

Third Judicial District

OCT 24 2007

SALT LAKE COUNTY

Deputy Clerk

IN THE THIRD DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,)) Case No. 000909522 Plaintiffs,)) vs.) Judge Joseph C. Fratto UTAH AUTO COLLECTION,) et al.,) Defendants.) PARTIAL TRIAL TRANSCRIPT BEGINNING OF PM SESSION January 10, 2007 DATE:

TIME:

1:39 p.m.

REPORTED BY: Kelly L. Wilburn, CSR, RPR

Page 2 Page 4 **APPEARANCES** impression I'm getting is he's still a little upset For the Plaintiffs 2 about, about being here. And that he -- I, I remember THOR O. EMBLEM. ESO. TRACY EMBLEM, ESO 3 him saying that, that, "You guys all know what I think LAW OFFICES OF THOR O. EMBLEM, ESQ. 4 already." 205 West Fifth Avenue, Suite 105 Escondido, California 92025 5 And, and then I remember from his, from his (760) 738-9301 (760) 738-9409 (fax) 6 questioning in there with, with you guys --MATTHEW H. RATY, ESQ 7 THE COURT: Well, hold on. Let me just have LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW H RATY, PC 9677 South 700 East, Suite D 8 you zero in on exactly what you heard him say. Sandy, Utah 84070 9 THE BAILIFF: Okay. It was that and also (801) 495-225 (801) 495-2262 (fax) 10 that he made the comment that, that he thought that 10 11 everybody was being too, too open-minded or something For the Defendants: 11 12 to that. I'm not using his exact words, but that's TIMOTHY O'NEILL, ESQ 13 LAW OFFICE OF TIMOTHY O'NEILL kind of what he was saying. 12 1200 17th Street, Suite 1900 14 And, and I just didn't want to let this go 13 Denver, Colorado 80202 15 forward and know in my mind that maybe this guy had (303) 634-2003 14 16 already made up his mind was gonna try to convince DAN R. LARSEN, ESQ 17 15 KIMBERLY NEVILLE, ESO everybody else the same thing. So I just brought it SNELL & WILMER 18 up to the judge, so. 16 15 West South Temple, Suite 1200 Gateway Tower West 19 THE COURT: Any? 17 Salt Lake City, Utah 84101 20 MR. EMBLEM: Well, for me your Honor --(801) 257-1900 18 (801) 257-1800 (fax) 21 THE COURT: You want to give your view on 19 -0Oo-22 that? 20 21 23 MR. EMBLEM: I think we probably should voir 22 24 dire him further to be certain that, that he hasn't --23 24 if he has committed himself already I think it might 25 Page 3 Page 5 **JANUARY 10, 2007** 1:39 P.M. 1 1 be cause for recusing him. Do You have anything on 2 PROCEEDINGS 2 3 3 THE COURT: Good afternoon. MR. O'NEILL: I don't know how to react to 4 MR. EMBLEM: Afternoon, your Honor. 4 the individual voir dire yet, but it's problematic. 5 5 THE COURT: We're back with Clayton versus And I think it reflects his desire to get off the jury 6 6 the Ford Motor Company and others. And the jury -that we've already talked about, your Honor. So I'm 7 7 everyone is present who needs to be present. The jury not sure where all this takes us. 8 8 is not in the box. Couple matters that need to be But maybe that is the first step, just so we 9 9 taken up outside of their presence. I understand an can clarify. If there's already been discussions 10 10 evidentiary question that you'd like me to resolve among the jury, that could be problematic as well. I 11 outside of their presence, if I'm correct? 11 don't know. 12 12 MS. NEVILLE: Yes, your Honor. And --THE COURT: Well, as I understand what 13 13 THE COURT: Before we get to that I have a actually was said -- and maybe we're inferring 14 matter that I believe I need to take up with you. I 14 something that may or may not be there. I'm inclined 15 was advised during this break by Rock that he had 15 to think that that's where we are. That he's 16 16 overheard some comments between the juryrs in the jury expressed it on his frustration of being here. 17 17 room. But I suppose one can infer from this several 18 18 Apparently Mr. Tu (sic) -- and we can have things. I don't know that we do any -- I don't know 19 Rock clarify that more — but apparently had, in terms 19 that we have enough here to move forward to any second 20 20 of these bits of conversation, indicated to the jurors stage. I did feel that we needed to report that to 21 21 that he had made up his mind. And Rock, why don't you you and see what your reaction was, and what you 22 tell us what you exactly heard, the best you could. 22 thought might be appropriate. 23 THE BAILIFF: It was, it was Mr., Mr. Thai. 23 But Mr. Emblem, further questioning about 24 24 THE COURT: Mr. Thai. what exactly he said to him -- said to the jury, do 25 THE BAILIFF: And from what I'm, just the you think that's appropriate at this point?

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MR. EMBLEM: Well, in light of, in light of that -- your comments, your Honor, I just would retract a little bit from that more strict position and perhaps suggest a personal admonition. That's -an example maybe of bringing him in first and saying, Mr. Thai, you know you're not supposed to do that. That may be best here, perhaps. Just a thought.

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MR. LARSEN: My thought is just maybe another cautionary instruction again. But this time maybe just explain to the jurors that it's understandable to gonna go back into the jury room, and that they're gonna want to talk about what they just saw.

Whether something funny happened on the stand, or something was boring, or something like that. And that's understandable. But the reason that we've ask them not to form any opinions because it is very important to be able to hear and see all the evidence before you draw those conclusions.

And try to keep an open mind. Try not to express your opinions or conclusions to others. Because you might get entrenched in your opinions or belief, and evidence later on may, may want -- may make you feel like you need to change that.

24 And you may now have become entrenched, 25 because you've taken strong positions with the jurors gets a reminder.

MR. EMBLEM: Sure.

THE COURT: And I think to give them such an instruction now, and maybe the same one that we gave before regarding keeping an open mind until it's all -- maybe that is appropriate. I was just trying to draw on the language that I thought we already had given them.

MR. O'NEILL: And your Honor, I guess --THE COURT: Any idea where that is? MR. O'NEILL: Yeah, we'll find -- I guess we'll find that. And as you, as you had pointed out, your Honor, we may be assuming things.

What I was trying to understand in listening to Rock's description is whether the comment he overheard was kind of a one-sided circumstance, if you will, with Mr. Thai, you know, sharing some things. And I guess that's one thing.

But I guess there was a version in there where you mentioned that, you know, "You others are being too open-minded," which suggests to me that there might have been a broader discussion among the jurors. And I don't know how to read or -- read the tea leaves or --

THE BAILIFF: Yeah, I don't either. And I'm

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and you can't back off of those. And I think that kind of instruction may be helpful.

THE COURT: We gave such an instruction, did we not, preliminarily? Let me see. I have those -our preliminary instructions.

(Pause.)

THE COURT: Well, I'm -- can't put my finger on it, but I, I thought we had given an instruction. Make sure you listen to all the evidence before reaching any conclusion. Can someone draw me to that?

MR. O'NEILL: The preliminary instruction? THE COURT: That preliminary instruction? That's presuming, I suppose, I'm right that we gave

such an instruction. But I'm, I'm certain we did. MS. EMBLEM: Your Honor, you also gave the

instruction before lunchtime today. I heard you say that.

MR. EMBLEM: Every time --

19 MS. EMBLEM: Every time you let the jury go 20 you tell them that. 21

THE COURT: Well, I suppose it's being suggested, and Mr. Emblem I suppose suggested it to, that I -- well, we suggest more of an individual. But I think rather than isolate someone for that sort of

special treatment that maybe everyone appropriately

not saying that I'm, I'm convinced that he is. I just -- it's just been bothering me that I heard those things. And then I would -- then I just thought about him, you know, maybe trying to convince all the jurors with his, you know, knowledge as a --

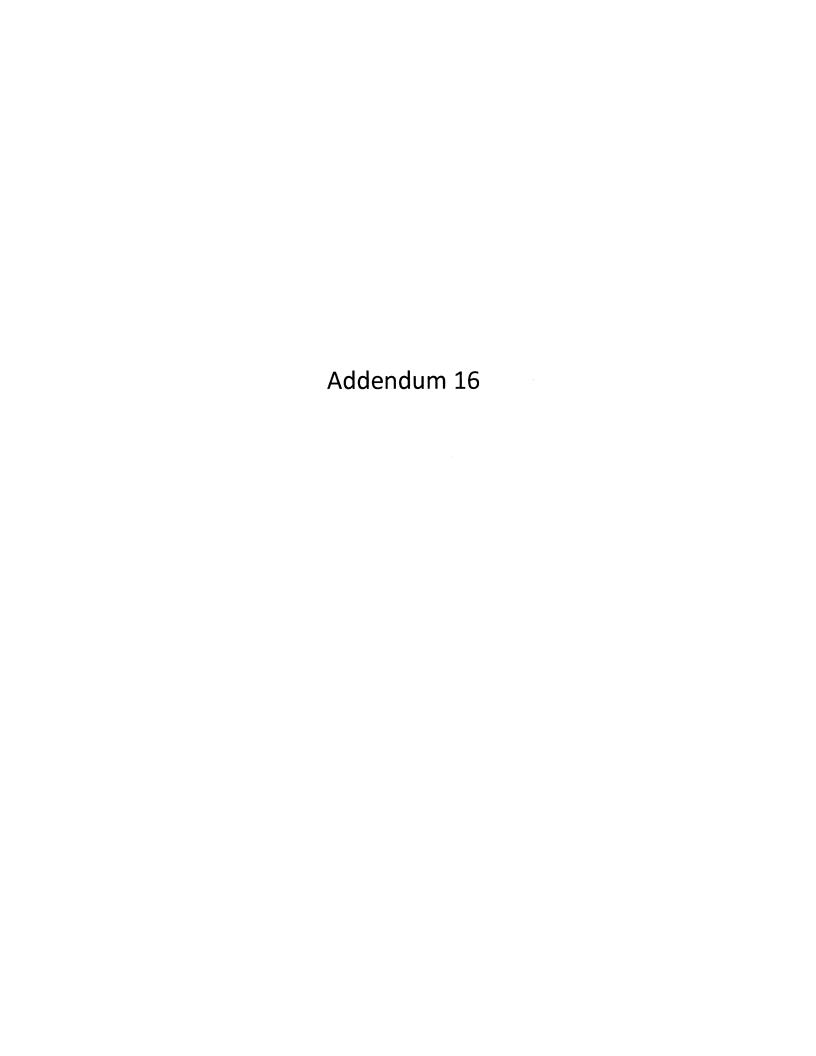
THE COURT: Well, I think, I think what we're doing is we're trying -- we're inferring -- we're trying to infer something with the comment. I think there are many inferences that can be drawn. And maybe just as simple as he keeps stressing his frustration of being here.

But -- and certainly if we hear more of that we probably need to explore that further. But I think for at this point with what we have in front of us it's appropriate to give them an instruction regarding keeping their mind open till they hear all the case.

MR. O'NEILL: And your Honor, this is --THE COURT: And I'll willing to give that instruction again.

MR. O'NEILL: I, I think -- I don't have the number on it but this is 1.8, your Honor. I believe it's that first one maybe is the language on there.

THE COURT: And Mr. Emblem, Mr. O'Neill, let -- would there be any objection if I gave the first six paragraphs, the first six numbered



IN THE THIRD DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

Case No. 000909522

VS.

Judge Joseph C. Fratto

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UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,

Defendants.

PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT - P.M. SESSION - END OF DAY

DATE:

February 1, 2007

TIME:

3:12 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

REPORTED BY:

Kelly L. Wilburn, CSR, RPR

FILED DISTRICT COURT

Third Judicial District

NOV 2 0 2007

SALT LAKE COUNTY

Deputy Clerk

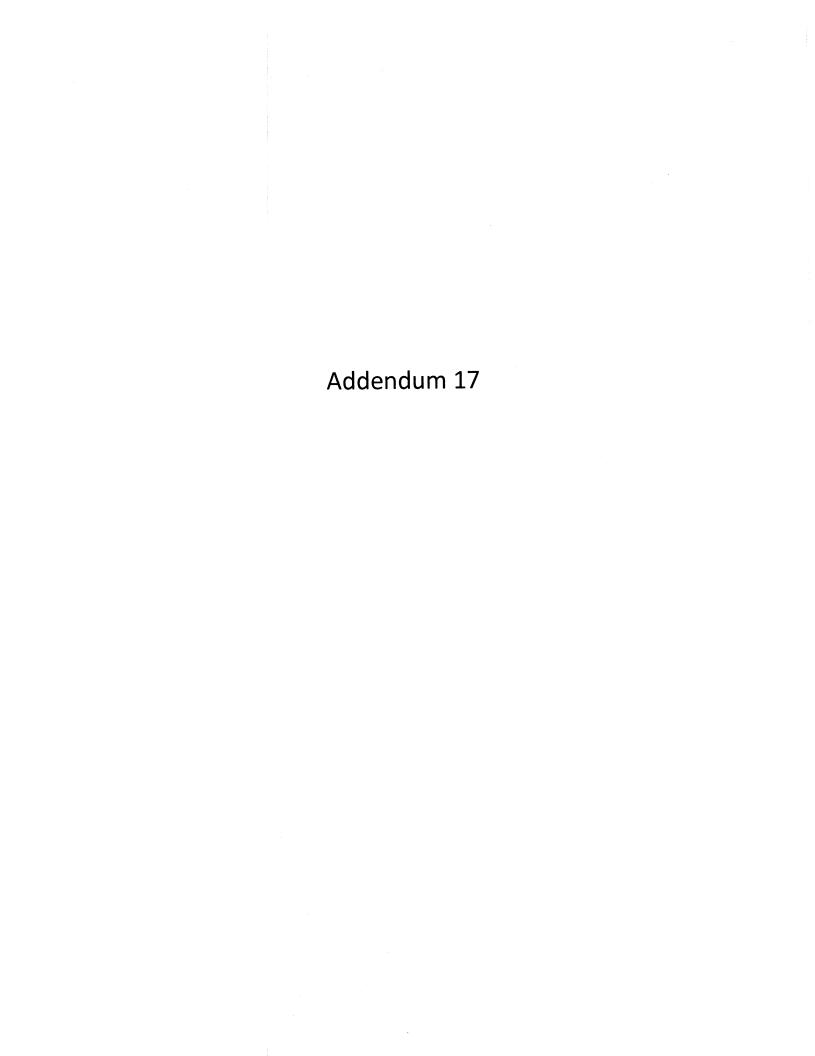


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IN THE THIRD DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,)) Case No. 000909522 Plaintiffs,) vs.)) Judge Joseph C. Fratto UTAH AUTO COLLECTION,) et al., } Defendants.) PARTIAL TRANSCRIPT - P.M. SESSION - END OF DAY February 1, 2007 DATE: TIME: 3:12 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. REPORTED BY: Kelly L. Wilburn, CSR, RPR

Page 2 Page 4 APPEARANCES 1 And at this point you become a sequestered For the Plaintiffs jury. Which means you are not to have contact with 3 THOR O. EMBLEM, ESO TRACY EMBLEM, ESQ 3 the outside world, as it were. There won't be any LAW OFFICES OF THOR O EMBLEM, ESO telephones. So we'll take your cell phones just to 205 West Fifth Avenue, Suite 105 Escondido, Calıfornia 92025 5 make certain that -- we'll hold your cell phones. (760) 738-9301 6 (760) 738-9409 (fax) And you'll be in the jury room deliberating MATTHEW H. RATY, ESQ 7 for as long as it takes to -- in terms of a verdict. LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW H RATY, PC 8 And, and so I think the timing is going to be that it 9677 South 700 East, Suite D Sandy, Utah 84070 9 may go to you on either Thursday or earlier on Friday. (801) 495-2252 (801) 495-2262 (fax) 10 But most probably we're looking to, to submit it to 10 11 you and entertain the arguments and so forth on the For the Defendants 11 12 12th of February, which is Monday. The 12th of TIMOTHY O'NEILL ESO 13 February. 12 LAW OFFICE OF TIMOTHY O'NEILL 1200 17th Street. Suite 1900 14 With that, we will excuse you until Jan --13 Denver Colorado 80202 15 February 5th at 9:00. You are not to form or express (303) 634-2003 14 16 any opinions among yourselves or with others. You're DAN R. LARSEN, ESO KIMBERLY NEVILLE, ESQ 17 not to do any independent investigation or analysis. SNELL & WILMER 18 If is someone attempts to talk to you, you should 15 West South Temple, Suite 1200 Gateway Tower West 19 report that at the earliest opportunity. Salt Lake City, Utah 84101 20 And the order -- the standing order always is (801) 257-1900 (801) 257-1800 (fax) 21 that you're -- you are to have a wonderful Friday and -oOo-22 a wonderful weekend. And we'll have you back here at 23 9:00 on the 5th of February. You are excused. And we 24 23 are in recess. 25 (Court was recessed at 3:15 p.m.) Page 3 Page 5 CERTIFICATE 3:12 P.M. 1 **FEBRUARY 1, 2007** 2 PROCEEDINGS STATE OF UTAH 3 THE COURT: No, that's tomorrow. Today is COUNTY OF SALT LAKE) 4 Thursday. Tomorrow we're -- is a dark day. So 5 This is to certify that the foregoing proceedings what – we won't have you back Friday. And won't have were taken before me, KELLY L WILBURN, a Registered 6 you back until the 5th of February at 9:00. Professional Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Utah 7 And I wanted to advise you as closely as I 8 can. Keeping in mind that my predictions are That the proceedings were reported by me in stenotype and thereafter caused by me to be 9 sometimes a bit faulty, but I'm trying to keep you transcribed into typewriting. And that a full, true, 10 advised in terms of where we are. and correct transcription of the requested portion of said proceedings so taken and transcribed is set forth 11 It would appear that starting on the 5th in the foregoing pages, numbered 1 through 4, 12 we'll be able to finish with the defense by the 7th. 1.1 13 And then there's a possibility of rebuttal. And that I further certify that I am not of kin or 12 14 may be the 8th and/or the 9th. But it may be less otherwise associated with any of the parties to said cause of action, and that I am not interested in the 15 than that. There is some possibility that the matter, event thereof WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL AT KEARNS, UTAH 16 in terms of the evidence, will be concluded by the end THIS 15th DAY OF November, 2007 17 of the 8th or sometime during the 9th. 15 18 I don't want to submit the matter to you on 16 Kelly L. Wilburn, CSR, RPR 19 Friday night and I'm not going to do that to you. And My Commission Expires 17 May 16, 2009 20 so we may have to go over to Monday the 12th. But 18 21 after the evidence is submitted to you, you understand 19 20 22 we have the reading of the jury instructions and then 21 23 the closing arguments of counsel. And then the matter 22 23 24 is submitted to you. And you go back into the jury 25 room.



FILED DISTRICT COURT Third Judicial District

JUN 0 1 2007

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL SAUSARRECOUNTY

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,

Defendants.

MEMORANDUM DECISION

Case No. 000909522

Hon. JOSEPH C. FRATTO, JR.

May 30, 2007

The above-entitled matter comes before the Court pursuant to Plaintiffs' Motion for Judgment Notwithstanding the Verdict and Motion for New Trial, and Plaintiffs' Motion to Tax Costs. The Court heard oral argument with respect to the motions on May 7 and May 15, 2007. Following the hearings, the matters were taken under advisement.

The Court having considered the motions, memoranda, exhibits attached thereto and for the good cause shown, hereby enters the following ruling.

Specifically, this Complaint centers around an automobile accident occurring on November 27, 1998, wherein Anthony Clayton was killed after the 1997 Ford Explorer he was driving rolled over. Kellie Montoya was the front seat passenger in the vehicle at the time of the accident.

Turning initially to their Motion for Judgment Notwithstanding the Verdict and Motion for New Trial, Plaintiffs argue the Court should enter judgment in favor of Plaintiffs, notwithstanding the jury's verdict, because Parker Engineering tampered with the evidence by adjusting the fork bolts on the Clayton door latch to match its newly produced version of the facts proffered by Ed Caulfield (Ford's expert) on how the latch Specifically, assert Plaintiffs, Caulfield testified opened. that if the door latch was open, it would be due to foreshortening, not Ford's theory of overloading the door. this case, contend Plaintiffs, there was overwhelming evidence presented at trial that the door latch was open.

Alternatively, Plaintiffs move the Court for a new trial based on prejudicial error. Specifically, argue Plaintiffs, the Court refused to allow the Plaintiffs to present evidence that another Ford door latch engineer, Tom Tiede, had previously found that the door latch was fully open, which would have affected the jury's decision on whether the door latch was defective. Additionally, Plaintiffs contend that it was prejudicial error to permit Officer Pace to testify and that his testimony bolstered the testimony of Ford's experts. Finally, Plaintiffs argue a new trial should be granted because the errors that occurred at trial were compounded because the Court ordered the jury sequestered on Friday afternoon until it reached a verdict.

Defendants oppose the motion arguing the subject door latch was inspected and photographed by Plaintiffs' expert, Andrew Gilberg, long before Caulfield and Packer Engineering were involved in this case. Indeed, assert Defendants, in his inspection report, Gilberg notes that he could not move the lower fork bolt into the secondary position. In addition, contend Defendants, Gilberg testified that the fork bolts were pinned and would not move to the fully open position.

At the time of trial, argue Defendants, Gilberg had custody of the subject latch which was marked and admitted as Plaintiffs' Exhibit 334. At no time, assert Defendants, did Gilberg suggest that the subject door latch had been modified, tampered with or damaged, other than during the rollover accident. Nor, contend Defendants, had Gilberg, ever accused Caulfield, Kevin Vosburgh or Packer Engineering of tampering or fraud in any way. Indeed, argue Defendants, Gilberg testified that the latch frame and internal components were severely damaged during the rollover and that the fork bolts would not fully open.

As an initial matter, a Rule 50 motion for judgment notwithstanding the verdict is governed by the same rules applicable to a Rule 59 motion for directed verdict. This said, as a procedural matter, Plaintiffs' motion for JNOV is denied as

they failed to timely move for directed verdict on the door latch claim. Indeed, even if this did not decide the matter, after reviewing the record, the Court is of the opinion there is ample evidence to support the jury's finding regarding the door latch. Consequently, Plaintiffs' JNOV motion is also denied on the merits.

With respect to the motion for new trial, the Court notes the decision to exclude the Tiede Report occurred after considerable opportunity for both sides to present their arguments. Further, the Court remains convinced that the decision to exclude was based upon sound reasoning. With respect to Trooper Pace, the record indicates he provided sufficient foundational testimony to support his statements regarding the conclusions of his accident investigation and there is no basis to find the decision not to strike his testimony was improper under either Rule 702 or Rule 403. Finally, under the circumstances, the Court is not convinced there was any error on its part in ordering the jury sequestered during deliberations.

Turning next to the Motion to Tax Costs, as an initial matter, although the Court's Pre-Trial Order required the parties to "exchange" their "documents and exhibits," such are not taxable as costs. Indeed, "[t]rial exhibits are expenses of litigation and not taxable as costs. Beaver County v. Quest,

Inc., 2001 UT 81 P25 (Utah 2001) see also, Young v. State, 2000
UT 91, P23 (Utah 2000)

With respect to vehicle storage, the Court is not persuaded the cost of storing/towing the vehicle is authorized under the statute. Accordingly, such are denied.

As for mediation costs, these are recoverable under Utah law and are awarded. See Stevenett v. Wal-Mart Stores, Inc., 977

P.2d 508, 516 (Utah Court App. 1999).

With regard to costs for a copy of Ford's expert witness and employee designee deposition transcripts, after reviewing the record and the relevant law, the Court is not persuaded such were essential to Defendants's case or that there were no other methods of acquiring the information contained in the depositions. Consequently, these costs are denied.

On the issue of reporter fees and transcripts, the parties agreed in advance to share such costs and that is what the Court is ordering.

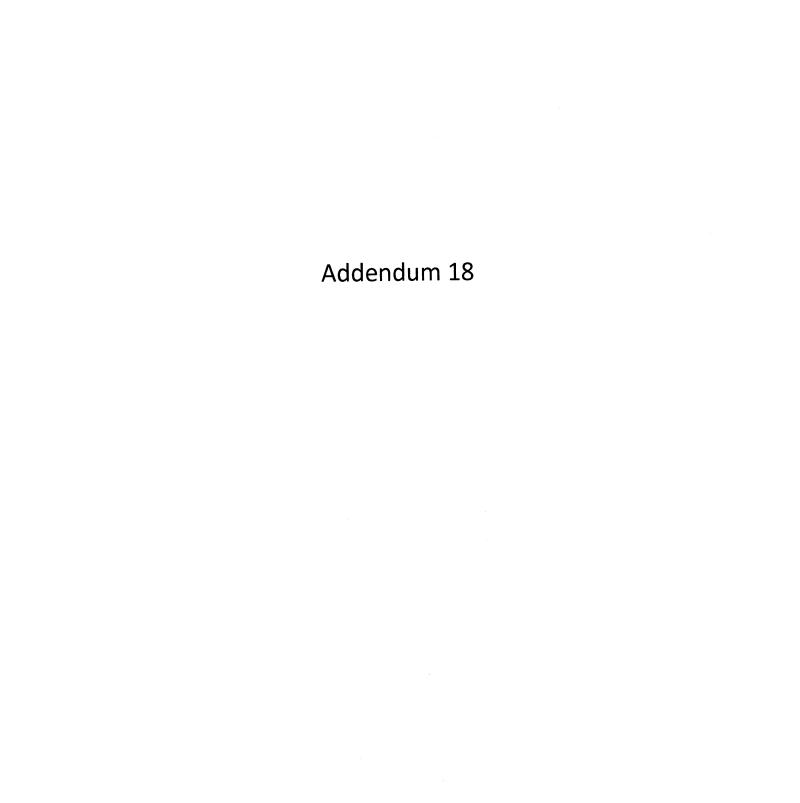
Deposition costs for Cantu, Pace and Barton are permitted as all three were used in the development and defense of this case. Further, Ford is entitled to recover fees paid to witnesses, but is admonished to review its entries and check for duplication.

Finally, any judgment for recoverable costs is awarded against all losing parties as Plaintiffs' claim, although based

on different causes of action, rested on the underlying theory that the Ford Explorer was defective and unreasonably dangerous.

Based upon the forgoing, Plaintiffs' Motion to Tax Costs is granted in part and denied in part. Defendants are asked to prepare an amended and verified bill of costs in accordance with this ruling.

DATED this Z day of May, 2007.



TIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

of						
Case Title	Judg	ge	Case #			
Fred Clayton vs Ford Motor Company	Joseph C F	Fratto Jr	000909522			
Plaintiff Attorney	Defendant Attorney					
Thor Emblem, Tracy Emblem, Matthew Raty	Dan Larsen, Tim O'Neill.	, Kimberly 1	Neville			

<u>(</u> Ju	nry Trial Non-Jury Trial	Other: PLAINTI			INTIFF:	`IFFS	
No.	Description	Off	Obj	Sus/Ovrl	Rcv	Date	Witness
1-31	Photos (memorabilia) of Tony Clayton	X	nobj		x	1/9/07	Fred
2A	FMEP 1083 Video Clip "Moose" dated 9/19/96	<u>x</u>	obj	sustain		1/9/07	Fred
2B	FMEP 1093 video clip "Green Acres" 3/19/96	X	obj	sustain		1/9/07	Fred
3	1997 Explorer Sales Brochute	X	nobj		X	1/9/07	Fred
_5	Clayton Explorer info - VIN & Utah Auto Collection invoice	X	nobj		X	1/9/07	Fred
7	1997 vehicle warranty guide	x	nobj		X	1/9/07	Fred
8	Vehicle owner's guide	x	nobj		X	1/9/07	Fred
9	Vehicle 4 wheel drive handbook (pgs 3 & 4)	x	nobj		X	1/9/07	Fred
10	Invoice 12/10/97 & warranty info for Clayton vehicle	X	nobj		X	1/9/07	Fred
11	Invoice 3/10/98 & warranty info from Clayton vehicle service	X	nobj		X	1/9/07	Fred
13B_	Copy of Tony Clayton's drivers license	X	nobj		X	1/9/07	Fred
17A	Photo of driver seated in Explorer	х	obj	overrule	X	1/10/07	Fred
17B	photo of driver seated in Explorer	X	obj	overrule	X	1/10/07	Fred
18-1	Photo from Kellie Montoya's album	X	nobj		X	1/29/07	Montoya
20	Curriculum Vitae of Ronald L Probert	X	nobj		X	1/10/07	Probert
21A	UDOT I-80 aerial survey & plan section of 1-80	x	nobj		Х	1/10/07	Probert
21B	video of scene topography	х	nobj		X	1/17/07	Ingebreisen
22	Utah Highway Patrol scene diagram & measurements	X	nobj	substitute	X	1/10/07	Probert
23	1-26 Utah Highway Patrol scene photos	x	nobj		x	1/10/07	Probert
3 17ua	blow up of UHP photo	x	nobj		х	2/6/07	Puscarella
3 17ab	blow up of UHP photo	х	nobj		Х	2/6/07	Pascurella
3 18un	blow up of UHP photo	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Pascurella

Page 2

3 Ford 10909522 THE STATE OF THE S

Sus/Ovrl Off Witness Obj Rcv Date Description X \mathbf{X} nobj 2/6/07 Pascarella blow up of UHP photo X X 1/10/07 Probert nobj Aerial photo X Model Ford Explorer X nobj 1/12/07 5 X nobj X 1/18/07 Ingebreisen 8 photos - holes iA-H X nobj X 1/18/07 Ingebretsen 16 1-5 Ingebretsen and Probert photos (large) X X 1/19/07 nobi ingobretsen 26-6 photo X X 1/19/07 26-7 Photo nobj Ingebreison X X 1/19/07 26-8 Photo nobj Ingebretsen X X 6-3356 Photo - scrapes on metal 1/17/07 Ingebreisen X X 1/17/07 Ingebrewen 6-3358 Photo - scrapes on metal with yellow paint X X 1/17/07 6-3372 Photo - partial of wheel and tire Ingebretsen Photo - partial of wheel and tire with hole in it X Χ 1/17/07 Ingebreisen 6-3373 X 27A Germane site reconstruction (FMC 00049) Х nobj 1/10/07 Probert 27B X X 1/10/07 Probert Germane site reconstruction (draft 10/05) nobj X X 1/10/07 Probert 27C Germane site reconstruction (revised) nobj 28A Evanston, Wyoming climate rainfall (1998-2004) w/dr obj 1/10/07 Probert 28B 1/10/07 Probert Evanston Uinta County rainfall (1961-1995) w/dr obj X 29A photo of Clayton Explorer taken at Co-Parts Auction X nobj 1/29/07 Bingham Х 1/29/07 29B photo of Clayton Explorer taken at Co-Parts Auction X nobj Bingham X X 1/29/07 Bingham 30 1-5 photos of Clayton Explorer taken by Mr. Bingham nobj X X 1/18/07 31A Clayton Explorer tie rod - driver side nobj Ingebreisen X X 1/18/07 11-B1 Ingebretsen Clayton Explorer tie - outer wedge nobi 11-B2 Clayton Explorer tie rod - inner cup X nobi X 1/18/07 Ingebreisen 31-B3 X X Clayton Explorer tie rod - test portion (in plastic) nobi 1/18/07 Ingebretsen XF 32 1/17/07 Clayton Explorer right front tire and wheel X nobj Ingehreisen 1/19/07 32A Clayton Explorer left front tire and wheel X χ 1/29/07 33A Gilberg photo - exemplar door - Bingham yard nobi Bingham X 33B Gilberg photo - exemplar door - Bingham yard X nobi 1/29/07 Bingham 34 X 1/29/07 VIN tool www.fleet.ford.com IFMDU34X6 [ZA01986] Х nobj Bingham X 1/12/07 35A Curriculum Vitae David Ingebretsen X nobi Ingebretsen \mathbf{X} nobj X 1/11/07 35B Probert/Ingebretsen video animation rollover

ayton vs Ford se # 000909522

<u>se#0</u>	00909522			<u> </u>			1
No.	Description	Off	Obj	Sus/Ovrl	Rcv	Date	Witness
35C	still frames of animation at 1/4 turns	X	nobj		X	1/1707	Ingebretsen
5D1	Scientific formula written by Ingebretsen	X	obj	sustain		1/23/07	Ingebretsen
5D2	Dynamic demonstrative document - Ingebretsen	Х	obj	overrule	X	1/23/07	Ingebretsen
5D3	demonstrative document - Ingebretsen	x	nobj		X	1/23/07	Ingebretsen
36	Sales training video	X	obj	sustain		1/25/07	
36A	Explorer UN105 1994 sales training video	X	obj	sustain		1/25/07	
39	Brilmyer/Weaver Safety Engineering Evaluation	x	obj	sustain		1/23/07	Ingebreisen
40	Brilmyer/Weaver Roof strength study dated 7/8/68	x	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
41	ESV Rollover test methods dated 10/22/71	X	obj	ovrl/redact	x	1/23/07	Ingebreisen
12A	static stability factor 4/12/02 (FMC 00399)	x	nobj		X	1/17/07	ใหยเปรายรอก
46	vehicle axis coordinates	x	nobj		x	1/17/07	Ingebretsen
16A	UN105 CG measurements Carr Engineering	X	obj	redacted	X	1/17/07	Ingebretsen
16B	photo 1996 Ford Explorer 4x4 P235 tires	x	nobj		X	1/17/07	Ingebretsen
16C	Ford VIMF 1997 4x4 Explorer XLT	X	obj	redacted	X	1/17/07	Ingehreisen
<u>16D</u>	Tandy Engineering center of gravity measurement	X	obj	redacted	X	1/17/07	Ingobortson
47	light truck safety guideline strategy 2/27/87	x	obj	sustain		1/25/07	Ferrell
49	video clips	Х	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
<u> </u>	1990 Explorer handling stability & index comparison	X	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
52	UN 46 & BR II handling stability & index comparison	X	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
3A	5/10/89 report UN46 prototype testing & summary	x	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
58	6/26/89 memo from R Stornant UN46 design revisions	X	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
9A	Design Committee 1/9/87	Х	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
9D	Sloan 8/14/89 memo re: Visit to consumer reports	X	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
9E	Explorer Q&A Consumer Reports publicity & name change	х	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
65	9/12/89 Stornant memo re: J Turn test 2/ P235 tires	x	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
66	modeling policy	Х	obj	sustain		2/8/07	Tandy
59	Bronco II loading for DPG testing	Х	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
70	2/17/98 email from Pascarella to Darold	Х	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
1A	Corporate safety segment design guideline	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Puscarella
5A	7/26/88 Snodgrass memo re: PN 38	X	obj	sustain		1/23/07	
5B	12/4/87 agenda re: Bronco II UN46 product planning	x	obj	sustain		1/23/07	

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186 # C	7 000909322				(, , 3/		
No.	Description	Off	Obj	Sus/Ovrl	Rcv	Date	Witness
77A	front suspension parts - UN46 & UN105 designs	Х	nobj		X	1/18/07	Ingebretsen
77C	photo undercarriage of UN106 Ford Explorer	х	nobj		X	1/17/07	Ingebretson
84B	10mm sway bar link assembly plan	X	nobj		X	1/18/07	Ingebretsen
35A-1	10mm sway bar link (exemplar)	X	nobj		XE	1/17/07	Ingebretsen
35A-2	10mm sway bar link-used(exemplar)Clayton SUV	X	nobj		XX	1/18/07	Ingebretsen
85B	After market sway bar link (exemplar)	X	nobj		XE	1/18/07	Ingebreisen
85C	UN 46 sway bar link (exemplar)	X	nobj		क्रीइ	1/23/07	Ingebroisen
85	After murket sway bar link information	X	пођј		\$	1/23/07	Ingebreisen
86	12mm bolt (exemplar)	x	nobj		X	1/18/07	Ingebretsen
88A	5/3/95 potential failure mode & effects design	X	obj	ovrl/redact	X	1/23/07	Ingebreisen
88B	potential failure mode & effects design analysis 5/12/92	х	obj	sustain		2/6/07	Pascarella
96	stay bar evidence book pgs w/ handwritten notes & testing	X	obj	sustain		2/6/07	Puscurella
109A	Pascarella photo of Clayton vehicle suspension & steering components	x	obj	overrule	X	2/1/07	Caulfield
110	photo of Expedition sway bar	X	nobj		X	1/23/07	Ingebreisen
117	10/6/00 FMEA draft J Turn test	x	obj	overrule	X	1/23/07	Ingebreisen
118	1995 sway bar CAE study 10/30/00	X	obj	overrule	X	1/23/07	Ingebreisen
119	1995 Explorer vehicle characteristics	x	obj	overrule	X	1/23/07	
120	1995 sway bar CAE study dated 10/30/00	X	obj	overrule	X	1/23/07	Ingebretsen
121	11/2/00 subjective assessment of disconnected sway bar link on explorer	X	obj	overrule	X	1/23/07	Ingebretsen
22B	8 D Report 11/10/00 (Explorer)	x	obj	overrule	Х	1/23/07	
.27A	Slalom video with sway bar link in dated 9/16/05	x	nobj		X	1/18/07	Ingebretsen
.27B	Pascarella sway bar link impact video 3/31/04	x	nobj		X	1/18/07	Ingebreisen
27D	Slalom video with sway bar link out dated 9/16/05	x	nobj		X	1/18/07	Ingebretsen
52B	Explorer frame test video (Ingebretsen)	x	пођј		X	1/18/07	Ingebreisen
<u>164</u>	Skynar/Mast Jounce rebound 4/10/95	x	obj	overrule	X	1/23/07	Ingebrotsen
179	Visteon tie rod summary 4/20/99	X	obj	overrule	X	1/23/07	Ingebretsen
85A	UW 152 PAT dated 5/15/96	Х	obj	overrule	x	1/23/06	
218	Invoices & warrant information for Clayton vehicle service 3/10/98	x	nobj		x	2/7/07	Tonnelli
20A	tie rod MORS	X	obj	sustain			
21E	95SO8 r 1995 Ford Explorer - Inner tie rod () & A	X	obj	ovrl/redact	X	1/25/07	
37C	deviation front & rear tire minimum clearance requirements	Х	obj	sustain		2/6/07	Pascarella

∄. U6/15

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Off Obj Sus/Ovrl Rcv Date Witness Description No. Metals handbook (9th ed) Volume 11 X obi Ingebretson 255 sustain X :55A Metals handbook (9th ed) Volume 11 page 3 X nobi 1/18/07 Ingebretsen x∕₹ X 1/18/07 261 tie rod (inner & outer) w/ ball & socket (exemplar) nobj Ingehiction XX X 1/18/07 Rubber Boot nobj Ingebreisen :61A X 1/18/07 Χ Ingebreisen :63B 3 Ingebretsen photos of tie rods nobj 1/25/07 :63C steel failure mode - reverse bending (demo)(wire hanger) Incebretaen 63E1 video Metchem testing lab tie rod bending 4/13/05 X nobj X 1/18/07 Ingebretsen X X 1/18/07 video Metchem testing lab tie rod bending 4/13/05 Ingebretsen 63E2 nobj X X 1/18/07 :63F video Metchem testing lab tie rod bending 4/21/05 nobj Ingebretson 63G video Metchem testing lab tie rod bending 7/3/05 X nobi X 1/18/07 Ingebretten XE 6311-8 X 1/18/07 Ingobroises test tie rods nobj 6114 X Xæ test tie rods nobj 1/18/07 Ingebretsen X :63L bushing washer & nut combo (exemplar) obi sustain 1/18/07 Ingebressen Pascarella bent tie rod demonstration 3/24/06 X nobj X 1/18/07 :641 Ingebreisen X X 1/19/07 :64C video Ingebretsen X still photo of video P264C time 01:09 2/6/07 64 E1 nobi Pascarella X X 2/6/07 64 E2 still photo of video P264C time 01:11 w/ tire mark notations nobj Pascarella 64 E3 X X still photo of video (P264C) time 01:22 nobj 2/6/07 Pascarella X X 64 E4 still photo of video (P264C) time 01:24 w/ tire mark nutations 2/6/07 nobi Pascarella X 64 D1 X still photo of video P264C time 7:40 nobj 2/6/07 Pascarella 64 D2 still photo of video P264C time 7:42 w/ watermark tire marks X nobj X 2/6/07 Pascarolla 64 D3 still photo of video P264C time 7:43 w/ tire mark notations X 2/6/07 X Pascarella nobj X 64 D4 still photo of video P264C time 7:47 w/ watermark vehicle X 2/6/07 nobj Pascarella X 64 D5 still photo of video P264C time 7:48 w/ watermark vehicle nobj X 2/6/07 Pascarella 64 D6 still photo of video P264C time 7:48 w/ watermark vehicle X \mathbf{X} 2/6/07 Pascarella . nobj 64EE blow up of photo Х Х 2/6/07 Pascarella nobj 64DD blow up of photo X X 2/6/07 Puscarella nobj \mathbf{X} X 65A-H Photos of Clayton tie rods nobj 1/18/07 Ingehretson X X :66B 2 wheel off the pavement demo 1996 Explorer 3/25/99 nobi redacted 1/18/07 Ingehretaen 66C 1997 Explorer tie rod maneuvers video 7/28/06 Х nobj X 1/18/07 Ingebretsen 68B video Explorer shock pull test Pascarella 11/1/05 X X nobj 1/18/07 Ingebretsen

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1se # C	000909522	·			18 03	7	
No.	Description	Off	Obj	Sus/Ovrl	Rcv	Date	Witnes s
268C	loose shock demo Pascarella 3/24/06	X	nobj		X	1/18/07	Ingobratson
272A	Intra Co memo: assessment of roof crush	X	obj	sustain		1/23/07	Ingebreisen
278	Interoffice operations memo 10/25/93: 1995 UN105	x	obj	overrule	X	1/23/07	Ingebreisen
279	3/12/92 regulatory design standard deviation roof crush	X	obj	sustain		1/23/07	Ingebreisen
293	4/11/96 crash worthiness & energy management of Polyurcihane foam	X	obj	overrule	X	1/23/07	Ingehreison
294	4/20/96 use of polyurethane foam in a roof crash	x	obj	overrule	X	1/23/07	Ingebretsen
!96A	Ford Falcon Brochure (1996) re: FMVSS216 standards	X	obj	ovrl/redact	Х	1/19/07	lagebretsen
!96B	Ford Falcon ad (1996) re: FMVSS 216 & A&B pillars	х	obj	ovrl/redact	X	1/23/07	Ingebretten
:96C	Ford Futura brochure (1996) FMVSS 216 standards & roof strength	x	obj	sustain	·	1/23/07	Ingebretsen
302	Larry Ragan inspection photos of Clayton Explorer	Х	nobj		X	1/23/07	Ingebreisen
02AA	Latry Ragan photo	X	obj	overrule	X	2/1/07	Caulfield
02BB	Larry Ragan photo	X	obj	overrule	Х	2/1/07	Caulfield
303	1996 Explorer Explorer - Ragan research photos	Х	nobj		X	1/23/07	Ingebreisen
304	Catherine Ford Corrigan inspection - 7 photos	x	nobj		X	1/17/07	Ingebreisen
04A-G	Catherine Ford Corrigan photos	х	obj	overrule	X	2/1/07	Caufield
305	Exponent scale site diagram					1/17/07	Ingebretson
310B	UN 105 "A" pillar segment	x	nobj	J	XX	1/19/07	Ingebretson
108-1	paper towel tube with polyurethane in						Ingebretsen
10B-2	paper towel tube - empty						Ingubratsen
10C	UN105 Ford pick-up "A" pillar segment	X	obj	overrule	X≪∂Σ	1/19/07	Ingebreisen
10E	Curriculum Vitae of Andrew Gilberg	X	nobj		X	1/11/07	Gilberg
312	actual seat belt (exemplar)	х	obj	sustain		1/12/06	Ingebreisen
313	video UN 46 seat belt test T25194 (RCF-67 buckle)	x	obj	sustain		1/17/07	
15A	Teknacon photos taken 5/13/05 Clayton Explorer	х	nobj		Х	1/11/07	Gilberg
316	door latch (exemplar)	х	nobj		X	1/11/07	Gilberg
16A	Inside Explorer door latch (exemplar)	х	nobj		Х	1/11/07	Gilberg
16B	Inside handle rod (exemplar)	Χ	nobj		X	1/11/07	Gilberg
117	Explorer door - unmodified (exemplar)	Х	nobj		XZE	1/11/07	Gilberg
118	Explorer door - modified (exemplar)	х	nobj		x ≥g	1/11/07	Gilberg
120	photos taken by Packer Engineering (Vosberg) inspection 7/21/05	х	nobj		x	2/1/07	Caulfield

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							T
No.	Description	Off	Obj	Sus/Ovrl	Rcv	Date	Witness
328	Morse exemplar test 7/19/01 photos/video	X	obj	overrule	X	1/11/07	Gilberg
334	Clayton driver side door latch (removed)	X	nobj		X	1/11/07	Gilberg
344B	Ford review of door latch release system 3/30/92	X	obj	sustain		1/11/07	Gilberg
346	Preistman U.S. Patent dated 8/31/65 #3,203,721	X	nobj		X	1/11/07	Gilberg
388B	1950 advertisement 'Better to stay in occupant compartment'	X	obj	sustain		1/11/07	Gilberg
389	Engineering document	X	obj	overnile	Х	1/23/07	Ingebreisen
395	3/5/91 product planning committee meeting	Х	obj	sustain			
396	Tom Tiede Report regarding Clayton Vehicle door latch failure 1/30/03	X	obj	sustain		2/1/07	Caulfield
398	door latch integrity study DOT HS 808 1888	x	obj	sustain		1/11/07	Gilberg
400	Insurance Institute for Highway Safety 1996 Ford Explorer	X	obj	sustain		1/11/07	Gilberg
402	SAE tech paper 640165 (1964) accident ejection	X	obj	sustain		1/11/07	Gilberg
403	Gilberg crash test videos	X	obj	sustain		1/11/07	Gilberg
107C	Curriculum Vitae of O.C. Ferrell	Х	nobj		X	1/25/07	Ingerbressen
109B	"Built Ford Tough" sign	Х	obj	ovrl/redact	X	1/25/07	Ferrell
109D	"This century we made History" - ad	X	obj	sustain		1/25/07	Ferrell
109E	May 1995 National Geographic Ford ad	Х	obj	sustain		1/25/07	Ferrell
109F	"Think of it as preventative medicine" Ford Explorer	Х	obj	sustain		1/25/07	Ferrell
412	The best Explorer ever - Ford ad	Х	obj	sustain		1/25/07	Ferrell
417	Explorer black book and the utility market	X	obj	sustain		1/25/07	Ferrell
426	Summary of testimony for Dr. Germane	х	obj	sustain		1/31/07	Germane
126A	high lighted summary of Dr. Germane testimony	Х	obj	sustain		1/31/07	Germane
126B	Graph of Dr. Germane's testimony	X	obj	sustain		1/31/07	Germane
427	U.S. District Court case #2-02-0225-18	Χ	obj	sustain		1/31/07	Germane
428	Edward M Caulfield Ph.D., P.E. testimony record			Sostain		2/1/07	Caulfield
429	graph/testimony of Edward Caulfield	X	obj	sustain		2/1/07	Caultield
430	billing & invoice from Packard to Ford	X	obj	sustain		2/1/07	Caulfield
431	9/15/05 report of Dr. Caulfield					2/1/07	Caulfield
432	Gilberg report on door failure investigation 7/1/05					2/1/07	
468	Technical memo rollover methodology 10/21/98	x	obj	sustain		1/25/07	

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ase # 000	0909522						
No.							
482A	news article re: explorer	X	obj	sustain		1/10/07	Fred
482B	news article re: Ford Explorer	X	obj	sustain		1/10/07	Fred
482C	news article re: Firestone tires	X	obj	sustain		1/10/07	Fred
482D	news article re: explorer stability	X	obj	sustain		1/10/07	Fred
482E	news article re: tires	X	obj	sustain		1/10/07	Fred
482G	Misc. news articles re: Explorer stability	х	obj	sustain		1/10/07	Fred
490	Germane photos 6/11/02	x	obj	overrule	X	2/1/07	Caulfield
493	History behind the code	X	obj	sustain		2/8/07	Tandy
502	US Patent No. 5,505,480 controlled stabilizer bac 4/9/96					2/6/07	Pascarolla
541	James photos 31/3/03 door latch in open position	X	obj	sustain		2/1/07	Caulfield
542A	Linovitz door latch photos 12/17/01	X	obj	sustain		2/1/07	Caulfield
542B	Linovitz door latch photos 12/17/01	X	obj	sustain		2/1/07	Caultield
544A	Vosberg removal of door latch photo 10/27/06	Х	obj	overrule	X	2/1/07	Caulfiled
544B	Vosberg removal of door latch photo 10/27/06	X.	obj	overrule	X	2/1/07	Caulfield
545	testimony list						
570	Carr Engineering professional fee document	X	obj	sustain		2/7/07	Tandy
572	Deposition testimony of Donald F Tandy Jr	X	obj	sustain		2/7/07	Tandy
572A	Deposition testimony of Donald F Tandy Jr	Χ	obj	sustain		2/7/07	Tandy
572B	Deposition testimony of Donald F Tandy Jr, highlighted	X	obj	sustain		2/7/07	Tandy
575	calculations -(as modified)	X	nobj		<u> </u>	2/8/07	Tandy

ceived all	exhibits above on ** by W. Dens	ley, Deputy Clerk.		
xhibits:	returned to counsel	in the court's file	in the court's exhib	oit room

THRO JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE of UTAH

age 1 of	
Case Title	Judge Case #
Fred Clayton vs Ford Motor Company	Joseph C Fratto Jr 000909522
Plaintiff Attorney	Defendant Attorney
Thor Emblem, Tracy Emblem, Matthew Raty	Dan Larsen, Tim O'Neill, Kimberly Neville

Thor Emblem, Tracy Emblem, Matthew Raty Dan Larsen, Tim O'Neill, Kimberly Neville							
<u>X</u> Ju	ry Trial Non-Jury Trial		_ Oth	иет:	DEFE	NDANT	<u>`S</u>
No.	Description	Off	Obj	Sus/Ovrl	Rcv	Date	Witness
_1	Curriculum Vitae of Donald Tandy	X	nobj		Х	2/7/07	Tandy
2-195	Seatbelt Warning on visor	X	nobj		х	1/10/07	Fred
3A	Charts A-track width for bar & range	X	nobj		X	2/7/07	Tandy
4A	Charts A-center of gravity heights bar & range	x	nobj		х	2/7/07	Tandy
5A	Chart - static stability ratio for selected vehicles	х	obj	overrule	Х	1/25/07	Ingebretsen
9	Chart - demands vs vehicle capacities	X	nobj		х	2/7/07	Tandy
21	1996 Explorer 4 door 4x4 w/ P235/75/R15 tires clearance illustration	x	nobj		Х	2/7/07	Tandy
:3 18A	Utah Highway Patrol scene photo	x	obj	overrule	х	1/24/ú7	Ingebreisen
93	Ford Motor Company UN105 APG J-turn test summary	X	nobj		X	2/7/07	Tandy
96	Ford Motor Company UPN105 LTE reliability review	X	nobj		X	2/7/07	Tandy
106	data notes on J-turn evaulations 2000 Explorer 4x2	X	obj	overrule	X	2/6/07	Pascarella
06A-E	video notes on J-turn evaluation 2000 Explorer 4x2	X	obj	overrule	Х	2/6/07	Puscurella
109	Ford Motor Co. 1/4 U/PN105 4dr 4x4 TRC test plan	X	nobj		Х	2/7/07	Tandy
111	Ford Motor Co. CAE model correlation Keith Gorder	X	nobj		X	2/7/07	Tandy
112	Ford Motor Co.UN105 ADAMS validation charts	X	nobj		X	2/7/07	Tandy
177	49 CFR part 575 denial of wirth petition Fed reg. Vol 42 no. 71.					2/8/07	Tandy
22a.53	Tandy Engineering data & analysis NHTSA rollover research	X	nobj		X	2/7/07	Tandy
49A	video - Tandy Engineering - demonstration	x	nobj		Х	2/7/07	Tandy
261	data notes & photos P6-101 evaluation vehicle handling	X	obj	sus/redact	X	2/7/07	Tandy
262	video P6-101 evaluation of vehicle handling 9/23-26/00	X	obj	sus/redact	X	2/7/07	Tandy
13 G1	still photo of tie rod test from P263	х	nobj		Х	1/24/07	lngebreeen
33 G2	still photo tie rod test from P263	x	nobj		X	1/24/07	Ingebreisen

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ase # C	100909322				r	ı ————	1
No.	Description	Off	Obj	Sus/Ovrl	Rcv	Date	Witness
264	vidco P6-101 evaluation of vehicle handling overview	X	obj	sus/redact	X	2/7/07	Tandy
267	data, notes, photos-Carr Engineering performance test	X	nobj		X	2/7/07	Tandy
268	video-Cart Engineering performance test 8/27 28/01 & 9/3/01	X	nobj		x	2/7/07	Tandy
347	Curriculum Vitae of Gary Fowler	Х	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
348	Binder, Fowler Inc photos	X	obj	redact	X	2/6/07	Fowler
348.38	Blown up photo	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
348,26	Photo blow up	х	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
348.41	photo blow up	x	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
148.43	Photo blow up	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
148.44	Photo blow up	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
48.46	Photo blow up	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
48.74	Photo blow up	х	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
48.119	photo blow up	x	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
48.125	photo blow up	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
48,130	photo blow up	Χ	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
48.143	photo blow up	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
18.146	photo blow up	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
18.148	photo blow up	x	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
18.154	photo blow up	X	nobj.		X	2/6/07	Fowler
18.161	photo blow up	Х	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
18.178	photo blow up	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
8.179	photo blow up	X	nobj		х	2/6/07	Fowler
8.185	photo blow up	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
8.186	photo blow up	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
19.1	Photo blow up	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
i50	photo blow up	х	nobj		х	2/6/07	Fowler
60	Curriculum Vitae of Robert Pascarella	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarella
61	Clayton vehicle inspection photos	x	nobj		х	2/5/07	Pascarella
i3H	DVD 1996 Explorer 4x4 maneuvers	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarella
631	1996 Explorer 4x4 maneuvers video 9/16/05	X	nobj		X	1/34/07	Ingebreisen
3 1-1	photo	\mathbf{x}	nobj		x	2/5/07	Pascarella

ayton vs Ford use # 000909522

ise # 00	0909522				(V W	/	
No.	Description	Off	Obj	Sus/Ovrl	Rev	Date	Witness
163 1-2	photo	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Puscarellu
364	1996 Explorer 4x4 data book 9/16/05	Х	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarolla
365	2001 Explorer 4x2 APG durabiality video	x	obj	overrule	X	2/5/07	Pascarella
366	1997 Explorer tie rod maneuvers video MPG 7/28/06	X	nobj		X	1/19/07	Ingobretsen
367	video-Explorer stabilizer bark link/assembly compression lead test 3/5/04	X	nobj		Х	2/5/07	Pascarolla
368	video-Explorer stabilizer bar kink component fatigue lest 3/8/04	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarella
369	DVD video suspension impact demonstration 3/31/04	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Puscurella
370	Explorer stabilizer bar link load plots	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarella
371	photo of instrumented strain gaged stabilizer bar link	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarella
376	Spacer Asy F87A-5K483-AA drawing	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarolla
383	front suspension illustration 1997 IL-F77A-040100-018	Х	nobj		X	2/5/07	Laacerce fe
384	PL-F57A-040105-AA 1995 front stabilizer bar layout	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarella
385	front suspension illustration 1995 PL-F57A-1)40100-CB	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarella
387	Explorer top shock mount pull test and data	х	nobj		х	2/5/07	Pascarella
87A	Shock and pull video					2/5/07	Pascarella
388	DVD 1996 Explorer bent tie rod & top shock mount disconnect	Х	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarella
389	M-8 and M-10 test data from Polymer Technologies	x	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarella
390	1996 Explorer front suspension buck, 1995-1997	X	nobj		XDC	2/5/07	Pascarella
394	UN105 Explorer APG tie rod loads	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarella
395	U105 Explorer APG stabilizer bar link loads	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarella
403	1995-1997 Explorer shock mount exemplar	х	obj	overrule	X DC	2/5/07	Pascarella
404	1995-1997 Explorer Tie Rod Exemplar rack & pinion	X	nobj		XX	_2/5/07	Pascarella
405	Curriculum Vitae of Michael James	X	nobj		X	2/7/07	James
412	Michael James vehicle seatbelt inspection photo SV-38	X	nobj		Х	2/7/07	James
413	Michael James vehicle seatbelt inspection photo SV-39	x	nobj		X	2/7/07	James
416	Michael James vehicle seatbelt inspection photo SV-94	x	nobj	·	X	2/7/07	James
418	Michael James vehicle seatbelt inspection photo SV-104	X	nobj		X	2/7/07	James
119	Michael James vehicle seatbelt inspection photo SV-108	X	nobj		х	2/7/07	James
123	Michael James vehicle inspection photos (seatbelt)	X	nobj		x	2/7/07	James
24A	seat belt	X	nobj		х	2/7/07	James
24B	seat belt RCF buckle	x	nobj		x	2/7/07	James

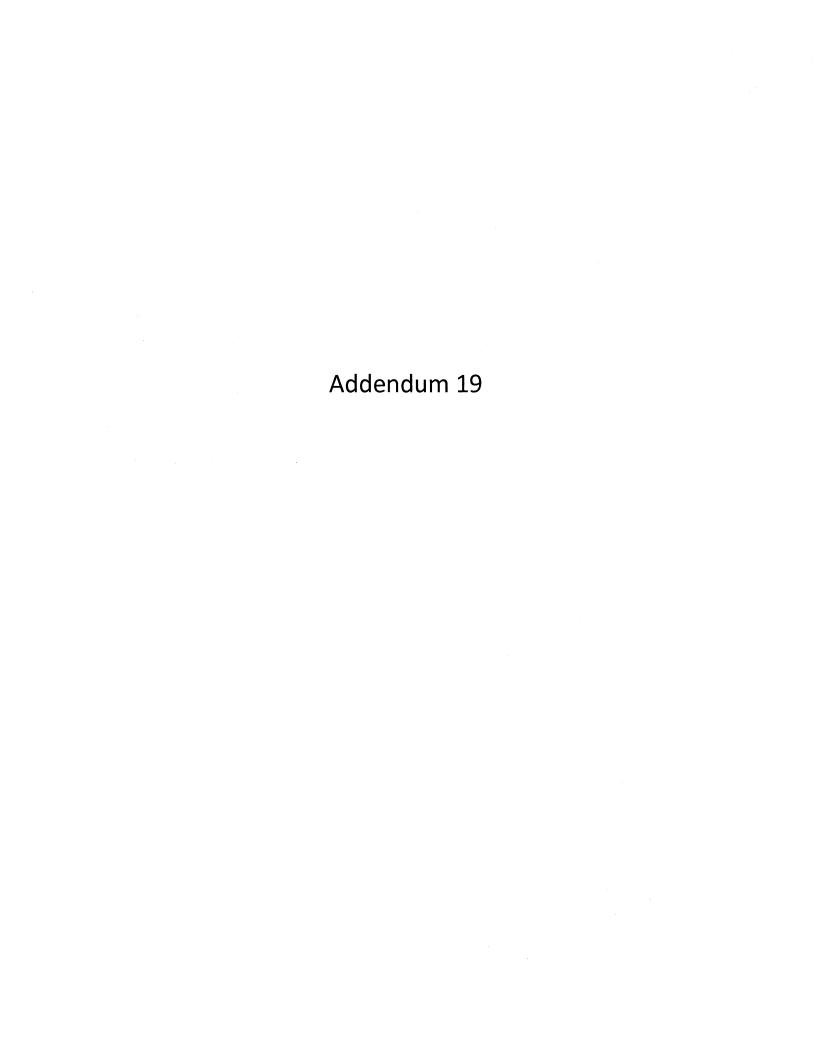
No.	Description	Off	ОЫ	Sus/Ovrl	Rev	Date	Witness
426-133	Warning	X	nobj		X	1/10/07	Fred
437-2	chart on rollover severity	X	obj	overrule	х	1/25/07	Ingebreisen
448	Dr. Geoffrey Germane Curriculum Vitae	x	nobj		Х	1/30/07	Germane
149 A-I	photo boards of subject 1997 Ford Explorer	x	nobj		X	1/30/07	Germane
452	scaled diagram of the accident site	x	nobj		X	1/30/07	Germane
152A	scaled diagram of the accident site	X	nobj		X	1/30/07	Germane
452B	scaled diagram of the accident site	X	побј		X	1/30/07	Germane
455	scaled Ford Explorer model						
457	light vehicle rollover frequency 1995-2001	X	nobj		X	1/25/07	Ingebreisen
459	minor, serious, fatal injuries in rollover by # of rolls NASS CDS 95-01	x	nobj		X	1/25/07	Ingebretsen
460	Edward M Caulfield, Ph.D., P.E. Curriculum Vitae	X	nobj		X	1/31/07	Caulfield
462	Excerpts from FMVSS 206 standard and SAE J839	X	obj	overrule	X	1/31/07	Caultield
464	Door latch exemplar	X	nobj		X	1/31/07	Caulfield
164A1	Door latch exemplar	X	nobj		XX	1/31/07	Caulfield
164A2	Door latch exemplar	x	nobj		X DL	1/31/07	Caulfield
164B1	mini latch	X	nobj		XHA	1/31/07	Caulfield
164B2	mini latch	x	nobj		x D	1/31/07	Caulfield
467	KGV photos & inspection notes 7/21/05	X	obj	overrule	X	1/31/07	Caulfield
67.103	blow up photo	x	obj	overrule	X	1/31/07	Caulfield
167.17	Blow up photo	X	obj	overtule	X	1/31/07	Caulfield
67.100	blow up photo	X	obj	overrule	X	1/31/07	Caulfield
-67.15	Blow up photo	X	obj	overnule	X	1/31/07	Caulfield
67.40	Blow up photo	X	obj	overtule	x	1/31/07	Caulfield
-70.34	Blow up photo	x	obj	overrule	X	1/31/07	Caulfield
70-36	blow up photo	X	obj	overrule	X	1/31/07	Caulfield
70.29	Blow up photo	X	obj	overrule	X	1/31/07	Caulfield
468	Vehicle inspection 1998 Ford Explorer	х	nobj		X	1/31/07	Caulfield
469	FMVSS 206 Transverse load test 9/14/05	X	nobj		X	1/31/07	Caulfield
470	EMC inspection photos 1/16/06	X	nobj		Х	1/31/07	Caulfield
471	MWR photos 1997 Ford Explorer lateral pull-left front striker	x	nobj		Х	1/31/07	Caulfield
71A	MWR video 1997 Ford Explorer lateral pull-left front striker	x	nobj		x	1/31/07	Caulfield

layton vs Ford ase # 000909522

ase#	000909522		,		1503	/	
No.	Description	Off	Obj	Sus/Ovrl	Rcv	Date	Witness
173	left side striker post displacement	X	nobj		X	1/31/07	Caulfield
175	photos left front longitudinal door push 1997 Ford Explorer	X	nobj		X	1/31/07	Caulfield
75A	video left front longitudinal door push 1997 Ford Explorer	Χ.	nobj		X	1/31/07	Caulfield
184	video -						
76A	1997 Ford Explorer door exemplar	X	nobj		XX	1/31/07	Caultield
177	KGV photos - subject latch removal 10/27/06	X	побј		X	1/31/07	Caulfield
178	KEF photos - subect latch enlargement	X	nobj		X	1/31/07	Caulfield
555	3/9/99 letter to GIECO Insurance from Kellie Montoya	X	nobj		х	1/10/07	Fred
558	Barton contingency fee contract 4/13/99	x	olij	averrule	х	1/29/07	Моптоуа
<u>i68</u>	Release in full of all claims	х	obj	overrule	х	1/29/07	Montoya
H 1-26	Utah Highway Patrol photos	X	obj	overrule	X	1/30/67	Pace
<u> 385</u>	Utah Highway Patrol key code	X	obj	overrule	X	1/30/07	Pace
710	Factory invoice for subject 1997 Ford Explorer	X	nobj		X	1/10/07	Fred
784	safety segment design guideline for resistance to collover	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pascarella
785	safety segment design guideline for resistance to collover	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Раясагени
367	product engineering dimension & tolerance	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowler
926	8/15/80 engineering test procedure P6-101 rate handling	X	nobj		X	2/7/07	Tandy
)30	chart of Ford vehicle design process	x	obj	sustain		2/7/07	Tandy
)38	8/26/94 Ford report - resistance to rollover guidelines	X	nobj		X	2/7/07	Tandy
)48	Diagram of door measurements	X	nobj		X	1/12/07	Gilberg
)49	photo	X	nobj		X	2/1/07	Caulfield
)50	Consumer Report September 1990				-		
)52	photo - underside of shock absorber mount	x	nobj		Х	1/24/07	Ingebreisen
)53	Chart/summary of Ingebretsen's testimony	x	obj	sustain		1/25/07	Ingebreisen
154	Diagram of caster	X	obj-	overrule	X	1/25/07	Ingebreisen
155	Summary of Ingebretsen's testimony	w/dr	obj			1/25/07	lagebressen
56A		X	nobj		x	1/31/07	Caulfield
56B		X	nobj		x	1/31/07	Caulfield
157	summary of Caulfield's testimony						Caulfield
158	still photo from Morse video	х	nobj		x	2/1/07	Caulfield

No.	Description	X					
60	Report					2/1/07	Caulfiel
61	chart						
62	washer	X	nobj		X	2/5/07	Pageurel
63	right front shock mount	X	nobj		<u>x</u>	2/6/07	Pascarel
64	chart	X				2/6/07	
65	drawing	X	obj	overrule	X	2/6/07	Fowl
66	drawing/chart	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowle
67	drawing	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Fowle
68	work order	X	nobj		X	2/6/07	Tone
69	work invoice	X	nobj		X	2/7/07	Tone
70	drawing of seat belt workings	X	повј		X	2/7/07	Jame
71	drawing/chart	Х	nobj		X	2/7/07	Tand
72	chart	 Х	obj	sustain		2/7/07	Tand
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eccived all exh	ibits above on ** by W. Densley, De	eputy Clerk.				•
Exhibits:	returned to counsel	in the cour	t's file	in the	e court's exh	ibit room
				4		



FILED DISTRICT COURT Third Judicial District

NOV 17 2006

BALT LAKE COUNTY

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THIRD DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY

STATE OF UTAH

DOLORES CLAYTON, et al. Case No. 000909522 Plaintiffs, PLAINTIFFS' MOTION IN LIMINE NO. 11 TO EXCLUDE FORD'S EXPERT, v. **GEOFFREY GERMANE'S TESTIMONY** UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al. AS TO 99 PERCENT STATISTICAL RATE Defendants. Judge Joseph C. Fratto

Plaintiffs Move the Court for an Order excluding Ford's expert, Geoffrey Germane's testimony as to 99 percent statistical rate because (1) the evidence is not relevant under Evidence Rules 401, 402 and 702 and would not assist the trier of fact; (2) the testimony is more

prejudicial than probative and would unnecessarily mislead or confuse the jury under Evidence Rule 403.

Dated: November 16, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

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NOV 1 7 2006

SALT LAKE COUNTY

Deputy Clerk

THIRD DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY

STATE OF UTAH

DOLORES CLAYTON, et al.	Case No. 000909522
Plaintiffs, v. UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al. Defendants.	PLAINTIFFS' MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF MOTION IN LIMINE NO. 11 TO EXCLUDE FORD'S EXPERT, GEOFFREY GERMANE'S TESTIMONY AS TO 99 PERCENT STATISTICAL RATE
	Judge Joseph C. Fratto

Plaintiffs submit their Memorandum in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine No. 11 to exclude Ford's expert, Geoffrey Germane's testimony as to 99 percent statistical rate because (1) the evidence is irrelevant under Evidence Rules 402 and 702 and would not assist the trier of

fact; and (2) and the testimony is more prejudicial than probative and would unnecessarily mislead or confuse the jury under Evidence Rule 403.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Ford's expert, Geoffrey Germane, has stated in his report as follows:

"The severity of the subject rollover accident exceeded that of more than 99 % of all rollovers documented in national accident statistical databases based on number of rolls, and far exceeds the average speed of fatal rollovers in the U.S." (Exhibit A.)

At Germane's deposition on October 26, 2005, he stated that he drew his statistical conclusion on "severity" of the accident from all vehicles, trucks, vans, pickup trucks and passenger cars. (Exhibit B, p. 103-131.) This testimony is irrelevant; the purported statistical basis is suspect; and the evidence would be more prejudicial than probative and likely confuse the jury. This fallacious analytical result is expected to be repeated by other Ford witnesses.

ARGUMENT

GERMANE'S "STATISTICAL" TESTIMONY IS IRRELEVANT TO THE ISSUES OF DEFECT; THE STATISTICAL BASIS IS SUSPECT AND IT THEREFORE SHOULD BE EXCLUDED.

Witnesses qualified as experts may testify if scientific, technical, or other specialized knowledge assists the trier of fact to understand the evidence or to determine a fact in issue.

(Utah R. Evid. 702.) Any expert evidence, scientifically based or otherwise, must, on balance, "be helpful to the trier of fact." Such evidence must be scrutinized carefully to avoid the tendency of the finder of fact to abandon its responsibility to decide the critical issues and simply adopt the judgment of the expert despite an inability to accurately appraise the validity of the underlying science. (See, *Ostler v. Albina Transfer Co.*, 781 P.2d 445, 448 (Utah Ct. App. 1989).)

This trial is about the **DESIGN** of the Ford Explorer. Plaintiffs have sued Ford claiming that the Explorer was designed with several dangerous characteristics; the accident resulted from

broken suspension parts; a defective door latching system; and the inherent instability design of the Explorer. Ford knew about the Explorer's instability but failed to provide warnings of design deviations and dangerous conditions.

An integral element of a Rule 702 determination to admit expert evidence is a balancing of the probativeness of the evidence against its potential for unfair prejudice. This balancing mimics that under Rule 403, and is necessary to a determination of helpfulness. (*Haupt v. Heaps, supra*, 2005 UT App 436, P25.) Evidence Rule 403 permits the court to order evidence excluded if its probative value is substantially outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice (See, *Martin v. Safeway Stores, Inc., Utah*, 565 P.2d 1139 (1977)) or if it confuses or misleads the jury on the issues. "The balancing test of rule 403 thus excludes matter of scant or cumulative probative force, dragged in by the heels for the sake of its prejudicial effect." (*State v. Bartley*, 784 P.2d 1231, 1237 (Utah Ct. App. 1989).)

Where the probative value of offered evidence is not great, any such probative value may be outweighed by considerations such as confusion of the jury and prolonging of the trial. The testimony or evidence should appropriately be excluded. (Cf., *Terry v. Zions Coop. Mercantile Inst.*, 605 P.2d 314, 323 (Utah 1979). If Germane is permitted to testify on statistics, Plaintiffs will have to have rebuttal epidemiologist, Dr. Michael Freeman, testify as to how Germane's statistics are slanted, consuming unnecessary time. Indeed the evidence is speculative in that it is based on "statistics" drawn from other types of accidents besides SUV rollovers. Where evidence is shown to support only conjectural inferences which has little probative value, reviewing courts have reversed cases on grounds that the improperly admitted evidence could only have served to confuse and mislead the jury or to prejudice the outcome of the case. (See, *Pearce v. Wistisen*, 701 P.2d 489, 491-492 (Utah 1985).)

In *Ostler v. Albina Transfer Co.*, *supra*, 781 P.2d 445, the court found that other accident evidence did not meet the substantially similar circumstances to permit admissibility. In that case, the plaintiff admitted that the videotape differed from the actual accident in that the videotape was produced during daylight conditions and employed an alert, professional stunt driver. The *Ostler* court found that the conditions of the film's production were far from similar to the actual accident. The court stated:

"The differences in lighting and driver alertness and skill were crucial. The literal controversy of this lawsuit is the inexplicable departure of a vehicle from the lane of traffic. The videotape does not, and cannot, depict the conditions that caused that departure. Any other depiction is, as the trial court concluded, not reconstruction, but speculation. In contrast to Whitehead, the circumstances of this accident are not known, and there is no indication that the design characteristics of vehicles were responsible. The discrepancies between the film and plaintiff's accident seem to go beyond weight." (Ostler v. Albina Transfer Co., supra, 781 P.2d 445, 448-449.)

The *Ostler* court additionally concluded that even giving plaintiff the benefit of our doubt as to the film's relevance and similarity, the trial court properly excluded the videotape as substantive evidence on the grounds of potential confusion to mislead the jury. (Ibid; See Utah R. Evid. 403.)

At Germane's deposition on October 26, 2005, he testified that he drew his statistical conclusion on "severity" of the accident from all vehicles, trucks, vans, pickup trucks and passenger cars. (Exhibit B, p. 103-131.) Here, Germane's testimony about *statistical evidence from other dissimilar vehicle designs and accidents*, has a great potential to confuse and mislead the jury. Germane's testimony does NOT meet the reliability standard. A reliability standard is necessary because while often helpful, scientific testimony also has the potential to overawe and confuse, and even to be misused for that purpose. (*Haupt v. Heaps*, 2005 UT App 436, P18 (Utah Ct. App. 2005).) "Testimony not found to be inherently reliable may not be admitted." (*Ibid.*)

Additionally, probabilities cannot conclusively establish that a single event did or did not

occur and are particularly inappropriate when used to establish facts "not susceptible to quantitative analysis." (See, e.g., *People v. Collins*, 438 P.2d 33, 40-41 (Cal. 1968).) "Even where statistically valid probability evidence has been presented...courts have routinely excluded it when the evidence invites the jury to focus upon a seemingly scientific, numerical conclusion rather than to analyze the evidence before it and decide where truth lies...." (*State v. Rammel*, 721 P.2d 498, 501 (Utah 1986), emphasis added.)

Ford's evidence has a great potential to mislead the jury on the issue of design defect by establishing through "expert" testimony that statistically, the Explorer accident exceeded 99 percent of all rollover accidents. This is a numerical conclusion impermissible because it causes the jury to focus on a seeming numerical conclusion and confuses the jury.

Consequently, Germane's testimony on this issue should be excluded in its entirety at trial and Ford should be cautioned to warn and not permit its other expert witnesses to state or repeat this fallacious conclusion.

Dated: November **16**, 2006.

THOR O. EMBLEM MATTHEW H. RATY

Respectfully submitte

Exhibit A

- mph. The roll distance and the number and direction of abrasions on the vehicle body panels indicate a four-roll event. The vehicle rolled approximately 108 ft. in the median. The final 65 ft. of the roll sequence was on the pavement for the westbound lanes of Interstate 80. The vehicle came to rest in the no. 2 westbound lane. The average roll rate for the vehicle during the rollover sequence was approximately 288-307 deg/sec.
- 5. During the rollover the vehicle experienced heavy impacts through the wheels and tires, and corners of the vehicle. There was oscillation of the roll axis as the vehicle received impulses alternately in front and to the rear of its center of gravity. The roof structure sustained multiple severe contacts. The magnitude of the impacts was potentially enhanced by suspension forces through the wheels and tires that affected the rollover mechanics.
- 6. The driver door window glass likely fractured during the second roll, slightly west of the rest position of the driver as documented by the investigating officer. There is no physical evidence that components of the steering system failed prior to the rollover. The left and right side tie rods sustained damage consistent with buckling and fracture under compression loading during the rollover of the vehicle. During a heavy right front impact the right front wheel well was contacted by the tire. The threaded portion of the tie rod link was bent due to compression loading. The tire mark physical evidence is consistent with what would be expected by a vehicle in a steering-induced yaw just prior to rollover.
- 7. The severity of the subject rollover accident exceeded that of more than 99% of all rollovers documented in national accident statistical databases based on number of rolls, and far exceeds the average speed of fatal rollovers in the U.S.

*

Accident Causation Opinions

1. The rollover accident was caused by the failure of Mr. Clayton to maintain control of his vehicle while attempting to re-enter the roadway.

This report is preliminary in nature, and the opinions contained herein may be altered, supplemented, or changed depending upon any additional information, which may be obtained, and analyses performed in the course of the continuing investigation. In addition, if more specific information regarding the alleged defects in the vehicle is obtained, this report may be supplemented.

Geoff J. Germane, Ph.D., P.E

Mechanical Engineer

Exhibit B

Page 130 Page 132 the middle, you say, the left and right side tie rods and vans. sustained damage consistent with buckling fracture 2 Q. I am going to ask you to briefly look under compression holding. through this stack of documents which we were Did you obtain that information -- rely on provided and ask you to identify the NASS, n-a-s-s, 4 5 another expert of any type for that portion of your data that you used to arrive at this conclusion. 6 conclusion? There were four files which we received yesterday 7 A. No. 7 from your records and one was called cumulative 8 O. All right. Have you done failure mode 8 frequency, 1995 to 2001, NASS. 9 analysis? 9 A. Correct. 10 A. I have -- by failure mode analysis, if you 10 Q. Is that one of these here? 11 mean have I analyzed how components react to loading, 11 A. That's that. 12 12 the answer is yes, I have not only studied that but I Q. I am going to mark that as Exhibit have taught it at the university level and I have 13 Number 11. tested it and performed laboratory and field testing Okay. Then one is identified as NASS 14 15 on those very issues. 15 weighted data. Is that this one? Q. Have you tested Explorer tie rods? 16 16 A. Well -17 A. I have not. There is unmistakable 17 Q. No, this is -18 18 evidence on the tie rods that suggest they were bent, A. This is a plot and these are the 19 underlying data from which you could make the two 19 however. 20 20 Q. Do you draw any - make any assumptions or plots. 21 draw any conclusions about when the bending occurred? 21 Okay. So we'll mark this as 12. And this 22 A. I believe that that occurred during the 22 was the document that was identified as NASS weighted 23 rollover. 23 data_ is that correct? Q. In your conclusion number seven you say, 24 A. I don't know what it was identified as. I 25 the severity of the subject accident exceeds more 25 didn't call it that. Page 13 Page 133 than 99 percent of the rollovers documented in the O. I am going mark this as 12. national accident statistical databases. The third one was the minor, serious and 3 How did you determine that? fatal data. A. From data produced by the Department of A. That would be this one. 5 Transportation, in which one can look at the Q. Also on 11? frequency or the occurrence of rollover events and 6 A. Wellone determines that a four rollover event is an Q. It's -extremely rare event among all rollovers. And A. You have identified two as 11. I am not rollovers themselves are not very common occurrences sure you want to do that, when cast into the constellation of all motor vehicle 10 Q. Oh, it's two documents. Okay. Thank you collisions. 11 for that. So this would be 13. And the fourth - was there a fourth or is So this was - the data that you withdrew 12 to obtain this conclusion was for all rollover events 13 that all of it? included in the national database? 14 A. Well, I am surprised this even came 15 through. This is just essentially this right here A. Right. 6 that - it's these blocks right here. All vehicles, trucks, motorcycles? 16 Q. So the fourth is also included in that A. Not motorcycles, it's what's called light 17 trucks, would include SUVs, vans, pickup trucks and 18 which we have marked as Exhibit 12? A. This is extraneous, I would say. passenger cars. 19

34 (Pages 130 to 133)

Starting with that which we have marked as

Exhibit 11, that's a graph, is that right? Did you

Q. Did you use a particular program to plot

20

21

22

23

24

25

graph this?

A. Correct.

Thank you.

Under 8,000 pounds?

said light truck; I meant light vehicles.

24

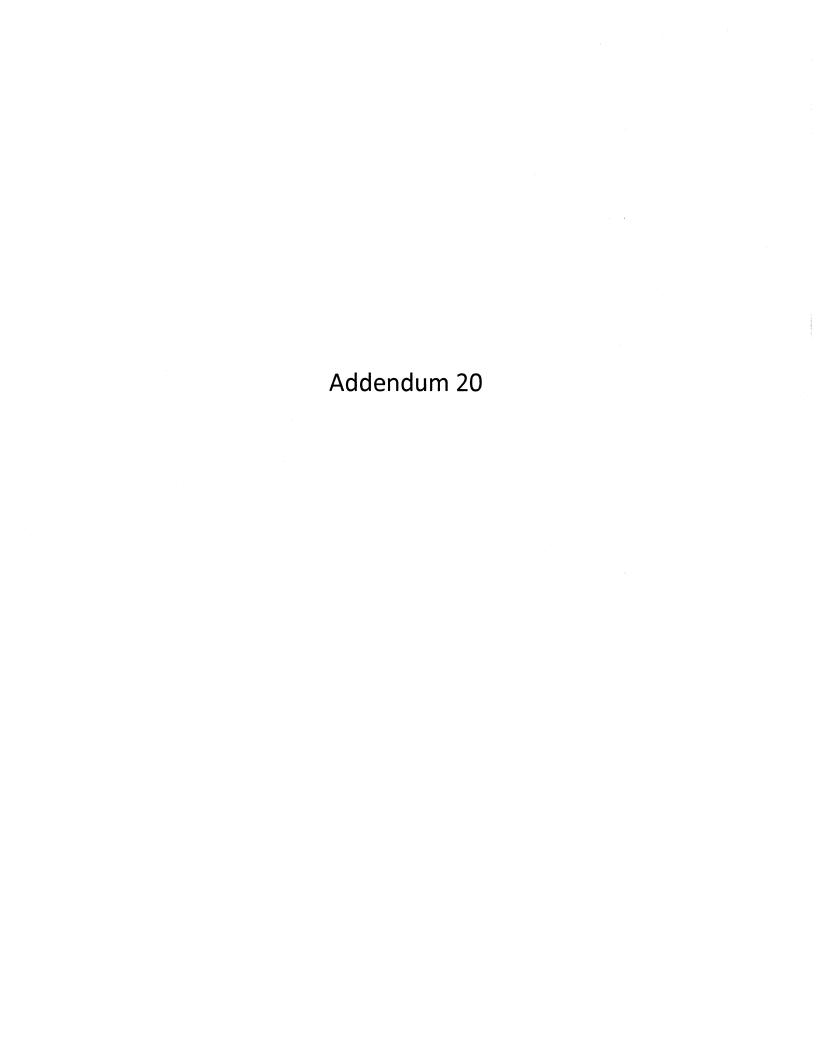
25

A. The criteria would be, you know, what's

Q. Light vehicle would include automobile?

Passenger cars as well as pickup trucks

called a light truck. I'm sorry, light vehicles. I



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ORIGINAL

THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY

STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,
) Case No. 000909522
Plaintiffs,
)
VS.
) JUDGE:
) JOSEPH C. FRATTO, JR.
UTAH AUTO COLLECTION,
et al.,
)
Defendants.
)

TRIAL TESTIMONY OF
GEOFFREY J. GERMANE, PH.D., P.E.,
VOLUME I

TAKEN AT:

SCOTT MATHESON COURTHOUSE

450 South State Salt Lake City, Utah

DATE:

Tuesday, January 30, 2007

REPORTED BY:

Catherine L. Kennedy, RPR, CSR

Wendy Alcock, RPR, CSR

FILED DISTRICT COURT
Third Judicial District

OCT 24 2007

SALT LAKE COUNTY

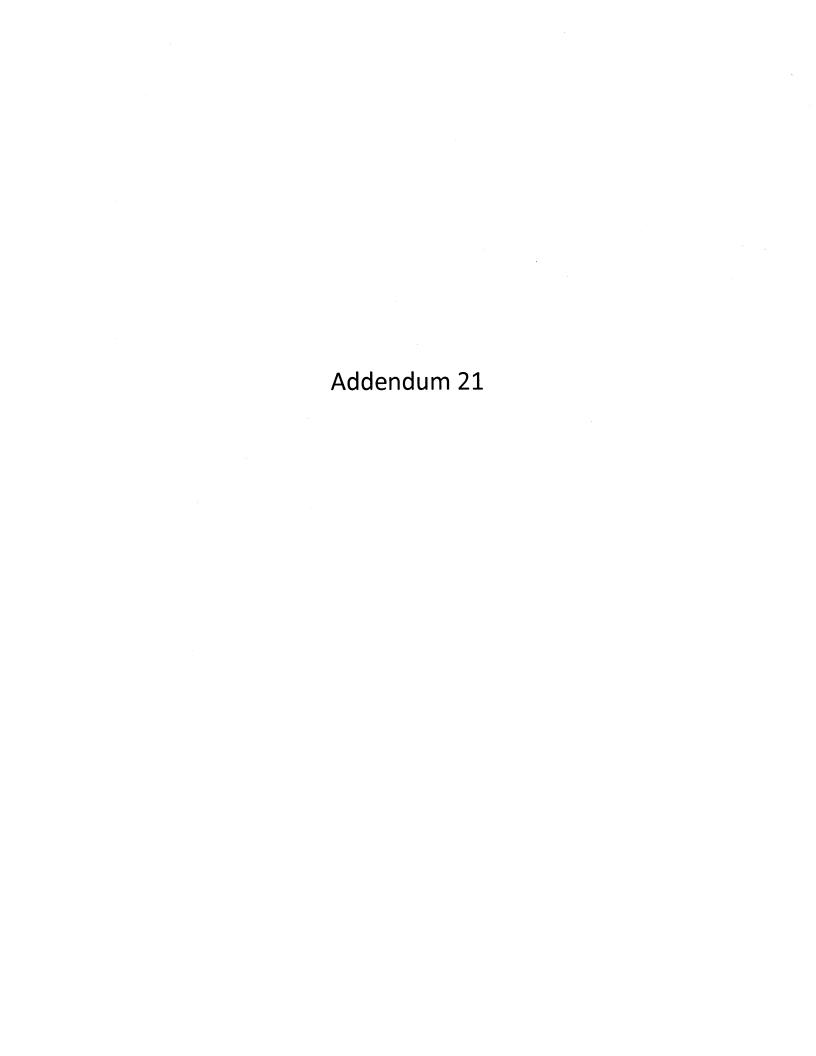
Deputy Clerk

- 1 sway bar, and the shock absorber, as has been described?
- 2 A I'm not sure the sway bar was damaged, was it?
- 3 Q The sway bar on the front right side was
- 4 missing, the link.
- 5 A The link, yes. I believe so, yes.
- 6 Q So, again, based upon the forces generated in
- 7 this accident, is that sufficient to damage all those
- 8 components?
- 9 A I believe so, yes.
- 10 Q Now let me ask you whether you examine national
- 11 statistics regarding rollover severity as part of your
- 12 work as an accident reconstruction expert.
- 13 A I do.
- 14 Q Let me show you what's in evidence as
- 15 Defendant's Exhibit 457. And, again, Dr. Germane, is this
- 16 a chart that you prepared as part of your materials in
- 17 this case?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q If you can, explain to the jury -- they've seen
- 20 it already, but what this graph is showing and its
- 21 significance in this accident.
- 22 A This is really information or data for light-
- 23 vehicle rollovers in the U.S. And "light vehicle" is
- 24 defined as passenger cars, vans, SUVs, and pickup trucks.
- Q And before you move past that, does it include
 WENDY ALCOCK DEPOMAX REPORTING, LLC

- 1 Volkswagen Beetles?
- 2 A It does. It includes all light vehicles. And
- 3 it's simply a plot of the cumulative frequency of number
- 4 of rollovers and accidents. And this is for all tow-away
- 5 accidents, a sample in the United States from 1992 to 2001
- 6 and it's plotted as a -- the vertical access is
- 7 cumulative. So when you get to 100 percent, we've
- 8 accounted for all rollovers listed. And the horizontal
- 9 axis is broken down by quarter roll, every 90-degree of
- 10 roll angle.
- 11 Q And the jury has seen this as well, but we have
- 12 four full rolls in this accident?
- 13 A Correct.
- 14 Q And so according to this data, that's the 16/4
- 15 point?
- 16 A Sixteen quarter rolls.
- 17 Q Sixteen quarter rolls. And what does the data
- 18 tell you at four full rolls?
- 19 A Well, it shows that virtually every single
- 20 rollover accident that is part of the sample database for
- 21 those years that has already occurred has fewer rolls than
- 22 the number of rolls that we have in this particular
- 23 accident.
- 24 Q Does that mean that four full rolls is worse
- 25 than 99 percent of the accidents studied in this database?

WENDY ALCOCK - DEPOMAX REPORTING, LLC

- 1 A If you define "worse" as having more rolls, yes.
- 2 Q Would you, sir, describe this accident as a
- 3 high-energy severe rollover?
- 4 A It is.
- 5 Q In your experience in studying rollover
- 6 accidents, is it common to experience these four full
- 7 rollovers that we see in this case?
- 8 A Well, in my experience we see very severe
- 9 events, and so we see quite a few three- and four-roll
- 10 accidents. But it's a very rare event in terms of the
- 11 constellation of all motor vehicle accidents.
- 12 Q And, again, you covered this, but what makes it
- 13 four full rollovers instead of two or one is what?
- 14 A The initial speed, the terrain, those sorts of
- 15 things. The distance it rolled.
- 16 Q And so the initial speed and terrain in this
- 17 case made it worse than 99 percent of the other accidents
- 18 studied in this database?
- 19 A It's more than 99 percent. It's actually in the
- 20 upper tenth percent or less.
- 21 Q And, again, Dr. Germane, to summarize, as an
- 22 accident reconstruction expert do you have an opinion to a
- 23 reasonable degree of engineering probability about whether
- 24 the physical evidence shows any problem with the
- 25 suspension system prior to rollover?



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Attorneys for Defendants

FILED DISTRICT COURT Third Judicial District

DEC 2 9 2006

SALT LAKE COUNTY
Deputy Clerk

IN THE THIRD DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,

Defendants.

ORDER ON PRETRIAL MOTIONS

Case No. 000909522 Judge Joseph C. Fratto

This matter came before the Court on December 12, 2006 at 9:00 a.m. on Defendants Motions in Limine Nos. 1-50, Defendants' Motion to Bifurcate Liability and Damages, Plaintiffs' Motions in Limine Nos. 1-30 and Plaintiffs' Motion to Permit the Jury to View the Vehicle. After reviewing the pleadings, hearing oral arguments, and good cause appearing therefore, the court hereby makes the following orders:

Defendants' Motions

Ford's Motion to Bifurcate Li	ability and Damage	<u>s</u>
Granted	Denied	Other
Ford's Motion in Limine No.	<u>l</u> - Ford's Counsel's Denied	Arguments in Other Cases Other

Ford's Motion in Limine N	No. 2 - The Report of T	esting of Dennis Guer	nther
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine Action or Any Other Action		gedly not Produced E	By Defendants in This
Granted		Other	
Ford's Motion in Limite N			
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine N	o. 5 - Firestone Tire R	ecall	
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine N Against Ford	o. 6 - Punitive Damago	es Awards, Verdicts, (or Judgments
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine N Administration	o. 7 - Claims of Fraud	on the National High	way Traffic Safety
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine No	o. 8 - Interpreting Doc	uments Produced by	Ford as Evidence of
Granted	Denied	Other	

		chair of filuryiduals who Arcivo	n i ai u
and Sales or Accidents of V	Vehicles Outside Utah		
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine N Should Send a Message Granted	Denied	Behalf of Consuming Public / Ju	rors
Ford's Motion in Lintine N	o. 11 - Derogatory Rer	narks Regarding Ford's Counsel	
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine N Corporate Representative	o. 12 - Remarks Regar	ding the Absence or Identity of F	₹ord's
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine N	o. 13 - The Golden Rul	e Appeal and Ford's Moral Duti	es
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine N	o. 14 - Privileged Mate	rial or Ford's Claims of Privilege	е
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine No	o. 15 - Legal Advice of	Ford's Office of General Counse	:l
Granted	Denied	Other	
			

Granted	Denied_	Other
Ford's Motion in Limine No Articles, Etc.	o. 17 - Reference to Nor	n-Scientific Publications, Newsp
Granted	Denied	Other
Ford's Motion in Limine No	o. 18 - Evidence from Ir	iternet
Granted	Denied	Other
Granted 4	Denied	Other
Ford's Motion in Limine No Referring to or Depicting To Granted		Reports and/or Test Videotape wenty-Years Ago Other
Referring to or Depicting To Granted Ford's Motion in Limine No	Denied	Othererences That Ford or the Auto
Referring to or Depicting To	Denied De	Othererences That Ford or the Auto
Granted Ford's Motion in Limine Note Influenced the National High	Denied Denied Denied Denied Denied Denied	Othererences That Ford or the Autoministration

afficient to Award Punitiv	ve Damages, or that the	e Product was "Unreasonably Dange	rous"
Granted	Denied	Other	,
		glouted on Car	Lau
		diriul	M
ord's Motion in Limine N	o. 24 - Reference to the		
Granted (1)	Danied	Othon	
Granted 41	Denieu	Other	
J			
ord's Motion in Limine N	o. 25 - Requests by For	rd to Exclude Certain Evidence	
Granted M	Denied	Other	
71			
V			
rd's Motion in Limine N	o. 26 - References to W	itnesses Not Called by Ford	
\sim			
Granted	Denied	Other	
rd's Motion in Limine No	<u>o. 27</u> - Personal Beliefs	or Opinions of Counsel	
Granted (Denied	Other	
ud's Motion in Limino No	20 Defenence A We	Augusta tanas	
rd's Motion in Limine No	<u>5. 28</u> - Reference to Wa	pergate tapes	
Granted	Denied ()	Other	
			* 1 * * ** * * *
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rd's Motion in Limine No	o. 29 - Questioning in V	oir Dire Regarding the Ability or	
llingness of a Juror to Av		t of Domogos	
Granted	Denied	Other	MAR
Gianica	Demeu		$\omega_{l} \omega_{l}$

Ford's Motion in Limine N	No. 30 - Expert Opinion Re	egarding Warnings
Granted	Denied	Other
Ford's Motion in Limine N Advertising Materials	Λ./	ert Opinion Regarding Particular
Granted	Denied W	Other
Ford's Motion in Lingine N	lo. 32 - Issues Regarding F	MVSS Testing
Granted	Denied	
Ford's Motion in Limine N Discovery Responses or Su	lo. 33 - Alleged Defects No	t Previously Listed in Complaint, ony.
Granted	Denied	Other
Ford's Motion in Limine N	<u>lo. 34</u> – Other Similar Inci	dents or Accidents.
Granted	Denied	Other
Ford's Motion in Limine N Killed in Unrelated Crashe		Graphic Photographs of Individual
Granted_	Denied	Other
Ford's Motion in Lingine N	o. 36 – Design Changes to	Later Model Year Ford Explorers.
Granted	Denied	Other

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ne No. 37	- To Exclude Ev	idence Regarding Br	onco II and UN46
	\wedge	1	
	Denied	Other	
ne No. 38	\/ \ <i>\</i>		
	Denied 9	Other	
ne No. 39	– To Admit Evid	ence Regarding Seat	belt Non-Use.
ne No. 40 arrations		morial or "Day in th	e Life" Videos,
	Denied	Other	
ie No. 41	- To Limit the To	estimony of Justin D	. Fair
	Denied	Other	
e No. 42	- To Exclude Tes	timony "Regarding	Human Value of
	Denied	Other	
e No. 43 -	- To Exclude the	Depositions Designa	ted in Plaintiffs' Pre-
	D. 1.1	0.1	
	Denied	Other	
	ne No. 39 ne No. 40 arrations ne No. 41	Denied Denied	DeniedOther DeniedOther

Ford's Motion in Limine	No. 44 – Any Reference	to or Evidence, Testi	mony, or Argument
Concerning "Consumer Sa	afety" as the Purpose o	f the Suit.	-
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine N	No. 45 – Any Reference	to or Evidence. Testi	 mony, or Argument
Concerning Witnesses Equ	-		,, (2. 8
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine N Concerning Effect of Jury			
Granted		Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine N Concerning Any Damages			nony, or Argument
Granted 📈	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine N Concerning Nationwide Co		to or Evidence, Testii	nony, or Argument
Granted	Denied	Other	
Ford's Motion in Limine N Concerning Settlement Off		to or Evidence, Testir	nony, or Argument
Granted	Denied	Other	
V			

Ford's Motion in Limipe No	<u>). 50</u> – To Exclude Any	Reference to Unre	lated Alleged Defects
or Recalls. Granted	Denied	Other	
	PLAINTIFFS' M	<u>OTIONS</u>	
Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine	No. 1 - for a Stipulati	on/Order as to Doci	uments Produced by
Ford in Paper or CD Forma	t or through its Disco	ery Website forddo	ocs.com
Granted	Denied	Other	
Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine Argument or Innuendo on tl Carrier Granted			
Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine Argument or Innuendo Pert with GEICO Insurance, the Not Allowed to Speculate Re	aining to Kellie Monto Barton File Document	oya and Keith Barto ts, and to Instruct th	on's Communications
Granted	Denied	Other	
Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine Argument or Innuendo that Granted		ed with Tony Clayto	
Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine Argument or Inquendo that			
Granted	Denied	Other	



Granted//	Denied	Other	
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NI - i - 4:00 N N A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	No. 7. As Employee	D.C. D.L. T.A.	
		y Reference, Evidence, Testimo ed 300 lbs. on the Day of the Ro	•
Granted	Denied	Other	
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argument or Innuendo Pe Providers	ertaining to Hearsay As	sumptions Made by EMS and N	Medical
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Granted	Denied	Other	
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estimony of Ford's Expe	rt William Wecker		d
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<u>Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine No. 6</u> - to Exclude any Reference, Evidence, Testimony, Argument or Innuendo as to Plaintiffs' Lawyers Going After Ford's Deep Pockets; Trial

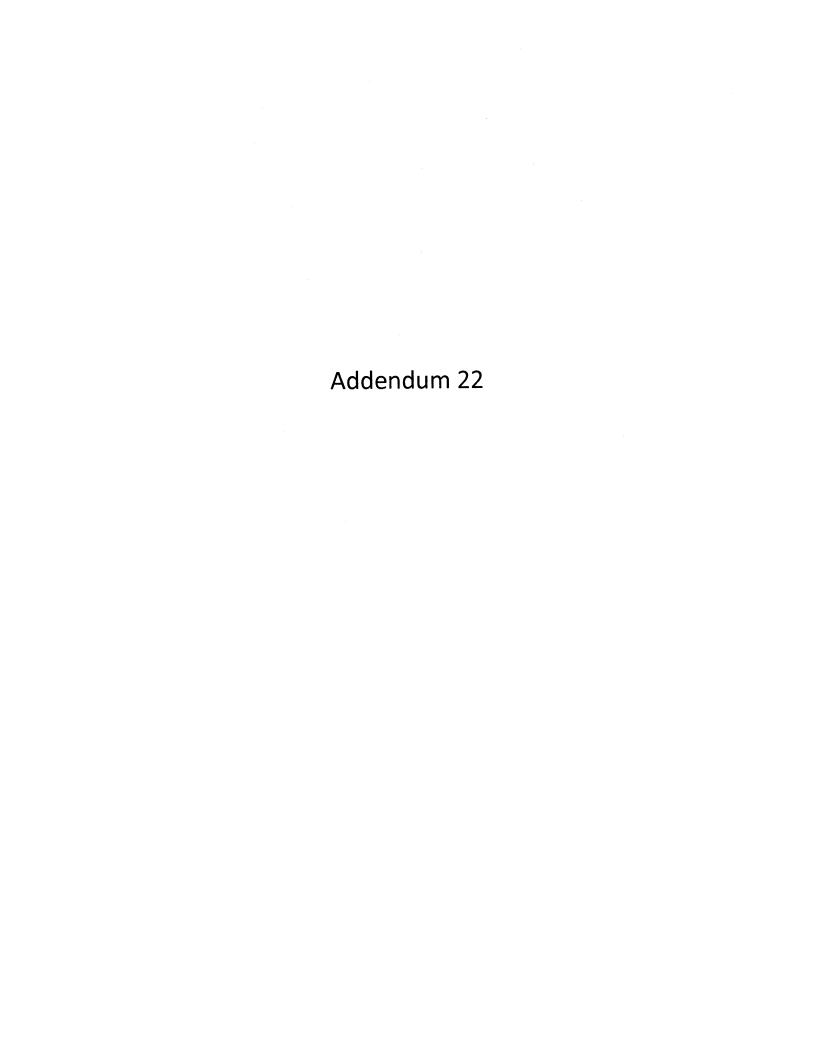
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Granted	Denied	Other	
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Plaintiffs' Motion in Limin			
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Argument, Innuendo or Ju			
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Granted	Denied	Other	
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Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine No.	<u>18</u> - for an Order	Prohibiting Ford from	m Presenting
Cumulative Witness Testimony	1.	•	
Granted	Denied	Other	
	U		
Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine No.	19 - to Exclude F	ord's Expert Witness	es from the
Courtroom [Evidence Rule 615]	1		
Granted	Denied	Other	
Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine No.	20 - to Evolude e	ny Reference Evidenc	a Tastimony
Argument or Innuendo Regardin			
Granted	Denied	Other	
<u> </u>			
Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine No. : Argument or Innuendo that Plain			
Larry Kashur			
Granted	Denied	Other	
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Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine No. 2	22 - to Seat Ford'	s Rehabilitation Expe	rt, John Janzen
Out of the Jury's Presence	$\bigcap \bigwedge$		
Granted	Denied	Other	
<u>Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine No. 2</u> [Evidence Rule 611]	23 - to Limit One	Defense Counsel Per	Issue at Trial
Levidence Rule 0111	Λ. /		
Granted	Denied_//	Other	
	10		

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Argument or Innuendo that		•		1
Granted	Denied	Other		
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<u>Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine</u> Regarding Late Tests After l				
Granted	Denied_	Other Other	demed in	Park
Disintiffed Median in Timing	No. 26 to Evaludo Fo	nd'a Nan Timak D	osignated Madigal	
Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine Expert, John Hoffman, M.D.			esignated Medical	
Granted	Denied ()	Other		
Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine	No. 27 - to Evolude Te	stimony of 14 Medi	cal Witnesses	
Identified by Ford as Potenti		Λ /	•	
Granted	Denied	Other	undu adv	rsmwo
Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine	No. 28 for an Order t	hat Ford I imit tha	Use of its Evports	
Curriculum Vitae to Oral Ex		nat Ford Emit the	Ose of its Experts	
Granted	Denied	Other		
Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine I Argument or Innuendo by Fo				
Causation Opinions of Hector			-	÷
Granted	Denied	Other		

<u>Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine No. 30</u> - to Exclude Miscellaneous Irrelevant Evidence				
Granted	Denied	Other_		
		made to consid		
Plaintiffs' Motion to Perm	it the Jury to View the	Vehicle [URCP 47 (k)].		
Granted	Denied	Other		
\mathcal{U}				
DATED this Cday	of December, 2006.			
		A TOTAL TOTAL		
	Judge/Jo Third D	1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -		



FILED DISTRICT COURT

Third Judicial District

JUL 2 6 2006

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE THIRD JUDICIAL SQUEEZE IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,

Defendants.

MEMORANDUM DECISION

Case No. 000909522

Hon. JOSEPH C. FRATTO, JR.

July 17, 2006

The above-entitled matter comes before the Court pursuant to BCW Enterprises and FRN of Greater Salt Lake City, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment, Ford Motor Company's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment, Defendants's Motion in Limine Re: David Ingebretsen, Defendant's Motion in Limine Re: O.C. Ferrell, Plaintiffs' Objection and Motion to Exclude Evidence, and Plaintiffs' Motion to Strike Portions of Ford's Reply Brief. The Court heard oral argument with respect to the motions on June 21, 2006. Following the hearing, the matters were taken under advisement.

The Court having considered the motions, memoranda, exhibits attached thereto and for the good cause shown, hereby enters the following ruling.

Focusing initially on the motions in limine, the Court finds
Defendants' objections go to weight, rather than admissibility.

Indeed, Ford will have the opportunity to cross-examine the witnesses in question regarding the alleged deficiencies and it should be left the jury to determine the weight properly given. Defendants' motions in limine are, respectfully, denied.

As for Plaintiffs' Objection and Motion to Exclude Evidence, the Court finds the Accident Report is admissible under the hearsay exception contained in Rule 803(C) and Officer Pace has testified he has both personal knowledge of the accident scene and advanced training in accident investigation and reconstruction. This said, with regard to Ford's pending motion for summary judgment, the Court will consider the facts contained in the Accident Report.

With respect to Plaintiffs' Motion to Strike, while Ford's Reply Memorandum suggests standards for the Court to apply when considering Plaintiffs' evidence, and argues that under such standards Plaintiffs' exhibits are insufficient, the motion is not one to strike nor does it seek a ruling on the admissibility of Plaintiffs' exhibits. Considering the argument for what it is, the Court is not persuaded striking portions of Ford's reply brief is appropriate and denies the motion to do so.

Turning next to the merits of BCW Enterprises, Inc. and FRN of Greater Salt Lake City, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment, although it is Defendants' position they were at most passive

distributors, viewing the evidence in the light most favorable to Plaintiffs and drawing all reasonable inferences therefrom, the Court finds factual disputes exist with respect to whether the dealership knew of the sway bar link defects before it serviced the Explorer, whether the sway bar link was out when the Explorer was serviced and, whether the dealership was negligent in failing to detect the missing sway bar link. Moreover, there are factual question as to the various entities and their relationship, or lack thereof, with each other. Accordingly, the Court cannot rule as a matter of law that Utah Auto Collection is NOT the alter ego of Warner Super Ford.

Based upon the forgoing, BCW Enterprises and FRN of Greater Salt Lake City, LLC's Motion for Summary Judgment is, respectfully, denied.

Finally, with regard to Ford Motor Company's Motion for

Partial Summary Judgment, in their Opposition Memorandum,

Plaintiffs agreed to withdraw their Fifth Claim for Relief

alleging Utah Consumer Sales Practices Act Claims. Accordingly,

summary judgment is granted on this issue.

As to Plaintiffs' defect claims, after reviewing the evidence in the record, the Court finds disputed issues of fact preclude summary judgment regarding the Ford Explorer's stability and handling, up and down travel of the front wheel, shock

absorber, high center of gravity design, adequacy of occupant crash protection, interior softness, roof strength and related unlatching of the door as well as interior and exterior door handle operation. The Court further finds triable issues of fact exist with respect to Plaintiffs' claim of failure to warn, thus precluding summary judgment on this issue as well. Moreover, the Court is persuaded Plaintiffs' have set forth sufficient evidence to support their fraud claim as well as Ms. Montoya's claim for negligent infliction of emotional distress.

Finally, applying the most significant relationship test, the Court finds Utah law applies with respect to claims for punitive damages and further concludes that Plaintiffs' have presented sufficient evidence to permit the issue of punitive damages to go forward.

Based upon the forgoing, Ford Motor Company's Motion for Partial Summary Judgment is granted as to Plaintiffs' Utah Consumer Sales Practices Act Claims and denied as to the remaining issues.

Dated this day of July, 2006.

CERTIFICATE OF NOTIFICATION

I certify that a copy of the attached document was sent to the following people for case 000909522 by the method and on the date specified.

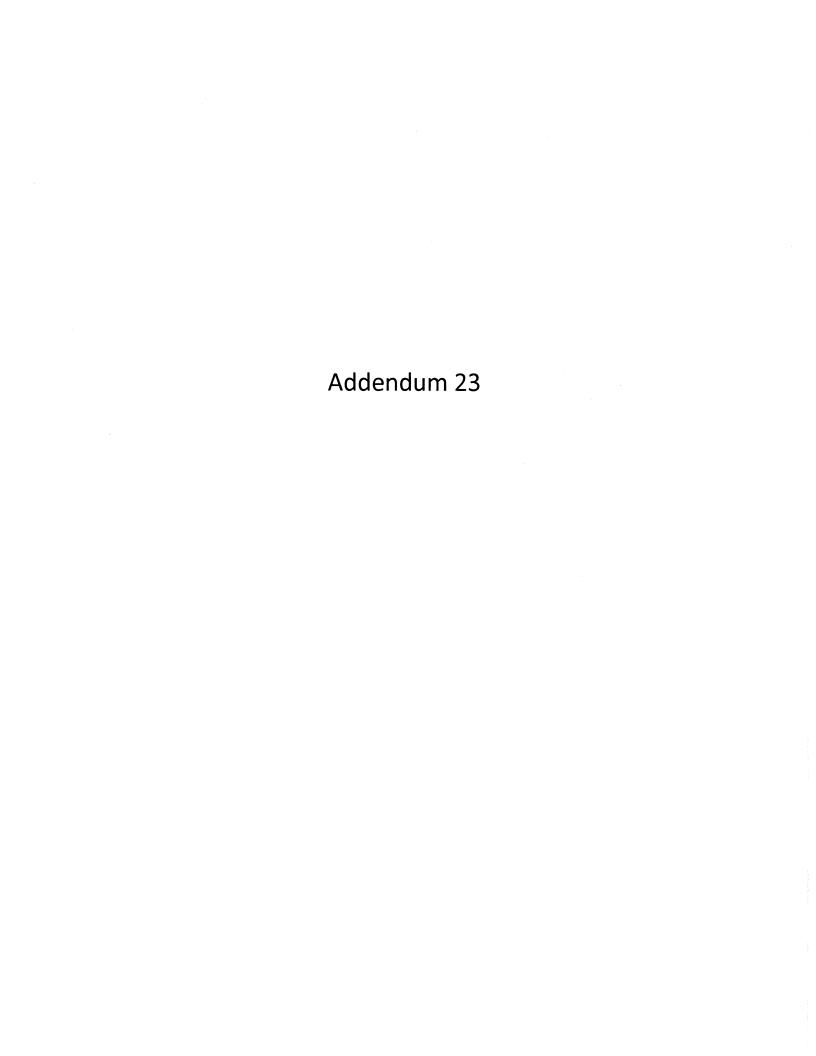
METHOD NAME

Fax THOR O EMBLEM 760-738-9409 Fax DAN R LARSEN (801)257-1800 Fax MATTHEW H RATY (801)495-2262 Fax TIMOTHY B SCHADE

(801) 257-1800

Dated this $\frac{26}{4}$ day of $\frac{1}{4}$,

Deputy Court Clerk



Thor O. Emblem (Admitted Pro Hac Vice) LAW OFFICES OF THOR O. EMBLEM 205 West Fifth Ave., Suite 105 Escondido, CA 92025 Telephone: (760) 738-9301

Fax: (760) 738-9409

Matthew H. Raty (#6635) LAW OFFICE OF MATTHEW H. RATY, PC New England Professional Plaza 9677 South 700 East, Suite D Sandy, Utah 84070 Telephone: (801) 495-2252

Fax: (801) 495-2262

Attorneys for Plaintiffs

FILED DISTRICT COURT
Third Judicial District
NOV 1 7 2006
SALT LAKE COUNTY

THIRD DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY

STATE OF UTAH

DOLORES CLAYTON, et al.

Plaintiffs,

v.

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.

Defendants.

Case No. 000909522

PLAINTIFFS' MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION IN LIMINE NO. 29 TO EXCLUDE ANY REFERENCE, EVIDENCE, TESTIMONY, ARGUMENT OR INNUENDO BY FORD'S COUNSEL OR FORD'S WITNESSES REGARDING THE SPECULATIVE CAUSATION OPINIONS OF HECTOR CANTU AND ROSS PACE

Judge Joseph C. Fratto

exclude any reference, testimony, argument or innuendo by Ford's counsel or Ford's witnesses regarding the speculative causation opinions of Hector Cantu and Ross Pace.

INTRODUCTION

Neither Hector Cantu or Ross Pace observed Tony Clayton asleep or distracted looking for something in the Explorer. Hector Cantu states:

"There was two or maybe three ways [the rollover occurred] He either fell sleep (sic) or he was looking for something...and in this case I would say he was looking at something to the passenger side, or maybe he just dosed off. I don't know..." (Exhibit A.)

Ross Pace said the same thing.

"My conclusion was it was one of two things that caused the accident. He was either asleep, or he had reached down and picked something up and taken his eyes off the road..." (Exhibit B.)

When Officer Pace investigated, he did not know of the broken tie rod or suspect that there was a design defect in the Ford Explorer that caused it to have trouble handling maneuvers. (Exhibit C.)

ARGUMENT

THE SPECULATIVE CAUSATION OPINIONS OF HECTOR CANTU AND ROSS PACE SHOULD BE EXCLUDED.

Where evidence is supported only by conjectural inferences, and therefore has minimal probative value, reviewing courts have reversed cases on grounds that the improperly admitted evidence could only have served to confuse and mislead the jury or to prejudice the outcome of the case. (See, *Pearce v. Wistisen*, 701 P.2d 489, 491-492 (Utah 1985).) Insinuations and allusions are not evidence. Because the evidence, testimony is speculative, it is irrelevant under Evidence Rule 402. Additionally, Evidence Rule 403 permits the court to order evidence excluded if its probative value is substantially outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice. (See also, *Martin v. Safeway Stores, Inc., Utah*, 565 P.2d 1139 (1977).)

This Court should enter an order preventing Ford from eliciting any reference, evidence, testimony, argument and innuendo

Dated: November // 2006.

Respectfully submitted,

THOR O. EMBLEM MATTHEW H. RATY

Exhibit A

COPY OF TRANSCRIPT

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

DEE CLAYTON, an individual;)
FRED CLAYTON, an individual)
and as Special)
Administrator for the)
ESTATE OF ANTHONY CLAYTON,)

Plaintiffs.

) Case No. 000909522

vs.

Deposition of: HECTOR CANTU

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, a
Utah corporation and
successor in interest to
WARNER SUPER FORD STORE, a
Utah corporation; FORD
MOTOR COMPANY, a foreign
corporation doing business
in Utah, and JOHN DOES I
through X,

Judge Burton

Defendants.

September 23, 2004 - 8:30 a.m.

Location: Uinta County Courthouse

Jury Room, Second Floor

225 Ninth Street

Evanston, Wyoming 82930

Reporter: Kathy Morgan, CSR, RPR Notary Public in and for the State of Utah



50 South Main, Suite 830 Salt Lake City, Utah 84144

801.532.3441

TOLL FREE 877.532.3441

FAX 801.532.3414

1

A. Let's see. About three, four miles.

2

Q. And that was the last time? You didn't pass him after that?

3

A. No. I come up behind him.

5

Q. So at some point you started to get closer to him?

6

A. Yes.

occurred?

7

9

Q. And I guess at this point can you kind of give me an overview of how this accident

10

11

12

13.

14

A. Okay. There was two or maybe three ways you could look at that. He either fell sleep or he was looking for something, and usually the way you look is the way your vehicle will go. And in this case I would say he was looking at something to the passenger side, or maybe he just dosed off, I don't know. But at any rate he started to veer off to the right side. When he hit the rumble strips, the only thing I can think is it startled

point there was no brakes applied because the

him and he quickly jerked to the left. At that

22

21

lights didn't come on, and if he had, he would

23

have rolled right there, because he went on two wheels, and the wheels he went on is the right

2425

side wheels, passenger side. And he crossed the

Exhibit B



COPY

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR

SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

-0-

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs, : Case No. 000909522

(Judge Joseph C. Fratto)

-v-

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al., : Deposition of:

ROSS PACE

Defendants. :

-0-

Place: MILLER, VANCE & THOMPSON

2200 N. Park Avenue, #D200

Park City, Utah 84068

Date: June 16, 2004

10:25 a.m.

Reporter: Vickie Larsen, CSR/RPR

-0-

1	vehicle had continued straight down the road without	
2	making the gentle right-hand turn?	
3	A. That's correct.	
4	Q. And in your experience is that a common	
1:28:26 5	scenario for inattentive or drowsy driver?	
6	A. It is.	
7	Q. And did you draw any conclusions	
8	investigating this accident as to whether or not the	
9	driver of this vehicle was acting consistent with	
28:4910	with an inattentive or drowsy driver?	
11	A. I did.	
12	Q. And what was your conclusion?	
13	A. My conclusion was it was one of two	
14	things that caused the accident. He was either	
28:5915	asleep, or he had reached down and picked something up	
16	and taken his eyes off the road.	
17	Q. And looking at this Photograph Number 11,	
18	going back down the eastbound lanes, is that stretch	
19	of highway straight for a long period of time?	
.:29:2320	A. Relatively straight, yes, it is.	
21	Q. For about how far of a distance?	
22	A. It would go back about approximately a	
23	mile where it's fairly straight.	
24	Q. Any other significant information that	
.29:3925	you can identify in that photograph?	

Exhibit C

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT IN AND FOR

SALT LAKE COUNTY, STATE OF UTAH

-O-

DEE CLAYTON, et al.,

Plaintiffs, : Case No. 000909522

(Judge Joseph C. Fratto)

-v- :

UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al.,: Deposition of:

ROSS PACE

Defendants. :

-O-

Place: MILLER, VANCE & THOMPSON

2200 N. Park Avenue, #D200

Park City, Utah 84068

Date: June 16, 2004

10:25 a.m.

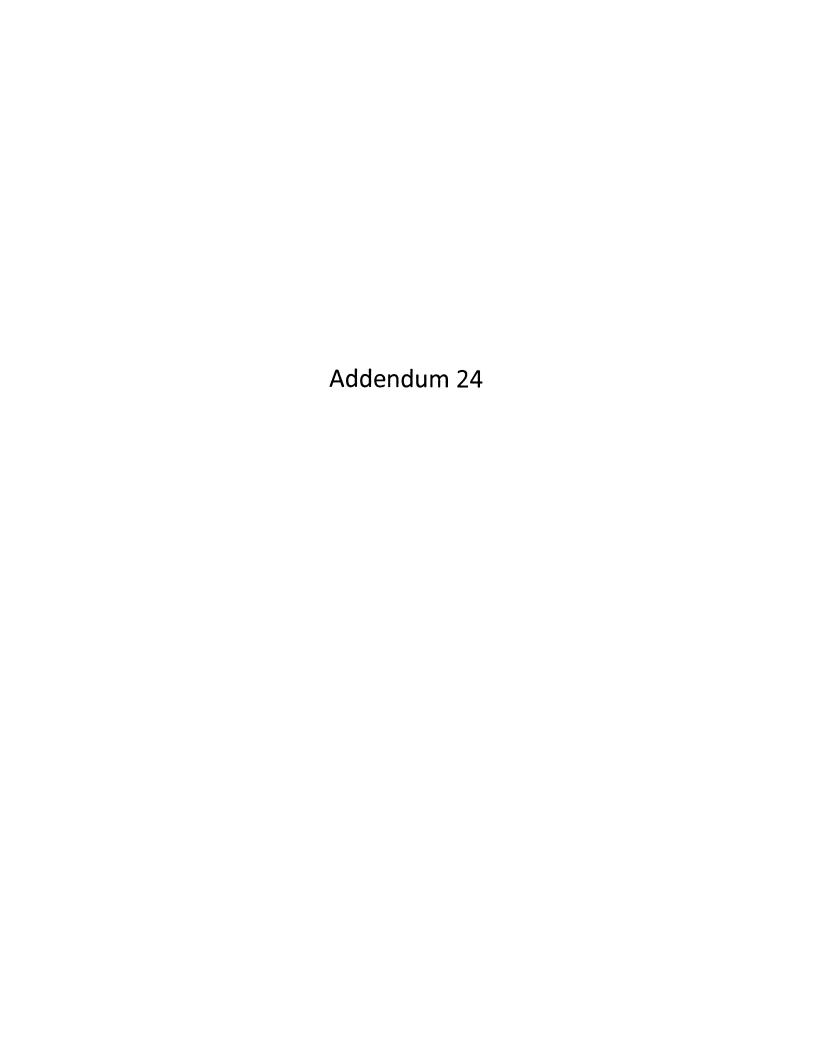
Reporter: Vickie Larsen, CSR/RPR

- 21 Did you take a look at that right front tire or the
- 22 tie rod or the sway bar link to see why it was rotated
- 23 that far?
- 24 A. I did not.
- 11:06:49 25 Q. Okay. Did you notice whether or not

- 1 MR. STEFFENSEN: Okay.
- Q. Now, is that -- is that theory, given
- 3 your experience in looking at Exhibit Number 24,
- 4 possible?
- 13:38:13 5 MR. LARSEN: Okay. Objection. Vague.
 - 6 Facts not in evidence. Mischaracterizes what his
 - 7 testimony was previously. Speculation. And your
 - 8 question was a demonstration with hand movements
 - 9 that's not clear on the record exactly what you were
- 13:38:29 10 indicating to the witness, so it's going to make it
 - 11 vague.
 - 12 Q. BY MR. STEFFENSEN: Okay. Is it
 - 13 possible?
 - 14 A. Just like I told you before, it's
- 13:38:36 15 probably possible.
 - 16 Q. Okay. Thank you. When you investigated
 - 17 this accident you didn't suspect that there was a
 - 18 design defect in the Ford Explorer that caused them to
 - 19 have trouble handling these types of maneuvers, did
- 13:38:58 20 you?

- A. I did not.
- Q. Had you heard any discussions among any
- 23 of the highway patrolmen that there was a design
- 24 defect in the Ford Explorer that caused rollovers?

13:39:07 25 A. No, sir.



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FILED DISTRICT COURT Third Judicial District

NOV 17 2006

SALT LAKE COUNTY

Deputy Clerk

THIRD DISTRICT COURT OF SALT LAKE COUNTY

STATE OF UTAH

DOLORES CLAYTON, et al.	Case No. 000909522
Plaintiffs, v. UTAH AUTO COLLECTION, et al. Defendants.	PLAINTIFFS' MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF PLAINTIFFS' MOTION IN LIMINE NO. 18 FOR AN ORDER PROHIBITING FORD FROM PRESENTING CUMULATIVE WITNESS TESTIMONY
	Judge Joseph C. Fratto

Plaintiffs submit this Memorandum in Support of Plaintiffs' Motion in Limine No. 18 for an Order preventing Ford from eliciting cumulative testimony on the same subject from different witnesses pursuant to Evidence Rule 611. Cumulative testimony has minimal probative value and would unnecessarily consume time and mislead the jury.

Ford, who has unlimited corporate funds to hire "experts" should not be allowed to parade cumulative expert testimony regarding the same subject matter by various "engineers." Ford should be limited to one engineering expert per issue. (Cf., *Goodwin v. MTD Prods.*, supra, 232 F.3d 600, 610 [A court's "decision to exclude a videotape of essentially the same subject matter material that the expert had just testified to is not an abuse of discretion"].)

III. FORD SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO PRESENT CUMULATIVE SEATBELT TESTIMONY, AND SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED TO PRESENT THE BIOMECHANICS OF TONY CLAYTON'S INJURY AT ALL.

In his report, Ford's seat belt expert, Michael James opines that Tony Clayton did not wear his seat belt. (Exhibit A.) Another Ford engineer, Larry Ragan whom Ford designated for roof design, mentions in his report that Tony Clayton was apparently unrestrained and ejected during the rollover. (Exhibit B.) Ford has additionally designated Catherine Ford Corrigan to testify about the "biomechanics" of Tony's injuries. She mentions in her report and throughout her deposition testimony the fact that Tony Clayton was unrestrained. (Exhibit C.) Ms. Corrigan's testimony does not involve any opinion as to Plaintiff, Kellie Montoya's injuries incurred in the rollover. (Exhibit D.)

Plaintiffs also anticipate Ford will call (retired) Highway Patrol Officer Pace to testify (as he testified at his deposition) that he concluded that Tony Clayton was unbelted (Exhibit E), and attempt to elicit through other witness testimony that Tony was not wearing his seatbelt.

In Whitehead v. American Motors Sales Corp., 801 P.2d 920, 927-928 (Utah, 1989), the Utah Supreme Court acknowledged that evidence of "how the presence of seatbelts affected the design safety" of the vehicle was admissible for a very limited purpose. The Supreme Court held "[t]he failure to wear a seat belt does not constitute contributory or comparative negligence and may not be introduced as evidence in any civil litigation on the issue of injuries or on the issue of

mitigation of damages." In Whitehead v. American Motors Sales Corp., supra, 801 P.2d 920, 927-928, the trial court excluded such evidence, stating:

"[T]o speculate what the seatbelt might have done in this type of situation is just something that the jury ought not to, and they will not have, under my ruling, the obligation to consider.... I want no more evidence in this case with regard to seatbelts."

The Utah Supreme Court found the court had properly excluded cumulative occupant seatbelt evidence in light of Utah Code Ann. § 41-6-186. The reason for this rule is the lack of connection between failure to wear a seat belt and the occurrence of the rollover. A defendant should not be able to diminish the consequences of his negligence merely by the plaintiff's failure to anticipate that negligence. (See for example, *Quick v. Crane*, 111 Idaho 759, 780 [727 P.2d 1187, 1208-1209] (Idaho 1986).)

Plaintiffs believe that Tony was wearing his seatbelt and will present <u>limited</u> evidence to that effect. However, Ford also is entitled to address (for a limited purpose) as support for their contention that the Explorer was safe and crashworthy as designed for the occupant, evidence of seat belt use. Because the seat belt use or non use cannot be argued by Ford to mitigate damages as a matter of law, Ford will nonetheless be presenting cumulative testimony allowing the jury to use it for impermissible purposes.

Ford should not be permitted to parade cumulative seat belt use testimony throughout the trial by discussing it with numerous witnesses. Only one witness needs to testify regarding seat belt use as to how it relates to occupant protection design and crashworthiness. Ford's expert, Michael James is already testifying about the seat belt design, ie., occupant protection.

Ms. Corrigan's testimony about the biomechanics of Tony Clayton's injuries (is simply another attempt to say he was not seat belted) is not probative, and is cumulative and should not be permitted for any purpose. Her testimony is aimed at Tony's <u>injury</u> and it is clear from Utah

Code Ann. § 41-6-186, that Ford cannot use the lack of seat belt use to mitigate damages in this case. Accordingly, Ms. Corrigan's testimony about seat belt use, Ross Pace's opinion, and that of Larry Ragan, Ford's roof design expert, should be ordered excluded in its entirety since the jury cannot consider the driver's failure to wear a seat belt in determining injuries or damages.

In *Pearce v. Wistisen*, 701 P.2d 489 (Utah 1985), the decedent drowned when the tow rope he had grasped for skiing became entangled in the boat's propeller. The father argued that evidence of teen drinking the night before the incident unduly prejudiced the jury. The court held that the probative value of the evidence that teenagers had imbibed alcohol the night before the boating incident was not outweighed by its prejudicial effect. The court reversed and remanded for a new trial.

Analogous, allowing repeated and numerous experts to testify about their opinions from Ford's standpoint that Tony Clayton was not wearing his seatbelt would not add anything further to the case and would invite the jury to place extensive weight on the number of experts who opined and therefore likely use the seatbelt testimony for an impermissible purpose - - as evidence of comparative fault. Therefore, the cumulative testimony should be excluded.

IV. FORD SHOULD NOT BE ALLOWED TO PRESENT CUMULATIVE ENGINNERING TESTIMONY ABOUT THE GENERAL STABILITY OF THE EXPLORER OR THE TESTS DESIGNED BY FORD.

Generally, a trial court has discretion to determine the suitability of expert testimony in a case. (Ostler v. Albina Transfer Co., 781 P.2d 445, 447 (Utah Ct. App. 1989).) The trial court may exclude even relevant expert testimony if "its probative value is substantially outweighed by the danger of unfair prejudice, confusion of the issues, or misleading the jury, or by considerations of undue delay, waste of time, or needless presentation of cumulative evidence." (Utah R. Evid. 403; State v. Kinsey, 797 P.2d 424, 427 (Utah Ct. App. 1990.)