

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
TAMPA DIVISION

JEFFREY THELEN,)
)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.) Case No.: 8:20-CV-1724
)
SOMATICS, LLC; AND)
ELEKTRIKA, INC.,)
)
Defendant.)
)

VOLUME III OF VII (pp. 1 - 243)
JURY TRIAL PROCEEDINGS
BEFORE THE HONORABLE THOMAS P. BARBER
June 2, 2023

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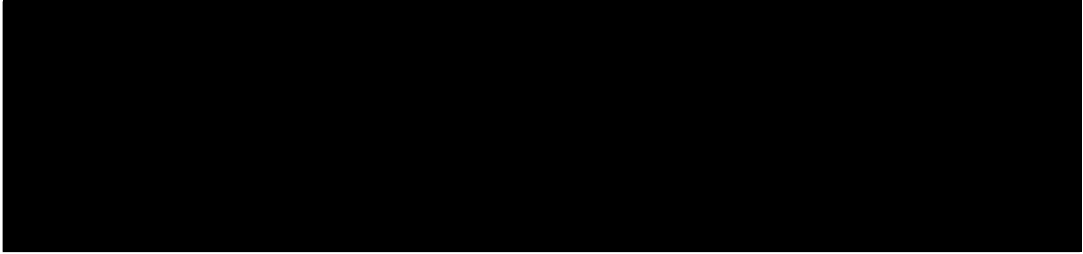
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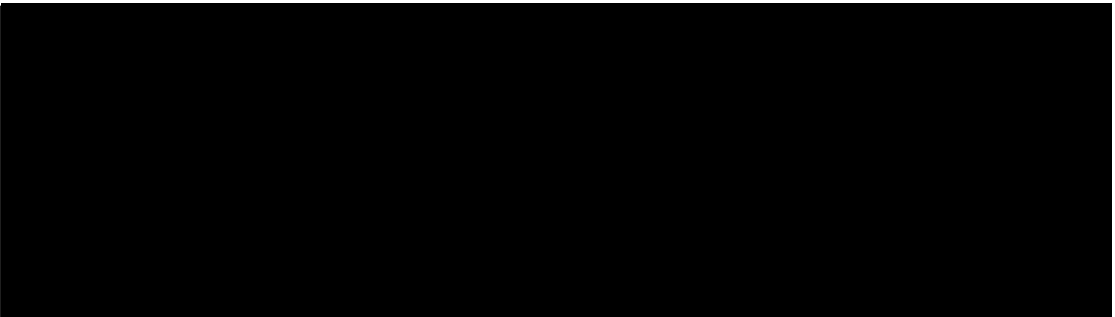
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[REDACTED]

(Jury in at 10:42 a.m.)

THE COURT: Very good. Have a seat. Ready for another witness, yes? Another live witness, yes?

All right. Go ahead and raise your hand for me, please.

(Witness sworn.)

THE COURT: All right. Have a seat and tell us your name and how to spell it, please.

THE WITNESS: My name is Bennet Omalu, B-e-n-n-e-t, Omalu, O-m-a-l-u.

THE COURT: All right. Go ahead whenever you're ready.

BENNET OMALU,
a witness called on behalf of the Plaintiff, being first duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

DIRECT EXAMINATION

BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

Q. Good morning, Dr. Omalu.

A. Good morning, sir.

Q. All right. Can you please introduce yourself to the jury, telling them where you live and your profession, please?

A. Well, I'm a forensic pathologist and a neuropathologist. I work for Bennet Omalu Pathology, which is a physician practice in Sacramento, California. I'm also a clinical

1 professor of laboratory medicine and medical pathology at the
2 university of California Davis.

3 Q. All right, Doctor. And you're a medical doctor, correct?

4 A. Yes, sir.

5 Q. All right. I'd like to go over your educational
6 background, if that's okay with you.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. All right. Can you please tell us kind of a brief
9 chronology of your educational background starting with medical
10 school as well as anything post -- afterwards?

11 A. It's quite long.

12 Q. I know it is.

13 A. So I went to medical school in Nigeria, in Africa. It is
14 a seven-year medical school curriculum fashioned after the
15 British curriculum. Six years of medical school and one
16 mandated year of clinical internship, whereby you work as a
17 physician, but under supervision. So I worked under
18 departments of pediatrics, obstetrics and gynecology, general
19 surgery, and internal medicine.

20 I completed that. I began work as an emergency room
21 physician and a general practitioner in Nigeria for about four
22 years, whereby I performed very busy surgeries, delivered about
23 400 babies, and I tended to all types of patients.

24 I applied to the world Health Organization to come to
25 the United States in 1994. I came to the University of

10:45 AM 1 Washington in Seattle, Washington at the School of Public
10:45 AM 2 Health. I spent about nine months in Washington; then went to
10:45 AM 3 New York City to Columbia University at Harlem Hospital Center
10:45 AM 4 to do a five-year residency training program in anatomic
10:46 AM 5 pathology and clinical pathology. Because of exceptional
10:46 AM 6 scholarship, the five years were reduced to four years for me,
10:46 AM 7 and I now went in the fifth year to the University of
10:46 AM 8 Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to do a one-year
10:46 AM 9 fellowship in forensic pathology. I completed that and again
10:46 AM 10 stayed back at the University of Pittsburgh to do another
10:46 AM 11 two-year fellowship in neuropathology.

10:46 AM 12 I completed that and again proceeded to the School of
10:46 AM 13 Public Health at the University of Pittsburgh to do a
10:46 AM 14 three-year program in epidemiology. You got that? Okay.
10:46 AM 15 Epidemiology. I secured a masters in public health, and then
10:46 AM 16 went back to Carnegie Mellon University to the Tepper --
10:46 AM 17 T-e-p-p-e-r -- the Tepper School of Business to do a three-year
10:47 AM 18 program in business administration with a focus on medical
10:47 AM 19 management. I completed that.

10:47 AM 20 I sat for board certification examinations in five
10:47 AM 21 subspecialties of medicine: In anatomic pathology, clinical
10:47 AM 22 pathology, forensic pathology, neuropathology, and medical
10:47 AM 23 management, which I all passed. I secured a master's in public
10:47 AM 24 health and a master's in business administration.

10:47 AM 25 Since I completed all my trainings, I've worked as an

10:47 AM 1 academic pathologist --

10:47 AM 2 Q. Let me stop you right there, Doctor.

10:47 AM 3 A. All right.

10:47 AM 4 Q. So you identified a number of board certifications. I
10:47 AM 5 kind of want to go through each one of them, because many of us
10:47 AM 6 may not be familiar exactly what they are. So you identified
10:47 AM 7 forensic pathology, neuropathology, anatomic pathology, and
10:47 AM 8 clinical pathology. What is anatomic -- what is forensic
10:48 AM 9 pathology, Doctor?

10:48 AM 10 A. Forensic pathology is a subspecialty of medicine that
10:48 AM 11 studies disease and trauma in relation to death and in relation
10:48 AM 12 to permanent bodily injury.

10:48 AM 13 Forensic pathologists tend to deal with dead patients and
10:48 AM 14 living patients, and we perform analysis to determine cause and
10:48 AM 15 mechanism of death, cause and mechanisms of injury, and cause
10:48 AM 16 and mechanisms of disease.

10:48 AM 17 Q. And also with regards to neuropathology, what is that,
10:48 AM 18 Doctor?

10:48 AM 19 A. Neuropathology is a subspecialty of medicine that deals
10:48 AM 20 with all types of brain diseases, all types of brain damage,
10:48 AM 21 and all types of permanent brain impairment and dementias. We
10:48 AM 22 study anything about the disease of the central nervous system
10:49 AM 23 of the brain in both living and dead patients. So the
10:49 AM 24 neuropathologist is like the -- the brain specialist in
10:49 AM 25 medicine.

10:49 AM 1 Q. Thank you. And very briefly, the other two board
10:49 AM 2 certifications, anatomic pathology and clinical pathology, what
10:49 AM 3 are those, Doctor?

10:49 AM 4 A. Clinical pathology is a subspecialty of medicine that
10:49 AM 5 deals with disease diagnosis through the test and analysis of
10:49 AM 6 all types of body fluids: Blood, urine, bile, cerebral spinal
10:49 AM 7 fluid. We perform analysis in the labs to determine disease
10:49 AM 8 diagnosis. A very good example, if you go to see your doctor
10:49 AM 9 for your annual physical and your doctor sends you to the lab
10:49 AM 10 for your fasting blood glucose, your cholesterol level, the
10:50 AM 11 doctor doesn't tell you, but he sends your sample to a clinical
10:50 AM 12 pathologist so -- who will now determine the levels of
10:50 AM 13 substances in your blood and make a recommendation to your
10:50 AM 14 doctor.

10:50 AM 15 Q. And what about anatomic pathology, Doctor?

10:50 AM 16 A. An anatomic pathologist is -- anatomic pathology is a
10:50 AM 17 subspecialty of medicine that deals with disease diagnosis
10:50 AM 18 through the study of the structure or architecture of disease.
10:50 AM 19 A good example is you feel a lump in your breast. You go to
10:50 AM 20 your doctor. He takes a biopsy. Though he does not tell you,
10:50 AM 21 but he sends it to an anatomic pathologist who will determine
10:50 AM 22 if it's cancer or not, what type of cancer it is, and what type
10:50 AM 23 of treatment you should get.

10:50 AM 24 Q. All right. I'd like to focus your work in the
10:50 AM 25 neuropathology and forensic pathology that you talked about,

10:51AM 1 Dr. Omalu.

10:51AM 2 A. Yes.

10:51AM 3 Q. And actually before I get that, you said you're licensed
10:51AM 4 to practice medicine, correct?

10:51AM 5 A. Yes.

10:51AM 6 Q. In how many states, Doctor?

10:51AM 7 A. Four states: Hawaii, Indiana, Pennsylvania, and
10:51AM 8 California, but this year -- I'm getting older. I'm beginning
10:51AM 9 to wind down, so I took down Pennsylvania.

10:51AM 10 Q. All right. In terms of your work as a neuropathologist,
10:51AM 11 can you explain to us what you do, your background in terms of
10:51AM 12 analyzing brain injury, in terms -- because you talked about
10:51AM 13 your educational qualifications. I'm now interested in kind of
10:51AM 14 your experience.

10:51AM 15 A. Oh. well, I've been working as a pathologist for about 30
10:51AM 16 years. I've examined conservatively about 13,000 brain tissues
10:52AM 17 and specimens. So what I do on daily basis is to study and
10:52AM 18 make a diagnosis of all types of brain diseases, make a
10:52AM 19 determination of what caused the brain diseases and the
10:52AM 20 mechanism. One area where I've emerged as a respected
10:52AM 21 authority is in brain injury, all types of brain injury and the
10:52AM 22 long-term effects of brain injuries in both living and dead
10:52AM 23 patients.

10:52AM 24 Many years ago, about 20 years ago, I performed
10:52AM 25 autopsies on football players, and I made a link that playing

10:53 AM 1 football causes brain damage, similar to other types of brain
10:53 AM 2 damage human beings suffer.

10:53 AM 3 So I receive brain samples from all over the world
10:53 AM 4 from the most respected hospitals for my opinion on all types
10:53 AM 5 of cases.

10:53 AM 6 Q. Thank you, Doctor. And have you had any publications in
10:53 AM 7 the peer-reviewed literature on the topics of brain injury,
10:53 AM 8 Doctor?

10:53 AM 9 A. Yes. So I've quite a number. When I began my career, my
10:53 AM 10 target was to have 50 publications. So I've passed that now.
10:53 AM 11 I've also published some books and book chapters in medical
10:53 AM 12 textbooks.

10:53 AM 13 Q. Can you give us the title of a couple of your books,
10:53 AM 14 Doctor? Was one of your titles *Truth Doesn't Have a Side*?

10:54 AM 15 A. That is my memoir. That was my memoir published in 2017,
10:54 AM 16 I believe.

10:54 AM 17 Q. Is another one of your books *Brain Damage in Contact*
10:54 AM 18 *Sports*?

10:54 AM 19 A. Yes, sir.

10:54 AM 20 Q. And is that book cited -- cites to the literature and the
10:54 AM 21 research on brain injury?

10:54 AM 22 A. Yes.

10:54 AM 23 Q. Doctor, I have a copy of your CV. It's extensive, lists a
10:54 AM 24 number of awards that you've received. Just to keep things
10:54 AM 25 moving, in terms of awards, what would you consider one of the

10:54 AM 1 awards that you are most proud of or most important to you?

10:54 AM 2 A. Well, I've received countless awards from all over the
10:54 AM 3 world, but the one I am very proud of, which I received here in
10:54 AM 4 Florida, was the highest award any physician in the United
10:54 AM 5 States can get awarded by the American Medical Association, the
10:54 AM 6 distinguished service award, and I was made to believe that
10:55 AM 7 I've been the youngest recipient of the award. I was very
10:55 AM 8 humbled.

10:55 AM 9 Q. Thank you.

10:55 AM 10 A. And then in the past couple of years, I received three
10:55 AM 11 honorary Ph.Ds. One specifically I'm very proud of was the one
10:55 AM 12 I got from the Royal Colleges of Surgeons of Ireland, and then
10:55 AM 13 I've received two other ones from two universities in the
10:55 AM 14 United States.

10:55 AM 15 Q. All right. And Doctor, you've testified in court
10:55 AM 16 proceedings in the past, correct?

10:55 AM 17 A. I've testified hundreds of times.

10:55 AM 18 Q. And you work both in criminal cases on behalf of the
10:55 AM 19 prosecution and the defense as well as in civil cases, correct?

10:55 AM 20 A. Yes, sir.

10:55 AM 21 Q. All right. Have you given any testimony in front of any
10:55 AM 22 governmental bodies, Doctor? By that, I mean, for example, the
10:55 AM 23 U.S. Congress or any state --

10:55 AM 24 A. Yes, yes. I've testified before committees of the United
10:56 AM 25 States Congress maybe three to five times. I've testified

1 before committees of different state houses of assemblies,
2 including the state of Florida, state of New York several
3 times. And then a couple of years ago, I was appointed a
4 member of the traumatic brain injury committee of the state of
5 California to advise the governor and the Department of Health
6 and Rehabilitation on matters relating to brain damage and
7 brain injury.

8 Q. In that -- your role with regards to the state of
9 California and the advisory capacity you had for the governor,
10 did you also provide any -- have any discussion about ECT and
11 its link to brain injury?

12 A. Yes, it came up in some of our discussions, yes.

13 Q. All right, Doctor. So our office retained you to provide
14 expert opinions in this case, correct?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. All right. And as most experts, you are compensated for
17 your time, correct?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. All right. What is your compensation when you provide
20 this type of forensic expert work?

21 A. So at Bennet Omalu Pathology, we have a standard fee
22 schedule. Our hourly rate is \$700 an hour for a pathologist,
23 and then retainer fee, we charge a flat retainer fee so that it
24 doesn't get exorbitant, a flat fee of \$10,000. If it's a big
25 case, \$15,000. And then if we testify, one day is \$8,000, and

10:57 AM 1 then doing depositions, it's \$1,000 an hour.

10:57 AM 2 Q. All right. And you flew from California yesterday to be
10:58 AM 3 with us here today, correct, Doctor?

10:58 AM 4 A. Yes. I got in here like at 3:00 a.m.

10:58 AM 5 Q. All right. We'll try not to keep you any longer than we
10:58 AM 6 need to, Doctor.

10:58 AM 7 So what was the assignment I gave in you this case,
10:58 AM 8 Doctor?

10:58 AM 9 A. Well, you sent me materials on this case of Jeffrey Thelen
10:58 AM 10 to do a case-specific differential diagnosis to determine the
10:58 AM 11 presence or absence of brain damage and also to determine with
10:58 AM 12 a reasonable degree of medical certainty any substantial or
10:58 AM 13 significant factor that may have contributed or caused his
10:58 AM 14 permanent brain damage.

10:58 AM 15 Q. Okay. So use of terms there that may not be familiar to
10:58 AM 16 everyone, Dr. Omalu. What is differential diagnosis?

10:58 AM 17 A. Well, differential diagnosis is a method every physician
10:58 AM 18 in the world adopts to make a determination of disease,
10:59 AM 19 diagnosis, and make a determination of the cause of the
10:59 AM 20 disease. Like the word says, "differential", so when you
10:59 AM 21 encounter a patient, dead or alive, you document the symptoms
10:59 AM 22 of the patient. You document the signs. Signs are the
10:59 AM 23 evidence you elicit from the patient by talking to the patient,
10:59 AM 24 by performing the logical analysis, a laboratory analysis. So
10:59 AM 25 when you have the entire evidence before you, you now sit down

10:59 AM 1 and apply all your knowledge, in medical school and in all your
10:59 AM 2 training, to rule out every other disease known to mankind and
10:59 AM 3 have -- you narrow it down to now a few diseases that are most
11:00 AM 4 likely the causes of the patient's symptoms and signs. And
11:00 AM 5 then you write it number one, two, three, four. Number one is
11:00 AM 6 the most likely diagnosis.

11:00 AM 7 why do we write one, two, three, four? Because there
11:00 AM 8 is almost no patient that has one exclusive disease. So a
11:00 AM 9 patient could have one, two, three, or four diseases or causes,
11:00 AM 10 but each and every disease you enumerate by itself exclusive of
11:00 AM 11 all the others is a significant and substantial factor by
11:00 AM 12 itself in the causation of the disease.

11:00 AM 13 so what that means in differential diagnosis, the
11:01 AM 14 presence or absence of any other cause does not in any way
11:01 AM 15 mitigate, nullify or annul a disease or a cause of a disease.
11:01 AM 16 Does that make sense?

11:01 AM 17 Q. I think so, Doctor. So basically if I can understand that
11:01 AM 18 is you review all the material available for the patient, which
11:01 AM 19 could include the medical records and any studies that have
11:01 AM 20 been performed, you get information about the patient, you
11:01 AM 21 utilize your extensive training and experience to try to
11:01 AM 22 determine what is the likely cause -- first of all, if the
11:01 AM 23 person is injured, and what is the likely cause?

11:01 AM 24 A. Yes, sir.

11:01 AM 25 Q. All right. And for your purposes in this case, what

1 material did you review? what was the foundation of the
2 material you reviewed and relied upon in helping you formulate
3 your opinions?

4 A. well, you sent me quite voluminous medical records of
5 Mr. Thelen, which I reviewed and summarized quite extensively
6 in my report. I documented the manifesting symptoms. The
7 standard of practice in medicine is you never question a
8 patient. If a patient tells you he's having a headache, you
9 don't tell him, "No, you're not having a headache." These are
10 called symptoms as specified by the patient.

11 so once you've documented the symptoms, you now
12 confirm the symptoms with laboratory evidence or scientific
13 evidence. Then you combine the signs and symptoms, put them
14 together, and arrive diagnosis and causation.

15 Q. In -- as part of your review, did you also review certain
16 depositions? This is, like, litigation, so there's depositions
17 that you might not normally have as a regular patient. Did you
18 review the depositions of Mr. Thelen and his family members?

19 A. Yes, sir, but in terms of evidentiary value, the medical
20 evidence supersedes the depositional evidence.

21 Q. of course. of course. The jury has already heard from
22 other experts; for example, Dr. Read. were you provided with
23 Dr. Read's report, and did you take his opinions into account?

24 A. Yes, sir. As doctors, we can rely upon reports of another
25 doctor, of scientists. So you provided Dr. Read's report to

1 me. He performed a systematic review of the literature and
2 cited the literature he reviewed, so I relied upon his report.

3 Q. When you read his report, did you have any criticism with
4 any of the opinions he'd reached in his report?

5 A. None that I recall, no.

6 Q. All right. So you mentioned you reviewed the medical
7 records, Doctor. And I want to go through three periods of
8 Mr. Thelen's life. I want to talk about the period prior to
9 his ECT, and then second I want to talk about the period during
10 his ECT which was between May 2014 and July of 2016, and then
11 lastly, I want to talk about after ECT. Is that okay?

12 A. Yes, sir.

13 Q. All right. So let's start with pre-ECT, Doctor. In the
14 medical records and documents you viewed, can you provide us --
15 what did they reveal to you concerning Mr. Thelen's condition
16 prior to his ECT?

17 A. [REDACTED]

18 [REDACTED]

19 [REDACTED]

20 [REDACTED]

21 [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED]

23 But primarily his major ailment was that of
24 depression, chronic depression. Now, that was years ago.
25 Looking back now, the first they should done for him, if it was

1 known, is to check his testosterone level because people who
2 have a chronic depression at younger ages science has shown
3 many times is associated low testosterone. So you treat the
4 low testosterone while you're treating the depression, and I
5 met Mr. Thelen this morning, and, lo and behold, a couple of
6 months ago he was diagnosed with low testosterone.

7 Q. We'll get to that later. Right now I just want to focus
8 on --

9 A. So those were his main ailments. The depression was
10 recalcitrant, and he was afforded -- given the option of
11 electroconvulsive therapy.

12 Q. In terms of the -- you would agree with me that his
13 alcohol use pre-ECT was extensive, correct, Doctor?

14 A. I wouldn't want to use the word extensive because it's
15 multifactorial. You know, his dynamic is what we call genomic
16 or pharmacogenomics. The way drugs behave in human beings are
17 dependent on your genetic makeup.

18 why do I say that? When I met Mr. Thelen this
19 morning, I confirmed, he has a genetic confirmation that he is
20 a fast metabolizer. He's homocyclic for a specific enzyme, so
21 he metabolizes alcohol very quickly and other drugs, and people
22 like him are less likely to suffer from the side effects of
23 drugs.

24 Q. In terms of the medications that he was taking, the
25 pharmaceutical medications, the Prozac, the wellbutrin and so

11:07AM 1 forth, you agree with me that the medical records indicated
11:07AM 2 that they were not effective in helping with his depression?

11:07AM 3 A. Yeah, so they were not effective. One, partly because
11:07AM 4 he's a fast metabolizer. Any drug you give him, he will
11:07AM 5 metabolize it quickly. Also given that he had low testosterone
11:07AM 6 that was not treated. So his depression was chronic and
11:07AM 7 recalcitrant and non-responsive.

11:07AM 8 Q. And then did the medical records reveal that he eventually
11:08AM 9 underwent ECT starting May 2014?

11:08AM 10 A. Yes, so starting in 2014, he received ECT for
11:08AM 11 approximately two years, 95 electroshocks in total.

11:08AM 12 Q. And the duration appeared to be about once every two
11:08AM 13 weeks?

11:08AM 14 A. Yeah, the records said once or twice a week generally,
11:08AM 15 yes, sir.

11:08AM 16 Q. All right. Is that a significant number of exposures to
11:08AM 17 ECT, Doctor?

11:08AM 18 A. Yes, it was. Yes, sir. Do I explain why?

11:08AM 19 Q. I'm going to ask you in a second. In terms of the medical
11:08AM 20 records pre-ECT, did they have any indication as to his memory?
11:08AM 21 Were they indicating that his memory was disturbed and that he
11:08AM 22 didn't have recall, or were they indicating that his memory was
11:08AM 23 intact?

11:09AM 24 A. Well, from my review of the medical records, prior to his
11:09AM 25 ECT, I did not encounter or suspect that he had any significant

1 memory impairment. His memory was intact.

2 MR. ESFANDIARI: Your Honor, permission to publish
3 and admit a medical record. This will be Exhibit 42.

4 THE COURT: Medical record?

5 MS. COLE: No objection, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Admitted.

7 what I should say, if I haven't already, when
8 the lawyers talk about publishing things, it sounds like
9 publishing a book or whatever. It's a legal word for show it
10 to you in court. Anything that is admitted in evidence you'll
11 have a big stack of when you go back to deliberate. You can
12 look at it in more detail then. Some of the stuff they put up
13 here is admitted, and some of it isn't. Only the stuff that's
14 admitted goes to the jury room. The rest of it, you just see
15 in court and that's the end of it, all right? Go ahead.

16 MR. ESFANDIARI: For the record, Your Honor, this is
17 Exhibit 42.

18 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

19 Q. Dr. Omalu, I'm placing in front of you, this is a medical
20 record dated April 24th, 2014. It's about a month before
21 Mr. Thelen's ECT; is that right?

22 A. Yes, sir.

23 Q. All right. And I want to go to the second page where an
24 examination was conducted. Do you see, "Physical exam,
25 psychiatric"?

11:10 AM 1 A. Yes, sir.

11:10 AM 2 Q. All right. And can you read the highlighted portion
11:10 AM 3 there?

11:10 AM 4 A. "The patient's recent and remote memory were intact. The
11:10 AM 5 patient's judgment and insight were fair."

11:10 AM 6 Q. All right. Thank you, Doctor. And that's consistent with
11:10 AM 7 your general review of the medical records pre-ECT, that his --
11:10 AM 8 I have a number of other of these documents I can show, but in
11:10 AM 9 the interest of time, do you agree with me that the majority of
11:10 AM 10 them, if not all of them, indicated that his memory was intact?

11:11 AM 11 MS. COLE: Objection. Leading, overbroad.

11:11 AM 12 THE COURT: well, I think it's a good question to
11:11 AM 13 save some time. Did you understand his question?

11:11 AM 14 THE WITNESS: Yes, Your Honor.

11:11 AM 15 THE COURT: What's your answer?

11:11 AM 16 THE WITNESS: Yes.

11:11 AM 17 THE COURT: Thank you.

11:11 AM 18 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

11:11 AM 19 Q. Now I want to focus on the period during ECT, the May 2014
11:11 AM 20 through July 2016. You reviewed those records as well,
11:11 AM 21 correct, Dr. Omalu?

11:11 AM 22 A. Yes.

11:11 AM 23 Q. In terms of memory complaints, what did those records
11:11 AM 24 reveal during that period of ECT?

11:11 AM 25 A. well, after ECT seizures, he had transient short-term

1 memory loss which was stated would be transient and that he was
2 expected to fully recover from.

3 Q. In terms of when -- the ECT induces a seizure; is that
4 right, Doctor?

5 A. Yes, sir.

6 Q. What is a seizure, Dr. Omalu?

7 A. A seizure is not a normal event in the human brain. A
8 seizure is not a physiological event. As a normal human being,
9 you should not have a seizure ever in your life. So a seizure
10 being abnormal is a symptom manifesting brain injury,
11 manifesting brain damage. Brain damage could be congenital,
12 whereby you're born with an abnormal brain, like in people who
13 have congenital epilepsy, or it may be caused by external
14 factors, external energy being transmitted to the brain, be it
15 kinetic energy, chemical energy, or electrical energy. So
16 whenever any human being suffers a seizure, it is a
17 manifestation of brain injury and brain damage.

18 Q. Is -- you mentioned epilepsy. What is epilepsy?

19 A. Epilepsy?

20 Q. Yeah.

21 A. Epilepsy, it's a disease whereby an individual suffers
22 spontaneous seizures, most commonly due to an abnormal brain, a
23 brain that did not ever look well inside the womb or a brain
24 that was damaged early in childhood. So when you have repeated
25 seizures due to a specific known cause that is congenital or

1 begins early childhood, generally we refer to them as epilepsy.
2 There are different types of epilepsy.

3 Q. And in terms of the -- is there a branch of the medical
4 field that tries -- people who suffer from epilepsy, tries to
5 prevent those seizures, correct?

6 A. Yes, sir. The primary objective in managing seizures or
7 epilepsy is you, as the physician, first do no harm. You do
8 all you can to prevent and stop the patient from having a
9 seizure. Even if the patient would have a seizure, let them be
10 spread out as much as possible because a seizure by itself is a
11 manifestation of brain damage, of brain injury, of congenital
12 malformation. A seizure by itself causes brain damage. So --

13 MS. COLE: Your Honor, I'm sorry. I object based on
14 your order and --

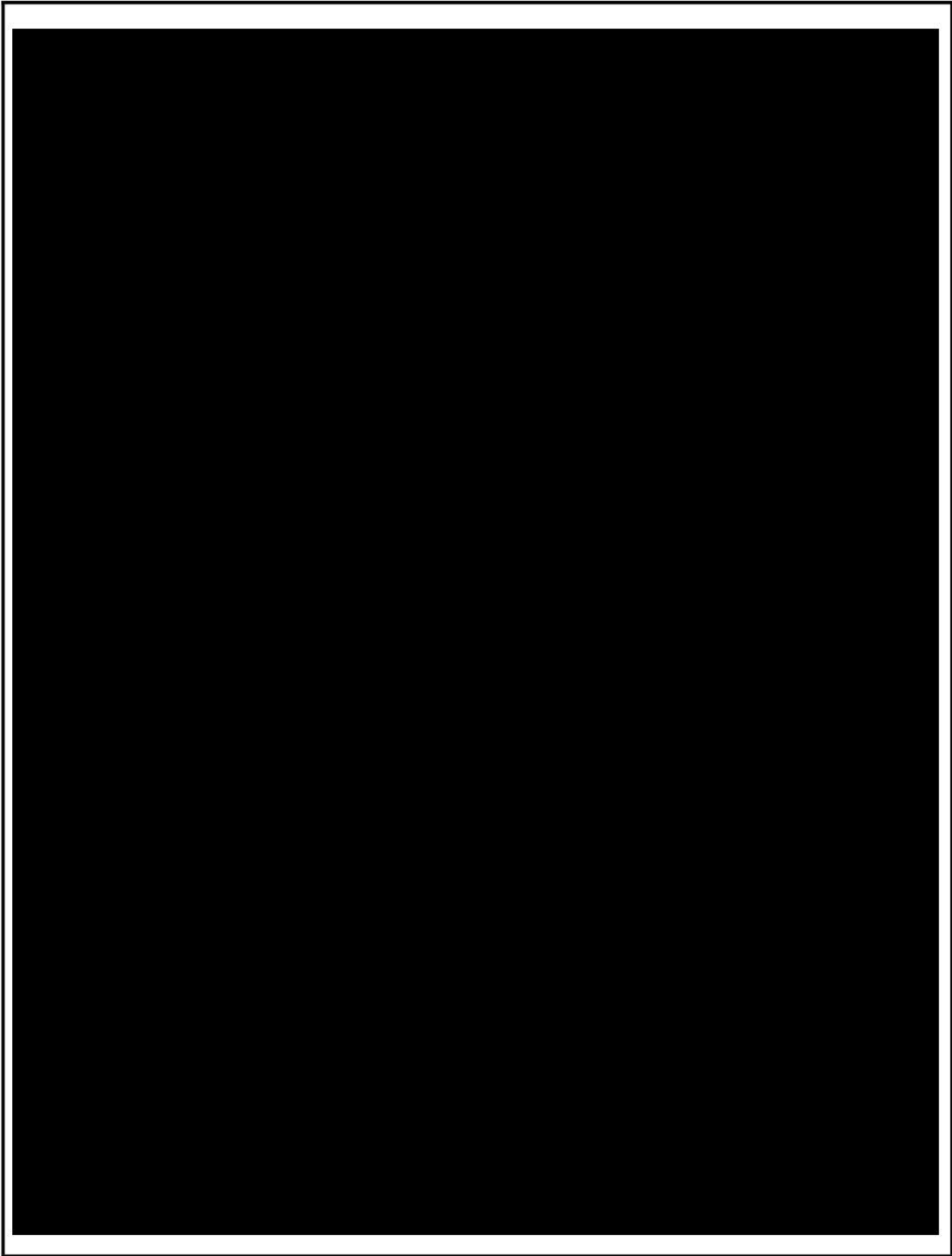
15 THE COURT: Yeah, let's take a break.

16 MS. COLE: -- non-responsive to the question.

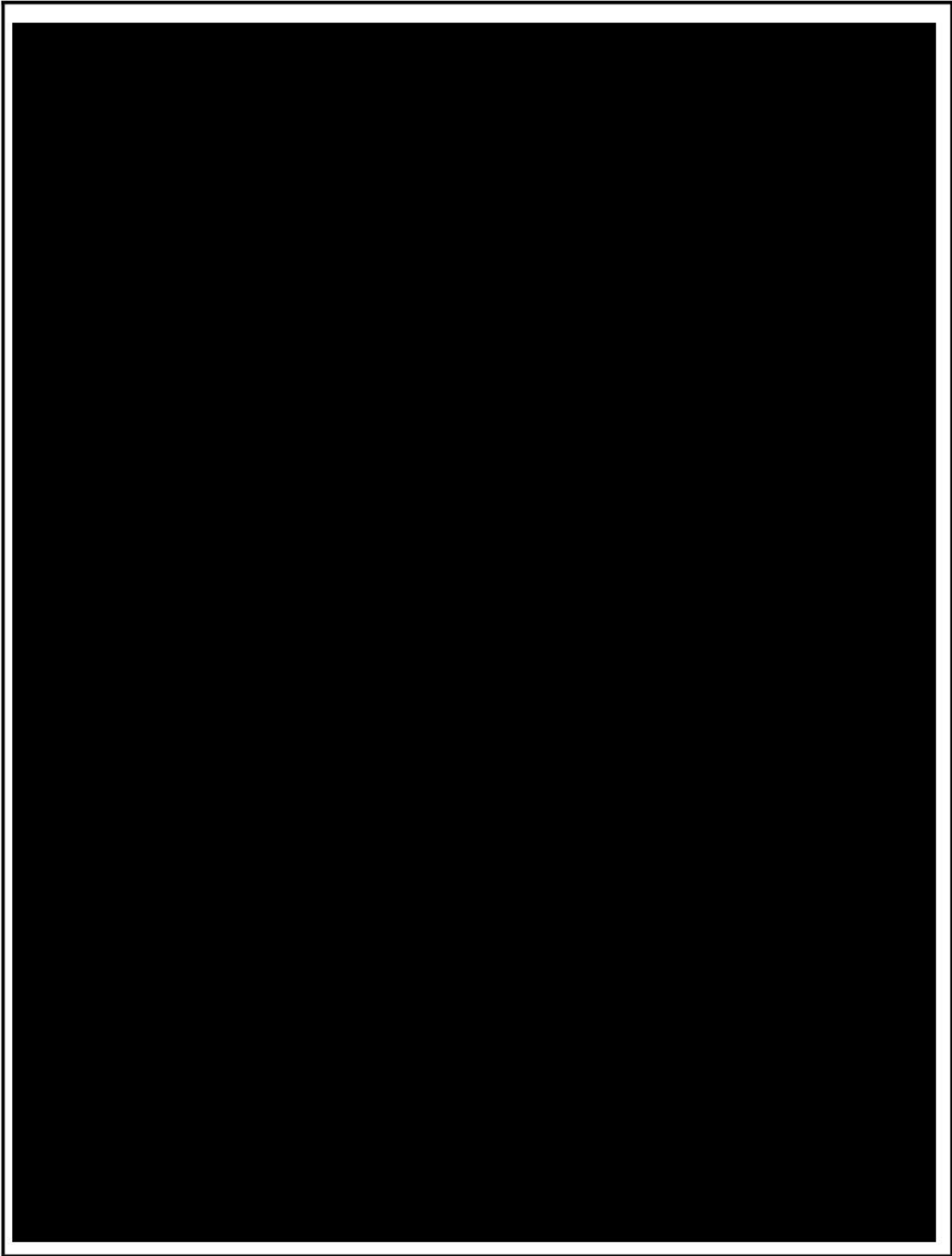
17 THE COURT: Let's take a five-minute break. Leave
18 your tablets on the chair, please, and we'll see you in just a
19 few minutes. Thank you.

20 [REDACTED]
21 [REDACTED]
22 [REDACTED]
23 [REDACTED]
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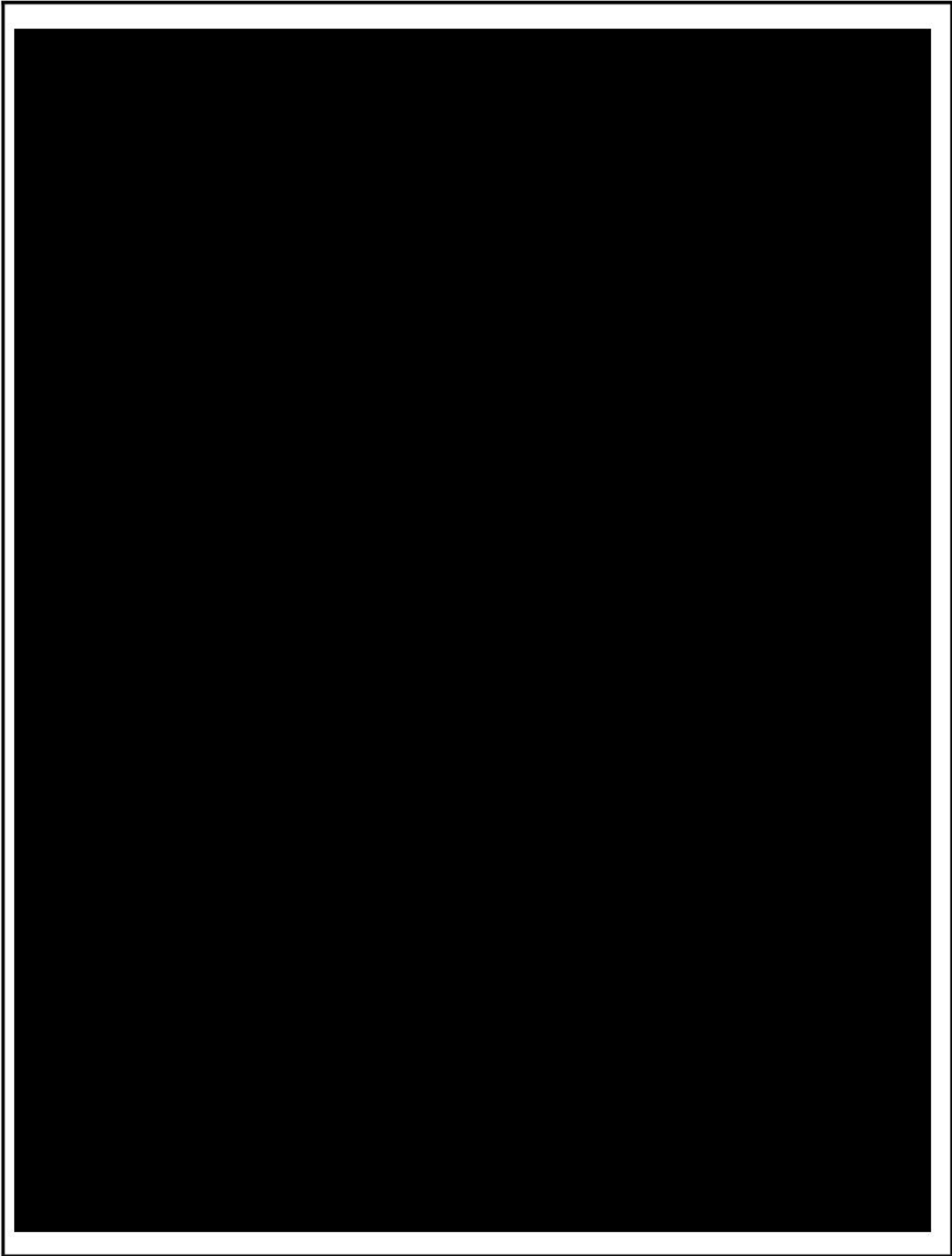
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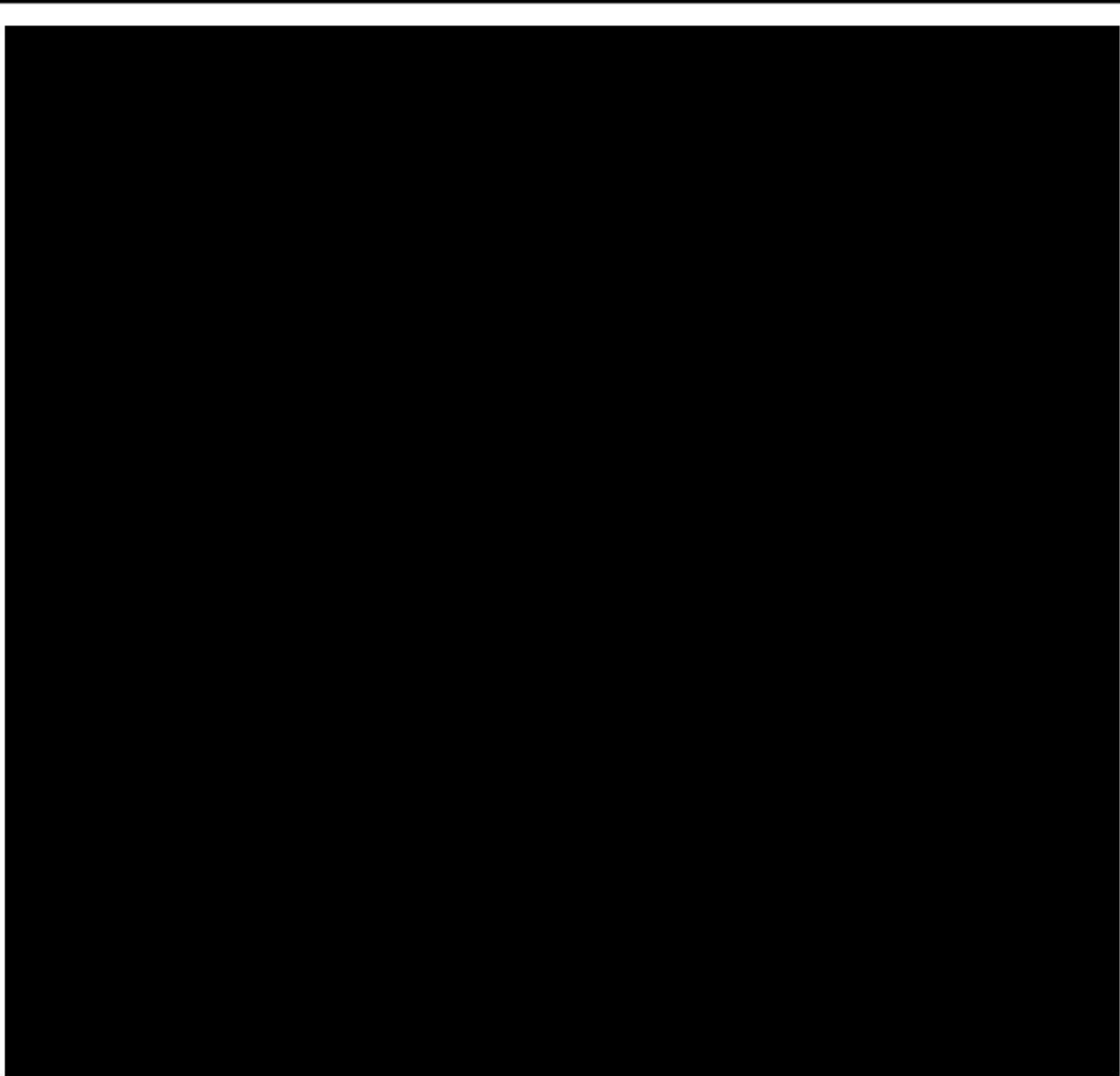
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(Jury in at 11:23 a.m.)

THE COURT: All right. Members of the jury, there was a question that was asked right before our break. The question was, "And in terms of the -- is there a branch of the medical field that tries -- people who suffer from epilepsy, tries to prevent those seizures, correct?" And then there was an answer. So you're to disregard that question and that

1 answer, all right? Disregard that question and that answer.

2 Go ahead.

3 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

4 Q. All right, Doctor. I want to focus back on to the ECT and
5 Mr. Thelen's treatment of ECT during that time period. Do the
6 records as you've reviewed them, do they indicate that he was
7 suffering from short-term memory loss?

8 A. During the ECT, yes. You had asked that, yes.

9 Q. Yes.

10 A. And he was told they were reversible and transient, yes.

11 Q. And so during the period of ECT, no medical doctor ever
12 told him that, "The memory loss that you're suffering from is
13 permanent;" is that correct?

14 A. To the best of my recollection, I did not encounter that
15 in the medical records I reviewed, yes, sir.

16 Q. And then Mr. Thelen stopped ECT July 25th, 2016. You also
17 reviewed the records after his treatment?

18 A. Yes, after that to 2023, yes, sir.

19 Q. All right. And what do the records -- in terms of that
20 one year after ECT treatment, in terms of cognition, what do
21 they reveal about Mr. Thelen and his complaints?

22 A. So the medical records after the ECT therapy indicated the
23 emergence of new symptomatology. Now, in differential
24 diagnosis, there is the concept of temporality, temporality,
25 meaning time association. A good example I give when I teach

1 is if you're suffering from a flu, you are exposed to the virus
2 before your symptoms of flu begin. You don't suffer from flu
3 and then become exposed to the virus that causes the flu.

4 MS. COLE: Objection, Your Honor. Beyond the scope
5 of the question.

6 THE COURT: Why don't you ask the question again,
7 please.

8 MR. ESFANDIARI: I think he was just elaborating.

9 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

10 Q. But in terms of the post-ECT period, Dr. Omalu, did the
11 memory complaints continue?

12 A. Yes, sir, the memory complaints continued and progressed
13 up until today. So he has permanent and severe memory
14 impairment. I hope I don't get emotional. I met Mr. Thelen
15 this morning, and he exhibited to me what I called the book
16 sign.

17 MS. COLE: Objection, Your Honor. Beyond the scope
18 of the question.

19 THE COURT: Yes.

20 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

21 Q. I'll get to that, Dr. Omalu.

22 A. Okay. So he to live daily has to carry a book with him --

23 MS. COLE: Objection, Your Honor. Beyond the scope
24 of the question.

25 THE COURT: Well, I don't think there was a question

1 yet. So go ahead and ask a question, and listen to his
2 question carefully and answer the question he asks you. If he
3 wants additional information, he'll ask you an additional
4 question. Go ahead.

5 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

6 Q. Dr. Omalu, and it's my apologies. I should be asking
7 better questions, but -- and it's a broad question. In terms
8 of after ECT, did Mr. Thelen continue to complain of memory
9 problems? And this is a yes or no actually.

10 A. Yes, sir.

11 Q. All right. Can you explain the memory problems that he
12 was having and also whether he at any point ever received any
13 testing to analyze whether he was having brain injury and so
14 forth?

15 A. So he had symptoms of memory impairment, and I will give
16 you one, two, three, four, five examples of symptoms he was
17 having.

18 one, he cannot remember anything in his activities of
19 daily living if he does not write it down. So wherever he
20 goes, he has this small book he carries to write things down.
21 otherwise he wouldn't remember.

22 wherever he goes, for him to get to where he is
23 going, he must use GPS. He lives in a small town, Norfolk.
24 Many times he is going to visit his parents, something he had
25 done all his life, he would get lost. Once -- in his house, he

1 has two or three copies or items of the same thing because he
2 forgets that he has bought a specific kitchen utensil. Once he
3 went to see his doctor. He forgot what he was not wearing any
4 clothes on him.

5 MS. COLE: Your Honor, this is beyond the scope of
6 the question.

7 THE COURT: overruled.

8 THE WITNESS: Because to engage in positive social
9 interaction, you need to have an intact memory. You remember
10 people's names. He does not have friends today because he
11 doesn't remember, and he says things that are improper because
12 he just cannot remember.

13 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

14 Q. Dr. Omalu --

15 A. Those are some of the examples of the memory impairment he
16 is having.

17 Q. Was he also complaining of having forgotten past memories,
18 memories of childhood and so forth?

19 A. Yes, sir. He forgot he was married at some point. He met
20 his wife, his former wife, at, I think, a grocery store and
21 could not remember that that was his wife, his former wife. He
22 did not even remember that he was married.

23 Q. Did at some point his medical providers refer him to a
24 neuropsychologist by the name of Dr. Hannappel?

25 A. Yes, sir, his physicians at some point diagnosed the

1 memory impairment to be permanent and progressive and referred
2 him to a neuropsychologist to perform neuropsychological
3 testing to document evidentiary his symptoms. So these are the
4 signs. We call them symptoms and signs.

5 Q. Did the examination performed by Dr. Hannappel -- and the
6 jury has already heard from Dr. Hannappel, but did that reveal
7 neurocognitive decline, Dr. Omalu?

8 A. Yes, neurocognitive decline is a big terminology we use.
9 Cognitive means your intuition, your intelligence, and memory
10 is part of intelligence. So when you hear "neurocognitive", a
11 component, a major, major component of neurocognitive
12 impairment is memory impairment.

13 Q. Do you have any criticism of Dr. Hannappel's report and
14 findings?

15 A. No, to the best of my recollection as I sit here, no. No.

16 Q. And you relied on those -- on his findings along with the
17 other medical records in reaching your decisions and coming to
18 a conclusion?

19 A. Yes, sir, because Mr. -- Dr. Hannappel was part of his
20 treating physicians. He wasn't like a retained expert. It was
21 part of the medical records. I had no reason to suspect that
22 he was playing foul or something, no.

23 Q. And in terms of diagnostic testing in addition to the
24 neuropsych testing, did Mr. Thelen also have what we call an
25 EEG?

1 A. Yes, sir.

2 Q. Can you explain to the jury what is an EEG?

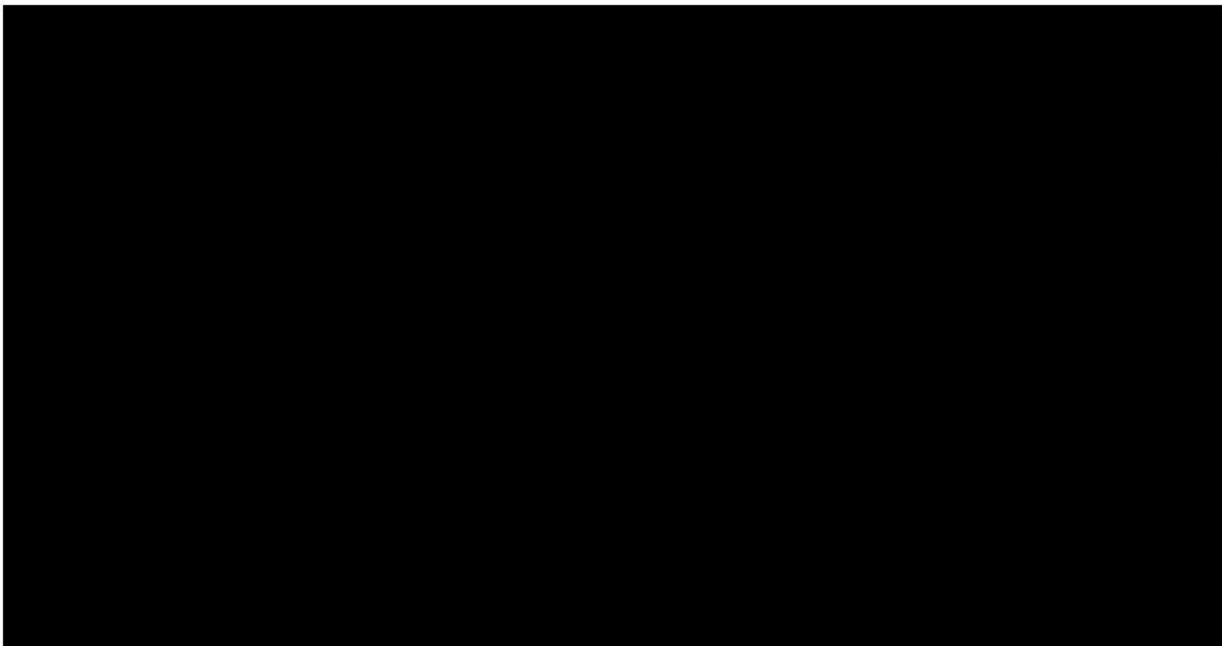
3 A. Again, an EEG is a method we use just like CT scan, MRI.
4 These are what we call translational studies, translational
5 studies. So an EEG was simply invented to study the electrical
6 patterns in the human brain. The human brain functions at
7 negative millivolts, minus 90 millivolts, very infinitesimal.
8 So EEG documents the patterns of electrical activity in the
9 brain. Each disease has an identifiable pattern of EEG. It's
10 called electropathonegenic, electroencephalogram, EEG. So EEG
11 was done and generated --

12 MS. COLE: Objection, Your Honor.

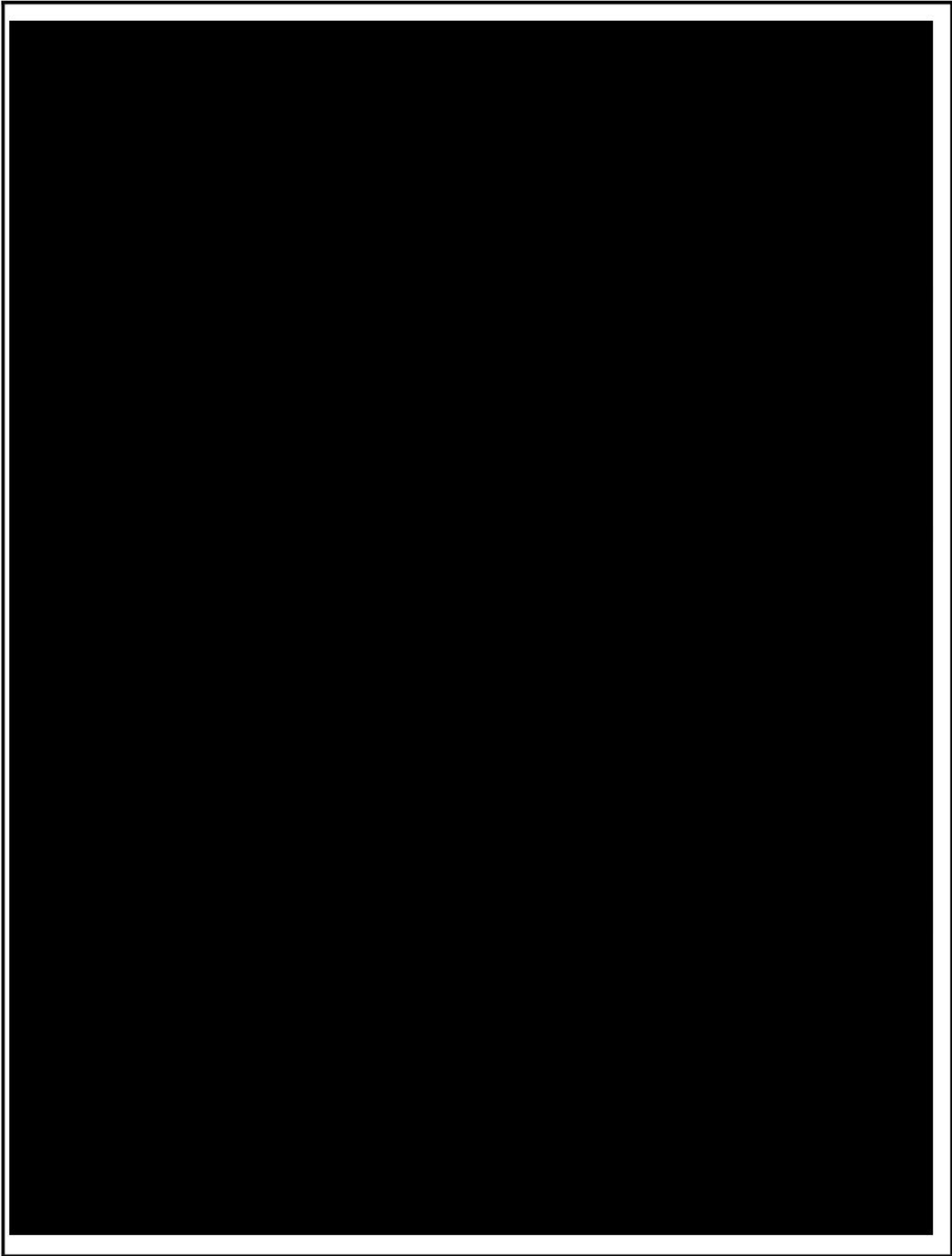
13 THE COURT: What's the objection?

14 MS. COLE: May we come sidebar, please?

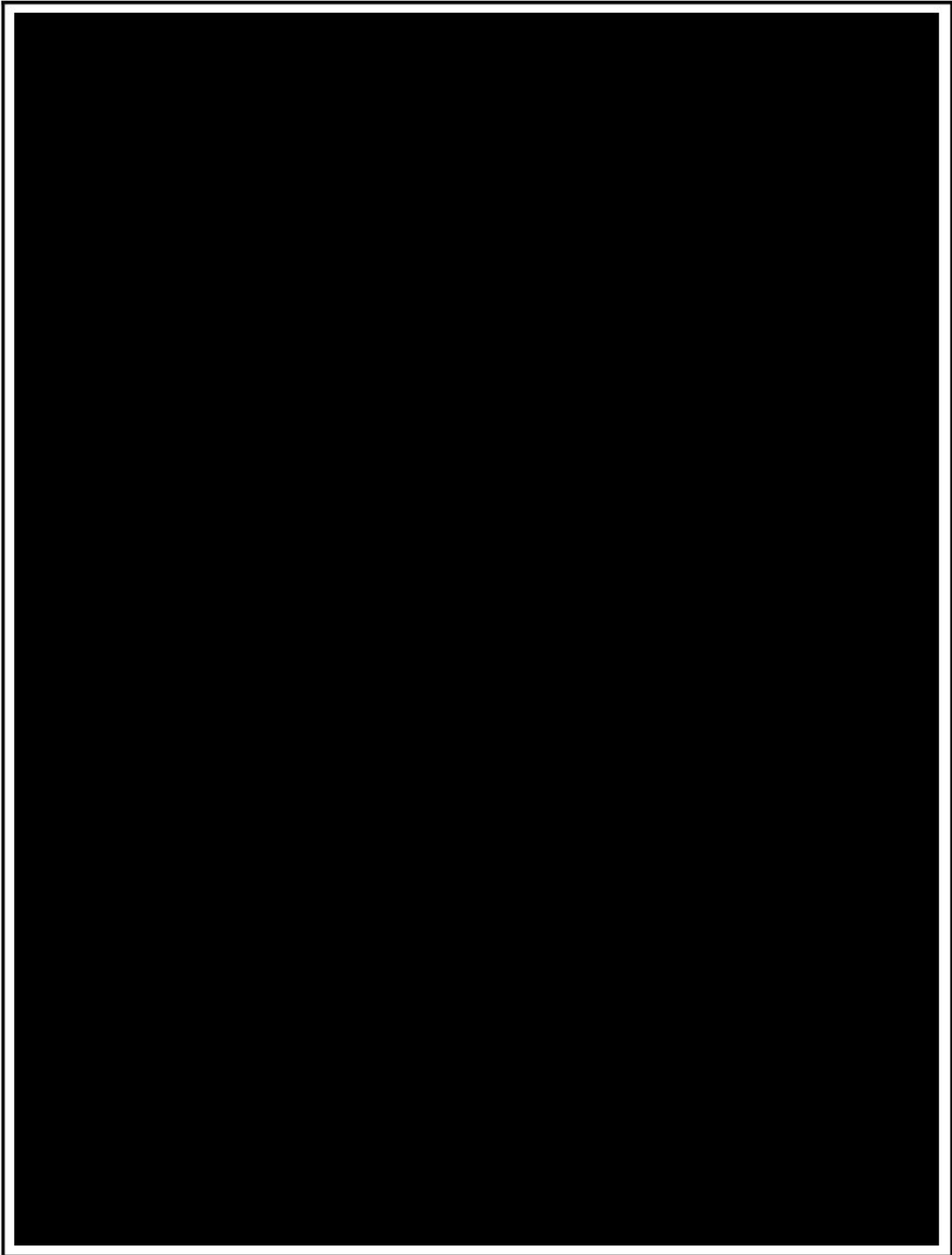
15 THE COURT: Yes.



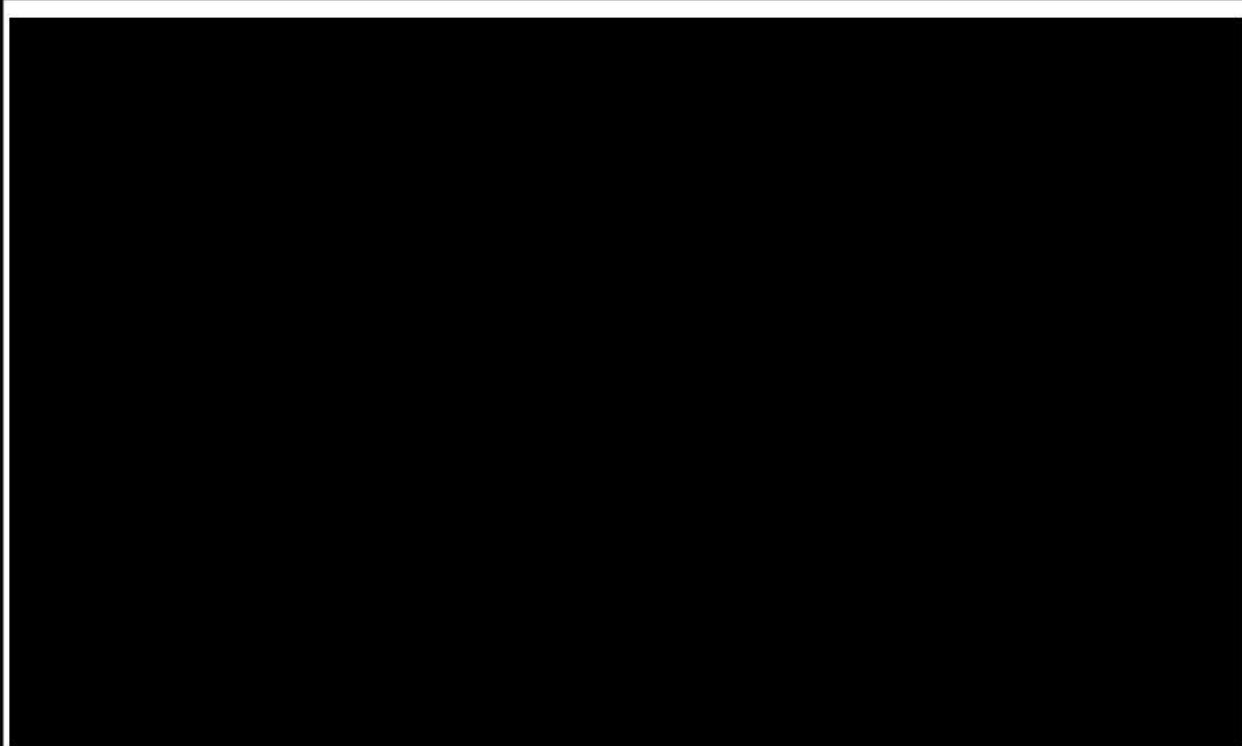
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BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

Q. Dr. Omalu, we'll get to the EEG later. So I'm going to switch gears right now.

And in terms of your review of Mr. Thelen's file, depositions, the medical records, Dr. Read's report and everything else that you considered, as well as his background, what -- did you reach a conclusion as to whether or not Mr. Thelen is suffering from brain damage?

A. Yes, I performed differential diagnosis. At the end of my differential diagnosis, my opinion, conclusion, and diagnosis is that Mr. Jeff Thelen suffered brain damage, yes, sir.

Q. And did your differential diagnosis can also reveal what the cause of that brain injury is?

A. Yes, sir. I performed, again, the very analysis of the

1 data before me, and I made a determination of the -- of a
2 substantial and significant factor that caused his brain
3 damage.

4 Q. And what was that?

5 A. Multiple electroconvulsive therapies, yes, sir.

6 Q. All right. And did you -- you know, the jury has heard a
7 lot about Mr. Thelen's alcohol use. Why -- are you saying that
8 the alcohol use and the extensive use of alcohol was not a
9 contributing factor to his brain injury? First of all, did you
10 take alcohol into account?

11 A. Yes, sir. Thank you for asking that, sir. So remember
12 when I described differential diagnosis, I said you must
13 consider every possible disease. So part of the data was that
14 the patient abused alcohol for a long time. Alcohol can cause
15 certain type of brain damage.

16 The three types of alcohol brain damage are four.
17 Part of the jargon. One is called wernicke, w-e-r-n-i-c-k-e,
18 wernicke-Korsakoff, K-o-r-s-a-k-o-f-f. wernicke-Korsakoff
19 encephalopathy. The next one is called Marchiafava,
20 Marchiafava, M-a-r-c-h-i-a-v-a (verbatim) hyphen, Bignami,
21 B-i-g-n-a-m-i. Marchiafava-Bignami encephalopathy. The third
22 cause, it's what we call hydrocephalus and shrinkage of the
23 white matter. Alcohol is a white matter toxin and not a
24 neurotoxin, meaning alcohol doesn't kill the brain cell. It
25 kills -- it damages the fibers of the brain cell. So having

1 said this, that alcohol causes diffuse brain atrophy due to the
2 shrinkage of the white matter.

3 So what do you do when you want to exclude or include
4 alcohol? You look at a CT scan. Luckily in this case, this
5 case specifically, CT scans were done several times. CT scan
6 did not show any evidence whatsoever of Wernicke-Korsakoff
7 encephalopathy, of Marchiafava-Bignami encephalopathy, of
8 hydrocephalus, of diffused white matter atrophy.

9 So based on the medical evidence, based on the
10 medical evidence in this case, Mr. Thelen does not suffer from
11 alcohol encephalopathy. [REDACTED]

12 opioid causes a specific type of encephalopathy called OIL, OIL
13 for short, and OIL means opioid induced leuko, L-e-u-k-o,
14 Leukoencephalopathy. What you see on CT scan, in CT scan, you
15 see patches of loss of myelin, demyelination in white matter,
16 accompanied by enlargement of the hydrocephalus because
17 whenever the white matter is damaged, the ventricles dilate.

18 So in my differential diagnosis, based on the
19 scientific evidence, Mr. Thelen is not suffering from alcoholic
20 encephalopathy or isn't suffering from opioid-induced
21 encephalopathy. Mr. Thelen does not have any damage to his
22 liver. Before alcohol would damage your brain, it will first
23 damage your liver because the liver is the primary organ that
24 metabolizes alcohol in a human being. So you are expected to
25 have chronic liver damage, specifically fatty liver disease, or

1 cirrhosis of the liver.

2 So based on the clinical evidence and based on a
3 competent differential diagnosis as a physician with a
4 reasonable degree of medical certainty, Mr. Thelen does not
5 suffer from alcohol-induced encephalopathy or opioid-induced
6 encephalopathy. One of the reasons why is that genetically he
7 is a fast metabolizer.

8 Q. I'm going to stop you right there, Doctor. So that
9 explanation you just gave then ruled out alcohol and any
10 medications that Mr. Thelen might have been taking as to the
11 cause of his brain damage, correct?

12 A. Yes, sir.

13 Q. All right. And then you were about to talk about him
14 being a fast metabolizer, I believe you mentioned?

15 A. Yes. I forgot something else, if I may?

16 Q. Of course.

17 A. Symptom-wise, meaning the symptoms the patient presents
18 with, people with alcohol damage of the brain present with what
19 is called confabulation, confabulation. Because the issue is
20 with the white matter, not the brain cell, they have
21 difficulties -- their memory is intact, but they have
22 difficulties putting memory together to give you a valid
23 answer. So they confabulate. They keep on going round and
24 round and round, and when they cannot connect their stories,
25 they make up fake stories. That is not a part of memory

1 impairment I saw in the medical records I reviewed.

2 And so the objective review of the medical records,
3 the medical evidence, does not in any way suggest or indicate
4 that he's suffering from alcohol brain damage or opioid-induced
5 brain damage. Not everybody who drinks alcohol excessively
6 develops brain damage or even liver damage.

7 Q. The imaging studies that you indicated were negative when
8 it came to looking for alcohol encephalopathy, but if they're
9 negative, doesn't that also mean then he doesn't suffer any --
10 from any brain damage either from ECT if they are negative?

11 MR. BENKNER: Objection. Leading.

12 MR. ESFANDIARI: I'm doing the cross-examination.

13 THE COURT: I'll allow it. It's not
14 cross-examination.

15 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

16 Q. Go ahead, Doctor. So did you understand the question?
17 I'm sorry. So you mentioned that the CT scans were negative,
18 and therefore that helps you rule out alcohol?

19 A. Yes, sir.

20 Q. But why doesn't that also help you rule out ECT?

21 A. Oh, thank you. So in science, there is what we call
22 significant negative findings. So for you to make the
23 diagnosis of some diseases, certain clinical tests must be
24 negative. And for you to make a diagnosis of neurocognitive
25 impairment from brain damage, CT scans are the so-called

1 conventional. CT scans and MRIs have to come back negative to
2 rule out other causes, other possible causes of a memory
3 impairment, like we have done now with alcohol and opioids. So
4 you must do a CT scan to rule out other possible causes of the
5 memory impairment. That is why you need the CT scan and MRI
6 which have to be negative. why?

7 Just like in other types of dementia, the brain
8 damage here is on the cellular level, subcellular level, that
9 you can only see with the microscope. The microscope has up to
10 1,000 times magnification. Sometimes when you do some
11 specialized microscopic studies you can get up to 1,000,000
12 times magnification of the cells. CT scan, MRI has a
13 resolution capacity of 0.5 millimeters. Meanwhile on the
14 cellular level, you're talking about nanometers, "nano" meaning
15 nine times, 0.0000 nine times.

16 So a CT scan and an MRI as a translational study
17 cannot identify such microscopic findings. You can only see
18 them with the microscope, and these types of brain damage are
19 not just on the cells themselves, but on the dendrons, the
20 subcellular structures inside the cells.

21 MS. COLE: Objection. Beyond the scope.

22 THE COURT: Yeah, we need to tighten this up a little
23 bit. He's going to ask you questions. Answer the questions
24 only that he asks you, and it's a back and forth. Question and
25 answer. Not one question and a long, long answer.

1 THE WITNESS: All right.

2 THE COURT: All right? Go ahead.

3 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

4 Q. So if I understood that correctly, Dr. Omalu, is the type
5 of brain damage where we have memory loss from various trauma
6 or whatever the case may be and it's on a cellular level, that
7 would not be picked up by an MRI or a CT scan usually; is that
8 correct?

9 A. Yes, sir. And, again, I apologize with some professorial.
10 I teach, so --

11 Q. It's also my fault. My questions need to be a little bit
12 more crisp, so I will take the blame on that, Dr. Omalu.

13 But the type of damage that alcohol does, as you
14 explain in the white matter, white gray matter, that would show
15 up on a CT scan?

16 MS. COLE: Objection. Leading.

17 MR. ESFANDIARI: I'm trying to tighten it up,
18 Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: I think it's helpful to lead right there,
20 yes. Go ahead.

21 MR. ESFANDIARI: Thank you.

22 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

23 Q. Is that correct, Dr. Omalu?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. So the type of damage, brain damage, that alcohol causes,

11:50 AM 1 that would reveal itself on a CT scan; is that correct?

11:50 AM 2 A. Yes, sir.

11:50 AM 3 Q. And, again, the reason is -- just in like one or two
11:50 AM 4 sentences, what is the difference between the type of brain
11:50 AM 5 damage that is caused by alcohol versus a brain damage caused
11:50 AM 6 by other trauma that causes the CT scan for one to be negative
11:50 AM 7 and the other one to be positive?

11:50 AM 8 A. Alcohol is a white matter or fiber toxin. Doesn't affect
11:50 AM 9 the brain cells. Cognitive impairment is a disease with the
11:50 AM 10 brain cells, and in alcohol encephalopathy, there is actual
11:51 AM 11 physical destruction of the brain that you will see. In
11:51 AM 12 wernicke encephalopathy, you will actually -- in addition to
11:51 AM 13 the loss of white matter, you will see hemorrhages, bleeding,
11:51 AM 14 microscopic bleeding inside the brain that CT scan and MRI will
11:51 AM 15 show you.

11:51 AM 16 So each and every disease has a specific feature.
11:51 AM 17 The features in this case are inconsistent with alcohol-induced
11:51 AM 18 brain damage now.

11:51 AM 19 Q. And someone who is suffering from a trauma that is causing
11:51 AM 20 memory loss like the symptoms that Mr. Thelen has, you talked
11:51 AM 21 about brain cells being damaged. Is there a specific part of
11:51 AM 22 the brain that -- whose cells are being damaged?

11:51 AM 23 A. In what?

11:51 AM 24 Q. From trauma from memory. Like in terms of memory, what
11:51 AM 25 part of the brain is associated with memory is what I'm asking.

1 A. In trauma-induced encephalopathy, you're dealing with
2 kinetic energy, gathered destruction of the skeleton, the
3 skeleton of the fibroids of the brain cell. So the patterns,
4 we call it the topographic distribution, meaning --
5 topographic, topographic -- meaning because of the axonal
6 sharing of blunt force trauma, there are specific regions of
7 the brain that are damaged; for example, the mid brain, okay?
8 The central structures, because the brain floats freely inside
9 the skull -- stop me if I'm going too far.

10 So when you have blunt force trauma, your brain
11 rotates around itself, so the structures in the midline are
12 damaged, and you will see that on MRI.

13 Q. I wasn't asking about that. What I'm asking about is in
14 terms of memory, right, is there a specific part of the
15 brain -- the hippocampus, the hypothalamus -- what part of the
16 brain focuses on memory and this type of --

17 A. Oh, sorry. Thank you. Thank you. So if I may explain?

18 Q. Of course.

19 A. Because if I just say the words, it doesn't mean anything.
20 The human brain functions in what we call multidomain,
21 d-o-m-a-i-n.

22 MS. COLE: Objection. General causation, Your Honor.

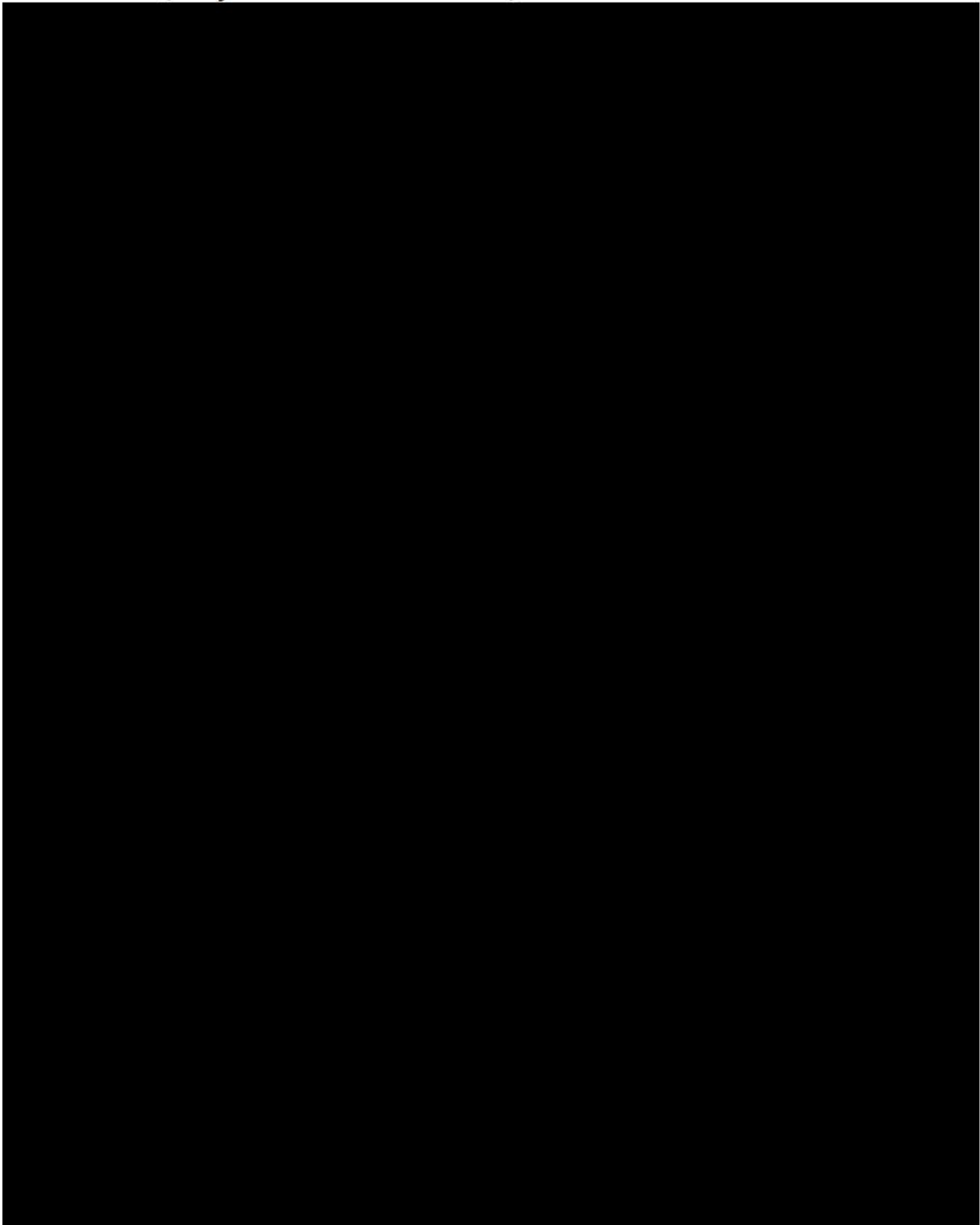
23 THE COURT: Okay. We'll break for lunch now.

24 Members of the jury, leave your tablets on the chair, and we'll
25 see you back at 1:00. 1:00. All right? Thank you.

(Jury out at 11:53 a.m.)

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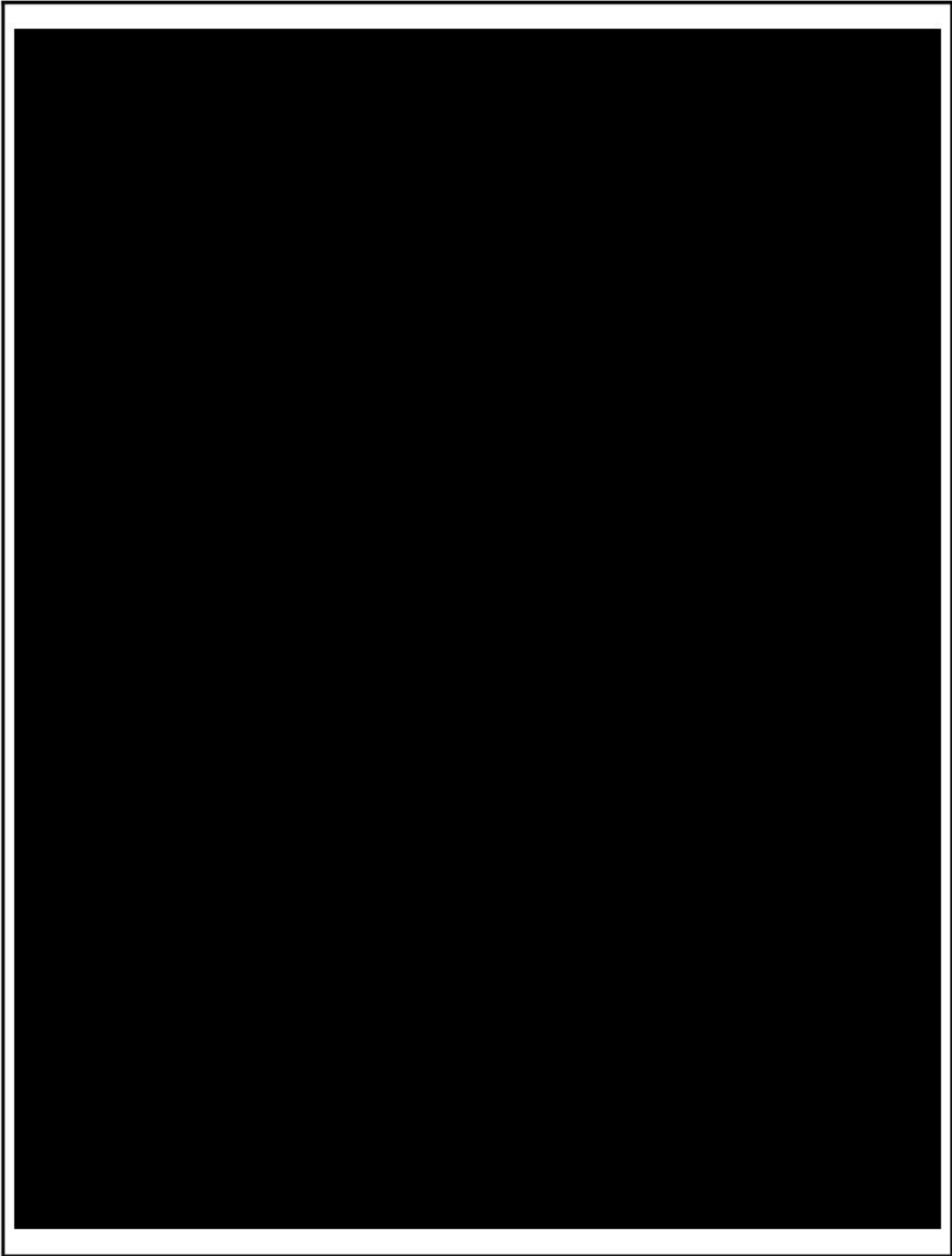


(Recess from 11:55 a.m. to 1:03 p.m.)

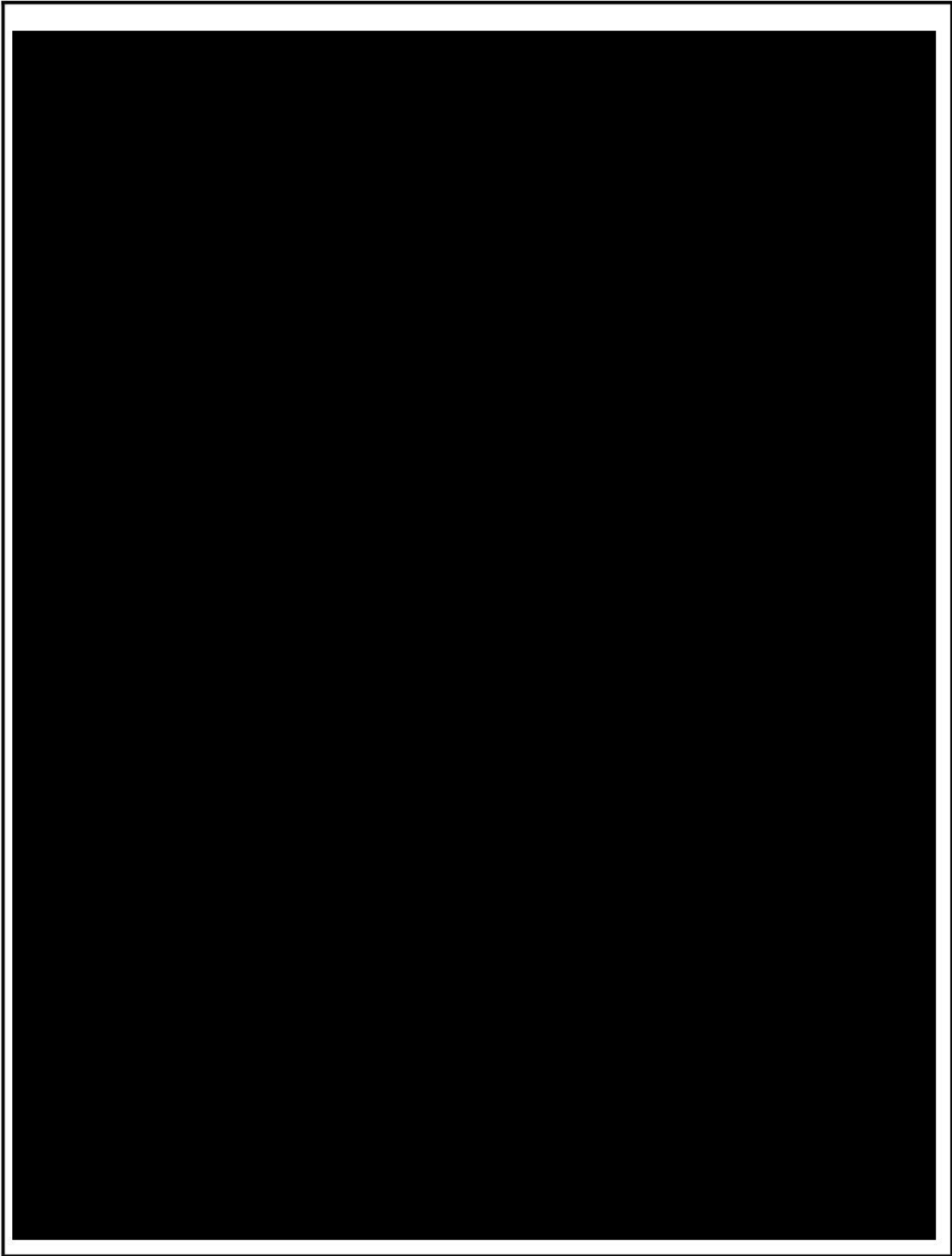
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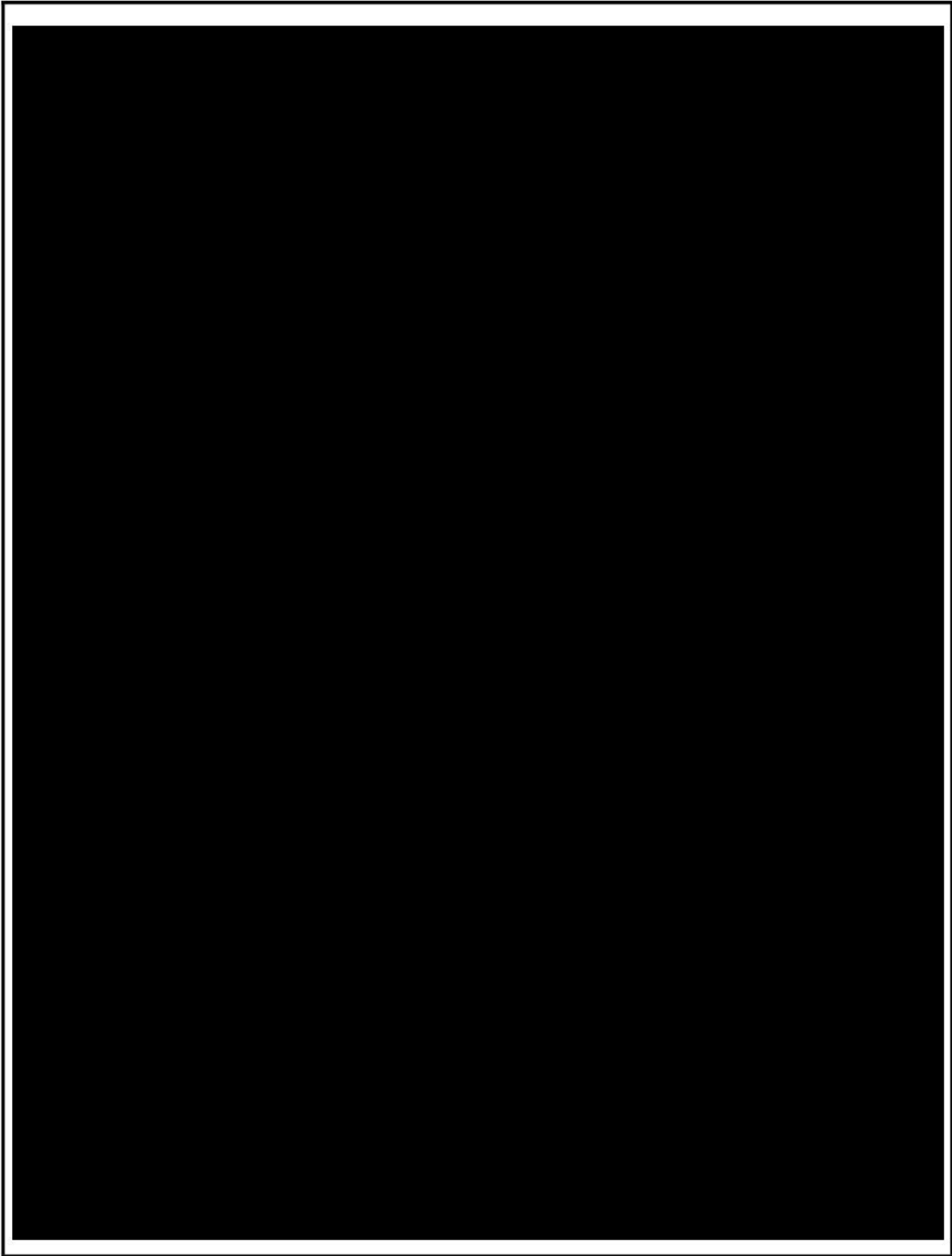
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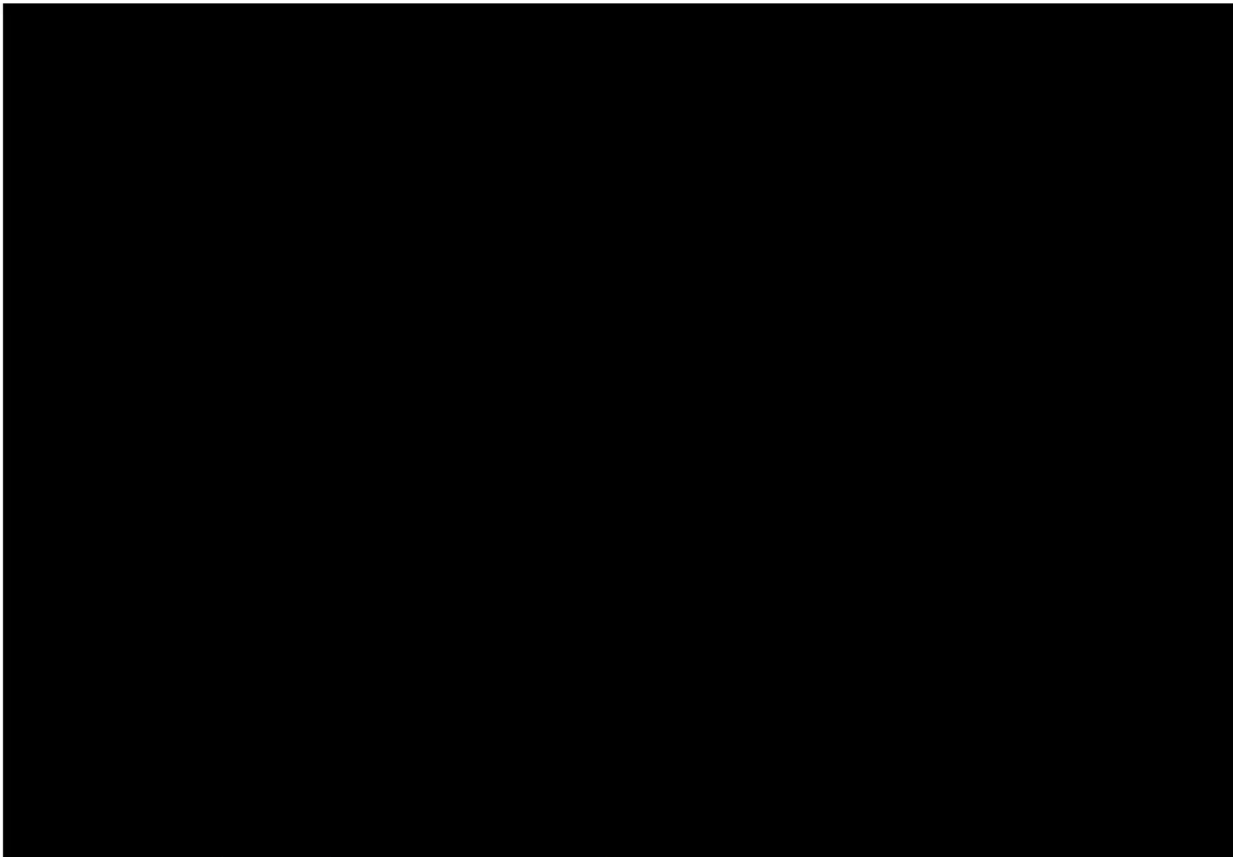
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(Jury in at 1:08 p.m.)

THE COURT: Okay. Have a seat, everybody. welcome back. We have our Friday afternoon session. That's always the best session, Friday afternoon. All right? That's when everyone is really, really paying careful attention, all right? Go ahead.

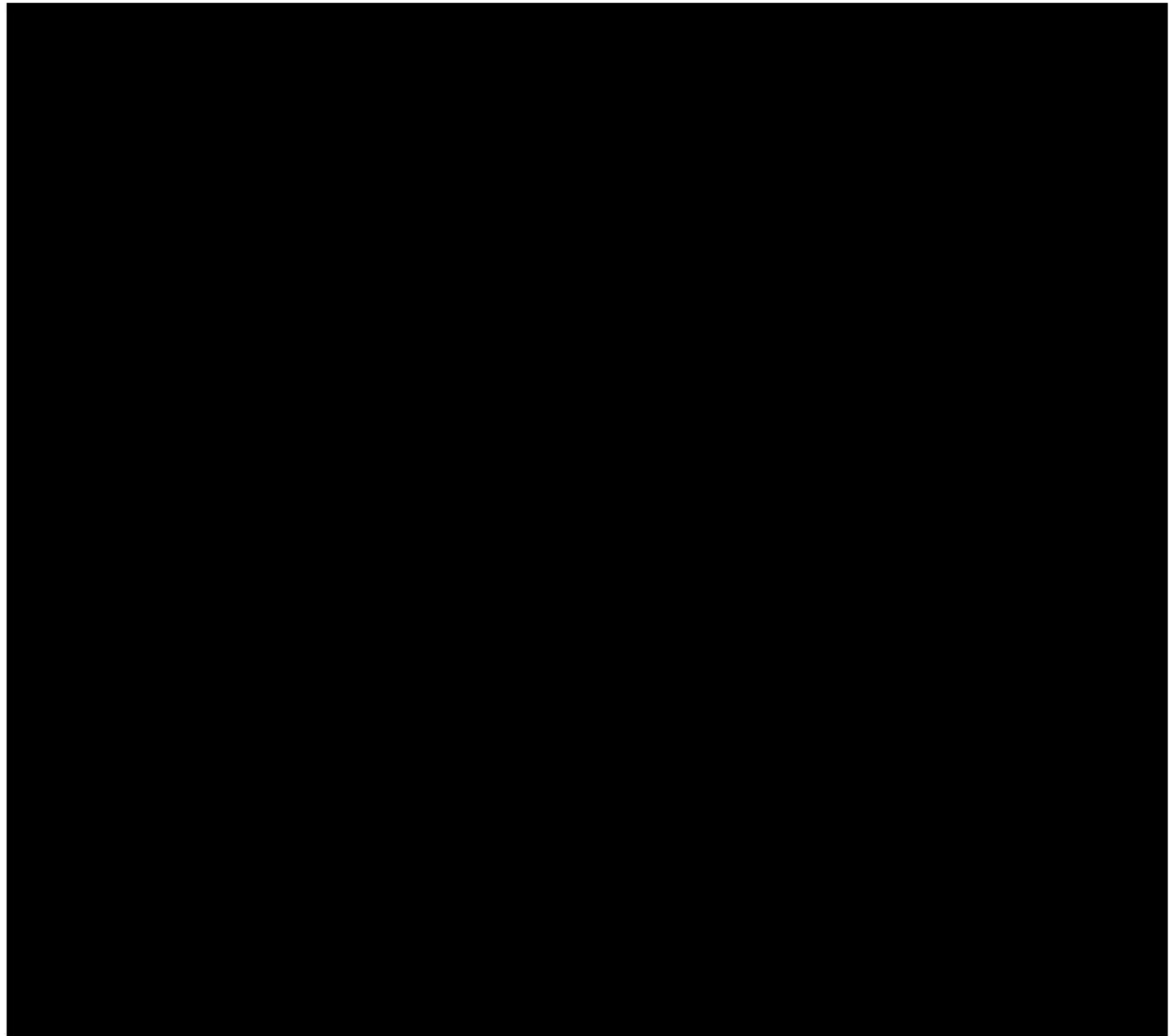
MR. ESFANDIARI: All right.

BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

Q. Dr. Omalu, we're home stretch. All right. So just want to talk about a couple of final items.



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Q. All right. And then in terms of the -- did the medical records reveal any instances of head trauma prior to ECT, prior to 2014, that you can remember?

A. well, there was one episode that wasn't well described in detail where he may have suffered some type of blunt force trauma with some transient loss of consciousness.

Q. was that incident corroborated? In any other records was that incident corroborated?

1 A. I don't remember. My answer would be no, I didn't see it
2 quite extensively, no.

3 Q. But even assuming that that one incident occurred, this
4 one incident of unspecified head trauma well before ECT, did
5 you also take that into account in doing your differential
6 diagnosis?

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. All right. And we talked about Dr. Hannappel, the
9 neuropsych report that he did, and the jury also heard from
10 Dr. Bilder earlier this morning. Is neuropsych, is it a
11 subjective or an objective test? How would you describe
12 neuropsych testing, Dr. Omalu?

13 A. Neuropsych testing, it's not an objective test like CT
14 scan, MRI, or an objective test like testing your cholesterol
15 level. Neuropsych testing, it's an abstractual evaluation of
16 behavior. Behavior is not quantifiable, so what scientists
17 have done over the years is to synthesize artificial
18 statistically-based measurable indices. That -- it's not as
19 objective as you would want it to be, and no doctor would treat
20 a neuropsychiatric test result.

21 Q. Is the findings of a neuropsych report impacted by --
22 given that it's objective, by the doctor who is analyzing the
23 data and interpreting the data?

24 MS. COLE: Objection, Your Honor. Outside the scope
25 of this expert, this witness's expertise. He's a pathologist.

1 THE COURT: well, yes. Rephrase the question and see
2 if you can establish it's within his zone of expertise.

3 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

4 Q. Dr. Omalu, you -- you are a neuropathologist, correct?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. You are an expert in the brain, correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. You're also an expert in terms of diagnostic tools that
9 are used to ascertain brain injury, right?

10 MS. COLE: Objection, Your Honor. He's leading the
11 witness into what he wants -- counsel is testifying.

12 THE COURT: That's fine. I agree with that. Don't
13 lead the witness.

14 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

15 Q. And you have a prior understanding of neuropsych testing,
16 Dr. Omalu?

17 MS. COLE: Objection. Leading.

18 THE COURT: overruled. Go ahead.

19 MR. ESFANDIARI: Thank you, Your Honor.

20 THE WITNESS: Yeah, so neuropathology is one of the
21 neurological sciences, so we are very well trained and versed
22 in all types of neurological testing.

23 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

24 Q. So my question is simply -- so you brought up, for
25 example, like a cholesterol level test?

1 : 14 PM 1 A. Yes.

1 : 14 PM 2 Q. It has a level, and everybody can see the level?

1 : 14 PM 3 A. Yes.

1 : 14 PM 4 Q. Whereas -- is my understanding correct that with
1 : 14 PM 5 neuropsych, the person, the doctor interpreting the data, one
1 : 14 PM 6 doctor may reach one conclusion, and another doctor may reach a
1 : 14 PM 7 different conclusion?

1 : 14 PM 8 A. Definitely.

1 : 14 PM 9 Q. All right. You -- in your review of the medical records,
1 : 15 PM 10 did you also see any evidence of Mr. Thelen undergoing an EEG?
1 : 15 PM 11 You recall we discussed that previously?

1 : 15 PM 12 A. Yes.

1 : 15 PM 13 Q. All right. And I think you testified previously to the
1 : 15 PM 14 jury what an EEG was, but it was well before lunch. Can you
1 : 15 PM 15 very quickly explain what is an EEG again, Doctor?

1 : 15 PM 16 A. Well, an EEG is an electrical test that studies the
1 : 15 PM 17 patterns of electricity in the brain. Over the centuries,
1 : 15 PM 18 scientists have been able to identify specific patterns that
1 : 15 PM 19 are consistent with a reasonable degree of certainty with
1 : 15 PM 20 specific disease diagnosis.

1 : 15 PM 21 Q. Did Mr. Thelen have an EEG study performed after ECT?

1 : 15 PM 22 A. Yes.

1 : 15 PM 23 MR. ESFANDIARI: All right. I'm going to -- moving
1 : 15 PM 24 into evidence, Your Honor, Exhibit 152. And permission to
1 : 15 PM 25 publish?

1 THE COURT: Go ahead.

2 MR. ESFANDIARI: Thank you, Your Honor.

3 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

4 Q. Dr. Omalu, this is Plaintiff's Exhibit 152, and it is an
5 EEG test that was completed on June 26th, 2018. Do you see
6 that, Doctor, on the --

7 A. Yes, sir.

8 Q. All right. And what were the findings of this EEG study,
9 Dr. Omalu?

10 A. Well, the areas you have highlighted with the yellow ink,
11 final diagnosis, frontal lobe and executive function deficit.
12 Executive function, frontal lobe, those are the centers of
13 your --

14 MS. COLE: Objection. Goes beyond the scope of the
15 question. He was just asked to read it.

16 THE COURT: Yes. What were the findings of this
17 study?

18 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

19 Q. Go ahead and identify the findings, and then I'll ask you
20 to explain, Doctor. What were the impressions?

21 A. "Frontal lobe and executive function deficits. There is
22 evidence of significant changes in the following neuronal
23 processing centers: Attention, working memory. There is
24 evidence of mild changes in the following neuronal processing
25 centers: sensory. Abnormal study. Based on a comprehensive

1 digital analysis of this task-specific EEG, there is
2 electrophysiologic evidence of dysfunction in neuronal
3 processing circuits responsible for attention network."

4 Q. Let me ask you, Dr. Omalu, what does that all mean?

5 A. It means that Mr. Thelen -- I believe that this was for
6 him -- had electrophysiologic evidence or electrical evidence
7 of neurocognitive impairment.

8 Q. Does this further corroborate your opinions that
9 Mr. Thelen is suffering from brain damage?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. We -- before lunch, we talked about the brain images
12 studies and how some could show positive while for other
13 diseases they may not appear on images. Do you recall that,
14 Dr. Omalu?

15 A. Yes, sir.

16 Q. Okay. And what portion of the brain is responsible for
17 memory primarily, Dr. Omalu?

18 MS. COLE: Asked and answered.

19 THE COURT: Sustained.

20 MR. ESFANDIARI: I don't know if it was answered,
21 Your Honor, before lunch.

22 THE COURT: I think that's been covered.

23 MR. ESFANDIARI: All right. Very well.

24 THE COURT: Ask a different witness what that is, but
25 we need to move forward.

1 MR. ESFANDIARI: There's like two questions left, and
2 that's the foundation for the next one, if I may?

3 THE COURT: Two questions, and you're done?

4 MR. ESFANDIARI: I believe so, yes.

5 THE COURT: Okay. Then I'll change my ruling and
6 allow it. Two questions.

7 MR. ESFANDIARI: Three.

8 THE COURT: Three. All right.

9 MR. ESFANDIARI: Thank you.

10 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

11 Q. What portion of the brain is responsible for memory,
12 Dr. Omalu?

13 A. It's called the limbic system, and the hippocampus is the
14 major component of the limbic system.

15 Q. Okay. And in people who are suffering from memory loss
16 caused in that region, would that show up on a CT scan or MRI?

17 A. No.

18 Q. All right. And can you give us other examples of
19 cognitive diseases that would not show up on a CT scan or an
20 MRI?

21 A. Well, Lewy Body disease, L-e-w-y, Lewy Body disease;
22 frontal temporal degeneration; Parkinson's disease; Alzheimer's
23 disease; a concussion; and a traumatic encephalopathy. That's
24 all I can come up with off the top of my head now.

25 Q. And those diseases --

1 : 2 0 P M 1 THE COURT: Ah, ah, ah, ah.

1 : 2 0 P M 2 MR. ESFANDIARI: Did I hit my three?

1 : 2 0 P M 3 THE COURT: Yes, you did. Thank you.

1 : 2 0 P M 4 MR. ESFANDIARI: All right. Dr. Omalu, thank you

1 : 2 0 P M 5 very much. Ms. Cole has some questions for you.

1 : 2 0 P M 6 THE COURT: Cross-examination?

1 : 2 0 P M 7 CROSS-EXAMINATION

1 : 2 0 P M 8 BY MS. COLE:

1 : 2 0 P M 9 Q. Good afternoon, Dr. Omalu.

1 : 2 0 P M 10 A. Good afternoon, ma'am. How are you?

1 : 2 0 P M 11 Q. I'm good. How are you?

1 : 2 0 P M 12 A. wonderful, thank you.

1 : 2 0 P M 13 Q. Dr. Omalu, you're a pathologist?

1 : 2 0 P M 14 A. Yes, ma'am.

1 : 2 0 P M 15 Q. A pathologist looks at tissue or slides under the

1 : 2 0 P M 16 microscope and does autopsies?

1 : 2 0 P M 17 A. Yes, yes, ma'am.

1 : 2 0 P M 18 Q. Did you do any examination of the tissue of Mr. Thelen?

1 : 2 1 P M 19 A. No, ma'am.

1 : 2 1 P M 20 Q. Did you do -- obtain -- do any sort of an examination

1 : 2 1 P M 21 of --

1 : 2 1 P M 22 A. Is it possible to speak out?

1 : 2 1 P M 23 Q. And I'm a short person, so this mic doesn't always work

1 : 2 1 P M 24 for me. Sorry.

1 : 2 1 P M 25 Did you do any sort of an examination of Mr. Thelen?

1 : 21 PM 1 A. I examined him -- met with him this morning.

1 : 21 PM 2 Q. This morning?

1 : 21 PM 3 A. Yes, ma'am.

1 : 21 PM 4 Q. And you just talked to him this morning?

1 : 21 PM 5 A. No, I performed what we call a clerkship,

1 : 21 PM 6 c-l-e-r-k-s-h-i-p.

1 : 21 PM 7 Q. I can't --

1 : 21 PM 8 A. Clerkship.

1 : 21 PM 9 Q. Excuse me, Doctor. I can't discuss with you anything that

1 : 21 PM 10 you did with him this morning in front of the jury.

1 : 21 PM 11 Did you -- have you ever reviewed yourself his MRIs?

1 : 21 PM 12 A. No, I'm not a radiologist, but I reviewed the autopsy

1 : 21 PM 13 report -- the radiology reports.

1 : 21 PM 14 Q. Autopsy reports are something pathologists look at all the

1 : 22 PM 15 time?

1 : 22 PM 16 A. The radiology reports, sorry.

1 : 22 PM 17 Q. Mr. Thelen had no changes on his MRIs at all from before

1 : 22 PM 18 he had ECT after until -- until last week? No changes on his

1 : 22 PM 19 MRIs throughout the whole duration, right?

1 : 22 PM 20 A. Such questions if he had no changes, I don't have the

1 : 22 PM 21 reports in front of me. I don't memorize, but my recollection

1 : 22 PM 22 is that he did not have any significant changes.

1 : 22 PM 23 Q. Mr. Thelen had a series of CT scans, both before ECT and

1 : 22 PM 24 after ECT, yes?

1 : 22 PM 25 A. Yes, ma'am.

1 : 2 2 P M 1 Q. No changes on the CT scans?

1 : 2 2 P M 2 A. No significant changes, yes, ma'am.

1 : 2 2 P M 3 Q. You talked some about an EEG or electroencephalogram with

1 : 2 2 P M 4 Mr. Thelen, and the one you looked at I believe was dated

1 : 2 2 P M 5 June -- what was the date on that?

1 : 2 3 P M 6 A. 26th, 2016 -- sorry, 2018.

1 : 2 3 P M 7 Q. June 26th of 2018?

1 : 2 3 P M 8 A. Yes, ma'am.

1 : 2 3 P M 9 Q. What was happening in Mr. Thelen's life during that period

1 : 2 3 P M 10 of time? Was he in the process of undergoing a series of TMS

1 : 2 3 P M 11 treatment, Transcranial Magnetic Stimulation?

1 : 2 3 P M 12 A. As I sit here, I don't have the report in front of me, but

1 : 2 3 P M 13 the EEG was before he began the TMS, yes, ma'am.

1 : 2 3 P M 14 Q. Are you sure about that?

1 : 2 3 P M 15 A. Sorry?

1 : 2 3 P M 16 Q. Are you sure about that?

1 : 2 3 P M 17 A. Like I answer, I said as I sit here, I don't have the

1 : 2 3 P M 18 documents in front of me, but I believe it may be before.

1 : 2 3 P M 19 Q. Let's take a look, Dr. Omalu, at the report by Dr. Duffy,

1 : 2 3 P M 20 that same doctor, completed on November of 2017, which is quite

1 : 2 4 P M 21 a bit before that analysis that you looked at, right?

1 : 2 4 P M 22 A. Could you repeat the question again? I didn't get the

1 : 2 4 P M 23 last part. Sorry.

1 : 2 4 P M 24 Q. Look at the date. You've got a screen right in front of

1 : 2 4 P M 25 you.

1 A. Yes, ma'am.

2 Q. Look at the date of the EEG that I'm putting up on the
3 screen there. Do you see it?

4 A. Yes, ma'am.

5 Q. Is that -- is that 2017 date before or after the 2018 date
6 that you interpreted for Mr. Esfandiari?

7 A. Yes, ma'am.

8 Q. It's before?

9 A. Yes, ma'am.

10 Q. So this one was done before he had transcranial
11 stimulation -- TMS?

12 A. I believe so. As I sit here, I don't remember the exact
13 date he began his TMS.

14 Q. Okay. But this study, which was done before, was an EEG,
15 and it showed, "Nonspecific findings suggestive but not
16 diagnostic of dysfunction in neuronal processing circuits
17 responsible for attention, revealed by significantly faster
18 processing speed, moderately reduced synchronization, working
19 memory revealed by moderately reduced amplitude speed, and
20 significantly slower processing speed. Otherwise remaining
21 aspects of the sensory processing, attention, and working
22 memory network are unremarkable." Right? That's what it says?

23 A. That's what it says, but look at the final diagnosis. It
24 says, "Mild cognitive impairment".

25 Q. Yes, sir. We're talking here about memory. Cognitive

1 : 2 5 P M 1 impairment includes more than just memory, true?

1 : 2 5 P M 2 A. Yes, yes.

1 : 2 5 P M 3 MS. COLE: Thank you. I'd like to enter this
1 : 2 5 P M 4 document into evidence, Your Honor.

1 : 2 5 P M 5 MR. ESFANDIARI: No objection, Your Honor.

1 : 2 5 P M 6 THE COURT: Go ahead. It's admitted.

1 : 2 6 P M 7 MS. COLE: I've been in the dark all my life. It's
1 : 2 6 P M 8 okay.

1 : 2 6 P M 9 THE COURT: There we go.

1 : 2 6 P M 10 BY MS. COLE:

1 : 2 6 P M 11 Q. In looking through the medical records, Dr. Omalu, you
1 : 2 6 P M 12 didn't find any of Mr. Thelen's health care providers that used
1 : 2 6 P M 13 the -- that found the diagnosis "brain damage" in Mr. Thelen;
1 : 2 6 P M 14 did you?

1 : 2 6 P M 15 A. As I sit here, I cannot remember everything said in
1 : 2 6 P M 16 thousands and thousands of pages of medical records, so I'm
1 : 2 6 P M 17 not -- I don't know. I don't remember.

1 : 2 6 P M 18 Q. I see. Any testing -- are you aware of any testing done
1 : 2 6 P M 19 on Mr. Thelen to diagnosis his neurocognitive state?

1 : 2 7 P M 20 A. I don't understand your question.

1 : 2 7 P M 21 Q. Let me rephrase the question. I'll put it in simpler
1 : 2 7 P M 22 words. The kind of testing that Dr. Hannappel did and that
1 : 2 7 P M 23 Dr. Bilder did, neurocognitive assessments --

1 : 2 7 P M 24 A. Yes.

1 : 2 7 P M 25 Q. -- did you see any of those kinds of tests that were done

1 on Mr. Thelen before he underwent ECT?

2 A. Before he -- no, no. You don't do tests if there is no
3 clinical indication.

4 Q. In order to compare his cognitive functioning before ECT
5 to his cognitive function after he had ECT, you need something
6 to compare it with, true?

7 A. No, no. As doctors, you don't just order tests. That is
8 unethical. There has to be a clinical indication for a test.
9 Like now, I've never had a CT scan in my life because there's
10 not been any indication. So when we start having new symptoms
11 and then his doctor made the judgment --

12 Q. I think, Doctor, that you've answered my question which
13 was a yes/no question.

14 would you agree, sir, that there is no way to
15 determine Mr. Thelen's amount of cognitive functioning before
16 receiving ECT without some sort of a neurocognitive test having
17 been performed on him, true?

18 A. No, no, that's false. That's absolutely false. The
19 absence of symptoms indicates a normal human being, and
20 remember when you say the word "normal", the foundation of
21 mathematics means he is within, plus or minus, two standard
22 deviation of normal.

23 Q. Mr. -- Doctor, Mr. Thelen suffered from major depression
24 all of his life?

25 A. Yes.

1 : 2 8 P M 1 Q. Mr. Thelen's cognitive functioning was affected by his
1 : 2 9 P M 2 depression all of his life?

1 : 2 9 P M 3 A. In my review of the medical records, I did not see that.
1 : 2 9 P M 4 Depression does not typically cause neurocognitive impairment.

1 : 2 9 P M 5 Q. I see. That's your opinion, and you're entitled to your
1 : 2 9 P M 6 opinion.

1 : 2 9 P M 7 I want to ask you, now, sir, about head trauma.

1 : 2 9 P M 8 A. Yes.

1 : 2 9 P M 9 Q. Mr. Thelen saw -- Mr. Thelen worked in and around trees
1 : 2 9 P M 10 when he was working as a -- for a job, right? He was an
1 : 2 9 P M 11 arborist?

1 : 2 9 P M 12 A. I don't remember as I sit here. I'm sorry.

1 : 2 9 P M 13 Q. Mr. Thelen gave a history of multiple head trauma or being
1 : 2 9 P M 14 hit in the head and sometimes losing consciousness when he saw
1 : 2 9 P M 15 Dr. Heller, right?

1 : 3 0 P M 16 A. I don't remember seeing that. The one I recollect was the
1 : 3 0 P M 17 single episode of blunt force trauma. Another -- another thing
1 : 3 0 P M 18 I remember as I sit here was he said he doesn't remember. I
1 : 3 0 P M 19 don't remember exactly.

1 : 3 0 P M 20 Q. I see. All right. Let's take a look. This is a record
1 : 3 0 P M 21 from Dr. Heller, who he saw right before he started ECT. Do
1 : 3 0 P M 22 you recall him saying to Dr. Heller in the middle there, "He
1 : 3 0 P M 23 denies prior seizure history or alcohol use earlier in the day
1 : 3 0 P M 24 after he" -- let me start at the beginning. "Patient thinks he
1 : 3 0 P M 25 had a seizure on July 31st, 2013. The patient is here because

1 he is unable to remember about 12 hours yesterday." Did I read
2 that right?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Is that a seizure?

5 A. Sorry?

6 Q. Is that a seizure?

7 A. I don't get the question. What -- he denies prior seizure
8 history. What is your question? Sorry.

9 Q. "Patient is here because he is unable to remember about 12
10 hours yesterday. Patient thinks he had a seizure. He was at
11 home watching TV while it was light out. The next thing he
12 remembers, it's dark out, and he doesn't know what happened.
13 He has new onset of headache starting a couple of months ago.
14 Describes it as generalized." Does that describe a seizure to
15 you, sir?

16 A. It doesn't typically describe a seizure, no.

17 Q. Okay. Going on, he says, "He has frequent injuries to the
18 head, occasionally losing consciousness, due to his work. He
19 was last hit in the head without loss of consciousness on
20 Monday. He estimates that he last had a loss of consciousness
21 event due to head trauma more than six months ago."

22 Doctor, isn't that a history of frequent head trauma?

23 A. You could say yes or no. This is not substantiated, but
24 the patient said he had multiple histories of -- in my review
25 of the medical records, it was not substantiated, no.

1 : 3 2 P M 1 Q. So what the patient said was not substantiated by somebody
1 : 3 2 P M 2 else who wasn't there said? Is that what you're telling us?

1 : 3 2 P M 3 A. Well, remember -- yeah. Remember what I had said earlier,
1 : 3 2 P M 4 that when a patient presents with symptoms, you validate the
1 : 3 2 P M 5 symptoms with signs, okay?

1 : 3 2 P M 6 Q. Thank you, Doctor. That answers the question.

1 : 3 2 P M 7 MS. COLE: I would like to enter into evidence Thelen
1 : 3 2 P M 8 Exhibit Number 1026.

1 : 3 2 P M 9 MR. ESFANDIARI: No objection, Your Honor.

1 : 3 2 P M 10 THE COURT: Admitted.

1 : 3 3 P M 11 BY MS. COLE:

1 : 3 3 P M 12 Q. Doctor, head trauma can cause memory loss, yes?

1 : 3 3 P M 13 A. No. Not as you said it. I've received head trauma. I'm
1 : 3 3 P M 14 not having memory loss. So you need to quantify it, qualify
1 : 3 3 P M 15 it.

1 : 3 3 P M 16 Q. Doctor, head trauma which does cause a -- which causes a
1 : 3 3 P M 17 loss of consciousness can cause memory loss, true?

1 : 3 3 P M 18 A. Yes, if you receive it multiple times, and if it causes --
1 : 3 3 P M 19 the key word is if it causes diffused axonal injury, and the
1 : 3 3 P M 20 technical jargon for it is if you suffer subconcussions and
1 : 3 4 P M 21 concussions. Not every blow to your head would cause axonal
1 : 3 4 P M 22 injury. Otherwise all of us would be walking around with
1 : 3 4 P M 23 dementias.

1 : 3 4 P M 24 Q. Doctor, if a person has suffered a structural injury to
1 : 3 4 P M 25 his brain, there are ways to tell that he has had a structural

1 injury to his brain, true?

2 A. Yes, CT scan will show you structural damage to the brain,
3 yes, ma'am.

4 Q. And imaging is generally used to show that, CT and MRIs,
5 right?

6 A. Yes, ma'am.

7 Q. Mr. Thelen didn't have CT evidence or MRI evidence of any
8 structural injury to his brain, true?

9 MR. ESFANDIARI: Your Honor, asked and answered.

10 THE COURT: It's cross-examination. I'll allow a
11 little leeway.

12 MR. ESFANDIARI: I mean, she's asked and answered
13 already, but that's fine.

14 THE COURT: Thank you. Objection is overruled.

15 THE WITNESS: He -- the CT scans or MRIs, like I have
16 said earlier, did not show any evidence of structural damage to
17 the brain.

18 BY MS. COLE:

19 Q. Sometimes structural damage can give off certain enzymes
20 when brain cells are injured or dying, true?

21 A. No. When you talk of enzymes, you're no longer talking
22 about structure. Remember the distinction I made about anatomy
23 and clinical pathology. So enzymes, its function --

24 Q. It was a yes/no question, Doctor. I'm sorry. I'm trying
25 to get everybody out of here, including you. I know you have a

1 plane. So if you could just answer my questions, we'll get
2 this done, okay?

3 A. Like I had said, some of these questions I cannot answer
4 yes or no. That would be against scientific principles. That
5 was why I said yes and no, and if you let me to explain, I will
6 explain.

7 Q. Doctor, when brain cells are -- is it your interpretation,
8 Doctor, that brain damage involves the death of brain cells?

9 A. No, I never said that, no.

10 Q. Brain damage in Mr. Thelen that you are opining about, are
11 you saying that his -- the brain -- what you're calling brain
12 damage, we can't prove that it involved any death of brain
13 cells?

14 A. I don't understand the question. Hold on. Let me repeat
15 it. That the brain damage does not involve the loss of brain
16 cells?

17 Q. In Mr. Thelen.

18 A. The answer to that is yes or no. I'll explain. It's not
19 a yes or no answer, but I will explain.

20 Q. Do we have evidence of brain cell death in Mr. Thelen?

21 A. Okay. You cannot have evidence on MRI or CT scan if
22 you've not lost sufficient numbers of brain cells. There are
23 over 200 billion brain cells in your head. By the age of 53,
24 you start losing your brain cells. So when it becomes
25 significant and you start having symptoms is when you've lost a

1 significant number in specific regions of your brain. So that
2 was why I said the answer to that is yes or no. It's not a yes
3 or no answer.

4 Q. You are diagnosing Mr. Thelen with what you call brain
5 damage because he has given a history of loss of memory that he
6 believes is permanent, and it happened after ECT; is that
7 right?

8 A. No.

9 Q. What objective evidence are you using to diagnose brain
10 damage in Mr. Thelen?

11 A. The objective evidence I'm using, I am using a multiple.
12 It's not just one. Number 1, he was exposed to 95
13 electroshocks. Number 2, he developed new neurocognitive
14 symptoms, especially memory impairment which is progressive.
15 Number 3, CT scan and MRIs are negative. Number 4, his
16 treating physicians, his treating physicians who were treating
17 him as a patient, had a high index of suspicion that this
18 individual is manifesting symptoms of brain damage.

19 Q. Where in the medical records by his treating physicians
20 does it say "brain damage," sir?

21 A. Memory impairment is a symptom of brain damage.

22 Q. So what you are calling brain damage is equivalent in your
23 mind in Mr. Thelen's case to loss of memory?

24 A. Not in my mind. It is a fact. The patient --

25 Q. Yes, sir.

1 : 3 8 P M 1 A. Let me -- if I may explain?

1 : 3 8 P M 2 Q. I don't need you to explain. It was a yes or no question.

1 : 3 8 P M 3 A. All right. All right.

1 : 3 8 P M 4 MS. COLE: And I don't have any more questions for

1 : 3 8 P M 5 you.

1 : 3 8 P M 6 THE WITNESS: Thank you.

1 : 3 8 P M 7 MS. COLE: Thank you very much.

1 : 3 8 P M 8 THE WITNESS: God bless you. Thank you, thank you.

1 : 3 8 P M 9 THE COURT: Redirect?

1 : 3 9 P M 10 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

1 : 3 9 P M 11 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

1 : 3 9 P M 12 Q. Dr. Omalu, I'd like to give you an opportunity to explain

1 : 3 9 P M 13 that last answer.

1 : 3 9 P M 14 A. You know, science sometimes can be paradoxical. So

1 : 3 9 P M 15 because we cannot crack open somebody's head to see damage, we

1 : 3 9 P M 16 use markers, what we call biomarkers, of damage. For example,

1 : 3 9 P M 17 if somebody suffers brain injury from any cause, that patient

1 : 3 9 P M 18 could seize. A seizure is a biomarker of brain injury. A

1 : 3 9 P M 19 patient who is having a fever is a biomarker of an infection.

1 : 3 9 P M 20 The fever is what we can use. We cannot open the person to

1 : 3 9 P M 21 look for the bacteria. So in this case, a person is exposed to

1 : 3 9 P M 22 repeated, 95, electroshocks, okay?

1 : 4 0 P M 23 MS. COLE: Your Honor --

1 : 4 0 P M 24 THE WITNESS: And then --

1 : 4 0 P M 25 MS. COLE: Your Honor, your order on causation, sir.

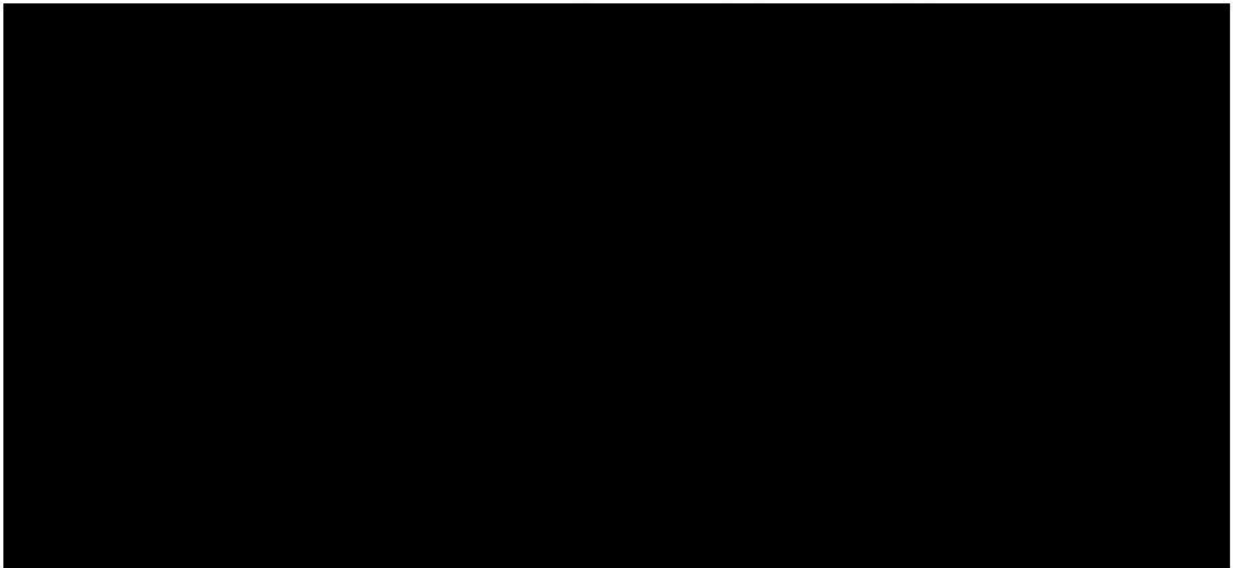
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THE COURT: Okay. Come on up.

THE WITNESS: I should go up?

MR. ESFANDIARI: No.

(At sidebar on the record.)



(End of discussion at sidebar.)

BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

Q. Dr. Omalu, sorry that your response was interrupted. Please continue.

A. Uh-oh. Can you help me -- remind me where I start?

Q. Okay.

A. I'm sorry.

THE COURT: Here was the question: "Dr. Omalu, I'd like to give you an opportunity to explain that last answer." That was the question.

THE WITNESS: Oh, okay. I was talking about fevers. okay.

1 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

2 Q. Fevers, and then you were also talking about the fact that
3 a person who has had 95 --

4 A. Yes. So a patient, a human being who has had 95
5 electroshocks, okay? And then after a while, while he was
6 having the electroshocks, he begins to manifest memory
7 impairment. Then after a while, a short period, the memory
8 impairment becomes more prominent, becomes too aggressive, and
9 begins to incapacitate his activities of daily living. By the
10 temporal standard and the central limit theorem standards of
11 science, you can determine with a reasonable degree of medical
12 certainty that the electroshocks were substantial and
13 significant contributory factors to his new symptomatology,
14 given the exclusion of other possible causes, negative CT scan
15 and negative MRI.

16 Q. Thank you. And, Dr. Omalu, you were asked about certain
17 references to head trauma prior to ECT. Did any of the --
18 prior to ECT, did any of Dr. Thelen's (verbatim) medical
19 providers deem it necessary for him to get a neurocognitive
20 exam?

21 A. No. When these treating doctors evaluated him, there was
22 no significant finding or indication of a repetitive -- we call
23 it a repetitive traumatic brain injury. We all encounter head
24 trauma in our lives. Coming out of your car, you bump your
25 head. We all suffer memory impairment. No. So it has to pass

1 the threshold of substantial and significant.

2 Q. And, indeed, the first time that Mr. Thelen had a
3 neuropsych examination was after ECT, correct?

4 A. Yes, sir.

5 Q. All right.

6 A. But having said that, in the standard of medicine,
7 hypothetically speaking, like I said earlier, differential
8 diagnosis. As soon as he had --

9 THE COURT: Excuse me. Objection is sustained. All
10 right? You answered his question, and then you went on. All
11 right? So I think we're about to the end, right?

12 MR. ESFANDIARI: Do we have -- it's -- I don't want
13 to delay for the document.

14 BY MR. ESFANDIARI:

15 Q. Dr. Omalu, have all of the opinions that you've given here
16 today been to a reasonable degree of medical certainty?

17 A. Yes, sir, all my opinions are with a reasonable degree of
18 medical and scientific certainty and probability, yes, sir.

19 Q. And in -- to summarize your opinions in one sentence, what
20 would it be, Doctor?

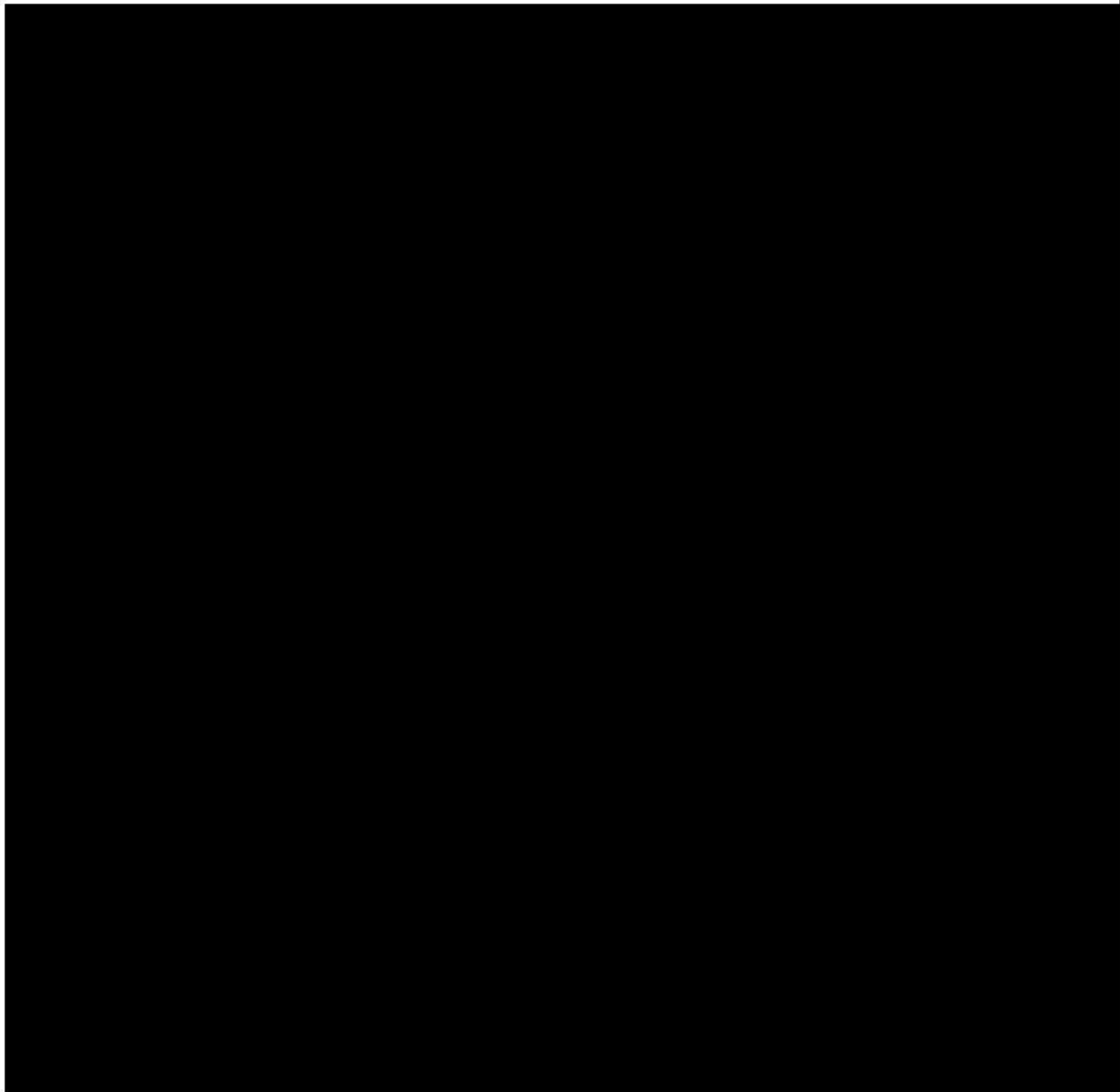
21 A. That Mr. Thelen was exposed to 95 electroshocks and
22 developed brain damage, as manifested by progressive and
23 permanent neurocognitive impairment, specifically memory
24 impairment.

25 Q. As a result of the ECT?



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A. Yes, electroshock, yes, sir.
MR. ESFANDIARI: All right. Thank you, Dr. Omalu.
THE WITNESS: Thank, sir. Bless you.
THE COURT: Thank you. You're free to go.
THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.
(witness excused.)



[REDACTED]

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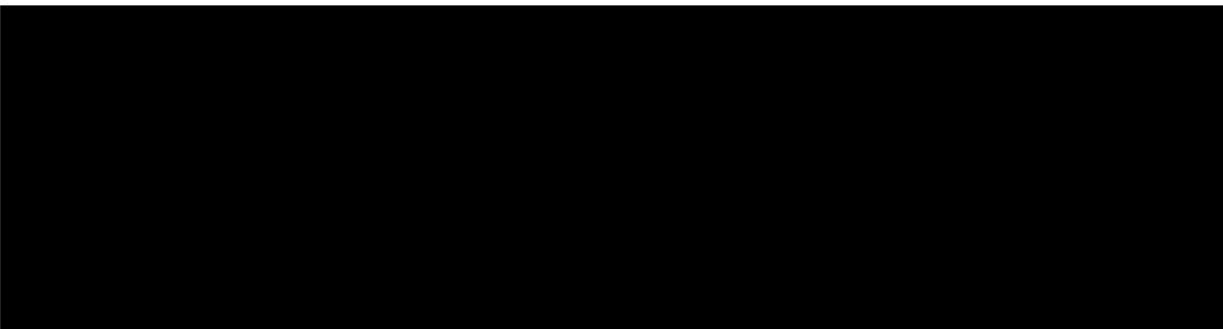
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THE COURT: Turn the lights on, please, Sonya. All right. Members of the jury, we started early today. I wasn't sure how long the live witnesses were going to take. I wanted to make sure we had enough time. We have. I said we'd get out

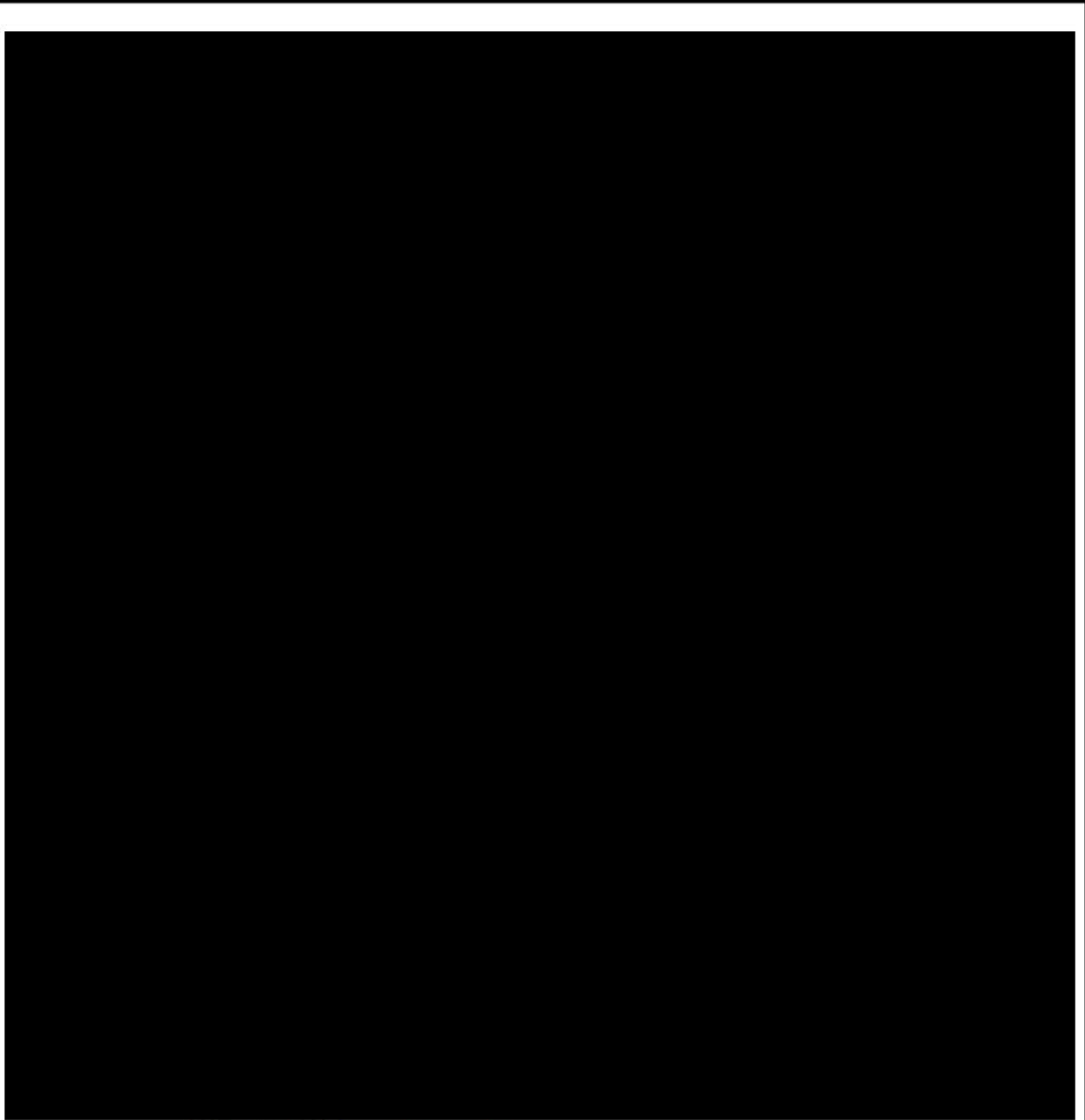
3 : 5 7 P M 1 early. We're even getting out before 4:00, two minutes before
3 : 5 7 P M 2 4:00, but we've had enough for the day. I know you have also,
3 : 5 7 P M 3 and we'd would like you to come back on Monday, at 9:00 a.m. on
3 : 5 7 P M 4 Monday.

3 : 5 7 P M 5 Now, particularly important over the weekend, because
3 : 5 7 P M 6 you've given us three days of your lives, and your friends and
3 : 5 7 P M 7 family are going to want to know what the heck is going on,
3 : 5 8 P M 8 right? They think you're going to be in some trial they're
3 : 5 8 P M 9 watching on TV tonight or whatever. And just be very careful.
3 : 5 8 P M 10 No conversations with people. You can tell them once this
3 : 5 8 P M 11 thing is over with, they take you out for dinner, you'll tell
3 : 5 8 P M 12 them everything they ever wanted to know about ECT and
3 : 5 8 P M 13 everything else, all right? But until that happens, do not
3 : 5 8 P M 14 have any conversations and do not gather any information.
3 : 5 8 P M 15 Don't Google this stuff, don't ask a friend or neighbor to help
3 : 5 8 P M 16 you out with legal concepts. Nothing like that. Everybody
3 : 5 8 P M 17 good with that? Okay. Leave your tablets on the chair. We'll
3 : 5 8 P M 18 see you at 9:00 on Monday. Thank you for your time these last
3 : 5 8 P M 19 three days.

20 (Jury out at 3:58 p.m.)



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(End of proceedings.)

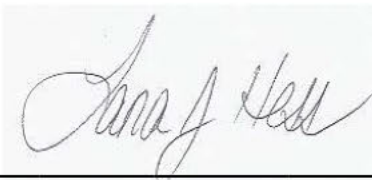
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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA

REPORTER TRANSCRIPT CERTIFICATE

I, Tana J. Hess, Official Court Reporter for the United States District Court, Middle District of Florida, certify, pursuant to Section 753, Title 28, United States Code, that the foregoing is a true and correct transcription of the stenographic notes taken by the undersigned in the above-entitled matter (Pages 1 through 243 inclusive) and that the transcript page format is in conformance with the regulations of the Judicial Conference of the United States of America.



Tana J. Hess, CRR, RMR, FCRR
Official Court Reporter
United States District Court
Middle District of Florida
Tampa Division
Date: June 12, 2023