STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CLAIM PETITION NO: 2010-700

MICHAEL LANGOWSKI

PETITIONER,

VS.

TECOGEN,

RESPONDENT.

DATE: March 19, 2018

PLACE: Lebanon, New Jersey

BEFORE

THE HONORABLE GEORGE PSAK

SUPERVISING JUDGE OF COMPENSATION

APPEARANCES:

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BY:

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On behalf of the Second Injury Fund

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| | | | | |

| 1 | ARTHUR CANARIO, M.D., having first been |
|----|--|
| 2 | duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows: |
| 3 | |
| 4 | THE COURT: Please be seated. Please |
| 5 | state your full name and spell your last. |
| 6 | THE WITNESS: Arthur Canario, |
| 7 | C-a-n-a-r-i-o. |
| 8 | THE COURT: Have we premarked any |
| 9 | exhibits? |
| 10 | MR. LYNN: Yes. |
| 11 | THE COURT: Appearances, please. |
| 12 | MR. WACHTEL: May it please the Court, |
| 13 | Todd Wachtel from Levinson, Axelrod on behalf the |
| 14 | Petitioner. |
| 15 | MR. LYNN: Good afternoon, your Honor, |
| 16 | Daniel Lynn, Braff, Harris, Sukoneck & Maloof and I |
| 17 | Represent the Respondent. |
| 18 | MS. SCHOBER: Linda Schober on behalf of |
| 19 | the Second Injury Fund. |
| 20 | THE COURT: Thank you. |
| 21 | We've been through the stipulations many times. |
| 22 | I don't think there's a need to repeat them, but if we |
| 23 | have exhibits, I'd like to make sure they get |
| 24 | premarked. |
| 25 | MR. LYNN: Yes, your Honor. I've taken |
| | |

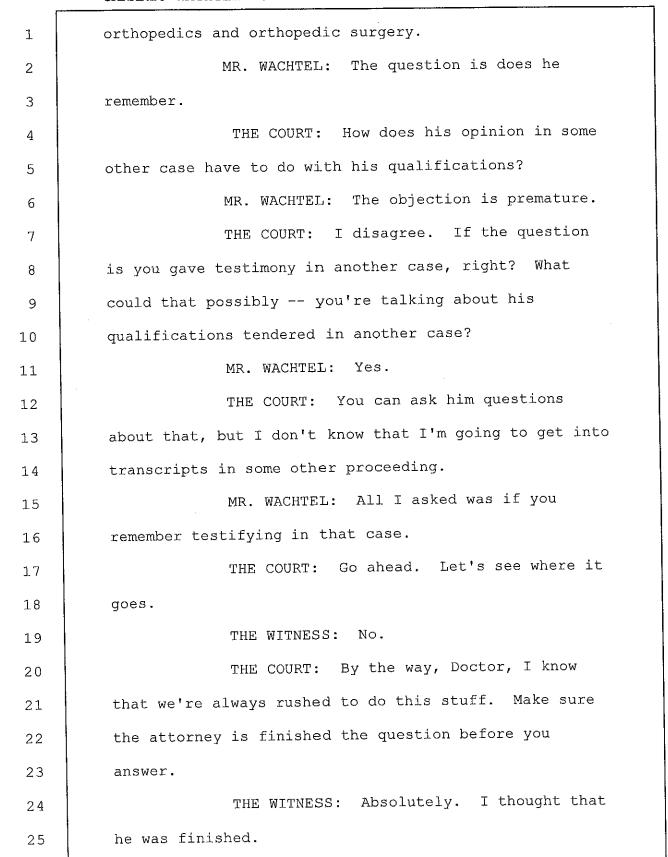
| 1 | the liberty of premarking four exhibits, R-10, R-11, |
|----|---|
| 2 | R-12 and $R-13$. I've shown them to both attorneys and |
| 3 | provided them with copies. |
| 4 | R-10 is Dr. Canario's curriculum vitae. R-11 is |
| 5 | his narrative report of December 13, 2013. R-12 is a |
| 6 | report of September 8, 2015. And R-13 is a report of |
| 7 | September 29, 2015. |
| 8 | |
| 9 | (At which time, R-10, Dr. Canario |
| 10 | Curriculum Vitae, was marked for identification.) |
| 11 | |
| 12 | (At which time, R-11, Dr. Canario Report |
| 13 | 12/13/13, was marked for identification.) |
| 14 | |
| 15 | (At which time, R-12, Dr. Canario Report |
| 16 | 9/8/15, was marked for identification.) |
| 17 | |
| 18 | (At which time, R-13, Dr. Canario Report |
| 19 | 9/29/15, was marked for identification.) |
| 20 | |
| 21 | THE COURT: Thank you. |
| 22 | MR. LYNN: Thank you. I'm giving the |
| 23 | Court the originals and I have an additional set for |
| 24 | the court reporter if needed. |
| 25 | MR. WACHTEL: No objection to the |
| | |

| 1 | documents. |
|-----|---|
| 2 | THE COURT: Move them right in evidence. |
| 3 | MR. WACHTEL: No problem. |
| 4 | THE COURT: We'll move them all in |
| 5 | evidence as marked and will be on the record. |
| 6 | |
| 7 | (At which time, R-10, Dr. Canario |
| 8 ' | Curriculum Vitae, was received in evidence.) |
| 9 | |
| 10 | (At which time, R-11, Dr. Canario Report |
| 11 | 12/13/13, was received in evidence.) |
| 12 | |
| 13 | (At which time, R-12, Dr. Canario Report |
| 14 | 9/8/15, was received in evidence.) |
| 15 | |
| 16 | (At which time, R-13, Dr. Canario Report |
| 17 | 9/29/15, was received in evidence.) |
| 18 | |
| 19 | THE COURT: Your witness. Proceed. |
| 20 | MR. LYNN: Thank you. I'm offering |
| 21 | Dr. Arthur Canario this afternoon, your Honor, as an |
| 22 | expert in orthopedics and orthopedic surgery. If |
| 23 | necessary I will question the Doctor as to his |
| 24 | qualifications, unless counsel will stipulate as to the |
| 25 | Doctor's qualifications. |
| | |

MR. WACHTEL: No, you're going to have to 1 voir dire the witness. 2 THE COURT: Okav. 3 5 VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION BY MR. LYNN: Doctor, can you please tell the Court, 7 Q summarize your experience and qualifications in the area of orthopedics and orthopedic surgery. 9 Well, I did my orthopedic residency at the 10 Hospital for Joint Disease in Manhattan. I did an 11 optional year of training, spending six months in 12 London and six months in California and it was a 13 fellowship. Came back, started my practice at the 14 Hospital for Joint Disease. I was recruited by Newark 15 Beth Israel Medical Center to be chief of orthopedics. 16 I was there for 25 years. 17 I then moved the practice to local areas, I'm 18 now in Kearney. I do basically office orthopedics, 19 treating patients, I don't operate anymore. I stopped 20 doing surgeries several years ago, but I do treat 21 patients and I do these examinations and I'm board 22 23 certified. And have you ever been qualified as an 2.4 expert witness in a workers' compensation court before? 25

| 1 | A Yes, several times. |
|----|---|
| 2 | Q Has any court ever found that you're not |
| 3 | qualified as an expert witness in the area of |
| 4 | orthopedics and orthopedic surgery? |
| 5 | A No. |
| 6 | Q Okay. And unlike some other medical |
| 7 | witnesses who may have testified, have you actually |
| 8 | performed a back surgery? |
| 9 | A Yes. |
| 10 | Q How many have you performed? |
| 11 | A Many. |
| 12 | THE COURT: I'm sorry? |
| 13 | THE WITNESS: Many. I couldn't give you a |
| 14 | number. |
| 15 | MR. LYNN: Your Honor, I'd offer the |
| 16 | Doctor at this time as an expert in orthopedics and |
| 17 | orthopedic surgery. |
| 18 | THE COURT: Voir dire? |
| 19 | MR. WACHTEL: Yes. Thank you, your Honor. |
| 20 | |
| 21 | VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION |
| 22 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 23 | Q Doctor, the curriculum vitae that counsel |
| 24 | submitted to the Judge, is that the most up-to-date |
| 25 | curriculum vitae? |
| | |

| 1 | A Yes. |
|----|---|
| 2. | Q And when was the last time it was updated? |
| 3 | A It's been a while. I haven't updated it in a |
| 4 | while. I think there's enough on there to put down |
| 5 | what lectures I go to and things, it just didn't make |
| 6 | sense anymore so I stopped. So whatever year it |
| 7 | says |
| 8 | Q When did you stop going to lectures? |
| 9 | A I haven't stopped going to lectures, I just |
| 10 | don't record them. |
| 11 | Q What was the last lecture you went to? |
| 12 | A I couldn't tell you offhand. |
| 13 | Q Why not? |
| 14 | A Because I don't remember. |
| 15 | Q When was it? |
| 16 | A If I knew, I would tell you. I tell you I don't |
| 17 | remember. |
| 18 | Q Do you remember testifying in a case |
| 19 | called Patricia Larrahondo vs. United Airlines in 2015? |
| 20 | A No. |
| 21 | MR. LYNN: Objection. |
| 22 | THE COURT: Basis of the objection? |
| 23 | MR. LYNN: It's completely irrelevant to |
| 24 | the Doctor's qualifications as whether he's qualified |
| 25 | or not to give an expert opinion in the area of |
| | |





THE COURT: I get it, but I want to make 1 sure everybody gets a chance to do their thing. 2 You may proceed, Mr. Wachtel. 3 BY MR. WACHTEL: 4 At that time, you indicated that you still 5 have privileges at the Hospital for Joint Disease. 6 7 you still? They're in abeyance, I've never actually given them up. I haven't used them since I was practicing in 9 Manhattan. So technically, I still have privileges 10 because I never gave them up, but I haven't been to 11 Manhattan or practicing there since 1980. 12 And at that time, you said that you 13 couldn't be sure, 100 percent sure that you have 14 privileges at St. Michael's. 15 No, I gave up my -- once I stopped operating, I 16 qave up my hospital privileges because I was not 17 admitting patients, and I quite frankly didn't want to 18 pay the fees. 19 So as we sit here today, do you have any 2.0 privileges at any hospitals? 21 I do not. I gave up my privileges at 2.2 St. Michael's and at Newark Beth Israel. 23 And how long ago did you give up your 24 privileges? 25

| 1 | • | A I don't remember, maybe five years ago, probably |
|-----|---|---|
| 2 | | less. It was recently when I decided within |
| 3 | | five years, let me put it that way, because I did check |
| 4 | | into this, I remember, because I was asked this once |
| 5 | | before and I did actually call the hospitals. And once |
| 6 | | I stopped paying the fees that were necessary, because |
| 7 | | I didn't want to pay them, I gave up the privileges. |
| 8 | | It's within five years. |
| 9 | | Q And are you currently treating patients |
| LO | | now? |
| 11 | | A Yes. |
| 1.2 | | Q How many patients are you currently |
| 13 | | treating? |
| 14 | | A I would say probably 5 percent of my practice is |
| 15 | | actually treating patients. |
| 16 | | Q What's the other 95 percent of the |
| 17 | | practice? |
| 18 | | A 94 percent is doing workers' compensation |
| 19 | | evaluations and one percent could be liability |
| 20 | | evaluations. |
| 21 | | Q And of the workers' comp evaluations that |
| 22 | | you do, how many are for the Petitioner and how are |
| 23 | | many for the Respondent? |
| 24 | | A Well, Let me just say that I, unlike your |
| 25 | | expert, has testified for the Petitioner. |

| 1 | Q How many times? |
|-----|---|
| 2 | A Once. But I have done it, okay, and we both |
| 3 | know in the State of New Jersey you do either |
| 4 | Petitioner or you do Respondent. Of course in |
| 5 | liability cases it's completely different. |
| 6 | Q So it's fair to say that the majority of |
| 7 | your practice is performing evaluations for insurance |
| 8 | companies and the Respondent? |
| 9 | A For Respondents, yes. It doesn't have to be |
| .0 | insurance companies, but for the Respondent. |
| L1 | Q And as far as Kessler, you gave those |
| 12 | privileges up as well? |
| 13 | A Yes, I haven't been to Kessler in a while. I |
| 14 | used to run many clinics, which was very interesting, |
| 15 | but I haven't been there in a long time, once I stopped |
| 16 | operating. |
| 17 | Q Now, you indicated that you're board |
| 1.8 | certified. |
| 19 | A That is correct. |
| 20 | Q What do you have to do to maintain that? |
| 21 | A Nothing. |
| 22 | Q Why? |
| 23 | A That's the rules of the board. |
| 24 | Q What rule? |
| 25 | A The rule of the board is that when I took the |
| | |

| 1 | boards, when you become board certified you're board |
|----|--|
| 2 | certified for life. |
| 3 | Q Well, Doctor, I went on the American Board |
| 4 | of Orthopedic Surgery website and it says that there's |
| 5 | a program called the maintenance of certification |
| 6 | program; is that when you're grandfathered in |
| 7 | A I'm grandfathered |
| 8 | MR. LYNN: Objection. |
| 9 | THE COURT: What's the basis? |
| 10 | MR. LYNN: One, it's still an irrelevant |
| 11 | question and two, Mr. Wachtel is testifying, is making |
| 12 | himself into a witness by saying that he's searched |
| 13 | something on a website |
| 14 | THE COURT: I disagree. The Doctor is |
| 15 | board certified, he should understand the rules by |
| 16 | which such certification is issued or maintained. I'll |
| 17 | allow it. But I'm not going to take judicial notice of |
| 18 | what's in your hand. But you can question the witness. |
| 19 | MR. WACHTEL: I'm not asking you to. |
| 20 | THE COURT: It's voir dire. Go ahead. |
| 21 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 22 | Q It says are you doing the maintenance and |
| 23 | certification program? |
| 24 | A No, I am grandfathered in, I do not have to do |
| 25 | maintenance and to recertify the boards. If you are a |
| | |

| 1 | recent board member you have to recertify, but when I |
|----|--|
| 2 | took the boards that was not the rule, and I have been |
| 3 | grandfathered in and I am not required to retake the |
| 4 | certification tests. |
| 5 | Q Are you aware that many people, diplomates |
| 6 | certified prior to 1986, are voluntarily participating |
| 7 | in the certification program? |
| 8 | A No. |
| 9 | Q And you understand that part of that |
| 10 | program involves peer review; do you understand that? |
| 11 | A I have no, I don't participate in the program |
| 12 | and therefore and I personally don't know anybody in |
| 13 | my age group that participates in it so I don't know |
| 14 | that there are a large number of people that do. And |
| 15 | since I am not required by the board to participate in |
| 16 | the program I do not know what the program makes up |
| 17 | what it consists of. |
| 18 | Q You understand that on the American |
| 19 | MR. WACHTEL: I would like to mark this |
| 20 | I don't know what we're up to. I have it right here. |
| 21 | I think it's P-5. |
| 22 | THE COURT: It was P-7. So your next |
| 23 | exhibit will be P-8. |
| 24 | |
| 25 | (At which time, American Board of |

| 1 | Orthopedic Surgeons Web Page was received and marked as |
|----|---|
| 2 | Exhibit P-8 for identification.) |
| 3 | |
| 4 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 5 | Q Doctor, I'm showing you what was on the |
| 6 | American Board of Orthopedic Surgeons website. It says |
| 7 | that you're certified in general orthopedics not |
| 8 | orthopedic surgery; is that accurate? |
| 9 | A No, I am an orthopedic surgeon, period. It's |
| 10 | general orthopedics, the word surgery should be there. |
| 11 | This is a standard board certification, this has |
| 12 | absolutely no meaning. I am an orthopedic surgeon. |
| 13 | Q I understand. |
| 14 | A There is only one board. Either you're an |
| 15 | orthopedic surgeon or you're not. There is nothing |
| 16 | that exists that's called orthopedic medicine. You're |
| 17 | either an orthopedic surgeon or you're not. Orthopedic |
| 18 | medicine is a fabrication. |
| 19 | Q But on that piece of paper you would agree |
| 20 | with me it says orthopedics |
| 21 | A General orthopedics, yes. |
| 22 | Q When was the last time you did surgery? |
| 23 | A Ten years ago, maybe more. |
| 24 | Q Maybe more? Were you alone doing it or |
| 25 | were you with another doctor? |

| 1 | A You expect me to remember the last time I did |
|-----|--|
| 2 | surgery that's been ten years if I had an assistant or |
| 3 | not? |
| 4 | THE COURT: Well, Doctor, the easy answer |
| 5 | is I don't recall. |
| 6 | THE WITNESS: I don't recall. |
| 7 | THE COURT: Thank you. |
| . 8 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 9 | Q The majority of your surgeries, were they |
| 10 | solo surgeries or with other doctors? |
| 11 | A Most of the surgeries I did I was the lead |
| 12 | surgeon. Sometimes I had an assistant. The vast |
| 13 | majority I was the doctor. Sometimes I did it alone, |
| 14 | sometimes I did it with a physician's assistant. We |
| 15 | had one at Newark Beth Israel. Sometimes I did it with |
| 16 | another doctor. But the vast majority I was the lead |
| 17 | surgeon. |
| 18 | Q And going back to your CV, you indicated |
| 19 | you stopped updating the classes you take and the |
| 20 | lectures you go to? |
| 21 | A Some years ago, yes. |
| 22 | Q And you can't recall the last time you |
| 23 | went to a lecture? |
| 24 | A Whatever that says. No, no, I mean a lecture |
| 25 | the last time I updated it was whatever it says there. |
| | |

| 1 | I cannot recall the last time I went to a lecture, no. |
|----|--|
| 2 | Q And so at least before 2015 since you've |
| 3 | been to a lecture? |
| 4 | A No, I wouldn't say that. I just told you I |
| 5 | can't recall. If I can't recall I can't recall. |
| 6 | Q You indicated in other cases that you go |
| 7 | to the Academy. |
| 8 | A I did. |
| 9 | Q You did? |
| 10 | A I did. |
| 11 | Q When was the last time you went to the |
| 12 | Academy? |
| 13 | A I think it was about three years. I haven't |
| 14 | gone for the last two years. It could have been |
| 15 | four years, but I'm not sure. |
| 16 | Q What classes did you take at the Academy |
| 17 | that would be helpful for this case? |
| 18 | A I have no idea what you mean by that question. |
| 19 | Q What classes did you take at the |
| 20 | Academy |
| 21 | A The Academy |
| 22 | THE COURT: One at a time. Let him |
| 23 | finish. |
| 24 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 25 | Q What classes did you take at the Academy |
| | |

| 1 | that would keep you up to date in modern orthopedic |
|----|--|
| 2 | practice? |
| 3 | A That's a good one. Probably the most relevant |
| 4 | thing that I did was an instructional course on |
| 5 | interpretations of MRIs. That was one of the, I |
| 6 | thought one of the highlights the last time I was |
| 7 | there. |
| 8 | Q But you're not board certified in |
| 9 | radiology? |
| 10 | A I'm a board certified orthopedic surgeon. |
| 11 | Reading MRIs and x-rays are part of the board. |
| 12 | Q Were you teaching that class or attending |
| 13 | that class? |
| 14 | A No, I was attending. |
| 15 | Q You did a lot of time assisting with |
| 16 | Dr. Krieger (ph)? |
| 17 | A Yes. |
| 18 | Q And he was the one who did a lot of these |
| 19 | surgeries that you assisted on? |
| 20 | A I was co-surgeon, I wasn't assisting. |
| 21 | MR. WACHTEL: Judge, I have nothing |
| 22 | further as to credentials. |
| 23 | THE COURT: Okay. Now that you've had a |
| 24 | chance to voir dire, do you have any objection to the |
| 25 | witness testifying as an expert in orthopedic surgery? |
| | |

| 1 | |
|----|--|
| 1 | MR. WACHTEL: Yes. |
| 2 | THE COURT: I'm going to admit the Doctor |
| 3 | as an expert, and to the extent his qualifications go |
| 4 | to his opinions I'll carry that, but I'll allow him to |
| 5 | testify. |
| 6 | MR. WACHTEL: Okay. |
| 7 | THE COURT: You may proceed. |
| 8 | MR. LYNN: Thank you, your Honor. |
| 9 | |
| 10 | DIRECT EXAMINATION |
| 11 | BY MR. LYNN: |
| 12 | |
| 13 | Q Dr. Canario, how many times did you |
| 14 | examine the claimant in this case, Mr. Langowski? |
| 15 | A Twice. |
| 16 | Q One time was in 2013 and the second time |
| 17 | was in 2015; is that correct? |
| 18 | A Yes. |
| 19 | Q Okay. And I'm not going to dwell too much |
| 20 | on the 2013 exam, but I would like to direct your |
| 21 | attention to the 2013 exam for a few moments. |
| 22 | A '13? |
| 23 | Q 2013. |
| 24 | A '13. |
| 25 | THE COURT: That would be R-11. |
| | |

1.2

2.0

MR. LYNN: That would be R-11, yes. Thank you, Judge.

BY MR. WACHTEL:

A Yes, that he worked for this company, Tecogen, for three and a half years. His job entailed bending and lifting. There were no accidents. He developed back pain. He did have a fall from machinery once, he injured his knee. He thought he could have injured his back from that fall. He came under the care of a Dr. Pan. He had testing done and had surgery done by Dr. Pan. He began to develop some numbness into his legs, he had difficulty walking and other problems.

He was not doing well, he went to Dr. Heary, he had a second operation done, again to the same region of the back. He also had an injury to his knee. He went to an emergency room for that. He eventually had surgery done to his knee arthroscopically.

Again, he had a prior surgery done. He had a fusion at a different level, at L5-S1. The fusion done by Dr. Heary then the surgery by Dr. Pan was several levels above, at L2-3. He denied again all injuries or other problems.

O Okay. And at that time he told you that

| 1 | he wasn't working, right? |
|-----|---|
| 2 | A That's right. |
| 3 | Q He told you he was unable to work at that |
| 4 | time, right? |
| 5 | A That's correct. He was unemployed, he said he |
| 6 | couldn't work because of the pain in his back that |
| 7 | radiated to his leg, and at times his left knee was |
| 8 | also giving him trouble and swelling. |
| 9 | Q And at the time that you did that exam in |
| 10 | 2013, you produced this report which is R-11 in |
| 11 | evidence and gave an opinion, did you not, as to |
| 12 | permanent disability regardless of cause? |
| 13 | A Right, 15 percent of total for the one level |
| 14 | fusion that he had and 7 1/2 percent of the leg for the |
| 15 | knee surgery. |
| 16 | Q Okay. And then you reexamined him again |
| 1.7 | in September of 2015, correct? |
| 18 | A That's right. |
| 19 | Q I'd like direct to your attention to that |
| 20 | exam. And that exam took place September 8, 2015? |
| 21 | A Yes. |
| 22 | THE COURT: R-12. |
| 23 | BY MR. LYNN: |
| 24 | Q Was there any relevant interim history at |
| 25 | that time? |
| | |

| 1 | A Other than he had surgery to repair a phrenic |
|----|---|
| 2 | nerve because he had a collapse of the diaphragm, but |
| 3 | no, nothing else. |
| 4 | Q And did you reexamine his back and his |
| 5 | left leg? |
| 6 | A I did. |
| 7 | Q Directing your attention to Page 2 of R-13 |
| 8 | in evidence, can you give us the relevant observations |
| 9 | and findings that you made starting with his |
| 10 | lumbosacral spine? |
| 11 | THE COURT: You're on R-12 or 13? |
| 12 | MR. LYNN: Judge, I thought I was on R-13, |
| 13 | but I may have mismarked them. I'm referring to the |
| 14 | report of September 8th at this time. |
| 15 | THE COURT: That's R-12. |
| 16 | MR. LYNN: My apologies, your Honor. |
| 17 | BY MR. LYNN: |
| 18 | Q R-12 is the report of September 8, 2015. |
| 19 | Does that report accurately reflect the examination |
| 20 | that you did of Mr. Langowski? |
| 21 | A Yes. |
| 22 | Q What did you find with respect to his low |
| 23 | back? |
| 24 | A Again, the scars remain well healed, he has |
| 25 | excellent motion within normal range, only mild pain at |

| 1 | maximum flexion. He had back pain, although not a |
|----|--|
| 2 | great deal, with straight leg raising. No leg pain. |
| 3 | Normal reflexes, no loss of sensation, no weakness, no |
| 4 | atrophy. Did have tenderness about the scar. |
| 5 | Left knee showed that he maintains full motion, |
| 6 | he was stable. He had tenderness medially and |
| 7 | laterally within the knee, as he did when I previously |
| 8 | examined him. |
| 9 | Q Okay. I want to ask you a few questions |
| 10 | about the lumbosacral spine. When you talk about range |
| 11 | of motion, and for example you say he flexes beyond 90 |
| 12 | degrees, what does that look like when the person is |
| 13 | performing that? |
| 14 | A If someone is standing up straight and if you |
| 15 | could imagine a right angle from his hip |
| 16 | Q I'm standing up straight. |
| 17 | A Bend forward and touch your toes. |
| 18 | MR. LYNN: (Indicating.) |
| 19 | THE WITNESS: That's beyond 90 degrees. |
| 20 | If you're at a right angle you'd be at 90 degrees. |
| 21 | THE COURT: The record should reflect |
| 22 | THE WITNESS: That's 90. |
| 23 | THE COURT: The record should reflect that |
| 24 | Mr. Lynn flexed below waist level. |
| 25 | THE WITNESS: He is quite supple. |
| | |

| 1 | BY MR. LYNN: |
|-----|---|
| 2 | Q Now, extension to 30 degrees, what does |
| 3 | that look like? |
| 4 | A Lean backwards. Just lean backwards. |
| 5 | MR. LYNN: (Indicating.) |
| 6 | BY MR. LYNN: |
| 7 | Q Okay. And how far is 30 degrees? |
| 8 - | A Thirty degrees is a normal range. |
| 9 | And then lateral bending is when you're standing |
| LO | up straight and you're down to the side, lateral |
| 11 | rotation is when you twist. |
| 12 | Q Okay. Now, that type of test, is that an |
| 13 | objective test, a subjective test, or some combination? |
| 14 | A Well, first of all, range of motion is |
| 15 | subjective because it depends on the patient, if he's |
| 16 | doing the best he can. I have no way to know if I ask |
| 17 | him to bend forward, he tells me he can't bend more |
| 18 | than 10 degrees, it's subjective. I have no way to |
| 19 | know. But if you're within normal range, then I |
| 20 | consider it objective. |
| 21 | Q And straight leg raising test, what's the |
| 22 | significance of that, if any? |
| 23 | A It's a sciatic stretch test. So if there's a |
| 24 | sciatica or it produces nerve pain, if it produces back |
| 2 5 | pain which is to be expected, but it's still a negative |

test.

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Q What does Bragard's sign mean?

A It's another sciatic stretch test where I dorsiflex the foot and that would further stretch the sciatic nerve and if it produces nerve pain in a pattern, that's a positive test.

multiple back surgeries, would that affect what you expect to see when he is doing these tests?

A Yes, I think he's doing -- for someone who's had three back surgeries, two fusions done fortunately at different levels with distance between them, he's doing quite well.

Does the fact that this guy has had

Q Okay. And how do you test the reflexes for the knee and the ankle, and why do you do that?

A Well, these indicate if there's any damage to the nerves, and I did not see any change in the reflexes.

Q Okay. And when you say no loss of sensation, sensation to where? To his low back?

A No, in his legs. It's another subjective test.

But if he had specific decreased sensation in what we consider a dermatomal pattern, then that could be relevant. And it's not that uncommon, for instance for the L5-S1 distribution he could have numbhess towards



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the little toe. That would be a finding that could be there or could not be there. I didn't find it on him.

So he wasn't -- correct me if I'm wrong, he wasn't saying, I have pain shooting into my legs or my feet or my toes?

No, he said that sometimes he could still get pain into his legs, but on the examination it wasn't. He had back pain, sometimes he'll have some leg pain, this is all within what one expects who have had back surgery.

Okay. Now, directing your attention to his knee. We know that he had a prior knee surgery. Right.

And he had knee surgery later on after the work incident?

Right. On my information sheet he wrote that in 2002 he had had an ACL injury at another time. When I saw him I estimated what was done following this injury, which was straightforward arthroscopy and estimated some disability secondary to the meniscal resection that he underwent.

Now, based upon your examination of the Petitioner, did you form an opinion as to percentage of permanent disability?

I did. For the one level fusion --

| 1 | Q I don't want you to answer that one yet. |
|----|---|
| 2 | A Yes. |
| 3 | Q Stick with the yes, you did, right? |
| 4 | A Yes. |
| 5 | Q You reviewed some x-rays of his fusion, |
| 6 | lumbar fusion that you referred to on Page 3 of your |
| 7 | report, or you reviewed some findings of Dr. Heary? |
| 8 | A Just give me a chance, a second to read it. |
| 9 | Right. This was from Dr. Heary's report that |
| LO | the fusion was solid. |
| L1 | Q Do you know if Mr. Langowski was using a |
| L2 | cane when he was in your office? |
| 13 | A No, I would have recorded it. |
| 14 | Q Doctor, I'd like you to assume that in |
| 15 | 2015 while Mr. Langowski's workers' compensation claims |
| 16 | were pending and while Mr. Langowski was claiming to be |
| 17 | totally permanently disabled, he was observed by |
| 18 | investigators |
| 19 | MR. WACHTEL: I'm going to object to this. |
| 20 | THE COURT: Is this a hypothetical |
| 21 | question? |
| 22 | MR. LYNN: I'm going to ask a hypothetical |
| 23 | question based upon evidence that has already been |
| 24 | admitted to the Court without objection by Petitioner's |
| 25 | attorney. |
| | ł |

MR. WACHTEL: I understand, but it's 1 calling for opinion based on a videotape that could 2 have been provided to the Doctor well before today and 3 the Doctor could have formulated his own opinion based 4 on the videotape without Mr. Lynn's characterization of 5 the tape. And they have not chosen to do that. 6 MR. LYNN: I can rephrase my question. 7 THE COURT: Well, do that. Я BY MR. LYNN: 9 Doctor, prior to your testimony today, did 10 0 you have an opportunity review some photographs and 11 12 videotapes of Mr. Langowski? Yes. 13 And did those photographs and videotapes 14 include the footage of him pushing race cars, using 15 hand tools to jack vehicles up, conducting mechanical 16 work on motors, carrying compressors and moving 17 generators? 18 MR. WACHTEL: Judge, I would object to 19 this line of questioning. There is no supplemental 20 The Doctor should be kept in the four corners 21 22 of his reports. THE COURT: How do you respond to that? 23 His prior objection was the MR. LYNN: 24 Doctor should have been provided with --25

THE COURT: I'm worried about this 1 objection. This objection is that the Doctor is being 2 asked to render an opinion that is not included in his 3 report. 4 Well, one, your Honor, I think 5 MR. LYNN: the rules do allow for a hypothetical opinion, and I 6 also think the rules allow for any witness to comment 7 on items that have been marked into evidence. 8 THE COURT: If this witness doesn't have 9 those facts and didn't include them in his report, I 1.0 think the best you can do is present a hypothetical. 11 But not -- you know, it's hard for me to consider what 1.2 you're saying versus what he viewed. Okay? So you got 13 to lay out a set of facts that you want him to assume. 14 Whether in fact those facts support his opinion is for 15 me to make the decision about, because I've seen the 16 tapes. You know, and you got to break it down a 17 little, well, not so broadly. 18 Well, I asked the Doctor to MR. LYNN: 19 assume that the tape shows what the tape shows, and if 20 21 that is objectionable --THE COURT: Well, the objection here is 2.2 it's not included in the report, that's the objection 23 that's made so far. 2.4 Well, your Honor, he's correct, MR. LYNN: 25

it's not included in the report. I still think it's a 1 proper question to ask the Doctor. 2 THE COURT: Is there a requirement that any witness who testifies here has a report? MR. WACHTEL: I would argue, Judge, 5 absolutely there is. 6 THE COURT: Let him finish his response. 7 I'm listening. Я Is there a rule that says that an expert witness 9 has to put his opinions in a report? Yes, there is. 10 Yes, of course there is. 11 MR. LYNN: But an expert witness can also 12 be asked to make an observation, Doctor, have you seen 13 this? Yes, I have or no, I haven't. And if the Doc 14 15 says yes, I have --THE COURT: Right. 16 MS. SCHOBER: Your Honor, may I weigh in? 17 THE COURT: Sure. 18 MS. SCHOBER: Doctors are routinely asked 19 hypothetical questions that they haven't been presented 20 with beforehand because they examine a Petitioner, 21 produce a report before the trial starts. Then the 22 Petitioner testifies and then the other potential 23 evidence goes in, and then a hypothetical question is 24

created. It's a hypothetical, it might not be accurate



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or true, but they're entitled to comment on it.

THE COURT: I understand.

MR. WACHTEL: However, this video was taken a long time ago. Respondent's chosen for whatever reason not to get a supplemental report or prepare us prior to today that the Doctor would be relying upon that video to have a different opinion than what's in his reports.

THE COURT: I understand, but my initial comment still holds true, that I think a hypothetical question can be presented, and the extent that it supports some opinion is for me to determine whether the hypothetical matches the facts that I have to find. Okay? And you may be looking at all the tapes. I have done that. So if in fact the hypothetical deviates from what the tapes show, well, that works against Dr. Canario. But I will leave that to you. You can present a hypothetical. Just try to keep it simple.

MR, LYNN: Okay.

BY MR. LYNN:

Q Doctor, I would like you to assume that on June 11, 2012, Mr. Langowski was observed by a private investigator carrying a case of beer and a bottle of liquor from a store to his vehicle not using any type of orthopedic device such as a cane.

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I would like you to further assume that on Friday, July 11th; Friday, July 18th; and Saturday, July 19, 2014, Mr. Langowski was observed and documented in the pit area of a racetrack in Hamlin, Pennsylvania where he appeared to be part of a race team for Stage 1 modified driver John Comandini.

I would like you to assume that on September 20, 2014 Mr. Langowski was observed by an investigator performing activities at Hamlin Speedway in Pennsylvania including pushing a race car, using a hand tool to jack the vehicle up, conducting mechanical work on the motor, carrying a compressor around the vehicle to inflate the tires and removing a generator from a trailer. And this was all documented in the photographs, videos and reports that have been entered into evidence.

I would like you to assume that on September 20, 2014, between 4:00 p.m. and 10 o'clock p.m. that Mr. Langowski was observed and filmed conducting pit crew activities, including but not limited to mechanical work, repeatedly using a hand jack to lift and lower the rear of the vehicle from the ground, lubricating the wheels, carrying the generator and checking tire pressure and bending and kneeling to drain fuel from the vehicle.

I would like you to assume that on April 18, 1 2015 Mr. Langowski was observed arriving at the 2 residence of driver John Comandini and traveling with Mr. Comandini to Hamlin Speedway in Moscow, 4 Pennsylvania where he worked as a race team crew member 5 during the late afternoon and evening. 6 MR. WACHTEL: Judge --7 THE COURT: Yes? 8 MR. WACHTEL: Counselor is reading into 9 evidence what's already been submitted into evidence 10 with a videotape. 11 THE COURT: I'm going to allow him to 12 present his hypothetical. 13 MR. WACHTEL: But reading the surveillance 14 report into the record is not the same as providing a 15 16 hypothetical. THE COURT: Everybody reads their reports. 17 I get it. You force him into a hypothetical, I agree 18 with that, okay, but it has to be laid out so that 19 there's a record. 20 BY MR. LYNN: 21 I would like you to assume those 22 statements to be true and accurate, and ask you whether 23 or not they would have any impact on your opinion 2.4 regarding either the nature and/or extent of permanent

| 1 | disability, or causation, or any of the things that |
|----|---|
| 2 | you've testified about today. |
| 3 | A Well, first of all, I saw two of those videos. |
| 4 | Okay. I saw July 2014 and I saw April 2015. And in no |
| 5 | time was this man in any distress or showed any sign of |
| 6 | any type of discomfort. As far as him I mean, in my |
| 7 | examination he was able to bend beyond 90 degrees. So |
| 8 | if you tell me he's bending on a video I would believe |
| 9 | it, and it would support my opinion and my examination |
| 10 | the way I examined him. |
| 11 | Q Now, Mr. Langowski testified I'd like |
| 12 | you to assume that when Mr. Langowski testified in this |
| 13 | Court before Judge Psak |
| 14 | MR. WACHTEL: I object to this. |
| 15 | THE COURT: Which time are you talking |
| 16 | about? Give us a page and a line, please. |
| 17 | MR. WACHTEL: There were two days of |
| 18 | testimony. |
| 19 | BY MR. LYNN: |
| 20 | Q The date of testimony was January 4, 2017. |
| 21 | On Page 39, line 22 and 23 Mr. Langowski was |
| 22 | asked: Do you use the cane all the time? |
| 23 | Answer: Yes, when I do a lot of walking. |
| 24 | Did you observe him using a cane in any of the |
| 25 | pictures or videos that you saw? |

| 1 | A No. |
|----|---|
| 2 | Q Did you observe him using a cane during |
| 3 | either of your physical examinations? |
| 4 | A No. |
| 5 | Q On Page 46 Mr. Langowski testified that it |
| 6 | is difficult for him to tie his shoes because, "I have |
| 7 | a hard time bending down." That's lines 6 through 8. |
| 8 | Is there anything in your examination or what |
| 9 | you observed which indicates that he would have |
| 10 | difficulty bending down? |
| 11 | A No. |
| 12 | Q In fact, he was able to bend down during |
| 13 | both of your examinations in 2013 and 2015; isn't that |
| 14 | true? |
| 15 | A That's correct. As I already testified to, he's |
| 16 | voluntarily bending to beyond 90 degrees. |
| 17 | Q Do you have an opinion, Doctor, as to the |
| 18 | cause of the disability that you found? |
| 19 | MR. WACHTEL: I'm going to object. |
| 20 | THE COURT: Basis of the objection? |
| 21 | MR. WACHTEL: Net opinion. There's been |
| 22 | no foundation as to any studies or any kind of academic |
| 23 | parts on how the Doctor reached his conclusion as to |
| 24 | causality. |
| | THE COURT: Overruled. |

1.3

BY MR. LYNN:

Q That means you can answer the question.

The only thing that came close to being a causative factor was what Dr. Pan actually placed as the causative factor, that is riding on his motorcycle. You know, bouncing on some type of a vehicle, I found many people who ride hi-lows, bouncing on the hi-lows get a herniated disc to have it causally related. It can be certainly causally related to that. But there was no, you know, definite cause of it. What his operating surgeon thought, though, was that it had to do with his motorcycle riding.

But we all know that a herniated disc can occur spontaneously without cause. There is no indication that it was caused by his job or his occupation. He thought maybe it was when he fell, but he admits that there was no actual causal relationship then. And we can have a herniated disc in pediatric populations that just occur. Any orthopedic surgeon you ask who actually treats patients will tell that you there are herniated discs occur without cause or without trauma.

Q Thank you very much.

MR. LYNN: That's all I have, your Honor.

THE COURT: Cross?

MR. WACHTEL: Okay.

| [| |
|----|---|
| 1 | |
| 2 | CROSS-EXAMINATION |
| 3 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 4 | Q Okay, Doctor, we'll start at the top. On |
| 5 | top of your letterhead, your group has yourself, |
| 6 | Dr. Blumenthal and Dr. Laikin. |
| 7 | A Yes. |
| 8 | Q Dr. Blumenthal is an expert in |
| 9 | occupational medicine; is that correct? |
| 10 | A Yes. He's also an emergency room physician. |
| 11 | Q Okay. I've met him. Nice guy. |
| 12 | This is an occupational case, correct, as far as |
| 13 | the back? |
| 14 | A Yes. |
| 15 | Q Did you consult with Dr. Blumenthal, who |
| 16 | is an expert in occupational medicine in regard to this |
| 17 | case? |
| 18 | A No. |
| 19 | Q Why not? |
| 20 | A First of all, Dr. Blumenthal and Dr. Laikin are |
| 21 | not in my group. |
| 22 | Q Okay. |
| 23 | A They're on the letterhead, they are they |
| 24 | simply rent space from me. I'm a sole practitioner, so |
| 25 | they're not in my group. |
| | |

Okay. 1 Q Okay? And I have no need to ask Dr. Blumenthal Ά 2 anything, I can come to my own conclusions based on orthopedic surgery and causal relationship. 4 Nowhere in your reports do you discuss any 5 of the studies that you relied upon to make your 6 conclusion in this case. No. What studies? In what way? I don't really 8 understand the question. 9 What did you rely upon to make your 10 Q decision as to how this is related or not related? 11 Examining thousands of patients over the years. 12 Having done this surgery, having treated people in the 13 realm of workers' compensation and when there are no 14 1.5 lawyers around. What standard do you use to determine 16 whether or not something is related or not? 17 Based on the history that I have, the facts that 18 19 I have, what has been involved, what caused it and the general type of each individual case being, of course, 20 separate from each other. And I rely on my experience 21 as a board certified orthopedic surgeon and having done 22 quite a few of these examinations over the years. 23 I found no evidence that there was any causal relation 24 to anything other than riding a motorcycle. 25



| 1 | Q Are you aware of the New Jersey statute |
|----|---|
| 2 | for what a compensable occupational disease is and what |
| 3 | standard is used? |
| 4 | A I'm not a lawyer, I have a general idea of what |
| 5 | it is. It has to be a material exacerbation or caused |
| 6 | by one's occupation. A significant exacerbation or |
| 7 | cause, that's how I understand it. |
| 8 | Q Okay. It's not that material is something |
| 9 | greater than de minimis? |
| 10 | A It has to be significant. So, yes. It has to |
| 11 | be a significant reason, it has to be something that |
| 12 | would lead to this particular condition, such as if you |
| 13 | use a jackhammer and if you get carpal tunnel. We all |
| 14 | agree that the vibration in the jackhammer is going to |
| 15 | cause carpal tunnel. |
| 16 | Q So just to be clear, the standard that you |
| 17 | use to define compensable occupational disease in a |
| 18 | New Jersey workers' compensation case is that the work |
| 19 | effort has to be a significant contributing factor? |
| 20 | A Material I think is a better word. |
| 21 | Q How do you define material? |
| 22 | A Something that could be causally related to the |
| 23 | problem that he has. Is there a reasonable cause for |
| 24 | this, not just I happen to have a job and I have back |
| 25 | surgery, therefore it has to be related. Well, what |



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did you do, why is it caused by that. Do you have documentation of it. Over the years have you seen various doctors that have treated you. So you have to look at the entire spectrum, but there has to be something there that is significant, that would make it occupational beyond the simple fact that I work.

Q Would it change your opinion that if the New Jersey standard for compensable occupational disease is that the work effort has to be something greater than de minimis?

A I don't know what you mean by greater than de minimis. The way I understand it is it has to be something significant in the work that could cause it.

A It depends on what the patient tells me. I give him all the opportunity in the world to tell me what it is. Some people don't relate it to anything in particular. He related it, he thought to a fall, he also said that he did bending and lifting and thought that that might have caused it. Of course, he also had prior surgery.

But I didn't see anything in anything he told me, any specific way or anything that was unusual or anything that worsened him and that he was seeing his private doctor for over the years that caused this.

There was just absolutely nothing unusual about this, 1 this was in all probability a herniated disc that 2 occurred at some time, I think probably when he was 3 riding his motorcycle, or maybe it just occurred spontaneously without cause. 5 When you weigh whether or not something is 6 0 work-related or not in an occupational context, what weight do you put on work history? It depends on what -- again, it's each 9 individual case. The man worked for three and a half 10 years, I know that he worked repairing machinery. 1.1 Everybody who has a job has to do some bending and 12 13 It depends. I would want to see some strong correlations, some things that have happened, some 14 treatment that has been going on rather than just, 15 well, it must be this because I have been working 16 17 there. So what weight do you put on the work 18 19 history, a little bit, not a lot, a lot? It depends on the history. Everyone is 20. different from itself. Over here, I didn't place very 21 much emphasis on it because I didn't see anything that 22 would lead me to believe that his work had anything to 23 do with this condition that he developed. And also his 24 operating surgeon that didn't think that either. 2.5

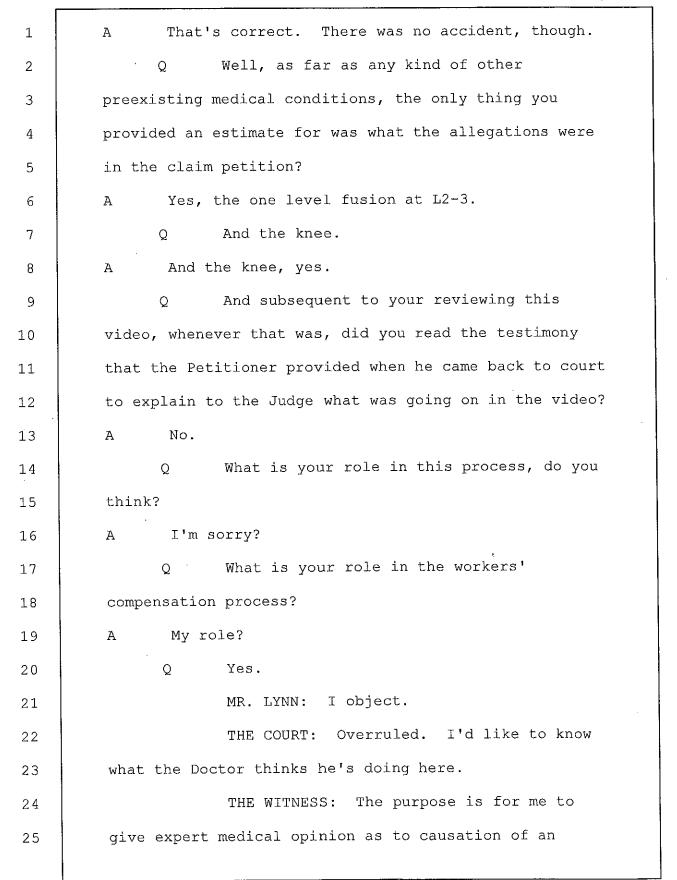
| 1 | Q Okay. We'll talk about that. |
|----|---|
| 2 | A Let's go. |
| 3 | Q Okay. You got at all medical records from |
| 4 | the Respondent that I gave them? |
| 5 | A I have no idea. I don't have them with me. I |
| 6 | mean, I take some of the things that I think are |
| 7 | important and keep them. I can't save everything that |
| 8 | is sent to me. |
| 9 | |
| 10 | (At which time, P-9, Dr. Pan Letter dated |
| 11 | July 12, 2011, was marked for identification.) |
| 12 | |
| 13 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 14 | Q Doctor, can you read that out loud? |
| 15 | MR. LYNN: Objection, your Honor. |
| 16 | THE COURT: What's the objection? |
| 17 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 18 | Q Doctor, have you seen this letter before? |
| 19 | A I can't say I have or I haven't. I mean, if you |
| 20 | sent it to him, then he would have sent it to me. |
| 21 | THE COURT: Could you identify what P-9 |
| 22 | is, please? |
| 23 | MR. WACHTEL: P-9 is a letter from Dr. Pan |
| 24 | dated July 12, 2011. |
| 25 | THE COURT: Thank you. |

| 1 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
|----|--|
| 2 | Q Have you had an opportunity to review the |
| 3 | letter today? |
| 4 | A Yes. |
| 5 | MR. LYNN: Your Honor, I object. Dr. Pan |
| 6 | has never been shown to be unavailable. Dr. Pan was |
| 7 | not called as a witness. This line of questioning is |
| 8 | an attempt by counsel to back door a hearsay |
| 9 | non-admissible opinion into evidence. It should not be |
| 10 | allowed. |
| 11 | MR. WACHTEL: Judge, the Doctor opened the |
| 12 | door, saying he relied heavily on Dr. Pan, and I gave |
| 13 | these records. |
| 14 | THE COURT: I agree he did rely on Dr. Pan |
| 15 | and I think that it's proper cross-examination because |
| 16 | he's looking into the basis for the opinion. |
| 17 | Now, I'm only assuming that the witness has |
| 18 | already seen these records if they were supplied. I |
| 19 | don't know that. But, you know, I don't have any |
| 20 | problem with testimony about it, I don't know that I'm |
| 21 | necessarily going to accept any opinion that Dr. Pan |
| 22 | puts in his letter. But you can certainly ask him |
| 23 | whether he's reviewed it or not. |
| 24 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 25 | Q Doctor, you have reviewed that letter |
| | |

| today, haven't you? |
|---|
| A Yes. |
| Q In that letter it says that Dr. Pan is |
| Michael Langowski is the patient and he's treating him |
| for lumbar surgery on July 1st. And he says due to his |
| job's requirement to lift, push, pull and bend for long |
| periods of time, I believe that it contributed to the |
| degeneration and disc herniation of his lumbar spine. |
| A Yes, he says that. That's not what he said in |
| one of his other reports, but that is what he said in |
| that report. |
| MR. LYNN: This doesn't say what job he's |
| referring to. |
| THE COURT: I don't know about that. I'm |
| not the only one to not accept an opinion from an |
| expert who's not here. The only thing that's before me |
| is what this expert relied upon to give his opinion. |
| And it's proper cross-examination, because he testified |
| he relied upon Dr. Pan's comments. Where they came |
| from, I don't know. |
| BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| Q So, Doctor, now that you've had an |
| opportunity to review that letter, does that change |
| your opinion? |
| A No, of course not. |
| |

| 1 | Q Had you reviewed it prior to today? |
|----|--|
| 2 | A If you sent it to him, I have reviewed it prior |
| 3 | to today. |
| 4 | Q Why does it not change your opinion? |
| 5 | A Because there's absolutely nothing in that |
| 6 | letter that would change my opinion. Also, this is not |
| 7 | what Dr. Pan said in other of his reports. I mean, |
| 8 | he's talking about that he developed, again, weakness, |
| 9 | he was riding his motorcycle. This is what seems to |
| 10 | have led to the surgery. Now he said, well, now it's |
| 11 | his job. I don't recall that, but if you sent it to |
| 12 | him, I saw it. I just don't agree. |
| 13 | Q There is no indication in the report that |
| 14 | Dr. Pan ever said due to riding a motorcycle |
| 15 | exclusively. |
| 16 | A It says no, not exclusively, it says that he |
| 17 | had been riding his motorcycle for several days prior |
| 18 | and developed this weakness and numbness into his left |
| 19 | leg. |
| 20 | Q So, again, it's not exclusive to |
| 21 | motorcycle riding that caused his need for treatment? |
| 22 | MS. SCHOBER: Asked and answered. |
| 23 | THE COURT: I'll allow it. |
| 24 | THE WITNESS: The way I read that is, is |
| 25 | that he is relating that this onset of the pain |
| | |

| 1 | radiating into the leg was from riding a motorcycle. |
|-----|---|
| 2 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 3 | Q But you don't say that the subsequent |
| 4 | letter, that the job requirements was a significant |
| 5 | contributing factor? |
| 6 | A I agree with that, yes. I agree that it's not a |
| . 7 | significant contributing factor. |
| 8 | Q Now, Doctor, you evaluated the Petitioner |
| 9 | last in 2015; is that correct? |
| 10 | A Yes. |
| 11 | Q And you haven't seen him since? |
| 12 | A Correct. |
| 13 | Q Wouldn't it have been helpful for you to |
| 14 | see him again to know what his current complaints are? |
| 15 | A My opinion's based on the time that I saw him. |
| 16 | I cannot comment I mean, anything could have |
| 17 | happened between 2015 and today. I have no way of |
| 18 | knowing. |
| 19 | Q You have no way of knowing whether or not |
| 20 | he's gotten worse, better, or the same? |
| 21 | A I have no way of knowing, since I haven't seen |
| 22 | him. |
| 23 | Q And you have no opinion in your report as |
| 24 | to the nature and extent of any preexisting disability, |
| 25 | you just evaluated for the last accident? |

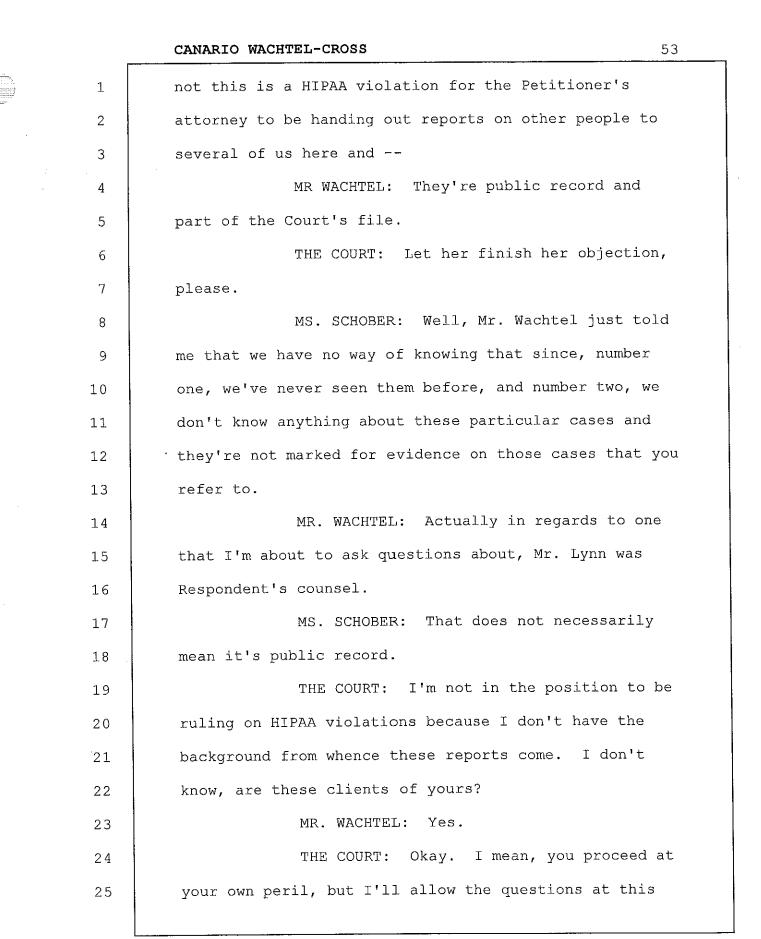


injury, proper treatment for injury, because sometimes 1 I see patients that need more treatment that haven't 2 been properly treated, and I will so say. And then the 3 amount of disability, if any. BY MR. WACHTEL: 5 Does the amount of settlement factor in, 6 any kind of settlement that the Petitioner's received in the past, or third party settlement, does that 8 factor into your evaluation of disability? 9 10 Α No. Doctor, I'd like to present a report that 11 12 you issued in 2016 in a case called Calvin Lane. Do .13 you recall that? MR. LYNN: Objection. 14 THE COURT: Basis of the objection? 15 MR. LYNN: Relevance, your Honor. 16 THE COURT: I can't tell you whether it's 17 relevant unless I hear the testimony. But have you 18 shown the document to your adversary? 19 MR. WACHTEL: I'm showing it to him now. 20 THE COURT: Certainly if there's 21 contradictory testimony, that might be relevant, but I 22 don't know to what extent. 23 24 (At which time, P-10, Dr. Canario Report 25

12/16/16 (Calvin Lane), was marked for identification.) 1 2 MS. SCHOBER: Your Honor, since counsel 3 hasn't made copies for both of us ahead of time I would 4 appreciate if I could have an opportunity to review 5 6 them. THE COURT: You can have all the time you 7 And we will allow the witness the same 8 9 opportunity. BY MR. WACHTEL: 10 Doctor, this is a report that you wrote? 11 12 Α Yes, it is. MR. LYNN: Your Honor, I have now reviewed 13 the document, and I object because it's completely 14 15 irrelevant to the proceeding here today, which is what is the Doctor's opinion on the nature and extent of 16 permanent disability and causation as to Mr. Langowski. 17 THE COURT: Well, I don't know what the 18 document says, so I can't make any ruling on relevance. 19 But he's also made some general comments about how he 20 assesses disability and I suspect, I don't know, that 21 22 that report may say something different. So to that extent, I will overrule the objection and I'll allow 23 the Petitioner's attorney to proceed. 2.4 BY MR. WACHTEL: 25

| 1 | Q Doctor, on the third page of that report |
|-----|---|
| . 2 | you indicated that the Petitioner already received |
| 3 | compensation of 50 percent, and you felt that more than |
| 4 | enough compensated him on the reopener? |
| 5 | A Right. |
| 6 | Q Does compensation factor into your |
| 7 | estimates of disability? |
| 8 | A No, if my disability rating is less than what |
| 9 | he's already received, then in my opinion there's no |
| 10 | increase in the disability. It's just common sense. |
| 11 | Q But in that case you felt that the |
| 12 | compensation that he received was enough? |
| 13 | A More than adequate. More than what I had |
| 14 | estimated, therefore I found no increase in his |
| 15 | disability. He's already beyond what I estimated. |
| 16 | THE COURT: But just to clarify. Your |
| 17 | testimony in this case was that the disability that you |
| 18 | placed upon the Petitioner was just for his current |
| 19 | conditions and did not consider his prior disability. |
| 20 | Isn't that what your testimony was? |
| 21 | THE WITNESS: In this the 15 percent |
| 22 | total that I estimated for his back surgery was for the |
| 23 | injury that he sustained occupationally at L2-3. |
| 24 | THE COURT: And did not take into |
| 25 | consideration his prior disability. |

| 1 | THE WITNESS: At the L5, did not take into |
|-----|---|
| 2 | account the disability at the L5 level. I was not |
| 3 | asked to examine him as a physiologic whole for the two |
| 4 | different surgeries. However, I felt even with that |
| 5 | that he was capable of employment. |
| 6 | THE COURT: I understand. I just wanted |
| 7 . | to make sure the record was clear. |
| 8 | You may have proceed. |
| 9 | MR. WACHTEL: I'd like to mark, and I've |
| 10 | given a copy to counsel, P-11. |
| 11 | THE COURT: What I need you to do is tell |
| 12 | me what this is. I'll save you the hassle. This is a |
| 13 | report by Dr. Canario in the case of Jimenez vs. |
| 14 | Shiseido America on February 4, 2014. |
| 15 | |
| 16 | (At which time, Dr. Canario Report 2/4/14 |
| 17 | (Jimenez) was received and marked as Exhibit R-11 for |
| 18 | identification.) |
| 19 | |
| 20 | THE COURT: Would you like me to show this |
| 21 | to the witness? |
| 22 | MR. WACHTEL: Yes. |
| 23 | THE COURT: Take your time. You're |
| 24 | entitled to review the document. |
| 25 | MS. SCHOBER: We were debating whether or |
| | |



| 1 | point, but I can't protect you on a HIPAA violation. |
|----|--|
| 2 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 3 | Q Doctor, when you evaluated Dr. Jimenez on |
| 4 | behalf of Mr. Lynn, in the report you said that you |
| 5 | were aware of a large settlement. |
| 6 | A First of all, I don't believe Mr. Jimenez is a |
| 7 | doctor. And secondly, I didn't mess up. |
| 8 | Q Well, I did. |
| 9 | A But I do say on the second to last paragraph |
| 10 | that I was aware of a large settlement, yes. |
| 11 | Q What is the role of settlements and money |
| 12 | in making your decisions as to nature and extent |
| 13 | A No, it has to do with percentages, not what |
| 14 | you're |
| 15 | Q It's a simple question, Doctor. |
| 16 | A You're completely mixing up apples and oranges. |
| 17 | THE COURT: Guys, guys. Doctor, you |
| 18 | jumped the gun before he did. Make your question |
| 19 | succinct, and no argument here. |
| 20 | Please restate your question. |
| 21 | BY MR. WACHTEL |
| 22 | Q What is the role of settlements and money |
| 23 | in making your determinations? |
| 24 | A I can answer now? |
| 25 | Q I believe so. |
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THE COURT: If his question is done. you think it's done? THE WITNESS: I thought it was done before, but anyway, now I'm sure it's done. I am asked to give a percentage of disability. In this case, Mr. Jimenez was 15 percent of total. If the man has received in excess of 15 percent of total 7 there's a question of is there any more disability that he is entitled to. If my disability rating is 9 15 percent of total and he's received more than 10 15 percent of total, common sense tells you that what 11 I'm saying is that he's already gone beyond what I 12 would have estimated, and he's not any worse. 13 BY MR. WACHTEL: 14 That's a good answer, but it didn't answer 15 the question. 16 What role does settlements and money have in 17 making your decision? 18 I told you that percentages and numbers have a 19 great deal, because the question often is, is this case 20 more now at a different period -- this was a 2006 21 injury. So this report is from 2014, quite a few years 22 later. So obviously it's a reopened case, and the 23 question is, is he entitled to anything more than he's 24

already received. Therefore we come to numbers.

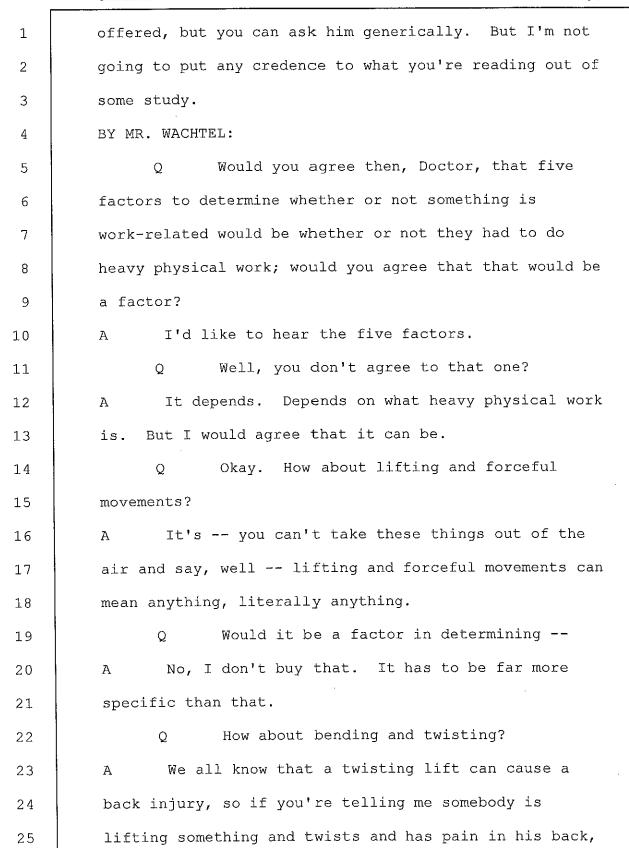
| 1 | I don't know anything about dollars, I put it in |
|------|--|
| 2 | numbers. The numbers don't change. I found no |
| 3 | increase in that disability. |
| 4 | Q Do you believe that some Petitioners are |
| 5 | getting paid too much? |
| 6 | MR. LYNN: Objection. |
| 7 | MS. SCHOBER: Objection. |
| 8 | THE COURT: He can answer the question if |
| 9 | he can. |
| 10 | THE WITNESS: Some get paid too much, some |
| 11 | get paid too little. |
| 12 | THE COURT: But, Doctor, I'm confused now. |
| 13 | And I've been listening carefully to your answers. Are |
| 14 | you telling me that in this case you put 15 percent of |
| 15 | total on his back and you put 7 1/2 on his leg, right? |
| 16 | THE WITNESS: Right. |
| 17 | THE COURT: I thought you told me earlier |
| 18 . | that that did not assess any disability for his L5-S1 |
| 19 | surgery. |
| 20 | THE WITNESS: That is correct. |
| 21 | THE COURT: How is that consistent with |
| 22 | you saying, if I thought he had already gotten |
| 23 | 15 percent I wouldn't give him anything. |
| 24 | THE WITNESS: No, no, because it's a |
| 25 | different injury, it's a different complete body part. |
| | I . |

| 1 | I have no idea first of all, the L5-S1, I have no |
|----|---|
| 2 | idea what happened with that. I don't even know if it |
| 3 | was a worker's comp I think it's a workers' |
| 4 | compensation case. |
| 5 | THE COURT: So you're separating the |
| 6 | injury just by the disc level. |
| 7 | THE WITNESS: Separate, exactly. Separate |
| 8 | by what was done. |
| 9 | THE COURT: Thank you. |
| 10 | THE WITNESS: Judge, just to finish my |
| 11 | thought, and also the fact that the only treatment he |
| 12 | received was the L2-3 level. He wasn't treated for an |
| 13 | L5-S1 prior surgery in this matter at all, so we're |
| 14 | dealing only with, in this matter the question is the |
| 15 | L2-3 fusion and the knee injury secondary to an |
| 16 | accident and/or his job. That's the way I see it. |
| 17 | THE COURT: I understand. You made the |
| 18 | clarification when you separated out two different |
| 19 | discs, that's what I was going to try to clarify. |
| 20 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 21 | Q Did you review the interrogatories in this |
| 22 | matter? |
| 23 | A I don't know. |
| 24 | MR. WACHTEL: I'd like to mark for P-11 |
| 25 | the answer to interrogatories. |
| | |

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| 1 | THE COURT: We're up to P-13. Answers to |
| 2 | interrogatories, I would assume by the Respondent. |
| 3 | MR. WACHTEL: Answered by the Petitioner. |
| 4 | THE COURT: We just marked P-12. |
| 5 | MS. SCHOBER: So there's not P-13 yet. |
| 6 | THE COURT: We're up to 12. |
| 7 | |
| 8 | (At which time, P-12, Answers to |
| 9 | Interrogatories, were marked for identification.) |
| 10 | |
| 11 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 12 | Q I'd like to direct your attention to the |
| 13 | answer to interrogatory number 10. |
| 14 | A Yes. |
| 15 | Q Did you have a chance to review that |
| 16 | answer? |
| 17 | A Yes. |
| 18 | Q And that is to what the Petitioner's |
| 19 | version of how he came to know the events of his back, |
| 20 | how it was related to work. |
| 21 | A Yes. |
| 22 | Q Is that what he told you? |
| 23 | A He told me that he he did not have a specific |
| 24 | incident such as on a specific date, June 10, 2011. He |
| 25 | told me that this was more occurred over a period of |
| | |

| 1 | time because his job entailed specific lifting. He did |
|----|--|
| 2 | not give me this type of a specific injury. |
| 3 | Q And it also refers to the Dr. Pan report. |
| 4 | A It says Dr. Pan operated on him, which he |
| 5 | related to his employment, yes. |
| 6 | MS. SCHOBER: Counselor, do you have the |
| 7 | first page of the questions? |
| 8 | MS. WACHTEL: They're standard answers to |
| 9 | interrogatories. |
| 10 | MS. SCHOBER: You have one page which has |
| 11 | all the answers and one page that has some of the |
| 12 | questions. |
| 13 | MR. WACHTEL: Here are the questions that |
| 14 | were served. |
| 15 | THE COURT: Can we attach the questions to |
| 16 | the exhibit? |
| 17 | MR. WACHTEL: Can do. |
| 18 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 19 | Q Doctor, would you agree with me that the |
| 20 | United States Department of Health & Human Services |
| 21 | comes out with publications that talk about the work |
| 22 | relatedness of back injuries to the employment? |
| 23 | A Yes. |
| 24 | MR. LYNN: Objection, relevance. |
| 25 | THE COURT: Overruled. |

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|-----|---|
| 1 | THE WITNESS: Yes. I can't quote them, |
| 2 | but if you tell me that they do, then I believe you. |
| 3 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 4 | Q Do you review those publication? |
| 5 | A No. |
| 6 | Q Why not? |
| 7 | A Because I have no interest in them. |
| 8 | Q Why not? |
| 9 | A Because they're not going to change my opinion. |
| 10 | I really don't care what the government says most of |
| 11 | the time. |
| 12 | Q Would you be surprised that a publication |
| 13 | in 1997 talks about does a summary of about 40 |
| 1.4 | articles to determine whether or not an occupation |
| 15 | causes work-related back disability? |
| 16 | A I have no knowledge of this summary, and I can't |
| 17 | possibly comment on it unless I have a chance to read |
| 18 | the whole thing, which I have no desire to do. |
| 19 | Q Would you agree that some of the factors, |
| 20 | or at least five factors that would make something |
| 21 | work-related are heavy physical work |
| 22 | MS. SCHOBER: Objection. The Petitioner's |
| 23 | attorney is reading from a document that, again, we |
| 24 | don't have and isn't even proffered. |
| 25 | THE COURT: The document isn't being |
| | t e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e |



| 1 | I would say of course that it's causative. |
|----|--|
| 2 | Q How about if your whole body vibrates? |
| 3 | You were talking about a jackhammer before. |
| 4 | A Jackhammering can cause carpal tunnel, I said |
| 5 | that. Certain vibrations can cause certain types of |
| 6 | ailments, the classic is the carpal tunnel. |
| 7 | Vibratory I mean it depends on what it is. |
| 8 | Q And static work postures, could that be a |
| 9 | factor? |
| 10 | THE COURT: I'm sorry, I didn't hear that. |
| 11 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 12 | Q Static work postures, could that be a |
| 13 | factor? |
| 14 | A Static? It depends on what you mean by static |
| 15 | work postures. |
| 16 | Q Staying in one position for a long period |
| 17 | of time. Could that be that factor in determining |
| 18 | whether or not a back injury is related to work |
| 19 | A It depends on the position. If you're telling |
| 20 | me that I'm working in a cramped space and I'm bent |
| 21 | over for two hours and I can't move out of that space |
| 22 | and my back starts to hurt, I would agree. If you're |
| 23 | telling me I'm sitting in a nice comfortable chair for |
| 24 | two hours and my back starts hurting, I would say I |
| 25 | don't think it's from sitting in a comfortable chair. |

| 1 | Q Now, Doctor, I want you to assume the |
|----|--|
| 2 | following as a hypothetical. Assume that there's been |
| 3 | no opposing testimony from the employer as to what the |
| 4 | Petitioner did on a day-to-day basis. Okay? |
| 5 | A Okay. |
| 6 | Q Assume that there's no interrogatories |
| 7 | being submitted by the Respondent as to what the |
| 8 | Petitioner's job responsibilities were. |
| 9 | A Okay. |
| 10 | Q Assume that Petitioner really didn't |
| 11 | testify on cross-examination what he did as a |
| 12 | day-to-day basis, there was no opposition to that. Do |
| 13 | you understand that? It's probably inartfully worded, |
| 14 | but |
| 15 | THE COURT: I don't understand it. |
| 16 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 17 | Q That there was no cross-examination that |
| 18 | the Petitioner had an easy job. |
| 19 | A Okay. |
| 20 | Q And also as to this point well, we'll |
| 21 | come back to the knee. |
| 22 | I want you to assume that on Page 11 of the |
| 23 | transcript he was moving 55-gallon drums of oil to |
| 24 | chillers. |
| 25 | I want you to assume that on Page 16 of the |

| 1 | |
|----|---|
| 1 | transcript he testified that he was using 50 to 60 |
| 2 | pound cranes to get the oil drums off the truck twice a |
| 3 | day. |
| 4 | I want you to assume on Page 19 that he moved a |
| 5 | hundred pounds of tools. |
| 6 | I also want you to assume on Page 20 of the |
| 7 | transcript that he and a coworker would move 300-pound |
| 8 | condenser plates. |
| 9 | I'd also like you to assume that he moved heavy |
| 10 | things like cylinder heads, drums, boilers, tools, and |
| 11 | going up and down stairs. |
| 12 | Would you consider that to be heavy work? |
| 13 | MR. LYNN: Objection. |
| 14 | THE COURT: Basis? |
| 15 | MR. LYNN: Well, one, that hypothetical |
| 16 | question was not accurate at all. |
| 17 | THE COURT: I'll figure that part out. |
| 18 | I've got the page numbers written down. I heard the |
| 19 | question. |
| 20 | MS. SCHOBER: Your Honor, I would object |
| 21 | because there is no reference to how often any of these |
| 22 | things were done. So how could the Doctor comment on |
| 23 | whether they'd be a factor. |
| 24 | THE COURT: That's for the Doctor to tell |
| 25 | us. |
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THE WITNESS: That's exactly what I was going to say. First of all, it's hard to say what that means. If you're going to ask me is lifting 300 pounds heavy lifting, I would say yes. But who lifts 300 pounds? I mean very few people can possibly do that. If you tell me the man lifted 300 pounds, had a sudden onset of back pain radiating into his leg I would say it's causally related 100 percent of the time. But that's not what happened.

BY MR. WACHTEL

And I want you to assume that he used a forklift to put drums in the truck.

Okay. Α

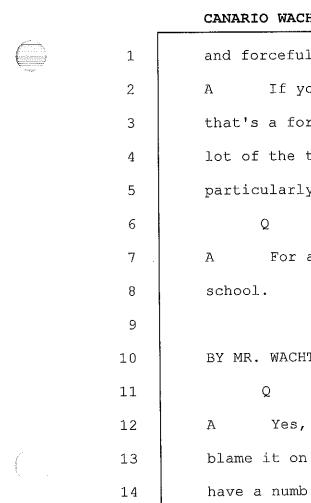
I'm sorry, that was on Page 15.

On Page 17, he used a hand truck to get it where it had to go up and down stairs.

I would like you also to assume on Page 23 that he would have to change a Cogent generator ends with other coworkers, and they had to put their backs into it to move it.

I would also like you to assume on Page 26 that he talks about a drum at Horizon House that he had to bear hug and move up two steps.

Do you consider those bear hugging kind of movements and jerking with a hand truck to be lifting



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and forceful movements?

If you have to lift a drum, I would concede that that's a forceful moment. Having loaded and unloaded a lot of the trucks myself using a hand truck, it's not particularly difficult.

How often did you do it?

For a lot of years, until I got into medical

THE COURT: Until your back went out.

BY MR. WACHTEL:

Your back did go out, didn't it? Yes, I developed a herniated disc, I didn't blame it on my occupation. I was treated. I still have a numb great toe and L5 radiculopathy.

Do you blame it to the hand truck? Q No, I don't blame it on the hand truck. I don't blame it on anybody, it was God's will.

So it's God's will on Mr. Langowski?

I have no idea.

I want you to assume on Page 19 of the transcripts he said -- on the first transcript, the original testimony.

THE COURT: By the way, are all these page references to what date?

(609) 732-1975

MR. WACHTEL: The original testimony that

he first came in on. 1 THE COURT: I didn't get that memorized. 2 MR WACHTEL: I'm sorry, Judge. 3 THE COURT: That's all right. 4 That was on January 4, '17. MR. WACHTEL: 5 THE COURT: Thank you. I'm sorry for 6 interrupting. Go ahead. 7 BY MR. WACHTEL: 8 They did tune ups on a ladder, in a 0 9 stationary position on a ladder for a long period of 10 time. 11 And I also want you to assume that he had to 12 climb on top of the drums to get -- to change spark 13 14 plugs. I'd also like you to assume that moving a, that 15 he had to move a condenser plate that was a big awkward 16 piece of equipment with a coworker. 17 Do you agree that those are bending and twisting 18 movements with awkward postures? 19 I'm having a hard time picturing exactly what it 20 Α is, but it's certainly bending and lifting maneuvers, 21 which is what he told me when he described what he was 22 doing, that he did do bending and lifting of various 23 objects. I knew quite well that that was part of his 24 job. 25



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Q Assume that on Page 21 of the transcript he was using an electric impact gun to remove 50 or 60 bolts off the chiller.

Also I want you to assume that the truck that he was going back and forth to work and to deliveries and things like that on Page 35 of the transcript indicates it had a worn out seat, causing discomfort in his back.

Does that count as the whole body vibrations that you were talking about?

No. If you're telling me that he had an injury when he was driving in the truck, there was bouncing in the seat and he hurt his back, I would say if there's documentation of it I would find it to be related, to be causally related. The simple fact that these things occurred does not mean, because the majority of people never develop these problems and they work on the same jobs. Do you know how many people I've seen in my private practice never have a problem in their life with a particular back, and they work very, very -- you know, longshoremen and really heavy workers and all the Teamsters I used to work with.

I mean, you can have an injury and you can certainly develop pain from that injury, but the simple fact that you have a job, without documentation over the years of problems and things occurring, I don't

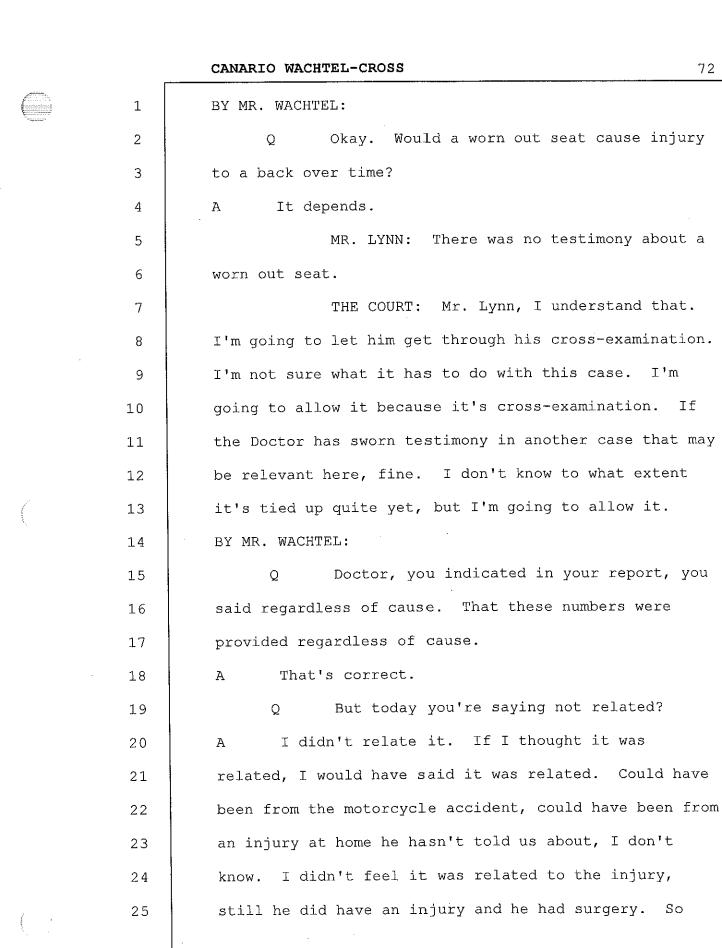
| 1 | find that that, that there's a reason to causally |
|-----|---|
| | relate it to the fact that you're employed. |
| 2 | |
| 3 | Q So if the Judge finds that it was credible |
| 4 | that he had a worn out seat in his truck, it would be |
| 5 | compensable? |
| . 6 | A No. No, absolutely not. I just said that I |
| 7 | don't find a worn out seat in a truck, whatever that |
| 8 | means, to be causative of having a back surgery. |
| 9 | Q Okay. Well, do you remember the last time |
| 10 | that you and I spoke in court? |
| 11 | A No, I purposely blocked that out. |
| 12 | Q Great. I didn't. |
| 13 | Do you remember testifying with Judge Moore in |
| 14 | the little courtroom in her chambers, actually, a |
| 15 | couple years ago on a case named Ed Housel. |
| 16 | A You're kidding me? |
| 17 | Q No. |
| 18 | A No, I don't remember. |
| 19 | Q That was August 26th of '16. |
| 20 | MR. LYNN: Objection. |
| 21 | THE COURT: August 26, 2016? |
| 22 | MR. WACHTEL: Yes. And Ms. Schober was |
| 23 | there for that one. |
| 24 | MS. SCHOBER: I don't remember that |
| 25 | either. |
| | |

| 1 | THE WITNESS: That's Judge Moore? |
|----|---|
| 2 | MR. WACHTEL: Yes. |
| 3 | THE COURT: I'm glad we have a transcript. |
| 4 | What's your question? |
| 5 | THE WITNESS: She was a good Judge. |
| 6 | BY MR. WACHTEL: |
| 7 | Q And at that time you indicated that the |
| 8 | Petitioner who filed an occupational claim in that |
| 9 | case, whose sole reason for filing an occupational |
| 10 | claim was bouncing up and down in a truck; do you |
| 11 | recall that? |
| 12 | A I have absolutely no recollection of this. |
| 13 | Q And would it surprise you, then, that your |
| 14 | testimony at that time that it was compensable for |
| 15 | bouncing up and down in the truck, but the majority of |
| 16 | the disability was preexisting? |
| 17 | MR. LYNN: Objection, your Honor. Again, |
| 18 | this is of zero relevance to this case. Every case is |
| 19 | different and factually sensitive. |
| 20 | THE COURT: I'm not so sure what the |
| 21 | Doctor's opinion in a completely different case would |
| 22 | have to do with his opinion here, but I get the purpose |
| 23 | of the cross-examination. I'll allow it. I don't know |
| 24 | what effect it has |
| 25 | MR. LYNN: What is the purpose of the |

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cross-examination? There's been no testimony in this 1 case that there was any bouncing around the truck. 2 There's been no testimony --3 MR. WACHTEL: Yes, there has. 4 MR. LYNN: There's been no testimony 5 there's been repeated carrying of drums. There's been 6 no testimony about many of the things that counsel is 8 asking. THE COURT: For that very reason it may 9 have very little effect or weight in this case, but 10 it's cross-examination. I'm going to allow Mr. Wachtel 11 to cross-examine the Doctor. 12 MR. WACHTEL: And on Page 35 of the 13 transcript Mr. Langowski complained -- of the original 14 transcript, the January 17th, Mr. Langowski complained 15 of a worn out seat in his truck. 16 THE COURT: I understand that. I'11 17 accept that. You're looking at the transcript, I 18 haven't reread it. 19 MR. WACHTEL: I want the record to be 20 clear when we have that objection. 21 MS. SCHOBER: The objection was not 22 regarding a worn out seat, it was that there was no 23 testimony regarding bouncing up and down on a seat for

an extended period of time.



| 1 | regardless of whatever caused it, God knows what it | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | was, I found to him to have disability. | | | | | |
| 3 | Q But you don't flat out say that it's not | | | | | |
| 4 | related, that work could be a factor? | | | | | |
| 5 | A No, I flat out said it's not related. | | | | | |
| 6 | Q Do you have an opinion overall, as an | | | | | |
| 7 | industrial working unit as the Petitioner, regardless | | | | | |
| 8 | of the occupational exposure, do you have an opinion | | | | | |
| 9 | with the preexisting and the new surgery that he had, | | | | | |
| 10 | do you have an overall number for him? | | | | | |
| 11 | A Well, I didn't at that time. I felt that he was | | | | | |
| 12 | employable, I felt that he had a very good result. I | | | | | |
| 13 | mean he had a very benign examination for three back | | | | | |
| 14 | surgeries and two fusions at different levels. Of | | | | | |
| 15 | course, it would have been higher than the 15 I | | | | | |
| 16 | estimated. It would not have been 30, probably | | | | | |
| 17 | again, you're really making me guess, but in the range | | | | | |
| 18 | of 22 1/2 to 25. | | | | | |
| 19 | Q Preexisting or overall? | | | | | |
| 20 | A No, overall. That would be for considering the | | | | | |
| 21 | other surgery. | | | | | |
| 22 | Q And as far as the knee, let's go back to | | | | | |
| 23 | that. | | | | | |
| 24 | A You haven't forgotten. | | | | | |
| 25 | Q I haven't forgotten. | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| 1 | A Good. | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | Q Did you? | | | | | | |
| 3 | A I never forget. | | | | | | |
| 4 | Q You understand that that was an admitted | | | | | | |
| 5 | accident by the carrier? | | | | | | |
| 6 | A He told me he fell, that's a legitimate | | | | | | |
| 7 | accident. | | | | | | |
| 8 | Q You understand that Dr. Warshauer, one of | | | | | | |
| 9 | the treating doctors who provided the surgery, related | | | | | | |
| 10 | that to the accident? | | | | | | |
| 11 | A I related it too. | | | | | | |
| 12 | Q But you just said regardless of cause, and | | | | | | |
| 13 | not | | | | | | |
| 14 | A No, no, that was the back. The knee was a | | | | | | |
| 15 | different story. The knee, there was a specific fall | | | | | | |
| 16 | that he had injured his knee, we all agree to that. So | | | | | | |
| 17 | the 15 was regardless of cause, the 7 1/2 was because | | | | | | |
| 18 | of the accident that happened when he hurt his knee. | | | | | | |
| 19 | Q How do you define permanent disability? | | | | | | |
| 20 | A A loss of body function. | | | | | | |
| 21 | Q And how did you determine that it was only | | | | | | |
| 22 | 7 1/2? | | | | | | |
| 23 | A Because I've examined 40,000 of these knees in | | | | | | |
| 24 | the past. | | | | | | |
| 25 | Q The left or the right? | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | | |

| 1 | A Both. | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | MR. WACHTEL: I have nothing further, your | | | | | |
| 3 | Honor. | | | | | |
| 4 | THE COURT: Ms. Schober? | | | | | |
| 5 | | | | | | |
| 6 | CROSS-EXAMINATION | | | | | |
| 7 | BY MS. SCHOBER: | | | | | |
| 8 | Q I just have one question, Doctor. You | | | | | |
| 9 | stated before that you hadn't seen the Petitioner since | | | | | |
| 10 | you last examined him in 2015, correct? | | | | | |
| 11 | A That is correct. | | | | | |
| 12 | Q And you'd agree with Petitioner's attorney | | | | | |
| 13 | that you couldn't state whether he was better or worse | | | | | |
| 14 | or the same since then, correct? | | | | | |
| 15 | A Correct. | | | | | |
| 16 | Q And you're aware that Dr. Weiss saw the | | | | | |
| 17 | Petitioner on several occasions, the last being 2014? | | | | | |
| 18 | A I am aware. | | | | | |
| 19 | Q So would it be fair to say that Dr. Weiss | | | | | |
| 20 | or anyone couldn't say whether Petitioner had gotten | | | | | |
| 21 | worse since he last saw the Petitioner? | | | | | |
| 22 | A Of course. | | | | | |
| 23 | Q But you've seen him more recently than | | | | | |
| 24 | Dr. Weiss? | | | | | |
| 25 | A I did. | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

| г | | | | | |
|----|---|--|--|--|--|
| 7 | MS. SCHOBER: That's all I have, your | | | | |
| 2 | Honor. | | | | |
| 3 | THE COURT: Mr. Lynn? | | | | |
| 4 | MR. LYNN: I have no redirect. | | | | |
| 5 | MR. WACHTEL: Nothing else. | | | | |
| 6 | THE COURT: I have P-9, 10, 11 and 12, all | | | | |
| 7 | for identification. | | | | |
| 8 | MR. WACHTEL: Yes, I think so. I'm not | | | | |
| 9 | moving any of them into evidence. | | | | |
| 10 | THE COURT: Let me get my records straight | | | | |
| 11 | here. | | | | |
| 12 | The State rests? | | | | |
| 13 | MS. SCHOBER: Yes, your Honor. | | | | |
| 14 | MR. WACHTEL: I've already rested. | | | | |
| 15 | THE COURT: Okay, it's a wrap. | | | | |
| 16 | (Whereupon, the witness was excused.) | | | | |
| 17 | (Whereupon, this matter was adjourned.) | | | | |
| 18 | | | | | |
| 19 | | | | | |
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CERTIFICATE

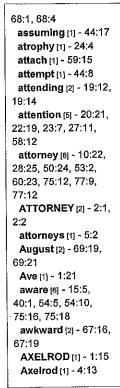
I, MONIKA NEMEC, Certified Court Reporter of the State of New Jersey, do hereby swear that the foregoing is a true and accurate record of the live testimony taken stenographically by me; and I am neither attorney nor counsel for nor related to or employed by any of the parties to the action in which this matter is taken; and further, that I am not a relative or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties hereto, or financially interested in the action.

Monika Nemec

MONIKA NEMEC

CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER LICENSE NUMBER: XI-02177

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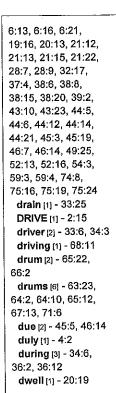
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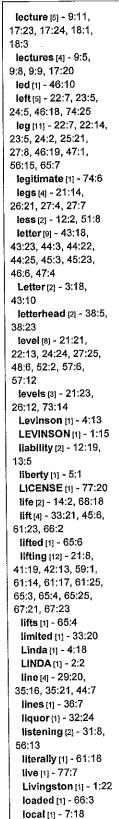
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