

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS
HOUSTON DIVISION

) CASE NO: 23-90611-mi
)
WESCO AIRCRAFT HOLDINGS, INC.,) Houston, Texas
)
Debtor.) Thursday, October 3, 2024
)
) 8:01 AM to 10:50 AM
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-----)
WESCO AIRCRAFT HOLDINGS, INC.,) CASE NO: 23-03091-mi
ET AL.,) ADVERSARY
)
Plaintiffs,)
)
Vs.)
)
SSD INVESTMENTS LTD, ET AL.)
)
Defendants.)
-----)

HEARING

BEFORE THE HONORABLE MARVIN ISGUR
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

APPEARANCES:

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1 HOUSTON, TEXAS; THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2024; 8:01 AM

2 (Call to Order)

3 THE COURT: All right. We're going to go back on
4 the record in the Wesco adversary proceeding 24-3091. Hold
5 on one second. All right. Mr. Bennett?

6 MR. BENNETT: Thank you, Your Honor. And thank
7 you for accommodating us this morning. I kind of have a
8 hard stop at around noon today. It's my 66th birthday and
9 I've got to be back in Los Angeles a party. Otherwise
10 people are going to be --

11 THE COURT: We'll get you home for your birthday.

12 MR. BENNETT: -- disappointed. Okay. First of
13 all, as to your questions yesterday, with respect to the
14 documents, we are certainly willing to agree to a post-trial
15 proffer of documents presumably that say something about
16 Section 3.02, but we do want to make sure that we have an
17 opportunity to object to their admission on any basis or
18 their consideration because of the parole evidence rule. So
19 we can figure that out I'm sure hopefully by agreement of
20 the parties.

21 Separate -- secondly, with respect to the separate
22 ruling on standing, I think I'm going to disappoint you. I
23 think we would like to get a full opinion on all issues.
24 And whether it's a report recommendation because this is a
25 related matter or was the district court on a de novo basis

1 or on a basis for thinking the whole thing should go, this
2 has already gotten ridiculously expensive because we got
3 mixed up with a case that wasn't ours, and we really
4 (indiscernible). So I apologize if that (indiscernible)
5 more effort --

6 THE COURT: No, that --

7 MR. BENNETT: -- earlier for you.

8 THE COURT: -- that's not a problem. I --
9 thinking about it overnight, it seems that if you win the
10 standing, a full opinion works. If you lose the standing,
11 there's no point in moving ahead.

12 MR. BENNETT: Right.

13 THE COURT: So that -- it may -- it'll depend on
14 what it is, but it'll be a normal opinion, which I think is
15 what you're asking for.

16 MR. BENNETT: That's --

17 THE COURT: And I will do that. But I'm just
18 telling you if you should lose the standing, then there's no
19 point in going into everything and then you can take up I
20 think on a report and recommendation, not on a --

21 MR. BENNETT: Right.

22 THE COURT: -- an appeal.

23 MR. BENNETT: Right. I understand that, Your
24 Honor.

25 THE COURT: Thank you.

1 MR. BENNETT: And then I hope if that's the way it
2 goes that you remember everything when we come back. Okay.
3 First of all, I do want to note I was feeling very guilty
4 yesterday about the number of slides that we had. We had
5 154 slides, and I thought that that was a lot. The other
6 side had 160.

7 THE COURT: I pointed that out yesterday.

8 MR. BENNETT: So --

9 THE COURT: We conceded 300 slides.

10 MR. BENNETT: -- I'm feeling okay this morning.
11 All right. Let's get into this. I -- the first topic I
12 want to talk about is Carlyle inducement. And Your Honor, I
13 provided some materials 15 minutes ago to other counsel so
14 they could look at them in advance. What you have is some
15 excerpts of Mr. O'Connell's and Mr. Bartell's testimony in
16 the first document and then the four cases that were talked
17 about yesterday.

18 So you had a colloquy with counsel for Carlyle
19 yesterday where you pointed out that it was universally
20 recognized that it would've been better to pick all 2027
21 notes. And you asked him if there was anything in the
22 evidentiary record that showed why the offer to exchange was
23 not made to all. Counsel for Carlyle said there was not.
24 He then offered that perhaps other just anticipated what
25 Carlyle wanted.

1 Carlyle counsel also said that the only
2 participation point discussed was inclusion of Platinum.
3 And Your Honor, clearly I did not present enough of Mr.
4 O'Connell's or Mr. Bartell's testimony during my opening
5 yesterday. So let's turn to the document I put on your -- I
6 gave to everybody. And I've highlighted some of it, but I
7 wanted to make sure that there was completeness. So maybe
8 we should read all of it.

9 So what's in front of the witness is the chart
10 that shows the extra benefit of further participation in the
11 (indiscernible) and the questioner, which at the depo isn't
12 (indiscernible). Calculations -- where it was referring to
13 the calculations at the top of the chart, the annual
14 Platinum cash interest status quo, the annual cash interest
15 pro forma for exchange, and the annual Platinum cash
16 interest savings. These three rows. The witness sees that.

17 "Question: Those are benefits from Platinum
18 exchanging its 2027 notes. They're not benefits from
19 Platinum exchanging its promissory note, correct?

20 "Yes, correct. The promissory (indiscernible).

21 "Okay. And could the company have received the
22 same benefits, just the benefits listed in those three rows
23 from any holder of notes that exchanged their 2027 notes?"
24 And Mr. O'Connell says no. Okay. No leading question. No
25 suggestion of any answer. "Why not?" Perfectly logical

1 follow-up.

2 "Because in our negotiations with Carlyle, they
3 would not -- Carlyle was not willing to open up the
4 transaction to other unsecured noteholders other than
5 Platinum." Next page.

6 "The company asked Carlyle to increase the amount
7 of notes that could be included in the note exchange,
8 correct?

9 "Correct.

10 "Okay. And so Carlyle pushed back on the quantum
11 of notes that could be included in the unsecured note
12 exchange, correct?

13 "No. The way it -- my recollection is Carlyle
14 said we were willing to accommodate Platinum and Senator but
15 not others. It wasn't about aggregate level of holdings.

16 "Did you ever ask them why they wouldn't, why they
17 were not willing to accommodate others?

18 "I don't recall specifically asking the rationale
19 as to why, but I think we understood from a commercial
20 perspective their intention was to receive consideration for
21 their holdings as they had a requisite consent on their
22 own." Next page. Now we're at the trial, and now it is my
23 questions. And we -- and the first few lines say we're
24 going to start with the deposition, and so some of it's
25 repetitive to the deposition. So when -- let's skip down to

1 Line 21. The transcript is in front of the witness. Now
2 keep -- the deposition transcript is in front of the
3 witness.

4 Now keep this open because we're going to come
5 back to it. "Was the company, sir, prevented from achieving
6 the same benefits from any holder of 2027 notes that were
7 willing to exchange the notes because Carlyle wouldn't let
8 you do it?

9 "Answer: In our discussion with Carlyle, my
10 recollection was that they were willing to allow Platinum
11 and Senator in but not others. With that said as I just
12 noted, I'm not aware of others asking us at the company
13 level. Whether they asked Carlyle and Greenhill, I don't
14 know.

15 "Did you recall at your deposition that you on
16 behalf of the company asked Carlyle to "open up" this
17 unsecured exchange and increase the quantum of notes that
18 could be included in the unsecured exchange?

19 "Yes, I recall saying that.

20 "And PJT made the request.

21 "Yes, I believe it was our team.

22 "And PJT made" -- and I'm interrupted.

23 "To Greenhill.

24 "PJT made the request to Greenhill?

25 "I believe so.

1 "When did PJT make the request?

2 "In the back-and-forth at the negotiations. I
3 don't recall a specific date." Okay. Then for completeness
4 we have the proposal and it shows how he understood it.
5 This is the March 1st. This is Carlyle's response.

6 "Carlyle makes a counter-proposal according to this and it's
7 to eligible participants. And they say, okay, really agree
8 except Platinum shall not participate in the exchange and of
9 Platinum debts should be picked for life. No up-gear. Do
10 you see that?

11 "Yes.

12 "Is that accurate?

13 "I assume so.

14 "Okay. And so the response by the company isn't,
15 well, how about at least other holders? It's pushed back
16 again, same company, 226 Carlyle, Senator, and Platinum,
17 correct?

18 "Yes, that's correct." Okay. That's kind of
19 background because the next line says:

20 "Okay. Does this refresh your recollection that
21 at some point in the dialogue over these several days
22 Carlyle said only Carlyle and Senator not Platinum, not
23 anyone else?

24 "Answer: Yes.

25 "Okay. So isn't it true that one of Carlyle's

1 responses was not that only Carlyle, Platinum, and Senator
2 could participate, but the response was only Carlyle and
3 Senator would be eligible to exchange 2027 notes?

4 "Yes, that seems to be the case. Yes.

5 "And if you take a look at the amount slide, and
6 I'll let you do it yourself, doesn't it also show that the
7 amount of the 1.25 notes Carlyle said it would permit to be
8 issued was only enough to make an exchange for Carlyle and
9 Senator's 2027 notes?

10 "Yes, I see that.

11 "So I'm not aware of any other written response to
12 Carlyle than the ones shown here. Are you?

13 "Not to my recollection. I don't recall seeing
14 this side by side in the deposition so I haven't seen this
15 in quite some time."

16 Continuing in the trial testimony, "Who made the
17 decision to counter to Carlyle's refusal to include all 2027
18 noteholders with a proposal to just add Platinum?

19 "Witness: I don't recall. I don't recall who
20 specifically made that decision." We of course showed who
21 did.

22 "Who was involved in the discussion about how to
23 counter to Carlyle's refusal to include all other 2027
24 noteholders with a proposal to include just Platinum and
25 Senator?

1 "I don't recall the specific. It seems like there
2 was a day that passed and then we countered. I don't recall
3 the specific discussions. I would imagine it included
4 management that no bank from A&M and our team.

5 "Did it include other Platinum folks?

6 "I don't specifically recall." Again, the next
7 pages are included for completeness, but let's skip down to
8 the following page, Line 10.

9 "And then in counter -- Carlyle's counter proposal
10 on the amount, the counter proposals from Carlyle was to
11 size the basket to account for only Carlyle and Senator's
12 exchange debt. Is that correct?

13 "Yes.

14 "And then the company rejected that proposal. Is
15 that the right way to read the proposal over?

16 "Yes, that's correct." Okay. So what did we
17 learn from that? We learned that the unambiguous testimony
18 of the person who negotiated we say for Platinum acting as
19 its debt, we think we proved that fully understood the
20 negotiations with Carlyle exactly the way I described them,
21 that there was a proposal made, it's kind of ambiguous, but
22 people were talking about it. And everybody understood that
23 what Carlyle was doing was causing the exclusion of
24 noteholders.

25 When Carlyle says all we did was a Platinum or

1 non-Platinum, that's one way to interpret the slides, but
2 the percipient witness that was in the negotiations -- and
3 of course the negotiations does not just include the slides.
4 It includes all the discussions that happened around it, he
5 had a clear recollection expressed over and over again that
6 it was -- and again, initially unsolicited, that it was
7 Carlyle that got in the way. It was Carlyle that decided
8 that the company wasn't going to be able to get the full
9 benefit, and then Platinum agreed. That's what happened.
10 That's what the evidence shows.

11 Now, there's a little more evidence. Mr.
12 Bartells'. Mr. Bartells was asked about the same series --
13 sequence of events, and for the most part he didn't
14 participate in them. But he was asked did you -- I'm
15 skipping down to Line 24 in the Bartells' excerpt. "Did you
16 hear or was it reported to you at one point Carlyle wanted
17 to propose to limit the exchange only to Carlyle, Spring
18 Street, and Senator?

19 "I recall discussions around it before --"

20 "Okay." I'm interrupting him and I apologized.

21 "-- the transaction happened.

22 "Do you recall being told that?

23 "Yes." That's what Mr. Bartells understood. This
24 is testimony that is admitted evidence that the selection
25 was not immaculate, and nothing in the testimony I just read

1 is inconsistent with the remainder of the evidence --
2 evidentiary record. As Carlyle's counsel well knows if he
3 was unsatisfied for any reason with any testimony offered at
4 a depo or a trial, he had to either cross-examine the
5 witness on the relevant points or elicit different testimony
6 from another person that had firsthand knowledge of the same
7 events. In this case, that would be someone at Carlyle who
8 negotiated with O'Connell, and that person was probably Neil
9 (indiscernible).

10 Remember my chart that no one from -- no one who
11 was actually involved in negotiations from Greenhill has
12 testified in this court. And Mr. O'Connell was cross-
13 examined by Mr. Clareman, and no testimony was elicited by
14 them that contradicted the testimony of Mr. O'Connell.
15 Wasn't confronted with any.

16 Mr. Clareman has spent a lot of time also
17 suggesting that Carlyle gave on many of its initial demands,
18 and that may be true, but it does not change the fact that
19 Carlyle ultimately reached an agreement with Platinum on the
20 exclusion of other holders the opportunity to participate in
21 the exchange. That's an agreement to cause a breach.

22 As I said before, O'Connell's testimony is
23 un rebutted. It is the record evidence about what happened.
24 All we have now is Mr. Clareman clearly told a story, tried
25 to reinterpret the events, but he is not a sworn witness.

1 He has no firsthand knowledge of any of the relevant events
2 that surrounded those pieces of paper. He had his
3 opportunity. He didn't prove anything else.

4 Now, there's a couple of other points that I'd
5 like to make that are related, and we'll shift to conspiracy
6 in a second. Can you put up Carlyle Slide 5? Situation
7 update. Platinum reached out, not Wesco, not any guarantor
8 of the 2027 notes. Platinum. Platinum reached out to ask
9 us to sign an NDA to engage in conversations. Platinum has
10 not made any specific ask of us yet and it is unclear what
11 their goals are. And it's unclear what if any information
12 Platinum will ultimately provide us.

13 Platinum has indicated they want to talk to us.
14 Carlyle was not confused about who its counterparty was in
15 the negotiations of the unsecured debt exchange. Carlyle
16 17, please. Testimony that they highlighted for you. Last
17 line. Last question. Sorry.

18 "How did you respond to the company's proposal for
19 \$1.05 billion basket?

20 "We pushed back on that quite robustly. We wanted
21 the basket to be sized precisely to match Carlyle and
22 Senator's holdings. And you know -- and no more."

23 Now, I want to skip to something. Let's talk
24 about the basket for a second. The basket used in the
25 future -- the basket useable in the future, not now, doesn't

1 help anybody. That's the potential for mitigation perhaps,
2 but the default is the failure to make the offer -- same
3 offer at the same time. The existence of a basket for the
4 future only means that someone maybe has the opportunity to
5 use the basket to make an offer to the excluded 2027s.
6 Maybe on the same terms, maybe on different, nobody knows,
7 and maybe not at all. At most it's an opportunity to
8 mitigate. It doesn't say -- it's not an excuse. It's not a
9 defense to the fact of the breach.

10 And so when Carlyle relents on that, they're only
11 relenting on this hypothetical possibility of mitigation,
12 which of course never occurred. There was no mitigation.
13 There was no subsequent offer. There was no catch-up
14 whatsoever. So the sizing concession has nothing to do with
15 the lack of an (indiscernible) on the exchange. The key
16 words here, "You know and no more." All they wanted is
17 Carlyle and Senator. They made it crystal clear. The
18 evidence is unrebutted.

19 Okay. Now, conspiracy. I think the argument
20 yesterday was that somehow because Carlyle entered the
21 discussions with different priorities and different terms
22 that it wanted from Platinum that there couldn't be a
23 conspiracy. Well, that's kind of ridiculous. If Carlyle
24 entered discussions with Platinum with different positions
25 doesn't detract from the reality that they reached an

1 agreement and as a result formed a conspiracy. Because they
2 did reach an agreement.

3 The fact that they started out with different
4 terms is irrelevant. I'm not aware of any element of
5 conspiracy law that requires that conspirators or potential
6 conspirators have had similar or identical positions before
7 they reach an agreement to conspire or that the agreement is
8 -- that conspire has to include everything each conspirator
9 ever wanted. The facts of this case, there was an
10 agreement, the exchange agreement. There were overt acts to
11 implement the agreement's terms, and at the end of
12 negotiations there was a common plan even if it didn't start
13 out that way. Conspiracy was proven.

14 Senator appeals to its passivity. Senator's
15 passivity at points in time is completely irrelevant. When
16 the chips were down, Senator agreed to a transaction. It
17 breached the indenture and then caused it to happen by
18 signing the exchange agreement which required the
19 irrevocable instruction to WSFS. That is the inducement.
20 That is Senator's inducement.

21 Inducement. Inducement -- and I'm now addressing
22 something that Platinum said. Inducement is not only
23 inducement by board meeting. Inducement is not confined to
24 any particular act, status of the inducer, or complicity of
25 the inducer. A tortfeasor doesn't have to wear a special

1 hat, doesn't have to do it in any particular way. The
2 assertion that Platinum employees with unbelievably lofty
3 titles, Louis Samson, co-president and member of investment
4 committee of Platinum; Michael Fabiano, managing director
5 and global head of credit at Platinum; Malek and Kevin
6 Smith, both managing directors.

7 The idea that they lack either actual or apparent
8 authority to act for Platinum in connection with debt
9 holdings is beyond silly, and it certainly was never proved.
10 We cited the cases on our Slide 31. I'm not going to repeat
11 it again. You have it. I did actually talk about that
12 slide, about how it -- corporate rules work. Directors who
13 are not officers cannot and do not act for a corporation.

14 For a given company, officers appointed by the
15 board implement board resolutions. None of the attendees of
16 the meetings or Zooms we discussed were officers of Wesco or
17 any other 2027 note obligor. The assertion that there was a
18 board committee is not supported by any of the minutes much
19 less any resolution of appointment.

20 And by the way, the idea that any board committee
21 action was involved at the Zoom where it happened is belied
22 by the fact that Kevin Smith was there. Kevin Smith wasn't
23 a director of any of the companies. So now they say they
24 had a board committee but it also included Kevin Smith who
25 wasn't a board member at all? These things are just not

1 supported. It's ridiculous.

2 As I said before, Platinum, Carlyle, and Senator
3 induced WSFS to signing the exchange agreement and the
4 instruction called for in the exchange agreement. A
5 document was signed by each defendant. Selective exchange
6 could not happen if they didn't sign it. At the end of the
7 day, that's the conclusion of all the things that have led
8 up to it. You don't even need the things that led up to it,
9 but the things that led up to it clearly show who the actors
10 were, what they did, when they did it. The record evidence
11 shows it. It cannot be explained away.

12 Economic interest. I wanted to clarify one point
13 that you asked about yesterday. You asked where the
14 economic interest rules applies if Wesco had to get Carlyle
15 to bring in \$250 million, which of course net was less than.
16 First, as I explained yesterday, Carlyle is not allowed to
17 induce a breach as a condition to accepting a proposal. And
18 you asked me to put that aside, but I thought about it some
19 more.

20 Even when I put it aside, excluding other holders,
21 does not even promote Carlyle's economic interest in Wesco,
22 and that's the ultimate test. Remember the relevant act
23 here is the exclusion of other holders. Even if Carlyle's
24 participation provided some benefit, the act of exclusion
25 did not. The breach did not.

1 THE COURT: Why would it not give Carlyle a
2 greater percentage of the liened assets in the event of a
3 default such that it was in their interest to be a loan in
4 that category or have as few as possible that were looking
5 to the liens?

6 MR. BENNETT: As I said before, if that's what
7 this was about, promoting their own interest as opposed to
8 the company's interest, it's not an economic interest that
9 generates the defense.

10 THE COURT: But I just want to be -- you said that
11 it didn't help their own interest. I thought you said that.
12 I think it did help their own interest. As to whether it's
13 protected is a different question.

14 MR. BENNETT: I'm sorry. Then I misspoke. I'm
15 talking about their -- the interest in Wesco. The lien --
16 narrowing the lien helps their personal interest. Their
17 interest in Wesco, though, was making sure cash was
18 maximized. Everyone agreed to that. And -- agreed to that.
19 And what they did was basically traded. What they did was,
20 as they said, the company's going to get less relief, less
21 cash relief, which it desperately needs.

22 THE COURT: Mm-hmm.

23 MR. BENNETT: So I, outside the company, can get a
24 bigger slice of the lien that the company wants to offer to
25 everybody. That is exactly antithesis --

1 THE COURT: Right, but I think that's the heart of
2 the question I was asking. And I mean, I think I'm
3 understanding what you're saying. So if someone does have
4 an economic interest in the company, they're acting to
5 utilize that to benefit themselves, not the company.

6 MR. BENNETT: That's --

7 THE COURT: Is that protected under the economic
8 interest rule and --

9 MR. BENNETT: No.

10 THE COURT: -- what is the case law that says it's
11 not?

12 MR. BENNETT: It's in our slides, Your Honor, when
13 we talk about economic interest. And I was going to take
14 (indiscernible) finding it, which is --

15 THE COURT: If it's in the slides, I'll go back
16 and find it.

17 MR. BENNETT: Oh, it's in the slides.

18 THE COURT: Okay.

19 MR. BENNETT: We -- when we set up the economic
20 interest section, we (indiscernible) --

21 THE COURT: I'll find it.

22 MR. BENNETT: -- we have the actual quotes that
23 say that, that actually make the -- talk about the
24 difference between protecting the company interest that you
25 have in the company versus protecting your own interest.

1 The interest you have in the company is the company's
2 success. Your own interest is changing the kind of debt you
3 have. It uses essentially those words. I think they're in
4 bold and they're at the bottom of a page, but I don't
5 remember the page number.

6 Okay. And last, whether or not Silver Point or
7 PIMCO accepted lower participation in the unsecured
8 exchange, it remained in the company's interest to have
9 greater participation. The breach deprived Wesco of that
10 benefit and it was not helped at all by the limit on
11 participation.

12 Okay. Now standing. I tried to be economical
13 because Your Honor indicated that you've read the briefing
14 and understood the arguments that there was -- I'm going to
15 try to go through the slides that we had on this super
16 quickly, and of course land on the ones that I think are
17 where the controversy really is. So this is at Page --
18 starts at Page 135, and I'm going to start on Page 136. Let
19 me get rearranged just for a second.

20 So first, again, I don't think it's any longer
21 disputed, no party disputes the tortious interference claims
22 can be assigned, and we contend that an assignment happened
23 here. And again, this is another approach to something that
24 we think we've established in many other ways, but -- and
25 I'll come back to one of them in a second. By talking about

1 this doesn't mean I've abandoned any others. I don't. But
2 I think this one is particularly decisive.

3 Okay. What Page 137 says, and again I think -- I
4 don't think there's anything to be argued here but maybe
5 there is, all right, the separate documents --

6 THE COURT: Sorry.

7 MR. BENNETT: That's okay.

8 THE COURT: Go ahead.

9 MR. BENNETT: Separate documents together can be
10 one contract, and here -- and these are -- this is authority
11 for that proposition, the DTC rules we say are part of the
12 indenture. And the next pages show why that's the case.
13 I'm not going to spend the time now, but we've highlighted
14 all the steps that show that the DTC procedures for transfer
15 are in fact specifically referenced and included in the
16 indenture.

17 And then on Slide 140 it talks about your former
18 position on mouseholes, which generated a beautiful picture
19 of an elephant. But the fact of the matter is that when you
20 go through the indenture specifically with respect to
21 transfers, and now on Page 141, let's go to Page 141, the --
22 this is in the indenture, the transfer and exchange of
23 beneficial interest in the global notes will be affected
24 through DTC in accordance with the provisions of this
25 indenture and the applicable procedures. Clear as day.

1 Then what are the applicable procedures? It's
2 right underneath it. It includes the rules and procedures
3 of the DTC that apply to the transfers exchange, and the DTC
4 is mentioned 83 times in the indenture. No one can read the
5 indenture. By the way, it's in our preliminary offering
6 Circular 2. No one can read either document without
7 understanding that the DTC has an awful lot to do with this.
8 Okay.

9 Then Your Honor noted, we noted that the DTC rules
10 talk about a transfer of the entire interest, and DTC cares
11 about this. They want -- because they realized that they
12 could be in the middle and they could get stuck in the
13 middle. So they wanted to make sure they had everything,
14 and they did make sure they had everything. And so the --
15 what is left is a discussion of what exactly does entire
16 interest mean. And you were -- you asked Platinum's counsel
17 do you have a case. She said she didn't.

18 Well, it turns out there are cases, and we have
19 them on Page 144 and Page 145. And it turns out that the
20 words "entire interest" are used in the cases, and entire --
21 and when it's used in the cases it includes tort claims.
22 That's what these cites show. And in particular, let's look
23 at 145, the (indiscernible) case, the question in this case
24 is whether Commerce Bank has offered sufficient evidence to
25 allow a trier of fact to find that DAF assigned its entire

1 interest in the notes to Dresner, including therefore its
2 right to sue for fraud. That was the question. Now --

3 THE COURT: So I just want to be -- the stark
4 difference between you all I think --

5 MR. BENNETT: Yes.

6 THE COURT: -- I don't that she's denying the --
7 and look at the -- that you must look at DTC. But she is
8 saying, different from the case that you're citing here,
9 that when it says entire interest in the notes under New
10 York law, that is different than the entire interest in the
11 transaction. That is her argument. How do you reconcile --
12 do you want some cough drops? I can handle that.

13 MR. BENNETT: No, it was just water. Went in the
14 wrong way.

15 THE COURT: But -- so I --

16 MR. BENNETT: Let's go turn --

17 THE COURT: So I do understand the entire interest
18 argument. I also understand her argument that says that
19 when it refers to a note or a security that does not include
20 fraud. So now you're -- and you've given me a case that
21 says it does include fraud, how do I reconcile what I would
22 view as perhaps the inconsistency of those New York cases?
23 I haven't read them all, but from what you've described to
24 me.

25 MR. BENNETT: You would -- I think the best way to

1 do this is to go back to basically some cases that we talked
2 about in interpreting 6.06. So let's take a look at Page
3 126 of the slides, please. So in the context of
4 interpreting 606 -- and by the way, 606, they say that 606
5 is only a limitation. It actually -- even if this -- all of
6 606 were relevant, it implies the existence of rights, and
7 then it says you're limited in enforcing them. So it kind
8 of -- the premise is that the rights exist. That's one
9 important thing.

10 In this case, the rights definitely exist because
11 as Your Honor may recall or may not remember this, I don't
12 know if it came up specifically while you were hearing this
13 case, is that one of the agreements made to allow the
14 bankruptcy court to handle this case as opposed to the New
15 York courts is that all of the defendants weighed the
16 limitations in 6.06. So all that's left in 6.06 for
17 purposes of this case is the reference to the fact that
18 these claims do exist and there are not limitations on their
19 enforceability.

20 But here's where -- when you talk about entire
21 interest -- excuse me. When you talk about the
22 interpretation of 6.06, courts have had to deal with what
23 does it mean to pursue any remedy with respect to this
24 indenture or the unsecured notes. That's what courts have
25 been asked to say. Does -- do tort claims fit within

1 respect to this indenture or the unsecured notes? I submit
2 it's exactly the same question you're asking in a different
3 part of the indenture. And what have courts said? Any
4 availability includes all remedies available at law in an
5 equity, permits any lawful means of enforcing the noteholder
6 rights against any individual or entity based on any viable
7 theory of recovery quadrant in the right block.

8 Where a cause refers to both the indenture and the
9 securities, that's the limit -- they want to say that is the
10 limitation, the security holders' claims are subject to the
11 terms of the clause whether those claims be contractual in
12 nature and based on the indenture or arise from common law
13 and statute.

14 So what I think this says is that the alleged
15 security reference is not a limitation that carves out
16 claims arising from common law and statute. Claims arising
17 from common law and statute are included in respect to this
18 indenture or unsecured notes. So I think the answer's in
19 another section of the indenture, but the answer is most
20 assuredly there.

21 Okay. There's more about the DTC rules governing.
22 I think if that's the question Your Honor wants to focus on,
23 that's where I think the answer is and those are the cases
24 you should be looking at.

25 Okay. I want to turn all of the cases that they

1 cite now, and I have excerpts of some but not all of them
2 here where it might be appropriate. So the first one, which
3 I do have a copy of the United States Court of Appeals for
4 the Second Circuit in the stack, Pennsylvania Public School
5 Employees Retirement System v. Morgan Stanley. So this case
6 went to two levels, and the -- I think it's important to
7 note that the Second Circuit certified to the New York Court
8 of Appeals the question of whether the evidence supported
9 any assignment of the fraud claim.

10 The New York Court of Appeals stated, "Our review
11 of the record fails to review any proof of an assignment of
12 fraud or more generally tort causes of action," and then
13 noted that the ultimate purchaser had in fact conceded that
14 there was no explicit assignment of claims. So that's what
15 the result was in the case. It doesn't bear a resemblance
16 to this, and there was not discussion whatever of any DTC
17 assignment.

18 But the court said a couple of other things, and
19 we have them highlighted. It's on Page 7 of the printout.
20 So first of all, unremarkably, the right to super fraud may
21 be assigned in New York. However, subject to limitations
22 and applicable here, federal courts have defined -- is
23 defined -- excuse me, found an assignment as defined in New
24 York as transfer or setting over of property or some right
25 or interest therein from one person to another unless it in

1 some way qualified as it is property to transfer of one
2 whole interest in estate or chattel or other thing.

3 The question in this case is whether Commerce Bank
4 had offered sufficient evidence to allow a trier of fact to
5 find DAF had signed its entire interest in the note to the
6 (indiscernible). That's the question. We have assigned.
7 We have been assigned the entire interest. This case,
8 frankly, helps the analysis. It doesn't hurt the analysis.
9 And then finally, on the one hand New York law is clear that
10 specific incantations of "assignment" are unnecessary to
11 prevent the transfer. We'll put that case aside.

12 The next case that they cited in their papers was
13 Bluebird Partners. Bluebird Partners is another case where
14 I found that there was no assignment that was effective, and
15 they discussed some of the policy issues. And the court
16 then notes there are respectable arguments on both sides of
17 the issue. And sure there are. As Your Honor pointed out,
18 you can have two systems. One system where claims were
19 assigned and one system where they're not.

20 And what do you do when you have those choices?
21 Well, the best thing to do is have a contract that chooses,
22 and this contract chooses. This indenture chooses. It opts
23 in all the way to the DTC system, which talks about
24 transfers of entire interests.

25 Next is Dexia. We also made a copy of the court

1 opinion in Dexia, and I also think there may be a couple of
2 them. This is the one that was decided by the supreme court
3 in New York County. So what does it say? Under New York
4 law, absent language demonstrating an intent to do so, tort
5 claims do not automatically pass to an assignee. We agree
6 with that. But here, like Cortland, Dexia recognizes that,
7 "New York law does not require specific boilerplate language
8 to accomplish the transfer of causes of action sounding in
9 torts. Rather, any act or words are sufficient to show an
10 intention of transferring the action to the assignee." And
11 more language to that effect is highlighted in the case. I
12 don't think I need to read it, so I'm going to put that one
13 aside.

14 Royal Park. Again, they cited it for the rule
15 that litigation claims are not automatically assigned with
16 the transfer of a security. We don't argue with that. The
17 court in Royal Park though recognized that standing will
18 necessarily depend on the nature and terms of any
19 assignment. Here too we need to look at the nature and
20 assignment of -- in terms of the assignment in this case.
21 It was an assignment of the entire interest, which they put
22 in (indiscernible).

23 And then there's Bank Arab, which I think is the
24 right way to pronounce it. And this one comes out our way.
25 The courts -- the Second Circuit held it does not matter

1 that the lower court found that a seller never specifically
2 or consciously agreed to transfer its tort claims. The
3 language of the assignment was sufficient. Frankly, as I
4 said before, none of this matters if we recognize that the
5 PTC is the holder. No assignment is involved. This just
6 makes clear that if the prior owner is -- to the extent the
7 prior owner tells us anything, it was assigned.

8 We were also told that there were choice of law
9 difficulties with the DTC system. There are none. First of
10 all, as a practical matter, all of these kinds of
11 instruments are governed by New York or Delaware law. I've
12 been doing this for 43 years. I have never seen an
13 indenture choose Kansas, North Carolina, or New Jersey law.
14 Not once. But it doesn't matter. If the assignment is
15 ineffective under the applicable state law, then it's
16 ineffective.

17 Doesn't mean that it's not effective in states
18 where it's effective, here in New York. You only have this
19 case before you and the DTC rules are entirely consistent
20 with the governing New York law. It really only goes to
21 what entire interest is and if you're -- if a state that
22 isn't New York has a provision that restricts assignments.

23 Now requisite intent and the Roche case. This was
24 our Slide 57. So the last paragraph is restatement. It is
25 the -- it states the rule, frankly, that I think Your Honor

1 believes is the rule. Misinterpreting the provision cannot
2 possibly be a defense to interference. Now, think about
3 this a second. If the rule is anything but the restatement
4 rule, anything but the restatement rule, it will have the
5 following consequences. Number one, intentionally or
6 negligently not reading a contract one knows to exist and is
7 available would arguably be a defense. That cannot be,
8 okay? That cannot be.

9 Among other things -- you know, also
10 misinterpreting a provision, as Your Honor said, it can't be
11 a defense either. Among other things, if misinterpreting a
12 provision was a defense or if negligence in not reading a
13 contract we knew to exist and had in your possession was a
14 defense, we frankly would encourage the hiring of bad
15 lawyers, and I would submit that's the ultimate bad policy
16 choice. It just makes no sense that any rule other than the
17 restatement rule.

18 I'll talk about the Roche case in a second. In
19 any event, remember 2,000 plus privilege assertions, okay?
20 In this case, those assertions prevent us from knowing what
21 any defendant really thought about the meaning of the
22 indenture and they have prevented that. So it cannot
23 possibly be that it becomes our problem that they have
24 shielded everything of -- that they really relied upon in
25 interpreting the indenture from ours and your review.

1 Now the Roche case. I think you were starting to
2 read it. I've given you a copy. It's almost amusing that
3 this is cited for the proposition it cited for because of
4 the -- what the court actually found, and I'm going to read
5 from the bottom of Page 5 where we've highlighted. "At the
6 outset, the court notes that the FAAC styles Enzo claim as
7 one for tortious interference with business relations, which
8 is a different cause of action, different elements than
9 tortious interference with contract." That's number one.

10 Number two, what exactly was proved in that case?
11 Next quote, "Enzo has not provided evidence that Roche knew
12 about the Affymetrix agreement or that it intended to induce
13 the Affymetrix breach." It didn't even know about the
14 agreement. The evidence was that the agreement was
15 available. It was available. There was no evidence that
16 they actually had it. Very different from our case.

17 With regard to knowledge, Enzo's evidence does not
18 show that Roche had actual knowledge of the Affymetrix
19 agreement, only that the contract was published in
20 Affymetrix's quarterly filing with the SEC. That was it.
21 The case, Your Honor, does not modify the restatement rule
22 or any other cases expression of what is required. What is
23 required is knowledge of the contract. Here we have
24 knowledge of the contract, possession of the contract, and
25 some very significant portion of more than 2,000

1 communications between lawyers and clients about it.

2 Nothing more could possibly be required.

3 Causation of loss. We have some pages on it. I'm
4 going to kind of spin through them really quickly because
5 I'm going to run out of time, but some of the most memorable
6 words in this case, "strongly incentivized". The exchange
7 was strongly incentivized. Everyone offered the exchange.
8 Everyone offered the exchange took it. Moreover, moreover,
9 Senator even made additional unrelated concessions to get
10 the opportunity to participate.

11 So -- okay. So let's take a look at our Langur
12 Maize slides starting at 64. You're never going to be able
13 to understand this, so I really appreciate it. Okay. I
14 want to start on Page 64. So with respect to the issue of
15 Par and with respect to the issue of causation of loss.
16 Last paragraph on Page 64, "Selected sellers undeniably
17 obtained a secured instrument that was more valuable to the
18 2027 notes that they held before the transaction. The other
19 excluded 2027 noteholders had no opportunity to obtain that
20 instrument."

21 I'm going to skip the next page and go to Page 66.
22 Here's record evidence, testimony that there was harm. Mr.
23 O'Connell, he believed Carlyle and Senator would be strongly
24 -- and by the way, and anyone else would be strongly
25 incentivized to support and participate in the selective

1 exchange as their position in the capital structure would
2 change from unsecured to super-senior second out.
3 (indiscernible). The reality was that net, net, net
4 accepting the limitations of this deal, which obviously
5 meant that some people were unfairly treated. Those some
6 people that he was referring to the 2027 excluded
7 noteholders.

8 Mr. Frager of Silver Point testified that excluded
9 holders would be relatively worse off on the day after than
10 the day before and that the selected sellers would
11 experience a windfall by their participation. Record
12 evidence. Now, there's some more testimony, but I'm going
13 to skip it in the interest of time, but it's in the slides
14 on the next few pages. Why don't we resume on Page 71?

15 So on Page 70 there's the list of complaints about
16 how the causation path has been broken, and here's what
17 their arguments were. The first one was Langur Maize's 2027
18 notes might not have been selected if WSFS used a lottery to
19 select 2027 notes for the purchases under 3.02. Well, I
20 suppose, but that would be -- the probability of that
21 occurring is unbelievably tight. We'd probably end up
22 witness a lottery. They would be allocating across the
23 entire issue of 400 some odd million dollars. And the idea
24 that notes representing a little more than \$100 million,
25 that all of them would be excluded as a result of that is

1 just not believable.

2 If we need to produce some witnesses for damages
3 purposes, that the law of large numbers and -- would
4 generate that result in like some -- like one trillion --

5 THE COURT: I tried to ask this yesterday, but I
6 don't think my question came across very clearly, which is
7 if they had followed the indenture, why wouldn't they have
8 just transformed all of the notes into --

9 MR. BENNETT: That's what you would've done.
10 That's what I would've done. That was not the -- and --

11 THE COURT: Then you don't have this problem.

12 MR. BENNETT: Well, of course you wouldn't. Of
13 course you wouldn't. But they are -- to an extent they're
14 right, that if the -- if they really thought the limit was
15 in their best interest and they had to allocate, there would
16 be a lottery. But there's nearly no possibility that that
17 lottery would've come out such that the selected sellers
18 would be selected and --

19 THE COURT: No, but the evidence is -- I mean, I'm
20 -- I know that I'm sort of making your case for you, but the
21 evidence is unambiguous that the debtor was better off if
22 everyone had been included. So I don't know why you ever
23 resort to a lottery if that was -- had been the decision.

24 MR. BENNETT: I agree. I'm dealing with the
25 arguments before me.

1 THE COURT: Okay.

2 MR. BENNETT: I agree. Next argument. This is
3 that it's speculative that the selective exchange would have
4 occurred if the secured exchange had not occurred. And we
5 point out, as you did, Your Honor, that part of the secured
6 exchange did occur with respect to the 2024 notes. So, "It
7 is speculative" -- next page, 73. "It is speculative
8 whether Langur Maize's predecessors would've participated in
9 the selective change if it had been offered to them."

10 Well, I just showed you all the testimony where
11 it's not particularly speculative. Everybody that had the
12 -- that is offered the right to do it did it, and some made
13 additional concessions for the opportunity. That's evidence
14 too. But the other part is we could look at this as an
15 option and then we just value the option. And so if it is
16 -- so we could get rid of all this. And the option was
17 unbelievably valuable. It was probably worth -- it was
18 effectively in the money on that date for the full amount of
19 the difference between the value of the two different
20 securities.

21 So this is not an answer to the only question
22 before you today, which is was there any harm at all. At a
23 minimum, the option was lost. And Langur Maize's
24 predecessors might not have attempted to sell the 1.25 lien
25 notes even if they had received them. That is completely

1 irrelevant under New York law. We had that discussion about
2 the New York cases. We have a deal with exercises of
3 options that were not -- that were withheld from executives
4 that, you know, kind of go both ways. Actually you probably
5 don't have enough time. Those cases are really fun to read
6 because they actually have really interesting circumstances
7 where it goes both ways, and the New York Court's rule
8 basically says this is easy for us. We have a rule. It's
9 that date. I don't want to hear about what happened
10 afterwards.

11 Okay. Platinum, Page 63, please. While this was
12 being presented to Your Honor they said no evidence that a
13 breach of Section 3.02 caused predecessors any harm. They
14 said they're talking about harm, not damages. Then the very
15 first they show you is that an element of tortious
16 interference is damages resulting from breach of contract.
17 That's sufficient harm. Their own case says so.

18 And Your Honor asked a question is there any
19 chance that there are no damages here, and the answer is no,
20 there really isn't any chance that there's no doubt. Just
21 here -- no matter how you want to measure it. We may have a
22 fight over how much, but there's no chance that there's not.

23 Carlyle Slide 34, this is just a plain out
24 violation of New York law. It says you don't use hindsight
25 from the date of the trial to decide what the damages are.

1 The damages are as of the date of the transaction. The fact
2 that their scheme didn't work and turned out to be bad for
3 them economically doesn't mean that someone else wasn't
4 damaged along the way. New York law is crystal clear. This
5 slide is irrelevant.

6 A couple of minor things. Ms. Oberwetter
7 mischaracterized the testimony reported on Langur Maizie's
8 Slide 87. It speaks for itself. There's no reason to talk
9 more about it. I'm told that the economic interest defense
10 case law, by the way, is on Slides 80 to 83. So you'll find
11 them.

12 And finally, Ms. Oberwetter's interesting
13 contentions that it's unheard of for people to buy planes
14 and then litigate, I just want to offer a colloquial
15 response that there's a book about that. It's called The
16 Caesar's Palace Coup. I recommend that everybody read it.
17 I don't get any royalties.

18 Concluding, the evidence is uniform and
19 un rebutted. Carlyle, for reasons of its own, induced
20 restricted participation, the breach. Platinum knowingly
21 joined the party and conspired with Carlyle to effect a
22 result. Senator did likewise when it signed the agreement,
23 the exchange agreement. They all saw risk and opportunity
24 to get something different and better than what they had,
25 and they were willing to grab for it even if the rights of

1 others under the indenture were violated.

2 They got it done. Witness was brought in when
3 Bank of New York wisely ducked out to -- and WSFS was
4 supposed to do what it's told, what it was told to do, and
5 it did. 2027 noteholders whose rights Langur Maize now own
6 are entitled to enforce for harm, and we will prove how much
7 when the trial resumes. I have four extra minutes.

8 THE COURT: Thank you, sir.

9 MR. BENNETT: Thank you.

10 THE COURT: How much time do you need on your side
11 of the room?

12 WOMAN: I imagine I'm going to have in the
13 neighborhood of 20 minutes, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: Okay. And what time is your -- do you
15 need to leave by?

16 MR. BENNETT: Noon.

17 THE COURT: You have until noon to leave?

18 MR. BENNETT: Yes, I have two 12:00 flights. I --

19 THE COURT: We're going to --

20 MR. BENNETT: And I'll have about 15 minutes or
21 so. (indiscernible).

22 THE COURT: So I'll see you all at 9:45-ish.
23 Something like that.

24 MR. BENNETT: Thank you, Your Honor.

25 THE COURT: You'll need to move your stuff. We

1 will take a short break and we'll resume at 9:00. Thank
2 you.

3 MR. BENNETT: Are we okay leaving -- do we need to
4 move our stuff or --

5 THE COURT: You need to move it because I'm going
6 to have other people here.

7 (Recess)

8 THE COURT: Ms. Oberwetter?

9 MS. OBERWETTER: Yes. Good morning, Your Honor.
10 Ellen Oberwetter from Williams and Connolly. I'm on behalf
11 of the Platinum defendants. I'm going to start with
12 standing, which is our threshold issue, and I will start by
13 saying I still don't know the answer to the question of how
14 the tort claims got from Langur Maize's predecessor to
15 Langur Maize and how they got from point A to point B. And
16 I'll talk a little bit about some of the points that Mr.
17 Bennett made and why they just don't answer that question.

18 I think his theory must be because we don't ever
19 see an assignment from the predecessor, whoever that may
20 have been, to the DTC that the tort claims again somehow
21 live in the note and are not personal to the person who
22 experienced them, which doesn't make sense for all the
23 reasons as a matter of tort law that I talked about
24 yesterday.

25 There's no limiting principal on such an argument

1 and we didn't hear one just now. So for example, if the
2 argument is everything that has to do with the global notes
3 lives in the note or lives in the DTC, there's no limiting
4 principal that would account for legal malpractice claims,
5 for fraud claims under whatever state's law those various
6 claims would arise under, which no one would ever know
7 because you don't even know who the predecessor is. So the
8 theory just doesn't make sense under the language, which I'm
9 going to talk about again in a moment.

10 I made the point yesterday that in all the years
11 since the DTC book entry system has come into effect, where
12 is the single example of a case where the type of claim that
13 Langur Maize is trying to pursue in this case has ever been
14 brought before? It hasn't happened. I'm not saying no
15 one's ever brought an assigned claim. That's of course not
16 the argument that I am making.

17 I am saying Langur Maize cannot point to a single
18 case where anyone has ever tried, as far as I can find, and
19 succeeded at vindicating tort claims of a prior unknown
20 beneficial owner. The case law is totally devoid --

21 THE COURT: Is there one where someone has failed
22 or has this just never been tried before in your view? I'm
23 trying to sort that out a little bit in my mind.

24 MS. OBERWETTER: If you're talking about a case
25 where the global note itself and that whole structure has

1 been specifically discussed, I'm not sure that we have found
2 one that has dealt with that exactly, but on the more
3 general principle of securities and other fraud and other
4 tort claims not transferring --

5 THE COURT: Well, sure. Some of those have
6 succeeded and some of those have failed depending upon the
7 language. I'm trying to learn whether you're saying he
8 can't prove on example where it's gone basically through the
9 DTC route and someone has successfully sued, and I'm
10 wondering if there's one where somebody has unsuccessfully
11 tried to do it. Because if I don't have any examples, I'm
12 not sure where that takes me.

13 MS. OBERWETTER: Well, I think a couple of things.
14 First of all, there aren't competing examples. There are
15 cases going only one way, which is there is no automatic
16 assignment of tort claims unless there is clear --

17 THE COURT: Through DTC?

18 MS. OBERWETTER: Well, through DTC. So you have
19 the Park royalties, which I talked about -- or Royal Park.
20 I always get that one confused, Royal Park case, which I
21 talked about yesterday, which did involve DTC book entry
22 claims. So that one goes our way. That's the only one that
23 I am thinking of right now that has any specific reference
24 to a DTC book entry system where it has failed when the
25 court has sort of grappled with some of those issues

1 directly. So that's the one that I'm thinking of.

2 The overall policy then is exactly in accord with
3 that principle in terms of tort claims not automatically
4 transferring, and then we'll come back to talk a little bit
5 more about the specific language that he's I think hanging
6 his hat on here. And so if a claim like this had ever been
7 brought, I think it would've been cited to us at this point
8 because it goes to the question of what the market
9 expectations are and how people actually think this works.

10 If people think they're acquiring tort claims from
11 an unknown, unidentified prior beneficial owner, where is
12 any evidence of that in the market that that's how anybody
13 has ever thought this has worked in the 30 years since we've
14 had, for example, Bluebird Partners, which does as a matter
15 of the policy of the Trust Indenture Act. That's not how
16 this is supposed to work. And that -- what the Trust
17 Indenture Act is concerned with is protecting the rights of
18 the people who were actually injured, not the people who
19 swooped in later to buy securities for pennies on the
20 dollar.

21 So where's the example? It's been since 1996 that
22 we've had Bluebird Partners. Where is it? It doesn't exist
23 because that's not how people in this marketplace actually
24 think any of this works. I don't feel like I have to pick
25 the fight about whether the DTC rules are or are not

1 incorporated into the indenture because the language that he
2 is relying on in the DTC rules just doesn't get him there.

3 What he's really hanging his hat on is a theory
4 that a phrase like the entire interest in a note includes a
5 tort claim is like an entire interest in a note that that is
6 enough to include a tort claim. That is contrary to the
7 list of cases that I cited yesterday. Not with reference to
8 the DTC rules, but in terms of the general principle of
9 separating a note or a security from the torts that someone
10 may experience person to them as apart from the bundle of
11 interest that they're buying under a note.

12 There's two other cases that we've identified in
13 light of your question yesterday just to make sure if
14 there's more that is out there that we can find on the
15 question of what does it mean to have an interest in a note
16 or an interest in a security. And I think they are largely
17 cumulative of some of the cases we've already talked about.

18 But there is an older, a much older New York Court
19 of Appeals case called Allen v. Brown. We have a copy of
20 that available if Your Honor would like it.

21 THE COURT: Please.

22 MS. OBERWETTER: Which I'm happy to provide if I
23 may approach. And also State of California Public Employees
24 Retirement.

25 THE COURT: You have to give copies to Mr.

1 Bennett.

2 MS. OBERWETTER: Yes.

3 THE COURT: Thank you.

4 MS. OBERWETTER: So both of these cases in
5 different places talk about -- so Allen v. Brown is the
6 older one. It's an 1870 court of appeals case, New York
7 Court of appeals. It makes clear that the instruments --
8 and I'm on Page 5, the instrument assigned the interest of
9 the parties in the notes or the avails. There's further
10 language that the assignment transferred every right of
11 action against the defendant growing out of the receipt of
12 the notes and the refusal to pay the share thereof which
13 belonged to the assigners.

14 So there was a decision not to include additional
15 types of claims by virtue of an assignment when there was
16 not an express decision to do so. And that's the Allen v.
17 Brown case.

18 The State of California Public Employees
19 Retirement System case, which is a 2000 -- year 2000 Court
20 of Appeals case, there is some language following Footnote 5
21 in this opinion, which is useful, where there is another
22 question about what is it that has and hasn't been
23 transferred. And the Court there noted CalPERS maintains
24 that the use of the word "all" in the omnibus agreement
25 evinces an intention by equitable to transfer all claims,

1 including then unknown but accrued claims against Sherman
2 and Sterling.

3 The omnibus agreement refers only to rights and
4 interests under the loan documents, including the promissory
5 note between equitable insertions. It does not refer to the
6 overall loan transaction. The omnibus assignment
7 transferred every right of action Equitable had against
8 (indiscernible) growing out of the receipt of the notes and
9 the refusal to pay the share thereof. The assignment does
10 not include a cause of action arising outside the loan
11 documents themselves.

12 THE COURT: Does this one not arise inside the
13 loan documents?

14 MS. OBERWETTER: I'm sorry, Your Honor?

15 THE COURT: It seems like his complaint does arise
16 inside the loan documents if there was supposed to have been
17 a ratable distribution.

18 MS. OBERWETTER: I don't think that's right, Your
19 Honor. I think that his argument is that he -- is that his
20 predecessor experienced a tort claim. That's his argument.
21 So I'm not -- I want to understand the question that you're
22 posing that --

23 THE COURT: Well, it's a tort claim for inducing
24 people to violate loan documents.

25 MS. OBERWETTER: Sure, but it's --

1 THE COURT: But it is --

2 MS. OBERWETTER: -- a forfeit

3 THE COURT: -- still within the loan -- the
4 activity is still within the loan documents. The tort claim
5 may be external to the loan documents, but it pertains to
6 the loan documents, right? What was our example here? What
7 was the complaint about?

8 MS. OBERWETTER: The complaint -- it was not a
9 tortious interference claim, Your Honor. So I will say
10 that. But to go to your question, I think a tortious
11 interference claim involves, first of all, someone who's not
12 a party to the agreement. And so it is a breach of a duty
13 by one person against another person, and it can't be an
14 interest in the documents because the party you're suing is
15 not a party to the document that you're suing on. So it's
16 -- I guess that's why I'm not fully tracking the question
17 that you're answering, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: Well, I mean, I understand that the
19 tort occurs by non-parties to the documents if there was a
20 tort, but the specific language -- and I'm just looking at
21 this very quickly --

22 MS. OBERWETTER: Yes.

23 THE COURT: -- but the language that you read is
24 the assignment did not include the cause of action arising
25 outside the loan documents themselves, and this cause of

1 action arises because of an allegation that the breach of
2 the loan documents was procured by your client.

3 MS. OBERWETTER: Well, any tort claim, Your Honor,
4 pertaining to a -- then we're left with no limiting
5 principle at all because any tort claim pertaining to a loan
6 document, including the examples I gave yesterday such as
7 legal malpractice or financial fraud or --

8 THE COURT: But legal malpractice wouldn't arise
9 within the loan documents, right?

10 MS. OBERWETTER: Well, neither does a tortious
11 interference claim.

12 THE COURT: Sorry. The legal malpractice wouldn't
13 have caused someone to violate the loan documents.

14 MS. OBERWETTER: Well, it could have. Could have.
15 You could have that kind of legal -- it depends on what kind
16 of legal malpractice claim you're talking about, but you
17 certainly could have a claim like that where you say I
18 violated the loan documents because my attorney told me it
19 was okay for example. So absolutely you could have that
20 kind of legal malpractice claim and then you're really left
21 with no limiting principle.

22 You could have a fraud claim. Like I got into
23 this deal because my financial advisor told me it was okay
24 even though they were getting kickbacks on it. You can
25 imagine any number of personalized tort claims that pertain

1 to underlying loan documents. The question is when there is
2 a sale of a security or an assignment of a note, does the
3 tort travel with that? And does the language and interest
4 in the security or the note carry with it a reference to the
5 tort? And it can't just be, well, if the tort's related to
6 the loan documentation on some way that it carries with it.

7 We're left then with absolutely no loan -- with no
8 limiting principal, and that's contrary to all of the New
9 York case law that I went through yesterday from the Second
10 Circuit and the New York Court of Appeals and all of those
11 courts. So no, I don't think a tortious interference of a
12 contract claim is something that is arising under the
13 agreement in that way.

14 THE COURT: Okay.

15 MS. OBERWETTER: It's duty to -- it's a
16 personalized duty to another person that they allege has
17 been violated. So I think further that we heard a little
18 bit from Mr. Bennett about the Bank Arab case today. We
19 didn't really hear any response to the Dexia case that I
20 talked about at some length yesterday that explains exactly
21 why Bank Arab doesn't actually go their way, even though Mr.
22 Bennett says that it does because it's different.

23 It has broader language that is the sort of
24 express transfer that encompasses interest in an overall
25 transaction accompanied by the fact that the company that

1 made the transfer was going out of business and so clearly
2 intended to convey all rights and interest that were related
3 to the note. So Bank Arab helps, in my opinion, us because
4 it draws the kind of distinction that matters in terms of
5 what kind of language is good enough and what kind of
6 language isn't good enough. And the New York courts have
7 confirmed that, for example, in the Dexia case.

8 I want to go back to a moment from yesterday about
9 the consequences of the theory that they are advancing. Mr.
10 Bennett objected when Mr. Clareman said, well, maybe their
11 notes came from Silver Point and PIMCO in the early 2023
12 time period when Langur Maize first started buying those
13 notes. He was kind of horrified by that suggestion, and of
14 course he was because it illustrates the absurdity of what
15 it would mean in this kind of situation to say you're
16 standing in the shoes of a beneficial owner without any
17 express assignment, without any of us knowing where that
18 tort claim supposedly came from.

19 Because of course if he's standing in the shoes of
20 Silver Point and PIMCO for any part of his claims, we would
21 have other defenses to that. We would have an in pari
22 delicto argument based on his theory. We would have an
23 unclean hands argument based on his theory. We would have
24 potentially the ability to say you can't possibly point to
25 other people for inducement if you're standing in the shoes

1 of Silverpoint and PIMCO.

2 So we would have a whole host of arguments that by
3 virtue of this kind of magical transfer theory we have no
4 ability to make. It's just one more reason why the concept
5 of an anonymous free-floating assignment from one beneficial
6 owner to another makes absolutely no sense. Let's see.

7 I do want to talk a little bit -- so he did spend
8 some time talking about Section 6.06 in the indenture. It
9 just doesn't answer the question. So if you're following
10 the rules set forth, for example, in Pennsylvania Public
11 Schools which says you have to have a clear and explicit
12 intent to give somebody tort claims before somebody is going
13 to be found to have an assignment of tort claims, 6.06
14 doesn't do it. It doesn't accomplish it because it is a
15 limitation on suits that is the title of the section, and it
16 proceeds to list what all the limitation on suits are.

17 And I'm not saying we didn't have an agreement
18 with them that there are certain hoops they don't have to
19 jump through. That's not part of our argument. We're
20 making an Article 3 standing argument about what claims they
21 do and don't own. But 6.06 just doesn't answer the
22 antecedent question of what claims the holder has or how it
23 got the claims.

24 It's not trying to answer that question. It is
25 trying to tell you in what circumstances if you are a holder

1 who was attempting to bring a claim, you have to jump
2 through the hoops. That's all it's telling you. If you
3 want to see an example, as I noted yesterday, as a provision
4 in the indenture that gives -- describes some affirmative
5 rights of the trustee, for example, you can look at -- back
6 at 6.03, which describes some of those types of affirmative
7 rights to bring suit on behalf of current holders. 6.06
8 just answer -- it just doesn't tell you as a matter of
9 grammar the answer to the question of what the holder in
10 fact owns. It only tells you in this type of situation, if
11 this is the type of claim you're trying to bring, you have
12 to jump through these hoops.

13 It doesn't tell you the holder owns those type of
14 claims. It doesn't tell you it's a similar type of claims
15 from a prior beneficial owner. It just doesn't answer the
16 question. So that's what I have to say about 6.06 as a
17 matter of grammar.

18 He cited in connection with that case the Quadrant
19 case. The Quadrant case, which didn't get a lot of airtime
20 but I'll just say it's a pretty dense opinion. It takes a
21 while to unpack it. And at the end of the day, it also
22 doesn't answer the questions we're here to answer. Because
23 what it does is it interprets limiting language in another
24 -- in an analog to 6.06 in another indenture.

25 And if 6.06 doesn't tell you what claims the

1 holder has, which it doesn't, Quadrant just doesn't help us
2 because all it's doing is interpreting the language in a
3 6.06 analog as to the type of claim that could trigger you
4 having to go jump through all of those hoops. So you're
5 welcome to read Quadrant. I don't find it actually all that
6 helpful or illuminating the questions that we're just trying
7 to answer here.

8 One other point on standing. So they bear the
9 burden of proof on standing. And I was waiting to see what
10 Mr. Bennett would say on ownership of the claims that we're
11 talking about in terms of what notes Langur Maize actually
12 owns.

13 You may recall the back tort, or you may not
14 because it was a long time ago, back toward the beginning of
15 the trial, you raised some questions about whether Langur
16 Maize in fact owns all of the notes that they're suing on.
17 And the answer that we got from Mr. Bennett at the time was,
18 oh, we made an error in some of our prior interrogatory
19 responses and we'll fix it. And I don't know if we have --
20 if we could give Mr. Catalanotto control of the screen for a
21 moment.

22 THE COURT: Sure.

23 MS. OBERWETTER: I'm responding to the first time
24 to his presentation on standing, Your Honor, because he
25 chose to go second on that issue. So what Mr. Bennett said

1 at the time, and I don't have the date of the hearing
2 transcript for this, but it's ECF 630 and it's Page 55, was
3 he noted, he agreed, he acknowledged that the claims that
4 were bought in June and July why ostensibly Langur Maize
5 were actually purchased or now owned by an affiliate of
6 Langur Maize. And what he said was it'll be corrected
7 someday. It's the kind of thing that can be cured, but the
8 vast majority, vast majority, more than 90 percent, are all
9 in exactly the right place and have the authorization from
10 DTC and its nominee CEDE and Company.

11 So there are -- there's a portion -- all of this
12 is to say there was a portion of his claims that Langur
13 Maize doesn't own, and that's perhaps 10 percent of the
14 claims if you look at the table that I used yesterday in
15 terms of the amounts at issue. And so they can't possibly
16 have standing to pursue those claims in this case. And
17 that's a failure of proof on Langur Maize's part. And we
18 can take that down.

19 I'm going to move onto talking about the Economic
20 Interest Doctrine, which should be an open and shut case,
21 Your Honor, from our standpoint given the overall structure
22 of the transaction, given the purposes behind the
23 transaction, and the uncontested nature of the Platinum
24 defendant's ownership interest. The only thing we can --
25 and I'll address this relatively briefly, but the only thing

1 we continue to hear is that somehow it wasn't a good enough
2 transaction. It could've been a better transaction.

3 That just isn't the test under New York law. That
4 is crystal clear. That's the Trimark case that we talked
5 about yesterday. It doesn't have to be the best deal. It
6 only has to be an act or an action that is taken because we
7 think it will protect your interest in the company, which
8 things like an extension, having people defer additional
9 pick interests certainly would do. It doesn't have to be
10 the best deal, and there is no authority to the contrary on
11 that. I'll touch only briefly on this question of one
12 transaction versus two that came up related to this point
13 yesterday. I --

14 MR. BENNETT: Excuse me. Also, just for the
15 record, beyond the scope of the rebuttal.

16 THE COURT: Thank you. Go ahead.

17 MS. OBERWETTER: So I'm addressing in part a
18 question you had yesterday, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Go ahead.

20 MS. OBERWETTER: And so of course the exchanges
21 are all part and parcel. There is a single document that
22 refers to both components of the transaction. And so from
23 the standpoint of the Economic Interest Doctrine, there's no
24 question it should all be viewed as one. And it doesn't
25 matter if it's two because the exchange itself also provided

1 benefits to the company, and that's all the deferrals pick
2 interest that we've talked about.

3 I wanted to touch briefly on some inducement
4 points. The passages that Mr. Bennett read of Mr.
5 O'Connell's testimony from our standpoint demonstrates the
6 absence of inducement by Platinum. The transaction was
7 approved at the board level. The board agreed to the
8 ultimate terms of the deal and approved them. So the
9 entirety of the theory that Langur Maize is advancing rests
10 on conflating board authority with Platinum, and that is
11 contrary to Delaware corporate law, which is the slides that
12 I used last week in the presentation about the Kobre Group's
13 claims.

14 I made the point yesterday that they have no
15 authority for the proposition that negotiations through an
16 advisor are not permissible. They don't have anything to
17 counteract that. The case that they've cited doesn't say
18 that. And there's also no case that says that board
19 conversations at less than a quorum somehow mean that you
20 attribute those conversations to some other corporate actor.

21 There's just no authority for that proposition.
22 So I'm not the one who walked in and said oh it's -- has to
23 be a committee or anything like that. People on the board
24 are allowed to have conversations. The ultimate action
25 rested with the board as a whole, and there's just no basis

1 in corporate law for attributing those conversations
2 anywhere else. And there's no citation to any such
3 authority.

4 There's a suggestion that Mr. Bennett said and
5 pointed to a slide today about Platinum reaching out --
6 about Mr. Ho at Carlyle mentioning that Platinum had reached
7 out to him. There's no evidence in that communication.
8 It's a pretty thin read I would say for disregarding
9 corporate formalities. There's no evidence that Mr. Ho was
10 focused on those. And what Mr. Bennett did not cite was the
11 redirect on that point, which is at Page 161 of the trial
12 testimony.

13 And I don't have a slide for it, but basically Mr.
14 Ho was asked on redirect were you intending to differentiate
15 or have any kind of formal attribution to Platinum, and he
16 said in effect that was just a shorthand. So that's at Page
17 161 of the transaction. He wasn't trying to say he had
18 reached a decision about who it was he was talking to.

19 THE COURT: I need you to wrap up pretty soon.
20 You're pretty well over your 20 minutes.

21 MS. OBERWETTER: Okay. Yes, Your Honor. So let
22 me just move on. I do want to talk briefly about the Roche
23 case. So Mr. Bennett said that it's actually a case about a
24 different tort. He says about tortious interference with
25 business relations. That's not accurate because that was

1 one of the claims that the plaintiff brought, but then the
2 court proceeds to talk about tortious interference with the
3 contract. So on analysis, that is in the Roche case that
4 we're citing is about tortious interference with the
5 contract.

6 And Mr. Bennett omitted the paragraph that I
7 mentioned yesterday about the additional layer of intent
8 that the New York courts have said you have to have in a
9 tortious interference case. I'm going to talk -- I will
10 conclude by talking about causation just for another moment
11 or so.

12 I want to clarify a point that has come through in
13 a couple of Your Honor's questions on this issue. When in a
14 hypothetical compliant transaction, whether it's a
15 redemption or whether it's a purchase, those are still
16 things that would be put to potential participants as a
17 choice as opposed to things that are compulsory in terms of
18 making them exchange their interests. I think that's
19 actually clear under the documents, and I'm not sure anyone
20 has ever argued otherwise.

21 And so the causation argument that we're focused
22 on is based on the fact that people would have had a choice
23 to say yes or no if there had been a compliant choice -- a
24 compliant transaction under Your Honor's ruling put to them.
25 And there is no evidence and there will never be any

1 evidence that the answer to that would have been, yes, I
2 want to participate. Any other answer is inherently
3 speculative. That is fatal. It is absolutely fatal to the
4 two theories of remedies that they have proffered in this
5 case.

6 Mr. Bennett mentioned a potential theory around,
7 oh, well, they would've had option value. That's still not
8 damages unless the person actually wanted to sell their
9 interest. There's no harm to someone who always wanted to
10 keep the interest that they had because they wanted to
11 continue getting interest payments or for whatever reason.
12 And there's also been no answer to the fact that he can
13 never prove that a party in the hypothetical predecessor
14 shoes could have acted with the necessary speed or had
15 investment committee authority or anything else to take
16 advantage of a deal when offered. So with that, Your Honor,
17 thank you for your patience, and I will conclude my remarks.

18 THE COURT: Thank you. For those of you that are
19 here on the 10:00 hearing, that's going to obviously -- I'm
20 sorry, for the 10:30 hearing I think we're still okay. Go
21 ahead, Mr. Clareman.

22 MR. CLAREMAN: Thank you, Your Honor. Billy
23 Clareman from Paul Weiss on behalf of Carlyle and Spring
24 Creek. So Your Honor, I'd like to respond to Mr. Bennett's
25 presentation this morning about the record, Mr. O'Connell's

1 testimony, and the evidentiary record at trial. And I want
2 to start by saying I absolutely was not running away from
3 Mr. O'Connell's testimony. I put it in my slide. I have an
4 explanation for it.

5 There is a divergence between the testimony about
6 Carlyle's excluding anybody from Mr. O'Connell and the term
7 sheets that were exchanged. They are not consistent. And
8 so what Mr. Bennett did on his opening was he tried to use
9 the term sheets to match the testimony, but it does not work
10 and is utterly inconsistent. And I say that for the
11 following reasons.

12 His starting point was -- and we can look at the
13 slides. I'm trying to do this quickly. If you want to look
14 at any of the slides, I really -- I think it's very
15 important because this is a very -- it's a point that I feel
16 very strongly about because we lost this point of the
17 negotiation, which is my point. But when we were presented
18 with the unsecured exchange proposal, not the comprehensive
19 transaction proposal, it was an open proposal to everybody.
20 And so he argues that, well, then we must have come back and
21 said no and they opened to us. No. We --

22 MR. BENNETT: Objection. I don't argue. That's
23 what the evidence shows.

24 THE COURT: All right. Go ahead.

25 MR. CLAREMAN: You get that, Your Honor. The

1 evidence shows that our counter to that unsecured proposal,
2 which is in black and white, it's in the record, it's there
3 for all of us to see, I've pointed it out, was that everyone
4 could participate in that unsecured exchanged except for
5 Platinum. We wanted different and worse treatment for
6 Platinum. That was our counter to the unsecured exchange
7 proposal.

8 The first comprehensive transaction proposal that
9 we got, the very first one, the first term sheet identified
10 -- and this is on February 27th just after midnight
11 (indiscernible) showed two things that relate to participate
12 by others. A basket of 1.05 billion for one and a quarter
13 lien notes and three eligible participants, Platinum,
14 Carlyle, and Senator. That's in the term sheet. Again,
15 there was a -- it is an argument because it's not in
16 evidence, it's not the record, that somehow this was all
17 unknown to the ad hoc group that was actually a party to
18 negotiating the transaction.

19 They signed off on it. Again, the email is in my
20 presentation. It attached that deck with those
21 participants. That's the first thing we got. We then did
22 respond by trying --

23 THE COURT: So --

24 MR. CLAREMAN: Yeah.

25 THE COURT: -- I think his argument is that may be

1 the first term sheet you got on the secured proposal --

2 MR. CLAREMAN: Mm-hmm.

3 THE COURT: -- but there had been conversations in
4 which you demanded it. And so you got a term sheet that was
5 consistent with your oral demands, and that's his point.
6 You're welcome to contradict that, but I don't want to be
7 dealing with sort of shifts passing in the night on the
8 argument.

9 MR. CLAREMAN: And I'm glad you raised that
10 because the "demand" that we made was in our counter to that
11 proposal. Our counter to that proposal, again black and
12 white, in the term sheet, in the record we said size the
13 basket just for us and Senator. Get out of here, Platinum.
14 You're not included. Only us and Senator. That was our
15 response, and we said limit the -- we don't want this \$1.05
16 billion basket to delete us to smithereens. We want this to
17 be our benefit for doing this.

18 And then the counter to that was nope, no,
19 Carlyle, not going to -- you're not getting your way. We're
20 going to have \$1.05 billion basket. It's not going to be
21 restricted in any way. The eligible participants in the
22 exchange were, again, Platinum, Senator, and Carlyle. And
23 then it went on from there.

24 And then -- but this is actually extremely
25 important. This is why this -- frankly, it feels like

1 gaslighting to me because we continued to try to press for
2 restrictions on the basket throughout that negotiation. And
3 again, we can pull up the page if you want to look at it.
4 We were trying to get a consultation right because the
5 basket is the thing that dilutes us. That's the thing
6 that'll -- because once the basket's there, when it's in the
7 contract, and it is inarguably in the contract, the company
8 can exchange anybody for any purpose and we have no ability
9 to say no. We're negotiating an indenture. And once the
10 basket is open, we lose the ability to exclude.

11 So we negotiated away the ability to exclude. We
12 let them have a basket that was big enough to do this.
13 That's the point I'm making. So I think it is inaccurate
14 and it's not consistent with the documentary --

15 THE COURT: But again, his argument and yours are
16 passing each other. He acknowledges that there's a basket,
17 but he says his clients -- weren't his clients, were
18 predecessors, weren't given an opportunity to participate in
19 the basket to whereas others got in the basket from day one
20 like you all.

21 MR. CLAREMAN: Mm-hmm.

22 THE COURT: And that if they had gotten in the
23 basket on day one, he wouldn't be here. That's his
24 argument. You may not even think that's his argument. I
25 think that's his argument, and that's the one that we need

1 to deal with, not that there was a basket that maybe them
2 and maybe other people could've participated in. It was
3 that they didn't get to participate upfront in the basket.

4 MR. CLAREMAN: Yeah. And so my two -- I have a
5 few points on this. One is the evidence is that we got run
6 over on these points on the eligible participant point.
7 Again, because we said no to Platinum. That was our
8 position was no to Platinum, no to basket size. We got run
9 over on those points.

10 And I showed you the internal dialogue among the
11 ad hoc group. This is Evercore talking to its clients.
12 Carlyle came back with something really aggressive, and then
13 they came back with something more reasonable after PJT
14 pushed back. This is us getting run over on these two deal
15 points. It is much worse from Carlyle's perspective, just
16 from selfishly from Carlyle's perspective. You would rather
17 have the exchange be everybody than just have a basket there
18 that can be used for any purpose.

19 Because if -- because then the company's able to
20 pay the, you know, full coupon. People who aren't
21 exchanging on day one get the coupon. Clearly a coupon was
22 going to be paid. We were picking our entire accrued
23 interest on the 13 percent. We were not getting an interest
24 payment on May 15th. We were getting two and a half percent
25 on November 11th whereas holders were getting the whole 13

1 percent.

2 So my point being is that what we were really
3 focused on in this negotiation was this basket because that
4 is the thing that really affects the company's ability to
5 make choices that would dilute us. And that's why I say we
6 didn't have the ability to choose. And when we tried to
7 effect that deal to them, when we came back and said no to
8 Platinum, we -- the answer was no.

9 I also want to point out because -- on the
10 collusion point, we twice, twice said Platinum's excluded.
11 Unsecured exchange, get out of here, Platinum. It's a
12 comprehensive transaction. Get out of here, Platinum. That
13 was the Carlyle negotiation. So there's this idea that
14 somehow we were colluding with Platinum when we were
15 negotiating against Platinum in a -- in a way that only we
16 did.

17 I mean, the initial proposal from the ad hoc
18 group, which he likes because it didn't specify who would
19 participate in the exchange, had the parenthetical, you
20 know, unsecured exchange, including Platinum. A little bit
21 of a, you know, you-who to Platinum. We are taking a
22 different position, which is we thought Platinum should
23 contribute more and in different ways, and we lost that
24 point in negotiation.

25 So that's not conspiracy. That's not common

1 scheme design. So I just want to -- because there is this
2 difference between I think the way that the testimony came
3 in and the actual record of negotiations and where Carlyle
4 was successful and where Carlyle wasn't successful. And on
5 that point, because you were handed -- I have some
6 additional clips of testimony that I can hand around because
7 what you were handed clipped some important things. I think
8 maybe we have two copies. We can hand one to the Court and
9 one to Mr. Bennett.

10 THE COURT: Thank you.

11 MR. CLAREMAN: Just hand up the two -- well,
12 actually, why don't we hand up all three? Well, just hand
13 up (indiscernible). So there's deposition testimony and
14 there's trial testimony.

15 THE COURT: Yes. Thank you. Thank you.

16 MR. CLAREMAN: So this -- that's fine right there.
17 So I'm showing portions of the deposition testimony. Well,
18 let's do the deposition testimony first because this
19 highlights a point that I was making yesterday, and this was
20 excluded from what he handed up earlier. If you go to the
21 deposition testimony, the first pages of 298.

22 THE COURT: I'm there.

23 MR. CLAREMAN: If you go to Page 300, Line 22,
24 this is from Mr. O'Connell's deposition. He was asked at
25 his deposition did Carlyle ever ask that Platinum's notes be

1 excluded from the unsecured note exchange. "Not to my
2 recollection." And I think this is important because that
3 is clearly impeached by the actual record of term sheets
4 that went back, and it shows that his recollection of
5 exactly what happened and among these terms sheets is really
6 not quite right. And what we have thankfully is an actual
7 documentary record.

8 And again, I'm not faulting him for this.
9 Yesterday we were having a conversation about, oh, what was
10 the position -- what -- how did this come up at the first
11 day of trial on the standing issue, and memory is like that.
12 That's why we have discovery that includes documents and the
13 positions are reflected in the documents. And that's -- and
14 again it -- the reason why I feel this very personally, Paul
15 Weiss was negotiating this transaction and lost -- this
16 basket point, lost the ability to control it, and that's the
17 thing that affects pollution, and that's the reason why I
18 think this is something that -- I just think it's really
19 important to get this right and consistent with the
20 documents. And I think the testimony is not consistent with
21 the documents.

22 The other portion that was clipped from Mr.
23 Bennett's testimony and -- was from the trial. And if you
24 go to Page 119, Line 14, this is -- question, this is the
25 portion that was excluded from (indiscernible). "Wesco

1 Aircraft was prevented from achieving these same benefits
2 that you just testified about from any holder of 2027 notes
3 that was willing to exchange their notes wasn't it?

4 "If I understand the question -- if I understand
5 the question -- Answer: If I understand, the question is
6 you're saying that those that did not exchange, we as the
7 company did not get the incremental cash benefit. That's
8 what the question was.

9 "Question: Correct?

10 "Answer: Yes, that's correct.

11 "But Wesco was prevented from making those
12 exchanges, correct?

13 "Answer: I wouldn't say it was prevented. I was
14 confused with that term. I would say we did not perceive
15 it, but again, I would think that if somebody were to reach
16 out to us, those notes had favorable terms from the
17 company's perspective, lower cash interest as you pointed
18 out, as well as extended maturity. So I don't think we
19 would've been against that at all. We weren't trying to
20 prevent that."

21 That testimony is absolutely right. Had unsecured
22 holders at the time organized, did what the Kobre Group was
23 doing, objected to the transaction, said hey, we want in.
24 Company could've done the exchange. Could've done that, and
25 then there would be no lawsuit. But the reality is, judge,

1 and this goes back, there's a reason why nobody who owned
2 the unsecured notes at the time has ever been there.

3 Well -- okay. I do also want to point out on this
4 same point because -- so look, I feel very strongly about
5 this because I do feel like the record is clear about the
6 proposals we made, the negotiating stances we took, the fact
7 that we got run over on this point in the negotiation. The
8 only thing we prevailed on, it was a material term in the
9 comprehensive transaction negotiation was the cash -- little
10 bit of cash interest in addition to (indiscernible). That's
11 what we won. Every other point we lost.

12 And so the idea that we dictated things is just
13 not accurate because we lost those points with negotiation,
14 and the record makes that clear. And Mr. O'Connell
15 testified to that on redirect. The -- so I feel strongly
16 about this just from that perspective.

17 It also doesn't matter from the economic interest
18 defense perspective. I say that and I would refer the Court
19 -- we have copies to hand up. I think the Trimark decision
20 is a very important decision in light of some of the
21 questions that Your Honor's asked. This is Audax Credit
22 Opportunities Offshore Limited, TMK Hawk Parent Corp., New
23 York Slip Op. 50794U. Can you hand it up? So I'm just
24 going to hand up a copy of this case.

25 THE COURT: Thank you. I need you to wrap up

1 pretty quickly.

2 MR. CLAREMAN: I will, Your Honor. I promise. So
3 this is a decision of the New Trial Court Justice Cohen, a
4 very well respected judge of the commercial division in New
5 York. If I can refer Your Honor to Page 14 of this opinion,
6 there's a passage that I think is very important on the
7 Economic Interest Doctrine. And it's on the right-hand side
8 of the page. Top of the page. So this is -- Judge Cohen in
9 that case concluded that the Economic Interest Doctrine was
10 grounds to dismiss at the pleading stage of the claims.

11 What the complaint alleges at most is that
12 defendants could have secured a better deal for Trimark had
13 plaintiffs been let into the fold. Even so, plaintiffs cite
14 to no authority holding that the economic interest defense
15 turns on whether the challenged transaction was "the best
16 deal the breaching party could secure at the time". That is
17 not surprising.

18 Asking whether a company received "the best deal
19 it could secure at the time", licenses judicial second-
20 guessing of rational actors' economic decisions and demands
21 the kind of fact-intensive inquiry that would render
22 tortious interference claims virtually impervious to
23 dismissal at the pleading stage. At bottom, plaintiff's
24 allegations failed to decouple and indeed served to
25 highlight the shared economic interest between Trimark and

1 in this case the equity sponsors. The same is true here.

2 I also want to just supply a citation to the Court
3 from the evidentiary record. This is about the
4 interrelatedness between the unsecured exchange and the
5 secured exchange. You'll recall, Your Honor, that there is
6 a fourth supplemental indenture to the unsecured 2027
7 indenture. That amendment, the amendments contained
8 therein, were necessary to allow for the one that reportedly
9 notes to be issued without breaching the unsecured
10 indenture. So that was one of the things that the four
11 supplemental indenture did.

12 Paragraph 3, Section 3 to -- and the fourth
13 supplement indenture's in the record in evidence at ECF 601-
14 33, the effectiveness of that amendment was conditioned on
15 the effectiveness of the supplemental -- fourth supplemental
16 indentures to the 2024 indenture and the 2026 indenture. So
17 they are interrelated. It is I think obvious from the
18 comprehensive transaction that was being negotiated that
19 Carlyle was only there because its consent was necessary to
20 allow the new money to come in.

21 There is no basis in any New York to decouple the
22 overall benefit that was the purpose of the transaction and
23 was integral to the transaction. And part of the
24 consideration we were giving in the transaction from, you
25 know, the liens and that aspect of the transaction, there

1 was really no basis for that.

2 And the very last thing I want to -- I do want to
3 touch on, because I actually do recall where we were
4 originally and where we've traveled to now in terms of the
5 question that Your Honor was asking about the rights of the
6 prior holder, we hadn't thought about that issue until Your
7 Honor raised it. I believe it was the first day of opening
8 arguments. And we then had a few days, I think it was maybe
9 over a weekend, to submit briefing on the issue. And we did
10 our best.

11 Our views at that time were incomplete and
12 unresolved in terms of the -- whether a prior holder would
13 be constrained by the indenture. We have spent a lot more
14 time looking at that. A prior holder who owns the claims
15 that he is trying to prosecute now absolutely has standing,
16 is not constrained by the indenture, has the right to
17 prosecute those claims.

18 THE COURT: Don't misinterpret the reason I was
19 asking it. It had nothing to do with claiming anybody. It
20 just had to do with me now understanding. I --

21 MR. CLAREMAN: I just want to make --

22 THE COURT: This doesn't go to the ultimate merits
23 of their standing argument.

24 MR. CLAREMAN: Say again?

25 THE COURT: But it does not -- this doesn't go to

1 the ultimate merits of their standing argument, but you may
2 recall that part of what I said on that day, again, this is
3 going to be an old memory, was that it just wasn't rational
4 what you all were proposing. And so I'm not upset that
5 you've now landed on something that is totally rational. As
6 to whether it is to law is a different question.

7 MR. CLAREMAN: Yeah.

8 THE COURT: But we just weren't in a rational
9 world and so that was what that was about, but --

10 MR. CLAREMAN: And --

11 THE COURT: -- I'm not blaming anybody for that at
12 all.

13 MR. CLAREMAN: Yeah. No, I appreciate that. I
14 just was -- I wanted to explain it because there was --

15 THE COURT: Okay.

16 MR. CLAREMAN: -- a deviation and I wanted to make
17 sure the position is absolutely clear that you heard it from
18 me.

19 THE COURT: Thank you.

20 MR. CLAREMAN: Having spent a lot of time with
21 that, I -- if I may just one -- a few more words on this.
22 Having spent a lot of time with the question of who has the
23 rights and whether there's an assignment of tort claims, the
24 law is crystal clear in New York on this, and it's cited in
25 our briefs and cited in the presentations. You need a clear

1 manifestation of intent to transfer anything other than tort
2 claims -- other than contract claims when you are assigning
3 the entire interest in a contract. Crystal clear. All tort
4 claims.

5 Your Honor asked a question, well, isn't tortious
6 interference different than fraud. It's actually not
7 because they're -- you know, there are all sorts of fraud
8 claims that relate to misrepresentations that are made in
9 the context of indentures. Like in the RMBS context, this
10 was a major issue in those litigations where the
11 representations that were made in those documents about like
12 loan quality knowingly false at the time they were made.

13 So there are other types of tort or non-contract
14 claims that do relate to the contents of the contract. The
15 line that gets drawn in New York is contract claims are the
16 entire interest in the contract. Tort claims are outside of
17 that interest and require a very clear expression of intent
18 to transfer and assign those tort claims because there's
19 effectively a presumption against them. That's how the law
20 works, and that's the (indiscernible) case. And in
21 (indiscernible) --

22 THE COURT: I need you to go ahead and --

23 MR. CLAREMAN: All right, Your Honor. I -- in
24 closing, (indiscernible) I think is very important because
25 it really highlights the distinction between the types of

1 language that's necessary.

2 THE COURT: Thank you.

3 MR. CLAREMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

4 THE COURT: Morning.

5 MR. STEIN: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Matthew
6 Stein, Kasowitz Benson Torres on behalf of Senator. I'll be
7 very brief. I want to focus on intent and failure for a
8 plaintiff to prove intent. First, looking at the elements
9 of a tortious interference claim, the defendant's knowledge
10 of the contract is separate from the intentional procurement
11 of a breach. And therefore knowledge itself has no bearing
12 on whether or not the intentional procurement element has
13 been met.

14 Second, Mr. Bennett spent a bunch of time on
15 talking about inducement and incentivization citing to Pages
16 66 of his slide book, Page 73. He focused on the language
17 there it's the debtors incentivizing the note, not the other
18 way around. I think that's important. Senator did not
19 induce the debtor to do anything. It was the debtors
20 inducing Senator to join in to sign on. So that
21 incentivized language does not prove Senator's intent.

22 Third, Mr. Bennett says, well, Senator executed
23 the document. That's enough to establish intent. And I
24 think the problem there is Mr. Bennett is trying to conflate
25 intent with "have the effect of". And we know "have the

1 effect of". We've dealt with it in other aspects of this
2 case. Intent is not the same as "have the effect of". It's
3 special language. And how do we know that? Well, Mr.
4 Bennett was fond of citing the Restatement of Court Section
5 766 focusing on certain comments.

6 And Your Honor, I'll draw your attention back to a
7 different comment, Comment N. And Comment N provides that
8 one does not induce another to commit a breach of contract
9 with a third party when he merely enters into an agreement
10 with the other with knowledge that the other cannot perform
11 both it and the contract with a third party. More is
12 required than simple -- simply entering into an agreement
13 that has the effect of causing the breach.

14 The intent is critical here. It's in -- it's on
15 -- all the New York cases require it, and it's more than
16 just, hey, Senator, Platinum, Carlyle executed the
17 agreement.

18 Mr. Bennett also talks about -- and it's also
19 critical that here it is the plaintiff's burden to prove
20 intent. There's no evidence in the record of any -- of that
21 being established. What there is, is the Milbank opinion
22 letter that establishes the opposite, that Milbank provided
23 advice to WSFS that the amendments to the indenture did not
24 breach the indenture. Nothing else is in evidence.

25 Finally, Your Honor, there's been no rebuttal to

1 my argument yesterday that Senator could not have been the
2 but-for cause of the breach. In Mr. Bennett's own words,
3 Senator was immaterial and not necessary. Thank you.

4 THE COURT: Thank you.

5 MR. BENNETT: Less than ten.

6 THE COURT: What's that?

7 MR. BENNETT: Less than ten minutes, Your Honor.

8 THE COURT: I've got a 10:30 hearing, so if you
9 want to wait for a few minutes.

10 MR. BENNETT: I'll wait.

11 THE COURT: Thank you. I don't think this will be
12 a very long hearing. We'll see.

13 (Recess)

14 THE COURT: All right. Let's go back to Wesco.
15 Ten minutes.

16 MR. BENNETT: Less.

17 THE COURT: It's 10:40.

18 MR. BENNETT: I am not going to go over things I
19 said before. I know you will consider them. A couple of
20 things. With respect to the 6.06. Why did I raise 6.06? I
21 raised 6.06 to deal with Your Honor's question about when
22 you say under the securities (indiscernible) when you're
23 enforcing within the securities what that limitation means.
24 And the cases under 6 -- just defining the scope of 606,
25 which is a relatively common indenture term, not exactly

1 uniform but pretty close, is it had to grapple with the
2 issue of whether tort claims are involved in a situation
3 where you can exercise remedies with respect to securities.
4 And the answer to that question was tort claims are
5 included.

6 So when I was -- that was the only reason I raised
7 6.06 in this context was because it helped us with one of
8 the objections that was made by the other side. I didn't
9 think 606 mattered for any other claims. That's not
10 (indiscernible).

11 Number two, you asked about cases that -- you
12 know, that have enforced DTC transfers or to send it to DTC
13 processes okay. And of course there are, by the way. We
14 cited a bunch and they just basically say that you have the
15 authorization letter and you are done. They don't say
16 actually when the relevant claimant bought the claim or
17 didn't buy the claim. They just say if you have the
18 authorization letter you are done.

19 There are no cases that talk about the entire
20 interest transfer part of this, but that doesn't mean it
21 hasn't been relied upon before. It may mean that other
22 people looked at it and said pretty clear there isn't
23 something to fight about here. So -- and there's -- Your
24 Honor said -- asked whether there's any cases that say that
25 the entire interest transfer approach doesn't work. Nope.

1 There isn't.

2 Are there any cases that say a particular
3 authorization was invalid because of when someone acquired a
4 plane? Not a single one. So you're writing on a slate
5 that, number one, embraces the idea that the DTC process is
6 the right process to look at and it works. And we have
7 showed you how it works from a whole bunch of different
8 ways, and they all point in the same direction.

9 Royal Park, by the way, which was just mentioned
10 again, it mentions that it was a DTC security and it doesn't
11 say anything else about it. So I don't know what to make
12 about that.

13 Okay. Particularized duty. I appreciate the
14 effort to be very careful about what we do here because of
15 the effect on future cases. But in this case, no one cared
16 who the other left out 2,027 noteholders were. Their
17 identity didn't matter to anybody. We pointed out that way
18 back at the beginning of the case when PJT was first hired
19 there was an exchange of information, and that exchange of
20 information of course also was included in Mr. Bartels
21 onboarding where it was shown -- we showed that people, if
22 they actually wanted to call people, they knew who to call.

23 Remember, Your Honor, this process was kept
24 secret. It was announced after the closing. So that people
25 didn't know to come forward is actually a -- something that

1 was created by the process. So no 2,027 noteholders knew to
2 come forward. No one cared who they were. And frankly, the
3 duties to anyone who happens to hold it because we're in the
4 indenture. Platinum's right. A case involving securities
5 fraud where a representation was made to one person and not
6 another person, yeah, that's different. But you're right.
7 This is about what the indenture says.

8 The indenture is identity neutral. Everyone
9 expects it to trade. Everyone expects it to trade at every
10 single minute. By the way, that's why when people do make
11 deals they have provisions that deal with trading. And so
12 accordingly, the idea that there's going to be some
13 particularized defense somewhere for this particular
14 complaint, that's crazy.

15 Okay. With respect to that Mr. Ho's email where
16 he says Platinum, he's talking to Platinum four or five
17 different times and the cross-examination is, you know,
18 whatever is that shorthand for or was that shorthand, I
19 don't remember the exact words. I don't mean to
20 mischaracterize it, Platinum is shorthand perhaps for
21 Platinum Equity Partners.

22 Platinum is also shorthand for a whole bunch of
23 fun names that start with Platinum that go on for five or
24 six words after that. Platinum is not shorthand for Wesco.
25 Platinum is not shorthand for Incora. Platinum is shorthand

1 for many things up the equity (indiscernible). It's not a
2 shorthand for the actual companies that should've been the
3 ones conducting a negotiation, the actual debtor, which was
4 Wesco.

5 Your Honor is right. I think Mr. Clareman and I
6 were passing in the night. I don't think he thought we
7 were, but it is absolutely true as was testified by the
8 witnesses that the advisors were talking. What the advisors
9 said to each other mattered and they influenced what the
10 term sheet said, and they are used-- what they actually
11 said and what showed up in the testimony is the appropriate
12 evidence to use for interpreting ambiguities in the terms
13 sheets. And I pointed out there are ambiguities, okay?

14 And -- but the -- what these things meant and how
15 -- what -- how people interpreted them at the time, that's
16 the testimony that's there. Now, I pointed out Mr. Clareman
17 had an opportunity to cross-examine both at the deposition
18 and at the trial with respect to Mr. O'Connell. If Mr.
19 Clareman thought that Mr. O'Connell made a mistake on that
20 one question and that he got it wrong, he had an opportunity
21 to go to that question.

22 He also had an opportunity to call him a liar with
23 respect to every other answer or a person who didn't have a
24 good memory. You heard Mr. O'Connell. Mr. O'Connell had a
25 great memory about lots of things, and he may have screwed

1 up on one thing. How do we deal with that in our system?
2 We ask questions about the question we have a problem with.
3 And if we want to ask questions about other questions, we
4 can do that too. It didn't happen. But most importantly,
5 this testimony has been around for a while. It cried out to
6 everyone in the case I'm sure. It even persuaded Ms.
7 Oberwetter that it was a -- that the problem originated with
8 Platinum.

9 But they didn't do anything about it. They left
10 it alone. Tactical, strategic, or because they knew that if
11 they brought Augenstein here that he'd break down. Or they
12 knew that if they tried to push O'Connell he wouldn't break.
13 We have a system for assessing the correctness or
14 incorrectness of witness testimony. It was in full bore
15 here. Everyone had every opportunity to do everything they
16 needed to do, and they left this alone.

17 They left it alone for one reason. They knew it
18 was true. They knew the witness wouldn't break and he
19 couldn't be contradicted. There is irrefutable and
20 irrefuted evidence as to how this all started, and it
21 started with (indiscernible). I agree with Your Honor that
22 (indiscernible).

23 Okay. The whole idea of entire interest, I've
24 recited cases that find title interest -- entire interest.
25 There are no cases that say entire interest doesn't include

1 tort claims. I know that there's a -- that there's, you
2 know, all kinds of history about how -- what kinds of
3 assignments are necessary or not, but New York law is clear.
4 It doesn't require any particular language. It doesn't
5 require magical incantation. We just ask to do is to
6 require a magical incantation. There's nothing in New York
7 law that requires it. Unless Your Honor has any questions,
8 I'm done.

9 THE COURT: Go have a good birthday party. Thank
10 you.

11 MR. CLAREMAN: Thank you.

12 THE COURT: All right. We are in recess until
13 11:00. Thank you all very much for the argument. We're
14 taking this under advisement. You will not get an oral
15 opinion. This will be a written opinion. I haven't fully
16 crossed the bridge on whether it is a report and
17 recommendation or whether it's a final determination, but I
18 think it's a report and recommendation. So I'm sort of --
19 that's the only thing I'm going to preview is I think it's
20 going to go that way. But I may be wrong about that, so I
21 reserve the right to revisit it. Thank you all. It was
22 just, by the way, a brilliant six hours' worth of arguments.
23 I very much appreciate what everyone did. Thank you.

24 (Proceedings adjourned at 10:50 a.m.)

25

CERTIFICATION

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I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from
the electronic sound recording of the proceedings in the
above-entitled matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Sonya M. Ledanski Hyde". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The first name "Sonya" is written in a larger, more prominent script, followed by "M. Ledanski" and "Hyde". The signature is centered horizontally within the line 6 to 8 area.

Sonya Ledanski Hyde

Veritext Legal Solutions

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Mineola, NY 11501

Date: October 8, 2024

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS**

In Re: Wesco Aircraft Holdings, Inc. and Official
Committee Of Unsecured Creditors
Debtor

Case No.: 23-90611

Chapter: 11

Wesco Aircraft Holdings, Inc.,
Plaintiff(s),

vs.

Adversary No.: 23-03091

SSD Investments Ltd.,
Defendant(s).

NOTICE OF FILING OF OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT

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- the year of the individual's birth;
- the minor's initials;
- the last four digits of the financial account number; and
- the city and state of the home address.

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- statements of the party;
- testimony of any witness called by the party; and
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Clerk of Court