UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

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IN RE: . Chapter 11

.

Washington Mutual, Inc.,

et al.,

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Debtors. . Bankruptcy #08-12229 (MFW)

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Wilmington, DE November 24, 2009 2:00 p.m.

TRANSCRIPT OF MOTIONS HEARING BEFORE THE HONORABLE MARY F. WALRATH UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

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- 1 THE CLERK: All rise. Please be seated.
- MR. ROSEN: Good afternoon, Your Honor.
- 3 THE COURT: Good afternoon.
- 4 MR. ROSEN: Brian Rosen and Kelly Rodden, Weil,
- 5 Gotshal & Manges, and Mark Collins of Richards, Layton & Finger
- 6 on behalf of the Debtors. Your Honor, this afternoon we have a
- 7 very small agenda. Item 8 on the agenda was the Debtors'
- 8 Motion for Exclusivity Extension, and it's my understanding
- 9 that yesterday the Court entered the order granting that
- 10 extension of exclusivity based upon the Certificate of No
- 11 Objection.
- 12 The other item which is on the calendar, Your Honor,
- 13 relates to our Motion to Supplement the Record in connection
- 14 with what we refer to as the HFA Ahmanson Grantor Trust Motion
- 15 that we previously had testimony on. Ms. Rodden will be
- 16 handling that matter before the Court this afternoon, Your
- 17 Honor.
- 18 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 19 MS. RODDEN: Good afternoon, Your Honor, Kelly
- 20 Rodden, Weil, Gotshal & Manges, on behalf of the Debtors. As
- 21 Mr. Rosen indicated, we're here today on the Motion to
- 22 Supplement the Record that the Debtors filed in connection with
- 23 supplemental briefing that was submitted with respect to the
- 24 Debtors' Motion to Liquidate certain trust assets. By way of
- 25 background, in May the Debtors filed what we refer to as the

- 1 HFA Trust Motion seeking authority to exercise ownership rights
- 2 over and liquidate certain assets held in rabbi trusts owned by
- 3 Washington Mutual, Inc. which were set up in connection with
- 4 certain deferred compensation and retirement plans that
- 5 Washington Mutual, Inc. inherited when it acquired HF Ahmanson
- 6 & Company.
- 7 Certain participants in these plans filed objections to
- 8 the Debtors' motion, including the five participants who are
- 9 represented here today, arguing that the trusts are not true
- 10 rabbi trusts, and therefore, the assets are not property of the
- 11 Debtors' estate, or in the -- and in the alternative, arguing
- 12 that the Court should impose a constructive trust over the
- 13 assets because these participants allegedly were wrongfully
- 14 denied payment demands prior to Washington Mutual, Inc. filing
- 15 bankruptcy.
- The Debtors filed a response to the objection in July,
- 17 arguing why they believe the assets are property of the estate
- 18 and that a constructive trust is not available because it's
- 19 preempted by Federal law and, in any event, is not warranted
- 20 under the circumstances.
- 21 As Your Honor may recall, on September 25th we had a
- 22 hearing on this motion, prior to which counsel stipulated to
- 23 the fact that the trusts are, in fact, rabbi trusts. During
- 24 the hearing, four participants testified, and during this
- 25 testimony, for the first time these participants discussed

- 1 evidence of the detail of conversations that they allegedly had
- 2 with a representative from Washington Mutual Bank's HR
- 3 department and complained that they had never received copies
- 4 of the plan documents and were unaware of the plan terms.
- 5 At the conclusion of the hearing, as Your Honor may
- 6 recall, you requested that the parties submit additional
- 7 information, and you specifically referenced that one of the
- 8 things that was troubling you was that somebody from WMB's HR
- 9 department had made statements to these -- allegedly made
- 10 statements to these participants that contradicted the plan
- 11 terms.
- 12 THE COURT: Well, I'm not sure I asked for additional
- 13 information, I asked for additional briefing, didn't I?
- 14 MS. RODDEN: That's correct, Your Honor, but the
- 15 Debtors' position is that in order to adequately respond to
- 16 your request for supplemental briefing and to present the Court
- 17 with a clear and accurate record, the additional evidence is
- 18 required. The Debtors believe that we need to clarify why
- 19 Washington Mutual, Inc. made the decisions it made with respect
- 20 to the plans, and also to rebut the participants' testimony
- 21 that they did not have access to copies of the plan documents.
- While the Debtors are not sure that the record formally
- 23 was ever closed, out of an abundance of caution, they -- we
- 24 filed the Motion to Reopen the Record. We believe that the
- 25 submission of the supplemental evidence, as I mentioned, is

- 1 necessary to insure that your ruling is based on a complete and
- 2 accurate understanding of all of the facts.
- 3 If the Court determines that the record was in fact
- 4 closed, it is well established, based on case law in this
- 5 Circuit, that you have discretion to reopen the record. The
- 6 three factors that should be considered in this determination
- 7 include the potential burden to the parties, whether the
- 8 parties will suffer undue prejudice, as well as interests of
- 9 judicial economy, and here the Debtors believe that we have
- 10 satisfied all three of these elements. There is limited to no
- 11 burden on the plan participants from submission of the
- 12 supplemental evidence. The parties have already gone through
- 13 the effort of submitting supplemental briefs. The Debtors have
- 14 not requested any additional discovery. We've agreed to
- 15 provide the participants with the opportunity to cross examine
- 16 our witnesses. They already have our declarations, which will
- 17 serve as direct testimony, so the participants can confer with
- 18 their counsel prior to any hearing at which cross examination
- 19 is to be conducted in order to prepare for such cross
- 20 examination. And their counsel is locally in Delaware, as well
- 21 as in nearby Philadelphia.
- We do not believe that there will be any undue prejudice
- 23 to the participants. As I mentioned, there's no substantial
- 24 cost burden or additional discovery required. The Debtors
- 25 filed the Motion to Supplement the Record shortly after the

- 1 initial hearing and prior to the Court rendering any ruling on
- 2 the motion. And moreover, a decision against Washington
- 3 Mutual, Inc. will cause undue prejudice to the Debtors and
- 4 their Creditors, given that these participants are trying to
- 5 get paid ahead of other General Unsecured Creditors, and
- 6 therefore, it is of utmost importance that the Court make a
- 7 ruling based on a complete understanding of the relevant facts.
- 8 And finally Your Honor, the Debtors believe that
- 9 introduction of this supplemental evidence is consistent with
- 10 judicial economy as we believe it's most efficient to complete
- 11 the record prior to the Court's deliberation and ultimate
- 12 ruling. The 3rd Circuit, in Roche Brothers, and the Eastern
- 13 District of PA, in the In Re: Orfa Corp. cases, both ruled that
- 14 a Court may exercise its sound, equitable discretion to reopen
- 15 the record where, among other things, doing so will further the
- 16 interests of fairness and substantial justice. Here, as in
- 17 these cases, we believe it would be unjust to have the Court
- 18 render a decision on the HFA Trust Motion based on the current
- 19 status of the record.
- 20 As I mentioned previously, the supplemental evidence
- 21 explicitly contradicts certain of the participants' testimony
- 22 at the hearing and proves that Washington Mutual, Inc. acted
- 23 reasonably, in good faith, and with all plan participants in
- 24 mind when it made its decisions regarding treatment of
- 25 participants in the HFA plans. Faced with this potentially

- 1 damaging evidence, of course, the participants have objected to
- 2 our Motion to Supplement, but we believe their objection is
- 3 legally deficient and misconstrues certain of the facts. The
- 4 participants cite no law regarding the standard for
- 5 supplementing the record. They misconstrue the Debtors'
- 6 witness' testimony, Mr. Kraig Klinkhammer. They present a weak
- 7 argument about the potential prejudice that they'll suffer,
- 8 stemming from introduction of the new evidence, and they engage
- 9 in a discussion regarding the weight of the supplemental
- 10 evidence, which is irrelevant to the standard to reopen the
- 11 record and, moreover, confuses the issue of Section 409(a) with
- 12 the Doctrine of Constructive Trust.
- 13 Your Honor, the bottom line is that the participants'
- 14 testimony at the hearing on September 25th went well beyond the
- 15 scope of their original objection and contained what the
- 16 Debtors believe are inaccurate or incomplete statements.
- 17 Introduction of Ms. Dewar and Ms. Malafronte's declarations are
- 18 necessary in order to respond to and correct these assertions,
- 19 to adequately address Your Honor's question regarding WMI's
- 20 decisions made with respect to these plans, and to insure that
- 21 the Court is provided with a full presentation of all relevant
- 22 facts to make a decision based upon a complete and accurate
- 23 record. At this point I have nothing further, unless Your
- 24 Honor has any questions?
- 25 THE COURT: None. Now let me hear the reply.

- 1 MS. RODDEN: Okay.
- 2 MR. STRATTON: Good afternoon, Your Honor, David
- 3 Stratton. I thought it might be appropriate to address this
- 4 for 10 seconds since we filed a joinder in support of the
- 5 Debtors' position.
- 6 THE COURT: Okay.
- 7 MR. STRATTON: And I think the very last thing that
- 8 Debtors' counsel said is what I would ask the Court to focus on
- 9 and it's really -- the important thing here is to get this
- 10 right, and the case, or this issue, is not so far along that
- 11 adding or completing the record, if it's supplementing it or
- 12 finishing out the record if it wasn't closed, will really
- 13 hamper either side and will permit the Court, I think, to get a
- 14 better picture of some of the issues that there was testimony
- 15 on. I know there was a dispute as to whether some of that
- 16 testimony was hearsay or not. Your Honor ruled. But I think
- 17 shedding all the light that's available to be shed on the issue
- 18 would be the best way to go, and we would ask that Your Honor
- 19 grant the motion. Thank you.
- THE COURT: Thank you.
- MS. BAKKER: Good afternoon, Your Honor, Jeanne
- 22 Bakker of Montgomery, McCracken, Walker & Rhodes for the
- 23 participants. Your Honor, as much as it is a pleasure to
- 24 appear before you today, the fact of the matter is that our
- 25 appearance here today is wholly -- was wholly avoidable and

- 1 could have been avoided if WMI had been properly prepared to
- 2 present its witnesses and testimony and evidence at the
- 3 September 25th evidentiary hearing. WMI certainly has the
- 4 economic means, as well as the legal team at it's disposal, to
- 5 have properly prepared for the hearing by having its witnesses
- 6 available at that time to appear before the Court.
- When the participants filed their objection to WMI's
- 8 Motion to Exercise Ownership over the Ahmanson Trusts in June
- 9 of this year, the participants put WMI on notice that a basis
- 10 for the participants' objection was that they had made repeated
- 11 demands on agents of the bank for immediate distribution of
- 12 their benefits under the Ahmanson plans and that agents of the
- 13 bank had repeatedly told them that they had no right to an
- 14 immediate distribution. This can be found in paragraphs 18 and
- 15 19 of the participants' objection, which they filed in June.
- 16 So WMI had roughly 90 days to investigate this basis for the
- 17 participants' objection and to prepare witnesses to present at
- 18 the September 25th evidentiary hearing. Yet, without
- 19 explanation, WMI wholly failed to do so. Moreover, WMI has
- 20 made no showing that the witnesses were unavailable for the
- 21 September 25th hearing, or even that they considered the
- 22 necessity for their testimony prior to the hearing. Thus, our
- 23 appearance before you today, as pleasurable as it is, to argue
- 24 WMI's Motion to Reopen and Supplement the Record is a cavalier
- 25 dissipation of this Court's limited time and resources and

- 1 should not be countenanced by this Court.
- Second, WMI's -- granting WMI's Motion to Reopen and
- 3 Supplement the Record places an undue and wholly avoidable
- 4 burden on the participants. Unlike WMI, the participants
- 5 simply do not have unlimited financial means to pursue their
- 6 rightful claims under the Ahmanson plans. Even my appearance
- 7 before you today to argue this motion places an additional
- 8 hardship on the participants that simply could have and should
- 9 have been avoided had WMI properly prepared for the September
- 10 25th hearing. If this Court grants WMI's motion and sets
- 11 another evidentiary hearing date, the participants will need to
- 12 travel again from the West Coast in order to appear before you,
- 13 and that hearing will represent additional attorneys fees and
- 14 costs that they simply cannot bear.
- 15 Contrary to WMI's uninformed characterization of the
- 16 participants as highly paid executives who make millions of
- 17 dollars, they are simply not in the league of Kerry Killinger
- 18 and other top bank executives who have already received their
- 19 millions of dollars from the WMI Deferred Compensation Plan.
- 20 The participants are rank and file loan consultants and in-
- 21 house counsel who lost their jobs with Washington Mutual Bank.
- 22 While they are among the lucky few who have gained employment
- 23 with JP Morgan Chase, the financial sector continues to shed
- 24 jobs, and the participants simply do not enjoy the job security
- 25 they once had with Washington Mutual Bank. In fact, one of the

- 1 participants has just been told that his salary will be cut in
- 2 2010 by half. Thus, WMI's Motion to Reopen and Supplement the
- 3 Record places a wholly avoidable financial burden on the
- 4 parties who are least able to sustain that burden.
- 5 Third, WMI will not be prejudiced by denial of its Motion
- 6 to Reopen and Supplement the Record. The fundamental basis for
- 7 the participants' objection to WMI's Motion to Exercise
- 8 Ownership of the Ahmanson Trusts is based on the terms of the
- 9 Ahmanson plans. Under section 5.9(b) of the Ahmanson plans and
- 10 pursuant to ERISA Section 502, the participants were entitled
- 11 to an immediate distribution of their plan interests, subject
- 12 to a penalty, back in October and November of 2007 when they
- 13 made those requests and when WMI wrongfully denied those
- 14 requests. WMI's after-the-fact, post hoc rationalizations that
- 15 it seeks to present to the Court by way of its supplemental
- 16 declarations does not change, excuse or justify the now
- 17 acknowledged fact that WMI's HR department deliberately misled
- 18 the participants regarding their rights under the Ahmanson
- 19 plans. Indeed, nothing in WMI's supplemental declarations is
- 20 inconsistent with a participants' testimony that they made
- 21 repeated requests to the HR department for distributions of
- 22 their Ahmanson plan interests and were repeatedly told that
- 23 they had no right to receive those distributions under any
- 24 circumstances.
- 25 Conspicuously absent from Ms. Dewar's declaration is any

- 1 mention of the numerous telephone conversations with the
- 2 participants in which the participants requested an immediate
- 3 lump sum distribution of their Ahmanson plan interests. On the
- 4 contrary, Ms. Dewar acknowledges that she refused to process
- 5 the participants' requests for lump sum distributions because
- 6 of her unsubstantiated view that such distributions would
- 7 somehow cause a 409 Cap A problem, even though she also
- 8 acknowledged that the plans were grandfathered and therefore
- 9 not subject to 409 Cap A, and also because of her
- 10 unsubstantiated view that distributions would somehow cause a
- 11 constructive trust issue even though the long time
- 12 administrator of the Ahmanson plans, dating back to the home
- 13 savings days, WMI's other declarant, Laura Malafronte, told her
- 14 that the plans had always been operated that way. So there was
- 15 no basis for that concern either.
- 16 In sum, Your Honor, WMI had an ample opportunity to
- 17 prepare for and to present witnesses and evidence at the
- 18 September 25th hearing. For reasons that remain unexplained,
- 19 WMI failed to do so and is now asking that the Court indulge a
- 20 second bite of the apple, thus burdening the participants with
- 21 the cost of another evidentiary hearing and dissipating this
- 22 Court's limited time and resources. We respectfully request,
- 23 Your Honor, that WMI -- submit, Your Honor, that WMI has wholly
- 24 failed to justify such an incursion on the Court and such a
- 25 burden on the participants. As a result, we respectfully

- 1 request that the Court deny WMI's Motion to Supplement the
- 2 Record.
- 3 THE COURT: Let me ask a question. If I grant the
- 4 motion, do you believe that additional testimony is required?
- 5 Do you -- would you want to cross examine the declarants?
- 6 MS. BAKKER: Yes, Your Honor, we would want to cross
- 7 examine the witnesses.
- 8 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 9 MS. RODDEN: Your Honor, if I may address a few of
- 10 the points that were just made?
- 11 THE COURT: Yes.
- 12 MS. RODDEN: Counsel repeatedly criticized the
- 13 Debtors for not being prepared at the hearing on September
- 14 25th, and that's the first point that I'd like to address.
- 15 Your Honor, the statements that were made by the participants
- 16 during their testimony at the hearing went beyond the scope of
- 17 their objection. While it is true that their objection made
- 18 vague references to certain of the participants allegedly
- 19 having made requests to the HR department for payment, they did
- 20 not go into the specific details that was presented at the
- 21 hearing.
- 22 THE COURT: Did you seek any discovery?
- MS. RODDEN: Well, Your Honor, after we -- no, we did
- 24 not seek discovery. However, after we saw the participants'
- 25 objection, the Debtors examined their books and records, and

- 1 the Debtors' witness, Mr. Kraig Klinkhammer, testified to this
- 2 effect, and we found no record of any payment demand ever
- 3 having been made. And therefore, we came prepared at the
- 4 hearing to have Mr. Klinkhammer testify about that, and he did.
- 5 Inasmuch as there was no evidence of any payment demand being
- 6 made, we felt there was nothing to rebut. Now that the
- 7 evidence is out there, of course, we feel the need to correct
- 8 the record, and in fact, we still take the position that there
- 9 is no evidence of these demands having been made, other than
- 10 the participants' own testimony. In order to rebut this
- 11 evidence we were required to track down Ms. Dewar, who no
- 12 longer works for Washington Mutual Bank. And as you know from
- 13 reading her declaration, she testified as to why WMI made the
- 14 decisions it made and that it acted in good faith and in the
- 15 interests of all participants.
- With respect to the participants' complaint that they will
- 17 suffer undue prejudice from having to come back for yet another
- 18 hearing to cross examine the witnesses, I'd first like to say
- 19 that we did offer to consolidate argument on today's motion
- 20 with the cross examination of the witnesses. And moreover, I
- 21 don't believe that it's necessary for participants to travel to
- 22 Delaware to themselves be here at the hearing. It should be
- 23 sufficient for their counsel to be here. They can prepare
- 24 ahead of time. As I mentioned, We do not intend to submit
- 25 direct testimony; our direct testimony is in the declarations

- 1 so they know what they need to cross examine the witnesses
- 2 about. And moreover, the Debtors would be willing to be
- 3 flexible and creative with respect to, you know, perhaps taking
- 4 breaks so that counsel can call her clients if she needs to ask
- 5 them follow-up questions regarding statements made during the
- 6 hearing.
- 7 Counsel has characterized the participants as rank and
- 8 file employees who are not well off, and while it is not my
- 9 intention to disparage these individuals, I just would like to
- 10 note that upon information and belief, these individuals
- 11 received millions of dollars of distributions from their WMI
- 12 Deferred Compensation Plans prior to and perhaps after the
- 13 bankruptcy case was filed, and two of these participants are
- 14 attorneys --
- THE COURT: Say that again.
- 16 MS. RODDEN: It is my understanding that these
- 17 individuals received millions of dollars in distributions from
- 18 their WMI Deferred Compensation Plans, either prior to the bank
- 19 --
- 20 THE COURT: Where's that in the record?
- 21 MS. RODDEN: I believe we included that in our
- 22 supplemental briefs, Your Honor.
- 23 THE COURT: Well, I haven't read the briefing yet,
- 24 and I don't recall that from the testimony or the evidence.
- 25 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, I -- I'm -- we did get

- 1 testimony from them that they did withdraw significant sums
- 2 from the WMI Deferred Comp Plans, while they did not withdraw
- 3 from the HFA, and the balance of it or the amount of it is set
- 4 forth in the briefs that the Court asked us to submit.
- 5 MS. BAKKER: Your Honor, if I may, I think the
- 6 characterization of millions might be what is causing some
- 7 concern. The -- I'm not exactly sure what the amount is, but
- 8 perhaps in the aggregate they received in excess of 1 million -
- 9 –
- MR. ROSEN: No.
- 11 MS. BAKKER: -- but I think it is an overstatement to
- 12 say that they received millions of dollars. And if --
- 13 THE COURT: Well --
- MS. BAKKER: They're still rank and file in phrase.
- THE COURT: All right, let's not go into -- that's
- 16 not really the central issue.
- MS. RODDEN: Okay. Your Honor, the next point I'd
- 18 like to address is the point that was again raised that these
- 19 participants did not have copies of the plan documents and were
- 20 not aware of the plan terms. Of course, Ms. Malafronte's
- 21 declaration refutes this statement and provides evidence that
- 22 these participants were provided with copies of their plan
- 23 documents or summaries --
- 24 THE COURT: And why is that relevant, from the
- 25 Debtors' perspective?

- 1 MS. RODDEN: It's relevant, Your Honor, because
- 2 they're complaining that they relied, to their detriment, on
- 3 statements that Washington Mutual, Inc. representatives made
- 4 and that they were unaware of what their rights were under the
- 5 plans.
- 6 THE COURT: Well, except that when they asked for the
- 7 money, the Debtor refused to give them the money, and in fact,
- 8 the email trail shows that it also directed the administrator
- 9 of the plan not to make any distributions, isn't that correct?
- 10 So --
- MS. RODDEN: Well, they -- their complaint is that
- 12 they would have pursued their rights further had they known
- 13 that those statements were incorrect, and it's our position
- 14 that they had reason to know -- I mean, it's our position that
- 15 those statements were accurate and made in good faith, and we
- 16 wouldn't have done anything otherwise. However, if the
- 17 participants had read the plan summaries and terms that they
- 18 had been provided, you know, their position is that they would
- 19 have then asserted their rights and pursued an ERISA claim
- 20 according to the proper claims procedure, rather than being
- 21 here now after the bankruptcy case has been filed and seeking a
- 22 constructive trust. And in fact, they admit in a footnote in
- 23 their objection to the Motion to Supplement that they received
- 24 these plan documents upon enrollment, but allege that WMI or
- 25 WMB should have provided them with additional disclosures once

- 1 the plans were transferred. However, as we noted in our reply,
- 2 we believe that there was no need to do this because the plan
- 3 terms had not changed, the plans were frozen, and moreover,
- 4 there was no legal obligation to do so. And finally on that
- 5 point, Your Honor, I think it just speaks to the credibility of
- 6 the participants' testimony and the misrepresentations that
- 7 were made at the hearing. Ms. Malafronte's evidence in her
- 8 declaration that shows that these plan documents were provided
- 9 upon enrollment contradicts statements that the participants
- 10 repeatedly made during the hearing.
- 11 Finally, Your Honor, I would just like to note that
- 12 counsel, you know, used this hearing as an opportunity to argue
- 13 against the declarations and WMI's decisions made with respect
- 14 to the HFA Deferred Compensation Plans. The question at issue
- 15 is not -- for today is not whether WMI acted wrongly. This was
- 16 not intended to be an opportunity to make closing arguments on
- 17 the underlying substantive motion. Thank you.
- 18 THE COURT: Well, let me say this. A Motion to
- 19 Reopen the Record is unusual. It is subject to the Court's
- 20 discretion to reopen the record. Of the three factors that the
- 21 Courts consider, I think in this case the primary factor I
- 22 consider is judicial economy principally, and that is the fact
- 23 that I do want a complete record before I rule on the matter.
- 24 Clearly, Motions to Reopen the Record can be filed or, you
- 25 know, Motions to Amend Judgements can be filed after the fact,

- 1 even after a decision. I haven't rendered my decision yet.
- 2 think it would be preferable to having any Motions to
- 3 Reconsider or appeals that the record be reopened so that I
- 4 have all the facts.
- 5 However, the other two factors don't really weigh in favor
- 6 of the Debtors' motion. The Debtor says there is no burden on
- 7 the participants, but I do recognize that the issue was raised
- 8 in the participants' objection, which was filed in June, 90
- 9 days before the evidentiary hearing. I note that in usual
- 10 cases, an evidentiary hearing is heard on 30 days. I don't
- 11 recall the reason why the hearing was postponed, but there was
- 12 certainly more than the usual amount of time for the Debtor to
- 13 take discovery, had it chosen. It did not.
- 14 I also note for the record that the Debtors refused to
- 15 allow the participants to present their evidence by
- 16 declaration, instead requiring that they attend the hearing.
- 17 And it was because of that that I actually had the hearing and
- 18 allowed the participants to present their evidence, even though
- 19 the hearing ran beyond normal business hours. Clearly, if the
- 20 Debtors had allowed the participants to present their evidence
- 21 by declaration, this would have all been fleshed out and the
- 22 Debtors would have been prepared to present the evidence they
- 23 now seek to present. The Debtor says there's no prejudice,
- 24 undue prejudice, to the parties, but clearly there is. We're
- 25 going to have to have a new hearing on this to allow the

- 1 additional evidence and the opportunity for the participants to
- 2 cross examine.
- 3 So because it's within my discretion, I will grant the
- 4 motion, but I will require the Debtors to pay for the attorneys
- 5 fees for the participants for the additional hearing and the
- 6 cost of bringing the participants back here if they so choose,
- 7 because I do think they have a right to be present and to
- 8 present rebuttal evidence themselves, to the extent they wish
- 9 to at that time. So I'll ask for a formal order to that effect
- 10 from somebody.
- MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, we'll put one together and
- 12 circulate it to counsel.
- 13 THE COURT: All right. And then I understand the
- 14 parties will talk about, or did we already pick a date, or
- 15 you'll discuss a date for the additional hearing?
- MR. ROSEN: I think we left it open pending the
- 17 ruling that was rendered today.
- 18 THE COURT: All right.
- MS. RODDEN: Well, but if we could schedule it, Your
- 20 Honor, I believe the week of December 7th was good for all
- 21 parties. I don't know if that works for the participants
- 22 themselves, but the Debtors' clients are available -- or the
- 23 Debtors' witnesses are available that week.
- 24 THE COURT: I do remember there had been a question
- 25 about that. I will just tell you that the hearing that I had -

- 1 the trial I had scheduled that week has been -- or at least
- 2 part of it has been cancelled. The 7th is available and part
- 3 of the 8th is available. Probably the 8th in the afternoon.
- 4 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, if we could just let counsel
- 5 talk to the participants to see if, one, if they want to come,
- 6 and two, what days work for them, then we could get back to the
- 7 Court?
- 8 THE COURT: Oh. All right, and Ms. Capp tells me
- 9 she's already suggested to somebody else that the 7th and 8th
- 10 may be available, so whoever gets back to us first.
- 11 (Laughter)
- MS. BAKKER: Okay, I will speak with the participants
- 13 immediately.
- 14 THE COURT: All right.
- MS. BAKKER: Thank you --
- MS. RODDEN: Thank you, Your Honor.
- MS. BAKKER: -- so much, Your Honor.
- 18 MR. ROSEN: Thank you.
- 19 THE COURT: All right, we'll stand adjourned then.
- 20 We're done this -- I think that was it?
- MR. ROSEN: Yes, thank you.
- 22 (Court adjourned)

23

24

25

1	CERTIFICATION					
3	I certify that the foregoing is a electronic sound recording of the entitled matter.					
_	Lewis Parham	11/30/09				
8	Signature of Transcriber	Date				

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT District of Delaware

In Re:

Washington Mutual, Inc. 1301 Second Avenue Seattle, WA 98101

EIN: 91–1653725

Chapter: 11

Case No.: 08-12229-MFW

NOTICE OF FILING OF TRANSCRIPT AND OF DEADLINES RELATED TO RESTRICTION AND REDACTION

A transcript of the proceeding held on 11/24/2009 was filed on 12/3/2009. The following deadlines apply:

The parties have 7 days to file with the court a *Notice of Intent to Request Redaction* of this transcript. The deadline for filing a *request for redaction* is 12/24/2009.

If a request for redaction is filed, the redacted transcript is due 1/4/2010.

If no such notice is filed, the transcript may be made available for remote electronic access upon expiration of the restriction period, which is 3/3/2010 unless extended by court order.

To review the transcript for redaction purposes, you may purchase a copy from the transcriber (see docket for Transcriber's information) or you may view the document at the clerk's office public terminal.

Clerk of Cour

Marie D. Buch

Date: 12/3/09

(ntc)

Notice Recipients

District/Off: 0311-1 User: Brandon Date Created: 12/3/2009

Case: 08–12229–MFW Form ID: ntcBK Total: 17

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