	Page 1		Page 3
1 IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 2 FOR THE DISTRICT OF UTAH, CENTRAL DIVISION		1 INDEX 2 RICHARD JAMESON PAGE	
3	_	3 Examination by Ms. Healy-Gallagher 6 4 5 EXHIBITS	
UNITED STATES OF) 4 AMERICA,) Deposition of:		6 NUMBER DESCRIPTION PAGE 7 Exhibit 624 10-25-13 E-Mail to Richard	
) 5 Plaintiff,) RICHARD JAMESON		Jameson from Greg Shepard 104	
) 6 vs.) Time on record:		8 Exhibit 625 10-29-13 E-mail to Aaron	
) [']		9 Mayer from Greg Shepard 128 10 Exhibit 626 10-29-13 E-mail to Preston	
7 RaPower3, LLC,,) 7 Hours 20 minutes INTERNATIONAL)		Olsen from Greg Shepard 135	
8 AUTOMATED SYSTEMS,) Case No. 2:15-cv-00828 DN INC., LTB1, LLC, R.)		Exhibit 627 U.S. Code Service 12 26 USC 469 143	
9 GREGORY SHEPARD, ELDON) Judge David Nuffer JOHNSON and ROGER)		13 Exhibit 628 U.S. Code Service 26 CFR 1.469-1T 149	
10 FREEBORN,) CONFIDENTIAL		14 Exhibit 629 U.S. Code Service	
11 Defendants.)		15 26 CF 1.469.5t 152	
12	_	16 Exhibit 630 U.S. Code Service 26 CFR 1.469.4 164	
13 14 September 20, 2017 * 9:00 a.m. to 5:20 p.m.		17 Exhibit 631 RaPower3 Tax Forms 171	
15 16 Location: United States Attorney's Office		18 Exhibit 632 4-14-15 E-Mail to Richard	
17 20 East Main Street, Suite 208		19 Jameson from Ted Fullerton 182 20 Exhibit 633 8-6-15 E-mail to Mark Sikich	
18		from Trent Hanson 185	
20 21		Exhibit 634 2013 Federal Tax Return for 22 R. Greg and Diana C. Shepard 193	
22 23		23 Exhibit 635 2013 Form 1120 Tax Return 193	
24		24 Exhibit 636 2014 Federal Tax Return for R. Greg and Diana Shepard 193	
25 Reported by: Russel D. Morgan, CSR		25	D=== 4
1 APPEARANCES	Page 2	1 EXHIBIT (Continued)	Page 4
2 3 FOR THE PLAINTIFF:		2 Exhibit 637 5-1-14 letter on North Star Tax Services letterhead to	
4 Erin Healy-Gallagher		3 Ms. Oyola from Richard Jameson 203 4 Exhibit 638 9-24-14 letter on North Star	
Erin R. Hines (Telephonically) 5 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE		Tax Services letterhead to	
Trial Attorneys, Tax Division 6 P.O. Box 7328		5 Steven Miller from Richard Jameson 213	
Washington, D.C. 20044		6 Exhibit 639 9-6-16 letter on North Star	
7 Telephone: 202.353.2452 (Healy-Gallagher) Fax: 202.514.6770		7 Tax Services letterhead to	
E-mail: erin.healygallagher@usdoj.gov FOR THE DEFENDANTS RAPOWER-3, LLC,		Steven Miller from 8 Richard Jameson 219	
INTERNATIONAL AUTOMATED SYSTEMS, INC., LTB1,		9 Exhibit 640 7-5-16 E-mail to Christopher Moran from Ken Riter 222	
10 LLC, NELDON JOHNSON, and RICHARD JAMESON: 11 Steven R. Paul		10	
NELSON, SNUFFER, DAHLE & POULSEN, P.C.		Exhibit 641 7-18-14 E-mail to 11 coachm_96@hotmail.com	
12 10885 So. State St. Sandy, Utah 84070		from Rick Jameson 223	
		·-	
13 801.576.1400 spaul@nsdplaw.com		Exhibit 642 7-5-16 E-mail to Ken Riter	
spaul@nsdplaw.com 14		Exhibit 642 7-5-16 E-mail to Ken Riter 13 from Rick Jameson 224 14	
spaul@nsdplaw.com		13 from Rick Jameson 224 14 15	
spaul@nsdplaw.com 14 15 16 * * * * 17		13 from Rick Jameson 224 14 15 16 17	
spaul@nsdplaw.com 14 15 16 * * * *		13 from Rick Jameson 224 14 15 16	
spaul@nsdplaw.com 14 15 16 *** 17 18 19 20		13 from Rick Jameson 224 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 Plaintiff	
spaul@nsdplaw.com 14 15 16 *** 17 18 19 20 21 22		13 from Rick Jameson 224 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 Plaintiff Exhibit	
spaul@nsdplaw.com 14 15 16 *** 17 18 19 20 21		13 from Rick Jameson 224 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	

Jameson, Richard Pages 1 - 4

Page 5 Page 7 1 PROCEEDINGS 1 and state of your home address? 2 RICHARD JAMESON 2 Mailing address or physical address? 3 having been first duly sworn to tell the 3 Physical address. Seventy North 200 West, Ivins, Utah 4 truth, was examined and testified as 4 5 follows: 84738. Just moved there. 6 **EXAMINATION** 6 Q And the city and state of your business 7 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 7 address? 8 Q All right. Good morning, Mr. Jameson. 8 Α The city is St. George, Utah. 9 A Good morning. 9 Mr. Jameson, have you ever been deposed Q 10 We are on the record today in the case 10 before? 11 of United States vs. RaPower-3, et al, on 11 Α Yes, I have. 12 September 20th, 2017. Q How many times? 12 13 We met a moment ago. But my name is 13 One, maybe two. 14 Erin Healy-Gallagher of the U.S. Department of 14 All right. So, you are probably 15 Justice in the Tax Division appearing on behalf of 15 generally familiar with how depositions go. But, 16 the United States. 16 for today, I would like to just cover a few ground 17 Mr. Paul, would you like to make your 17 rules so that we are all on the same page. So, in 18 this deposition, I will ask you questions. My 18 appearance? MR. PAUL: Yes. I am Steven Paul. I 19 questions and your answers will be recorded by the 19 20 represent RaPower-3 and Neldon Johnson and the 20 court reporter who is here. So, you need to speak 21 RaPower-3 entities. 21 loudly enough for him to hear you and answer my 22 questions verbally. Do you understand? MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Erin Hines is on 23 the phone also representing the United States 23 Yes, ma'am. 24 Department of Justice. Christopher Moran is not 24 Q You are doing a great job so far. But 25 present for the United States. Similarly, R. 25 the court reporter cannot record a nod or shake of Page 6 Page 8 1 the head, and words like uh-huh or uh-uh are 1 Gregory Shepard and Roger Freeborn are not present 2 unclear on the transcript that will be created. 2 today. This deposition will be governed by the 3 A Understood. 3 4 federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the local 4 O So, if there comes a time when there is 5 rules of the District of Utah. All exhibits will 5 sort of one of those situations, I'll stop and ask 6 you for a verbal answer. Do you understand? 6 be marked and kept today by the court reporter. 7 Yes, ma'am. 7 Mr. Paul, did you have any stipulations 8 Q Also, we have a tendency in casual for this deposition? 9 conversation to sometimes speak over one another. 9 MR. PAUL: Not at this point. 10 For example, you'll start to answer a question MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Okay. We'll 10 11 before it's finished being asked. So, here, 11 address any as they arise. BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 12 please wait until I am finished asking my question 13 before you start to answer, because the court Q All right. Would you please state and 13 14 spell your name for the record? 14 reporter can't take down two people talking at 15 once. Do you understand? 15 A Richard Jameson, J-a-m-e-s-o-n. 16 16 A Yes, ma'am. MR. PAUL: Actually, yes. I just 17 Q And, again, if there is a situation that 17 represented the stipulation. We would like to 18 comes up today, I'll just stop, slow us down so 18 invoke the confidentiality provision and the

21 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:

Q And would you spell your last name, 22

23 please?

20 confidential.

24 A J-a-m-e-s-o-n.

25 And would you please provide the city

19 protective order and designate this deposition as

24 obligation?

19 that the court reporter can make a clear

23 complete answers. Do you understand that

All right. So, when I do finish each 22 question, your task for today is to give full and

25 A Yes, ma'am,

20 transcript.

21

9

Page 9

1 Q It's my obligation to ask understandable

- 2 questions to you. So, if you don't understand a
- 3 question for any reason, please let me know, and I
- 4 will try to ask a better one. Will you do that?
- 5 A Yes, ma'am.
- 6 Q Sometimes it will happen that you will
- 7 give an answer as completely as you can in the
- 8 moment, but then later on you may remember
- 9 different information or additional information
- 10 about that answer, and you may need to clarify or
- 11 amplify the previous answer. And that's fine.
- 12 When that occurs, if it occurs, please let me
- 13 know, and we'll make sure to clarify the record
- 14 right away. Will you do that?
- 15 A Yes, ma'am.
- 16 Q And when you are answering a question,
- 17 if you think that a document or documents might
- 18 help refresh your recollection or help you
- 19 remember an answer, please let me know, and we'll
- 20 see if we have that document here today. Will you
- 21 do that?

1

- 22 A Yes, ma'am.
- 23 Q And Mr. Paul is here representing you
- 24 today, correct?
- 25 A Yes, ma'am.

- Page 10 Q So, if at any time you want to talk to
- 2 Mr. Paul during the deposition, that's fine, but
- 3 if there is a question pending, I will ask that
- 4 you answer the question first before you talk to
- 5 Mr. Paul. Will you do that?
- 6 A Yes, ma'am.
- 7 Q So, we are here today to get as accurate
- 8 a record as we can of the facts of this case as
- 9 you remember them or know them. So, I have to ask
- 10 you, is there anything that would prevent you from
- 11 understanding and answering my questions today
- 12 with the full capacity of your recollection?
- 13 A Not to my knowledge, no.
- 14 Q Are you taking any medications or drugs
- 15 of any kind that might interfere with your memory?
- 16 A No, ma'am.
- 17 Q Have you had anything alcoholic to drink
- 18 in the last eight hours?
- 19 A No, ma'am.
- 20 Q Is there any other reason you can think
- 21 of why you may not be able to answer my questions
- 22 fully and accurately today?
- 23 A No, ma'am.
- 24 Q Mr. Jameson is how you pronounce it,
- 25 right?

1 A Yes, ma'am.

- 2 Q Would you please identify any email
- 3 addresses you have used since 2010.
- A Rjameson, j-a-m-e-s-o-n, 08 @Gmail.com.

Page 11

- 5 Then I have Rick@northstartaxservices, make sure
- 6 there is an "S" on services, .com.
- 7 Q Any others?
- 8 A No, ma'am.
 - Q All right. Mr. Jameson, I would like to
- 10 get an idea of your background as we begin. Where
- 11 did you go to high school?
- 12 A I went to high school, let's see,
- 13 University High School in West Los Angeles. I
- 14 went to high school in Portsmouth, New Hampshire.
- 15 I went to high school in Fresno, California. I
- 16 went to high school in Manhattan Beach,
- 17 California. I think there was another one in
- 18 there, but I don't remember exactly.
- 19 Q All right. Where did you graduate high
- 20 school?
- 21 A I did not graduate from high school.
- 22 Q Have you had any formal education since
- 23 high school?
- 24 A Yes, ma'am.
- 25 Q What's that?

Page 12
A I have a Bachelor of Science degree in

- 2 industrial technology with a major in business
- 3 administration and economics. I have a masters of
- 4 science degree in social science interdisciplinary
- 5 public administration with a major in economics.
- 6 I have a masters degree in taxation. And I am
- 7 currently working on my Ph.D. in taxation.
- 8 Q Okay. Let's start with your bachelors
- 9 of science. And did you say industrial
- 10 technology?
- 11 A Industrial technology with a major in
- 12 economics and business administration.
- 13 Q When did you get that degree?
- 14 A I think I got it in 1980, if I remember
- 15 correctly.
- 16 Q From which institution?
- 17 A It's now called Southern Utah State
- 18 University up in Cedar City.
- 19 Q And your masters in social science?
- 20 A It's a masters in social science
- 21 interdisciplinary administration with a major in
- 22 economics. I received it from Utah State
- 23 University in Logan, Utah.
- 24 Q When did you receive that degree?
- 25 A I think, if I remember correctly, 1985

- 1 thereabouts.
- 2 Q Your masters in taxation, where did you 3 get that from?
- A I received that from the William Howard Taft University in Southern California.
- Q When did you get that? 6
- 7 A I want to say late '80, early '90. I
- 8 don't remember the exact date. I think it's
- probably 1990. We'll say that. That's close 10 enough.
- Q And you say you are working on your 11 12 Ph.D. in taxation?
- A Yes, ma'am, 13
- 14 Q With which institution?
- 15 A I knew you were going to ask that
- 16 question. And I keep forgetting the name of it.
- 17 It's in Provo, Utah. It's an online class. I
- 18 don't remember the name to be honest with you.
- 19 Q When did you start working on your Ph.D. 20 in taxation?
- 21 A I started working on it about four
- 22 and-a-half years ago, which would be what --
- Q Middle of 2012? 23
- 24 Α Middle of 2012 sounds about right, yeah.
- Q And what remains until you get your 25

Page 14

- 1 Ph.D. in taxation?
- A I have finished all of the classwork. I 2 3 submitted my 305 page dissertation. And my
- 4 adviser sent it back saying I need to clean up my 5 footnotes.
- 6 Q What's your dissertation on?
- The tax benefits of cost segregation 7 Α 8 analysis.
- 9 Q When did you finish your course work?
- A I didn't understand the question. 10
- Q You said you had finished all your 11
- 12 course work for your Ph.D. in taxation. When did
- you finish that course work?
- A Probably in 2015, about the middle of 15 2015.
- Q So, I would like to get a general 16
- 17 overview of your working life, your professional
- 18 life. I don't need knitty-gritty details right
- 19 now, but could you give me an overview of from
- 20 when you started working to today? What in broad
- 21 strokes have you been doing professionally?
- A How far back do you want me to go? 22
- 23 Q Well, we can start with after high
- 24 school if --
 - A After high school, I was a, I worked as

1 a parking lot attendant. I then went into the

- 2 United States Army. I was a fire control crewman.
- 3 It's called a 16C10 for Hercules missile, part of
- 4 the air defense system of the United States. It's
- 5 a nuclear warhead missile by the way.

6 When I got out of the army, I went to

7 work at Eureka Paper Box Company as a right angle

- 8 glue machine operator. I then was promoted into
- 9 shipping. And I was a shipping clerk and
- 10 part-time truck driver.
- 11 I then went back to college to get my
- 12 bachelors degree. While I was in college I worked
- 13 in the construction industry. After I graduated
- 14 from college, I was hired by the Paiute Indian
- 15 Tribe. And I was their health director.
- 16 Let's see. I then went to work for --
- 17 after I left the Paiute Indian Tribe, I went to
- 18 work for H & R Block in Cedar City as a tax
- 19 preparer, ended up buying the franchise from the
- 20 owner. I ran that franchise for 25, 26 years. In
- 21 the process, I also purchased the H & R Block
- 22 franchise in St. George, Utah and ran it.
- Got tired of being the boss, sold both 23
- 24 franchises. I am now a partner in North Star Tax
- 25 Services. And I am sort of semiretired.

Page 16

Page 15

- Q In what year did you start with H & R 1 2 Block in Cedar City as a tax preparer?
 - A First year I did tax returns was 1986.
- 4 So, it would have been 1987. '86 tax returns you
- 5 are doing a year earlier, so it would have been 6 1987.
- 7 Q Before 1987, did you have any -- did you
- do any tax return preparation before 1987?
- A I probably completed my own tax return
- 10 one or two times when I was working for the paper
- 11 box company, because it was simple W2 stuff. I,
- 12 basically, from that point forward just took
- everything to a CPA or a tax preparation firm. 13
- 14 Q And let's see, by 1987, you had your BA
- 15 and your masters in social science. For either of
- 16 those 2 degrees, did you have any classes on
- 17 federal taxation?
- No, ma'am. Not to my knowledge. I 18
- 19 don't remember any.
- Q How long did you work in the H & R Block 20
- 21 franchise as a preparer before you bought the
- 22 franchise?
- 23 Α Approximately, one year.
- So, did you buy the franchise in 1988? 24 Q
- 25 Yes. ma'am.

Page 17 Q When did you buy the St. George

- 2 franchise?
- 3 A I think it was 1990, late 1990.
- 4 And when did you sell the Cedar City 5 franchise?
- 6 A If I remember correctly, it was 2012.
- 7 Maybe 2013. Again, because it, we sold it in such
- 8 a manner as to finish a tax season so that
- 9 everything would be a nice clean break. So, I
- 10 think it was 2012.
- Q And how about the St. George franchise?
- 12 When did you sell that?
- A I sold the franchise in St. George two 13
- 14 years before that. So, it would be 2010.
- Q When did you start North Star -- or let
- 16 me ask you this. Did you start North Star Tax
- 17 Services?
- 18 A Started North Star Tax Services in about
- 19 2010.
- 20 Q Does North Star have any employees?
- 21 Α No.
- 22 Q Does anyone else share ownership in
- 23 North Star?
- 24 A Yes.
- 25 Q Who is that?

Page 18

- A Miss Lori Gailey. G-a-i-l-e-y. 1
- 2 Q What's Miss Gailey's email address?
- 3 A Lori@northstartaxservices.com.
- Q Do you know if she uses any other email 4 addresses?
- A If I remember, she also has an email 6 7 address at Gmail.
- Q Do you know the prefix of that email 8 address? 9
- 10 A I would say lori@gmail.com, but I would
- 11 have to look it up. I didn't memorize that one.
- 12 Sorry.
- 13 Q Are you and Miss Gailey equal partners?
- 14 A Yes, ma'am.
- Q How did you meet Miss Gailey? 15
- A Lori used to work for me. She was my 16
- 17 office manager in the H & R Block in Cedar City,
- 18 Utah until she moved to Long Beach, California.
- Q Was she also a tax return preparer at H 19
- 20 & R Block?
- 21 A Yes, ma'am.
- 22 Q How long did Miss Gailey work for you?
- 23 A I think about ten years, if I remember
- 24 correctly, give or take a little there.
 - Q Was she a tax return preparer for that

1 whole time?

7

2 A Yes, ma'am. And the office manager at 3 the same time.

Had she prepared tax returns before that 5 time?

- 6 Α Yes, ma'am.
 - Q Do you know about how long?
- She's actually been doing tax returns 8
- 9 longer than me. I have been doing it 30 years, so
- 10 she's probably 31 years or something like that.
- Q Okay. I would like to hear a little bit 11
- 12 about your masters in taxation. Can you tell me a
- 13 little bit about that program, your course work?
- A The course work is basically designed to
- 15 teach you about federal taxation. And so, you
- 16 have classes in partnerships, corporations,
- 17 S-Corporations, self-employed individuals, trusts
- 18 and so forth. And then they also have courses on
- 19 ethics. And they have courses on the criminal
- 20 investigation part of the IRS so that you
- 21 understand the due diligence requirements for your
- 22 preparation of tax returns.
- Q About how many hours were required for 23
- 24 your masters in taxation?
- 25 A I would say, offhand, I probably spent

Page 20

Page 19

- 1 500 plus hours between studying, writing, taking 2 tests, you know, all that stuff.
- 3 Q Sure. I wasn't precise. How many
- 4 course work hours, credit hours were required?
- A Oh, I'm sorry. I don't remember. I do
- 6 have the degree though. It's hanging on the wall
- 7 in my office. So, whatever it was, I passed it.
- Q During your masters in taxation, were
- 9 there classes on, like, procedure within the IRS
- 10 on the civil side?
- 11 Α Yes, ma'am.
- 12 Q What kinds of things did you learn about 13 there?
- 14 A Basically, that again, back to the due
- 15 diligence, that you have to make sure that you
- 16 follow the guidelines, the treasury regulations in
- 17 the Internal Revenue Code. And if you have a
- 18 question about something, you do the research to 19 come up with the due diligence and the substantial
- 20 authority.
- 21 Q Just to return to earlier on, Mr.
- 22 Jameson, before you went to college, did you get a
- 23 GED?
- 24 A Yes. I got a GED when I was in the

25 armv.

25

9

Page 21

- Q And, actually, what dates were you in 2 the army?
- 3 A 1968, 1969. Not real popular years.
- 4 Q For your masters in taxation, was there
- any requirement that you have a certain number of
- hours of practical work, practical experience?
- 7 A Yes, ma'am.
- 8 Q What was that requirement?
- 9 A The requirement was that I had to have
- 10 some tax preparation experience. And if I
- 11 remember correctly, it was, it had to do with the
- 12 time. So, where I had enough years in tax
- 13 preparation, when I took the entrance exam I was
- 14 able to pass it because I had basic understanding
- 15 for preparation of tax returns.
- Q So, there was an entrance exam for your 16 17 masters program?
- 18 A Yes, ma'am, if I remember correctly.
- 19 Q So, Mr. Jameson, you got your masters in
- 20 taxation not long after 26 USC 469 was enacted
- 21 regarding material participation, correct?
- A Yes, ma'am. 22
- 23 Q That was a fairly recent addition to the
- 24 tax code when you were in that program, right?
- 25 A Yes, ma'am.

1

Page 22

- Q Did you talk about it in the course of
- your studies in your masters in taxation?
- A To be quite honest with you, I don't 3
- 4 remember. I am assuming that one of the classes
- 5 that we had was updates toward the end. But,
- 6 also, under the fact that I am an IRS enrolled
- 7 agent, I have to do continuous education. I have
- 8 to have 72 units every three years, including two
- 9 units in ethics. So, I would have covered it, if
- 10 not in the masters program, but would have covered
- 11 it in the updates.
- 12 Q Sure. But talking specifically about
- 13 your masters in taxation, and the reason I ask
- 14 this is because I know when I was in law school,
- 15 you know, if there was a significant change to law
- 16 that had existed by the time, you know, at the
- 17 time I was in school, our professors tended to hit
- 18 it pretty hard. Do you remember talking about
- 19 Section 469 in the course of your masters in
- 20 taxation?
- 21 A We probably touched on it. But this was
- 22 all -- it wasn't a classroom environment. It was
- 23 all done online. So, it would have had to do with
- 24 the textbooks and what the professor at that time
- 25 wanted us to do. Most of the classes, they would

1 give us assignments to review that particular

- 2 thing, like, doing a partnership return, and then
- 3 explaining why we did the partnership return and
- 4 using the code sections to explain why we did what

Page 23

Page 24

- 5 we did on it when they gave us a problem to solve.
- Q So, your classes for your masters in
- 7 taxation were online in or around 1990?
- 8 Yes. ma'am.
 - Q Like, literally, on computers online?
- Yes, ma'am. Then I would have to go to 10
- 11 the actual physical location to take the final
- 12 exam for that class so that it could be monitored
- 13 and so forth. But, other than that, all the other
- 14 stuff was online.
- 15 Q Was it a video feed or audio?
- 16 Α Audio.
- 17 Q And that institution where you got your
- 18 masters in taxation was William H. Taft?
- 19 A William Howard Taft University, yes, 20 ma'am.
- 21 Q University?
- 22 Α Um-hmm.
 - Q Do you know if that's a for profit
- 24 university?

23

A I do not know. 25

Q And I just want to make sure I

- 2 understand as much as I can about the masters in
- 3 taxation. But what you just said, it sounded like
- 4 it was kind of a problem-based approach to
- 5 education?
- A Yes, ma'am. 6
- Q So, about how much, if you can give me a
- 8 rough estimate, of the course work you did was
- 9 lecture based versus working through problem sets?
- 10 A About 50/50.
- 11 Q Did you have any requirement for a
- 12 masters thesis?
- 13 No, ma'am.
- Q Did you do any kind of paper writing in 14
- 15 the course of the masters?
- 16 Yes, ma'am.
- 17 Do you happen to recall what you wrote Q
- 18 about?
- 19 A Each of the courses would require us to
- 20 do problem solving but, also, part of the problem
- 21 solving was to explain how we solved the problem,
- 22 what type of research we did, again, back to the
- 23 teaching us the due diligence and the substantial
- 24 authority. So, if they gave us a question about a
- 25 partnership, here is your problem with the

- 1 partnership, do the tax return, now explain why
- 2 you did what you did. So, we would have to write
- 3 up papers about that. I guess you could say each
- 4 class had its own thesis.
- Q Do you recall working through problems 5 6 involving material participation?
- A I do not recall. 7
- 8 Q All right. Let's talk a little about
- 9 your Ph.D course work. How many -- Mr. Jameson,
- 10 did the course work for your Ph.D differ from your
- 11 course work for your masters?
- A I was given a test because I already had 12
- 13 a masters of science in taxation. They gave me a
- 14 test, basically, to see where I was in the system.
- 15 And, based on the test, they waived some of the
- 16 classes so that, I don't think I even took an
- 17 actual class itself. They just moved me right
- 18 through the system to where I had to prepare the
- 19 thesis based on my test.
- 20 Q Okay. So, you didn't engage in any
- 21 course work?
- 22 A No, ma'am.
- 23 Q Sorry. Let me finish the question. So,
- 24 you didn't engage in any course work for your 25 Ph.D?

Page 26

- No, ma'am. 1
- 2 Q I just want to make sure I understand.
- 3 Because earlier you testified that all your course
- work was done around mid-2015 for your Ph.D?
- 5 A Yes, ma'am.
- 6 Q So, by that you mean you had taken the
- test and waived through all the courses? 7
- A Yes, ma'am. 8
- Q But you started working on your Ph.D in 9
- 10 mid-2012 you testified earlier?
- A My recollection, yes. 11
- 12 Q So, what does that mean? Is that when
- 13 you applied? Help me understand the time there.
- A I would have applied then. And if I
- 15 remember correctly, I applied and had to take the
- 16 test to see how much course work I didn't have to
- 17 take. They gave me credit for the masters and
- 18 then assigned me an adviser to start working on my 18
- 19 thesis.
- 20 Q Okay. So, it sounds like, and correct
- 21 me if I'm wrong, I'm just trying to understand, it
- 22 sounds like then you started working on your
- 23 dissertation in mid-2012.
- Yes, ma'am. Either that or early 2013. 24
- 25 When did you submit your dissertation to

1 your adviser?

- 2 October of 2016.
- 3 Q So, other than your dissertation, have
- 4 you done any other work toward your Ph.D in 5 taxation?
- Α 6 Not sure I understand the question.
- 7 So, my general understanding, I could be

Page 27

- 8 wrong of Ph.Ds, is that there may be some course
- 9 work. And there is a dissertation. What you said
- 10 is you have waived any course work. And you
- 11 submitted your dissertation. So, other than
- 12 finalizing your dissertation and passing whatever
- 13 review there is for your dissertation, is there
- 14 any other work that you need to do to complete
- 15 your Ph.D?
- 16 Α No, ma'am.
- 17 Q Is there any practical experience
- 18 requirement to complete your Ph.D?
- 19 A Yes, ma'am.
- 20 Q What is that?
- 21 It has to do with the number of years I
- 22 have been in tax returns, and then my professional
- 23 credentials.
- 24 Q So, do you mean you have to have already
- 25 had a certain number of years of work or do you

1 still have to accrue more years of work to get

- 2 vour Ph.D?
- A I had to have years of work prior to 3
- 4 applying for the Ph.D along with the professional
- 5 accreditations and licensing.
- Q Okay. But to get your Ph.D, you don't 6
- 7 have to engage in additional years of work,
- 8 correct?

20

23

- 9 A Correct.
- 10 Q And you don't have to acquire any
- 11 additional professional designations to get your
- 12 Ph.D, correct?
- A Correct. 13
- And you testified earlier that you can't 14
- 15 recall the name of the institution?
- Not off the top of my head, no, ma'am, I 16
- 17 can't. I'm sorry.
 - Q Do you happen to know if that
- 19 institution is a for profit institution?
 - A I do not know that answer.
- 21 Q Does your dissertation touch on any
- 22 aspect of material participation?
 - No, ma'am.
- 24 Q Out of curiosity, if you are
- 25 semiretired, why go for the Ph.D?

1 A That's a good question. My wife asked 2 the same thing. Because I didn't graduate from 3 high school I figured that if I could get a Ph.D I

would have impressed my grandfather.

5 MR. PAUL: Educational atonement.

THE WITNESS: Correct.

BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 7

- 8 Q Mr. Jameson, you mentioned professional
- designations that you have? 9
- A Yes, ma'am. 10

6

- Q What are those? 11
- A I am an IRS enrolled agent. I have --12
- 13 the National Association of Enrolled Agents has a
- 14 three-year course to teach you representation
- 15 before the Internal Revenue Service. I have that
- 16 designation. I'm called a fellow of NTPI. They
- 17 have a further three-year course to teach you
- 18 advanced representation before the Internal
- 19 Revenue Service. I have that designation.

I am a master graduate of federal 20

21 examination. There's only eight of us in the 22 country that have done that.

- Q Any other professional designations? 23
- No, ma'am. Would you like to use my 24
- 25 notepad? Would that work better?

- Q No. Thank you. 1
- 2 A Okay.
- Q When did you become an IRS enrolled 3 4 agent?
- 5 A I would to say 1982. It was right -- I
- 6 started doing taxes -- no, I couldn't have done it
- 7 then. That's when I graduated. So, let's see, I
- 8 started doing taxes in '87. So, it would have
- 9 probably been 1989. I'm sorry. They all sort of
- 10 run together after a while.
- Q What did you have to do to become an 11
- 12 enrolled agent?
- 13 A I had to take a test given by the
- 14 Internal Revenue Service and pass it with an
- 15 85 percent or higher.
- 16 Q What did you do to prepare for the test?
- A Study the Internal Revenue Code. 17
- Q Did you take any courses? 18
- 19 A No. ma'am.
- Q Did you use any specialized resources to 20
- 21 help prepare specifically for the test?
- A Yes, ma'am. 22
- 23 Q What did you use?
- A H & R Block teaches tax courses every 24
- 25 year. So, they have training manuals for

1 different levels of employees. So, I started with

Page 31

Page 32

2 the basic and went all the way through the most

- 3 advanced courses that they had.
- Q Did you do anything else to prepare for 5 the EA exam other than the H & R Block training?
- A Other than studying the Internal Revenue 6 7 Code, no, ma'am.
- Q And your own preparation? 8
- A Yes, ma'am. 9
- 10 Q And you started taking the H & R Block
- 11 courses in or around 1987, yes?
- Yes, ma'am. 12
- Q 13 Can you give me a general understanding
- 14 of the courses that you took from H & R Block?
- 15 How were they structured, what were they like?
- A The courses were structured, the basic 16
- 17 courses for somebody that had never done a tax
- 18 return before so you would be able to explain how
- 19 the tax return works by using different pages of
- 20 the tax return, as an example, the W2 that's
- 21 issued by the employer, where it gets reported.
- 22 If you have itemized deductions, you start with a
- 23 Schedule A and where it carries over to the 1040
- 24 or the 2106 that then carries over to the Schedule
- 25 A then over to the 1040. That's the basic

Page 30

1 classes.

14

- 2 Then it would basically advance more and
- 3 more as you got into the upper level teaching so
- 4 that they got into breaking down the Form 2106 in
- 5 greater detail as to where the information would
- 6 come from, how to justify the information and how
- 7 to make it work on the tax return and carry it
- 8 forward onto the Schedule A and onto the 1040.
- 9 And they did the same thing with partnerships,
- 10 corporations, trust returns and so forth.
- Q So, if I understand you correctly, the 11
- 12 basic courses were pretty solely focused on where
- 13 things go on the tax return; is that right?
 - A Yes, ma'am.
- Q And then, like, after basic, was there 15
- 16 an intermediate, then an advanced?
- 17 A Yes, ma'am.
- 18 Q So, for intermediate, what was the
- 19 difference between that and the basic?
- 20 A As an example, back to the 2106, Form
- 21 2106, the intermediate would break down the 2106
- 22 in greater detail and then explain how it gets
- 23 carried over to the Schedule A and what the
- 24 limitations are on the Schedule A, and then from
- 25 the Schedule A to the 1040. Where the basic would

- 1 cover, basically, the 1040 and kind of outline the 2 Schedule A, but not really get into the 2106 Form.
- Q And what's the 2106 Form? 3
- 4 A Unreimbursed Employee Business Expenses.
- 5 Q So, then how would the intermediate, for
- example, differ from the advanced?
- 7 A The advanced, back to the 2106, it
- probably wouldn't even cover the 2106 in the
- advanced because you learn that in the
- 10 intermediate. What they would then get into is
- greater detail having to do with, say, 1031
- 12 Exchanges or interaction on self-employed
- 13 individuals and how that information on the
- 14 Schedule C then carries over to the 1040, and how
- 15 it interacts with the rest of the tax returns that
- 16 along with the Schedule C you might have to have
- 17 the 4562, as an example. Then where it carries to
- 18 the Schedule C, then where it carries over to the
- 19 1040. And then, also, if you have to have an 8582
- 20 and so forth.
- 21 Q So, again, the H & R Block courses from
- 22 '87 to '89 in the enrolled agent exam in 1989 were
- 23 fairly recently after the enactment of Section 469
- 24 to do with material participation. Do you recall
- 25 covering material participation in any depth?

Page 34

- A I probably would have covered the 1
- 2 material participation in the portion of the
- advanced training that had to do with rental units
- 4 because of the material participation in a rental
- 5 unit. And then there would have been some,
- 6 probably, in partnerships, because you have
- general partners and limited partners. And they
- 8 would have covered Section 469 in that particular
- courses. 9
- Q When you say rental units, do you mean 10 11 real property?
- 12 A Yes, ma'am.
- Q Did you talk about rental of tangible 13
- 14 property at any time?
- A I don't remember touching on that 15
- 16 particular one. But I am thinking that there
- 17 probably was some information having to do with
- 18 the Schedule C, because the Internal Revenue
- 19 Service requires the rental Section 1231 tangible
- 20 personal property be reported on a Schedule C.
- Q So, of course, Mr. Jameson, you know 21
- 22 that Section 469 was enacted in response to tax 23 shelters during the 1980s?
- 24 Yes, ma'am.
- 25 What, if anything, do you recall

Page 35 1 discussing in the course of your education or your 2 preparation for the enrolled agent exam about tax 3 shelters?

4 A Most of the information at the time that 5 I was getting ready to take my enrolled agent's 6 exam had to do with trust and the formation of

7 trusts that were being used as tax shelters. Q Do you recall talking about attempts by 8

9 folks to use passive losses to offset active 10 income as part of tax sheltering plans?

A I'm not sure I understand the question.

12 Because I didn't discuss it with anybody. I did all the research and taking the courses on my own.

Q Okay. Do you recall hearing anything 15 about that in the course of your study?

A The only thing that I recall in the 16

17 course of my study and having to do in getting

18 prepared to take the enrolled agent's exam, they

19 were really pushing the 469 having to do with

20 trusts. I actually had a couple of IRS agents

21 call me because I had done a trust return for a

22 young lady. And they wanted to know how it was

23 set up and structured. And so, I explained all

24 that to them. And they were happy with it.

Okay. But you don't recall, or do you, 25

Page 36 1 in the course of your study and preparation for

2 the enrolled agent's exam, talking about more

3 generally using the attempt to use passive losses

4 to offset active income?

- 5 No, ma'am, I don't recall that.
- 6 Q Do you recall whether that was on the enrolled agent exam in 1989? 7
- No, ma'am, I'm sorry, I don't recall. 8
- Did you pass the enrolled agent's exam Q 10 on the first try?
- 11 Α No, ma'am.
- 12 How many times did you take it?
- Twice. 13

9

- 14 When is the first time you took it?
- 15 I don't remember. It was six months or
- 16 so before I took it the second time. And then I
- 17 passed it the second time. Only had to take one
- 18 course. I had never really done trust returns
- 19 before. And so, I didn't pass the trust portion.
- 20 So, I just had to go back and retake the trust 21 portion.
- 22 Q Okay. But it was 1989 that you passed 23 the enrolled agent's exam?
- Yes, ma'am, if I remember correctly. 24
- 25 What, if any, requirements are there to

9

Page 37 1 maintain the enrolled agent designation?

- A I must have 72 continuing education 2
- 3 hours in a three-year period, including two hours
- 4 of ethics every year.
- 5 Did you say two hours of ethics every Q 6 year?
- 7 A Yes, ma'am.
- 8 Q Have you held the designation of
- enrolled agent since 1989?
- A Yes, ma'am. 10
- It's never lapsed? 11
- Never lapsed. 12
- Q It's never been revoked? 13
- 14 A No. ma'am.
- 15 Q So, I understand we are talking about
- 16 nearly what, 30 years? 20 years? Thirty?
- 17 A Close to 30, yes, ma'am.
- Since you got the enrolled agent 18
- 19 designation. So, I am looking for broad strokes
- 20 here. But how, generally, have you gotten your
- 21 continuing education hours?
- 22 A I get my continuing education hours by
- 23 signing up for classes that are registered with
- 24 the Internal Revenue Service. As an example, I
- 25 went to a class given by the American Academy of

- 1 Tax Practice in Las Vegas a couple of years ago 2 and got 24 hours of continuing education and two
- 3 hours of ethics.
- Q So, is that your general practice, to
- 5 get a good chunk of the continuing education at 6 one time?
- A Yes, ma'am. To further answer the 7
- 8 question for you, my general way of doing things
- 9 is to get the big chunk from the American Academy
- 10 of Tax Practice, because they review all of the
- 11 updated laws and stuff like that that the Internal
- 12 Revenue Service is doing. And then I have another 12 Vegas, as an example.
- 13 one where I go to Client Wise, is the name of the
- 14 company. And they give an 18-hour course every
- 15 year that is just an update on how the laws have
- 16 impacted the tax returns and how the tax returns
- 17 have changed so that I stay current with both of
- 18 them. And that class will be in November.
- Q Okay. So, correct me if I'm wrong, but 19
- 20 it sounds like you focus your continuing education 21 on taking a look at any updates to the tax laws as
- 22 they have occurred in the course of the year since
- 23 you got your enrolled agent designation?
- Yes, ma'am. 24
- 25 Throughout the course of your -- well,

- 1 let me ask you this, actually. All right. Let's
- 2 talk about the national, did you say National
- 3 Association of Enrolled Agents --
- Yes, ma'am. 4
- 5 Q -- designations that you have? What was
- 6 the first one again?
- A I am a fellow of the National Tax 7
- 8 Practice Institute.
 - Q When did you receive that designation?
- A I don't remember. I have had it for a 10
- 11 number of years.
- Q Was it in the '90s? 12
- 13 Probably. I would say, yeah.
- Q What were the requirements to receive 14
- 15 that designation?
- You had to go to their classes. So, I 16
- 17 would go to the meeting that they would have every
- 18 year. And I would go to the classes that they
- 19 would offer having to do with that designation and
- 20 then take the test that they give.
- 21 Q So, were the classes that were required
- 22 only the ones that they gave at their yearly
- 23 meeting?
- 24 Α Yes, ma'am.
- 25 About how many hours per year were those

Page 40

Page 39

1 classes?

6

- 2 A I think the classes were over a three
- 3 day period and each class was probably six hours.
- 4 Q So, 18 hours?
- 5 Yes, ma'am.
 - Q And did you say that this was a
- 7 three-year, three years of classes required?
- A Yes, ma'am. Because they only gave them 8
- 9 during their annual meetings. Now, they had a
- 10 couple of annual meetings in the country, and I
- 11 would go to the one that was closest, like in Las
- Q So, it was a total of 54 class hours? 13
- 14 Α Yes. ma'am.
- 15 Q What were those classes on?
- 16 Representation before the Internal
- 17 Revenue Service, how to get the power of attorney
- 18 how to fill the power of attorney out correctly,
- 19 how to advise the client, what questions to ask
- 20 the client, what questions to interface with the
- 21 TCO or the revenue agent having to do with the
- 22 information document request, how to follow up on
- 23 a 4559, how to fill out a 433A, B or C, off the
- 24 top of my head. 25 Q What did those classes talk about with

- 1 respect to questions to ask the client?
- A Well, if you have a client who is being 2
- 3 audited for mileage, as an example, they would
- 4 say, okay, you need to have this documentation to
- 5 prove the deduction. And so, you need to ask the
- 6 client, as an example, you are claiming
- 7 12,418 miles. How did you come up with that
- 8 mileage? Where is your mileage log? What was the
- 9 reason for the travel from destination A to
- 10 destination B? And you met with who when you were
- 11 there? What was discussed and so forth. To help
- 12 establish the deduction.
- 13 Q And that's because, right, Mr. Jameson,
- 14 it is up to the taxpayer to establish that they
- 15 are allowed that deduction?
- 16 A Yes, that's in the Internal Revenue
- 17 Code.
- 18 Q Did they talk in these courses about
- 19 what to do if a client didn't have supporting
- 20 documentation for a particular tax treatment?
- A They covered it a little bit on the 21
- 22 basic course. More in the upper courses, but,
- 23 yes, they did talk about it.
- Q What did they say? 24
- A You have under the Cohan Rule, the 25

1 supporting documentation to the auditor, whether 2 it was a TCO or a revenue agent, and then go from

Page 43

3 there.

- 4 Were there any, either courses about Q
- 5 ethics or discussion of ethics, in your courses to
- 6 become a fellow of National Tax Practice
- 7 Institute?

9

- 8 A I am sure there probably was, yes.
 - Q Do you recall what those ethics
- 10 discussions were about?
- A Not off the top of my head, no, ma'am. 11
- 12 They would have discussed Circular 230. Circular
- 13 230 is basically the guidelines from the federal
- 14 government that controls and informs a IRS
- 15 enrolled agent. So, the ethics portion would have
- 16 been in the Section 230. It's called Circular
- 17 230. Excuse me.
- 18 Q And enrolled agents have a duty of
- 19 candor to the IRS, correct?
- 20 Yes, ma'am.
- 21 Q How many times did you take the test to
- 22 become a fellow of National Tax Practice
- 23 Institute?
- 24 A There really wasn't a test as such. You
- 25 just had to complete the number of hours and get

Page 42

- 1 ability to reconstruct as long as the
- 2 reconstruction is reasonable and doesn't exceed
- 3 what you claimed on the tax return as a deduction.
- 4 You also must have reasonable cause to establish
- 5 the reconstruction of the deduction.
- 6 Q Can you give me an example of a
- 7 reasonable reconstruction to support a tax
- 8 treatment?
- A The mileage log, as an example, the 9
- 10 individual didn't keep a mileage log, which they
- 11 are supposed to do, so how would we reconstruct
- 12 it. Okay. You met on July the 15th with Sam at
- 13 this location. Do we have documentation that you
- 14 met with him? Obviously, if you met with him,
- 15 then you had to get from your house or from your
- 16 office to that location. And, therefore, we can
- 17 look on Google and find out what the miles are.
- 18 And that helps us reconstruct the mileage.
- 19 Q And what if a client didn't have
- 20 supporting documentation and was unable to come up
- 21 with a reasonable reconstruction supporting a tax
- 22 treatment. What then?
- 23 A That's a tough one. What you would have
- 24 to do is try and reconstruct it to the best of our
- 25 ability and then explain why we didn't have

- 1 certified by the instructors that you were at that
- 2 particular course. 3
- Q Are there any continuing requirements to
- maintain that designation?
- 5 The fellow designation?
- 6 Q Right.
- 7 Α No, ma'am.
- 8 Q I think you said you had a second
- designation from the National Association of
- 10 Enrolled Agents?
- Yes. ma'am. 11 Α
- 12 Q What is that?
- A Master graduate of federal examination. 13
- 14 Q Do you recall when you got that
- 15 designation?
- A Not off the top of my head, no, I'm 16
- 17 sorry. I don't.
- Q Was it in the '90s? 18
- A It was probably, probably in mid-'90s, 19
- 20 maybe late '90s. Again, it's on the wall behind
- 21 my desk, so I would just look up there to get the
- 22 dates. I don't remember the exact date.
- 23 Q And what were the requirements to get
- 24 the designation of master graduate of federal
- 25 examination?

A You had to, again, take three years
worth of classes they would give at the annual
meeting. Then, at the end of the class scheduling
that you have completed, they would give you a
problem, and you would have to solve the problem.
And you would have to write a dissertation as to
why you solved the problem the way you did, giving
code sections, regulations, revenue rulings and so
forth.

And, to be honest, it was just as hard
to get as it was to get my masters degree. They
also interviewed me. There was three of them that
interviewed me on my thesis when I presented it.
Then they tried to chew me up and spit me out.

15 Q So, how did the classes for the master 16 graduate of federal examination differ from the 17 classes to become a fellow of the National Tax 18 Practice Institute?

18 Practice Institute?
19 A They were much more in depth. And they
20 covered -- they assumed you already knew how to do
21 an audit. So, what they would do is, they would
22 get into advanced audits and into appeals and
23 teach you how to evaluate the information coming
24 from the Internal Revenue Service. As an example,
25 the IDR or the 4559, so that you would have a

Page 46

better understanding of what the Internal Revenue
 Service agent or employee was requesting and how
 to answer their request and how to do the research
 to support your answer.

5 Q Any other general topics that you recall 6 from those classes?

A No, ma'am, not off the top of my head.

8 Q Were there -- was there an ethics9 component to the master graduate of federal10 examination designation?

11 A Yes, ma'am.

7

12

Q Do you recall what that was?

13 A Basically, they would review Circular
14 230 in greater detail, making sure that we

15 understood the requirements that we were facing

17 enrolled agent in representing our clients before

18 the Internal Revenue Service and answering the

19 Internal Revenue Service's questions in an

20 appropriate manner.

21 Q Do you recall how the conversation about 22 the Circular 230 differed between the fellow 23 designation and the master graduate designation?

A Again, it would be in greater detail
where they would get into a specific section, say,

Page 47 1 1031, as an example, and explain how that came

2 about and how it's been implemented, and court

3 cases having to do with the interaction of

4 enrolled agents and the IRS, if there was a

5 problem, what the IRS looked at having to do with

6 that particular code section, and how we were to

7 manage it and make sure that we fell within the 8 guidelines.

9 Q You mentioned that the master graduate
10 course of study talked about advanced audits.
11 What's an advanced audit as opposed to a more

12 typical audit that you may have learned about in

13 the fellow course of study?

14 A I'm not sure how to answer that
15 question. An advanced audit would be the auditor
16 sends the information document request for, let's

17 say, a 2013 tax return. And they are specifically

18 looking at the Schedule C. Once they decide that

19 there may be a particular item on the Schedule C

20 that they want further information or they believe

21 that it was not done correctly, or there's

22 questions about it, they would then expand the

23 audit. Because the IRS has the right to go back

24 one year as long as it's still an open year, or go

25 forward one year if they want to. So, that would

Page 48

1 be a more advanced audit instead of just having a2 one-year as a Schedule A. For example, you may

3 have three years dealing with a Schedule E or

4 Schedule C or something like that.

5 Q And what did you mean by what you said 6 they would teach you how to evaluate information 7 coming from the IRS, in a different way it sounded 8 like than what the course work for the fellow

9 designation was?

10 A Well, as an example, if they send you an 11 information document request saying that there was

12 unreported income, then what they tell you to do

13 is, okay, here's the unreported income, now get

14 copies of the bank statements to verify that and

15 then also go into the Internal Revenue Service

16 and the rules under which we were to operate as an 16 website under the power of attorney and pull down

17 all the information that the Internal Revenue

18 Service has on your client and review where they

19 found that unreported income. Then you can go

20 back to the client and say, okay, the Internal

21 Revenue Service says you have \$18,000 worth of

22 unreported income. Where did it come from? How 23 do we explain it? What is the documentation that

24 we need to explain that it was untaxable? Was it

25 inheritance or something like that? That's what

1 it was all about.

2 One other thing I just thought of. They 3 also got into offers in compromise, liability and 4 so forth, how to get a Status 54 on a client. 5 Also, how to do the Form 433A, B, or C when you 6 are doing an offer in compromise. And, also, to 7 request a collection due process hearing and the 8 process that it goes through, and how to help your 9 client should they decide to move forward into tax 10 work.

11 And you did mention that the master 12 graduate course work involved appeals. And you 13 just mentioned tax court. What did they talk 14 about with respect to assisting clients in 15 appeals?

16 A When you assist a client in appeals, you 17 have to lay the groundwork during the audit to 18 take it to appeals. And then, when you are in 19 appeals, you can then further infuse information 20 or give them information or negotiate with the 21 appeals officer, because, at that point, you are 22 also laying the groundwork should the client 23 decide to move it forward into tax work.

24 Q So, is that still true today that you 25 can give new factual information to an appeals

Page 49 1 Α No.

9

2 Q So, you can assist clients through

3 appeals but not after?

Α Correct.

5 Q You mentioned, Mr. Jameson, that I

6 believe at the end of the three years of the

7 course work you were given a problem to solve as

Page 51

Page 52

8 part of the getting your designation?

Yes, ma'am. Α

10 Was it one problem or multiple?

11 It was one big problem.

One big problem. Okay. And what was 12

13 that problem about?

A It had to do with an individual's tax 15 return that had been audited. And how we were to

16 represent and how we were to clean up the audit.

17 Because the individual had attempted to represent 18 themselves without help and, therefore, we had,

19 basically, a disaster on our hands. How do we fix

20 the problem? How do we get the documentation?

21 How do we present it to the IRS? How do we

22 request an audit reconsideration or get the

23 information to appeals to ask them to send it back

24 to audit for an audit reconsideration. And as

25 part of that process, that's where the collection

Page 50

2 A It is true. But you are limited on the 3 amount of new factual information you can give to

an appeals officer.

5 Q And what's that distinction?

6 A Not sure I understand the question.

7 Q What do you mean by you are limited in

new information you can get?

A If -- can I use an example? 9

10 Q Sure.

1 officer?

11 A Okay. We are back to the unreported

12 income. And the auditor said that they were not

13 going to accept the information we provided

14 because we did not have time to get all the

15 information. Later on, while it was going through

16 the process to be assigned to an appeals officer,

17 we were able to get the information we needed to

18 support the fact that the taxable, the income was

19 not taxable. Then we were able to give that to

20 the appeals officer as long as it's narrowly

21 defined and information we have already given. If

22 we brought up a brand new subject, then they would

23 be required to send it back to audit.

Q As an enrolled agent, can you represent 25 people in tax court?

1 due process hearing comes in or the offer in

2 compromise, one of the different ones comes in so

3 that we can lay the groundwork to move it back to

4 audit to get the problem solved.

5 Q And do you remember what the underlying

tax issues were in that problem? 6

7 Off the top of my head, no, ma'am, I

don't. 8

20

9 To your understanding, Mr. Jameson, is

10 it typical that there would be an interview with a

11 candidate for the master graduate designation

12 before the designation was granted?

13 Α Yes, ma'am.

And you said that you were interviewed? 14 Q

15 Α Yes, ma'am.

Q I believe you testified earlier that 16

17 they chewed you up?

Attempted to, yes, ma'am. 18

19 Q Attempted to. Why was that?

They took my -- the problem that they

21 gave us, where I had to fill everything out, then

22 I had to write a thesis explaining why I did it.

23 They went through the thesis and tried to make me

24 explain how I came up with the answer and attacked

25 me on everything that I basically did, which would

12

Page 53

- 1 be a normal thing like with my masters degree for
- 2 social science, I had the same problems during the
- 3 interview in defense of my thesis.
- Q Do you recall what issues they took with 4
- 5 your explanation for the problem at the end of the
- 6 master graduate?
- 7 A No, ma'am, I'm sorry. Not off the top
- of my head. It was too long ago.
- Q Okay. And you said that you defended
- your thesis in your masters taxation program?
- 11 A No, ma'am.
- 12 Q Okay.
- 13 A I defended my thesis in my masters of
- 14 science interdisciplinary administration program.
- Q Okay. Got it. That clarifies that. 15
- 16 So, we have walked through a few different avenues
- 17 of professional education that you had with
- 18 respect to federal taxation. Other than what we
- 19 have already discussed, have you had any other
- 20 sources of education on federal taxation?
- 21 A Other than on-the-job training? No.
- 22 Q Sure. So, you also have your years of
- 23 experience?
- 24 A Yes, ma'am.
- 25 Q Have you ever taught any courses on

Page 54

- 1 federal taxation?
- A When I was the owner of the H & R Block 2
- 3 franchises in Cedar City and St. George, Utah,
- 4 yes, I would teach the basic classes. And
- 5 sometimes, well, I would teach the advance classes
- 6 almost all the time. And, usually, my office
- manager would teach the basic classes.
- Q Any other teaching besides at H & R 8 9 Block?
- 10 No, ma'am.
- Q So, I believe, Mr. Jameson, you 11
- 12 testified that you learned or addressed items to
- 13 do with material participation in the course of
- preparing for your enrolled agent exam?
- 15 Yes, ma'am.
- Q Do you remember in the course of your 16
- 17 education today addressing material participation 18 in any other avenue?
- A We probably would have covered material 19 20 participation in some of the update classes when
- 21 they changed the rules having to do with it. And
- 22 then, mainly, they would be concentrating on the
- 23 rental of real property, Section 1244 or
- 24 Section 1250 property and how the material
- 25 participation rules apply. Then we would also

Page 55 1 cover some of it having to do with partnerships,

- 2 the 100 hours, the 500 hours, and so forth.
- 3 Q And that's in the course of your 4 continuing education hours?
- 5 Yes, ma'am.
- 6 Q In the course of any of your education
- 7 to date, what, if anything, have you learned about
- 8 the hallmarks of an abusive tax shelter?
- A I'm not real sure I understand the
- 10 guestion. What do you mean by hallmarks?
- Q How would you know one if you saw one? 11
 - A I refer to it as it doesn't pass the
- 13 smell test when you sit down and look at the
- 14 deductions and what the client is giving you for
- 15 source documentation. It just doesn't -- if it
- 16 doesn't look right, then my requirement under
- 17 Circular 230 is to follow-up the due diligence.
- 18 An example would be I had a client come in one
- 19 year that said he drove 60,000 miles. And that
- 20 just -- how can you driveway 60,000 miles for
- 21 business? That means you were on the road 2,814
- 22 hours. A work year is only 2,080.
- 23 Q So, yeah, actually, could you give me an
- 24 example? You mentioned taking a look at the
- 25 deductions that might raise some red flags about

1 an abuse of tax shelter. What did you mean by 2 that?

- 3 A Well, the example I gave where the
- 4 individual drove 60,000 miles. That doesn't pass
- 5 the smell test. There is no way in the world.
- 6 He's not a truck driver. He's a salesman. So, in
- 7 reality, he probably only really drove
- 8 12,000 miles, give or take. So, it would be a
- 9 matter of looking at the information the client is
- 10 providing to me. And if it looks reasonable, we
- 11 are okay, because I am not in the business of
- 12 audits. I am in the business of making sure that
- 13 I use due diligence and what they are presenting
- 14 to me falls within the guidelines of the Internal
- 15 Revenue Code.
- 16 Q And that's the second time you have
- 17 mentioned source documentation. What about source
- 18 documentation might raise some red flags for you?
- 19 A An individual is claiming, well, the
- 20 mileage. But let's say he's claiming \$4,000 in
- 21 meals, but he can't provide any receipts or credit
- 22 card statements or anything saying that he spent
- 23 \$4,000 entertaining his clients at meals; you
- 24 know, they went to lunch, went to dinner, those
- 25 kind of things.

Jameson, Richard

Page 56

Q So, let's say someone claims to have a 2 business. What, if anything, do you require in 3 the way of source documentation to substantiate 4 that that person has a business?

5 A You need to be more specific as to what 6 you mean by business. Are you talking about 7 self-employed individual, a C-Corporation, an 8 S-Corporation, a partnership, an LLC?

Q Let's talk about what goes on a Schedule 10 C. What source documentation do you require to 11 complete a Schedule C for a client?

A It depends on what types of deduction 12 13 they are claiming. So, as an example, if they 14 have employees, then I would want to see their 15 employer identification number. I would want to 16 see, make sure they had a bank account. So, I 17 would get bank statements to verify the 18 deductions. I would want to see copies of 19 receipts in some instances, depending upon what

20 they were claiming, back to the \$4,000 in meals. 21 I would -- that's such a high number I 22 would want to see some type of a receipt, whether 23 it's a credit card receipt, a bank statement, 24 copies of canceled checks and so forth; along 25 those kind of lines, basically. And if they had

1 evidence? I had a client whose house burned down.

Page 59

Page 60

2 Didn't have the evidence. We did have copies of

3 the fire department putting the fire out at the

4 house. So, you have to -- you have to evaluate

5 each and every situation based on its merits.

Q Throughout the course of your 7 professional education and professional

8 experience, have you heard or dealt with the

9 Economic Substance Doctrine?

10 A Yes, ma'am.

11 Q What's your understanding of the

12 Economic Substance Doctrine?

13 A Well, there has to be reasonable belief 14 that you will make a profit based on your

15 investment in the business or a rental unit or

16 whatever it might be. So, there has to be a

17 substantial economic substance to the investment

18 and/or the belief that you will make a profit at

19 the back end. But the Economic Substance Doctrine

20 is kind of vague in some areas. And so, as an

21 example, I know that I did a tax return for an

22 individual who had a farm. And they tried to

23 disallow the deduction. But under the economic

24 substance thing, his farm was going to increase in

25 value and, therefore, he fell under the guidelines

Page 58

employees and copies of the W3, copies of the 940.

6

1 that were issued by a tax court decision. So, he

2 was allowed to take the deduction. Q But, of course, Mr. Jameson, there's not

4 just a subjective component for economic

5 substance, correct?

A That's correct.

7 There is also an objective component for

economic substance? 8

9 Α That is correct.

So, the only consideration is not simply 10

11 what the taxpayer believes; isn't that right?

12 That's open to interpretation.

Q So, Section 7701 subpart (o) does not 13

14 have an objective requirement for economic

15 substance?

16 A Didn't say that.

17 MR. PAUL: I'm going to object as to

18 relevance. Can we -- he's not an expert witness.

20 him. I don't see how your curiosity or discussion

21 of different code sections relates to why we are

22 here today.

23 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Would you please

24 read back my question.

(Record read.)

2 Q What kinds of things do you require if 3 someone has claimed, or comes in -- let me withdraw that and start that again. 5 What kinds of substantiation do you 6 require before completing anything regarding a foreign tax credit for a client? 7 MR. PAUL: Foreign? 8 9 A A foreign tax credit? So, you are 10 talking about a credit that they would give for 11 paying taxes in England? 12 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 13 Q Yes.

14 A I would require a copy of the 15 information that they paid the taxes in England. 16 I had an individual, who was a client of mine, who 17 worked in the oil fields there. And he would be 18 able to provide me with the W2 from the company, 19 and the copy of the statements where he paid taxe\$19 You haven't designated him. We haven't designated

20 to Great Britain. Then we would take it on the, 21 most likely, put it on the 2555. But that's --

Q And what if a client did not have that 22 23 evidence?

A Chances are we wouldn't be claiming it. 25 It would depend upon, why doesn't he have the

Jameson, Richard Pages 57 - 60

Page 61 Page 63 1 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: MR. PAUL: You don't have to answer any 2 Q So, it does have an objective 2 more than you already have. If you want to stand 3 requirement, right? 3 by your answer, simply stand by it. A Didn't say that. I would have to look A That was the answer I gave. Yeah, I 5 at the code section to see what you are asking me. 5 would stand by my answer. Q But, generally, Mr. Jameson, you agree 6 MR. PAUL: If you have a different 7 there is an objective requirement that must be met 7 answer or if you want to expand on the question, 8 before a transaction will be considered to have 8 go ahead. But I would like to get home before economic substance? 9 midnight tonight, so let's not drag this out. 10 MR. PAUL: What is the relevance? You MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Well, speaking 10 11 objections tend to drag out a deposition, Mr. 11 can answer. 12 Paul. So, are you instructing your client not to 12 A What is the definition of objective? MR. PAUL: You don't get to ask 13 13 answer my question? 14 questions. You have to answer her questions as 14 MR. PAUL: No, I'm not. 15 off --15 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Please read back 16 THE WITNESS: Okay. I do that --16 my question? 17 MR. PAUL: Don't talk over me. As off 17 And answer it, Mr. Jameson. 18 center and off field as they may be, we need to 18 MR. PAUL: He did answer the question. 19 answer her questions today. Unless I tell you not 19 So, if you want to phrase a different question or 20 to, go ahead and answer. 20 you want to follow up on it? He answered it. 21 A I do not understand the question because 21 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: I object to the 22 I do not understand what the definition of 22 response of Mr. Jameson's answer. 23 objective is in this situation. 23 Plead read it back. 24 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 24 (Record read.) 25 Q So, Mr. Jameson, for a transaction to 25 Page 62 Page 64 1 have economic substance, it has to change in a 1 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 2 meaningful way, and apart from any federal tax Q So, I didn't ask about whether your 2 3 belief matters, Mr. Jameson. 3 effects the tax payers economic position. Do you 4 agree with that? So, I am going to ask you to read back 4 5 the question one more time. 5 MR. PAUL: Objection. Relevance. A I wouldn't have an idea if that would be Please listen carefully and answer the 6 6 7 true or not without seeing an actual case. I 7 question. 8 mean, you are asking me to give an open-ended (Record read.) 8 9 answer to something I can't really answer. 9 MR. PAUL: You can answer that yes or 10 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 10 no. Q Okay. Then, Mr. Jameson, do you believe 11 A No. 12 that for a transaction to have economic substance, 12 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 13 the only thing that matters is the taxpaver's 13 Q What else matters? 14 subjective intent with entering the transaction? 14 A The manner in which the individual is MR. PAUL: Objection. Relevance. Lacks 15 moving forward with whatever the investment is to 15 16 foundation. 16 have the economic basis for that particular item A My belief doesn't really fall into a lot 17 that he's doing. 17 18 of this stuff. It would have to do with the Q Does anything else matter in evaluating 18 19 research based on what the client is attempting to 19 whether a transaction has economic substance? MR. PAUL: Objection, vague. Objection, 20 do. 20 21 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 21 form of the question. Q Object to the response and the answer. A I will answer that one yes. 22 22 23 Would you please read back my question? 23 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: MR. PAUL: I object to the objection. 24 Q What? 24 25 (Record read.) 25 Does it have -- as an example, does it

Jameson, Richard Pages 61 - 64

1 have the ability to increase in value.

- 2 Q And is that a subjective or objective
- 3 analysis?
- 4 A I'm not sure. I would assume that it
- 5 could be either and/or both depending upon what we
- 6 are talking about. Are we talking about a rental
- 7 unit, a Section 1250 piece of property or are we
- 8 talking about an avocado grove?
- 9 Q Does anything else matter in the
- 10 evaluation of whether a transaction has economic
- 11 substance?
- 12 MR. PAUL: Please answer yes or no.
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 15 Q What's that?
- 16 A It would depend upon what the taxpayer
- 17 was doing for that business. I mean, if he had an
- 18 avocado grove, how are you supposed to come up
- 19 with an answer to that? Because the avocado grove
- 20 takes time to mature. And/or during that
- 21 timeframe it's going to increase in value. So,
- 22 there is economic substance there period. It
- 23 would depend on what we are talking about.
- 24 Q Has anything that you have ever
- 25 presented to the IRS in the course of your
- Page 66
- 1 representation of a client been challenged on the
- 2 basis of economic substance?
- 3 A No, not to my recollection.
- 4 Q How long have you been representing
- 5 clients before the IRS?
- 6 A Going on 30 years.
- 7 Q Let's go off the record, please.
- 8 (Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.)
- 9 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 10 Q Okay. So, first off, real quick, Mr.
- 11 Jameson, we just came back from a quick break.
- 12 Did you speak with anyone about the facts of this
- 13 case during that break?
- 14 A No, ma'am.
- 15 Q But it does sound like you have some
- 16 information that you would like to use to
- 17 supplement one of your earlier answers?
- 18 A Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q And that is what?
- 20 A The name of the school that I am working
- 21 on to get my Ph.D is the Washington Institute of
- 22 Graduate Studies.
- 23 Q Did you happen to remember whether
- 24 that's a for profit or not for profit institution?
 - A Having thought about it, my bet is it's

- Page 65 1 probably a for profit.
 - 2 Q Why do you think that?
 - 3 A They have an office in San Diego,
 - 4 California. And they have one, I think it's in
 - 5 South Jordan. And there's only five or six
 - 6 universities in the country that offer a Ph.D in 7 taxation.
 - 8 Q Why did you choose that institution?
 - A It was the one that was closest to me.
 - 10 Q All right. Mr. Jameson, we are here
 - 11 today for a court case involving a company called
 - 12 RaPower-3, LLC. Are you familiar with that
 - 13 company?

9

15

- 14 A I know of the company, yes, ma'am.
 - Q How do you know about the company?
- 16 A They have provided documentation to
- 17 clients when I do tax returns.
- 18 Q When did you first hear of RaPower-3?
- 19 A About five years ago.
- 20 Q So, around 2012?
- 21 A Yes, ma'am.
- 22 Q How did you first hear about RaPower-3?
- 23 A I had two clients come into the office
- 24 who had invested in the solar lenses.
- 25 Q And what did those clients want?
 - Page 68

Page 67

- the 1 A Tax preparation.
 - 2 Q Had they been your clients before?
 - A No.

3

- 4 Q Which two clients are those?
- 5 A I don't remember their names. I don't
- 6 do their taxes anymore. I'm sorry. I don't
- 7 remember their names.
- 8 Q Was it two separate clients or like a
- 9 married couple?
- 10 A No, two separate clients.
- 11 Q Before that time, had you represented
- 12 any client before the IRS with any relationship to
- 13 RaPower-3 or solar lenses?
- 14 A No, ma'am.
- 15 Q So, these two clients in 2012, were they
- 16 looking to have tax year 2011 tax returns
- 17 prepared?
- 18 A That would be my understanding, yes.
- 19 Q Other than these two first clients in
- 20 2012, did you have any other clients come in to
- 21 have tax returns prepared with any relationship to
- 22 RaPower-3 or solar lenses in calendar year 2012?
- 23 A No, ma'am.
- 24 Q So, what, if anything, did you do with
- 25 respect to the RaPower-3 component of these

- 1 clients' tax returns before preparing their 2 returns?
- 3 A I requested copies of the Operating and 4 Maintenance Agreement, copies of the Equipment
- 5 Purchase Agreement, copies of the Placed in
- 6 Service letter, copies of proof of payment.
- Q So, this, just walking through those 7
- 8 documents that you asked for, the Equipment
- 9 Purchase Agreement was with respect to solar
- 10 lenses, correct?
- A Yes. 11
- 12 Q And the Operation and Maintenance
- 13 Agreement was also with respect to solar lenses, 14 right?
- 15 A Yes, ma'am,
- Q The Placed in Service letter you 16
- 17 mentioned had to do with solar lenses?
- 18 A Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q And the proof of payment you required 20 was proof of payment for solar lenses?
- 21 A Yes, ma'am.
- 22 Q In 2012, did you have an understanding
- 23 of how those solar lenses were intended to work?
- A I figured that out by doing the 24
- 25 research. Once I got the information I requested

1 for the placed in service.

- 2 Q Sorry. That question wasn't clear. For
- 3 these specific lenses that your customers
- 4 purchased, how did you go about their research 5 about how those lenses work?
- 6 MR. PAUL: Objection. Lacks foundation.
- 7 A I didn't go about research on how the 8 lenses work.
- 9 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- Q Oh, I apologize. I thought that's what 10 11 you said.
- A No. The research that I did had to do 12
- 13 with the fact that they were placed in service,
- 14 then how would they be reported on the tax return.
- 15 That's my portion of the job as I understand it,
- 16 is to justify under reasonable cause and with
- 17 substantial authority how to report the
- 18 information on the client's tax return. Whether
- 19 or not the lenses work is not my area of 20 expertise.
- 21 Q So, did you do any research or
- 22 investigation on whether your customers' solar
- 23 lenses actually work?
- 24 A I did some basic research on the lens 25 itself. That's why I knew it was invented in

- 1 from the clients, I did the research under my due 2 diligence requirements so that I found the public
- 3 law that said how much credit they were able to
- 4 get, what form it would be reported on, how much
- 5 depreciation they were able to get, and what form
- 6 it would be reported on.

7

- And in the process of doing that, I
- 8 researched the lenses themselves and found that
- 9 the solar lenses were a modified version of the
- 10 Fesnel lens that was invented in 1822 by a French
- 11 individual. They are still in use today in movie
- 12 theaters and lighthouses.
- Q And did you mean Frenel, F-r-e-n-s-e-l? 13 14 No, I spelled that incorrectly.
- A That could be, yes. 15
- Q The spelling is F-r-e-s-n-e-l, right? 16
- A Okay. Then I pronounced it wrong. It 17 18 is French.
- Q What research did you do about the solar 19 20 lenses that your customers purchased?
- 21 A Research I would have done would have
- 22 had to do with the public law that allowed them to 23 claim the credit under Section 48 and made sure
- 24 that it didn't fall under Section 50. And then I
- 25 did the research on the Section 1231 requirements 25

1 1822, and that it was a viable lens that was still

- 2 in use. I realize it was a modified version of 3 the lens.
- 4 Q And when you say you did basic research 5 like that, tell me what you did to conduct that 6 research.
- 7 A The research I would do would be on
- 8 Google. Find out, if you look on Google there's
- 9 all kinds of solar lenses out there that are in
- 10 use today to provide, you know, drinking water and
- 11 stuff like that. So, I just did some basic
- 12 research to find out if the lenses actually
- 13 existed, and that they -- like I said, they were
- 14 invented in 1822. So, that was the majority of
- 15 the research that I did.
- 16 Q So, how did you know that your
- 17 customers' solar lenses existed?
- A Because they provided me with an 18
- 19 operating and maintenance agreement, equipment
- 20 purchase agreement, placed in service letter,
- 21 proof of payment.
- 22 Q You mentioned placed in service. That's
- 23 a general concept in tax law, correct?
- 24 Yes, ma'am.
- Right. What's your understanding of how

Page 72

Page 71

- 1 your customers' lenses were placed in service?
- 2 A Not sure I really understand the
- 3 question having to do with -- how I understand
- 4 they were placed in service?
- 5 Q Yes.
- 6 A Because I got a letter saying they were
- 7 placed in service from RaPower-3.
- 8 Q So, in 2012 --
- 9 A Correct.
- 10 Q -- did you have any understanding of how
- 11 RaPower-3 placed in service your customer's solar
- 12 lenses?
- 13 A I did not do research on that because I14 had the Placed in Service letter.
- 15 Q In 2012, did you know what RaPower-3 did
- 16 with your customers' solar lenses?
- 17 A No.
- 18 Q In 2012, did you talk with anyone, other
- 19 than your customers, affiliated with RaPower-3?
- 20 A Not affiliated with RaPower-3, no.
- 21 Q With anyone else affiliated with solar
- 22 lenses?
- 23 A I did contact a CPA in Salt Lake City
- 24 who had prepared tax returns with solar lenses on
- 25 it, and discussed it with him to make sure that he

- Page 75
- 1 A I prepared two tax returns that claimed 2 benefits with regards to the benefits of solar
- 3 lenses.

9

- 4 Q How about in 2013? How many tax returns
- 5 did you prepare that claimed tax benefits
- 6 connected with solar lenses?
- 7 A I'm not sure exactly. I would say maybe
- 8 four or five at the most.
 - Q How about in 2014 for tax year 2013?
- 10 A I think the number went up dramatically,
- 11 but I can't give you an exact number, dramatically
- 12 meaning, maybe, 30. I do know that it was
- 13 probably less than 5 percent of my overall
- 14 preparation.
- 15 Q And, to your recollection, in 2015 for
- 16 tax year 2014, about how many tax returns did you
- 17 prepare that claimed tax benefits related to solar
- 18 lenses?

23

- 19 A Probably around 30 or 35.
- 20 Q In 2016 for tax year 2015, about how
- 21 many returns did you prepare claiming tax benefits
- 22 with respect to solar lenses?
 - A Thirty-five, 38. Something like that.
- 24 Q And how about this year in 2017? For
- 25 tax year 2016, about how many returns did you

Page 74

- 1 had done his research. And we were both on the
- 2 same page.3 Q Who was that?
- 4 A Brian Bolander, if I remember correctly.
- 5 Q What did Mr. Bolander tell you?
- 6 A He basically confirmed the basic
- 7 research I had done concerning the Placed in
- 8 Service letter, Purchase Agreement and Operating
- 9 and Maintenance Agreement and the forms that were
- 10 required to report the information on the clients'
- 11 tax return.
- 12 Q Did you speak with anyone else in 2012
- 13 in connection with the solar lenses?
- 14 A Not that I can remember, no, I don't
- 15 think so.
- 16 Q Did you speak with a gentleman named R.
- 17 Gregory Shepard in 2012?
- 18 A No, ma'am.
- 19 Q Did you speak with anyone named Neldon
- 20 Johnson in 2012?
- A No, ma'am.
- 22 Q So, for 2012, for tax year 2011, in
- 23 calendar year 2012, did you prepare two tax
- 24 returns only that claimed tax benefits in
- 25 connection with RaPower-3?

- 1 prepare claiming tax benefits --
- 2 A Probably --
- 3 Q Hang on. About how many tax returns did
- 4 you prepare claiming tax benefits related to solar
- 5 lenses?
- 6 A Forty, 42. Something like that.
- 7 Q At any time between 2012 and 2017, did
- 8 Lori Gailey also prepare tax returns claiming
- 9 benefits with respect to solar lenses?
- 10 A No.
- 11 Q Did anyone else prepare tax returns
- 12 claiming benefits with respect to solar lenses
- 13 through North Star Tax Services?
- 14 A No.
- 15 Q Did anyone else at the H & R Block
- 16 location in Cedar City prepare tax returns
- 17 claiming any tax benefits relating to solar
- 18 lenses?
- 19 A With regards to what year?
- 20 Q At any time.
- 21 A No. I should qualify that statement.
- 22 Q Go ahead.
- 23 A I haven't worked there for four years
- 24 now. So, in the time that I was there, the answer
- 25 would be no.

Page 76

- Q Thank you for that. At any time since 2 2012, have you referred any customer interested in
- 3 claiming tax benefits connected to solar lenses to
- 4 any other tax return preparer?
- 5 A No.
- Q In 2013, Mr. Jameson, what, if any, 6
- 7 research did you do on top of what you had already
- 8 done in 2012 to learn about the solar lenses?
- A To actually learn about the solar lenses
- 10 themselves, probably just Googled a couple of
- 11 things and looked at other websites and other
- 12 locations that were using solar energy for various
- 13 purposes. There's a couple of them in Europe, as
- 14 an example.
- 15 Q Were those other locations using the
- 16 same lenses that your customers had bought?
- 17
- Q What websites did you look at? 18
- 19 A I don't remember. I just Googled it.
- Q Did you review the RaPower-3.com 20
- 21 website?
- 22 A I think I went to it one time but wasn't
- 23 really happy about the way the website was
- 24 constructed and didn't real look at it, but I
- 25 didn't really go back to it.

- 1 Q Why didn't you like the website?
- 2 A It was difficult to use. Didn't fully
- 3 explain what it was trying to do, in my opinion.
- 4 It was just difficult to use.
- 5 Q Did you ever download anything from the
- RaPower-3 website? 6
- A No ma'am. 7
- MR. PAUL: That's for the 2013 tax year? 8
- BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- Q At any time. 10
- A No, ma'am. 11
- 12 Q Have you ever spoken to someone named R.
- 13 Gregory Shepard?
- A Yes, ma'am. 14
- Q What is the first time you talked to 15
- 16 him?
- 17 A I think in 2014, if I remember
- 18 correctly.
- 19 Q And what about Neldon Johnson? When did
- 20 you first talk to Neldon Johnson?
- 21 A I think I talked to -- first time I
- 22 talked to Neldon was probably also in 2014.
- Q And how did you first come to talk to 23
- 24 Neldon Johnson?
 - A I decided that based on the increase in

1 clients that were coming to me that I should do a

2 little more research under my due diligence. And

Page 79

Page 80

- 3 so, I actually traveled from Cedar City to Delta,
- 4 Utah and went to the production facility for
- 5 RaPower-3. I guess it's IUBS or whatever. But,
- 6 at any rate, Neldon was there. And that's when I
- 7 first met him and he gave me a tour of the 8 production facility.
- Q Did you visit any other location on this 9
- 10 trip to Delta? 11 A Went out to the actual, what would you
- 12 call it, production, the farm where they were
- 13 setting up the towers, the production facility.
- 14 Q So, Mr. Jameson, did you see actual
- 15 towers erected?
- A Yes. 16
- 17 Q And you saw lenses in those towers?
- 18
- 19 Q Did you see the lenses operate?
- A I saw the lenses produce solar heat that 20
- 21 would start a fire, yes.
- 22 Q What, if anything else, happened with
- 23 that heat?
- A At the time I was there, they were 24
- 25 setting up, they had a house located there that
- Page 78
- 1 they were setting up to produce electricity so
- 2 that the house would run off the electricity that
- 3 they produced. And they were also setting up
- 4 information or setting up some kind of system to
- 5 have to do with the potable water that was also 6 produced.
- Q Object to the responsiveness of the 7 8 answer.
- 9 Would you read back my question, please?
- (Record read.) 10
- A Nothing, I guess. 11
- 12 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- Q So, to be clear, Mr. Jameson, what you
- 14 saw was solar radiation going through a lens which
- 15 intensified and burnt what?
- 16 A A piece of wood.
- 17 Q Did you see any heat captured and sent
- 18 anywhere else?
- No. But I also wasn't looking for it. 19
 - Q During this, your first trip to Delta,
- 21 Utah, did you see any solar lenses operate in any
- 22 system that generated electricity?
- 23 Α No.

20

- Q Did you see any solar lenses operated as 24
- 25 part of any system that produced water?

Case 2:15-cv-00828-DN-EJF Document 252-27 Filed 11/17/17 Page 21 of 60 Page 81 Page 83 1 Α Yes. 1 the lens. Q Tell me about that. 2 2 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 3 A The solar lenses were placed on the Q So, you don't know whether that 4 tower. They were using the solar lenses to 4 electricity was coming from a lens? 5 concentrate the heat. And then taking water from, MR. PAUL: Objection. Argumentative. 5 6 I guess, a reservoir they were using to irrigate 6 Lack of foundation. 7 local crops and running it through there to 7 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 8 produce steam and then potable drinking water. Q Is that correct? 8 Q You saw that happen? 9 9 MR. PAUL: Misstates prior testimony. 10 I saw the effects of it, yes. I wasn't A My understanding is that it was. Can I 10 11 there when it actually happened, but I saw what 11 prove it? No. 12 was going on. 12 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Q Not my question, sir. 13 13 Q And all I am trying to understand, Mr. 14 A Okay. 14 Jameson, is how did you get that understanding. 15 Q Would you please read back my guestion. A I saw the lens producing heat. I saw Please listen carefully and answer the 16 16 the heat producing steam. I saw the steam turning 17 guestion that I ask. 17 a generator. There was a cable on the ground from (Record read.) 18 18 the generator to the house on the side of the 19 A The answer would be no. 19 house where the meter was, is where it was plugged 20 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 20 in. And the meter was running. And when I went Q At any time, have you ever seen a solar 21 inside the house and flipped the switch, the light 21 22 lens operated as part of any system that generates 22 came on. 23 electricity? Q Let's go back to when you saw heat 23 24 A Yes. 24 generated by a lens, ultimately producing steam. 25 Q When? 25 Can you describe for me what you saw in order to Page 82 Page 84 A We went back to Delta, I think a year 1 1 see that happen? 2 later. And on that time when we went out to the 2 A The heat was collected inside a central 3 facility they were actually producing electricity 3 area. And it was concentrated on -- I don't know 4 that was running the house that they had on-site. 4 exactly how to explain it. It was concentrated 5 So, all the electricity for that house was 5 onto a central point where water was pushed 6 produced on-site. 6 through. The water would then create steam which 7 Q How do you know that? 7 came out the other side. The steam was moved by a A Because I got a tour where they showed 8 8 tube to a generator. And the generator was 9 me, here's the lens, here's the heat, here's the 9 turning it, which I am assuming produced 10 generator, here's the steam, here's the water that 10 electricity that came out on a cable that ran over 11 it produced. And here's the line running over to 11 to the house. 12 the house. 12 Q Do you mean a turbine? Q So, it sounds like someone told you that 13 A turbine, yes.

13 Q So, it sounds like someone told you that 14 electricity for the house was being generated 15 starting at the lenses?

MR. PAUL: Objection. Argumentative.BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:

18 Q Is that correct?

19 A They didn't -- I would say no. I saw, I 20 saw them producing power. I turned the light 21 switch on inside the house.

22 Q And how do you know that electricity was 22 coming from a lens rather than some other source? 23 MR. PAUL: Objection. Lacks foundation. 24

A I have no proof that it was coming from

14 Q So, you saw a turbine operating on-site?

15 A Yes.

16 Q What did that look like?

17 A It was just a metal container with steam

18 going in one end, what appeared to be steam going

19 in one end, water coming out the other, and cable

20 coming on the ground.

21 Q Could you see the steam?

22 A No.

B Q Were you aware, Mr. Jameson, that that

24 house is connected to the electricity grid just

25 like my house and your house?

Jameson, Richard

25

1 MR. PAUL: Objection. Lack of

- 2 foundation. Argumentative.
- 3 A I was not aware.
- 4 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 5 Q So, this visit to Delta, Utah, where you
- 6 believe you saw a lens operating in a system to
- 7 produce electricity, that was in 2015?
- 8 A Yes, ma'am.
- 9 Q Have you been back to that site since
- 10 2015?
- 11 A No, ma'am.
- 12 Q I believe you testified, Mr. Jameson,
- 13 that out of the turbine came water?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q How do you know that?
- 16 A I did see the water dripping.
- 17 Q Where did it go?
- 18 A The main part of the water had a pipe
- 19 that ran somewhere. The part I saw where it was
- 20 connected was where the water was dripping out
- 21 just onto the ground right there.
- 22 Q I'm just trying to understand. So,
- 23 there was a pipe taking some of the water away,
- 24 but some of the water was dripping down?
- 25 A I was assuming it was taking most of the

- Page 85 1 A Yes.
 - 2 Q To your knowledge, have any of
 - 3 RaPower-3 -- well, let me withdraw that.
 - 4 To your knowledge, has any of your
 - 5 customers ever been paid for the use of their
 - 6 lens?
 - 7 A No, I don't think so. No.
 - 8 Q So, none of your customers have been
 - 9 paid for the use of their lens, correct?
 - 10 A If you are talking about rent, the
 - 11 answer would be no.
 - 12 Q I'm just trying to not get a double
 - 13 negative on the record. So, to your knowledge,
 - 14 Mr. Jameson, none of your customers have received
 - 15 a rental payment for use of their lens? Is that
 - 16 correct?
 - 17 A That is correct.
 - 18 Q You mentioned, Mr. Jameson, sounds like
 - 19 two trips to Delta; is that right?
 - 20 A Yes.
 - 21 Q Have you made any other trips to any
 - 22 other site where a solar lenses may or may not be
 - 23 in use?
 - 24 A No, I have not.
 - 25 Q Other than your first trip to Delta,

Page 86

Page 88

Page 87

- 1 water away and a little was dripping at the2 connection.
- 3 Q Do you know where that pipe went?
- 4 A Off the top of my head, no. I did not
- 5 follow it.
- 6 Q So, Mr. Jameson, we talked briefly a
- 7 moment ago about the contracts that you asked your
- 8 initial customers for, right?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q One of those was an Equipment Purchase
- 11 Agreement, correct?
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q One was an Operation and Maintenance
- 14 Agreement, right?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q Can you give me your understanding of
- 17 how the Operation and Maintenance Agreement was
- 18 intended to work?
- 19 A The individual would purchase the lens
- 20 and lease it to -- was it LTBD, or something like
- 21 that? And they would maintain the lens and set it
- 22 up on-site.
- 23 Q And the idea, Mr. Jameson, was that LTB
- 24 would pay the owner of the lens for use of that
- 25 lens, correct?

- 1 have you had any additional conversations with2 Neldon Johnson?
- 3 A I did speak to Neldon Johnson the second 4 trip.
- 5 Q Any other times?
- 6 A No, ma'am.
- 7 Q What did Neldon Johnson tell you about
- 8 on your first trip?
- 9 A He basically gave me a tour of the site
- 10 and showed the lenses, how the lenses were
- 11 produced, how they were going to be placed in the
- 12 towers and the idea behind producing heat, the
- 13 solar process heat, which would then be used to
- 14 either, could be used for anything once it solar
- 15 processed heat. That's basically what we looked
- 16 at, and some of the technology that he had
- 17 created.
- 18 Q Did he talk to you at all about the tax
- 19 benefits connected with the solar lenses?
- 20 A No.

23

- 21 Q What did you talk about with Mr. Johnson
- 22 on your second trip to Delta?
 - A Basically, the same thing, to see how
- 24 far they had advanced in the production of the
- 25 towers and, again, back to the house that appeared

1 to be producing electricity, or using electricity

2 that was being produced.

3 Q Did you ever ask Mr. Johnson who was 4 going to pay for any electricity generated by the 5 solar lenses?

A No. 6

7 Q Why not?

8 A The impression I got in the second

discussion with him was that was closely guarded

10 information so that nobody else could interfere.

Q Did you press him further? 11

No, ma'am. 12

13 Did that answer satisfy you?

14 A Yes, ma'am.

15 Q Why?

A It sounded reasonable. 16

17 Q Why?

18 A If somebody else, who was a competitor,

19 found out where you were getting your money from 19 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:

20 and how it was going to happen, whether it was

21 solar energy or widgets, you could have a problem

22 in somebody trying to undercut or somebody trying

23 to block it. It sounded reasonable to me based

24 upon business dealings in our particular society.

25 Are you aware, Mr. Jameson, that there

Page 89

1 that Neldon Johnson has testified in this case

2 that LTB has never done anything ever?

MR. PAUL: Objection. Lacks foundation. 3

Page 91

Page 92

4 Relevance.

5 A First time I heard of it.

6 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:

Q Is that relevant information to you?

8 Α Yes.

Q Why is that?

10 A First time I heard of it. I was under

11 the impression LTB was doing things.

12 Q And how does the knowledge that LTB has

13 never done anything impact your analysis?

MR. PAUL: Objection. Lacks foundation. 14

15 Vague.

9

16 A The towers were being erected by

17 somebody. I assume there must be another company

18 in there.

20

6

9

Q Would you read back my question, please?

(Record read.) 21

22 MR. PAUL: Same objections.

23 A Very little.

24 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:

Q What's the little bit that's affected? 25

Page 90

1 is plenty of publicly available information

2 regarding -- withdrawn. Never mind.

Did you ever ask Mr. Johnson who was 3

4 going to pay for any heat generated by any solar

5 lenses?

6 A No.

7 Q Why not?

A Didn't seem relevant. 8

Q Did you ever ask Mr. Johnson who was 9

10 going to pay for any water generated through any

11 system that a solar lenses was connected to?

12 A No.

13 Q Why not?

14 A Didn't seem relevant.

Q So, Mr. Jameson, if your customers had 15

16 entered agreements to earn rental payments through

17 the use of their lenses, I would like to

18 understand why the source of those payments

19 wouldn't be relevant.

20 A It is not my responsibility to audit the

21 tax return. It is my responsibility, under my due

22 diligence, to prove that they have the

23 documentation to claim the deduction on their tax

24 return.

25

Q Is it relevant to you in that process

The theory being there's got to be

2 another company doing something. If the towers

3 are being erected, somebody's got to be doing it. 4

Q Do your customers have agreements to earn rental income with any entity other than LTB? 5

Not to my knowledge.

Q Have you ever asked Mr. Shepard who is 7

going to pay for heat generated by the lenses?

Α No.

Q Why not? 10

I saw no reason to ask him. 11

12 Did you ever ask Mr. Shepard who was

13 going to pay for the electricity generated by a

14 system containing the lenses?

15 Α No.

16 Q Why not?

A I saw no reason to ask him. 17

18 Q Why not?

Because he is -- that would be not a 19

20 conversation I would carry on with him. It has

21 nothing to do with my relationship with Mr.

22 Shepard.

23 Q Did you ever ask Mr. Shepard who was

24 going to pay for any water generated by any system

25 connected with the lenses?

	Case 2:15-cv-008	328-DN-EJF	Documen	t 25	52-27	Filed 11/17/	17	Page 24 o	f 60	
			Page 93						Page 95	
1	A No.			1	Α	He just said h	ne ii	nvested in th	_	
2	Q When is the first to	me you spoke	with	2		s and gave me				
3	Mr. Shepard?				modu				J	
4	A I talked to Mr. She	pard about the	middle	4	Q	Why did he d	do th	nat?		
5	of 2014 on the telephone			5	Α	I guess he lik	es t	to.		
6	Q Had you commun	icated with him	at all	6	Q	Was he tryin	g to	encourage	you to	
7				7		ase lenses?	•			
8	A No.			8	A	If he was, I w	oul	d not purcha	se the	
9	Q Why did you talk t	o Mr. Shepard	on the	9	lenses	s, would not in	vest	t in it. It wou	ld not be	
10	10 phone?			10 ethical.						
11	A He called me.			11	Q	Why not?				
12	Q What did you talk	about?		12		I am doing ta	x re	turns with in	dividuals	
13	A His 2013 tax retur		saster	13		re investing in				
14	because his CPA was old	l and making m	nistakes.	14 not be ethical under Circular 230.						
15	Q Do you recall who	•		15	Q	What, if anyt	hind	else, did vo	ou talk	
16	A No, ma'am, not of			16			•		e solar lenses?	
17	Q Was he looking fo			17		The only thin		•		
18	A Yes, ma'am.	,		18		bout with the s	_			
19	Q And did you in fac	t assist him?							t, the Operating	
20	A Yes, ma'am.					ment, Placed i		•		
21	Q Was Mr. Shepard	under audit at	the time?	21	•			,	•	
22				22	Q	For his solar	len	ses. riaht?		
23	Q So, had his 2013	return alreadv	been	23	Α	For his solar		•		
	prepared and submitted t	•		24	Q	So, how, Mr.			ou ao from	
	called you?	,				g just a couple				
	<u> </u>		Page 94						Page 96	
1	A Yes, ma'am.		. age c	1	lenses	to 30 plus?			. a.g. c.	
2	Q So, why was he ca	alling you?		2	Α	Word-of-mouth				
3	A Because the tax re			3	Q	Whose word-of		outh?		
4	completed incorrectly.			4 A Theirs.						
5	Q How so?			5	Q	Theirs? Whose	e?			
6	A I think they all ru	ın toaether. I c	iot	6	Α	Clients.				
	to think about it for a seco	•		7	Q	And did there o	come	e a time. Mr. J	lameson.	
8	to claim his mother as a c	lependent on t	ne tax	8	when v	ou represented				
	return. And there might h				-	off the record.	Í			
1	with the basis in bigger, fa			10	•	ereupon, a discu	ıssic	on took place	off the	
11	Q So, was he looking			11	`	record.)		·		
12	2013 return?	,		12	BY MS	S. HEALY-GALL	AGH	HER:		
13	A Yes, ma'am.			13	Q	I'll take that bad	ck u	p so we can c	et the	
14	Q Did you do that?			14		question on. Di				
15	A No, ma'am.					on, when you re				
16	Q Why not?					th respect to sol	-	-		
17	A The cost to amend	l it wouldn't be	nefit	17		Yes.				
18				18		About how man	ny p	eople would v	ou estimate	
19				19 you have represented before the IRS with respect						
20					20 to solar lenses?					
21				21		Fifty-four, 55.				
	Mr. Shepard about RaPov			22	Q	And when I say	y pe	ople, I unders	tand	
22	Λ He brought the au			22	-41					

Jameson, Richard Pages 93 - 96

23 often there is a husband and wife on any tax

24 return. Does that number include counting a

25 married couple as two people?

23

25

A He brought the subject up a couple of

24 times. I never approached him on the subject.

Q What did he say?

A No.

- 2 Q Okay. So, just to be clear for the
- 3 record, you have about 54 to 55 representations
- 4 before the IRS with respect to solar lenses?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q When did you start representing
- 7 customers before the IRS with respect to solar
- 8 lenses?

1

- 9 A I think the first audit that I was
- 10 involved in was either late 2014 or early 2015. I
- 11 can't remember off the top of my head. But that's12 approximately.
- 13 Q What, if any, understanding do you have,
- 14 Mr. Jameson, about Greg Shepard's relationship
- 15 with RaPower-3?
- 16 A The only understanding I have is that he
- 17 receives a 1099 from RaPower-3 having to do with
- 18 sales, I assume.
- 19 Q Have you ever seen Mr. Shepard
- 20 disseminate information on behalf of RaPower-3?
- 21 A I have never seen him do it, no.
- 22 Q Have you ever received emails from him?
- 23 A Occasionally, I would get an email from
- 24 him having to do with, you know, their advances in
- 25 technology and stuff like that.

Page 98

- 1 Q And what, if any, role does Mr. Shepard
- 2 have with respect to assisting customers who are
- 3 being audited by the IRS?
- 4 A None, to my knowledge.
- 5 Q How about being audited by any state
- 6 taxation authority?
- 7 A I don't think he has any input or -- I
- 8 don't think he's involved in that either, to be
- 9 honest with you.
- 10 Q Mr. Jameson, did you ever ask Greg
- 11 Shepard to share your information with RaPower-3
- 12 customers?
- 13 A No. I'm not looking to get new clients.
- 14 I don't do advertising. I don't need any new
- 15 clients. I don't ask anybody to send me clients.
- 16 Q Did you ever send Mr. Shepard
- 17 information to share with RaPower-3 customers?
- 18 A No. I sent him information that he
- 19 requested when we were talking about his tax
- 20 return, but not to share with other individuals.
- 21 Q Did you ever speak with -- withdrawn.
- 22 Did you ever communicate in any way with Neldon
- 23 Johnson regarding your representation of customers
- 24 before the IRS?
- 25 A No.

Page 97

- Q Mr. Jameson, who pays you for your 54,
- 2 55 representations of solar lenses customers
- 3 before the IRS?
- 4 A The client.
- 5 Q Mr. Jameson, have you ever seen a
- 6 document that appears to be a memorandum from the
- 7 law firm Kirton McConkie?
- 8 A Yes.

9

15

- Q How did you get that document?
- 10 A One of my clients provided it to me.
- 11 Q Have you ever seen a letter that
- 12 purports to be from the Anderson Law Center?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q How did you get that document?
 - A Same client provided that to me.
- 16 Q Do you remember which client?
- 17 A I want to say Mike Freeborn. But it
- 18 might have been Greg Freeborn. I think it was
- 19 Mike Freeborn.
- 20 Q And I realize I haven't asked you about
- 21 another person in this lawsuit. Do you recognize
- 22 the name Roger Freeborn?
- 23 A I recognize the name, yes.
- 24 Q How do you recognize it?
- 25 A It was on the deposition that got sent.

Page 100

Page 99

- 1 Q Have you ever met Roger Freeborn?
- 2 A No.
- 3 Q Have you ever communicated with Roger
- 4 Freeborn?
- 5 A No.
- 6 Q What, if anything, did you do with the
- 7 Kirton McConkie memorandum?
- 8 A Reviewed it to see about the relevance.
- 9 And then in some of the audits I attached it to
- 10 the source documentation that I provided to the
- 11 Internal Revenue Service to establish reasonable
- 12 cause so that we could request an abatement for
- 13 any penalties should the taxpayer lose.
- 14 Q Are any of your customers who have
- 15 claimed tax benefits related to the solar lenses,
- 16 are any of them C-Corps.?
 - A No.

17

- 18 Q Then why does the Kirton McConkie
- 19 memorandum matter?
- 20 A Because of its reference to different
- 21 code sections and laws that have to do with the
- 22 solar lenses and the ability to claim energy
- 23 credits under Section 48. It also outlines
- 24 information that would be needed for disqualified
- 25 use under Section 50.

12

Page 101

- Q But you are aware, of course, that the 2 memorandum is written in anticipation of the buyer 3 of the lenses being a C-Corp., right?
- A I was not aware of that when I was 4 5 provided with that documentation.
- 6 Q It's in the texted memorandum, sir.
- 7 A Yes, when I read it. But it also
- 8 applies to IRS regulations and public laws that
- 9 don't always apply to C-Corporations. They also
- 10 apply to other individuals. And, therefore, it
- 11 lays the groundwork for a request of the IRS under
- 12 reasonable clause to abate penalties.
- Q Why, in your opinion, would that 13 14 memorandum provide reasonable cause to abate 15 penalties?
- A Because if it's referenced to public 16
- 17 laws and code sections it would be used to allow
- 18 the taxpayer, whether it was a C-Corporation or
- 19 any taxpayer to claim the credits and the
- 20 depreciation allowance.
- 21 Q So, just because it identifies code 22 sections?
- A Which gives reasonable cause to the 23
- 24 taxpayer, yes.
- 25 Q But if the facts assumed in the memo

Page 102

- 1 don't match the facts of the taxpayer, how does
- 2 that provide reasonable cause?
- 3 A I didn't say the facts in the memo
- 4 provided a reasonable cause. I said the reference
- 5 to public laws and treasury regulations and code 6 sections.
- 7 Q So, that's enough, in your mind, to
- 8 create reasonable cause for a taxpayer not to be
- 9 penalized?
- A To lay the groundwork to request an 10 11 abatement, yes, ma'am.
- 12 Q What, if anything, did you do with the
- 13 Anderson letter?
- A Reviewed it and also attached it to some
- 15 of the individuals who were being audited; again,
- 16 to help lay the ground work for reasonable cause
- 17 to request an abatement of penalties.
- Q What is it about the Anderson letters 18
- 19 that, in your mind, provides the groundwork for 20 reasonable cause to abate penalties?
- 21 A It specifies, again, code sections and
- 22 treasury regulations and so forth. It doesn't 23 specifically talk about C-Corporations or
- 24 corporations in general, it's more of an overview.
 - Q Have you, Mr. Jameson, used the Kirton

1 McConkie memorandum as support for the positions

- 2 that you take on tax returns with respect to the
- 3 solar lenses?
- A No.
- 5 Q Why not?
- A It has to do with a C-Corporation. The
- 7 legal memorandum having to do with a C-Corporation
- 8 is basically, if I was defending a C-Corporation
- 9 in an audit, then I would use it. But I'm not
- 10 using it. I do my own due diligence and research.
- 11 That's the only ethical way to do things.
 - Q And how, if at all, have you relied on
- 13 the Anderson letter and taken the positions that
- 14 you have taken on a customer's tax return?
 - A Very little. I, basically, think that
- 16 it was way too vague, in my personal opinion. So,
- 17 I, again, do my own due diligence and do my own
- 18 research to come up with the public laws, the
- 19 court cases and treasury regulations, code
- 20 sections, revenue rulings, those kind of things.
- Q Have any clients given you any other 21
- 22 document that appears to be a legal analysis with
- 23 respect to the tax benefits for solar lenses?
- 24 A Not that I can remember, no.
- 25 Q Off the record for a moment.

Page 104

Page 103

- (Whereupon, a discussion took place off the 1
- 2 record.)
- 3 (Exhibit No. 624 was marked for identification.)
- 4 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 5 Q Mr. Jameson, you have been handed what's
- 6 been marked as Exhibit 624. Please read that
- 7 document and let me know when you are done. For
- 8 the record, Exhibit 624 is Bates marked Jameson
- 9 003361. Ready?
- A Yes. 10
- Q Yes? 11
- 12 Yes, I am ready.
- Q Mr. Jameson, do you recognize 13
- 14 Exhibit 624?
- 15 A Yes.
- Q What is it? 16
- 17 It appears to be an email from Greg
- 18 Shepard to me with a copy to Lori also.
- 19 Q And the date at the top is Friday,
- 20 October 25th, 2013. Do you see that?
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 Q So, that's about a year earlier than you
- 23 recalled having communicated with Mr. Shepard,
- 24 right?
- 25 Correct. So, I was wrong in my 2014.

Q So, we see in Mr. Shepard's first

- 2 paragraph the first sentence is, "It was great to
- 3 meet with you yesterday. You seemed to have
- 4 impressed Neldon, and that hardly ever happens."
- 5 Did I read that correctly?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q So, then, does that refresh your
- 8 recollection as to when you first met Mr. Shepard
- and Mr. Johnson?
- 10 A This meeting was the second meeting with
- 11 Mr. Neldon -- or Neldon.
- Q Okay. Because you testified earlier 12
- 13 that the second meeting with Neldon Johnson was in 14 2015?
- 15 A Obviously, I was incorrect.
- 16 Q Okay. So, let's clarify that a little
- 17 bit. So, if the second visit with Mr. Johnson was
- 18 in 2013, when was the first visit?
- A It might have been in -- it couldn't 19
- 20 have been in '12. It had to be in '13 also.
- Q So, then do you think you made any other 21
- 22 trips other than two?
- 23 A I only made two trips.
- 24 Q Only made two trips. Okay. In or
- 25 before 2013?

Page 106

- A Correct. 1
- 2 Q Then the next sentence in Mr. Shepard's 3 email says, "Okay. So, the following is the email
- 4 that could go out to the R3 members getting
- 5 audited and their tax preparers." Did I read that
- 6 correctly?
- 7 A Yes.
- Q So, Mr. Shepard was offering to send out 8
- your information to other people?
- A Appears so, yes. 10
- Q Did you tell him not to do that? 11
- 12 A I don't remember telling him not to do
- 13 it, no. I don't remember telling him to do it 14 either.
- 15 Q The information in Mr. Shepard's email
- 16 next to your name and Miss Gailey's name, is that
- 17 the correct contact information for you both?
- A At that time, yes. 18
- Q So, about halfway through the email, Mr. 19
- 20 Shepard says, "They are now picking up some
- 21 RaPower-3 members who are in the audit/appeal
- 22 stage. If you would like them to represent you,
- 23 give them a call or email. One of our members who23 about what the use of lenses for advertising
- 24 was the first one to get audited and had some
- 25 problems with documents being filed properly, and

Page 105

1 because of that his case didn't look good. Rick

Page 107

Page 108

- 2 took over, and at this point, he has won his
- 3 clients' 2012 and 2011 appeal, so we are still
- 4 waiting on the 2010 appeal." Did I read that
- 5 correctly?
- 6 A Yes.
 - MR. PAUL: Mostly.
- 8 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Where did I mess
- 9 up?

7

- 10 MR. PAUL: You moved around a few words
- 11 and skipped a few.
- 12 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Okay.
- 13 MR. PAUL: This isn't an exercise in
- 14 perfection.
- 15 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 16 Q Okay. Please take a look at that
- 17 paragraph. Do you have any understanding of what
- 18 Mr. Shepard is talking about there with that
- 19 member who was audited?
- 20 A Obviously, I was working on an audit or
- 21 I was helping with the appeal after the audit.
- Q Do you recall anything about documents
- 23 not having been filed properly or anything to do
- 24 with that?
- A Yes. 25

Q What happened there? 1

- 2 I think the individual was either trying
- 3 to represent himself or didn't have adequate
- 4 representation and missed some of the deadlines to
- 5 get documents to the IRS.
- Q Okay. So, the documents that were not 6
- 7 filed properly were in the audit stage?
- A That's my understanding, yes. 8
- 9 So, it says here that you won the 2012
- 10 and 2011 appeal. Do you recall that?
- No, ma'am. 11 Α
- 12 Q You don't know what Mr. Shepard is
- 13 talking about there?
- A Well, I know what he's talking about. I
- 15 don't remember that particular case. I do a lot
- 16 of them.
- Q Okay. In the next paragraph of Mr. 17
- 18 Shepard's email, please read the section regarding
- 19 the attached tax attorney opinion letter and the
- 20 use of the lenses for advertising purposes.
- 21 A I read it.
- 22 Q Okay. Did you ever speak with anyone
- 24 purposes might mean with respect to the tax
- 25 benefits related to solar lenses?

- 1 A No.
- 2 Q Do you have any idea what Mr. Shepard is
- 3 talking about here?
- 4 A I am assuming they would have to do with
- 5 the lenses that were perhaps on their website or
- 6 pictures that they took to try and sell lenses to
- 7 other individuals.
- 8 Q To your knowledge, Mr. Jameson, has any
- 9 RaPower-3 customer ever been paid for the use of
- 10 their lenses for advertising purposes?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q Who?
- 13 A I am concerned that might be considered
- 14 client privilege, because under Circular 230 I am
- 15 given the limited client privilege. And without
- 16 the taxpayer's consent to divulge their name, I'm
- 17 not sure I am allowed to do that. Can you give me
- 18 a second to ask the attorney?
- 19 Q Actually, I'll ask you a question. Did
- 20 you learn about this in the course of preparing a
- 21 tax return?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q Then I am going to ask you to answer the
- 24 question?
- 25 A Okay.

Page 110

- 1 Q Who was the customer who, to your
- 2 knowledge, was paid for the use of that customer's
- 3 lenses for advertising purposes?
- 4 A May I ask --
- 5 MR. PAUL: I am going to object to the
- 6 extent it calls for privileged information, that
- 7 this witness is not authorized to divulge without
- 8 having received authorization from the customer.
- 9 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Can we go off the 10 record for a minute, please?
- 11 (Whereupon, a discussion took place off the
- 12 record.)
- 13 (Whereupon, a lunch recess was taken.)
- 14 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 15 Q Mr. Jameson, we'll be back on the record
- 16 here. During lunch, did you talk to anybody about
- 17 the facts of this case?
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Who was that?
- 20 A My attorney, Steven Paul. We reviewed
- 21 your concern about divulging the name of a client.
- 22 Q Okay. Did you talk to him about the
- 23 factual ease of that client?
- 24 A No
- 25 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Would you please

Page 109

1 read back the question that we had pending before

- 2 the break?
- 3 (Record read.)
 - A Trudy Sajac.

5 MR. PAUL: Do you know how that's

6 spelled?

9

- 7 THE WITNESS: S-a-j-a-c, I think.
- 8 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
 - Q Anyone else?
- 10 A No, ma'am.
- 11 Q How do you know that Trudy Sajac was
- 12 paid for the use of any solar lens for advertising
- 13 purposes?
- 14 A She received a 1099 from RaPower-3.
- 15 Q When?
- 16 A I think it was 2014.
- 17 Q Has Miss Sajac been paid any other time
- 18 for the use of her lenses for advertising
- 19 purposes?

20

- A Not that I am aware of.
- 21 Q How do you know that that 1099 was for
- 22 the use of her lens or lenses for advertising
- 23 purposes?
- 24 A Based on the fact that she received the
- 25 1099 and nobody else did, it had to be for that, I

Page 112

Page 111

- 1 was assuming.
 - 2 Q So, you don't know?
 - 3 A I don't know specifically. I didn't
 - 4 follow up to ask that particular question. I just
 - 5 reported a 1099 as income.
 - 6 Q Mr. Jameson, have any of your other
 - 7 customers ever received a 1099 from RaPower-3?
 - 8 A Yes.
 - 9 Q Do you know what those payments were
 - 10 for?
 - 11 A The three that I remember seeing had to
 - 12 do with commissions.
 - 13 Q I just want to make sure I understand.
 - 14 So, have only Trudy Sajac and three other
 - 15 customers received 1099s from RaPower-3?
 - io castomers received roops from that ower-o:
 - 16 A I would have a tendency to say there are
 - 17 probably more. Those are just the ones that I 18 remember. I would have to think about it for a
 - 19 while. Because I know I have reported 1099s on
 - 20 their tax returns from RaPower-3. And three of
 - 21 the ones that I remember right off the top of my
 - 22 head. But there may be more.
 - 23 Q So, why do you think Miss Sajac's was
 - 24 for advertising rather than a commission?
 - 25 A The amount.

Page 113 Page 115 1 Q What was different about the amount? 1 Α No. 2 A It was probably 10 to 15 times larger 2 How about the second trip? O 3 than the others. And she works as a nurse. So, 3 Miss Gailey was. Q Anyone other than Miss Gailey? 4 she wouldn't have been out trying to help people 4 5 buy them to get a commission. 5 Α No. Q About how much was it? Q Does Miss Gailey represent any clients 6 6 7 who claimed tax benefits related to solar lenses 7 A Top of my head, 20,000, 22,000. 8 Something like that. 8 on their tax returns? Q Is there any other reason that you think 9 Α No. 9 10 that Miss Sajac was paid 20 to \$22,000 for the use Has Miss Sajac ever gone by any other 10 11 of her lens for advertising purposes? 11 names to your knowledge? No. 12 12 Α Yes. Q 13 Q What name? 13 Did Miss Sajac ever tell you that that 14 payment was for the use of the lenses for 14 A Shepard. 15 advertising purposes? 15 Q So, Trudy Shepard? Α No. Yes. 16 16 Α 17 Q Did anyone else ever tell you that that 17 Q Is she related to Greg Shepard? 18 payment was for the use of Miss Sajac's lenses for A No. That was her married name before 18 19 advertising purposes? 19 she married Sajac. What's her birth last name, if you know? 20 A No. 20 Q 21 Q So, correct me if I'm wrong, but I just 21 I do not know. 22 want to make sure I understand. So, you simply 22 Q Mr. Jameson, have you ever introduced 23 assumed that that payment to Miss Sajac was for 23 the idea of buying solar lenses to any other 24 the use of her lenses for the purpose of 24 person? 25 25 advertising purposes? Α No. Wouldn't be ethical. Page 116 Page 114 Q Why not? A Yes, ma'am. 1 1 Because I do tax returns with solar 2 Q Did you ever wonder why someone would be 2 3 paid 20 to \$22,000 for the use of a lens for 3 lenses on them. It would not be ethical. And 4 advertising purposes? 4 it's not ethical for me to buy or not buy 5 MR. PAUL: Objection. Lacks foundation. anything. Q So, if an enrolled agent did do that, in 6 A Not my responsibility. My 6 7 responsibility is to report the information on the your opinion, would that be a violation of the ethics rules? 8 client's tax return, not to audit the tax return. 8 9 MR. PAUL: Objection. Asks for a legal 9 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 10 opinion or opinion that this witness has not been Q Did you ever see a contract, Mr. designated an expert for. 11 Jameson, by which Miss Sajac would be compensated A My understanding of the ethics involved 12 for the use of her lens for advertising purposes? 12 13 being an enrolled agent under Circular 230, yes, A I want to say that it could be in part 13 14 of those equipment purchase or the operating 14 ma'am, it would be right on the edge if not over 15 manual, Operating and Maintenance Agreement, 15 the edge. 16 because I remember seeing bonus contracts and 16 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Q You mentioned commissions, Mr. Jameson. 17 stuff like that also. So, I'm assuming that it 17 18 What's your understanding of how someone earns 18 was in there. 19 commissions related to this solar lenses? 19 Q Going back to a couple of topics we 20 My understanding is if the individual is 20 talked about before lunch, you talked about two

Q And we have talked a little bit about Miss Gailey was. 24 25 rental payments; right? Anyone other than Miss Gailey? 25

24

Jameson, Richard

23 with you?

21 visits to locations in around Delta, Utah. During

22 your first visit, was anyone else on the visit

21 assisting somebody else in purchasing the lenses 22 they get a commission for a percentage of the

23 lenses that the other person purchases.

- 1 Α Yes, ma'am.
- 2 Q Was there any other way, to your
- 3 knowledge, that the owner of a lens would make
- money with respect to the lens?
- 5 A There would be the bonus payment.
- 6 Q Anything else?
- 7 The ways that I understood him to make
- 8 money off of the lens would be rent, bonuses and
- 9 advertising. Can I add one more thing? The other
- 10 thing in my research would have been the fact that
- 11 they may be able to make money off the lenses
- 12 should the lens increase in value when they were
- 13 to sell it. So, if you bought something for
- 14 \$5,000, and it went up in value to 6, then you
- 15 could sell it, and you would then make a profit
- 16 that way also.
- 17 Q What basis do you have for any belief 18 that one of these lenses would increase in value
- over time? 19
- 20 A The original lenses were selling for
- 21 approximately 3,000. They are selling for 3500 22 now.
- 23 Do you know who sets that price? Q
- 24 Α No, ma'am.
- 25 Do you know if there's a secondary

Page 118

- 1 market for these solar lenses that your customers
- have purchased? 2
- A No, ma'am. I have never researched 3
- 4 that.
- 5 Q Have any of your customers ever sold one
- of their solar lenses? 6
- 7 A Not to my knowledge, no.
- Q Are you aware of anyone ever having sold 8
- a solar lens from RaPower-3?
- A Not to my knowledge, no. 10
- Q Then I'm not sure I understand the basis 11
- 12 for your belief as to why these would appreciate
- 13 over time?
- A It's my belief they would appreciate 14
- 15 over time based on some of my research. And I'll
- 16 go back to the example that I used of the avocado
- 17 farm. It increased in value over a period of time
- 18 because it went from being set up to harvesting,
- 19 and at harvesting they started making money, which
- 20 now means that the avocado trees now increased in
- 21 value, and he could have sold it for more money
- 22 than he originally put into it.
- Q How will one of these lenses ripen and 23
- 24 be harvested like an avocado?
- A It is not an avocado. And I use the

Page 119

- 1 avocado trees as an example because you asked me
- 2 how I determine how it might increase in value.
- 3 That was my example.
- Q So, what you are giving me, Mr. Jameson,
- 5 is a factual scenario that is in a closet. So, I
- 6 want to understand why you think that a solar
- 7 lens, up on a tower, exposed to desert conditions,
- 8 that will degrade over time, how will that
- 9 appreciate in value?
- 10 A It could appreciate in value because of
- 11 revenues that it would generate.
- 12 Q But those are the exact same revenues
- 13 that, ostensibly, the owner of that lens is
- 14 already contractually entitled to?
 - A That is correct.
- 16 Q So, that's not appreciating value, is
- 17 it, sir?

15

18

- MR. PAUL: Objection. Argumentative.
- 19 A In my opinion, based on my research,
- 20 yes, it could be increasing in value. Because, as
- 21 an example, if I owned one of the lenses, and it
- 22 started generating revenue, I could turn around
- 23 and sell it based on the fact that it was
- 24 generating revenue. And I could, theoretically,
- 25 sell it for more than I purchased it for, just

Page 120

- 1 like any other asset that you can buy and sell and 2 it increases in value.
- 3 Q So, Mr. Jameson, I'm not asking about
- 4 hypotheticals here. I'm asking about the solar
- 5 lenses that your customers have purchased. For
- 6 these solar lenses, I still don't understand why
- 7 you think they would increase in value inherently
- 8 in themselves?
- 9 MR. PAUL: Objection to the extent it's
- 10 been asked and answered. Simply because you
- 11 disagree with him doesn't mean his answer doesn't
- 12 satisfy the question you asked.
- A My statements are based on the fact I 13
- 14 think or I project they may increase in value. I
- 15 have no concrete proof that they will increase in
- 16 value. Just like if I bought a silver dollar.
- 17 Would it increase in value? Theory is yes. Would
- 18 it? Don't know.
- 19 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- Q So, the answer, Mr. Jameson, is that you 20
- 21 don't know whether these lenses will appreciate in
- 22 value?
- 23 Α That is correct.
- 24 Yet, you have a belief that they will?
- 25 It is a personal belief, yes.

- 1 Q And what I would like to understand is
- 2 the underpinnings for that personal belief. What
- 3 facts have you seen that give rise to that belief?
- 4 A Research in the solar technology
- 5 industry when I was doing the research. And also
- 6 the fact that there is a tax court case that talks
- 7 about the increase in assets having to do with the
- 8 substantial economic investment.
- 9 Q My question is about what facts relating 10 to these solar lenses.
- 11 A I have no facts relating to these solar 12 lenses.
- 13 Q Okay. So, we have talked about -- Mr.
- 14 Jameson, have any of your customers ever requested
- 15 a refund for monies that they have paid for any
- 16 solar lenses?
- 17 A I'm not sure I understand. Requested a
- 18 refund from who?
- 19 Q We'll start off with from anybody.
- 20 MR. PAUL: Objection. Vague. Lack of 21 foundation.
- 22 A I do not know of any client that has
- 23 requested a refund of funds paid for a lens.
- 24 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 25 Q Do you know if any of your customers

Page 122

- 1 have tried to sell their lenses back to RaPower-3?
- 2 A I do not have an answer to that
- 3 question. I do not know.
- 4 Q To your knowledge, is that an option 5 available to someone who buys a solar lenses?
- 6 A It is an option available. I assume it
- 7 is, yes.
- 8 Q You assume it is?
- 9 A I assume it is. That's not my area of 10 expertise.
- 11 Q Have you seen anything or heard anything
- 12 suggesting that that's an option?
- 13 A I would have to read the purchase
- 14 agreement. It might be in there. But, at this
- 15 point, no, I can't answer that question correctly.
- 16 I don't know.
- 17 Q To your knowledge, what, if anything,
- 18 would happen to someone who does not pay in full
- 19 for a lens?

20

- A I have no knowledge of that scenario.
- 21 Q Are you familiar with the down payment 22 structure for lenses?
- 23 A I have seen a down payment structure on
- 24 the Equipment Purchase Agreement and on the
- 25 invoice, yes.

- 1 Q And can you give me your general
- 2 understanding of what that down payment structure 3 is?
- 4 A The down payment structure, as I
- 5 understand it, is around 10 percent of their cost,
- 6 or maybe a little higher, maybe a third of the
- 7 cost, depending upon how many lenses and who and
- 8 stuff like that that they have to put down, and
- 9 then make payments from that point forward.
- 10 Q Do you know when a customer has to pay
- 11 the down payment in full?
- 12 A No, ma'am, I don't know exactly.
- 13 Q Have you seen or heard or are you
- 14 familiar with the structure that a customer pays
- 15 \$105 per lens in the tax year for which they want
- 16 to claim tax benefits, and then in the subsequent
- 17 year the customer pays \$945 to complete the down
- 18 payment?
- 19 A I have seen invoices with 105 on it. I
- 20 haven't really followed up with the subsequent
- 21 payments, because for me to prepare the tax
- 22 return, I just need proof of payment in the first
- 23 place, the invoice.
- 24 Q Does it matter at all to you who
- 25 provides financing for the remainder of the

Page 124

Page 123

3? | 1 payment for a lens?

3

- 2 A No, ma'am.
 - Q Doesn't matter?
- 4 A No. ma'am.
- 5 Q Why not?
- 6 A I did the research. There are several
- 7 tax court cases that talk about the financing and
- 8 stuff like that. And I was, under my due
- 9 diligence, I accepted the tax court cases to be
- 10 sufficient evidence that they were entitled to the
- 11 deduction.
- 12 Q I'm not sure I follow. So, what tax
- 13 court? Like, can you give me a general idea of
- 14 what you saw in these tax court cases?
- 15 A There was a tax court case where an
- 16 individual purchased assets over a period of time,
- 17 made a down payment, then made payments after
- 18 that. And a tax court ruled that he was entitled
- 19 to claim the entire cost of the asset for a basis
- 20 for depreciation because he was making payments.
- 21 Q And do you recall from whom the taxpayer
- 22 or who was financing that equipment for the
- 23 taxpayer?
- A Not off the top of my head, no, ma'am.
- 25 Q Are you aware of whether Miss Trudy

- 1 Sajac is any relation to Glenda Johnson?
- 2 A I believe there might be a relationship
- 3 in there, but I'm not sure.
- 4 Q And, to your knowledge, Glenda is Neldon
- 5 Johnson's wife; is that right?6 A Yes, ma'am.
- 7 Q Mr. Jameson, are you familiar with the
- 8 Internal Revenue rules that dictate whether a
- 9 taxpayer has money at risk in any sort of
- 10 transaction or investment?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q And what's your understanding of what
- 13 happens if a taxpayer borrows money from an
- 14 interested party in the transaction? Is that
- 15 money at risk?
- 16 A If it is a legally binding contract, the
- 17 tax courts have ruled yes.
- 18 Q And by that you mean a recourse
- 19 contract?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q So, what recourse, if any, or to your
- 22 understanding, if a RaPower-3 customer does not
- 23 make a payment for that customer's lens, what
- 24 possible collection activities could RaPower-3
- 25 take?

- Page 126
- 1 A Not my area of expertise. I do not
- 2 know. That's up to them. I do tax returns, not
- 3 collections.
- 4 Q And part of a tax return, Mr. Jameson,
- 5 right, is checking a box to tell the IRS whether
- 6 the money involved in a Schedule C business is at
- 7 risk, isn't it?
- 8 A Correct.
- 9 Q So, why is that not your job?
- 10 A You didn't ask me. You said what would
- 11 happen if they didn't make a payment. It's not my
- 12 responsibility if they don't make the payments.
- 13 My responsibility is to make sure that they have
- 14 the contract in place in order to put it on the
- 15 tax return. That's my due diligence.
- 16 Q But you just said you don't know what
- 17 would happen. So, how do you know if a taxpayer's
- 18 money is at risk or not at risk?
- 19 A I assume the taxpayer's money is at risk
- 20 because they have a Purchase Agreement Contract.
- 21 Q And it doesn't matter to you who is
- 22 financing that piece of equipment?
- 23 A No, it doesn't. Why would it matter to
- 24 me? That has nothing to do with preparation of a
- 25 tax return.

- 1 (Exhibit No. 625 was marked for identification.)
- 2 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 3 Q Mr. Jameson, I am handing you what's
- 4 been marked as Exhibit 625. Would you please take
- 5 a read of that document and let me know when you 6 are done.
- 7 A Okay. I have finished.
- 8 Q And real quick, before we turn to 625,
- 9 what, if anything, did you do, Mr. Jameson, after
- 10 Mr. Shepard sent you the email in 624, Plaintiff's
- 11 Exhibit 624?
- 12 A I'm not sure I remember doing much of
- 13 anything other than I didn't authorize him to give
- 14 my name and phone number to anybody.
- 15 Q Did you tell him not to give your name
- 16 and phone number to anybody?
- 17 A Not at that particular time. I think I
- 18 did have to tell him later not to.
- 19 Q When was that?
- 20 A Off the top of my head, I don't
- 21 remember. I did tell him, though, that I was not
- 22 taking new clients. I was not advertising. He
- 23 didn't need to put my name out there or phone
- 24 number.
- 25 Q And was there a particular reason why

Page 128

Page 127

- 1 you didn't want him to put your name and phone 2 number out?
 - 3 A I'm semiretired. I don't need any more
 - 4 clients. I am not advertising for clients. I
 - 5 don't want to grow my business. I had a business
 - 6 that we did over 6,000 tax returns in. I don't
 - 7 want to do that again.
 - 8 Q All right. Mr. Jameson, do you
 - 9 recognize Exhibit 625?
- 10 A Yes, ma'am.
- 11 Q What is it?
- 12 A It appears to be an email that Greg
- 13 Shepard sent to a whole lot of people.
- 14 Q And Mr. Shepard sent that email on
- 15 October 29, 2013, right?
- 16 A Yes, ma'am.
- 17 Q And that's four days after the email
- 18 that he sent to you in Plaintiff's Exhibit 624?
- 19 A Yes, ma'am.
- 20 Q And, actually, for the record,
- 21 Plaintiff's Exhibit 625 is Bates marked
- 22 Greg_P&R-003026 to 3027. And, Mr. Jameson, if you
- 23 would take a look at the email list about a third
- 24 of the way up that list, do you see yours?
- 25 A Yes.

Page 129 Page 131 1 Q Rjameson08@gmail.com? 1 to Mr. Shepard? 2 Yes. 2 Α No, ma'am, I did not. 3 Q So, the email in Plaintiff's Exhibit 625 3 Any idea why he might have tagged your name with that? 4 is very similar to the email in Plaintiff's Exhibit 624, correct? 5 My bet is that information looks like A Yes. 6 what I provided to one of my clients that I was 6 7 7 working with at the time. Q But not completely identical, right? Q After you received this email, is this 8 A Correct. 8 9 when you told Mr. Shepard not to give out your 9 Q One of the differences that I noticed is 10 name and contact information? 10 at the top of the page that's marked 3027, where 11 Mr. Shepard is describing what happens with one of11 A Yes, ma'am. 12 the first people to get audited, would you please MR. PAUL: Objection. Lack of 12 13 take a read of that paragraph? 13 foundation. A Okay. 14 14 A Yes, ma'am. 15 Q So, this is a slightly different 15 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 16 description than what Mr. Shepard originally sent Q How soon after? 16 you in Plaintiff's Exhibit 624, correct? 17 A I don't remember exactly. A Correct. 18 Have you turned anybody down who's 18 19 Q Did you correct Mr. Shepard? 19 contacted you to represent them with respect to A To be honest with you, a lot of these any tax benefits related to the solar lenses? 20 21 junk mail emails I don't even look at. I just 21 MR. PAUL: You can answer that yes or 22 delete them and move on. 22 no. Q Well, my question to you is, Mr. Shepard 23 Α Yes. 23 24 sent you an email on October 25th, 2013 that had a 24 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 25 brief description about one of your clients, one 25 Q Why? Page 130 Page 132 1 of the first people to get audited? MR. PAUL: Before you answer, I'm just Right. 2 going to give you an instruction and allow you to 2 3 Q Now, four days later, there is a 3 answer within the limitation of privilege. As 4 different description of what happened with that 4 long as you are not disclosing any privileged 5 client in Plaintiff's Exhibit 625. My question to 5 information that was divulged to you by a person 6 you is, did you correct Mr. Shepard from what he 6 seeking legal advice, you can answer the guestion. 7 had written in Plaintiff's Exhibit 624? 7 They could not provide me with required 8 documentation that I would need in order to pass A No. 8 9 9 the question about substantiating the Q Any idea why Mr. Shepard's description 10 is different? 10 documentation used to prepare the return. 11 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: A No. 11 12 Q In fact, Mr. Jameson, did you file 12 Q And is that the list of documentation 13 amended returns for this client who got audited? 13 you have mentioned earlier? A If the individual was in the appeals 14 A Yes, ma'am, 15 process, you can't file amended returns. Now, did 15 Q The contracts, the Placed in Service 16 I file amended returns for my clients? Yes. I 16 letter, proof of payment? 17 filed amended returns all the time. I don't know A Yes, ma'am. 17 18 who he is talking about. Q Aren't those things that are easily 18 Q So, you don't know who this is? 19 gotten from RaPower-3? 19 A It's my understanding that they get them 20 A No, ma'am, I do not. 20 21 Q Do you know -- withdraw that. Do you 21 when they purchase the lenses, yes, ma'am. 22 see the header below that paragraph on the page Q Right. And they can always go back to 22 23 that ends in 3027. It says from Rick Jameson? 23 RaPower-3 and say, hey, I need this stuff for my Yes, ma'am, I see it. 24 audit, can you send it, right? 24 25 In fact, did you send that information 25 Yes, ma'am, with one exception.

Jameson, Richard Pages 129 - 132

- 1 Q What's the exception?
- 2 A When the Internal Revenue Service seized
- 3 all the documents, computers there was a timeframe
- 4 in there when we couldn't get anything to do
- 5 anything with.
- 6 Q I want to make sure I understand our
- timeline here, because the raid, the execution of
- 8 the search warrant was in the summer of 2012. So,
- 9 do you recall when it was that you couldn't get
- 10 required documents?
- 11 A Not off the top of my head. But I have
- 12 a tendency to think that it had to do with some of
- 13 the audits that were taking effect or clients that
- 14 I was dealing with in, probably, '14.
- Q Have you turned down the representation 15
- 16 of any person who bought solar lenses for any
- 17 reason other than they couldn't provide you the
- 18 documents required?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Why?
- MR. PAUL: I'll assert the same 21
- 22 objection to the extent it calls for privileged
- 23 information. I would instruct you not to answer.
- 24 But if you can answer without divulging any
- 25 privileged information you can answer.

Page 134

- A They couldn't provide me with other 1
- documentation that they were trying to claim as
- 3 expenses on the tax return.
- 4 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 5 Q Expenses related to RaPower-3?
- 6 A No.
- Q Any other reason to turn down the 7
- representation of someone who bought solar lenses? 8
- A No. 9
- 10 Q So, Mr. Jameson, you said that you are
- 11 semiretired. And you are not trying to build a
- 12 practice here. So, why are you representing
- 13 anyone related to RaPower-3?
- 14 A I am not just representing people who
- 15 are being audited having to do with RaPower-3. I
- 16 am fairly good at representation. And I get
- 17 clients from all over the country who ask me to
- 18 represent them. And it's something I like to do.
- 19 Q I guess I'm not quite understanding why,
- 20 if you like to do it, and you are doing it for
- 21 many people, why you would tell Mr. Shepard, stop
- 22 putting my name out.
- 23 A Because I don't want -- I don't want
- 24 anybody advertising my name. I am not into
- 25 advertising to get clients. Normally, the clients

1 that I get will, actually, all the clients I get

- 2 are by word of mouth. I get referrals. I helped

Page 135

- 3 a client with their problem, and they referred
- 4 another client to me that had a problem. I find
- 5 that works better for me in the tax practice.
- Q Okay. So, your general preference is not advertising? 7
- A Correct. 8
- Q And that's true whether a client's 9
- 10 representation has to do with solar lenses or with
- 11 something completely unrelated to solar lenses?
- A That is correct. 12
- 13 (Exhibit No. 626 was marked for identification.)
- 14 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 15 Q For the record this Exhibit has Bates
- 16 number Olsen_P&E-02228 through 2229. Please take
- 17 a read of that and let me know when you are done.
- 18 And I can direct your attention, we'll be talking
- 19 about the email that starts about halfway down the
- 20 first page with the subject line, ReRa3
- 21 Audit/Appeal info.
- 22 A Okay. I have finished reading it.
- Q Okay. Let's first take a quick look at 23
- 24 the forwarded email that appears on the page
- 25 ending in 2229. A couple lines down from the top,

Page 136

- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q And then what follows is the same email

1 it says Tuesday, October 29. Do you see that?

- 4 that appears in Plaintiff's Exhibit 625, correct?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q And the email covering that forwarded
- 7 email is actually the email that appears for the
- 8 first page of Exhibit 626, correct?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q Okay. So, would you take a read,
- 11 please, of the email toward the bottom of the
- 12 first page of 626 from prestonfx@gmail.com to
- 13 greg@rapower3.com and let me know when you are
- 14 finished reading?
- 15 A I finished reading it.
- 16 Q And I will represent to you that this --
- 17 I know you are not on this email, but this was
- 18 produced by a gentleman named Preston Olsen. And
- 19 Mr. Olsen, in this email that you just read, is
- 20 asking questions, right, about the person that Mr.
- 21 Shepard mentioned in his prior email about the
- 22 person on audit and appeal, right?
- 23 A Correct.
- Q And Mr. Olsen asks, "Did he win on 24
- 25 appeal after filing more paperwork?" Then in all

1

7

15

Page 137

- 1 caps it says, "THE CORRECT PAPERWORK AND A LOT
- 2 MORE TRICKS BY RICK JAMESON." Did I read that
- 3 correctly?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q Any idea what Mr. Shepard is talking
- about there? 6
- 7 A No, ma'am, I don't. I would never have
- authorized that. I do not play tricks. 8
- 9 Q Does that ring any bells as to who that
- 10 might have been?
- A No, ma'am, it does not. I would like to 11
- 12 state that the tricks is deplorable. It should
- 13 never have been said. I would never play a trick
- 14 on an IRS agent. I have very strict guidelines
- 15 that I follow. And I am very good at doing it.
- And I do not not follow the rules.
- Q Does the name Roger Hamblin ring a bell? 17
- 18 A Yes.
- Q Was he one of your clients that you 19
- 20 represented before the IRS?
- 21 A In an appeal I think, yes.
- Q Do you recall what happened in the 22
- 23 course of that appeal?
- A If I remember, the appeal was, if I 24
- 25 remember correctly, the appeal was denied. And I

Page 138

- 1 helped him do some paperwork to get into tax 2 court.
- 3 Q So, with respect to any tax benefits
- 4 that Mr. Hamblin had claimed on the tax returns
- 5 that were under appeal, all of those tax benefits
- 6 were denied?
- A It's my understanding they were, if I 7
- remember correctly. 8
- Q Do you have any idea where Mr. Hamblin's 9
- 10 case is now?
- A In the queue. 11
- 12 Q So, still pending before tax court?
- Yes, ma'am, it's my understanding. 13
- 14 Q Do you recall, Mr. Jameson, when you
- 15 started representing people before the IRS with
- respect to tax benefits related to solar lenses?
- 17
- A Well, based on the dates of the email, I
- 18 would assume it had to be probably in 2013 now.
- Q And from when you first started 19
- 20 representing people before the IRS with respect to
- 21 the tax benefits related to solar lenses till
- 22 today, have you ever gotten the IRS to allow the
- 23 tax benefits related to the solar lenses?
- No. Can I clarify that a little bit? 24
- 25 O Um-hmm.

- The reason is it is a control issue.
- 2 What makes you say that? Q
- 3 A I have been told that by appeals
- 4 officers on numerous occasions.
- 5 Q Do you remember those people's names?
- 6 No, ma'am, I don't.
 - Q Do you have anything in writing?
- The appeals officer would have told me 8
- it was a control issue, and they could not approve 9
- 10 it because it was a control issue. And they would
- 11 then issue the notice of deficiency.
- Q So, Mr. Jameson, as an enrolled agent, 12
- 13 does that raise a red flag for you?
- 14 Α No, ma'am.
 - Q Why not?
- Because it tells me that there's X 16
- 17 number of cases in tax court. And the appeals
- 18 office is not going to approve anything as long as
- 19 it's still pending in court. So, as a control
- 20 issue, they review the rights of the taxpayer,
- 21 review the information, and then say it's a
- 22 control issue. I'm going to issue the notice of
- 23 deficiency. That doesn't mean that the taxpayer
- 24 is not correct. It means that they have to wait
- 25 for a judge to make a decision.

Page 140

Page 139

- Q So, the fact that the IRS has taken a 1
 - 2 position with respect to the non-allowability of
 - 3 the tax benefits claimed with respect to the solar
 - 4 lenses, and that position is to deny everything
 - 5 for every person under audit and appeal, does that
 - 6 raise a red flag for you?
 - 7 A No, ma'am.
 - 8 Q Why not?
 - A The IRS is wrong 50 percent of the time.
 - 10 The only person not wrong in this whole thing will
 - 11 be a judge.

20

- 12 Q Where do you get the IRS is wrong
- 13 50 percent of the time?
- MR. PAUL: I think he was being
- 15 generous. Sorry. That was facetious.
- 16 You can answer the question.
- 17 A Thirty years of experience in dealing
- 18 with the Internal Revenue Service.
- 19 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
 - Q So, is it your opinion?
- 21 It is my personal opinion.
- 22 Q Handing you, Mr. Jameson, what's already
- 23 been marked Plaintiff's Exhibit 32, which has
- 24 Bates No. US 001528, would you please take a look
- 25 at that email, read it, and let me know when you

- 1 are done.
- 2 Yeah, I have finished.
- 3 Q Okay. Do you recognize Plaintiff's
- 4 Exhibit 32?
- 5 A I don't remember receiving the email in 6 and of itself. I do remember talking to one of my
- 7 clients concerning the issues under audit and the
- way that I was proceeding with the audit.
- Q So, it sounds like, Mr. Jameson, you 10 recognize the three significant issues identified
- 11 in this email?
- 12 A I recognize a portion of them.
- Q Let's walk through them. My first 13
- 14 question is, did you send the writing in 15 paragraphs numbered 1, 2, and 3 to Mr. Shepard?
- A I don't believe I did. 16
- 17 Q Why not?
- A Well, it doesn't really look like all of 18
- 19 the stuff that I would have sent. It looks like
- 20 it was doctored up a little bit. But I'm not real
- 21 sure. And I don't remember sending this to Greg.
- 22 It looks like something I may have sent to another
- 23 client having to do with their audit, but I don't
- 24 specifically remember sending this to Greg.
- Q Okay. Let's walk through the three 25

Page 142

- 1 paragraphs here. So, the first sentence of
- 2 paragraph number 1 says, "This is leasing personal
- 3 property which is not considered passive at all.
- 4 No need to worry about establishing involvement
- 5 and time spent for this qualification." Did I
- 6 read that correctly?
- Yes, ma'am. 7
- Q Is it your opinion that leasing personal 8
- property is not a passive activity?
- A According to the Internal Revenue Code 10
- 11 and IRS guidelines, that is correct. As long as
- 12 the property is considered Section 1231, Tangible
- 13 Personal Property, it is to be reported on a
- 14 Schedule C as per the IRS guidelines that were
- 15 issued back in 1990, and is not considered a
- 16 passive activity. There are several court cases
- 17 to back that up.
- 18 Q So, separate and apart from where income
- 19 from leasing personal property is to be reported,
- 20 what's your support for the idea that leasing 21 personal property is not per se passive?
- 22
- The Internal Revenue Code and --
- 23 Q Which section?
- A Off the top of my head, I'm not sure. I
- 25 would think it probably falls under Section 162.

Page 143

- 1 And it probably has to do with Section 469A.
- 2 Q Okay. So, where Section 469C2 states
- 3 that an exception for certain real property, the
- 4 term "passive activity" includes any rental
- 5 activity. That's not part of your calculus?
 - A That has to do with rental property.
- 7 Rental property is Section 1245 or 1250. It's not
- 8 Section 1231. 1231 is Tangible Personal Property.
- 9 That's different from Section 1245 and
- 10 Section 1250.
- 11 Q So, where Section 469J8 defines rental
- 12 activity as any activity where payments are
- principally for the use of tangible property, that
- 14 doesn't factor into your calculus?
 - That's tangible personal property?
- 16 Q Yeah.

15

- 17 I suppose. I don't have the regulation
- 18 in front of me.
- (Exhibit No. 627 was marked for identification.)
- 20 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 21 Q I have handed you what's been marked
- 22 Plaintiff's Exhibit 627, which is a printout from
- 23 LexisNexis for 26 USC Section 469. And, once
- 24 again, the citation that you were relying on was
- 25 what section?

Page 144

- Somewhere in 469. There is, in Internal 1 2 Revenue Code Section 469, there is a seven-part
- 3 test. And in my research they passed part two of
- 4 the test and, therefore, entitled to say it is not
- 5 passive.
- 6 Q Okay. So, let's take a little stroll
- 7 here through 469. And you know what? I'm sorry.
- 8 So, generally, Mr. Jameson, Section 469, and I am
- 9 just talking about in general terms, says that if
- 10 a taxpayer has passive losses, those passive
- 11 losses may only be used to offset passive income.
- 12 That's the general rule, right?
- A With regards to real property under 13
- 14 Section 1245 and 1250.
- 15 Q Okay. Well, let's take a look, please,
- 16 at Section C here. In Section 469 where it says
- 17 passive activity defined, do you see that?
 - Yes, ma'am. Α
- Q And the rule is, in general, the term 19
- 20 "passive activity" means any activity which
- 21 involves the conduct of any trade or business in
- 22 which the taxpayer does not materially
- 23 participate. Correct?
- Correct. 24 Α

18

25 And then Section C2 says, "Passive

Page 145 Page 147 1 activity includes any rental activity except as 1 Α Yes. 2 provided in paragraph 7. The term passive 2 And then, if we look at subparagraph 3 activity includes any rental activity." Did I 3 (c)4, it says paragraphs 2 and 3 -- I'm on page 2 4 read that correctly? 4 at the top third of page 2, paragraphs 2 and 3, of 5 A Yes, ma'am. 5 course -- paragraph 2 says rental activity is per Q So, then let's take a look, please, at 6 se passive, shall be applied without regard to 6 7 whether or not the taxpayer materially 7 Section J8. 8 participates in the activity. Do you see that? 8 A That would be on page what? Yes, I see that. 9 Q Six? 9 Six. Okay. 10 So, the way I read Section 469, rental 10 11 activity involving tangible personal properties J8 defines rental activity. Do you see 11 12 like a solar lens is personal taxes. Do you 12 that? 13 agree? 13 A Yes. Q And it says, "The term rental activity 14 14 A No. 15 means any activity where payments are principally 15 Q Why not? 16 for the use of tangible property." Right? 16 Because the Internal Revenue Service has 17 A Yes. 17 specifically stated that the rental of tangible 18 personal property under Section 1231 is not a 18 Q And the solar lenses are tangible 19 property, correct? 19 passive activity and to be reported on a Schedule 20 C. And there are several tax court cases that 20 A Yes. 21 And if we revisit Section C2, it says 21 back that up. Q 22 except as provided in paragraph 7, right? 22 Q One quick question, Mr. Jameson, so A Um-hmm. 23 passive activity can be reported on a Schedule C, 23 Q Yes? 24 24 right? A Yes. 25 25 Α Yes. Page 146 Page 148 Q And paragraph 7, which is on the Q So, what does that have to do with 1 2 following page, says special rules for taxpayers 2 anything? A It has to do with my interpretation of 3 in real property business, correct? 3 A I haven't found it yet. 4 4 the Internal Revenue Code. Q Does our walk through Section 469 raise 5 Q Sorry. A It's on page 7? 6 any red flag for you about whether the rental of 6 Q No. Page 2. 7 7 tangible personal property is a passive activity? A Oh, page 2. MR. PAUL: Objection. Relevance. We 8 8 9 Q It's subsection (c)7. 9 have gone again far afield for the purpose of this A Found it. 10 deposition. 10 A The answer is no, because there is a Q (C)7 says, special rules for taxpayers 11 11 12 in real property business, correct? 12 seven-question test. And, in my research, the A Yes. 13 individual passes test number two. They do 13 14 substantially all of the activity in their 14 Q But the solar lenses are not real 15 property, right? 15 business and, therefore, is no longer considered a 16 A Correct. 16 passive activity. 17 Q Okay. So, subsection (7) doesn't apply? 17 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: A My understanding would be correct, yes. Q So, if we take a look back, Mr. Jameson 18 18

Jameson, Richard Pages 145 - 148

23

24

22 business, correct?

A Correct.

19 at subsection (c)4, right, the seven-section test

20 you are talking about has to do with whether a

21 taxpayer has materially participated in a trade or

25 defining the rental of tangible personal property

Q And Subsection (c)4 says, paragraph 2,

Q Okay. So, that brings us back to C2

Q And rental activity has already been

20 where it says the term passive activity includes

24 defined as rental activity involving tangible

21 any rental activity, yes?

A Yes.

25 property, right?

19

22

- 1 as per se passive, is true regardless of whether a2 taxpayer materially participates in the activity?
- 3 A I don't have an answer for that
- 4 question. I have already stated my answer.
- 5 Q Does that raise a red flag for you?
- 6 A No.
- 7 MR. PAUL: Objection. Lack of
- 8 foundation. Vague.
- 9 A In my research it does not because they 10 pass test number two.
- 11 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 12 Q And what I would submit to you and
- 13 invite you to take a look at after this
- 14 deposition, is that that test does not matter if
- 15 we are talking about the rental of tangible
- 16 personal property?
- 17 MR. PAUL: That's not a question you
- 18 have to answer.
- 19 A Thank you.
- 20 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 21 Q Are you familiar, Mr. Jameson, with a
- 22 temporary regulation setting forth general rules
- 23 under Section 469?
- 24 A Not off the top of my head.
- 25 (Exhibit No. 628 was marked for identification.)

Page 15

- 1 MR. PAUL: I don't understand it anyway.
- 2 I am going to object about these issues as they
- 3 are far afield of what we are supposed to be
- 4 covering here. This is a fact witness related to
- 5 the case. His expertise and his understanding of
- 6 the rules is not getting us anywhere towards what
- 7 this deposition is tailored for. He's not an
- 8 expert. He hasn't been designated as an expert by
- 9 either your side or our side.
- 10 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 11 Q Mr. Jameson, do you keep copies of the 12 tax court cases you rely on for your research?
- 13 A Generally speaking, I keep a little
- 14 synopsis of them that I can refer back to. But
- 15 most of the time, no. I just write down the
- 16 number and go back to it if I need to.
- 17 Q Do you have a collection of such
- 18 research with respect to the solar lenses issues?
- 19 A Most of the stuff that I would have
- 20 gotten would have been provided to the Internal
- 21 Revenue Service in either audits or appeals. So,
- 22 that's where the information would be. And I
- 23 would just go back to some of the other ones that
- 24 I have done before to pull up that information.
 - Q So, for example, would you have put such

Page 151

- 1 research in letters you have written to IRS agents2 or appeals officers?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q Would you take a look, please? You have
- 5 been handed what's been marked Plaintiff's
- 6 Exhibit 628, which I'll represent to you is a
- 7 LexusNexis printout of 26 CFR 1.469-1T. And I
- 8 will ask you, Mr. Jameson, to take a look, please,
- 9 at subsection (d)3, which is on page 4. No. I'm
- 10 sorry. (e)3. Still on page 4. The subhead of
- 11 that says Rental Activity. Do you see that?
 - A At this point, no.
- MR. PAUL: Second line on the top of the
- 14 page.

12

- 15 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 16 Q On page 4, second line on top of the 17 page.
- 18 A Oh, got it.
- 19 Q Would you please take a read through
- 20 that subsection (e) and let me know when you are 21 done.
- 22 A I'm not sure I am reading what you want
- 23 me to read. You said 3E? I don't have an E under 24 3.
- 25 Q So, if you want to put it down I can

Page 152

- 1 gesture and show you. So, this is subsection 2 (e)3.
- 3 A Right.
- 4 Q And (e)3 goes -- actually, yeah, you
- 5 don't need to read that whole thing. (e)3 goes
- 6 for a while. I'll just ask you this: To your
- 7 recollection, have you ever taken a look at this
- 8 subsection of this regulation regarding rental
- 9 activity?
- 10 A Off the top of my head, I probably may
- 11 have reviewed it at one time. But I don't know
- 12 specifically.
- 13 (Exhibit No. 629 was marked for identification.)
- 14 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 15 Q Showing you, Mr. Jameson, what's been
- 16 marked Plaintiff's Exhibit 629, Plaintiff's
- 17 Exhibit 629 is a LexisNexis printout of 26 CFR
- 18 1.469-5T with the heading Material Participation,
- 19 Temporary. Do you see that Mr. Jameson?
- 20 A Yes, ma'am.
- 21 Q You mentioned a seven-part test that you
- 22 used to determine whether a taxpaver has
- 23 materially participated in any business activity?
- 24 A Yes, ma'am.
- 25 Q Is that here in 1.469-5T? Take a look

12

Page 153

- 1 at Section A?
- A Yes. 2
- 3 Q This is where we find the seven-part 4 test?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q And you were saying with respect to the
- solar lenses you believe that the owner of solar
- lenses passes which test?
- A Test number two. 9
- 10 Q Okay. So, you are not basing it on any 11 minimum hour requirement?
- A My question to the client would be to 12
- 13 keep track of their hours. But in my dealing with
- 14 audits and stuff like that, if they can't
- 15 substantiate the hours due to lack of keeping
- 16 accurate records, then I would rely upon test
- 17 number two, because they are in the equipment
- 18 rental business, and they do substantially all of
- 19 their work in that business. And so they meet
- 20 that particular test. And all they have to do is
- 21 pass one test of the seven.
- 22 Q So, what is the work that they do in
- 23 their solar lens leasing business?
- A That's not for me to determine. 24
- Q I'm not asking you to determine it. I 25

Page 154

- 1 am asking you what it is?
- A Then it's not my responsibility to audit 2
- 3 the taxpayer and to ask them what work they do. My responsibility is to ask them if they do the
- work. And they say yes. 5
- Q So, you don't know what they do? 6
- MR. PAUL: Objection to the extent it 7
- misstates his testimony. 8
- A In some instances, yes, ma'am. 9
- BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 10
- Q What about the other instances? 11
- 12 A They are not under audit.
- 13 Q Well, and I'm not trying to trick you or
- 14 anything, because I am trying to understand what
- 15 your understanding is. So, a taxpayer has to do
- 16 some work if they are going to claim that they
- 17 have a trade or business, right?
- 18 A Correct.
- Q Okay. 19
- A I should refine that. It's correct if 20
- 21 they have active participation.
- Q So, is it enough for you to simply ask 22
- 23 do you do all the work in your business?
- 24 A I would ask the client, as part of my
- 25 due diligence, do you do all the work in the

Page 155

- 1 business and do you keep records? If the client 2 responds yes, I do not follow it up. If they
- 3 respond, I don't keep records, I tell them they
- 4 need to keep records to substantiate the fact that
- 5 they actively are involved in their business.
 - Q And I just want to make sure I
- 7 understand. So, have you ever asked one of your
- 8 customers who claim tax benefits with respect to
- 9 solar lenses what exactly it is that they do for
- 10 their solar lens business?
- The answer would be yes. 11 Α
 - Okay. What do they say?
- They provided me with a list of their 13
- 14 activities that I used to help substantiate the
- 15 active participation test number two during an 16 audit.
- 17 Q What was included on that list of 18 activities?
- 19 A It would be a list of activities and the
- 20 amount of time they spent researching, doing
- 21 accounting, talking to other people, a number of
- 22 things. I don't remember right off the top of my
- 23 head. That information has been provided to the
- 24 Internal Revenue Service during either audits or
- 25 appeals. I would attach a copy of their written

1 list of activities to the IRS employee to

- 2 substantiate the active participation.
- 3 Q And all of this substantiation, of
- 4 course, Mr. Jameson, is going to the requirement
- 5 that to be a material participant the statute says
- 6 that taxpayers' activity in the business must be
- regular, continuous and substantial, right?
- MR. PAUL: Objection. Argumentative. 8
- Lacks foundation. 9
- 10 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: We can look.
- A You can look. And that's what it says. 11
- 12 And I will also tell you that substantial is not
- 13 defined anywhere in the regulations, because I
- 14 have asked that question before. And I have
- 15 researched tax court cases where they also say it
- 16 is not defined. So, what does substantial mean?
- 17 It's in the eyes of the beholder and, bottom line,
- 18 the judge.
- 19 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 20 Q So, you listed off a couple of
- 21 activities that you recall a customer having done
- 22 in the course of their solar lens business?
- 23 Yes, ma'am.
- 24 Q Research?
- 25 Yes. ma'am.

Jameson, Richard Pages 153 - 156

Page 156

- Q Research about what? 1
- 2 I would assume it would have to do with
- 3 research about solar lenses, solar business. And
- 4 it could be nationally, it could be
- 5 internationally.
- 6 Q Accounting?
- 7 Accounting for keeping track of the
- lenses, making the payments on the lenses.
- 9 Q Talking to other people, what do you
- 10 mean by that?
- A Well, you asked me earlier about the 11
- 12 people that received commissions. They would have
- 13 had to talk to somebody else in order to help them
- purchase the lenses to get the commission.
- 15 Q So, what exactly did that have to do
- 16 with the business of leasing out lenses?
- A It's a closely, interrelated activity as 17
- 18 defined by the Internal Revenue Code.
- Q Any other activity that you can recall 19
- 20 your customers having done in the course of their
- 21 solar lens leasing business?
- A I'm sure there's others, but I don't
- 23 remember to be honest with you. There is just too
- 24 much of it.
- 25 Did you ever talk to -- well, actually

Page 158

- 1 withdraw that. Let's take a look, please, at
- 2 subsection (f) in Plaintiff's Exhibit 629, which
- 3 is about two-thirds of the way down page 3. Have
- 4 you ever had occasion, Mr. Jameson, to review the
- 5 rules regarding someone's participation in an
- 6 activity as an investor?
- A Not sure I fully understand the 7
- 8 question.
- 9 Q Well, take a look, please, at subsection
- 10 (f), number 2, little 2 where it says
- 11 participation as an investor?
- 12 A I have read it.
- 13 Q So, you read -- sorry -- subsection of
- 14 that paragraph A?
- A Yeah. Where it talks about the 15
- 16 day-to-day management or the operations of the
- 17 activity?
- 18 Q Where the work done by an individual in
- 19 the individual's capacity as an investor in an
- 20 activity shall not be treated as participation.
- 21 Do you see that part?
- A Yes, ma'am. 22
- 23 Q And then subsection (b) describes the
- 24 work done in an individual's capacity as an
- 25 investor, right?

1 Yes, ma'am.

> 2 Have you ever reviewed this particular

3 subsection of the rules regarding activity?

A Yes, ma'am. And you didn't read the

5 entire part. It also says, Unless underline,

6 unless the investor or the individual is directly

7 involved in a day-to-day management operations of 8 the activity.

9 Q So, you believe, Mr. Jameson, that your

10 clients have actual day-to-day management of their

11 solar lens leasing business?

A The answer would be, in my understanding 12

13 yes, because day-to-day is not defined in the

14 regulations. So, if they can prove that they pass

15 test number two, they do substantially all of the

16 work in the business, then it is my interpretation

17 that they pass the 469 test, so it is not

18 considered passive. And I'll be guite honest with

19 you, in all of the returns that I have done audits

20 and appeals with, not one single IRS employee has

21 brought up any of this information.

22 Q And, Mr. Jameson, whose responsibility

23 is it to prove entitlement to any tax treatment on

24 their return?

3

25 The taxpayer.

Page 160

Page 159

- Mr. Jameson, are you familiar with the 1
- 2 rules on grouping activities?
 - A Somewhat.
- Q What's your general understanding? 4
- 5 The grouping of activities can be
- 6 allowed under the Internal Revenue Code if they
- are closely or similarly -- hope I pronounced that
- 8 correctly -- interrelated activities performed by
- 9 the taxpaver.
- 10 Q So, you talked about, and correct me if
- 11 I'm wrong in my understanding of your
- 12 understanding, but you mentioned that one of the
- 13 things that the taxpayers do with respect to their
- 14 solar lenses leasing business is talk to other
- 15 people to try to get them to buy solar lenses,
- 16 correct?

17

23

- A Correct.
- 18 Q And that activity of trying to recruit
- 19 more people to buy more lenses is, to you, an
- 20 appropriate activity to group with the business of
- 21 leasing lenses?
- 22 A Yes.
 - Q Why is that?
- 24 Because a taxpayer has the ability to
- 25 discuss with another individual the effects of

- 1 their leasing of the lenses, have copies of the
- 2 contracts, have copy of the Operating and
- 3 Maintenance Agreement, Proof of Purchase, how to 3
- 4 make the down payments and those type of things.
- 5 Q And all those things, Mr. Jameson, can
- 6 be done without having bought a lens, correct?
- 7 A Yes, ma'am.
- 8 Q So, there is no requirement to buy a
- 9 lens in order to sell lenses, correct?
- 10 A Not to my knowledge, no.
- 11 Q So, that statement was correct?
- 12 A That would be correct.
- 13 Q And, in fact, a taxpayer need never
- 14 engage in -- excuse me. I'll withdraw that.

15 A customer need never engage in any sort

- 16 of marketing in order to claim the tax benefits
- 17 related to a purchase of solar lenses, correct?
- 18 A Correct.
- 19 Q But I'm not clear on the link between
- 20 the two business activities. One is leasing out a
- 21 lens. And one is advertising -- or excuse me, not
- 22 advertising lenses. One is leasing out a lens and
- 23 one is trying to sell lenses.
- A The link between the two would be, in my 55 opinion, a closely related activity. Because if
 - Pane
 - Page 162
 - 1 they use their knowledge and expertise and so
 - 2 forth, the fact that they own lenses and can
 - 3 explain to somebody else how the lenses operate
 - 4 and show them how it works, that becomes a closely
- 5 related activity. And when they are paid they get
- 6 their 1099, we report it on their Schedule C.
- 7 Q Would you take a look, please, at
- 8 Section D.
- 9 A Page 2?
- 10 Q Page 2. Section D has a limitation on
- 11 grouping certain activities, right?
- 12 A Yes, ma'am.
- 13 Q And that includes limitations on
- 14 grouping rental activities with other trade or
- 15 business activities. Do you see that?
- 16 A Yes, ma'am.
- 17 Q And, in your opinion, grouping the solar
- 18 lens rental activity is 100 percent fine with the
- 19 network marketing activity under this Section D?
- 20 A In my research having to do with this
- 21 particular code section, the grouping activity
- $22\,$ with rental units has to do with real property, it
- 23 doesn't really discuss tangible personal property
- 24 in my research and, therefore, I find that it
- 25 probably is able to be grouped.

- 1 Q So, to your understanding, this Section
 - 2 D involves rental of real property only?
 - 3 A To the vast majority, yes, the way it's
 - 4 worded, and in my research to having to do with 5 it.

Page 163

Page 164

- 6 Q Is there anything that you found that
- 7 says this does not apply to the rental of tangible 8 property?
- 9 A Not that I can remember. But I haven't
- 10 found anything that says it doesn't. So, I mean,
- 11 it does apply or doesn't apply in my research.
- 12 So, in my research, I feel I have justified based
- 13 on the tax court cases that I found that they are
- 14 able to group them together.
 - Q And what are those cases?
- 16 A I don't have them in front of me.
- 17 Q Do you have them back at your office?
- 18 A Probably.

15

23

- 19 Q Did you produce them to the United
- 20 States in response to our subpoena?
- 21 A My bet is yes. I produced all that
- 22 information to the Department of Justice.
 - Q Um-hmm. Take a look, please, at Section
- 24 F -- subsection (f), which is on page 4. It says
- 25 Grouping by Commissioner to Prevent Tax Avoidance.

- 1 Do you see that?
- 2 A No, not yet.
- 3 Q Okay. It's about two-thirds of the way
- 4 down.
- 5 MR. PAUL: Which exhibit are you in?
 - MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: I'm in 629.
- 7 MR. PAUL: Not one of the sub 629,
- 8 but --

6

- 9 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 10 Q Mr. Jameson, what's the sticker on the
- 11 front page of that? 629. Section F.
- 12 A I don't see an F.
- 13 Q Wow. What happened?
- 14 MR. PAUL: 628?
- 15 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Off the record,
- 16 please.
- 17 (Exhibit No. 630 was marked for identification.)
- 18 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 19 Q Okay. Mr. Jameson, I am handing you
- 20 what's been marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit 630. My
- 21 apologies for the confusion earlier. Plaintiff's
- 22 Exhibit 630 is a LexisNexis printout of 20 CFR
- 23 1.469-4. Definition of activity. Do you so that?
- 24 A I'm sorry. What page?
- 25 Q Just the initial title.

- A Yes, I see it. 1
- 2 Definition of activity. All right. Now
- 3 we all have the same information. So, we talked
- 4 about grouping, right?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q Which this regulation addresses. Let's
- take a look, please, now let's look at page 4,
- subsection (f), where it says grouping by
- commissioner to prevent tax avoidance. Do you see
- 10 that?
- 11 Yes, ma'am.
- 12 Q All right. Have you had occasion to
- 13 review this subsection of this regulation in
- 14 connection with the solar lens tax benefits?
- 15 A I may have. I can't answer that
- 16 question with -- I don't know. I may have. I
- 17 review a lot of court cases. A lot of regulations
- 18 and stuff like that.
- Q Mr. Jameson, do you have an 19
- 20 understanding of why Section 469 was enacted?
- A Yes, ma'am. 21
- 22 Q What's your understanding?
- A To reduce the tax benefits of passive 23
- activities unless you had passive income because
- 25 people were taking advantage of the system.

Page 166

- Mr. Jameson, did you give any 1 2 consideration as to whether this solar lens rental 3 business was for the purpose of tax avoidance?
- A When I had the first two clients come to 4
- 5 me, I was a little skeptical until I started doing
- 6 the research. Once I did the research, then I
- 7 felt under my due diligence requirements and I
- 8 could find substantial authority to back up the
- 9 findings, I felt that it was not a tax avoidance
- 10 scheme based on the information that I was
- 11 provided by the clients.
- 12 Q So, you did evaluate it though. It did 13 cross your mind, yes?
- A You always have to be aware of that kind 15 of stuff in my position to make sure that you are 16 doing your due diligence.
- Q And what were the red flags that made 17 18 you think, hmm, maybe I should take a look at this 19 with respect to tax avoidance?
- A The amount of credits and depreciation 20
- 21 and writeoffs that the individual would be
- 22 receiving, because one of the things that the IRS
- 23 audits looks at very closely is high income
- 24 individuals who have a lot of money coming in on
- 25 W2s on line 7, then have a lot of negative numbers 25

Page 167

- 1 on line 13, which is a Schedule C. So, that's
- 2 always something that I am used to watching, and
- 3 advising my clients and being as careful as
- 4 possible about it.
- 5 Q All right. We have gone far afield from
- 6 Plaintiff's Exhibit 32. But I'll ask you to
- 7 return to Plaintiff's Exhibit 32. So, we have
- 8 talked about paragraph number 1 in Plaintiff's
- 9 Exhibit 32. In paragraph 2 --
- Miss Hines is off and will not be 10 11 rejoining us.
- 12 So, Mr. Jameson, in the first sentence
- 13 of paragraph 2, it says we should not consider
- 14 ourselves in an energy business. We are buying
- 15 lenses and leasing them. That is our business,
- 16 leasing, not producing energy. Is that your
- 17 understanding of the business that RaPower-3
- 18 customers are in?
- 19 A That is my understanding of the
- 20 business. They are not in the energy business,
- 21 they are in the leasing business.
- Q When customers came to you, did they 22
- 23 believe they were in the leasing business or did
- 24 they believe they were in the energy production
- 25 business?

Page 168

- 1 A That's a hard one to answer because some 2 of my clients didn't really understand the way
 - 3 they were doing things. And so, we had to sit
 - 4 down and discuss it. Some of them thought they
 - 5 were, some of them thought they weren't.
 - 6 Q So, they didn't know what business they 7 were in?
 - 8 A Some of them had not a very clear
 - 9 understanding of exactly what it meant to lease
 - 10 tangible personal property, because nobody had
 - 11 advised them directly.
 - 12 Q So, Mr. Jameson, I'm sorry, I admit I am
 - 13 giggling a little bit over here, because you are
 - 14 telling me that people had a business that you put

 - 15 on their tax return, and they didn't know what 16 their business was?
 - 17 A I didn't say that. I said they were 18 misclassifying their business.
 - Q Mr. Jameson, correct me if I'm wrong, 19
 - 20 but there is a big difference between what you
 - 21 have to do to produce solar energy as a business

 - 22 activity and leasing out lenses as a business
 - 23 activity, right?
 - Yes. 24 Α
 - Yes. How could someone come in and be

Jameson, Richard Pages 165 - 168

	Case 2.15-CV-00020-DIN-EJF DUCUITIEN		22 21 1 110d 11/11/11 1 age 40 01 00
	Page 169		Page 171
1	confused about that?	1	A I'm done.
2	MR. PAUL: Objection. Foundation.	2	Q Do you recognize Plaintiff's
3		3	Exhibit 631?
4	BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:	4	A No.
5	Q Did you ask them?	5	Q Well, I'll represent that this has been
6	A No. Not my job to ask them. It's my	_	authenticated as a web capture, a website printout
l	job to correct the situation and file a tax return		for RaPower-3.com, which we can see in the lower
	as required. It is not my job to audit them.		left-hand side in tiny, tiny print. Do you see
9	Q But, Mr. Jameson, you may not ignore the		that?
10	• • • • •	10	A Yes.
11	•	11	
l			1
12	•		Do you see that?
13	•	13	A Yes.
	and doesn't know what business they are in,	14	Q And your name is on this web page under
	doesn't that raise a little red flag about whether		the heading Accountants. Do you see that?
l	they are actually in a business at all?	16	A Yes.
17	,	17	Q It has Miss Gailey's name under that
	Lacks foundation. Improper hypothetical.		subhead too, correct?
19	,,	19	A Yes.
	little too far. Because I didn't say they didn't	20	Q Are you a CPA?
	know what the business was. They misunderstood		A No.
	the way the business was classified on their tax	22	Q Any reason why you are on this website
l .	returns. Because the preparers that did them		as a CPA?
	before me were not preparing the returns	24	A No. I did not authorize it.
25	correctly: And you can giggle if you like. But	25	Q Did you ever see this?
	Page 170		Page 172
1	you are also trying to put words in my mouth that	1	A No.
2	I didn't say.	2	Q Did you authorize Mr. Shepard to hold
3	BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:	3	you out as a CPA?
4	Q Sir, you said they were confused, not	4	A No.
5	me.	5	Q Does this refresh your recollection at
6	A And they were confused. But I have a	6	all on when you might have told Mr. Shepard to
7	lot of clients that come in the door confused by		stop giving out your information?
8	the overwhelming Internal Revenue Code.	8	A Probably right after people started
9	Q Are any of your other clients confused	9	calling me. You'll notice the address that I am
10	about what business they are in?	10	
11	MR. PAUL: Objection. Argumentative.	11	Q Palm Springs, California?
12	A Don't know. I would have to ask them.	12	A Right. My retirement house. I was not
13	BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:		working at that particular point. I was
14	MR. PAUL: I guess if the tax code were		semiretired. I would not have authorized this. I
15			would not have allowed this. And once clients
16	THE WITNESS: Correct.		started calling me, I asked them to stop.
17	MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: That's why we rely	17	Q You asked Greg Shepard to stop?
18	on practitioners to be honest and thorough, isn't	18	A Yes. This is the first time I have seen
19			this. I would never have authorized him to put me
20	MR. PAUL: Mr. Jameson is.		
21	(Exhibit No. 631 was marked for identification.)	21	Q Why not?
	BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:	22	A I don't want advertising. I don't want
		23	clients. I don't need them. I'm semiretired.
23	Q I am handing you, Mr. Jameson, what's		

Jameson, Richard Pages 169 - 172

24 marked Plaintiff's Exhibit 631. Please take a25 look at that and let me know when you are done.

Q So, again, though, I come back to why

25 did you say yes to represent more RaPower-3

- 1 people?
- 2 A Representation is something I like to
- 3 do. And so, it keeps me active. One of the
- 4 things I have learned over the years in doing tax
- 5 returns that people who retire and don't have a
- 6 plan die very shortly after they retire. The ones
- 7 who have a plan live a lot longer. Personal 8 opinion.
- 9 Q Mr. Jameson, did you ever ask any of
- 10 your solar lens customers where their lenses were?
- 11 A No. Because I knew that they were being
- 12 set up in Delta as part of the, I think it spells
- 13 that out in the operating and maintenance
- 14 agreement. I would have to look at one again.
- 15 But there is a section that tells them where the
- 16 lenses are being set up.
- 17 Q Does it tell a customer exactly which
- 18 lenses the customer is buying?
- 19 A I don't know that.
- 20 Q Have you ever asked anybody?
- 21 A No.
- 22 Q Have you ever asked anybody how to trace
- 23 which customer owns which lens?
- 24 A Don't think I have, no. I think that's
- 25 something that the people on-site have to do.

Page 174

- 1 Q Mr. Jameson, do you ever help anybody
- 2 decide how many lenses to purchase?
- 3 A No, ma'am. That would not be ethical.
- 4 Q Do you refer them to anybody else who
- 5 does?
- 6 A No, ma'am. Would not be ethical.
- 7 Q Have you ever wondered, Mr. Jameson, why
- 8 it's taken so long to get any rental payments for
- 9 lenses?
- 10 A I have thought about that, yes.
- 11 Q What have you wondered?
- 12 A That it's taken a while to get the
- 13 rental payments.
- 14 Q Does that raise a red flag for you with
- 15 respect to any of your customers purportedly being
- 16 in the leasing business with respect to the solar
- 17 lenses?
- 18 A Not really. Because, again, I have done
- 19 my due diligence and did research and found some
- 20 court cases that specifically talk about leasing
- 21 of property and the way payments are received and
- 22 the timing of the payments.
- 23 Q And which cases are those?
- 24 A I don't have them on the top of my head.
- 25 I would have provided all that information to the

1 Department of Justice, or it's included in audits

- 2 and appeals.
- 2 and appears.3 Q Have any of your preparation or
- 4 representation customers asked you questions about
- 5 what it means that's taking so long to get rental
- 6 payments?
- 7 A I have had a couple clients make
- 8 comments but not really ask me, because I told
- 9 them it's not my responsibility. My job is to do
- 10 their taxes. They need to contact RaPower-3.
- 11 Q Have you ever asked Neldon Johnson why
- 12 it's taking so long to get rental payments?
- 13 A I have never talked to Neldon Johnson
- 14 except for those two meetings in Delta.
- 15 Q So, the answer is no?
- 16 A The answer is no.
- 17 Q Have you ever asked Greg Shepard why
- 18 it's taking so long to get rent?
- 19 A No.
- 20 Q Have you ever asked anyone else why it's
- 21 taking so long to get rental payments?
- 22 A No.
- 23 Q Why not?
- 24 A Not my responsibility.
- 25 Q You said you were curious about it?

Page 176

Page 175

- 1 A I was curious. But that's just my
- 2 personal opinion. It has nothing to do with,
- 3 again, I'm not in the business of auditing the
- 4 client.
- 5 Q Do you know, Mr. Jameson, how the price
- 6 of each lens is set?
- 7 A No.
- 8 Q To your knowledge, has anyone ever
- 9 negotiated the price of the lens?
- 10 A Not to my knowledge.
- 11 Q Have you ever asked anyone why they paid
- 12 the particular price for the lens?
- 13 A No.
- 14 Q To your knowledge, has anyone ever
- 15 sought an appraisal of the lens before buying
- 16 them?
- 17 A Not to my knowledge, no.
- 18 Q Handing you, Mr. Jameson, what's already
- 19 been marked Plaintiff's Exhibit 279. Please take
- 20 a look at that and let me know when you are ready.
- 21 The Bates number on Plaintiff's Exhibit 279 is
- 22 Greg P&R002173 through 2174.
- 23 A Okay. I finished reading it.
- 24 Q Mr. Jameson, do you recognize
- 25 Plaintiff's Exhibit 279?

- 1 A I'm sorry. I didn't hear your question.
- Q Do you recognize Plaintiff's 2
- 3 Exhibit 279?
- A What do you mean by recognize? I'm not 4
- sure I understand your question.
- Q Sure. All right. Let's take a look 6
- through. We have an email from Greg Shepard. 7
- Greg@rapower3.com, do you see that?
- A Yes. 9
- 10 Q The subject is Ra3, new Oregon audit
- 11 info, correct?
- 12 A Correct.
- Q Sent February 19, 2016? 13
- 14
- 15 Q Then in the BCC field, in the last line,
- 16 we see your email address, Rick Jameson,
- rjameson08@gmail.com, right? 17
- MR. PAUL: Not what I've got. 18
- 19 A Not what I've got.
- Q That's true. That's not what you have. 20
- 21 Mr. Jameson, do you recall having gotten emails
- 22 from Mr. Shepard regarding audits in Oregon?
- A I recall getting a lot of emails from 23
- 24 Greg Shepard. As you can tell from this other
- 25 list back here, that there was 85 people. Like I

Page 178

3

- 1 said before, I don't even look at most of them. I
- 2 just delete them and go on.
- Q You represented RaPower-3 customers 3
- 4 during audits by the Oregon Department of Revenue,
- 5 correct?
- 6 A That is correct.
- 7 Q Would you take a look, please, at the
- 8 second page of Exhibit 279. I'm looking at the
- 9 paragraph that starts New approach. Would you
- 10 read that to yourself and let me know when you are
- 11 done?
- 12 A I have finished reading it.
- Q Mr. Jameson, did you ever take the 13
- 14 approach that if a customer's solar lenses are
- 15 used for research and development then they
- 16 qualify for depreciation?
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q Can you explain that to me?
- 19 A Placed in service rules. If they are
- 20 being used, I don't remember the exact code
- 21 section. It might be under 469. But there's
- 22 three parts to the placed in service requirements.
- 23 Part one states that the asset is being used for
- 24 research and development to further proceed with
- 25 the development of that technology. Part three

1 says that it's considered to be placed in service

- 2 if it is in a standby and ready condition to
- 3 replace any asset that has been broken or lost so
- 4 there is no lost time in production or in research
- 5 and development.
- Q So, what research and development would 6
- the owner of the lens be engaged in?
- A The owner of the lens is engaged in the 8
- 9 renting of Section 1231, Tangible Personal 10 Property. But if the lens is being used for
- 11 research and development, it is placed in service
- 12 and, therefore, it is my understanding, based on
- 13 the Internal Revenue Code, that the taxpayer who
- 14 purchased the lens because it is placed in service
- 15 is entitled to depreciation and the credits.
- Q To your knowledge, has any person ever 16
- 17 been paid for the use of their lens for research
- 18 and development?
- 19 A Not to my knowledge.
- 20 Q Has that argument been compelling to any
- 21 taxing authority?
- A Not sure I understand the question. 22
- 23 What do you mean by compelling?
- 24 Q Have you won any effort to get tax
- 25 benefits for your customers related to the solar

- 1 lenses based on the argument that the lenses were 2 placed in service were research and development?
 - A The Internal Revenue won't allow
- 4 anything to get through appeals because it is a 5 control issue.
- 6 Q So, the answer is no?
- 7 The answer is no.
- 8 Q Did it win in Oregon?
- 9 It's still in court in Oregon.
- In fact, you went up to testify in 10
- 11 Oregon, didn't you?
- 12 A Yes, ma'am.
- Q How did that go? 13
- A The attorney representing the State of 14
- 15 Oregon tried to keep me from saying a word through
- 16 the whole thing, basically. And toward the end of
- 17 the second day of my testimony, the judge was
- 18 curious. He asked me a question. I answered the
- 19 question. And the judge said, oh, I'm going to
- 20 have to overrule my own question. So, apparently,
- 21 I was answering the questions correctly.
- Q So, what did you testify to in Oregon? 22
 - MR. PAUL: I'm going to object. That's
- 24 super broad. Can you narrow that down to
- 25 something that's not going to keep us here for two

Jameson, Richard Pages 177 - 180

23

Page 179

- 1 days?
- 2 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 3 Q General topics.
- A I testified as to the code sections and 4
- 5 the authority on which we use to enter items on
- the specific lines of the tax return.
- Q So, Mr. Jameson, there is no question in 7
- 8 your mind that buying solar lenses is a useful
- 9 tool to reduce someone's federal tax liability?
- 10 A The buying of the solar lenses does not
- 11 have to do with reducing a tax liability. The
- 12 fact that they are leasing them has to do with the
- 13 ability to claim the credits and the depreciation
- 14 on their tax return, because it's the renting of
- 15 Section 1231 Tangible Personal Property.
- Q And they have to buy the lenses before 16
- 17 they can lease them out, right?
- A That's my understanding, yes. 18
- 19 Q Do you know who gets paid for these
- 20 solar lenses?
- 21 A I don't understand the question.
- 22 Q Do you know who the, who the customers
- 23 pay money to, to buy the solar lenses?
- A Based on the documentation I have 24
- 25 requested for proof of payment, the checks that I

Q And Mr. Fullerton is asking how best for

Page 183

Page 184

- 2 a friend to get started in the RaPower-3 program,
- 3 correct?
- 4 A That's what it appears to say, yes.
- Q Okay. And he says, "I have a friend who 5
- 6 made a lot of money last year and will probably
- 7 make a lot this year too." Did I read that
- 8 correctly?
- A Yes. 9
- 10 Q You respond to Mr. Fullerton below,
- 11 "Well, I almost think that he should get his tax
- 12 return done so that he will have an idea of what
- 13 he will need to do before he gets into RaPower-3."
- 14 Did I read that correctly?
- A Yes. 15
- 16 Q Why did you give that recommendation?
- 17 A Well, if you are going to do tax
- 18 planning you need to know what the bottom line is.
- 19 And he was specifically asking me about RaPower-3
- 20 and going to them. So, my response was do the tax
- 21 return, see what it is, then he can go talk to
- 22 somebody at RaPower-3.
- Q So, if he didn't need any tax benefits, 23
- 24 there would be no need to go to RaPower-3,
- 25 correct?

Page 182

- see or the direct debits show RaPower-3.
- Q Do you know who owns RaPower-3? 2
- 3 A No, I do not.
- Q Do you have any guesses? 4
- A I have some guesses, but that would be a 5
- personal opinion. 6
- 7 Q What's your personal opinion?
- A My personal opinion would be probably 8
- 9 Neldon.
- (Exhibit No. 632 was marked for identification.)
- 11 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- Q You have been handed what's been marked 12 right? 12
- 13 Plaintiff's Exhibit 632, Bates marked Jameson
- 14 009120. Let me take a look at that. Thank you.
- 15 We are good.
- A Okay. 16
- 17 Q Do you recognize Plaintiff's
- 18 Exhibit 632?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q What is it?
- 21 A Appears to be a email that I received
- 22 from Mr. Fullerton and then my response to Ted.
- 23 Q And is Mr. Fullerton one of your
- 24 clients?
- 25 A Yes.

- A Correct. Which is what I was saying, I 1 2 think.
- 3 Q So, there would be no need to buy solar 4 lenses?
- 5 A Correct.
 - Q Actually, let's take a look, please, the
- 7 email subject line is St. George Accountant that
- does RaPower-3 returns, correct?
- 9 A Oh, yeah.
- 10 Q And these are actually two emails. Mr.
- 11 Fullerton's email to you is dated April 14, 2015,

- 13 A Right.
- 14 Q And your response is also dated
- 15 April 14, 2015?
- 16 A Correct.
- 17 Q If we take a look, please, at
- 18 Plaintiff's Exhibit 632, Mr. Jameson, you'll see
- 19 your email address appears as part of the header
- 20 there up in the right-hand corner?
- 21 Α Yes.
- 22 Q And it says, Gmail, Richard Jameson,
- 23 rjameson08@gmail.com. Looking, generally, at
- 24 Plaintiff's Exhibit 632, does this look like the
- 25 email printouts that you get from your Gmail

Page 185 Page 187 1 account? 1 ago? 2 2 A I don't think I get the Rjameson up in Q Mr. Jameson, showing you what's been 3 the upper right-hand corner, but the rest of it 3 marked Plaintiff's Exhibit 316, that's 3-1-6, 4 pretty much looks like it, yes. 4 Bates marked Greg P&R-000157 through 177. Would Q Is there any reason to believe that if 5 you take a look through that, please, and let me 6 emails are addressed to Rjameson08@gmail.com they 6 know if you recognize this document? didn't get to your email in-box? 7 A It appears to be a tax return that I There would be no reason to think that, 8 8 have completed. 9 no. 9 Q For Peter and Reni Greg, correct? 10 Q Does anyone else have access to 10 Correct. 11 Rjameson08@gmail.com? 11 O For tax year 2013? A Not sure I understand the question. I'm Correct. 12 12 Α 13 sorry. 13 Q Do you know how the Gregs found you? 14 Q Are you the only person who has the 14 Word of mouth, I assume, unless they 15 log-in information to log in as 15 looked on the website which I didn't authorize. 16 Rjameson08@gmail.com? 16 Right. Because they are in Oregon, Q A Yes. 17 17 right? 18 (Exhibit No. 633 was marked for identification.) 18 A Right. But I should point out, I do tax 19 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 19 returns for people all over the country. I 20 Q Showing you, Mr. Jameson, what's been 20 actually do a tax return for an individual who is 21 markedPlaintiff's Exhibit 633, Bates marked 21 sailing around the world. And so, he sent me his 22 Jameson 008077 through 8082. Please take a look 22 stuff from somewhere in Indonesia because he had a 23 at that and let me know when you are done. 23 broken part on his ship or his boat that he was 24 24 waiting for. A Okay. Q Okay. So, you prepared this tax return 25 Mr. Jameson, do you recognize 25 Page 186 Page 188 Plaintiff's Exhibit 633? 1 for Peter and Reni Greg? A Yes, ma'am. 2 Α Yes. 2 3 Q What is it? 3 Q Including the Schedule C that appears on 4 the page with the Bates number ending in 164? 4 A Appears to be an email from Mark Sikich 5 to me. Α 164? Yes. I have three copies of 6 Schedule C. 6 Q And to you, this email address is the rick@northstartaxservices.com, correct? Q Are they all the same Schedule C? 7 7 A Correct. 8 Yes, ma'am, appears to be. Yes. 8 9 Q Do they all have the same Bates number Generally, Mr. Jameson, does Plaintiff's 9 O. 10 Exhibit 633 look like the kind of printout you get 10 at the bottom? 11 from rick@northstartaxservices.com? 11 A Yes. 12 A Yes. 12 MR. PAUL: There is three 164s. 13 Q And this email from Mr. Sikich was dated 13 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: I see that. That 14 August 6, 2015, correct? 14 looks like a copying error. A Okay. I'm not going crazy then. 15 A Correct. 15 Q Do you recall if you ever responded per 16 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 16 17 Mr. Sikich's request? 17 Q Not about this anyway. A Off the top of my head, I don't think I 18 Α Okay. 18 19 did. I think I called him and told him that I MR. PAUL: You are not going to ask 19 20 couldn't respond to it because of the requirements 20 questions about it? 21 under Circular 230 that would open me up to 21 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: No. 22 liability. And I didn't feel that it was ethical 22 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 23 to answer questions that or things about tax 23 Q Okay. Handing you what's been marked 24 returns that I didn't, was not involved in, if I 24 Plaintiff's Exhibit 317, 317 -- Bates marked

Jameson, Richard Pages 185 - 188

25 Greg P&R-00016 through 220. Do you recognize

25 remember correctly. But that was what, two years

1 Plaintiff's Exhibit 317?

- 2 A Yes, ma'am.
- 3 Q This is also a tax return you prepared

for Peter and Reni Greg, correct?

- 5 A Yes.
- Q For tax year 2014? 6
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q If we take a look at the bottom of the
- page with the Bates number ending in 187, is that

your signature at the bottom of the page?

- A 187? 11
- 12 Q Um-hmm. Second page of the exhibit.
- 13
- Q If we take a look at the page ending in
- 15 193, we see a Schedule C for Peter Greg?
- Yes. 16 Α
- 17 Q And the Schedule C says the principal
- 18 business or profession is equipment rental
- 19 services, correct?
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 O And that indicates that this was a
- 22 RaPower-3 Schedule C?
- A I don't know if it indicates it. But it 23
- probably is, yes.
- Q That's what you typically put as the 25

Page 190

- 1 principal business or profession when someone had
- 2 bought solar lenses?
- A Yes. 3
- 4 Q In here you have marked yes in line G,
- 5 which asks whether you, meaning the taxpayer,
- 6 materially participated in the operation of this
- 7 business?
- A Yes. 8
- 9 And is that for the reason that we
- 10 talked about before, meeting the second test in
- 12 A Yes. Among other things. That would
- 13 be -- I would have to look at his documentation.
- 14 But for his purposes, yes, that would work.
- 15 Q You have also marked here in line 32A
- 16 all investment is at risk. Do you see that?
- 17 A 32A.
- Q Bottom of the page. 18
- 19 A Yes.
- Q How did you know that all of Peter 20
- 21 Greg's investment was at risk?
- A I am basing that on the Equipment 22
- 23 Purchase Agreement.
- Q Anything else? 24
- What else would I base it on? He has a 25

1 Purchase Agreement saying he purchased X number of

2 lenses, and he owes some money to get it paid.

- Q So, any other reason? 3
- 4 A Not that I can think of offhand.
- Q If you think of something later, let me 5
- 6 know. Turn, please, to the page that ends in
- Bates number 197.
- Okav. 8 Α
 - Q Here we have a foreign tax credit form
- 10 116?

9

- 11 Α Right.
- 12 Q Off the record.
- 13 (Whereupon, a discussion took place off the
- 14 record.)
- 15 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 16 Q So, we are taking a look at the foreign
- 17 tax credit Form 1116 for Peter and Reni Greg. Do
- 18 you see that, Mr. Jameson?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Do you have any idea why you put a
- 21 foreign tax credit on the Gregs' return for 2014?
- 22 A Well, my bottom line would be they
- 23 probably had some foreign taxes that they paid.
- 24 Q So, we deposed Peter Greg in this case.
- 25 And he testified that he had no idea why this was

Page 192

Page 191

- 1 on his tax return. And he testified that he paid
 - 2 no foreign income in 2014, that he had no foreign
 - 3 income or foreign business in 2014.
 - A Then I would have to go back and look at 4
 - 5 my records. I would have assumed. If he said he
 - 6 didn't get any, then I am not sure what happened.
 - 7 Because it has the abbreviations of, you know,
 - 8 other countries and so forth. Unless there was
 - 9 some confusion between the preparation of returns
- 10 and somebody else's stuff got stuck on his. But I
- 11 would have to go back and look at the records.
- 12 Q So, if we take a look at his 1040, which
- 13 is on Bates number page ended 190, and we look at
- 14 line 48, we see that there's a foreign tax credit
- 15 entered.
- 16 A Correct.
- Q On the second page of the 1040. And 17
- 18 there are some other credits from the Form 3800 on
- 19 line 54, correct?
- 20 A Right.
- 21 Q Do you have an understanding of whether
- 22 that was a carryforward of credits from solar
- 23 lenses?
- 24 A I would assume it's a carryforward of
- 25 credit. But, again, I would have to look.

15

18

Q So, ultimately, Mr. Greg paid \$121 in

- 2 taxes in 2014. Do you see that?
- 3 A Yes.

1

- 4 Q So, without the foreign tax credit, his
- 5 tax bill would have been higher, wouldn't it?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 MR. PAUL: Does the foreign tax credit
- 8 have anything to do with RaPower?
- 9 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: I have no idea.
- 10 MR. PAUL: Then I'll object to this line
- 11 of questioning as irrelevant and ask that it be
- 12 stricken.
- 13 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Can we go off the
- 14 record for a minute?
- 15 (Whereupon, a discussion took place off the record
- and then a brief recess was taken.)
- 17 (Exhibit No. 634, 635 and 636 were marked for
- 18 identification.)
- 19 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 20 Q Back on the record after a short break.
- 21 Mr. Jameson, did you talk with anybody about the
- 22 facts of this case?
- 23 A No.
- 24 Q You have been handed a stack of
- 25 exhibits. Let's take a look first at Plaintiff's

Page 194

- 1 Exhibit 132, Bates marked Olsen_P&E-00492 through
- 2 510. Mr. Jameson, is this a copy of the federal
- 3 tax return that you prepared?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q Let's take a look at what's been marked
- 6 Plaintiff's Exhibit 634, Bates number
- 7 Shepard_Greg-03866 through 3895. Mr. Jameson, is
- 8 this a copy of a tax return that you prepared?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q Let's take a look, please, at the page
- 11 ending Bates 3873. This is in 634.
- 12 A Page was 38 --
- 13 Q 73.
- 14 A 73. Okay.
- 15 Q This is a Schedule C for Mr. Shepard
- 16 engaging in equipment rental services. Mr.
- 17 Jameson, to your knowledge, is this a Schedule C
- 18 for leasing out solar lenses?
- 19 A Yes. And for commissions he received.
- 20 Q So, the commissions he received, is that
- 21 in the Part 1, line 1?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 Q And the depreciation in line 13, that's
- 24 depreciation on the solar lenses, correct?
 - A Yes. I should probably enlarge that if

Page 193

Page 195

1 I can. It should probably be solar lenses, but he

- 2 probably has other items he's depreciating too:
- 3 Desk, computer, something like that. My bet would
- 4 be the majority of it is the solar lenses.
- 5 Q On pages marked 3893 through 3895 is a
- 6 Form 3468 Investment Credit, correct?
 - A Yes.
- 8 Q And is this the form to report a credit
- 9 for the solar lenses?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q All right. Take a look, please, at
- 12 what's been marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit 635.
- 13 This is a Form 1120 for Shepard Global, Inc. for
- 14 tax year 2013, correct?
 - A Yes, ma'am.
- 16 Q Mr. Jameson, this is a tax return that
- 17 you prepared, correct?
 - A Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q Where on the Shepards' 2013 tax return
- 20 in Plaintiff's Exhibit 2013 is anything from
- 21 Shepard Global reported?
- 22 A It would be reported on the Schedule C.
- 23 That's the 62,947 shown on line 1.
- 24 Q Are you looking at a specific page?
- 25 A Yeah. I'm looking at 3873 on the

Page 196

- ough | 1 personal return.
 - 2 Q 3873?
 - 3 A Um-hmm.
 - 4 Q Okay. Which line?
 - 5 A Line 1.
 - 6 Q Line 1. So, how do you get more than
 - 7 \$69,000 in gross receipts off of this Shepard
 - 8 Global?
 - 9 A Line 26. But you don't have the
 - 10 attachment. Line 26, there is an actual
 - 11 attachment that says Other Deductions. And on it
 - 2 would list the 69,947 that was transferred over as
 - 13 commissions or payments to the Schedule C.
 - 14 Q Okay. Do you understand or can you
 - 15 explain to me what the difference is between the
 - 16 gross receipts of Shepard Global, Inc. at more
 - 17 than \$82,000 and the gross receipts on the
 - 18 Schedule C of \$69,000 plus?
 - 19 A On that form that we are missing, the
 - 20 difference, I think, is around 13,000 just off the
 - 21 top of my head. That would have been other
 - 22 expenses, travel, telephone, postage, office
 - 23 expenses, that kind of stuff. I would have to see
 - 24 the other page. There is another page that lists
 - 25 those, that itemizes those things for you on the

Jameson, Richard

Case 2:15-cv-00828-DN-EJF Document 252-27 Filed 11/17/17 Page 50 of 60 Page 197 Page 199 tax return. Their business of selling lenses? 1 1 2 Q Do you have an understanding of what 2 I don't know what their business is. I 3 Shepard Global does as its business activities? 3 don't do their tax returns. A My understanding for Shepard Global is 4 4 Q All right. Just to make sure I got it, 5 it's basically a corporation that he set up to Mr. Jameson, Plaintiff's Exhibit 446 is a tax take care of the selling solar lenses, my 6 return that you prepared? 7 understanding. 7 A Yes. Q And Shepard Global is Greg Shepard's 8 Take a look through the Plaintiff's 8 company, correct? 9 Exhibit 636, which is Bates numbered A That is correct. Shepard Greg-03913 through 3930. Do you recognize 10 Q All right. Mr. Jameson, you have in 11 11 Plaintiff's Exhibit 636? front of you Plaintiff's Exhibit 446, federal tax 12 12 A Yes. return of Shepard Global, Inc. for 2014. Do you 13 It's a federal tax return for R. Gregory 14 see that? and Diana C. Shepard for tax year 2014, correct? 14 15 A Yes, ma'am, 15 Α Q You prepared this return? 16 16 Q You prepared Plaintiff's Exhibit 636? 17 A Yes, ma'am. See that, the page that has Yes. 17 Α the itemized? That's the page you are missing in Including the Schedule C? 18 18 Q the other one. 19 19 Α 20 Q So, you are looking at -- and for the 20 Q That appears at the page ending in Bates record, Plaintiff's Exhibit 446 is Bates marked number 3919? 21 21 Shepard_Greg-03896 through 3912, yes? Right? 22 22 Α Yes. A Yes. 23 23 Q This Schedule C is for RaPower Solar 24 Q So, you are pointing me to the page 24 Lense Leasing business? marked 3900 at the listing of Other Deductions, 25 Α Yes. Page 198 Page 200 correct? 1 Q Handing you what's been marked 1 2 A Correct. What I was explaining is, on Exhibit 516, Bates numbered Jameson 008134 through 3 the last one we looked at, the 1120, where it had 3 8143. Please take a look at that and let me know 4 line 26, you were asking where it was. There 4 when you are done. 5 would be a line like this that says Other 5 A Okay. I'm done. 6 Deductions, line 26, 1120 Other Deductions. And 6 Do you recognize Plaintiff's 7 it would itemize it. And that's something you are Exhibit 516? 7 8 missing on this return that would explain where A Yeah. I think I saw a copy of it. 8 9 those deductions were. Have the assembly 9 Q Well, the first page of it is an email 10 backwards. 10 from Roger Hamblin to Glenda Johnson and your Q We are taking a look of that list of email address, correct? 11 12 Other Deductions. Do you happen to recall why 12 Α Correct. \$40,000 is in the entry for legal and professional 13 With the subject Rogers on it? 13 14 fees? 14 Α Correct. 15 A If I remember correctly, we issued Q Dated April 12, 2014, right? 15 1099s. I think part of it is payment to Mark and 16 Α Yes. one of his other sons, too. And some of it may be 17 Q And Mr. Hamblin writes, "Neldon asked payments to the Schedule C that he has on his that I add some wording on statutory

Jameson, Richard Pages 197 - 200

19

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A Yes.

about here?

noncompliance, and that we believe they have lost

Q Any idea what Mr. Hamblin's talking

A Laying the groundwork for Internal

jurisdiction." Did I read that correctly?

Revenue Code Section 7433.

19 personal return. I would have to look at my notes

Q So, why characterize that as legal and

A Because it would be considered legal or

professional fees if it was paid to them for their

activities having to do with their business.

20 to say for sure.

22 professional fees?

21

	Case 2:15-cv-00828-DN-EJF Documen	t 25	2-27 Filed 11/17/17 Page 51 of 60
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 13	Page 201 Q Did you ever talk with Neldon Johnson about arguments to be made to the IRS? A I did not talk to Neldon Johnson other than the two times I have met him. Q Why are you cc'ed on here? A Well, my bet is, if you look toward the back, on page 8138, as an example, middle of the thing, where it starts with the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, that looks like something I provided to another client in an audit.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	Page 203 Neldon Johnson was giving taxpayers advice on what to say to the IRS? A No. Q Have you ever heard that before? A No. (Exhibit No. 637 was marked for identification.) BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: Q Handing you what's been marked as Plaintiff's Exhibit 637, Bates number Greg_P&R-000413 through 430. Please take a look at Plaintiff's Exhibit 637 and let me know when
12 13 14 15	Q So, on the page ending in 8138, that's the paragraph in the middle of the page? A Yeah. It starts with the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act.	12 13 14 15	you are ready to answer questions. A Looks like I'm ready to answer your questions. Q Okay. Do you recognize Plaintiff's
16 17 18 19 20 21	Q Um-hmm. A That looks like something that I provided to another client in an audit. And the section below that looks like something I provided to a parts of it. It may have been it looks like it may have also been changed a little bit.	16 17 18 19 20 21	Exhibit 637? A Yes. Q What is it? A It is a letter that I wrote to the appeals officer concerning Peter and Reni Greg. Their audit for '10, '11, and '12.
22 23 24 25	provided to the Internal Revenue Service in the	22 23 24 25	Q If we look at the very top of the page,do you recognize the letterhead at the top?A Yes.Q Is that the North Star Tax Services
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 10	like some of my research. Q So, were you assisting Mr. Hamblin with this representation before the IRS? A I think he asked me to look at it once. And I told him that I probably shouldn't do it because of the problem with being an enrolled agent and advising him when he's a client, not a client of mine, and he's going forward into doing an audit. And he said he specifically wanted to do the audit and the appeal on his own. Q Okay. So, correct me if I'm wrong, but he wanted to represent himself before the IRS, correct? A Correct. Q But he wanted you to take a look at, you know, what he was planning to submit and get you thoughts on it? A Correct.	17 18	letterhead? A The old letterhead. We have new letterhead now. That's back when I was in Palm Springs. Q And if we take a look at the page that ends in 417, your signature appears, correct? A Correct. Q So, Mr. Jameson, you wrote this letter and sent this to the IRS, correct? A Correct. Q If we take a look at the pages marked 418 through 430, were these items attached to the letter? A Yes, they should have been. Q Okay. A Yeah. Back on the front page it says attached are copies of the invoices, purchase orders, Placed in Service letters and so forth, so were they would have been attached.
19 20	Q But you didn't want to do that because it wasn't an official representation?	19 20	so, yes, they would have been attached. Q Okay. Then if we look at the pages

Jameson, Richard Pages 201 - 204

22

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25

A Correct.

Q So, did you ever respond to Mr. Hamblin?

A I don't remember responding to him at

this point. I don't remember responding to him.

Q Do you have any understanding that

21 marked 427, 428 and 429, the color photos --

Q -- these are photos that you took?

Do you recall which visit to Delta you

A Yes, ma'am.

Yes, ma'am.

4

6

9

15

23

Page 205

took these photos? 1

- 2 A It was the second visit.
- 3 Q In 2013, right?
- A Yes, ma'am. 4
- 5 Q Do these photos fairly and accurately
- represent what you saw in 2013? 6
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q At least a portion of it?
- 9 A Yes.
- Q Okay. Mr. Jameson, would you take a 10
- look at the second page of this exhibit, first 11
- full paragraph. Around the middle of that
- paragraph there's a sentence that says, "As a
- 14 matter of fact, I have been to the site and have
- seen the home that is currently being powered by
- 16 the lenses in the testing of the units." Did I
- 17 read that correctly?
- 18 A Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q Were Peter Greg's lenses being used to purportedly power that home? 20
- A I can't answer that question. I don't 21
- have any idea where, which tower his lenses are
- in. But I would like to point out something else
- that you had asked me about earlier, about the
- meter? 25

Page 206

- 1 Q You are pointing at the page ending in
- 2 429?
- Yes. 3 Α
- 4 Q Um-hmm?
- 5 A The meter with the power coming in, you
- can see the lines running over to the house. You 6
- 7 notice there are no lines above the house, above
- the meter coming in from anyplace else to give it 8
- power. 9
- 10 Q Would you put that down so we can take a
- look. So, you are looking at the page ending in 11
- 12 428, correct?
- 13 A Yes, ma'am.
- Pointing out the lines? 14
- 15 A Yes, ma'am. Remember, you asked me how
- my assumption was that the power was being 16
- produced on-site. If you'll notice that on the
- 429, this part of the power line that goes up to
- 19 the side of the house is where the power would
- 20 come in just like it does at your house to go to
- 21 that particular line. There's no lines coming in.
- All the lines are on the ground going to the house
- coming up this way. 23
- Q So, Mr. Jameson, taking a look at the 24
- page ending in 428, I see a line coming out of

1 that house.

> Α That's not the power line though.

3 Q Oh, no?

That's not where the power is. The

5 power line is over here.

So, do you know what that line is?

7 Probably a telephone line. But the

8 power line is over here.

Q Do you know that's a telephone line?

10 Α No, ma'am.

11 Q Would it surprise you to learn that Mr.

Johnson testified in fact that that house is in 12

fact connected to the electricity grid just like

14 your house and my house?

A Yes, that would surprise me.

Q Does that impact your opinion at all 16

17 about the underpinnings of the validity of this

solar lenses situation? 18

19 A It doesn't undermine my opinion or my 20 research findings on the solar lenses. It does

21 affect my opinion of Mr. Johnson.

22 Q How so?

> Α Skeptical.

24 Q So, now you are more skeptical of Mr.

25 Johnson?

Page 208

Page 207

Correct. 1 Α

- 2 Q Take a look, please, at the page on
- Plaintiff's Exhibit 637 that is marked at the end 3
- with 416. And I am looking at the first full
- paragraph under profit motive question.
- Specifically, if you want to take a look at it, 6
- the claim that the company renting the lenses have
- been approached by small towns that need drinking 8
- water because of the drought. "Based on the
- 10 discussions, the projected income from the
- production of pure drinking water could far exceed 11
- 12 the income that would be paid for the production
- of electricity by the lenses." Did I read that
- correctly? 14
- 15 A Yes, ma'am.
- 16 Q Where did you get the information about
- the company renting the lenses having been 17
- approached by small towns that need drinking 18
- 19 water?
- 20 A If I remember, I think it was Peter Greg
- 21 that told me that. Not sure. But just my memory.
- Did you ask Peter Greg how he knew? 22
- 23 Α No, ma'am.
- Q 24 Did you ask for any substantiation for

25 that?

Jameson, Richard Pages 205 - 208

	Cuse 2.15 CV 00020 BN Est Bocumen		
	Page 209		Page 211
1	A No, ma'am.	1	A No, ma'am.
2	Q Take a look, please, at the pages	2	Q to an appeals officer?
3	marked, actually, first at the page marked at the	3	A No, ma'am.
4	end 422.	4	Q Why not?
5	A Okay.	5	A I feel that it was rambling and
6	Q This page is a Placed in Service letter	6	borderline insulting to the Internal Revenue
7	to Peter Greg, correct?	7	Service officer who was conducting the appeal.
8	A Correct.	8	And that is not something that I would normally
9	Q From RaPower-3?	9	condone or encourage.
10	A Correct.	10	Q So, why did you include it for Mr. Greg?
11	Q The letter says in the second line,	11	A Because Mr. Greg requested it. I can't
12	"RaPower-3 put into service your equipment on or	12	remember the exact conversation. But sometimes
13	before December 31, 2012." Did I read that	13	when I try to explain to clients that they
14	correctly?	14	shouldn't do something, that doesn't mean they are
15	A Yes.	15	not going to do it.
16	Q How, if you know, Mr. Jameson, could	16	Q No. I believe you. Would you take a
17	RaPower-3 put a solar lens into service?	17	look, please, at the last page of Plaintiff's
18	MR. PAUL: Objection. Lack of	18	Exhibit 637.
19	foundation.	19	A Yes, ma'am.
20	A I am not in the business of auditing	20	Q This page appears to be a notice of a
21	RaPower-3. The fact that they sent me a Placed in	ի21	refund from the IRS to a taxpayer. Do you see
22	Service or sent the client a Placed in Service	22	that?
23	letter was the documentation that I needed to	23	A Yes.
24	justify putting it on the tax return.	24	Q Any idea why you included this to the
25		25	appeals officer?
	Page 210		Page 212
1	BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:	1	A I wanted to show the appeals officer
2	Q So, does it matter that it doesn't say	2	that an individual had actually won on appeal and
3	LTB placed your lenses into service? Because	3	had gotten a refund check. And that it was not a
4	that's who they were, ostensibly, leasing these	4	control issue if they had already received a
5	lenses to.	5	refund check.
6	A Doesn't matter to me because they have a	6	Q And there is some information blacked
7	Placed in Service letter.	7	out on this page. But this is regarding Roger
8	Q So, all that matters is there is a	8	Hamblin, isn't it?
9	letter that says we put your equipment into	9	A Yes, ma'am.
10	service?	10	Q And, ultimately, do you recall the dates
11	A Yes, ma'am.	11	or can you read the date of when this letter went
12	Q Okay. Please take a look at the page	12	to Roger Hamblin?
13	marked Greg_P&R-000423 through 426.	13	A I can't read the date. The date was
14	A Yes, ma'am.	14	several years before these audits. So, I think it
15	Q These pages contain a letter from Greg	15	was probably 2008, 2009, something like that.
16	Shepard, correct?	16	Q So, this may have happened before the
17	A Correct.	17	IRS had controls placed on this issue?
18	Q Dated April 7, 2014, right?	18	A Yes, ma'am.
19	A Yes.	19	Q Right?
20	Q Why did you include this letter from Mr.	20	A Yes, ma'am.
21	Shepard in Mr. Greg's appeal?	21	Q Is it your ordinary practice to attach
22	A I was requested to include it by Mr.	22	the results from one taxpayer on another
23	Greg.	23	taxpayer's audit letter?
24	Q Is this something you would ordinarily	24	A Generally not. But in this situation I
1	includo	25	think Mr. Hamblin and Peter Greg were in
25	include	25	think wil. Hambiin and Feter Grey were in

Pages 209 - 212 Jameson, Richard

6

9

15

Page 213

- 1 communication with each other. Otherwise, I
- 2 wouldn't have gotten this, because I don't do Mr.
- 3 Hamblin's tax return. So, I think it was one of
- 4 those things where, well, we are saying the
- 5 technology is there and has been approved in the
- 6 past, and here's proof that the IRS did approve it
- 7 in the past.
- (Exhibit No. 638 was marked for identification.)
- 9 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- Q Mr. Jameson, you have been handed what's 10
- been marked Plaintiff's Exhibit 638 which does not 11
- have Bates numbers on it. Do you see that? 12
- 13 A Yes, ma'am.
- Q Okay. Do you recognize Plaintiff's 14
- 15 Exhibit 638?
- 16 A Yes, ma'am.
- Q Have you been able to take a look 17
- through the whole thing? 18
- A I don't need to look through the whole 19
- thing, I don't think. I'm pretty sure it's a 20
- letter I wrote to the revenue agent for an audit
- that he was conducting on Mr. Cook for 2012.
- Q And you mentioned that the letterhead at 23
- the top of the first page is your new letterhead
- for North Star? 25

Page 214

- A Yes, ma'am. I like it better than the 1
- other, don't you? 2
- Q It's very nice. Dated September 24, 3
- 2014, correct? 4
- 5 A Yes, ma'am.
- Q And Plaintiff's Exhibit 638 appears to 6
- be a true and correct copy of a letter with 7
- attachments that you submitted to the IRS? 8
- 9 A Yes, ma'am. To clarify a question you
- had asked me earlier, if I may? Remember I had
- told you that I attached copies of, here's the
- 12 copy of the law. There's copies of laws, public
- 13 laws, regulations and code sections and tax court
- 14 cases that I reference in the letter.
- Q Thank you for reminding me of that. So, 15
- 16 taking a look at this letter regarding Mr. Cook's
- 17 tax year 2012, this is an example of not only the research that you did, but sort of how you keep
- track of the research that you have done? 19
- A Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am. 20
- 21 Q With the different citations in this
- 22 letter?
- 23 A Yes, ma'am. Did that answer that
- question better for you? 24
- 25 Q I appreciate the clarification. Handing

you what's already been marked Plaintiff's

- 2 Exhibit 163, Bates numbered Olsen P&E-00256

Page 215

- 3 through 262, would you take a look at that and let
- me know when you are done.
 - A Okay. I am finished.
 - Q Okay. Mr. Jameson, do you recognize
- Plaintiff's Exhibit 163? 7
- 8 A Yes. ma'am.
 - Q What is it?
- 10 It's a letter that I wrote to Kristy who
- is a TCO who was performing an audit on the 11
 - Olsens.
- 13 Q The letter is dated February 4, 2016,
- 14 correct?
 - A Correct.
- Q Okay. So, the last sentence of the 16
- 17 second paragraph, I guess, says, "Because the
- lenses produce heat, they are clearly eligible for
- the energy credit as per Internal Revenue Code
- Section 48." Did I read that correctly? 20
- 21 A Yes, ma'am.
- 22 Q Do you know whether the Olsens' solar
- lenses have ever produced heat? 23
- 24 A I have never seen their lens produce
 - heat. The solar lenses do produce heat. Solar
 - Page 216
- process heat, I should say. 1
 - 2 MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: So, could you read
 - my question back? 3
 - (Record read.) 4
 - 5 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
 - Q So, in this letter, Mr. Jameson, you are 6
 - relying on the general concept that the solar
 - lenses at issue in this case, if installed on a
 - tower, can focus solar radiation into concentrated
 - 10 heat?

12

- 11 Α That is correct.
 - Q You have something more?
- A Yes, ma'am. I would like to clarify 13
- 14 something.
- Q Um-hmm. 15
- A I stated earlier that I believed the IRS 16
- 17 in 1990 issued instructions concerning reporting
- of the rental of tangible personal property on a 18
- 19 Schedule C. I was wrong. In the letter it says
- 20 it was in 1991. And it specifically stated income
- and expenses from the rental of personal property
- 22 such as equipment and vehicles must be reported on
- 23 a Schedule C.
- Q Okay. And we established earlier that 24
- 25 passive activity is reported on a Schedule C,

Page 217 Page 219 correct? A It's told to everybody in cases of 1 emergencies, like in Puerto Rico and Florida, 2 A That is correct. But I also quoted -remember you asked me the laws? If you go to the where they are told to boil their water. Oh, one 3 other thing? When I was Googling solar lenses, next, there are the two laws that I quoted. Q I appreciate that. Thank you. If we 5 there is a solar lens that's different than this 5 one that is for sale on the internet that is a 6 take a look at the page in Plaintiff's 7 Exhibit 163, that ends in 259 --7 small portable unit that is designed to actually A Yes, ma'am, produce clean drinking water for somebody in an 8 emergency. 9 Q -- in the biggest paragraph on this 9 page, again, you reference that the company 10 Did anyone who is actually involved with 10 the technology and the solar lenses ever talk to renting the lenses have been approached by small 11 11 you about potable drinking water as a result from towns that need drinking water because of the 12 12 this? 13 drought. Do you see that? 13 A No, ma'am. 14 A No, ma'am. 14 15 Q Let me point it to you. 259. 15 (Exhibit No. 639 was marked for identification.) BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: 16 A Oh. Okay. I see it. Yes, ma'am. 16 Q So, we saw that you mentioned that same 17 Q Mr. Jameson, you have been handed 17 Plaintiff's Exhibit 639, Bates number Jameson discussion in Plaintiff's Exhibit 637, which is 18 18 dated May 2014. Is that right? 005146 through 5174. Please take a look through 19 20 and let me know when you are ready. 20 A Yes, ma'am. 21 A I have reviewed it. Q Now we are in February 2016. And it's 21 22 Q Do you recognize Plaintiff's basically the same text. So, in the intervening Exhibit 639? two years, Mr. Jameson, what, if anything, 23 A Yes, ma'am. happened with that possibility? 24 24 25 What is it? A I don't have any idea. I was never O 25 Page 218 Page 220 updated on any of that. A It is a letter that I wrote to Mr. 1 1 2 Q So, why did you include it in 2016? Miller who I think is a revenue agent who is A Because it seemed like a valid argument performing an audit on Lindsey Davis for 2015. 3 Q Take a look, please, at the page that to make. 4 4 ends in 5148. 5 Q You didn't wonder what might have 5 happened with that if that was a legitimate 6 A Yes, ma'am. 6 7 potential avenue for future income? 7 Q The first sentence under Description of A Again, not my area of responsibility. Business says, "The taxpayer is in the business of 8 9 Did you ever ask anyone what experience leasing solar lenses to be used to produce heat or expertise anyone involved with the solar lenses for various purposes by the company LTB1 renting 10 had in producing drinking water? the lenses." Did I read that correctly? 11 A I don't think I asked anybody in 12 12 A Yes, ma'am. particular about that. But when I was on-site 13 Q With the understanding that Mr. Johnson 14 that one time, and I saw the water coming out, it 14 testified that LTB1 has never done anything, does 15 seemed pretty evident that drinking water would be 15 that give you pause, does that undermine your a side effect of the production of the solar 16 statement in this sentence? 16 process heat. 17 17 A Yes, ma'am. Q How did you know that water was potable? Q What, if any, concern does that raise 18 18 A Educated guess, personal opinion. 19 19 for you? Q Anv facts? A First I heard that LTB1, LLC hasn't done 20 20

they be renting the lenses? 25 Q How do you know that? 25 Q Would you take a look, please, at the

A Normally, when water goes through a

into steam, and the steam condenses, it is now

22 solar process or any process where it's turned

21

24

drinkable water.

Jameson, Richard Pages 217 - 220

21

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23

24

anything. So, it raises some concerns.

Q And what are those concerns?

A If they haven't done anything, how can

- 1 page that ends 5149, the last two paragraphs on
- 2 this page?
- 3 A Done.
- 4 Q You reference both the Kirton McConkie
- 5 legal memorandum and the Anderson Law PC letter.
- 6 Do you see that?
- 7 A Yes, ma'am.
- 8 Q Why did you refer those in your writing
- 9 to the IRS?
- 10 A I explained that earlier. It was to
- 11 help establish the basis in an appeal to request
- 12 an abatement of the penalties through reasonable
- 13 cause.
- 14 Q Okay. So, you weren't submitting these
- 15 as legal authority to the IRS, this was --
- 16 A No, ma'am.
- 17 Q -- solely to ask for leniency on
- 18 penalties?
- 19 A Yes, ma'am. The legal memorandums and
- 20 letters are not, they are just opinions. And
- 21 anybody can have an opinion. And they are not
- 22 legal documents. But they are documents that can
- 23 be used under the reasonable cause statute to
- 24 establish the fact that the taxpayer did the best
- 25 they could under the circumstances and, therefore,

- Page 223
 1 Plaintiff's Exhibit 640, which is Bates marked
- 2 Riter_Kenneth-3187. It's through 1388. But there
- 3 is just a little bit on the next page. Would you
- 4 take a look at that, please, and let me know when
- 5 you are done.
- 6 A Okay. I'm done.
 - Q So, Mr. Jameson, the only spot that I
- 8 see your email address here is in the CC line and
- 9 the second email from the top. Do you see that?
 - A Yes, ma'am.
- 11 Q Do you recall having received the email
- 12 that's from lori@northstartaxservices.com that
- 13 follows?

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23

- 14 A Yes, ma'am.
- 15 Q Does that appear to be a true and
- 16 correct copy of an email you were sent from Miss
- 17 Lori Gailey?
- 18 A Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q On or about July 17, 2014?
- 20 A Yes, ma'am.
- 21 (Exhibit No. 641 was marked for identification.)
- 22 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
 - Q You have been handed a copy of what's
- 24 been marked Plaintiff's Exhibit 641 with Bates
- 25 number Jameson 003371. Please take a look at that

Page 224

Page 222

- 1 we can request abatement of the penalties.
- 2 Q For your statement about LTB leasing the
- 3 lenses, were you relying on the last page of
- 4 Plaintiff's Exhibit 639?
- 5 A Yes, ma'am.
- 6 Q Any other source?
- 7 A I can't remember if it's in the actual
- 8 Equipment Purchase Agreement or the Operating and
- 9 Maintenance Agreement. But I generally would rely
- 10 on the Placed in Service Agreement. The other
- 11 thing I would like to point out, you asked me
- 12 about court cases and laws. You'll notice as you
- 13 get further into this I am starting to expand
- 14 things. And there's the references that I
- 15 couldn't remember.
- 16 Q Okay.
- 17 A I say supreme court decision and so
- 18 forth.
- 19 Q Sure. Thank you for that.
- 20 A I think I actually also quoted the seven
- 21 tests.
- 22 Q Okay. All right.
- 23 (Exhibit No. 640 was marked for identification.)
- 24 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- 25 Q You are being handed a copy of

- 1 and let me know when you are done.
- 2 A I'm done.
- 3 Q Do you recognize Plaintiff's
- 4 Exhibit 641?
- 5 A Yes, ma'am.
 - Q What is it?
- 7 A It, apparently, is my return email to
- 8 Carie.

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- 9 Q Okay. And that's Carie Martin from
- 10 Plaintiff's Exhibit 640?
 - A Yes, ma'am.
- 12 (Exhibit No. 642 was marked for identification.)
- 13 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
 - Q All right. Mr. Jameson, you have been
- 15 handed what's been marked Plaintiff's Exhibit 642,
- 16 Bates number Riter Kenneth-01375 through 1376.
- 17 Please take a look at that and let me know when
- 18 you are done.
- 19 A I'm done.
 - Q Do you recognize Plaintiff's
- 21 Exhibit 642?
- 22 A Yes, ma'am.
 - Q What is it?
- 24 A It is a copy of my response email to Mr.
- 25 Riter concerning his email that was sent to me

Jameson, Richard Pages 221 - 224

- saying he was having problems with the Internal 2 Revenue Service.
- 3 Q Sure. So, we start, really, towards the bottom of the first page of Plaintiff's 4
- 5 Exhibit 642, right? Do you see that was the
- original message? 6
- 7 A Yes.
- Q The subject is RaPower-3 tax client, 8
- 9 right?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q It's from Ken Riter, correct?
- A Yes, ma'am. 12
- Q Dated February 17, 2014? 13
- 14 A Yes, ma'am.
- 15 Q To you, rick@northstartaxservices.com,
- correct? 16
- 17 A Yes, ma'am.
- Q All right. And then on the next page he 18
- 19 writes, "As you may have heard, I got a rather nasty call from the IRS Criminal Division last
- 21 week regarding my association with RaPower-3. I
- 22 don't have the power to get into a battle with
- 23 them at this point. So, I have decided not to do
- 24 any more RaPower tax returns until the IRS back
- 25 off." Did I read that correctly?

Page 226

- A Yes, ma'am. 1
- 2 Q Did you speak with Mr. Riter at all about his interaction with IRS Criminal Division? 3
- A I think I did talk to him once on the 4 5 phone.
- 6 Q What did you talk about?
- 7 A His requirements under due diligence and
- substantial authority so that he could lay the 8
- groundwork to defend himself better against the
- 10 Criminal Investigation Division of the IRS
- because, to be quite honest with you, I don't
- 12 think he quite really understood the gravity of
- 13 the situation. So, I tried to explain it to him.
- Q The fact that Mr. Riter had been 14 contacted by CI, did that give you any pause in 15
- getting further involved with RaPower-3? 16
- A No, ma'am. 17
- Q Any reason why not? 18
- A Because the CID called me two days 19 20 before him.
- 21 Q Okay. And we see that you identify that in your email response to Mr. Riter, correct? 22
- 23 A Yes, ma'am.
- Q So, what did you talk about with CI? 24
 - A I answered their questions as truthfully

Page 227 and as honestly as I could, and referred them to

- 2 the public laws, the court cases, the code
- 3 sections and the treasury regulations.
- Q Did it cause any concern for you that 4 5 the Criminal Investigation Division of the IRS was
- contacting you about these solar lenses? 6
- 7 A They weren't necessarily contacting me
- about the solar lenses. They were contacting me about RaPower-3. And no, it did not concern me
- that much. I have been contacted by the Criminal
- Investigation Division several times over the last
- 30 years.

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- Q How many times? 13
- 14 A Four, five.
 - Q Four or five times in 30 years?
- A Yes, ma'am. 16
- 17 Q You remember each one, don't you?
 - A Yes, ma'am.
- 19 Q Because, as you said, it's a matter of
- some gravity when the Criminal Investigation 20
- Division of the IRS contacts you, right? 21
- 22 A Yes, ma'am.
 - Q Did you think about ceasing involvement
- with RaPower-3 after that phone call? 24
- 25 A I considered it. But I went back to my

Page 228

- 1 research again, due diligence. And I think I
- 2 expanded my research a little bit more, which you 3 can see in some of the letters based on some of
- 4 the questions that the CID agent had raised during
- our conversations. And I felt that I had done my
- due diligence. And I had substantial authority to 6 justify my preparation of the tax returns.
- Q Did you ever hear back from CI? 8
 - Α No. ma'am.
- Mr. Jameson, have you had occasion to 10
- learn that Kirton McConkie requested in writing 11
- that RaPower-3 cease using its memorandum? 13
 - A I was given that information by a revenue agent.
- Q Did that give you any pause about 15 16 continuing to use it?
- A No, ma'am. Because I wasn't using it as 17
- legal authority. I was using it as research 18
- material and justification to request abatements
- of penalties for my clients. Completely different 20
- reasoning behind what I was doing with it. 21
- Q So, Mr. Jameson, have all of your 22
- 23 RaPower-3 tax return preparation customers been audited? 24

25 A No.

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Page 229 Q Have you informed those who have not

- been audited of the risk of audit? 2
- 3 A Yes.

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- 4 Q Specifically with respect to RaPower-3?
- 5 A Yes.
- Q What have you told them? 6
- 7 A What I would tell any and every client
- when I look at a tax return and see something on 8
- it that is out of balance with the way the IRS
- grades tax returns. Back to my example I gave
- earlier of the line 1 entry of 800,000 and a line
- 12 12 entry of a negative 12,000, that's a red flag
- 13 for the IRS. So, I explain that to all of my
- 14 clients. Not just the RaPower-3 clients, but any
- 15 other clients I may have that may fall into that 16 category.
- 17 Q So, it's a red flag to you when
- 18 something on a tax return, as you just said, the
- deductions are out of balance with the amount of 19
- income, right? 20
- MR. PAUL: Objection to the extent it 21 misstates his prior testimony. 22
- A No, it's not a red flag to me. It's a 23
- red flag to the Internal Revenue Service. And I
- go back and say, under due diligence, do you have 25

- Page 231 Q I'm not asking for your legal plans.
- Well, I will ask this. Are you planning to use
- 3 legal process to counterattack?
 - A Yes.
- 5 Q Are you planning to use any violent
- means to counterattack? 6
 - A No, ma'am, under no circumstances.
- 8 Q I just like to be clear.
 - A Okay. No, ma'am, under no
- circumstances. I have had problems with the
- Internal Revenue Service before.
- 12 Q So, have you been under any sort of preparer investigation before? 13
- 14 A One time.
 - Q And what was the tax issue?
- It had to do with a client who hadn't 16
- 17 filed tax returns for several years. And I was
- trying to clean up the problem. And the revenue
- agent filed a complaint against me. I filed a
- complaint against her. She no longer works for 20 the IRS, and neither does her supervisor. And
- that was about 12 years ago. They broke the law. 22
- Q So, that was with respect to only one 24 client?
- A Correct.

Page 230

- the substantiation to justify the deduction?
- 2 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- Q Okay. Have you been notified that you 3
- are under any sort of investigation by the IRS? 4
- 5 A Yes, ma'am.
- Q Do you know what investigation that is 6 7 for?
- 8 A Yes, ma'am.
- 9 Q What is it for?
- A If I remember, it's a code Section 66, 10
- three 6s and a 9 or three 6s and a 2, willful and 11
- reckless disregard of the rules and regulations. 12
- Q 6694? 13
- 14 A It could be. One of those.
- 15 Q And that's related to the solar lenses, correct? 16
- A Yes, ma'am. 17
- Q Has that investigation given you any 18
- pause about continuing to prepare returns that 19
- claim tax benefits related to solar lenses? 20
- 21 A No, ma'am.
- 22 Q And why not?
- 23 A Because I am going to counterattack.
- Q How so? 24
- 25 A I would rather not answer that question.

- Q Was that, if you recall, with respect to
- penalties conduct under 6694? 2
 - A I don't recall.
- 4 Q Have you been under any other
- 5 investigation by the IRS?
 - A No, ma'am.
- Q And you are aware, Mr. Jameson, that the 7
- United States has filed an injunction suit against
- RaPower-3 and other entities, correct?
- A I have heard that from clients, yes. 10
- Q When did you first hear about that? 11
- A I am not sure of the exact date. My bet 12
- is probably a little over a year ago. 13
- Q Before we get to that, what, if 14
- anything, did you change about how you prepare tax 15
- returns claiming benefits related to solar lenses
- after you heard that IRS Criminal Investigation 17
- Division was investigating? 18
- 19 A I expanded my research, my due
 - diligence. And, as you can see in the letters, it
- 21 keeps getting bigger. And it is still now getting
- bigger. 22
- 23 Q And how, if at all, did you change your
- process with respect to the solar lenses after you
 - learned you were under investigation by the IRS?

Jameson, Richard

Page 232

4

A I have not changed it. 1

- 2 Q All right. So, you learned about this
- injunction suit a little over a year ago, you 3
- 4 said?
- 5 A If I remember correctly, yes, ma'am.
- 6 Does the fact that the United States
- 7 filed this injunction suit give you any pause
- about the legality of the tax benefits that you
- 9 have claimed for people related to solar lenses?
- 10 A No, ma'am. Because no IRS agent in the
- 11 audits and appeals has been able to come back with
- me with any code sections, laws and stuff like
- 13 that which I have asked them to provide. And,
- 14 again, we are back to my personal feeling is the
- judge has to make a decision on this. Until the
- judge makes the decision, who knows. 16
- Q So, what, if anything, have you changed 17
- with respect to your process since you learned 18
- that the United States filed this injunction 19
- 20 action?

1

- A The injunction against RaPower-3? 21
- 22 Yes.
- 23 A I have just increased my due diligence,
- doing research and making sure that the clients
- - 23

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15

- have all of the documentation that they were
- required to have under the codes.
- 2 Q In late 2016, RaPower-3 stopped
- promoting depreciation as a tax benefit related to 3
- buying one of its lenses. Did you know that? 4
- A I had heard that rumor from a client. 5
- 6 Q Who did you hear that from?
- A I want to say --7
- 8 MR. PAUL: If you recall. You shouldn't
- 9 be guessing.
- 10 Α Yeah, I can't recall off the top of my
- head. 11
- 12 BY MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER:
- Q What, if anything, did that change about 13
- 14 the way you prepare your customers' tax returns
- with respect to solar lenses? 15
- A It doesn't change anything at all. 16
- Because none of the clients that I currently do 17
- have purchased new lenses to my knowledge. They
- are all clients that have purchased lenses in the
- past. And it's almost all carryforward
- 21 information.
- Q Okay. So, with respect to tax year 22
- 2016, have you prepared returns that claim tax
- benefits related to solar lenses? 24
- A Yes. 25

Page 233

Q Do you have any customers whose tax

Page 235

Page 236

- returns relate to solar lenses that you'll be
- 3 filing on extension?
 - A Yes.
- 5 Q About how many?
- Twenty, 25, maybe. 6
- 7 So, about how many returns have you
- 8 already done this year that relate to solar
- lenses? 9
- 10 A Probably 20 or so.
- Q Okay. Of the 20 returns or so that you 11
- have already submitted, did any of those people 12
- buy lenses in 2016? 13
- 14 Α Not that I remember, no.
 - Q To your knowledge, if you know, have any
- of, did any of the folks whose returns you have 16
- 17 yet to do for tax year 2016, do you know if any of
- them bought lenses in 2016? 18
- 19 To my knowledge, no.
 - Q Mr. Jameson, we talked about any --
- well, let me just ask the question. Have you ever
- been subject to any discipline from the IRS? 22
 - Α No.
- 24 Q Have you ever been subject to any
- discipline from any other licensing authority? 25
- Page 234
- Α No.
- 2 Q Have you ever been convicted of any
- 3 crime?
- 4 Α Yes.
- 5 Q What's that?
- A When I was in the army, 20 years old, 6
- which is 48 years ago, I and two of my friends
- rented an apartment off post so we could get away
- from the army for a little while. One of the
- individuals who was renting it with me decided to
- smoke a joint walking down the street going to the
- apartment. And the police followed him there. 12
- And they came in the door with probable cause.
- And everybody bailed. And because I was the one
- who had signed the lease, I was the one who got
- held responsible. Learned to read the fine print 16
- really well. 17

18

- Q Any other convictions?
- 19 A No, ma'am.
- Mr. Jameson, you have been helpful 20
- 21 throughout, but I'll give you one more chance
- before I pass you to Mr. Paul today. Is there any
- other, are there any answers to my questions that
- you have given today that you wish to change or
- 25 supplement?

١,	Page 237		Page 239
1	A No, ma'am. I did give you the name of		1 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DEPONENT
2	the organization that I am getting my Ph.D from,		2
3	right?		3 I,, do hereby
4	Q Yes.		4 acknowledge that I have read and examined the
5	A Okay.		5 foregoing testimony, and the same is a true, correct
6	Q Thank you. All right. At this time, I		6 and complete transcription of the testimony given by
7	will pass the witness.		7 me, and any corrections appear on the attached Errata
8	MR. PAUL: No questions. We would like	8	8 Sheet signed by me.
9	to read and sign.	9	9
10	MS. HEALY-GALLAGHER: We would agree in	10	0
11	the ask to read and sign. And with that, we are	11	1
12	off the record for today.	12	2 (DATE) (SIGNATURE)
13	(Whereupon, the proceedings were concluded at 5:20	13	3
14	p.m.)	14	4
15		15	5
16		16	6
17		17	7
18		18	8
19		19	
20		20	
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25		25	
-	Dogg 220	-	
1	Page 238 CERTIFICATE		
2	CERTITORIE		
3	STATE OF UTAH		
4	COUNTY OF IRON		
5	THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING		
	PROCEEDINGS WERE TAKEN BEFORE ME, RUSSEL D.		
	MORGAN, A CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER IN AND FOR		
	THE STATE OF UTAH, RESIDING AT IRON COUNTY, UTAH;		
9	THAT THE PROCEEDINGS WERE REPORTED BY ME IN		
	STENOTYPE, AND THEREAFTER CAUSED BY ME TO BE		
	TRANSCRIBED INTO TYPEWRITING, AND THAT A TRUE AND		
	CORRECT TRANSCRIPTION OF SAID TESTIMONY SO TAKEN		
	AND TRANSCRIBED TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY IS SET		
14	FORTH IN THE FOREGOING PAGES 5 to 237.		
15			
16			
17			
	RUSSEL D. MORGAN, CSR		
18	LICENSE #87-108442-7801		
19			
20			
21	September 23, 2017.		
22			
23			
24			
25			

Jameson, Richard Pages 237 - 239