

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
DISTRICT OF DELAWARE  
Case No. 08-12229 (MFW)

- - - - -x

In the Matter of:

WASHINGTON MUTUAL, INC., et al.,  
  
Debtors.

- - - - -x

United States Bankruptcy Court  
824 North Market Street  
Wilmington, Delaware

October 18, 2010  
10:01 AM

B E F O R E:  
  
HON. MARY F. WALRATH  
  
U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE  
  
ECR OPERATOR: NICKITA BARKSDALE

1  
2 HEARING re Motion of Debtors for an Order Pursuant to Sections  
3 105, 502, 1125, 1126 and 1128 of the Bankruptcy Code and  
4 Bankruptcy Rules 2002, 3003, 3017, 3018 and 3020 (i)Approving  
5 the Proposed Disclosure Statement and the Form and Manner of  
6 the Notice of the Disclosure Statement Hearing;  
7 (ii)Establishing Solicitation and Voting Procedures;  
8 (iii)Scheduling a Confirmation Hearing; and (iv)Establishing  
9 Notice and Objection Procedures for Confirmation of Debtors'  
10 Joint Plan

11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25 Transcribed by: Lisa Bar-Leib

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

A P P E A R A N C E S :

RICHARDS, LAYTON & FINGER, P.A.

Attorneys for Debtors and Debtors-in-Possession

BY: MARK D. COLLINS, ESQ.

CHUN I. JANG, ESQ.

TRAVIS A. MCROBERTS, ESQ.

WEIL GOTSHAL & MANGES LLP

Attorneys for Debtors and Debtors-in-Possession

BY: BRIAN S. ROSEN, ESQ.

KELLY DIBLASI, ESQ.

RAHUL SHARMA, ESQ.

ERICA COLEMAN, ESQ.

MARVIN MILLS, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

ALEXANDER NG, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

JULIO C. GURDIAN, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

PATRICIA ASTORGA, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

PATRICIA WENCELBLAT, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

AKIN GUMP STRAUSS HAUER & FELD, LLP

Attorneys for the Official Committee of Unsecured  
Creditors

BY: FRED S. HODARA, ESQ.

ROBERT A. JOHNSON, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

BRIAN M. ROTHSCHILD, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

DAVID SIMONDS, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

ROBERT J. BOLLER, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

PEPPER HAMILTON, LLP

Attorneys for Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors

BY: DAVID B. STRATTON, ESQ.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Office of the United States Trustee

BY: JANE LEAMY, ESQ.

ANDREWS KURTH LLP

Attorneys for Broadbill Investments

BY: PAUL N. SILVERSTEIN, ESQ.

JEREMY RECKMEYER, ESQ.

1  
2 ARENT FOX LLP

3 Attorneys for Wilmington Trust Company

4 BY: JORDANA L. RENERT, ESQ.

5 JEFFREY ROTHLEDER, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

6  
7 ASHBY & GEDDES, P.A.

8 Attorneys for the Official Committee of Equity Bondholders

9 BY: GREGORY A. TAYLOR, ESQ.

10  
11 BINGHAM MCCUTCHEN LLP

12 Attorneys for BKK Joint Defense Group

13 BY: MILISSA A. MURRAY, ESQ.

14  
15 BLANK ROME LLP

16 Attorneys for Appaloosa Management, Owl Creek Management,  
17 Centerbridge, Aurelius Capital

18 BY: VICTORIA A. GUILFOYLE, ESQ.

19  
20 BROWN RUDNICK, LLP

21 Attorneys for Trust Preferred Holders

22 BY: JEREMY B. COFFEY, ESQ.

23 DANIEL J. BROWN, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

24 LAURA F. WEISS, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

25 KATHERINE BROMBERG, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

CAMPBELL & LEVINE, LLC

Attorneys for Consortium of Trust Preferred Security  
Holders

BY: BERNARD G. CONAWAY, ESQ.

DLA PIPER

Attorneys for FDIC

BY: THOMAS R. CALIFANO, ESQ.

EDWARDS ANGELL PALMER & DODGE LLP

Attorneys for Law Debenture Trust Company, as Indenture  
Trustee

BY: R. CRAIG MARTIN, ESQ.

FOX ROTHSCHILD, LLP

Attorneys for Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Indenture  
Trustee for the PIERS

BY: L. JASON CORNELL, ESQ.

JEFFREY M. SCHLERF, ESQ.

FRIED FRANK HARRIS SHRIVER & JACOBSON LLP

Attorneys for Appaloosa Management, L.P., Aurelius

Capital Management, LP, Centerbridge Partners, L.P., Owl

Creek Management, L.P.

BY: SHANNON L. NAGLE, ESQ.

GRANT & EISENHOFER P.A.

Attorneys for WMB Noteholders

BY: GEOFFREY C. JARVIS, ESQ.

LANDIS, ROTH & COBB, LLP

Attorneys for JPMorgan Chase

BY: ADAM LANDIS, ESQ.

LOEB & LOEB LLP

Attorneys for Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., as Indenture

Trustee for the PIERS

BY: WALTER H. CURCHACK, ESQ.

VADIM J. RUBENSTEIN, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

LOWENSTEIN SANDLER PC

Attorneys for Various Lead Plaintiffs

BY: MICHAEL S. ETKIN, ESQ.

PACHULSKI STANG ZIEHL & JONES LLP

Attorneys for WMB Bank Bondholders

BY: JEREMY RICHARDS, ESQ.

TIMOTHY P. CAIRNS, ESQ.

ALAN J. KORNFELD, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

DEAN A. ZIEHL, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

PATTERSON BELKNAP WEBB & TYLER LLP

Attorneys for Law Debenture Trust Company of New York

BY: DANIEL A. LOWENTHAL, ESQ.

BRIAN P. GUINEY, ESQ.

PHILLIPS, GOLDMAN & SPENCE, P.A.

Attorneys for BKK Joint Defense Group

BY: MEGAN C. HANEY, ESQ.

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP

Attorneys for Creditor, Bank of New York Mellon

BY: MARGOT P. ERLICH, ESQ.

LEO T. CROWLEY, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

POLSINELLI SHUGHART PC

Attorneys for Wilmington Trust Company

BY: SHANTI M. KATONA, ESQ.

POTTER ANDERSON & CORROON LLP

Attorneys for WMB Noteholders Group

BY: R. STEPHEN MCNEILL, ESQ.

LAURIE SELBER SILVERSTEIN, ESQ.

ROSENTHAL MONHAIT & GODDESS, P.A.

Attorneys for Bank of New York Mellon

BY: P. BRADFORD DELEEUEW, ESQ.

SULLIVAN & CROMWELL, LLP

Attorneys for JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

BY: BRENT J. MCINTOSH, ESQ.

STACEY R. FRIEDMAN, ESQ.

ROBERT A. SACKS, ESQ.

BRIAN D. GLUECKSTEIN, ESQ.

BRUCE E. CLARK, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

HYDEE R. FELDSTEIN, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

JOSHUA J. FRITSCH, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

DAVID POSSICK, ESQ. (TELEPHONICALLY)

SUSMAN GODFREY LLP

Attorneys for the Official Committee of Equity  
Bondholders

BY: JUSTIN A. NELSON, ESQ.

WHITE & CASE LLP

Attorneys for the Committee of Bondholders

BY: THOMAS E. LAURIA, ESQ.

GREGORY STARNER, ESQ.

YOUNG CONAWAY STARGATT & TAYLOR, LLP

Attorneys for FDIC

BY: M. BLAKE CLEARY, ESQ.

BOIES SCHILLER & FLEXNER LLP

Attorneys for Bond Holders Bank

BY: NEAL HANNAN, ESQ.

(TELEPHONICALLY)

BRACEWELL & GIULIANI LLP

Attorneys for the WMB Noteholder Group

BY: MARK E. DENDINGER, ESQ.

(TELEPHONICALLY)

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Attorney General's Office on Behalf of the California

Department of Toxic Substances Control

BY: JAMES R. POTTER, ESQ.

(TELEPHONICALLY)

GREER HERZ & ADAMS LLP

Attorneys for American National Insurance Company

BY: JAMES M. ROQUEMORE, ESQ.

(TELEPHONICALLY)

KELLER ROHRBACK PLC

Attorneys for Interested Party, Bushasky, Amarra & Ware

BY: GARY A. GOTTO, ESQ.

(TELEPHONICALLY)

REED SMITH LLP

Attorneys for Dime Trust Beneficiaries

BY: J. ANDREW RAHL, ESQ.

(TELEPHONICALLY)

SCHULTE ROTH & ZABEL LLP

Attorneys for Schulte Roth & Zabel

BY: KAREN S. PARK, ESQ.

(TELEPHONICALLY)

SEWARD & KISSEL LLP

Attorneys for Wilmington Trust Company, as TRUPS Trustee

BY: ARLENE R. ALVES, ESQ.

(TELEPHONICALLY)

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

P R O C E E D I N G S

THE CLERK: All rise. You may be seated.

THE COURT: Good morning.

MR. ROSEN: Good morning, Your Honor. Brian Rosen, Weil Gotshal & Manges, on behalf of the debtors. With me today are several associates, Ms. DiBlasi, Ms. Coleman and Mr. Sharma, who have helped us on this matter, as well as Mr. Collins and Mr. Jang from Richards Layton & Finger.

THE COURT: Okay.

MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, we're here today for the disclosure statement hearing with respect to the sixth amended disclosure statement. As we set forth in our second supplemental response that we filed with the Court, Your Honor, this process has been going on since we initially filed the plan in March and we've had several fits and starts as we've allowed for modifications to the plan, the execution of what's referred to as the global settlement agreement and then, ultimately, Your Honor, with respect to the appointment of the examiner and the investigation that the examiner is doing with respect to the global settlement agreement, the claims and causes of action being compromised and the assets being transferred there, as well as with respect to the retained assets that are otherwise being distributed pursuant to the plan.

Additionally, Your Honor, we had adjourned one

1 additional time so that we could allow for the negotiations  
2 that we were having with the bank bondholders. And by that,  
3 specifically, Your Honor, the WMB senior noteholders that were  
4 formally represented by Mr. Anker and are now represented by  
5 Mr. Jeremy Richards and Mr. Dean Ziehl from the Pachulski Stang  
6 law firm.

7 And as a result of those negotiations, Your Honor, we  
8 filed the sixth amended plan and the sixth amended disclosure  
9 statement on October 6th. And we -- in accordance with a  
10 notice, Your Honor, we had asked for objections to that  
11 disclosure statement to be received by Wednesday, October 13th.  
12 We did receive a few additional objections, Your Honor, and we,  
13 of course, did receive some as late as Friday night. But we  
14 have included our responses to each of those objections,  
15 including those that were filed Friday evening, in the  
16 supplemental response that we provided to the Court.

17 Your Honor, I'd like to tackle head on the issue  
18 which, I think, is probably foremost in the minds of some of  
19 the people in the room and perhaps the Court as well, which is  
20 the timing. Should we go forward with the disclosure statement  
21 today or should we await the approval -- or, excuse me, the  
22 release of the examiner's report on November 1st. And we  
23 addressed this, Your Honor, on page 7 of the second  
24 supplemental response. Specifically, Your Honor, as we have  
25 indicated throughout this process, there was an approximate

1 thirty million dollar per month drain on these debtors'  
2 estates. And that's a combination of post-petition interest  
3 with respect to the senior debt as well as fees and expenses  
4 that are incurred. And at the time that we decided and that  
5 was consensual for the appointment of the examiner, it was  
6 talked about and agreed upon that we would move forward on a  
7 dual track. Specifically, the examiner would do whatever the  
8 examiner was doing and we would continue in the plan  
9 confirmation process. And as far as we are concerned, that  
10 includes, Your Honor, moving forward today with respect to  
11 seeking approval of the disclosure statement. We don't think  
12 that process should be pushed aside. We should continue on  
13 that dual track approach. And as we say in the second  
14 supplemental response, Your Honor, there are two reasons for  
15 that: (1) the thirty million dollars versus the 1.2 million  
16 dollars. And in our second supplemental response, we gross  
17 that up, Your Honor, to two million dollars just for the sake  
18 of additional cost that may exist. And Exhibit A to the second  
19 supplemental response details, Your Honor, the costs and  
20 expenses that have been projected by KCC, the court-appointed  
21 claims and noticing agent, with respect to solicitation of the  
22 plan and publication of notices. And, Your Honor, we have a  
23 blowup over there for you as well which is the same as what's  
24 contained in Exhibit A.

25 So, Your Honor, we juxtapose 1.2 million dollars of

1 costs versus thirty million dollars of additional loss to the  
2 debtors' estates and a further, if you will, sinking of value  
3 for the lowest rung on the ladder of creditors that are funded  
4 indebtedness which are the PIERS, Your Honor, before you even  
5 get to the people who are beneath that which, as we refer to in  
6 the plan are the 510 subordinated claims, the preferred stock  
7 and then the common stock.

8 So, Your Honor, we'd say should one pay 1.2 million  
9 dollars. Should that group of creditors be willing to give  
10 that up? And, Your Honor, we can represent to the Court that  
11 that group of creditors consents to paying the 1.2 million  
12 dollars because it directly comes out of a distribution that  
13 they otherwise would receive.

14 Secondly, Your Honor, we point out in the response  
15 that we have a suggested gap period. And by that I mean, Your  
16 Honor, we are suggesting pursuant to the procedures that the  
17 voting deadline for solicitation of acceptances and rejections  
18 to the plan be November 15th, two weeks subsequent of the  
19 issuance of the examiner's report. As we have always  
20 maintained, Your Honor, we are going to provide the examiner's  
21 report online for all parties to review.

22 Your Honor, as you know, the examiner has suggested a  
23 bifurcated approach with respect to the distribution of that, a  
24 first one with respect to confidential information and then  
25 hopefully, subsequently, a totally unredacted version by

1 November 1st. We would suggest, Your Honor, that whatever form  
2 the Court allows for distribution that that would be posted  
3 online. Every person who receives the solicitation materials,  
4 Your Honor, will have an opportunity to review that report. As  
5 we say in our second supplemental response, Your Honor, parties  
6 then have a choice. To the extent that they have already voted  
7 and they read the report and they decide to change their  
8 ballot, they certainly can submit a revised ballot. And as the  
9 Court is well aware and the voting procedures provide, the  
10 second ballot is the ballot that counts. To the extent that  
11 people want to wait and read the report in the first instance,  
12 they certainly won't be harmed because there's two weeks to  
13 read the report and submit a ballot subsequent to that. So,  
14 Your Honor, we believe that there is no prejudice to the  
15 parties to have the opportunity to read it and the parties who  
16 will incur associated with the solicitation and the publication  
17 are consenting to it. And the estate will be saved, Your  
18 Honor, approximately 28.8 million dollars.

19 So, Your Honor, we think that there is no reason not  
20 to move forward today with the disclosure statement hearing.  
21 We think everything points in favor of doing so.

22 Your Honor --

23 THE COURT: Will I hear from others on that point?

24 MR. ROSEN: Sure, Your Honor.

25 MR. HODARA: Good morning, Your Honor. Fred Hodara of

1 Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld for the official committee of  
2 unsecured creditors. Your Honor, it's very important in the  
3 view of the creditors' committee in a dynamic situation like  
4 the Washington Mutual bankruptcy case to strike while the iron  
5 is hot. And we believe that now is that time. The global  
6 settlement agreement has finally been expanded to include the  
7 Washington Mutual Bank bondholders. And so we believe that  
8 when you have a dynamic situation like this, it's important to  
9 move forward.

10 We think that there are two reasons why it's critical  
11 to move forward at this time. One is economic and objective.  
12 The other has to do with the dynamic itself. The economic  
13 issue has been identified in Exhibit A to the supplemental  
14 response which is the statement from KCC that makes clear that  
15 we are seeing a cost of twenty-three million dollars a month.  
16 This is what's stated in the response itself -- to the PIERS  
17 holders plus the cost of the case itself to all creditors  
18 versus a cost of 1.2 million to do the solicitation and  
19 balloting. So a clear juxtaposition of expense to specific  
20 creditors and then to the entire estate versus a very  
21 identifiable and albeit significant amount, 1.2 million  
22 dollars, but insignificant compared to the monthly hit to those  
23 creditor parties. So we think that reason, in and of itself,  
24 is a sound basis to move forward at this time.

25 The second reason pertaining to the dynamic is that

1 we've seen so many times in cases like this, and we've seen it  
2 in this case itself, that when you allow time to slip, things  
3 can change. And when things change, that delicate balance that  
4 we have that has resulted in a global settlement agreement  
5 involving so many of the significant parties in this case and  
6 all of the senior parties in this case can change. And those  
7 changes can come from any number of sources whether they be  
8 regulatory, congressional, specific to the parties themselves.  
9 And so we think that that dynamic combined with the  
10 identifiable economic benefit of moving forward at this time  
11 relative to the theoretical potential that the solicitation and  
12 balloting itself may have to be modified or even changed weighs  
13 so heavily in favor of moving forward with approval of this  
14 disclosure statement at this time that that is exactly what the  
15 Court should do for the benefit of this estate.

16 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

17 MR. HODARA: Thank you, Your Honor.

18 MR. NELSON: Good morning, Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: Good morning.

20 MR. NELSON: May it please the Court, Justin Nelson on  
21 behalf of the equity committee. We are opposed to the  
22 disclosure statement going forward today due primarily to the  
23 fact that the examiner's report is coming out literally in a  
24 week, at least in the confidential version. The public version  
25 will be coming out on November 1st. Part of Mr. Rosen's most

1 recent objection was presumably on behalf of at least part of  
2 our constituency who are the preferred shareholders saying that  
3 this potentially might impact them. Well, on behalf of that  
4 class, specifically, we believe that it is more than prudent to  
5 wait until the actual examiner's report comes out so that can  
6 be incorporated. There is no doubt that the disclosure state -  
7 - under Mr. Rosen's plan, that the disclosure statement will  
8 come out before the examiner's report and that the disclosure  
9 statement will not include the examiner's report's findings.  
10 It is not sufficient just to put it online. We feel that there  
11 is a significant likelihood that the disclosure statement will  
12 have to be amended to reflect what's in the examiner's report  
13 and we should wait to hear what the examiner has to say.

14 One other point on the timing issue is that Mr. Hodara  
15 just mentioned the regulatory and congressional findings that  
16 might come out. There is a report of the Financial Crisis  
17 Inquiry Commission that is due to the American public on  
18 December 15th, 2010. And that very well could add other facts  
19 that are important to confirmation. So to try to rush the  
20 disclosure statement, to try to beat the Financial Crisis  
21 Inquiry Commission's report seems shortsighted. Thank you,  
22 Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Thank you.

24 MR. SILVERSTEIN: Good morning, Your Honor. Paul  
25 Silverstein, Andrews & Kurth, for Broadbill Investments on

1     behalf of the Dime warrant holders. We filed last week a  
2     supplemental objection to the debtors' proposed disclosure  
3     statement at docket number 5600. But with respect to timing,  
4     we believe -- well, first, the objection dealt with a few  
5     substantive matters as to the content with the disclosure  
6     statement which I assume we'll get to later in this hearing if  
7     we go forward. But we believe that the disclosure statement  
8     hearing should await the filing of the examiner's report which  
9     is due in ten days. The debtors' focus that the examiner's  
10    report won't affect voting is really irrelevant. Whether it  
11    will or will not doesn't matter. It's the integrity of these  
12    cases that should mandate that we wait the ten days to see what  
13    the examiner says because it has an effect on the case. And it  
14    seems to us that nothing has changed since Your Honor appointed  
15    the examiner and since the disclosure statement has basically  
16    been taken off track while we wait for the examiner's findings.  
17    And it is totally illogical to us that we would proceed before  
18    we wait ten days for the examiner's report to be disseminated  
19    and reviewed by the parties. I understand why the debtor and  
20    the other parties who support the plan want to go forward  
21    because the natural thing to do is to continue to keep the  
22    train going. There's no surprise about that. But to suggest  
23    that we do not wait ten days to see the examiner's report, to  
24    us, is really an absurd approach. Thank you.

25           MS. LEAMY: Good morning, Your Honor. Jane Leamy for

1 the United States trustee. The United States trustee is also  
2 opposed to the disclosure statement going out before the  
3 examiner's report is filed. Your Honor, the case has been  
4 pending for two years. The disclosure statement is one of the  
5 most important things in the case and certainly should wait two  
6 weeks so the examiner's report can be filed, parties have an  
7 opportunity to review it before they get their ballots and,  
8 really, so they have everything and can make an informed  
9 decision before voting on the plan. And that's our position on  
10 the disclosure statement today. Thank you, Your Honor.

11 MR. POTTER (TELEPHONICALLY): Good morning, Your  
12 Honor. If I may, this is Jim Potter with the California  
13 Department of Justice on behalf of the California Department of  
14 Toxic Substances Control. We also have recommended that the  
15 hearing on the disclosure statement be delayed -- the ruling on  
16 the disclosure statement be delayed until after the examiner  
17 report comes out. And I'd like to respond very quickly to the  
18 two points debtors and the creditors' committee made today.

19 First, the comment about the cost savings look to only  
20 to the cost of the estate. Obviously, an important concern,  
21 but all the creditors who have to respond if the plan approval  
22 process goes forward and then get stopped and redone, that will  
23 lead to tremendous cost on all the creditors and all the other  
24 people and that gets left out of the comparison of thirty  
25 million dollars a month against allegedly just two million

1       dollars to run the voting.

2               Secondly, having the disclosure statement approval go  
3 forward and the plan confirmation process go forward while  
4 waiting for the examiner's report inevitably creates a  
5 presumption against revising the plan and/or the disclosure  
6 statement. And I think that that presumption is not really  
7 appropriate when the Court has made the choice to have the  
8 examiner come in. And I would say the presumption goes to all  
9 parties concerned. And one would want to hear from the debtors  
10 that if the examiner's report articulates issues that the  
11 debtors had not really focused on or point of view that the  
12 debtors had not focused on then the debtors will be willing to  
13 revisit any affected provisions of the plan or the disclosure  
14 statement.

15              But it's against human nature with things -- as Mr.  
16 Hodara said, with things rolling down the road. You want to  
17 keep them going. And our concern is that whatever the examiner  
18 comes out and says, if the plan confirmation process is going  
19 forward, it'll be very hard for the debtors and their  
20 representatives to make the changes that they might otherwise  
21 agree are necessary. Thank you.

22              MR. CURCHACK: Good morning, Your Honor. Walter  
23 Curchack of Loeb & Loeb on behalf of Wells Fargo Banks, the  
24 indenture trustee for the PIERS. You've heard Mr. Nelson and  
25 Mr. Silverstein speak this morning on behalf of creditor

1       constituencies below ours in this case and be very willing to  
2       spend our money to continue this case for yet another ten days,  
3       two weeks, a month, who knows how long. I rise simply to say  
4       that we believe the case should proceed on the dual track as  
5       Your Honor had originally planned it. There's no reason to  
6       delay it at this point. If the examiner's report yields  
7       something that causes people to change their votes then perhaps  
8       the plan will be voted down if the examiner's report reveals  
9       something that requires a change then resolicitation may be  
10      necessary. We've already heard that the cost of that  
11      resolicitation wouldn't exceed the cost of the initial  
12      solicitation so we're balancing a possible million two against  
13      a sure many times that in terms of the lost interest and the  
14      additional expenses

15               We've also heard that the Financial Crisis Inquiry  
16      report is coming out on December 15th. Your Honor, if you take  
17      that logic, there's going to be a new Congress in January. You  
18      know, they could change the law. I mean, at some point, you've  
19      got a deal. You got to proceed with it. And we think that  
20      moment is now. Thank you.

21               THE COURT: Thank you.

22               MR. CALIFANO: Good morning, Your Honor. Tom  
23      Califano, DLA Piper, on behalf of the Federal Deposit Insurance  
24      Corp. Your Honor, I think we're losing sight of how much work  
25      has gone into this settlement. This is months and months of

1 work. And it is a somewhat fragile coalition. And the  
2 settlement agreement in its latest permutation just received  
3 approval from the FDIC's board of governors and has -- there  
4 are no more conditions to our agreement. But I've been  
5 involved in this process since the spring and what the Court  
6 doesn't see is that many issues arise which threaten this  
7 agreement and which threaten the only hope we've had at a  
8 resolution in this case for over two years. No one who's  
9 objected to the dual track has said in any way that what the  
10 examiner is about to report on would impact their vote. That's  
11 the only question in connection with the disclosure statement.  
12 If there's some fact out there that might bear on confirmation  
13 but wouldn't bear on the vote, that's not really relevant, Your  
14 Honor. We're here to make sure the creditors have the  
15 information they need to vote on this plan. Waiting for the  
16 examiner's report or some other governmental report or  
17 something that might come out a month from now doesn't bear on  
18 the voting. And I think there is no reason to delay this  
19 process further. We'll go down on the dual track. I think the  
20 debtor has a very reasonable proposal to make the report public  
21 and allow people to vote. But I think we can't lose sight of  
22 the fact that after two plus years of fighting in this case  
23 there was a prospect of a resolution. And it's a prospect  
24 which I think is in danger the longer the case is prolonged.  
25 Thank you.

1 MS. NAGLE: Good morning, Your Honor. Shannon Lowry  
2 Nagle from Fried Frank on behalf of the settlement noteholders.  
3 Mr. Rosen referred to our clients as the lowest strung in the  
4 food chain basically. And we are them. We own approximately  
5 seventy percent of the PIERS. The delays that everyone has  
6 discussed and is aware of in this case directly affect our  
7 clients. The costs of the consent -- or the solicitation for  
8 the plan comes out of our clients' recoveries. The sixty  
9 million dollars that we offered to settle with the bank  
10 bondholders came out of our clients' recoveries. The delays,  
11 the costs, it's all coming out of the PIERS, the lowest rung.  
12 And we, on behalf of the settlement noteholders, do support  
13 going forward, continuing the dual track that everyone  
14 envisioned when the examiner was appointed. I believe everyone  
15 knows that the report is coming. They know what date it's  
16 coming. They've known about the dual track. These are  
17 sophisticated parties. There are lawyers in the room that  
18 represent these parties and everyone knows the report is coming  
19 and can react to the content in the required time to decide  
20 whether to vote, to decided whether an amendment is necessary,  
21 to ask questions. I believe that debtors' counsel has been  
22 extremely open and responsive throughout this case to people  
23 with questions. And as Mr. Hodara alluded to and Mr. Califano  
24 on behalf of the FDIC, the balance that is the settlement  
25 agreement, the foundation of the plan, is at risk the longer we

1 delay. And on behalf of the people that represent a  
2 significant portion of the creditor recoveries in this case, we  
3 cannot express or request that this case move forward enough.  
4 And I feel like I hammer people on a daily basis in this case,  
5 we've got to move forward, there can be no delays. I'm sure  
6 people on both sides of the table are mad at me and hate my  
7 phone calls but we've got to move forward. Our creditors are  
8 losing money with every day and every hearing. And enough is  
9 enough. Thank you.

10 MR. LAURIA: Good morning, Your Honor. Tom Lauria  
11 with White & Case. We represent the senior notes. Your Honor,  
12 I think we're at a point in this case where Chapter 11 cases  
13 generally start to pull out of the station. As I understand  
14 it, every major voting constituency that is or is reasonably  
15 likely to be in the money now supports the plan. The lone  
16 objector at this point who can vote or who represents a group  
17 that can vote is the equity committee who, not coincidentally,  
18 still harbors hopes of dealing with this process by changing  
19 the board of directors and derailing the settlements that have  
20 come together that form this plan of reorganization. Going  
21 forward does not interfere with the examiner's work at this  
22 point which is, we assume, largely complete. It's a totally  
23 separate exercise that will preserve -- and I'm going to use a  
24 word here that people have coined but I guess really isn't a  
25 word yet -- optionality for the Court and the parties. The

1 debtors' proposed timeline works in that regard. Approval  
2 today permits the review of the examiner's report. It permits  
3 changing course as that info comes in and is digested if  
4 necessary. And it preserved the ability to make a decision  
5 later at very low cost to the estate.

6 On the other hand, denial of the approval of the  
7 disclosure statement today is a decision that eliminates the  
8 possibility of proceeding immediately on the shortest path  
9 possible to confirmation of a plan that all of the voting  
10 constituencies that are in the money support.

11 There's another point that I wanted to raise for the  
12 Court's consideration. I'm sure that the Court is familiar  
13 with the events that have unfolded in the Tribune case. And it  
14 could be argued that this is the same situation. To steal a  
15 phrase, Your Honor, I know Tribune and this is not Tribune. In  
16 the Tribune case, the plan that was on the table at the time  
17 reflected a deal between a few of the constituencies in the  
18 case. But most of the voting parties had expressed opposition  
19 to the plan when the examiner's report was being prepared.  
20 That report, it was hoped, would either bring the parties  
21 together around a plan or split them apart and sound the death  
22 bell of the plan. The report was extensive and written away  
23 that I guess people have characterized it as a Rorschach  
24 inkblot test where everybody who looked at it could see what  
25 they were looking for in the report. And so, as a consequence,

1 the report had the ultimate effect of calcifying opposition and  
2 support as it then existed for the plan rather than bringing  
3 the parties together. Here, everyone has already decided. The  
4 report is not going to change how equity votes. The report is  
5 not going to change how any of the other classes of creditors  
6 vote. You know how the opposition and support winds up. And  
7 that is not going to be changed by the examiner's report.  
8 Unlike Tribune, which was assessing avoidance litigation, here,  
9 the examiner is looking at claims that would have to produce a  
10 material affirmative recovery to the estate. I submit, Your  
11 Honor, that it will be very difficult to conclude that the  
12 prospects of success in that litigation are sufficient to blow  
13 up the mosaic of settlements that comprise this plan. In that  
14 regard, unlike Tribune, the examiner's report here is only a  
15 data point for the Court to consider at the end of the day.  
16 It's not going to change anyone's mind and it's not the answer.  
17 The answer ultimately can only be provided by this Court on the  
18 basis of a record. And it's time to put everybody to their  
19 proof and let's get to the record and see if we have a  
20 confirmable plan. So we would ask that the process move  
21 forward as swiftly as possible. Thank you, Your Honor.

22 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, I think that -- actually, as  
23 Mr. Lauria has laid it out, you see the two sides of the coin  
24 or both sides of the table at this point. You have the people  
25 with an economic interest in this case and the people who are

1 outside that economic sphere. And those who are going to be  
2 receiving recoveries who have the opportunity to receive  
3 recoveries are looking forward to moving as quickly as  
4 possible.

5 As we indicated in our supplemental response, the  
6 parties who are not are the ones who are seeking to delay for  
7 the purpose of trying to get some value thrown their way from  
8 the other parties. And as Ms. Nagle has already indicated, her  
9 group, the lowest rung on the food chain, they have already  
10 given. She indicated they've given sixty million dollars to  
11 help facilitate the bank bondholder settlement that is now  
12 incorporated in the plan and they are funding the solicitation  
13 and publication as well as bearing the risk for ongoing delay.

14 Your Honor, we think that based upon everything that  
15 you've heard today, there is no reason not to move forward with  
16 approval of the disclosure statement. We ask that the Court  
17 allow us to continue with this hearing and deal with whatever  
18 might be the remaining objections. Thank you.

19 THE COURT: One more party?

20 MS. MURRAY: Sorry, Your Honor. I thought that the  
21 previous statements were going to be limited to the issue of  
22 the examiner report. BKK Group, that's a creditor in this --  
23 an environmental creditor in this case, has other objections to  
24 the disclosure statement. I can --

25 THE COURT: Well, we're not -- we're only deciding

1 MS. MURRAY: Okay.

2 THE COURT: -- whether or not I go ahead today. You  
3 have a position on whether I go ahead or postpone?

4 MS. MURRAY: Oh, definitely do because we have  
5 objections to the disclosure statement still that relate to  
6 ambiguities in the disclosure statement that directly affect  
7 how the BKK Group votes.

8 THE COURT: Do you want me to hear them today or --

9 MS. MURRAY: Yes --

10 THE COURT: -- postpone.

11 MS. MURRAY: Yes, I do, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Okay. Well, but we're not getting into  
13 that. I'm first deciding whether I'm going ahead today at all.

14 MS. MURRAY: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: All right. Well, let me issue my ruling.  
16 I have to say that initially my inclination would be to wait  
17 and see what the examiner says. But given the timing that the  
18 debtor is suggesting, I think that proceeding now does permit  
19 all parties to review the examiner's report before voting. And  
20 I will say this, however, that I would not be inclined to allow  
21 any party to "respond" to the examiner's report as part of the  
22 solicitation process. If the debtor wants to go ahead now,  
23 it's going ahead with this disclosure statement and that's all  
24 that's going to go out to voters.

25 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, that's absolutely fine with

1 the debtors.

2 THE COURT: Okay, with the suggestion that the debtor  
3 has that all parties will be informed that the examiner report  
4 is available on the debtors' website for review as a  
5 "supplement" to the disclosure statement, if you will -- or  
6 disclosure if it is being given to them.

7 MR. ROSEN: Absolutely, Your Honor. I think, as Mr.  
8 Lauria just indicated, it is merely a data point and it's a  
9 point that people will take into account when we come forward  
10 to the confirmation hearing and deal with the issues as part of  
11 the compromise in settlement.

12 THE COURT: Obviously, I'm not making any judgment as  
13 to what happens at the confirmation hearing and whether or not  
14 the issues of the examiner's report changes my mind as to  
15 timing of proceeding. But from the perspective of disclosure,  
16 I think given the timing and the fact that the examiner's  
17 report will be out shortly, if I go ahead with the disclosure  
18 statement today, I see that it will be much less time spent on  
19 this case than if I postponed it and had parties revising the  
20 disclosure statement or insisting on additional disclosure  
21 based on the examiner's report. Let's just get the examiner's  
22 report, have it stand as written by the examiner and allow all  
23 parties to make their decision on the plan based on that.

24 So I will proceed with the disclosure statement today.

25 MR. ROSEN: Thank you, Your Honor.

1 (Pause)

2 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, as you're well aware, we have  
3 filed that second supplemental response. And Exhibit B to that  
4 response is a chart, quite a voluminous chart, because what  
5 we've tried to do, Your Honor, is to keep track of what the  
6 ongoing objections have been because to the extent that an  
7 objecting party did not state or reiterate what they were  
8 saying, we wanted it there for the Court's benefit.

9 Your Honor, but if you were to look at the table of  
10 contents attached as that, you'll see the objections related to  
11 the senior notes. And that is, I believe, Mr. Lauria's  
12 group -- well, excuse me, the indenture trustee's among others.  
13 And those -- Your Honor, those issues have been resolved in  
14 their entirety based upon prior responses to the disclosure  
15 statement and modifications to the plan.

16 Page 10, Your Honor, we get to what I'll refer to as  
17 the senior subordinated notes trustee reservation of rights.  
18 And that was merely just that, and it is not really an  
19 objection.

20 Page 11 was the PIERS trustee objection, Your Honor,  
21 and that has been resolved as well.

22 Page 13, Your Honor, the CCB guaranty trustee  
23 objection -- it is the debtors' view and I believe -- I don't  
24 know if anyone is in the courtroom today but that objection has  
25 been resolved as well and there are no more with respect to

1       that.

2               Page 15, Your Honor, the bank bondholder objections,  
3       and this is bifurcated into two. Specifically, you have the  
4       objections that were interposed initially by the WMB senior  
5       noteholders, as I said, Your Honor, then represented by Mr.  
6       Anker and Wilmer Hale and now represented by Mr. Ziehl and Mr.  
7       Richards. And those objections have been resolved, Your Honor.  
8       And, of course, by their execution of the plan support  
9       agreement, they are endorsing approval of the disclosure  
10      statement and confirmation of the plan. And as we'll get to in  
11      a moment, Your Honor, hopefully at the end, the bank -- the  
12      senior bank bondholders have provided us with a letter for  
13      distribution to parties evidencing that support and encouraging  
14      them to vote in favor of the plan.

15             The second batch within that bank bondholder tranche  
16      are those objections that were interposed by the WMB  
17      subordinated noteholders which are represented by Mr. Flaschen  
18      and Bracewell Giuliani. And I believe Ms. Silverstein might be  
19      here in the courtroom today. She has indicated an ongoing view  
20      with respect to the disclosure statement.

21             Your Honor, we believe that the disclosure statement  
22      more than fully describes what their objections are and the  
23      resolution of those. And I think there might have been also a  
24      misunderstanding on their part as to what the plan currently  
25      provides. Specifically, Your Honor, based upon the agreement

1 that we have now reached with the senior noteholders or the  
2 bank bondholders, there's a bifurcation of Class 17 into a 17A  
3 and 17B, 17A being the senior, 17B being the subordinated; and  
4 17A being those that are going to vote on the plan and receive  
5 their pro rata share of 335 million dollars. And that would  
6 also be made available not just to those who filed proofs of  
7 claim but all those WMB senior noteholders whether or not  
8 they've filed a proof of claim if they decide to opt in to that  
9 treatment.

10 The subordinated debt is in 17B, Your Honor. There is  
11 no recovery for those pursuant to the plan. To the extent that  
12 anyone within that group also has a misrepresentation claim  
13 that has been asserted previously, Your Honor, that balance of  
14 the claim remains and that is in the five-tenths subordinated  
15 class. They will not be -- they are voting on the plan but we,  
16 of course, expect them to reject it.

17 So we do believe, Your Honor, that there is more than  
18 adequate description in the disclosure statement with respect  
19 to that. To the extent that they have any ongoing issues with  
20 respect to releases, Your Honor, we submit that those are not  
21 issues that are before the Court today. And we will address  
22 those issues to the extent that they remain at the confirmation  
23 hearing.

24 The next group, Your Honor, are what we refer to as  
25 the litigation plaintiff objections. And those are the ANICO

1 (ph.) plaintiffs, if you recall the Texas litigation, Your  
2 Honor. And those objections, we believe that we've dealt with  
3 although we do know and recognize that they will have their  
4 ongoing views with respect to their litigation against JPMorgan  
5 in a different tribunal, Your Honor. Of course, I will note,  
6 and I think the Court is aware, that that litigation has been  
7 dismissed although it is -- their efforts to renew that  
8 litigation are currently on appeal.

9 The next group, Your Honor, are various lead  
10 plaintiffs that Mr. Etkin represents in connection with some  
11 class action litigation pending in Seattle. Again, Your Honor,  
12 we believe that these claims -- excuse me -- the descriptions  
13 have been taken care of, although I do note that Mr. Etkin has  
14 expressed some ongoing objections with respect to the releases  
15 pursuant to the plan. And I think he may have some concerns  
16 with respect to voting procedures as well that he would like to  
17 talk to the Court about.

18 And that would encompass, Your Honor, then the  
19 Metzler, the -- what we refer to as the Police Annuity, which  
20 is the MARTA, the Ontario Teachers' objections that have been  
21 interposed.

22 The next group in the chart, Your Honor, starting on  
23 page 42, are the BKK-related ones. To me, these are the  
24 interesting ones because, not that they have much merit, Your  
25 Honor, but because I think they misunderstand the plan and thus

1     their comments about the disclosure statement are a bit off  
2     base.

3             We have two groups, Your Honor: Ms. Murray, who just  
4     stood up to talk and Mr. Potter on the phone representing both  
5     the BKK group as well as the California Department of Toxic  
6     Substances Control. I say I think that they're off base, Your  
7     Honor, because I think they're misreading the global settlement  
8     agreement, what it means and what's being done. As far as the  
9     debtors are concerned, Your Honor, they have or -- have no  
10    claim against the estate. It's as simple as that. The fact  
11    that the global settlement agreement is going to provide that  
12    JPMorgan is going to foot some of our bill pursuant to that  
13    claim is a good thing for the estate. It does nothing,  
14    however, to impact their claims against the estate. They are  
15    what they are. And it really is as simple as that.

16            Both, however, have tried to turn this into something  
17    else. The California people think that there's more to discuss  
18    about the WMB receivership and what JPMorgan assumed in that  
19    context. Your Honor, this is not the receivership. This is  
20    not that context. All we know is that they assert a claim  
21    against the estate. And that's as simple as it is. They say  
22    that they're confused about the assumption of what JPM is  
23    assuming. Again, Your Honor, JPM is paying the fees -- excuse  
24    me -- the claim to the extent it's allowed and to the extent  
25    that it fits within a little, little box. To the extent that

1     it's outside that box, they will have their remaining claim  
2     paid by the estate. There's nothing more to disclose. But Mr.  
3     Potter and Ms. Murray, I assume, will still want to address the  
4     Court. To the extent that they want something more, Your  
5     Honor, that fits within that description, we're happy to  
6     include it. But we don't see it, Your Honor. We don't think  
7     that there's anything more to incorporate.

8             Your Honor, we have -- the equity committee has filed  
9     its objections. We believe that we have more than adequately  
10    responded to each of those points. And I don't think that  
11    there's anything to say beyond that.

12            The trust preferred security holders represented by  
13    Mr. Coffey and the Brown Rudnick firm, previously they had  
14    represented that they had no further objections to the  
15    disclosure statement. Mr. Coffey informed me today that he  
16    wanted to modify his letter that we had agreed that we would  
17    send along with the disclosure statement, Your Honor. As we  
18    indicated when the first time we suggested letters being sent  
19    out by constituents, if he wants to modify his letter, that is  
20    fine with the debtors. We're happy that anything he wants to  
21    say go out to his people so that they can decide whether or not  
22    they want to vote in favor or to reject the plan. He also had  
23    a concern expressed to me earlier today about the letter being  
24    in a hard copy going along with the ballot, and the answer is  
25    it will, Your Honor. It will not be as part of the CD rom

1 which will include the plan and the disclosure statement.

2           Next, Your Honor, we have the Dime warrant holders.  
3 And Mr. Silverstein is here representing, I believe, the  
4 Broadbill and the Nantahala Groups. Your Honor, again, we  
5 believe that this is something that has been very, very  
6 adequately completely disclosed. There was a question that Mr.  
7 Silverstein's clients had raised in their latest response about  
8 the reserve that we had included in the disclosure statement in  
9 the event that they would be determined not to be equity  
10 interest but instead be general unsecured creditors. And  
11 initially, Your Honor, we had included in there -- in the  
12 disclosure statement a 194 million dollar amount. Your Honor,  
13 we have been able to further refine that amount. And as we  
14 reflect in the chart that was filed last night, the amount  
15 would be now 183.9 million. And we include in the disclosure  
16 statement, Your Honor, the calculation as to how that was  
17 achieved. And we continue, Your Honor, to receive input from  
18 the parties who were involved in connection with the Dime  
19 warrants in the Anchor litigation. And as they provide us with  
20 more data, Your Honor, it blends into that calculation.  
21 Specifically, Your Honor, and I don't want to overwhelm the  
22 Court with all of those details, but the value that ultimately  
23 could be received out of a judgment on the Anchor litigation  
24 gets reduced by multiples of things. Specifically, Your Honor,  
25 any of the fees and expenses incurred in connection with the

1 issuance, the creation, of the Dime warrants themselves, any  
2 SEC filings, things like that. Also, any cost incurred in  
3 connection with the Anchor litigation which, as we found out  
4 last evening at 7 p.m. or thereabouts, we now know that one law  
5 firm has incurred, without expert fees, in excess of twenty  
6 million dollars. You then take from that, Your Honor, all the  
7 taxes associated with the issuance of the warrants. And then  
8 once you hit that bottom line, Your Honor, you take eighty-five  
9 percent of that number.

10 So, Your Honor, we get to a number currently of  
11 approximately 183.9 million dollars. We've included that  
12 calculus within the disclosure statement. And we believe that  
13 we've also been able to address the other issues that are  
14 associated with the Dime warrants. And as the Court will  
15 recall, the Dime warrants are the subject of a litigation. And  
16 it is one that is moving, I think -- I don't know how many more  
17 tracks we have, Your Honor, but it is moving in parallel with  
18 the confirmation process, the TPS litigation and now the  
19 Broadbill or Dime warrant litigation. And just for the Court's  
20 benefit, because I know we haven't had an update on that, there  
21 has been the amended complaint filed in a class action format.  
22 The debtors have responded, discovery is ongoing and the  
23 debtors are preparing and are prepared to file very shortly a  
24 dispositive motion with respect to that litigation.

25 So, Your Honor, I believe that addresses the Dime

1 warrant objections. And those are contained, Your Honor, on  
2 pages 78 on through 84 of the chart.

3 There were additional objections that were interposed,  
4 Your Honor. There were the United States trustee has its issue  
5 with respect to the releases pursuant to the plan. And we  
6 realize that that's going to be something to deal with  
7 subsequently at the confirmation hearing and putting all of the  
8 parties to the proof that's required.

9 There was an informal response by the creditors'  
10 committee and, obviously, as by Mr. Hodara's point of view  
11 expressed earlier today, he's in support of moving forward.  
12 Likewise, the FDIC's position and the reservation of rights  
13 that it also filed.

14 There have been, Your Honor, 600 or so letters that  
15 have been filed with the Court. And we chart those. And I  
16 believe that's actually listed on Exhibit C to the omnibus  
17 response. And earlier on in the chart, Your Honor, we go  
18 through the responses for each of those. And we believe, Your  
19 Honor, that with respect to each of those three forms that have  
20 been filed with the Court, we have addressed those.

21 Lastly, Your Honor, there was a recent filing by Mr.  
22 Geoff Olsen. The Court may remember Mr. Olsen. He was  
23 involved, way back when, Your Honor, with the deferred  
24 compensation trial that we had with HFA 104823. And we believe  
25 that we have been able to address the first two of his points.

1 And those are set forth on pages 89 and the top of 90, Your  
2 Honor. The last point that Mr. Olsen refers to, it really  
3 doesn't have anything to do with him because he is not a party  
4 to the other deferred compensation plans. But he's looking for  
5 certain information associated with the -- some of the boley-  
6 coley (ph.) and deferred compensation plans, Your Honor. And  
7 that has been the subject of certain confidential information  
8 that has been provided to the examiner. And, Your Honor, we  
9 ask that the Court allow the examiner to release the report and  
10 then Mr. Olsen will be able to get the information that he is  
11 concerned about. I would point out that I don't think that Mr.  
12 Olsen is going to vote with respect to this plan, or if he  
13 does, he's certainly going to vote in favor because he's going  
14 to get up to a hundred cents on the dollar plus interest. But  
15 we believe that last point about the value of those plans and  
16 the liabilities that JPMorgan is assuming are the subject of  
17 that report, Your Honor, and we would ask that the report be  
18 published so that Mr. Olsen could see it.

19 Your Honor, that, I believe, are the outstanding  
20 issues. And, of course, what I'd like to do, Your Honor, to  
21 the extent that the parties have anything to say about those  
22 few outstanding points that they be permitted to come and  
23 address the Court and then we'd be able to respond.

24 THE COURT: All right. Does anybody wish to be heard  
25 on their objection?

1 (Pause)

2 MR. COFFEY: Good morning, Your Honor. Jeremy Coffey  
3 with Brown Rudnick on behalf of the TPS Consortium. Just stand  
4 to correct the record or supplement the record with respect to  
5 what Mr. Rosen recited to the Court. Your Honor, again, my  
6 clients hold approximately 1.2 billion dollars worth of trust  
7 preferred securities out of a total issuance of about four  
8 billion. And my clients have commenced litigation before Your  
9 Honor in a separate adversary proceeding seeking relief  
10 including a declaration that a purported conditional exchange  
11 of their trust preferred securities interest two hours before  
12 the bankruptcy was never consummated such that they actually --  
13 they still hold the trust preferred securities as opposed to  
14 WMI preferred stock as being treated under Class 19 of the  
15 plan.

16 And, Your Honor, for purposes of today, we understand  
17 we're at the disclosure statement hearing stage and that what  
18 we're talking about here is whether or not the solicitation  
19 materials will provide enough and accurate information to  
20 stakeholders to vote up or down in the plan. So I just stand  
21 to make two points because the agenda does reflect we have an  
22 objection outstanding. I just want to supplement what Mr.  
23 Rosen had said.

24 First, we had raised a couple of what I'll call dead-  
25 on-arrival arguments in our disclosure statement objection that

1 the plan -- the releases provided in the plan, the compelled  
2 release of third party claims against other third parties, we  
3 think is plainly violative of Your Honor's decisions in Coram  
4 and in Zenith. So that's an issue that we're going to have to  
5 address at confirmation. It's not a today issue.

6 The second issue, Your Honor, and this is really the  
7 thrust of our litigation, which Your Honor has said will  
8 commence on December 1st as the first thing -- our trial will  
9 be the first thing out of the gate for the confirmation hearing  
10 -- is that to the extent the plan is dependent or contingent on  
11 the debtors transferring assets to which they don't hold title,  
12 the trust preferred securities, we think the plan is, as a  
13 practical matter, dead-on-arrival as well. But again, we'll  
14 get to that issue on December 1st when we have our trial. But  
15 I just want to make very clear that by saying today that we  
16 don't have a further problem with the disclosure statement,  
17 we're not conceding any of those or any other confirmation  
18 objections.

19 THE COURT: All right.

20 MR. COFFEY: So that's clarification number one, Your  
21 Honor. The second is that, as Mr. Rosen recited, we've agreed  
22 to stand down our disclosure statement objection if we can send  
23 out a letter to Class 19 expressing what our views are in the  
24 plan. And I think the letter was first submitted to the Court,  
25 Your Honor, at docket number 4923. I have a copy of that if

1 Your Honor would like to look at it.

2 THE COURT: I don't think it's necessary, is it?

3 MR. COFFEY: Probably not but I just want to make sure  
4 I made the offer.

5 THE COURT: Okay.

6 MR. COFFEY: In the three months since that letter was  
7 first drafted there have been some changes. First of all, we  
8 have a trial date for our adversary proceeding which is  
9 December 1st. We'd like to put that in our letter. We think  
10 it's important to the extent we reference the trial that we let  
11 people know it's going to happen.

12 The second issue, Your Honor, is that the latest  
13 version of the plan and disclosure statement -- and this is  
14 primarily why we felt we had to stand today -- include or  
15 changes in the mechanism whereby they would force these third  
16 party releases onto members of Class 19. If Your Honor will  
17 recall, the first time around, they had an opt-out provision  
18 where you could check the box saying I don't want to give the  
19 release. I don't consent to JPMorgan taking the trust  
20 preferred securities. And they also had language saying no  
21 matter how you opt out, we're still going to try to bind you.  
22 The latest iteration of the plan provides that in addition to  
23 the opt-out, which is still there, to the extent the class  
24 votes in favor of the plan, they're going to try to use that  
25 class vote to bind nonconsenting holders. Both, Your Honor, we

1 think are plainly violative of Coram and of Zenith. So we want  
2 to put that in our letter that we think that what the debtors  
3 are trying to do in its revised plan cannot be done and that  
4 people voting in favor of the plan or against the plan should  
5 bear that in mind in how they cast their vote.

6 So, with that, Your Honor, I think we're largely  
7 settled for today. And we'll submit a revised letter to Mr.  
8 Rosen.

9 THE COURT: Okay.

10 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, as I indicated, with respect  
11 to the letter, we are perfectly happy to let Mr. Coffey include  
12 whatever he wants in the letter.

13 Just one point of clarification, I think he said the  
14 exchange took place two hours before the petition was filed.  
15 The exchange took place, Your Honor, the day before on the  
16 announcement of an exchange event by BOTS on the 25th not the  
17 26th. That'll be one of the points we address at the trial,  
18 Your Honor.

19 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

20 MR. JARVIS: Good morning, Your Honor. My name is  
21 Geoff Jarvis. I'm with the firm of Grant & Eisenhofer. I  
22 represent the misrepresentation claim, bank bondholders. As  
23 you will recall, we were back before Your Honor in April. We  
24 extensively argued at that point in time whether there are the  
25 claims that could go forward, Your Honor; in her order of April

1 the 6th, argued that they could. We are here to bring claims  
2 that ostensibly would go to the plan. But because we believe  
3 that the plan, as written, at least as to our clients, is  
4 unconfirmable -- there's a whole line of cases suggesting it.  
5 In fact, those sorts of claims should be brought at the  
6 disclosure hearing because there's no sense in going forward  
7 with the disclosure statement that sets forth a particular  
8 category as claims -- as to a treatment that is simply  
9 unconfirmable under this prevailing law. And the objection to  
10 our filed -- the response to our filed objection was that  
11 they're plan claims and that we should wait for the next  
12 hearing. I would like to present them today because I believe  
13 they do go, in fact, to the confirmability that suggest that  
14 the plan is per se unconfirmable as to at least my claims.  
15 Obviously, Your Honor can deal with that at the front end. But  
16 that's --

17 THE COURT: I prefer to hear it at the confirmation  
18 hearing.

19 MR. JARVIS: That's what Your Honor's choice is and  
20 that's -- I do have, however, one other point -- and that's my  
21 main claim, was the unconfirmable. But as to one group of my  
22 clients, I've read the plan, I looked it over. And I can't  
23 quite figure out where my clients fall. I think they may have  
24 been inadvertently excluded because Mr. Rosen doesn't  
25 necessarily know that they exactly exist in their current form.

1           Let me just clarify. There are some of my senior  
2       noteholder clients who brought misrepresentation claims and  
3       have now subsequently sold, since the POC was filed back a  
4       couple years ago, their notes. So theoretically, they have  
5       claims related to the senior notes and thus fall in 17A. But  
6       because they will not hold bonds as of the time of the voting  
7       of the plan which is sort of a date that we count how much they  
8       can then file a senior noteholder claim for, they fall within  
9       17A but are not entitled to apparently, it would seem, any  
10      recovery under 17A. But then might nonetheless release their  
11      misrep claims anyway. And as to that -- and it's probably a  
12      few hundred million dollars in bonds. It's not like -- I'm not  
13      talking about ten million dollars or I think there's been some  
14      substantial sales by some of my clients. All of them bought at  
15      par and have dumped them at considerably less than par over the  
16      course of the last eighteen to twenty months. And that is  
17      something I would like to see if Mr. Rosen -- we put in our  
18      objection -- we didn't seem to get a response. That's the one  
19      we have left -- that might well be perceived as a plan as  
20      opposed -- or a disclosure as opposed to a plan objection  
21      'cause it just doesn't say where we go.

22           THE COURT: Yeah. Which class are they in?

23           MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, it's the people who hold the  
24      claims as of October 18th today that get to vote. So to the  
25      extent that they don't hold the claim, they don't vote. If it

1 is a misrepresentation claim itself, Your Honor, they fall  
2 within the subordinated class. Only the people who have claims  
3 are in 17A.

4 MR. JARVIS: Well, the language you use in your  
5 definitions says "claims related to the senior bonds". My  
6 claims are clearly related to the senior bonds. I mean, I  
7 could pull it out. And that's just -- I want to --

8 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, Ms. DiBlasi is here. I'll  
9 allow her to try to --

10 MS. DIBLASI: Your Honor, the record date for voting  
11 purposes for the claims in Class 17A is the bar date. So the  
12 ballots will be sent to the people who filed those claims as of  
13 the bar date. However, the debtors have agreed that they will  
14 vote in the amount of the WMB senior notes that they hold as of  
15 October 18th. So if they didn't hold anything and they've  
16 subsequently sold then they would have nothing to vote.

17 MR. JARVIS: Then I would suggest as a -- then the  
18 language of "related to", I suspect, is somewhat inaccurate  
19 'cause it puts them into 17A but -- 'cause of "related to" but  
20 then they're not in 17A 'cause they don't hold. I mean, if  
21 they want to clarify that --

22 THE COURT: She's suggesting there --

23 MR. JARVIS: That's a disclosure objection, obviously.

24 THE COURT: Well, she's saying you're in 17B --

25 MR. JARVIS: I'm not 'cause those are subordinated.

1 THE COURT: -- for the misrep claim?

2 MS. DIBLASI: No. To the extent that they're WMB  
3 senior notes, they're in 17A. 17B is only for the WMB  
4 subordinated notes meaning those people who are contractually  
5 subordinated.

6 THE COURT: And where are the misrep claims of those  
7 in --

8 MS. DIBLASI: They're in Class 18 and they're defined  
9 in the plan as the Section 510(b) subordinated WMB note claims.

10 MR. JARVIS: But they're only in 18 if, in fact, they  
11 end up being subordinated. And we don't necessarily know  
12 whether you're going to move to subordinate, 'cause, of course,  
13 if you don't move to subordinate my claims under the plan as  
14 written, they go away. So there's no incentive for them to  
15 move to subordinate. I might have to move to subordinate my  
16 own claims. So it gets a little tricky. That's why -- I  
17 mean --

18 (Pause)

19 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, I think we just cleared it up.  
20 We'll be filing today the complaint to subordinate the balance  
21 of the WMB senior notes. It's just awaiting completion today.  
22 So I think that will clear up Mr. Jarvis' issues.

23 MR. JARVIS: Which I do not know. Thank you.

24 THE COURT: All right.

25 MS. SILVERSTEIN: Your Honor, Laurie Silverstein here

1 on behalf of the WMB noteholder group. And actually, this last  
2 colloquy just illustrates why there are still issues with  
3 respect to disclosure statement that need to be clarified.

4 We've been here before on our previous objections to  
5 the disclosure statement as it relates solely to the provisions  
6 addressing the treatment of the group's proof of claim. And in  
7 particular, we are talking about Class 17, which has now, as  
8 indicated, been bifurcated into Class 17A and Class 17B, and  
9 Class 18.

10 And, Your Honor, you haven't seen me before here. I'm  
11 a new face. I'm subbing in for Ms. Brown-Edward. So if you  
12 put that in context, you know where we're coming from.

13 THE COURT: Okay.

14 MS. SILVERSTEIN: To also clear up, Your Honor, our  
15 group's claims relate to both the WMB senior notes and the WMB  
16 subordinated notes. Both. Not as Mr. Rosen indicated just  
17 subordinated. Our group has claims in both. But we are not a  
18 settlement WMB noteholder. That is, we did not enter into the  
19 plan support agreement. And that is notwithstanding that our  
20 group constitutes 1.9 billion on Exhibit B -- listed on Exhibit  
21 B of the global settlement agreement. And we are the largest  
22 proof of claim filing group. Indeed, we were not a party to  
23 any negotiations. We were not consulted with respect to it or  
24 the purported settlement. And we're not included in the group  
25 of attorneys slotted to receive ten million dollars in cash on

1 account of attorneys' fees.

2 Your Honor, we're not here to comment on the merits of  
3 the purported settlement. But we do have issues with the  
4 disclosure statement. We filed a supplemental objection. Your  
5 Honor, we need some plain English. We need some plain language  
6 in the disclosure statement with respect to Class 17 and what  
7 its treatment is. It's a little unusual, Your Honor, because  
8 it talks about voting rights, it talks about distribution  
9 rights. And it bifurcates, as we just heard, between whether  
10 you're going to be subordinated or not. And what, again, this  
11 colloquy just exemplified that in the sense that Mr. Rosen was  
12 incorrect in his first statement about voting rights, not  
13 surprisingly because it's unusual.

14 Your Honor, here's what I understand to be the case.  
15 And if I'm correct, it should be set out this plainly. And if  
16 I'm not corrected, I should be corrected and then it should be  
17 set out this plainly. But here's what I understand with  
18 respect to senior note claims, Class 17A. If you filed a proof  
19 of claim before the bar date, you get to vote. Your claim is  
20 temporarily allowed for voting purposes at the face amount plus  
21 interest accrued as of 9/26/08 of the notes you hold as of  
22 October 18, 2010.

23 To receive a distribution, a claimant who filed a  
24 proof of claim must still hold notes as of October 18, 2010.  
25 Now if you did not file a proof of claim, you're a nonfiling

1 WMB senior noteholder. You do not get to vote. But you can  
2 get a distribution if you hold notes as of October 18th, 2010  
3 and you checked the box granting releases.

4 I think I have it right but I have to admit, and I'm  
5 new to the case, but I have to admit that it took me a long  
6 time to get there. And I had to go through not only the  
7 disclosure statement, but the disclosure statement order and  
8 the voting -- the ballots and the election form and talk to  
9 some people about it what it was supposed to mean before you  
10 can get there. And, Your Honor, I think there's nothing more  
11 important that people understand what their rights are. And  
12 here, where the treatment is so different -- it's so unusual  
13 from what you normally see. You can't turn to Class 17 and  
14 figure it out just by reading Class 17. And once you get  
15 through the myriad of defined terms, you're still lucky if you  
16 get there.

17 So what I suggest is that there be something as simple  
18 as what I just went through with bullet points some place in  
19 the disclosure statement that is logical that tells people in  
20 Class 17 when they get to vote, when they get a distribution,  
21 when they don't get to vote, when they have to hold the claims  
22 as of, and how that is determined. And that, Your Honor, would  
23 go to solve several of our objections to the disclosure  
24 statement.

25 We also have some more specific objections to some of

1 the language. For example, Your Honor, we have indicated that  
2 there are what appear to us to be overlapping definitions of  
3 pro rata that are confusing. And they're used in various ways.  
4 Pro rata is used in Section -- in the definition, it talks  
5 about what pro rata is with respect to your distribution that  
6 you're going to get of your interests, of your BB Liquidating  
7 Trust interests. Yet, in the class treatment on Section 17, it  
8 talks about pro rata for purposes of voting and pro rata for  
9 calculating your pro rata share. Well, why is there a pro rata  
10 for calculating your pro rata share of distributions of BB  
11 Liquidating Trust is pro rata already tells you how to do that?  
12 We don't understand that and, again, it's a matter of clarity.

13 Our concern about voting record date has been cleared  
14 up now that the proposed disclosure statement order has been  
15 filed. The plan refers you to the disclosure statement order  
16 which now has a definition of voting record date. I'm not sure  
17 that's the best for a plan, that it refers you to the  
18 disclosure statement order to find out what the voting record  
19 date and why it's not put in the plan. But that seems to be  
20 cleared up now.

21 And then finally, Your Honor, we have an objection --  
22 or I shouldn't say finally -- the last technical objection  
23 before we get to the Class 17, Class 18, what class are we in  
24 objection is the provisos in Section 21(a) of the plan. Your  
25 Honor, the proviso deals with -- let me find it here. The

1       proviso deals with the concept that the receiver, the FDIC  
2       receiver, acknowledges that amounts distributed to the holders  
3       of the WM senior notes claims under the plan are not credited  
4       and do not reduce their claims against the receivership. And  
5       that's fine. And that's consistent between Class 17A and Class  
6       17B. But then there's a proviso. And 17A says, "Provided  
7       further, that no holder of a WMB senior note claim shall be  
8       entitled to receive more from the receivership than the amount  
9       owed under such WMB senior note claim." In Class 17B, again a  
10      proviso -- I'm sorry. I'm wrong. That's in little paragraph  
11      (a) for proof of claim holders. For nonfiling proof of claim  
12      holders, it has the same concept in that it says, "Provided  
13      further that no excepting nonfiler WMB senior noteholder shall  
14      be entitled to receive more from the receivership than the  
15      amount owed to such holder with respect to its WMB senior  
16      noteholder claims." So one says you're not allowed to receive  
17      more than the amount owed under such WMB senior note claim.  
18      And the other says you're not allowed to receive more with  
19      respect to. I don't know if there's supposed to be a  
20      difference, there is a difference. They're different words. I  
21      don't know what that meaning is. But there's an inconsistency  
22      and we want it cleared up.

23               Your Honor, besides the broad concept there on plain  
24      language and then some technical language changes which we  
25      brought to the attention of the debtors but need clarification,

1 we have the same concern that was just expressed by the other  
2 noteholder group. It's a lingering issue that the debtors  
3 really have yet to clarify. We believe that our group needs to  
4 understand whether in fact the debtors are going to seek to  
5 subordinate any of their claims prior to voting. Now I may get  
6 the same answer that Mr. Rosen gave to the other group. But we  
7 think it's important that our group know the debtors' present  
8 intention as to whether they will seek to subordinate the  
9 noteholder claims.

10 So those are our objections, Your Honor. We think  
11 they are all disclosure statement objections. We will deal  
12 with plan objections at confirmation. But given the  
13 complicated nature of Class 17, we think plain language needs  
14 to prevail here.

15 THE COURT: All right. Let me hear --

16 MS. SILVERSTEIN: Thank you.

17 THE COURT: -- from the debtor then.

18 MR. ROSEN: Yes, Your Honor. I'll take the last one  
19 first 'cause that one is the easiest. Your Honor, previously,  
20 Ms. Silverstein's clients were included in the twentieth  
21 omnibus objection that had been filed. And that included Mr.  
22 Anker's clients as well and that was the subject of the hearing  
23 that was referred to in April. Your Honor, because we have  
24 resolved the issues with respect to the senior note people, we  
25 thought it best to try and split up that omnibus objection.

1 Still keep it outstanding for the seniors at this point until  
2 the plan is confirmed and we know where we're going, but with  
3 respect to the Bracewell Giuliani clients, what we did  
4 yesterday, Your Honor, was we filed the notice of withdrawal of  
5 the objection to them. And we filed a second omnibus  
6 objection -- or a fifty-fifth omnibus objection, Your Honor.  
7 And as part of that, Ms. Silverstein would be happy to know,  
8 that her clients are in it. And it also includes all of the  
9 other parties, the miscellaneous people, moms and pops even, or  
10 institutional investors who filed a proof of claim and  
11 representing the holdings of a WMB subordinated note claim. We  
12 include in that omnibus objection, Your Honor, both an  
13 objection to the direct claim as well as a -- and which Mr.  
14 Flaschen has stood up several times in front of this Court to  
15 say I don't even have a direct claim, I'm just derivative of  
16 the FDIC. And we, of course, point that out for them. But  
17 also, we deal with the misrepresentation claims. And we have,  
18 in that omnibus objection, Your Honor, sought to subordinate  
19 the misrep claim to the extent it exists. So both claims, the  
20 17B and the 18 are covered as part of this omnibus objection filed  
21 last evening.

22 THE COURT: Okay.

23 MR. ROSEN: With respect to the plain language, we --  
24 Ms. Silverstein's recitation of what it's intended to say is  
25 correct. And we actually believe that it is. But we're happy

1 to sit with Ms. Silverstein and get her point by point and  
2 incorporate it into the disclosure statement to make sure that  
3 there's no misunderstanding to the extent that her clients have  
4 a 17A issue. Now, I know Mr. Richards has just stood up and he  
5 represents a lot of the people in 17A as well. I'm sure he may  
6 want to say something about that.

7 With respect to the pro rata comment that Ms.  
8 Silverstein, I'm not sure that we understand the difficulty  
9 that she is having and we're happy to walk her through that  
10 instead of taking the time of the Court, Your Honor. We  
11 believe it is clear but I'm happy to go through it with her.  
12 And to the extent that she has additional language she would  
13 like us to put in, that's fine. Yes.

14 And lastly, her comment about "under" versus with  
15 "respect to" --

16 THE COURT: Right.

17 MR. ROSEN: -- we took care of that last night. We  
18 have some changed pages that the people in the gallery have  
19 already had, Your Honor. We made the two consistent. They say  
20 "with respect to".

21 MR. RICHARDS: Your Honor, Jeremy Richards of  
22 Pachulski Stang Ziehl & Jones appearing on behalf of the ad hoc  
23 committee of certain WMB senior noteholders. Your Honor, Ms.  
24 Silverstein is absolutely correct in her recitation of how  
25 Class 17A works. It is unfortunately a complicated provision

1       because our client, among other things, has elected that the  
2       335 million dollar recovery should be shared with WMB senior  
3       noteholders who did not file proofs of claim. And that's what  
4       gives rise to a somewhat unusual structure in 17A and the  
5       complexities that come with that. I echo Mr. Rosen's comment  
6       to the extent that we can bring more clarity, we're happy to do  
7       that. The one thing I would add for the record, Your Honor, is  
8       what we have tried to in a separate solicitation letter that is  
9       about a page and a half is to condense the relevant provisions  
10      of the plan and to try to make clear -- as clear as possible  
11      the structure under the plan and to advise WMB senior  
12      noteholders exactly where they stand under the plan, whether  
13      they get to vote, whether they can elect to deliver releases  
14      and what their recovery will be.

15               So hopefully, within a page and a half, we've managed  
16      to boil down some of the complexities. But, frankly, it is a  
17      complicated structure and some of the definitions unavoidably  
18      are fairly complex.

19               THE COURT: All right.

20               MR. RICHARDS: Frankly, it's not something I've done  
21      before so it was a challenging piece of drafting.

22               THE COURT: Well, then you will work with Ms.  
23      Silverstein to clarify either in the disclosure statement or in  
24      the letter an English version of how they're treated.

25               MR. RICHARDS: Yes, Your Honor, although I cannot

1       promise it will be plain English, unfortunately. Thank you.

2               MR. ROSEN: But, Ms. Silverstein, we're happy to sit  
3       with you and put your bullet points in there.

4               MS. SILVERSTEIN: Thank you, Your Honor.

5               THE COURT: All right.

6               MR. SILVERSTEIN: Thank you, Your Honor. Paul  
7       Silverstein, Andrews Kurth, for Broadbill Investments on behalf  
8       of the Dime warrants. Your Honor, Broadbill and the Dime  
9       warrant holders have filed several objections to the disclosure  
10      statement, objected to, among other things, the lack of clarity  
11      with respect to the Anchor litigation and the global settlement  
12      agreement.

13              The disclosure statement and the proposed plan are the  
14      moving documents for the approval of the global settlement  
15      agreement and there's some information that's just not there.  
16      For example, what provision -- and, Your Honor, 5600 -- you may  
17      want to just follow along. It's pretty short -- docket number  
18      5600, if you want.

19              THE COURT: I have it. 5600? I have it.

20              MR. ROSEN: When -- you're referring to your  
21      objection?

22              MR. SILVERSTEIN: I'm referring to my objection, yes.

23              THE COURT: I've reviewed it. Go ahead.

24              MR. SILVERSTEIN: "What provision of section  
25      363...allows the Debtors to sell their interest in the Anchor

1     Litigation free and clear of claims?" Is the contemplated  
2     Section 363 -- "In the contemplated... 'free and clear' sale,  
3     will the claims of [the] LTW holders attach to the proceeds...?  
4     How did it come about that the Debtors own the Anchor  
5     Litigation and can sell this asset to [JPMorgan]?" As to that,  
6     the debtor says, well we're only transferring what we have so  
7     we don't have to address that.

8             "Why did the Debtors determine to retain the Goodwill  
9     Litigation relating to the American Savings Bank [matter] and  
10    decide to transfer the Anchor litigation...? Why must the  
11    transfer of the Anchor Litigation be backdated to September  
12    2008? Why does the Proposed Disclosure Statement [say] that  
13    [JPM] is assuming the Debtors' liabilities relating to assets  
14    [it's] buying, yet [with respect to the] Anchor Litigation  
15    [there appears to be no assumption]?"

16            The debtors basically say that, as to those matters,  
17    this could jeopardize future settlement negotiations if the  
18    global settlement is not approved. We think the disclosure  
19    statement should address the issue and address those unanswered  
20    questions. I don't think that's too difficult if the debtors  
21    are not prepared to give the substance of the answers. I leave  
22    that to Your Honor.

23            Second, the debtors, we believe, intend to reject  
24    their executory obligations under the Warren agreement, dated  
25    March 11, 2003. We think the debtors should do so now, as

1       opposed to doing it in a plan supplement. It's been six months  
2       since the debtors filed their first version of the disclosure  
3       statement. It's not clear why they need to piecemeal the  
4       disclosure with respect to the rejection of that contract. The  
5       debtors basically say, in response, that they're not required  
6       to choose to reject yet. I don't think that's an acceptable  
7       answer, Your Honor.

8               Next, Your Honor, Mr. Rosen talked about how this 194  
9       million dollar reserve that the debtor believed was necessary  
10      has been reduced to 183. We've asked the debtors how they  
11      arrived at the 194 and we got no response. They're now at 183,  
12      we still want to know how they got to 194, 183 or whatever.

13             THE COURT: You don't think their calculation is in  
14      there?

15             MR. SILVERSTEIN: No, it's not in there, Your Honor.  
16      We haven't seen it. And frankly, the end of paragraph 5 of our  
17      objection, we provided some very simple language that would now  
18      need to be modified to say -- the last sentence would now read,  
19      "The debtors believe that such amount as 183.9, the Warren  
20      holders don't but the Court will set a reserve." I mean, it's  
21      not complex. I don't understand why there's controversy on  
22      that. But we haven't seen any calculations. We've asked for  
23      them so I don't get that.

24             Finally, the debtors have agreed that the litigation  
25      by Broadbill will be a class action. We've been, sort of,

1       dickering around, so to speak, with a stipulation in respect of  
2       that class action which who knows if it ever gets done. But  
3       one issue is that the debtor filed some claims objections which  
4       asserted 510(b) and asserted non-filed or late claims. We  
5       believe that in connection with the stipulation and wrapping  
6       everything into the litigation, that that issue was withdrawn  
7       because, first, 510(b) they've asserted as a counterclaim in  
8       their answer to the litigation and secondly, as far as the  
9       timely or non-filed proofs of claim, notice was never given to  
10      the LTW Holders, rather it was given to the Warren agent who  
11      specifically has no responsibility to communicate with the  
12      holders and specifically said that it wouldn't communicate with  
13      the holders. We believe that the disclosure statement should  
14      be revised to reflect that the omnibus objections are  
15      withdrawn.

16               So we have several objection points that do not  
17      appear, at all, to be monumental in resolving. The debtors  
18      pushing back, I think it's somewhat consistent with being in a  
19      litigation posture with the dime warrants. I'm not going to  
20      comment on the state of the litigation, we can do that if we  
21      need to outside of this hearing in a separate conference.

22               THE COURT: Okay.

23               MR. SILVERSTEIN: Those are our objections. At this  
24      point I don't understand why the debtor will not rectify them,  
25      I think they should. Thank you, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Thank you.

2 MR. ROSEN: Thank you, Your Honor. First, Your Honor  
3 the Dime warrants are equity pursuant to the plan. They are  
4 set forth in Class XXI of the plan and Class XXI is deemed to  
5 reject the plan. So we know where they are, we know what  
6 they're voting, we deem it to be a rejection already.

7 With respect to information and the disparity, if you  
8 will, between the American Savings litigation and the Anchor  
9 litigation there are reasons for that and we have actually told  
10 Mr. Silverstein and Mr. Steinberg those reasons during our meet  
11 and confer sessions. However, Your Honor, those reasons are  
12 the subject of litigation right now with JPMorgan, as to why we  
13 treat them differently pursuant to the global settlement  
14 agreement.

15 The examiner has been fully briefed on these points.  
16 The examiner will include, in his report, why things are a  
17 certain way. But we don't think it is in the best interest of  
18 the estates to set forth, in the disclosure statement, the  
19 respective views.

20 With respect to the calculations, Your Honor, page 57  
21 of the disclosure statement, footnote number 17 goes through  
22 the calculations. We, of course, have sat with them before and  
23 said we'd be happy to go through, point by point, what they are  
24 but we have not had that meeting at this point in time.

25 We have had discussions with Mr. Steinberg but we have

1 not delved into this particular nuance as to the calculations.  
2 But it is in footnote 17, page 57 of the disclosure statement.  
3 And it is even updated, Your Honor, through last evening with  
4 the twenty million dollar number that I referenced, we heard  
5 last night at 7 p.m. That footnote carries over onto page 58  
6 as well. So we think that it is very, very comprehensive.

7 As to the 363 comment, Your Honor, we are conveying  
8 whatever interest we have and if our interest is none then  
9 we're not selling any interest and we made that clear in the  
10 disclosure statement. We are merely conveying the interest  
11 that the estate may have. JPMorgan obviously takes the  
12 position that the Anchor litigation is something that is owned  
13 by WMB or was owned by WMB and therefore it was transferred to  
14 JPMorgan as part of the purchase and assumption agreement on  
15 September 25th, 2008. And if in fact that is correct, Your  
16 Honor, we have no interest in that litigation to convey.

17 With respect to the issue about the amended and  
18 restated warrant agreement, Your Honor, the debtors are doing  
19 everything we can to look through all of the executory  
20 contracts and unexpired leases that we have and we are putting  
21 together a list. I believe, and I will be corrected, but I  
22 believe our deadline to file that list is October 29th. So  
23 Your Honor, that is eleven days from now and certainly Mr.  
24 Silverstein will know, at that point in time, what our position  
25 is with respect to the amended and restated warrant agreement.

1           So Your Honor, the few items that Mr. Silverstein is  
2     looking for, I would suggest, are either already in the  
3     disclosure statement or will certainly be posted on October  
4     29th in the plan supplement or will be in the examiner's report  
5     two days later.

6           THE COURT:   Yes.

7           MR. SILVERSTEIN:  Thank you, Your Honor.  For the  
8     record, Paul Silverstein for Broadbill.  Your Honor, I disagree  
9     with Mr. Rosen's comments because, well number one, as to  
10    footnote 17, which we've never seen yet, it may have come out  
11    late last night, I've just not seen it.  Because the debtor  
12    says that's the number doesn't mean it's the number and that's  
13    why we provided language, very simple language, that --  
14    essentially took the debtors' language and said, and I'll read  
15    it --

16          THE COURT:  But --

17          MR. SILVERSTEIN:  I'm sorry?

18          THE COURT:  -- you're a rejecting class.

19          MR. SILVERSTEIN:  Yeah.

20          THE COURT:  Does it really matter what's in the  
21    disclosure statement as to that number?  This is the number the  
22    debtor thinks it is.

23          MR. SILVERSTEIN:  The debtors should say this is the  
24    number the debtor think it is, not this is the number.  And  
25    does it matter that I'm a rejecting class as to whether the

1 information is correct, as to my vote no because I'm not  
2 voting.

3 THE COURT: All right.

4 MR. SILVERSTEIN: But it matters because the  
5 disclosure statement should be accurate and should contain  
6 facts that are true. So it's not a big deal or a big  
7 undertaking for the debtor to insert our language.

8 THE COURT: Show him the language.

9 MR. SILVERSTEIN: He has the language; it's in our  
10 objection.

11 THE COURT: Debtors' counsel's going to show you the  
12 language.

13 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, it says that this is the  
14 amount or such lesser amount. We'll change the word "lesser"  
15 to "other" as determined by the bankruptcy court.

16 THE COURT: Okay.

17 MR. SILVERSTEIN: Right. That's very simple. I don't  
18 think we need to be fighting about that.

19 THE COURT: That's fine.

20 MR. SILVERSTEIN: But it ought to take the position  
21 that Broadbill and the plaintiffs in the class action believe  
22 that the number is higher. Again, not complex. It's about a  
23 sentence and I don't think that the debtor should --

24 MR. ROSEN: We will add a sentence following that  
25 saying that the plaintiffs believe it is higher.

1 MR. SILVERSTEIN: And this Court's going to determine  
2 what it is.

3 THE COURT: Okay.

4 MR. SILVERSTEIN: With respect to the Anchor  
5 litigation and who owns it and the free and clear sale under  
6 363 and so forth, we think that although the debtors have  
7 expressed their sensitivity as to jeopardizing future  
8 settlements or future litigation with JPM, the debtors should  
9 put in the disclosure statement, for accuracy, the questions  
10 that we've raised.

11 Again, typically when there's a dispute on a  
12 disclosure statement the debtor typically would just add the  
13 language that says so and so believes and so and so questions,  
14 that's all we've asked for and I don't know what's unreasonable  
15 about that and I don't know why the debtors' being so, for lack  
16 of better words, pig-headed about that and not doing that.

17 THE COURT: I'm going to overrule that objection for  
18 two reasons. Number one, you're a rejecting class.

19 MR. SILVERSTEIN: Yes.

20 THE COURT: The information will not affect how you  
21 vote.

22 MR. SILVERSTEIN: Correct.

23 THE COURT: And number two, you're in litigation and  
24 these issues are being dealt with in the litigation and in  
25 connection with confirmation.

1 MR. SILVERSTEIN: They're not really being dealt --  
2 those issues are not really being dealt with in the litigation.  
3 Where they're being dealt with is in the global settlement  
4 agreement.

5 THE COURT: And you've objected -- you're, presumably,  
6 going to object to confirmation on that basis.

7 MR. SILVERSTEIN: I think that's right but there's a  
8 distinction between our argument that we're debt and not equity  
9 and the issues of the mechanics of what's going on in terms of  
10 the debtor selling under Section 363 something that to us is  
11 not clear that the debtors have the right to sell.

12 THE COURT: I understand but presumably you will be  
13 raising that in an objection to confirmation.

14 MR. SILVERSTEIN: Okay.

15 THE COURT: That's a confirmation issue.

16 MR. SILVERSTEIN: That's fine, Your Honor. And as far  
17 as the -- Mr. Rosen's point about how the debtors will be  
18 moving to reject or assume executory contracts within ten days  
19 or so, if I recall the dates. I mean, why can't they do it now  
20 or give an indication in the disclosure statement as to whether  
21 they will be assuming or rejecting the warrant agreement with  
22 respect to the Dime warrants, I don't get that. Are they  
23 suggesting they don't know today?

24 THE COURT: Well, does it matter? Does it really  
25 matter to your client? No.

1 MR. SILVERSTEIN: Nothing really matters, okay,  
2 because we're not voting.

3 THE COURT: You can put a lot of things in the  
4 disclosure statement but you don't have to put into a  
5 disclosure statement every single fact in a case if it's not  
6 relevant to parties voting.

7 MR. SILVERSTEIN: That's right. But that's why our  
8 objection was three pages and we didn't have every single  
9 thing.

10 THE COURT: I don't think this is relevant to  
11 creditors voting.

12 MR. SILVERSTEIN: Thank you, Your Honor, and I think  
13 that's it.

14 THE COURT: Okay.

15 MR. SILVERSTEIN: Thank you.

16 MS. MURRAY: My name is Milissa Murray. I'm at  
17 Bingham McCutchen. I represent the BKK joint defense group. I  
18 know this is not an environmental bankruptcy case of the  
19 Chemtura or Tronox variety; nevertheless, Washington Mutual  
20 Bank and Washington Mutual Inc. are parties to a consent order  
21 to clean up a site in California that California estimates is  
22 going to cost 710 million dollars to clean up.

23 Washington Mutual Bank signed onto an agreement with  
24 my clients, who are members of the joint defense group, to  
25 clean up that site in accordance with the consent decree.

1 Nobody's objected to my client's proof of claim and nobody's  
2 objected to the state's proof of claim. Yet the plan deals  
3 dramatically with both the debtors' liability and nondebtors'  
4 liability at that site.

5 Washington Mutual Bank is a nondebtor, one of the  
6 debtors' subsidiaries, WMI Rainier is also a nondebtor and  
7 those two nondebtors, in the view of the group and the state,  
8 are significantly liable parties at the site. So the extent to  
9 which the plan releases those nondebtors is a huge issue in  
10 terms of whether we elect to opt out in hoping to preserve our  
11 claims against the nondebtors, or to accept and buy in because  
12 the releases of the nondebtors are worth it in terms of what  
13 JPMorgan is assuming.

14 So the ambiguities involved in the release are  
15 significant to us in terms of how we vote. It's not just a  
16 confirmation issue. And the ambiguities in the release is  
17 this: the debtor says in its most recent response, in its  
18 attempt to clarify who's getting released and who isn't, that  
19 Washington Mutual Bank, and FDIC is another potentially liable  
20 party because they assumed Washington Mutual Bank's obligations  
21 at some point, but it says all claims held by entities against  
22 Washington Mutual Bank, FDIC and/or FDIC receiver in the  
23 receivership are not being released, that's what the plan says.

24 Well, first of all it doesn't say anything about the  
25 potential liability of JPMorgan and second of all it limits

1       that statement to the receivership.

2               In addition it says, "Furthermore, the sixth amended  
3       plan's definition of released claims is not intended to include  
4       the State of California's direct claims against JPMorgan or WMI  
5       Rainier." Well, it doesn't say anything about the BKK Groups'  
6       claims and it doesn't say what direct means. If JPMorgan is  
7       liable, it's through Washington Mutual Bank. That's not a  
8       direct -- arguably not a direct claim.

9               The fix would be very easy. In the disclosure  
10       statement the SEC asked for a carve out in the release  
11       provision that they got and we would like the same carve out  
12       because it seems to be consistent with what the debtor is now  
13       saying in its response. "Provided further that nothing  
14       contained in the plan or the confirmation order shall release  
15       or is intended to release any nondebtor, including any  
16       nondebtor entity that may be a released party or a released  
17       person in connection with any legal action or claims brought by  
18       the SEC."

19              There's no reason why, if the plan is not intended to  
20       release, JPMorgan, the FDIC and WMI Rainier and Washington  
21       Mutual Bank, all nondebtors, then the disclosure statement  
22       ought to say that and the plan should say that.

23              THE COURT: All right. I understand your position.  
24       Does the debtor want to respond?

25              MR. POTTER (TELEPHONICALLY): Your Honor, this is Jim

1     Potter from the California Department of Toxic Substance  
2     Controls. I can go now or wait until after the debtor  
3     responds, whichever is the Court's preference.

4             THE COURT: Well, do you have anything different from  
5     what the BKK --

6             MR. POTTER: I do, Your Honor.

7             THE COURT: You do? Go ahead.

8             MR. POTTER: Should I go ahead?

9             THE COURT: Yes.

10            MR. POTTER: Okay. Thank you. First, just for  
11     clarity, I mean, debtor -- Washington Mutual Bank's  
12     predecessor, Home Savings, unusually for the bank, was, itself,  
13     in the business of running a hazardous waste landfill and  
14     that's why we're here.

15            I want to be clear that this isn't sort of an  
16     incidental liability but Home Savings created the landfill,  
17     envisioned the landfill and owned and, we would argue, operated  
18     the landfill for about fifteen million -- fifteen years,  
19     rather. It's about 150 acres. There's about three to five  
20     million tons of hazardous waste disposed into thirty million  
21     tons of garbage and there are houses very close.

22            I'll sum up by saying this is a very real and active  
23     public health threat. And as Ms. Murray indicated we estimate  
24     it'll be in excess of 600 million dollars to, over the  
25     indefinite future, to prevent it from getting to be a much

1 worse public health threat.

2 Washington Mutual Inc.'s predecessor, HF Ahmanson,  
3 caused the landfill to be moved from Washington Mutual Bank to  
4 another subsidiary and then caused those subsidiaries to be  
5 moved around. And so we believe that Washington Mutual Inc.,  
6 as well as Washington Mutual Bank and as well as WMI Rainier,  
7 are all jointly liable for those costs.

8 Earlier today Mr. Rosen said that he believed, if I  
9 understood him, he believed that WMI, Washington Mutual Inc.  
10 has the liability, the debtors have no liability. JPMorgan is  
11 assuming only a very small portion of whatever liability WMI  
12 Inc. may have, again if I understood him correctly. And that  
13 DTSC and the PRP Group, Ms. Murray's clients, should just go  
14 ahead and assert their claims against the estate and not really  
15 worry about what JPMorgan is or is not assuming. And that's  
16 all duly noted and will proceed accordingly.

17 Now here is the disclosure statement issue that I want  
18 to focus on and why the disclosure statement does not provide  
19 adequate information. In addition to what Ms. Murray had said,  
20 for DTSC to vote on the plan. The debtors -- under the plan  
21 debtors are stripping assets from WMI Rainier and we're not  
22 arguing that debtors don't have the right to do that. WMI  
23 Rainier is a wholly owned subsidiary of WMI Inc -- Washington  
24 Mutual Inc. And if the parent company wants to strip its  
25 subsidiaries assets, then I suppose it has the right to do

1 that.

2 I don't want to waive, now, any arguments that creates  
3 for confirmation or about alter ego claims, but just saying for  
4 the moment we're assuming that WM -- debtor -- Washington  
5 Mutual Inc. has the right to strip WMI Rainier's assets.

6 So according to Mr. Rosen, WMI, debtor Washington  
7 Mutual Inc., is claiming it has no liability and it is  
8 stripping assets from or it has the right to take assets from  
9 its subsidiary WMI Rainier. Well, whether DTSC votes for or  
10 against the plan will depend -- may well depend on just the  
11 value of those assets being taken from WMI Rainier. And in the  
12 second supplemental response debtors are very clear that they  
13 have no intention of providing the information about the value  
14 of assets being taken from WMI Rainier. They say that the only  
15 issue is whether or not they have a legal right to.

16 We don't want to raise the question -- we're not  
17 intending to raise the question right now of whether debtor has  
18 the legal right to take those assets, but the value of those  
19 assets does go to whether or not DTSC would or would not vote  
20 for the plan. And so we would ask that debtors estimate the  
21 value of what they are taking from WMI Rainier. Thank you,  
22 Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Thank you. Does the debtor want to  
24 respond?

25 MR. ROSEN: Sure, Your Honor.

1 MS. MURRAY: I do have a couple more objections, Your  
2 Honor, that I'd like to --

3 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor. I apologize for the confusion  
4 that Mr. Potter and Ms. Murray have and if it was -- if we  
5 created it then we certainly will rectify it.

6 With respect to what JPMorgan is assuming or not  
7 assuming, Your Honor, I don't know what JPMorgan assumed by way  
8 of the receivership. All I know is I have a purchase and  
9 assumption agreement that says that they picked up whatever  
10 they picked up and they have read that as well as we have and  
11 perhaps everyone else in the courtroom. But I can't opine as  
12 to what JPMorgan's obligations are pursuant to that. All I can  
13 say, Your Honor, is that the debtors have no intention of  
14 delving into what that relationship is on the BKK or California  
15 versus WMB side. We don't know what it is.

16 And I can equally say, Your Honor, that to the extent  
17 that we led people to believe that there would be a release for  
18 JPMorgan for its WMB obligations, that was our fault and we'll  
19 correct that, Your Honor. We have no intention of making  
20 JPMorgan a recipient of a release for whatever it assumed on  
21 the WMB side.

22 All we are saying, Your Honor, pursuant to the plan,  
23 is that JPMorgan has picked up certain of the liabilities that  
24 we have pursuant to this consent agreement or whatever else may  
25 exist out there.

1           With respect to WMI Rainier, Your Honor, I'll equally  
2       take the blame. I don't think it says that we're going to give  
3       them a release but we'll make sure, Your Honor, that WMI  
4       Rainier is not being released.

5           The assets that are there, Your Honor, are de minimis  
6       and if Mr. Potter and his clients would like to go after WMI  
7       Rainier, feel free to do so. It's probably not worth the  
8       filing fee associated with a complaint but we'll make sure that  
9       both of those are cleared up, Your Honor.

10          THE COURT: What assets of Rainier are being  
11       transferred to the debtor?

12          MR. ROSEN: None.

13          MS. MURRAY: I beg to differ, Your Honor. One of the  
14       exhibits to the plan shows that a cash deposit was in  
15       Washington Mutual Bank at the time of the take over in excess  
16       of, I think, two million dollars by ADI, Rainier's predecessor,  
17       and that that amount is going now, under the plan, to WMI.

18          MR. POTTER: This is Jim Potter again from California.  
19       If I may, additionally the plan assigns insurance rights in the  
20       name of WMI Rainier actually to JPMorgan. That's another asset  
21       that is transferring from WMI Rainier to another party.

22          A third issue that may require discovery is whether or  
23       not WMI Rainier has any entitlement to the tax refunds that are  
24       being given to WMI, the debtors. So those are three assets,  
25       the 1.6 million dollars in the account, the insurance and

1 possibly any entitlement to the tax liability that, as we read  
2 it, are being transferred.

3 One other point quickly. There's an odd thing, until  
4 2008, the successor in question was Ahmanson Development, Inc.  
5 And then in December of 2008, after the petition had been  
6 filed, that Ahmanson Development, Inc. was merged into WMI  
7 Rainier and we've not seen any explanation of the basis for  
8 that or what impact that might have had on other assets. Mr.  
9 Rosen just indicated that WMI Rainier is pretty much broke. We  
10 don't know if that's because previous liabilities that WMI  
11 Rainier had absorbed whatever assets Ahmanson Development, Inc.  
12 had and again, that's a merger that happened after the case  
13 went into bankruptcy. Thank you.

14 THE COURT: You had other issues?

15 MS. MURRAY: Yes, Your Honor. The plan provides --  
16 incorporates the global settlement agreement in 2.2(1) which  
17 talks about the treatment of BKK liabilities and finally in the  
18 response that was filed yesterday it became clear to me that  
19 2.2(1)(a) and 2.2(1)(b) appear to be mutually exclusive. So  
20 that in (a) JPMorgan assumes certain carved out liabilities and  
21 in (b) it will indemnify the debtor with respect to the proofs  
22 of claim to the extent they're not assumed.

23 So we would ask that the "in addition" language that's  
24 now in the response be incorporated into the plan and  
25 disclosure statement to clarify what we thought was an

1       ambiguity until yesterday.

2               In addition, Your Honor, because the debtor argues  
3       that WMI Rainier is not a debtor and they don't have to  
4       disclose the assets and liabilities as Mr. Potter suggested.  
5       And it also says that the issue of whether or not JPMorgan has  
6       assumed any BKK liabilities from Washington Mutual Bank is  
7       solely an issue between JPMorgan and FDIC.

8               The plan calls for all of the debtors' insurance,  
9       actually not just the debtors' insurance, all the insurance  
10      that would go to the debtor, Rainier, Washington Mutual Bank  
11      gets assigned to JPMorgan under the global settlement  
12      agreement. So it's not really non-related because the extent  
13      to which that insurance go into JPMorgan, it's not coming to us  
14      or being used to satisfy the obligations at the site.

15              Secondly, under the plan JPMorgan assumes only what  
16      "insurance" doesn't cover. There's nothing in the disclosure  
17      statement about who's going to prosecute the insurance claims.  
18      I mean, JPMorgan's getting an assignment of all the insurance.  
19      There's no obligation for JPMorgan to prosecute the insurance  
20      claims. And there's no --

21              THE COURT: Is this a confirmation issue?

22              MS. MURRAY: Well it is again, Your Honor. We need to  
23      decide on the ballot whether we're going to walk away from this  
24      plan and pursue our nondebtor claims. I mean, we can't --

25              THE COURT: Yeah. But whether or not JPM agrees to be

1 obligated to pursue the insurance claims is a confirmation  
2 issue that bears on it, not a disclosure issue.

3 MS. MURRAY: Well, if JPMorgan has no obligation to  
4 pursue the insurance, then it's not assuming anything. And if  
5 it's not assuming anything then we should know that so we know  
6 to vote in the plan to reject the releases.

7 THE COURT: All right. Does JPM want to answer the  
8 question?

9 MS. MURRAY: Thank you, Your Honor.

10 MR. SACKS: Very quickly, Your Honor. Robert Sacks  
11 from Sullivan & Cromwell on behalf of JPM. This is a very  
12 straightforward provision. We are agreeing to assume  
13 liability. We'd be overjoyed to strip this entire provision  
14 out of the agreement and not have it. We are giving the  
15 debtors significant value. We are assuming the debtors'  
16 liabilities as defined in excess of available and applicable  
17 insurance.

18 It is our incentive to pursue every conceivable  
19 insurance coverage that may exist because that will reduce the  
20 amount that we have to pay out of pocket for these liabilities.  
21 So, yes. The deal was that we get a first call on the  
22 insurance policies and we will pay, to the extent the  
23 liabilities exceed that amount. That is correct. That was the  
24 deal that we struck. We are potentially assuming hundreds of  
25 millions of dollars in liabilities based upon what they have

1 claimed to be a 700 million dollar liability in that case.

2 It's a straightforward provision. It does not touch,  
3 in any way, shape or form, the issue of whether we, JPMorgan  
4 Chase, assumed any liability in connection with our purchase  
5 from the receiver of WMB's assets. If we assume those, we  
6 still have them. If we didn't assume them, maybe the FDIC is  
7 liable for them. But this plan doesn't release them, it  
8 doesn't touch them, it is as straightforward as can be. And  
9 these issues that are being raised don't have anything to do  
10 with it.

11 So, yes. We do get first call on WMI's insurance  
12 policies. We have every incentive in the world to pursue  
13 coverage as aggressively as possible because it will help us to  
14 pay less out of our own pocket. I don't understand what the  
15 lack of disclosure is in this particular case. It is fairly  
16 straightforward.

17 The one thing I would say on the last point, the next  
18 to the last point that was made, about we did not agree to  
19 indemnify them for unassumed liabilities -- so I'm not sure  
20 what that point was but we've agreed to indemnify -- there's a  
21 lot of belt and suspenders in here that the debtors insisted  
22 upon depending upon where these claims get litigated. So we  
23 have to pay them, we have to indemnify them for them, we have  
24 to reimburse them for them, depending on where they get paid  
25 out, but it's only for what we are assuming, which is certain

1 defined liabilities in excess of insurance, not unassumed  
2 liabilities, which is what I believe was said a few moments  
3 ago. That shouldn't be clarified -- if there's any ambiguity  
4 it should be clarified to make clear that we are not, in any  
5 circumstances, paying for unassumed liabilities. But I think  
6 it's perfectly clear. I don't think there's any ambiguity in  
7 this document on these points.

8 THE COURT: The debtor want to address the other  
9 points?

10 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, I actually think Mr. Sacks has  
11 done a pretty good job doing that. I would just point out  
12 about the liability issue. As I indicated, we have these  
13 proofs of claim filed against the estate in unliquidated  
14 amounts and that's all we know about them, although Ms. Murray  
15 says that she believes it's around 700 million but it is  
16 unliquidated at this time and there's been no effort to seek  
17 the estimation of them at this time.

18 Your Honor, as I indicated at the outset of this  
19 hearing and when we got up with respect to this particular  
20 objection, JPM picking up whatever liability is a good thing  
21 for the estate. To the extent that there is the balance of any  
22 liability against the estate, meaning those beyond what  
23 JPMorgan is expressly agreeing to pay and that's set forth in  
24 2.21(a), those will be claims against the estate. I don't know  
25 how much clearer it can be. It will be general unsecured

1 claims against the estate and we have to do our best to  
2 estimate what that would be and to come up with an appropriate  
3 reserve, if any. We obviously would object to those claims at  
4 a certain point in time so that we can move forward with the  
5 claims reconciliation process.

6 I don't see the ambiguity that Mr. Potter and Ms.  
7 Murray do but, Your Honor, I think the disclosure statement is  
8 very clear.

9 THE COURT: And Rainier is not getting any release so  
10 whatever claims they have against Rainier are being preserved?

11 MR. ROSEN: Absolutely correct, Your Honor. Just like  
12 it'll be claims against anybody else on the street, they can  
13 pursue Rainier. They can pursue whatever else they want to do.

14 To the extent that there was a nondebtor merger of  
15 entities, Your Honor, that happens in very Chapter 11 case.  
16 You try and clean up what your corporate structure is. So I'm  
17 not sure where the focus is but, Your Honor, they can pursue  
18 Rainier however they want to pursue Rainier.

19 MR. POTTER: Jim Potter from California again. My  
20 remaining concern -- and this has been very helpful. I  
21 appreciate both debtors and Mr. Sacks on behalf of JPMorgan  
22 going forward. And we do believe that both entities are acting  
23 in good faith to, kind of, streamline this. But my one ongoing  
24 concern with the disclosure statement issue is the value of  
25 assets being taken, WMI Rainier. And that -- it seems to me to

1 be at least 1.6 million plus the insurance and possibly plus  
2 any tax. Thank you.

3 THE COURT: Well, is there any part of the tax refund  
4 that is allocable to Rainier?

5 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, if you could just give me one  
6 second.

7 (Pause)

8 MR. POTTER: If I may say, Your Honor, in the interim,  
9 we believe that WMI is jointly liable for Rainier's liability  
10 but there's obviously the possibility we may ultimately not  
11 prevail on that. And we believe that under -- the sum of that  
12 liability would be assumed by JPMorgan under the language of  
13 the agreement. But obviously, again, we might not prevail on  
14 that. So we're just trying to protect ourselves in case.

15 THE COURT: I understand. I understand.

16 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, with respect to the tax refund  
17 issue, we don't believe that they were a filer, a joint filer  
18 if you will, or on a consolidated basis but we'll have to check  
19 that. And even if they were I don't know, under the tax  
20 sharing agreement, how much, if any, amount is allocable to WMI  
21 Rainier. But we can find out that information, Your Honor, and  
22 I'm happy to tell Mr. Potter that offline, because I don't  
23 think it has any basis in the disclosure statement.

24 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

25 MS. MURRAY: Just in closing, Your Honor, the group

1 would be satisfied, in addition to the WMI Rainier asset issue,  
2 to have the carve-out that we've identified put into the plan  
3 that carves out the release of any nondebtor liability,  
4 including JPMorgan and also to put the clarification that the  
5 debtors now may, with respect to 2.2(1), actually in the  
6 disclosure statement in the plan. Thank you.

7 THE COURT: Any objection to either of those?

8 MR. ROSEN: Well Your Honor, I think the clarification  
9 is inaccurate. But with respect to the nondebtor releases,  
10 we're happy to be clear about that.

11 MR. SACKS: I'm not sure exactly what she's asking  
12 for, Your Honor, to be put in at this point because I think  
13 we've clarified that we are not assuming unassumed liabilities.

14 THE COURT: She wants in there that Rainier is not  
15 being released.

16 MR. SACKS: Oh, just Rainier, okay. Then I have no  
17 issue.

18 MR. ROSEN: Absolutely.

19 MR. SACKS: I have no issue about that.

20 THE COURT: And she wants put in the clarification  
21 that it was in the debtors' statement in response that was  
22 filed -- was it Friday?

23 MS. MURRAY: On page 43 of the response, at the top of  
24 the page, it says in addition to the assumption that's in  
25 2.21(a), "In addition, JPMorgan must reimburse the debtors for

1 any distribution the debtors become obligated to make on  
2 account of remediation or cleanup cost and expenses contained  
3 in the BKK proofs of claim." The "in addition" was not in the  
4 plan or the disclosure statement. So if the words "in  
5 addition" are put in the plan and disclosure statement that  
6 connect A and B, we're happy.

7 THE COURT: Okay. You'll add that?

8 MR. POTTER: While they're conferring I'll thank the  
9 Court for your attention to this matter. It's obviously not in  
10 the mainstream -- although it's very significant it's obviously  
11 not in the mainstream of the bankruptcy and I appreciate your  
12 taking the time.

13 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.

14 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, we will clarify that.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Anybody else?

16 MR. ETKIN: Still good morning, Your Honor. Michael  
17 Etkin, Lowenstein Sandler, on behalf of the lead plaintiffs in  
18 three separate, pending class actions, Your Honor. One  
19 involves the consolidated securities litigation out in  
20 Washington. One involves the securities litigation relating to  
21 the mortgage backed securities. And the other is separate  
22 securities litigation dating back several years which has been  
23 pending for several years.

24 As we speak, Your Honor, all three of those cases have  
25 survived motions to dismiss in the various courts. The debtor

1 has updated the disclosures in the disclosure statement  
2 relating to the status of each of those cases. The securities  
3 litigation just -- there was a recent decision regarding class  
4 certification that the debtor put in. So those issues have  
5 been resolved in terms of disclosure as to status.

6 Several other issues that we raised in the various  
7 objections and supplemental objections that we filed, just to  
8 make sure that we discuss the status of the playing field here,  
9 Your Honor, as it relates to subordination issues and  
10 classification and discrimination issues, we're content leaving  
11 those issues for confirmation.

12 Also, with respect to insurance issues and injunction  
13 issues as well as issues that we raised concerning document  
14 preservation, hopefully we'll be able to deal with those  
15 between now and confirmation and if not we'll raise those at  
16 the confirmation hearing as well, along with whatever other  
17 confirmation objections we believe are appropriate.

18 And I do understand, Your Honor, the conventional  
19 wisdom that release issues are confirmation issues and I don't  
20 intend to go into any discussion as to the propriety or the  
21 legality of the releases under the plan today. That is a  
22 confirmation issue.

23 But the problem that we have, Your Honor, is that  
24 these releases are really all over the map. They are  
25 confusing, at best, and in some cases bordering on

1       incomprehensible. You have to navigate between plan language,  
2       then go back to plan definitions, then go back to separate  
3       releases that are set forth in the global settlement agreement  
4       and the debtor has included the rather bald statement in the  
5       disclosure statement that all of these releases are fundamental  
6       and necessary for purposes of getting the consideration that  
7       the debtor claims it's getting under the global settlement  
8       agreement.

9               But if you really try to parse through them and maybe  
10       hours and hours and a half a bottle of Advil, I've managed to  
11       parse through these release provisions. The releases in the  
12       global settlement agreement focus on the parties to the global  
13       settlement agreement.

14              There is language in the global settlement agreement  
15       which says that to the extent permitted by law, the debtor is  
16       going to attempt to obtain border releases in the context of  
17       the plan and that the debtor will attempt, regardless of the  
18       opt out provision in the ballots, to enforce these releases in  
19       any event, and I don't want to step on the U.S. trustee's  
20       thunder but they raised that issue as did we, and I'll get to  
21       that in a moment with respect to the voting procedures.

22              But just in terms of disclosure and explanation as to  
23       what these releases do and don't cover. It's really hard to  
24       ascertain, Your Honor, what the releases are that are  
25       fundamental to confirmation of the plan as the debtors

1 indicate, those releases being the releases set forth as  
2 between the parties to the global settlement agreement. But  
3 the debtors go so much farther in the plan and it's really hard  
4 to distinguish between the two, where one ends and one begins.  
5 Let me give you the grossest example of that, Your Honor, which  
6 I --

7 THE COURT: Is this confirmation objection?

8 MR. ETKIN: It is not, Your Honor, in my view. It's  
9 not because it's just hard to decipher who is and who is not  
10 getting released. And it's hard to decipher, based upon the  
11 statement that the debtors make in both the plan and the  
12 disclosure statement as to the necessity of those releases,  
13 whether that statement is really accurate as it relates to  
14 those global settlement agreements.

15 THE COURT: As to whether it's accurate, that's a  
16 confirmation issue. Do you need these releases, that's a  
17 confirmation issue, isn't it?

18 MR. ETKIN: I don't think so, Your Honor. If the  
19 global settlement agreement says that these releases, as they  
20 relate to the parties to the global settlement agreement, there  
21 will be an attempt to obtain releases from all parties under  
22 the plan, to the extent permitted by law. But if the law  
23 doesn't permit, if the law in this circuit doesn't permit those  
24 releases, ultimately, then how can you make a statement in the  
25 disclosure statement that those releases are -- if the Court

1 rules that those releases are not legal and not in conformity  
2 with Third Circuit law --

3 THE COURT: Then they don't get them.

4 MR. ETKIN: But the settlement doesn't blow up and  
5 that's what --

6 THE COURT: That's a confirmation argument. I'll hear  
7 that at confirmation.

8 MR. ETKIN: Your Honor, if that's the Court's position  
9 then I'll move on from there. Let me focus, Your Honor, on the  
10 voting procedures issue as it relates to the releases because I  
11 think that that remains a significant issue here.

12 Your Honor, there appears to be an attempt, through  
13 the voting procedures, to obtain what the debtors may argue,  
14 somewhere down the road, are consensual third party releases.  
15 The disclosure statement -- the ballots indicate, again, that  
16 one needs to opt out of those releases as opposed to opt in and  
17 I think that issue becomes even more relevant when you look at  
18 what the Washington Mutual Bank noteholders are required to do.  
19 They are required to affirmatively opt into the releases as  
20 opposed to everyone else where you have to check the box to opt  
21 out or else you're stuck, according to the debtor. I don't  
22 believe that that's appropriate in the first instance.

23 Secondly, Your Honor, the idea that these releases are  
24 consensual where the debtor makes clear that it intends to cram  
25 down these broad third party releases on all parties,

1       regardless of whether they opt in or opt out, it's a fiction.  
2       And I'm concerned, somewhere down the road, that the debtor  
3       will rely on some theory of consent when if the debtor believes  
4       that these releases are appropriate they should be put to their  
5       proof, as Mr. Rosen indicated earlier, make the arguments at  
6       confirmation and those releases will either stand or they  
7       won't.

8               But the fiction of consent through a box where people  
9       have to affirmatively opt out is totally inappropriate.  
10      Combining that with a gun to a creditor's head that if they do  
11      opt out and check the box then they don't get a distribution  
12      under the plan. If Your Honor wants to deal with that at  
13      confirmation, I'm happy to do that as well but that's going to  
14      influence people's vote. It's going to influence who checks  
15      the box and who doesn't and I think that entire fiction should  
16      be stripped from the ballot. And if the debtor wants these  
17      releases, wants to take a position with respect to these  
18      releases at confirmation, they should do so and they should  
19      make their case at confirmation.

20             THE COURT: Okay.

21             MR. ETKIN: This hybrid just doesn't make any sense.

22             THE COURT: I understand.

23             MR. ETKIN: Then Your Honor, you have an additional  
24      problem. What happens with respect to those creditors or  
25      interest holders that don't vote? What happens to those

1 creditors or interest holders who have multiple claims and file  
2 a ballot with respect to, let's say, senior notes that they  
3 currently hold but have a securities claim as well by virtue of  
4 the fact that they purchased during the class period and they  
5 don't fill out a ballot with respect to the so-called  
6 subordinated claim that they might have.

7 THE COURT: Okay.

8 MR. ETKIN: That's an issue. I don't see any answers  
9 to those questions in the disclosure statement and I think it  
10 should be clear that if someone --

11 THE COURT: I understand. All right. Anything else?

12 MR. ETKIN: Yes, Your Honor. Just give me a moment.

13 (Pause)

14 MR. ETKIN: Your Honor, a couple of things that I  
15 picked up in the supplemental -- the second supplemental  
16 response that I just want to put on the record for clarity's  
17 sake, at the very least.

18 In their response regarding the issue of the extent of  
19 subordination or classification, the debtors indicate that by  
20 virtue of the order that was entered, that it was stipulated by  
21 two of the three lead plaintiff groups that I represent, and  
22 I'm quoting, "that their claims are subordinated claims as  
23 defined in section 1.188 of the sixth amended plan". That's  
24 not what the stipulation says. As a matter of fact we have an  
25 outstanding issue as to the extent to which some of these

1       claims should be subordinated. So that's an open item and I  
2       just wanted to make sure that I corrected the record because  
3       that statement in the response is simply untrue.

4               In addition, there's a statement as it relates to the  
5       mortgage backed securities claims which are the subject of an  
6       outstanding claim objection, which we're trying to resolve.  
7       There's a statement that upon information and belief those lead  
8       plaintiffs will withdraw its claim against the debtors with  
9       prejudice. I don't think that's what we've been discussing,  
10      certainly that's not what I've been discussing with Mr. Rosen  
11      so I just wanted to make sure that the record was clarified  
12      with respect to that.

13             Finally, Your Honor, there are just a couple of other  
14      issues relating to the disclosure statement that I wanted to  
15      bring to the Court's attention.

16             Your Honor, at page 18 of the blackline there's an  
17      indication, and this goes back to the order that the Court  
18      entered, maybe within the last thirty days, regarding the  
19      approval of the confidentiality agreement between the debtor  
20      and the committee. The disclosure statement states that the  
21      parties to the global settlement agreement will determine who  
22      is entitled to discovery in connection with confirmation. I  
23      think the order that Your Honor entered indicated that either  
24      the parties or the Court will make that determination, that  
25      it's not a determination that will solely be made by the

1 parties to the GSA. So I wanted to make sure that that was  
2 pointed out as well.

3 And the statement that the debtors included in the  
4 disclosure statement, at page 138, regarding the releases and  
5 regarding the parties' objections to those releases that have  
6 been interposed through today, the debtors indicate that the  
7 position of myself and others is that they may not be in  
8 accordance with applicable law, I think it's fairly clear that  
9 our position is that they are not in accordance with applicable  
10 law. And I think that that inclusion in the disclosure  
11 statement should also follow what's in the ballot so that  
12 parties, when they review their ballot, understand that that is  
13 a contested issue with respect to this plan.

14 THE COURT: I understand. Okay. Well, do you want to  
15 hear the U.S. trustee's position on those points?

16 MR. ROSEN: Sure.

17 MS. LEAMY: Jane Leamy for the United States trustee.  
18 The United States trustee objection concerns section 43.6 of  
19 the plan, which is a third party release provision. And our  
20 issue there is that the debtors are trying to do two mutually  
21 exclusive things: return and solicit a consensual release as  
22 discussed by the prior counsel, which is not really consensual  
23 as I'll show in a second; and they're also indicating their  
24 intent to prosecute a nonconsensual third party release at  
25 confirmation.

1           The language in that section, you know, says that each  
2       entity -- in the proviso, "Each entity that has submitted a  
3       ballot may elect by checking the appropriate box not to grant  
4       the release. In which case" -- after a few lines -- "In which  
5       case each entity that elects not to grant the release will not  
6       receive a distribution hereunder. Provided further that  
7       because the plan and global settlement agreement and the  
8       financial contributions contained therein are conditioned upon  
9       the aforementioned releases and are essential for the  
10      successful reorganization" -- and this is the important  
11      language -- "those entities that opt out of the releases  
12      provided hereunder shall be bound and shall receive the  
13      distributions they would otherwise be entitled to receive."

14           So they're trying to do two separate things here. The  
15      opt-out that they're going to put on the ballot, it's not  
16      really consensual that parties are being given the opportunity  
17      to opt out because they're not going to get a distribution. So  
18      I don't know why anyone would really make that choice to opt  
19      out. And the position of the United States trustee is that the  
20      debtors should not be permitted to solicit releases from  
21      creditors based on the premise that they actually have a choice  
22      when the debtors are going to go to confirmation and try to  
23      impose that release on everyone. Thank you, Your Honor.

24           MR. ETKIN: Your Honor, I apologize. One more point  
25      on that issue that bears mentioning. The opt-out, as I

1 understand it, deals with an opt-out with respect to granting  
2 releases to the other parties to the global settlement  
3 agreement. You cannot opt out of a third party release under  
4 this plan, even in its current form, as it relates to claims  
5 against the debtors' former and current officers and directors,  
6 that you're giving regardless. You can't opt out with respect  
7 to a claim against the former accountants, former investment  
8 bankers, essentially most of the parties to the securities  
9 litigation, you're stuck there. There's no ability to opt out  
10 as it relates to those releases which are the related persons  
11 as defined under the plan, as they are relevant to the debtors.

12 (Pause)

13 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, if I could take a matter that  
14 we just concluded and hopefully not bring about more comment  
15 but it's in answer to the tax refund question.

16 THE COURT: Okay.

17 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, it's my understanding that WMI  
18 Rainier itself would not qualify for any portion of the refunds  
19 coming the debtors' way. However, with respect to the merger  
20 that Mr. Potter referred to with respect to ADI, which was  
21 Ahmanson Development, Inc., there may be an entitlement to a  
22 certain amount of the refund, but it would be in the mere  
23 thousands of dollars and nothing significant, Your Honor, and  
24 certainly not in the millions of dollars. But as I get more  
25 clarity, I'm happy to let Mr. Potter know that.

1 THE COURT: All right.

2 MR. POTTER: Thank you.

3 THE COURT: Thank you.

4 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, with respect to the easiest of  
5 what Mr. Etkin said, there was a misstatement in the disclosure  
6 statement. The negotiation that we're having with respect to  
7 certain claims that have been filed in the MARTA action, they  
8 are to be withdrawn without prejudice to refiling. The reason  
9 is, they would be refiled if in fact there is going to be a  
10 distribution that'll drip down to the subordinated claim level,  
11 at which point they would be refiled and then we could litigate  
12 as to whether or not there would be any liability on the part  
13 of the estate.

14 But in the avoidance of fees and expenses, we all  
15 decided let's not waste our time litigating those claims at  
16 this time. And we are in the process -- that is a pending  
17 claim objection, Your Honor, we're in the process of working on  
18 a stipulation for that removal.

19 With respect to the release issue, Your Honor's  
20 correct that many of these issues are confirmation issue and  
21 Mr. Etkin is correct when he says that Mr. Rosen said he was  
22 going to come to the confirmation hearing and he's going to put  
23 on testimony, because I know, Your Honor, that it's an  
24 important part of the confirmation hearing to show the  
25 consideration that is being given with respect to those

1 releases and the entitlement to them.

2 Your Honor is correct that it says to the extent  
3 permitted by law. And if the Court determines that there is  
4 nothing that is permitted to be give, then the parties to the  
5 agreements have issues that they're going to have to take up at  
6 the confirmation hearing, Your Honor. But everybody knows that  
7 going in and we know that -- the effort is, Your Honor, to try  
8 and get a release either by checking the box or establishing  
9 for the Court that there is an entitlement to a third party  
10 release, and then have that third party release binding upon  
11 the other parties. But if in fact the Court determines --

12 THE COURT: Does the opt-out apply to all of the third  
13 party releases?

14 MR. ROSEN: That -- his last clarification, Your  
15 Honor, with respect to Ds and Os and former Ds and Os?

16 THE COURT: Yeah.

17 MR. ROSEN: It does not, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: The release does not apply to the Ds and  
19 Os?

20 MR. ROSEN: It does not permit the opt-out for that  
21 piece, as Mr. Etkin recited it. He is correct.

22 THE COURT: And does your ballot say that?

23 MR. ROSEN: I believe it does.

24 THE COURT: Let me see the ballot.

25 (Pause)

1 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor -- I'm sorry. Your Honor, two  
2 things. It's in the plan itself in paragraph 43.6. It's  
3 bolded as required and it says that you cannot -- I just want  
4 to make sure I read it correctly: "Each entity that has  
5 submitted a ballot may elect, by checking the appropriate box  
6 on its ballot, not to grant the releases set forth in 43.6 of  
7 the plan with respect to those release parties other than" and  
8 the "other than" would encompass the relates parties which are  
9 including the Ds and Os, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: What does it say on the ballot?

11 MR. ROSEN: I'm looking at the subordinated -- the 510  
12 subordinated ballot because that's the one that -- since there  
13 is no ballot going down to equity, Your Honor. Your Honor, it  
14 has the same exact language carried over from 43.6 of the plan.

15 THE COURT: Which is "other than" --

16 MR. ROSEN: That you cannot opt out with respect to  
17 those people. We took, Your Honor, in toto, the entire section  
18 so it was clear for anyone reviewing it to the extent it can  
19 be.

20 MR. ETKIN: That's why I like Mr. Rosen. He's candid  
21 Your Honor. The problem is that you have no idea, really, the  
22 scope of who you're releasing because you have to go back to  
23 the definitional sections of the plan as it relates to related  
24 persons. So to navigate through all of that mess is a relative  
25 impossibility, Your Honor. Coupling that with the objection

1       that the U.S. trustee and I just articulated, as well as the  
2       fact that these people who are voting and who fill out a  
3       ballot, they're not consciously making a decision as to whether  
4       they're going to give a release or not. Number one, they're  
5       being forced to opt out of it. It's backwards as opposed to  
6       what the WMB bondholders need to do which is to affirmatively  
7       opt into it. A release, a waiver of rights has to be an  
8       affirmative act, Your Honor.

9               THE COURT: That's a confirmation issue.

10              MR. ETKIN: But these ballots are going out and I --  
11       my concern is that there's going to be some reliance on these  
12       ballots or the failure to check the box or the fact that you  
13       never submitted a ballot in the first place or the other  
14       laundry list of things that could happen that's going to  
15       influence that decision, if somebody is really focusing on  
16       making that decision.

17              THE COURT: I understand.

18              MR. ETKIN: And once they see that if I check this  
19       that means I'm not going to get a distribution under the plan,  
20       do you mean if I have this other claim --

21              MR. ROSEN: Hold on a sec. Your Honor, we'll make it  
22       easy and stop this one. We'll make it an opt-in so it's a lot  
23       cleaner.

24              THE COURT: Does the ballot say that you're  
25       nonetheless going to seek these releases independently?

1 MR. ROSEN: Yes. Yes it does, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: Okay.

3 MR. ETKIN: And that, I believe Your Honor, remains an  
4 issue because you have to -- the debtor really needs to choose,  
5 fish or fowl, whether they're going to attempt to stuff these  
6 down creditors' throats by virtue of argument at confirmation,  
7 or that they're going to stuff them down creditors' throats by  
8 virtue of not giving them a distribution if they now opt in to  
9 the release. Those, at least to me, Your Honor, are not  
10 confirmation; they're issues to be raised now. However, to the  
11 extent that the Court believes that they are confirmation  
12 issues, I don't want to waive the ability to come into Your  
13 Honor at the confirmation hearing and argue that these really  
14 were not -- these releases really were not consensual at all.

15 THE COURT: You're reserving that argument. I'm going  
16 to allow it. I think that this is a confirmation issue. I  
17 don't know that the debtor's going to argue to say that  
18 somebody who opts out of a release is otherwise bound by the  
19 release.

20 MR. ROSEN: We understand, Your Honor.

21 THE COURT: I'll let you make the argument.

22 MR. ROSEN: We understand, Your Honor. Mr. Coffey  
23 asked me a question about would we make that same opt-in for  
24 all classes and the answer is we'll make them the same.

25 THE COURT: Good.

1 (Pause)

2 MR. NELSON: Now, good afternoon. Justin Nelson,  
3 Sussman Godfrey, for the equity committee. Just to be clear,  
4 Your Honor, there are two constituencies as part of the equity  
5 committee. One is the commons, which are deemed to have  
6 rejected the plan. The preferreds can vote on the plan and  
7 are, I think, Class XX of the plan.

8 And we have one issue that I think has not been  
9 addressed, either by this morning, the ruling on waiting or not  
10 waiting for the examiner and some of the other filings that the  
11 debtor has made and that's specifically with respect to the  
12 reorganized company that's going to emerge WMRIC (ph.). They  
13 have attached Exhibit D that states that the value will be  
14 between 120 and 160 million dollars, I think. It doesn't talk,  
15 at all, about what the NOL is and there's reason to believe that  
16 it's in the billions of dollars for what the NOL is. And it's  
17 potentially a huge, undisclosed gift to the owners, the hedge  
18 funds who own the PIERS claims.

19 And so we would like there to be some disclosure with  
20 respect to just a few points. First, the lines of businesses  
21 that would be allowed under the tax code to have income  
22 shielded by the NOL; second, to disclose the use of the  
23 proceeds on the proposed rights offering. Right now they say  
24 that it's going to be a hundred million dollar rights offering  
25 and the value will be, to give back, will be about 100 million

1 dollars; third, to disclose any revenue, rulings, requests to  
2 the IRS; and fourth, and fundamentally, the potential size of  
3 the NOL that will emerge from the reorganized company. Thank  
4 you, Your Honor, unless there are any questions.

5 THE COURT: No.

6 (Pause)

7 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, I think several of these are  
8 already encompassed in there but to the extent that they are  
9 not, I don't think we have a problem with the disclosure of  
10 these and I'm happy to work with Mr. Nelson to put that  
11 language in the disclosure statement.

12 THE COURT: Okay.

13 MR. NELSON: May I just get a clarification, Your  
14 Honor? There is -- attached as Exhibit D is a summary of what  
15 they call the Blackstone report but my understanding is that  
16 still has not been shared and that might help, as well, in  
17 terms of disclosure as well, if we could actually see the  
18 underlying Blackstone report.

19 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, I think the Blackstone report  
20 is near completion and it is an expert report that would  
21 certainly be made available to the equity committee as part of  
22 the confirmation process as well as whatever they would want as  
23 a result of it being an expert report and I think it will be  
24 posted to the depository so you'll be able to read it.

25 MR. NELSON: The problem is that Exhibit D relies on

1 the Blackstone already, right now, in the disclosure statement.  
2 But I take that we're going to work to try to work out all the  
3 issues that we listed, to try to put them in the disclosure.

4 MR. ROSEN: Yes.

5 MR. NELSON: All right Thank you, Your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Because I didn't rule on the security  
7 plaintiffs' two issues regarding, one, that the debtors say  
8 that -- other parties say the releases may not be in accord  
9 with applicable law, I think that's right.

10 MR. ROSEN: We'll put -- yeah, they want to or not,  
11 that's fine.

12 THE COURT: And with respect to who gets discovery,  
13 you'll modify that?

14 MR. ROSEN: Yes. That, I think, Your Honor, honestly,  
15 that was a situation of the disclosure statement not catching  
16 up to an order.

17 THE COURT: Exactly.

18 MR. ETKIN: Just one last thing. And I'll ask this to  
19 the Court and to Mr. Rosen, that statement in the disclosure  
20 statement, will that also be transported to the ballot  
21 regarding the issues relating to the releases?

22 MR. ROSEN: I'm sorry. I couldn't hear you.

23 MR. ETKIN: The statement that parties have objected  
24 to and believe that the releases are not in it, will that be  
25 transported to the ballot as well?

1           MR. ROSEN: I don't think it's a ballot issue; it's a  
2 disclosure statement issue.

3           THE COURT: I think it's already in the -- I think  
4 that provision is in the disclosure statement, is what you've  
5 copied into the ballot.

6           MR. ROSEN: No. This is sort of the editorial with  
7 respect to it. He wants that into a ballot itself.

8           MR. ETKIN: The language in the plan is in there but  
9 not an indication to people who are voting that there's an  
10 issue regarding the leases.

11          THE COURT: Yeah, I think that should be on the ballot  
12 or let him file a letter with the --

13          MR. ROSEN: I think that's fine. If Mr. Etkin wants  
14 to give us a letter, we'll send that out with everything as  
15 well, Your Honor.

16          Your Honor, I made a comment very quickly before and  
17 I'm not sure it's accurate. Mr. Coffey had asked me about the  
18 opt-in versus opt-out and I don't think it can actually work  
19 that way because of the consideration that's being given to all  
20 of these people pursuant to the different classes. I think  
21 with respect to one class it may work that way, which is the  
22 bottommost tier, but I don't think it can work with respect to  
23 the higher up tiers, where people are actually getting direct  
24 distributions by way of the settlement agreement. So I think  
25 we were going to look to keep those opt-outs but for that

1       subordinated group that he's referring to.

2               MR. ETKIN: That blends into the problem that I  
3       mentioned a little earlier, Your Honor, and that is, you know,  
4       what happens to a creditor who has multiple claims in the case?  
5       What happens to a creditor who has a general unsecured claim  
6       but who also may be a class member with respect to securities  
7       litigation?

8               THE COURT: Well, each class -- he can opt one way or  
9       the other.

10              MR. ETKIN: As to that claim.

11              MR. ROSEN: Right.

12              THE COURT: As to the claim in that specific class.

13              MR. ETKIN: Just want that to be clear. I don't want  
14       somebody who's giving a release as to their general unsecured  
15       claim to be deemed to give a release across the board.

16              THE COURT: I think that's understood. All right.  
17       Have we resolved all objections, then? All right. When will  
18       the debtor have a clean copy done?

19              MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, I think the changes that we  
20       need to make today will not take too long and we could have it  
21       for the Court tomorrow.

22              THE COURT: Okay. File it under certification and  
23       circulate it to all the parties who have objected.

24              MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, if I could just go through  
25       dates that we've been contemplating, and it goes to what I

1 started with, I think, as part of the overall timing. Your  
2 Honor, based upon the communications that we've had with KCC,  
3 we anticipate being able to commence the solicitation this  
4 Friday. That's how long it will take them to get everything  
5 together and ready to roll.

6 Your Honor, there are certain people who will probably  
7 want to file a motion for temporary allowance for voting  
8 purposes and we would ask, and we would include in the proposed  
9 order, that that date be a week from today. We would then,  
10 Your Honor, turn to responding to those by November 4th. There  
11 is an omnibus hearing, Your Honor, on November 9th and to the  
12 extent that there are any, we would hope to try and take care  
13 of those to the extent that we cannot resolve them consensually  
14 at that hearing on the 9th.

15 We propose the voting deadline, as I indicated earlier  
16 Your Honor, of November 15th with objections to confirmation  
17 due on November 19th, this would be the weekend -- the Friday  
18 before Thanksgiving.

19 We would then, on the 22nd, which is a one week after  
20 the voting deadline, file with the Court, Your Honor, a stock  
21 election notice because there is an opportunity under the plan  
22 to elect stock or other distributions. And that dovetails  
23 then, Your Honor, into the subscription notice that we would  
24 want to file with the Court, excuse me the subscription  
25 deadline which we would want to set as November 29th. So it

1 would give people, to the extent that they want to elect the  
2 subscription rights, one week to make that determination after  
3 they see who may have elected other stock pursuant to the plan.

4 And lastly, Your Honor, so as we don't burden  
5 ourselves over the Thanksgiving weekend, we would want to file  
6 all of our responses to those confirmation objections and file  
7 all affidavits for direct testimony the day before  
8 Thanksgiving, so that it would be a week before the scheduled  
9 confirmation hearing on December 1st.

10 It was those dates, Your Honor, that we would include  
11 in the proposed disclosure statement order.

12 MR. ETKIN: Just one question, Your Honor, as to those  
13 dates. I thought I read something that the debtor had up  
14 until, I don't know whether it was the voting deadline or the  
15 record date to file objections to claims, that would obviously  
16 be -- take it beyond October 25th, which is the deadline to  
17 file 3018 motions. Now somebody who hasn't had a claim  
18 objected to would have no reason to file a 3018 motion if their  
19 claim's going to be allowed for voting purposes. But if  
20 there's an objection, I was just curious as to how that would  
21 work.

22 MR. ROSEN: To the extent that there is a liquidated  
23 claim out there, we will have filed all of our objections  
24 today. There are unliquidated claims and pursuant to the  
25 voting procedures, they are to be voted in the amount of one

1       dollar. So to the extent that they want to vote in a different  
2       amount, they would have to file the 3018 motion.

3               MR. NELSON: Justin Nelson for the equity committee,  
4       Your Honor. I rise specifically with respect to the December  
5       1st date. We would ask that we not set a date for confirmation  
6       at least until we see the examiner's report. We are concerned  
7       that once we get the examiner's report that we either will or  
8       will not have to do further discovery. To think that that can  
9       happen within a short window, especially given some of the  
10      discovery issues that we've previously had with the debtors and  
11      to follow up on any issues, potentially, with the examiners,  
12      not even talking about, of course, the shareholders' meeting  
13      which is on the agenda for November 9th. We think that it  
14      would be more prudent to set something in mid to late January,  
15      even now tentatively, so that there could be time to conduct  
16      discovery and the follow up that can be done from the  
17      examiner's report. Thank you.

18              THE COURT: Well, I'm going to suggest that we set the  
19      date. If there's a reason to extend it, I'll hear that once I  
20      get the examiner's report.

21              MR. NELSON: And just for --

22              THE COURT: And we have the November 9th hearing date  
23      at any rate.

24              MR. ROSEN: We do, Your Honor.

25              MR. NELSON: And just for clarification, Your Honor,

1 if at that point we do need more discovery that we're not going  
2 to be able to get within the time remaining, would that be a  
3 sufficient reason to --

4 THE COURT: Well, I'm going to rule --

5 MR. NELSON: All right. Fair enough. Thank you, Your  
6 Honor.

7 THE COURT: -- today on such --

8 MR. HODARA: Your Honor, Fed Hodara for the committee.  
9 Very briefly, we had a support letter that was dated July 7. I  
10 just wanted to advise the Court that we will be conforming that  
11 letter to the current date and to reference the sixth amended  
12 plan, rather than the fifth, and the current settlement  
13 agreement.

14 THE COURT: Okay.

15 MR. HODARA: Thank you.

16 MR. ROSEN: Your Honor, if I could, we will get Mr.  
17 Etkin's letter and we will provide that to the Court with the  
18 certification of counsel that you referred to earlier, so the  
19 Court has all of the updated letters.

20 THE COURT: Well, let me ask you a question. Why are  
21 we having a different voting deadline from the objection  
22 deadline? I think you said voting would be November 15th and  
23 objections November 19th.

24 MR. ROSEN: Correct, Your Honor. Your Honor, we  
25 wanted to get the voting -- I'm happy to move the objection

1 deadline forward, to the 15th, that is fine, Your Honor. We  
2 were trying to give people help.

3 THE COURT: I think the other way.

4 MR. ROSEN: The reason for the other way, Your Honor,  
5 is because we need to compile the stock election notice so that  
6 we can have -- people have that -- there's going to take time  
7 between taking the vote, looking at each ballot to see who  
8 elected what and then putting it in the stock election notice  
9 that we're going to file with the Court and so that everybody  
10 can see it. That's why we looked at the week, two week  
11 separations Your Honor. And we didn't want to jam anybody on  
12 objecting earlier, but I'll gladly accept that, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: I'll accept your dates then.

14 MR. ROSEN: Thank you, Your Honor. I think that  
15 concludes this morning's calendar.

16 THE COURT: All right. I'll look for the  
17 certification of counsel with a form of order and the revised  
18 disclosure statement.

19 MR. ROSEN: Thank you very much, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: All right. We'll stand adjourned.

21 (Whereupon these proceedings were concluded at 12:36 p.m.)  
22  
23  
24  
25

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

I N D E X

R U L I N G S

DESCRIPTION	PAGE	LINE
Hearing on disclosure statement to proceed at this hearing	31	24
Objection of Dime warrant holders overruled	67	17

C E R T I F I C a T I O N

I, Lisa Bar-Leib, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

**Lisa Bar-Leib**

Digitally signed by Lisa Bar-Leib  
DN: cn=Lisa Bar-Leib, c=US  
Reason: I am the author of this document  
Date: 2010.10.19 14:55:40 -04'00'

LISA BAR-LEIB (CET\*\*D-486)

AAERT Electronic Certified Transcriber

Veritext

200 Old Country Road

Suite 580

Mineola, NY 11501

Date: October 19, 2010