Deposition of

## **George Soohoo**

February 21, 2020

Volume II

Soohoo

VS.

State of California

	Volume II George Soohoo	Soohoo vs. State of California
1	STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
2	Division of Workers' Compensation	
3	WORKERS' COMPENSATION APPEALS BOARD	
4		
5 (	EORGE SOOHOO,	
6	Applicant,	
7	vs. Case No. ADJ11815610	
8 5	TATE OF CALIFORNIA, DEPT	
	ORRS-INST MEN, Legally Uninsured; TATE COMPENSATION INSURANCE	
	UND/STATE CONTRACT SERVICES, Adjusting Agency,	
11	Defendants.	
12		
13		
14		
15	DEPOSITION OF GEORGE SOOHOO	
16	VOLUME II	
17	San Diego, California	
18	February 21, 2020	
19		
20		
21		
22	Reported by:	
23	ebby M. Gladish RPR, CCRR, CLR, CSR No. 9803 CRA Roaltimo Systems Administrator	
24	CRA Realtime Systems Administrator	
25	ob No. 10066983	

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	UND/STATE CONTRACT SERVICES, Adjusting Agency,	
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15		
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18		
19	DEPOSITION OF GEORGE SOOHOO, VOLUME II,	
20	taken on behalf of Defendants at 1550 Hotel Circle	
21	North, Suite 170, San Diego, California, beginning at	
22	2:30 p.m., and ending at 5:14 p.m., on Friday, February	
23	21, 2020, before Debby M. Gladish, RPR, CLR, CCRR, CSR	
24	No. 9803, NCRA Realtime Systems Administrator.	
25		

	George Soonoo	State of Califo
1	APPEARANCES:	
2	For Applicant:	
3	LAW OFFICES OF PHILIP M. COHEN	
4	BY: PHILIP M. COHEN, ESQ. 1550 Hotel Circle North, Suite 170	
5	San Diego, California 92108 619.297.5100	
6	For Defendants:	
7		
8	STATE COMPENSATION INSURANCE FUND BY: STEPHEN P. TAYLOR, ESQ. 1615 Murray Canyon Road, Suite 500	
9	San Diego, California 92108 619.209.3233	
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## Volume II George Soohoo

1	San Diego, California; Friday, February 21, 2020			
2	2:30 p.m 5:14 p.m.			
3				
4	GEORGE SOOHOO,			
5	having been resworn, testified as follows:			
6				
7	EXAMINATION (Resumed)			
8	BY MR. TAYLOR:			
9	Q. Mr. SooHoo, we're here today in your attorney's			
10	office to continue on with your deposition in what we're			
11	calling Volume II that we first started on January 31st			
12	here in your attorney's office.			
13	And I'm going to assume that you remember			
14	everything we discussed in the beginning of your first			
15	deposition session about what a deposition is and			
16	testifying under oath and give me your best testimony			
17	today so that you don't have to change it later.			
18	Do you remember all that?			
19	A. Yes.			
20	Q. So to speed things up and make sure we finish			
21	today I'm going to dispense with going through that			
22	whole thing.			
23	Okay?			
24	A. Okay.			
25	Q. Are you okay with that?			

1	A. Yes.
2	Q. Is there anything that you remembered that you
3	told me or I asked you on January 31st in Volume I that
4	you think you need to explain something else or change
5	or add to it or anything that you told me that you think
6	needs to be changed?
7	A. You asked me about the medications that we're
8	on.
9	Q. And what is it that you can tell me now?
10	A. I took the metformin for diabetes.
11	Q. You're reading. You wrote it down; right?
12	A. Yeah, these are all the medications.
13	Q. So I want to make sure we get the spellings
14	right so we don't drive Debby crazy. Is that your
15	handwriting that you have in front of you?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. Is it legible, can I read it? Because if we
18	can
19	A. I'm not too sure if it's all that legible.
20	MR. COHEN: Well, then can you
21	BY MR. TAYLOR:
22	Q. Read it and spell it for her. So here's what
23	you do: You read the medication, you spell it, you tell
24	us what it's for and then you tell us afterwards who
25	prescribed it for you. Can you remember all that? That

- 1 will save a lot of time.
- 2 A. Sure.
- 3 Q. So read it, spell it, tell us what's it for and
- 4 then afterwards tell us who prescribes it.
- 5 A. Yes, sir.
- 6 Q. Okay. Go ahead.
- 7 A. Metformin, M-E-T-F-O-R-M-I-N, for diabetes.
- 8 Losartan-Hydrochlorothiazide, L-O-S-A-R-T-N [verbatim]
- 9 HCTZ, for my blood pressure. Amlodipine,
- 10 A-M-Y-L-O-D-I-P-I-N-E [verbatim], for blood pressure
- 11 also. Lovastatin, L-O-V-A-S-T-A-T-I-N, for cholesterol.
- 12 Fenofibrate, F-E-N-O-F-I-B-R-A-T-E. It's for elevated
- 13 triglycerides. And clopidogrel is
- 14 C-L-O-P-I-D-O-G-R-E-L, and that's to prevent strokes and
- 15 heart attack.
- 16 Q. Okay. Thank you.
- 17 Who prescribes all those for you?
- 18 A. Dr. Alexander Berdy.
- 19 Q. That's the same doctor you told us about last
- 20 time?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. B-E-R-D-Y?
- A. Yes, sir.
- 24 Q. Okay.
- 25 A. I didn't see my psychiatrist yet. I have two

1	n	nedic	ations.
2		Q.	Give me your psych meds.
3		Α.	I don't remember. I didn't bring them, I'm
4	s	orry.	
5		Q.	Who is prescribing your psych meds for you?
6		Α.	Shaun Chung.
7		Q.	That's the same doctor you told me about last
8	ti	me?	
9		Α.	VA Long Beach.
10		Q.	Are you taking those psych meds today?
11		Α.	Yes.
12		Q.	Are they antidepressants, antianxiety, both?
13		Α.	Antianxiety.
14		Q.	Are they both antianxiety?
15		Α.	No, one is for mood.
16		Q.	When you say "mood," you mean antidepressant?
17		Α.	Yes.
18		Q.	And how long have you been taking those psych
19	r	neds	?
20		Α.	Approximately two years.
21		Q.	Okay. And you're taking them today?
22		Α.	Yes.
23		Q.	Do you think it causes you to have any problems
24	١	with r	nemory or thinking or answering questions
25	a	accur	ately?

		-
1	A.	No.
2	Q.	Okay. When we were last here for Volume I of
3	your	deposition on January 31st, were you working full
4	time?	
5	A.	Yes.
6	Q.	Okay. And where are you currently working?
7	A.	Regional 4 in Rancho Cucamonga.
8	Q.	When you say "Regional 4" do you mean that's
9	for th	e department of corrections?
10	A.	Yes.
11	Q	. What division division or department
12	A.	Healthcare services.
13	Q	. Let me finish. What division or department is
14	Regi	ional 4 part of CDCR?
15	A.	Healthcare Services.
16	Q	. And that's in Rancho Cucamonga?
17	A.	Yes, sir.
18	Q	. What is your actual job title there now?
19	A.	Supervising.
20		MR. TAYLOR: Off the record a second.
21		(Off the record.)
22		MR. TAYLOR: Back on the record.
23	BY N	MR. TAYLOR:
24	Q	. Your job title is supervising dentist?
25	A.	Yes.
	1	

	_		
1		Q.	What is what is the actual bureaucracy code
2	nι	umb	er or name or whatever? Don't you have some kind of
3	le	vel o	or grade, pay grade?
4		A.	Supervising dentist.
5		Q.	That's it?
6		A.	Uh-huh.
7		Q.	So it's not supervising dentist one, two,
8	th	ree,	four?
9		A.	No.
10		Q.	Okay. And is that largely administrative as
11	0	oppo	sed to physically doing clinical work as a dentist?
12		Α.	If you are in the can you repeat your
13	q	luest	tion.
14			MR. COHEN: Maybe make it more specific.
15	В	BY M	IR. TAYLOR:
16		Q.	I'm trying to get at physically, literally what
17	у	ou d	lo. In workers' comp there is a big difference in
18	d	loing	office work and doing work that physically
19	re	equi	res you to do things with your hands and your body.
20	Y	′ou s	see what I'm saying?
21		Α.	Yes, sir.
22		Q.	That's what I'm trying to do. I know that as a
23	d	lentis	st you do some things physically, but in your past
24	te	estin	nony you told me about a lot of administrative
25	S	tuff,	which is office work. So I'm trying to find out

- 1 how much you do now as a supervising dentist, how much
- 2 administrative office work do you do that's just
- 3 computers and phones and handwriting and typing as
- 4 opposed to clinical work, which is as a dentist where
- 5 you're using your body and your arms and your hands to
- 6 work on patients, et cetera?
- 7 A. A hundred percent administrative.
- 8 Q. Okay. Do you have a supervisor or a superior
- 9 manager over you there at Rancho Cucamonga?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Who is that?
- 12 A. Dr. Jeff Lissy.
- 13 Q. Spell, please.
- 14 A. J-E-F-F L-I-S-S-Y.
- 15 Q. And what is Dr. Jeff Lissy's title?
- 16 A. Regional clinical director.
- 17 Q. Regional clinical director. Does he physically
- 18 share the same office with you? Does he manage you
- 19 remotely by computer and phone? Does he occasionally
- 20 come into the offices where you are? How does that
- 21 work?
- 22 A. He has his own office.
- 23 Q. There in the same place?
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. I have an address here of located at 10750

1	Fourt	h that's the word "Fourth" Street, Building
2	1, Sui	te 150, Rancho Cucamonga 91730. Is that the
3	office	s?
4	Α.	Yes.
5	Q.	Is that a state building or is the state
6	leasin	ig some offices?
7	Α.	Leasing.
8	Q.	What is contained in those offices besides
9	yours	and Dr. Lissy's, what is there?
10	Α.	A lot of cubicles for telemedicine and
11	auxili	ary administrative staff.
12	Q.	What is an auxiliary administrative staff?
13	Α.	They have physicians, they have dental
14	assis	tants. They have hosts of healthcare service for
15	what	ever medical sides. Majority, a lot of them are
16	telem	nedicine.
17	Q.	Okay. So is there any clinical stuff going on
18	in yo	ur offices, literal dentistry going on?
19	Α.	No.
20	Q.	And you are administrating, what, a particular
21	regio	n of prisons in a region or what?
22	Α.	Southern region.
23	Q.	What is contained in the southern region?
24	Α.	The they have a maybe eight or nine
25	institu	utions in the southern region.

1	Q. It's my understanding that your history that is
2	mostly involved with the workers' comp claims that
3	you're making is the California Institution for Men at
4	Chino; is that correct?
5	A. Not particularly.
6	Q. Well, was there a lot of your work history at
7	the California Institution for Chino?
8	MR. COHEN: Vague and ambiguous what "a lot"
9	means.
10	MR. TAYLOR: I understand. I got to get
11	started somewhere.
12	BY MR. TAYLOR:
13	Q. I'm trying to find out the places you've worked
14	mostly and it's my understanding that you were working
15	for California Institution for Men at Chino at some
16	point before you went to where you're working now; is
17	that correct?
18	A. When I started, it was at Blythe at Ironwood
19	State Prison.
20	Q. I know that. I'm trying to fill in going
21	backwards from where you are now. Okay?
22	A. Uh-huh.
23	Q. Is that a "yes"?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. Is it true that you worked for a while at

- 1 California Institution for Men at Chino?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. For how long?
- 4 A. Approximately ten years.
- 5 Q. Just tell me what those years are, from when to
- 6 when?
- 7 A. I don't exactly remember.
- 8 Q. This is one of those admonitions I gave you
- 9 about giving me an estimate or approximation, that's
- 10 okay. Just don't give me a pure guess. There has got
- 11 to be some kind of reasonable estimate.
- 12 A. 2010 to the present.
- 13 Q. Okay. So would it be fair to say that a
- 14 significant amount of the job history and work
- 15 circumstances involved in your workers' comp claims
- 16 occurred at -- when you worked at Chino; is that
- 17 correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Okay. When did you transfer over to the --
- 20 what do you call it -- the Healthcare Services Region 4
- 21 in Rancho Cucamonga?
- 22 A. July 13th.
- 23 Q. Of what year?
- 24 A. 2018.
- 25 Q. Okay. Where you're working now, are you at

1	full dut	y?
2	A.	Yes.
3	Q.	Is there anything that's required of you to do
4	even if	it's just on occasion where you're working now
5	that yo	ou think you can't do because of some kind of
6	injury o	or symptom or limitation, physical limitation or
7	medica	al problem?
8	Α.	No. They I'm able to do everything, but
9	they ga	ave me accommodation for my carpal tunnel.
10	Q.	Okay.
11	Α.	On the computer. So I'm good.
12	Q.	Carpal tunnel. You say you have carpal tunnel
13	in botl	n hands?
14	Α.	Yes.
15	Q.	Is one hand worse than the other?
16	Α.	Yes.
17	Q.	Which hand is worse?
18	Α.	Right.
19	Q.	Okay. What kind of accommodations they have
20	they g	ave you to allow you to work with carpal tunnel?
21	Α.	Gave me a special chair, special keyboard and a
22	screei	n that goes up and down.
23	Q.	Okay. And with those accommodations are you
24	able to	o do your job without any problems?
25	Α.	Yes.

Г

1	Q. Okay. Can you just give us a rundown of your		
2	typical day? I mean, I'm not you don't have to tell		
3	me every single little thing that you do, but just		
4	generally what are you doing in the day? Are you		
5	sitting at a desk mostly and typing on a computer? Are		
6	you on the phone a lot? Do you get up and go down		
7	hallways and meet with people? Just describe that type		
8	of thing, what is your typical day like?		
9	A. Meetings, work with the other dentists on peer		
10	review, consulting, discussion with other dentists and		
11	then		
12	Q. What with other		
13	A. Discussions with other dentists and dental		
14	assistants, audits.		
15	Q. So does all of this just involving sitting at		
16	desks or at meeting tables talking, being on the phone,		
17	typing on your computer, things like that?		
18	A. Yes.		
19	Q. Okay. Is there anything else that you have to		
20	do other than that type of work, the office work?		
21	A. No.		
22	Q. Do any of the people that you work with on a		
23	regular basis have any problems with you as far as		
24	interacting with you and working with you? Is		
25	everything going smoothly or are you having any problems		

1	with any particular people?		
2	Α.	No.	
3	Q.	How about your supervisor, Mr Dr. Lissy,	
4	are yo	ou having any problems with him?	
5	Α.	No.	
6	Q.	Do you know whether or not any of them know	
7	about	some of the ongoing things that occurred at Chino	
8	before	e you transferred over that are involved in why	
9	we're	here today?	
10	A.	I do not know.	
11	Q.	Okay. But nobody has ever said or brought it	
12	up lik	e somehow they know about the things that took	
13	place?		
14	Α.	Dr. Lissy has.	
15	Q.	Because he's your supervisor?	
16	Α.	Yes.	
17	Q.	He normally would have been consulted with and	
18	advised about issues that might have happened in Chino		
19	beca	use you were transferring over; right?	
20	A.	Yes.	
21	Q.	I mean, that's not a surprise to you that he	
22	know	s about it because he's your supervisor; right?	
23	Α.	Yes.	
24	Q.	Has he in any way ever treated you in any way,	
25	spok	en to you or communicated in a way that led you to	

- 1 believe that what he knows from the history at Chino is
- 2 somehow causing him to not be fair to you or to not
- 3 treat you properly?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. Okay. So you're okay with Dr. Lissy?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. And how long have you been at Regional 4 Rancho
- 8 Cucamonga now? You said -- I forgot. You said
- 9 July 13th; right?
- 10 MR. COHEN: 2018.
- 11 BY MR. TAYLOR:
- 12 Q. So you have been two -- well, not quite two
- 13 years, a year and a half?
- 14 A. Yes, sir.
- 15 Q. And do you plan on transferring out or
- 16 promoting out or going anywhere else anytime in the next
- 17 couple of years?
- 18 A. No.
- 19 Q. As you sit here today, what is your -- I'm not
- 20 trying to get you to commit to a retirement plan, but
- 21 what is your long-term outlook as far as what you plan
- 22 on doing with where you are working now? Are you
- 23 planning on working there indefinitely? Do you plan to
- retire anytime in the next few years or transferring out
- 25 or promoting out?

1	A. I enjoy clinical dentistry, so I have no plans
2	to retire.
3	Q. But you said clinical dentistry. You're not
4	doing clinical, you're doing administrative. Do you
5	understand?
6	A. Yes.
7	Q. So does that mean you might try to get a
8	transfer into a clinical job somewhere?
9	A. I don't know.
10	Q. Okay. In any of your treatment, your psych
11	treatment, is there anything, any issues that you're
12	having on dealing with your job description and duties
13	and your coworkers and supervisors where you're working
14	now?
15	A. Can you be more specific? I don't understand
16	your question.
17	Q. Well, you know, when people are taking psych
18	meds and getting psych treatment, you know, there's
19	issues that could be having at home or at work and there
20	could be relationship issues or they could be job issues
21	or they could be job environmental issues or job
22	pressure issues, whatever. There's all kind of things
23	that can be going into causing giving you
24	effects that affect your, you know, state of mind and
25	your stress and your psychology?

	George Soohoo		State of Calif
1	A.	Yes.	
2	Q.	What is affecting you now?	
3	Α.	Not at Rancho Cucamonga.	
4	Q.	Okay. So any effects that you might be talking	
5	about	with your treating psychologist or psychiatrist	
6	have t	o do with things that happened before you went to	
7	Ranch	no Cucamonga?	
8	A.	Yes.	
9	Q.	Is that mostly things that happened at Chino?	
10	Α.	Yes.	
11	Q.	By the way, you said you were at Chino about	
12	ten ye	ears?	
13	A.	Yes.	
14	Q.	Where were you before Chino?	
15	A.	I was at Region 4.	
16	Q.	Same place?	
17	A.	Yes, sir.	
18	Q.	In Rancho Cucamonga?	
19	A.	Yes.	
20	Q.	Is that part of the reason why you went back	
21		, because you had been there before and you the	
22	thinki	ng was that maybe, you know, you would have an	
23		r time transitioning into a position you were	
24	alread	dy familiar with?	
25	A.	I was assigned there by headquarters.	

Volume II Soohoo vs. George Soohoo State of California	
Q. Okay. So that wasn't your choice?	
A. No.	
Q. Did you agree with that assignment when they	
ssigned you back to Region 4?	
A. Yes. It was fine.	
Q. Wasn't a problem for you?	
A. No.	
Q. So before you were at Region 4, what years was	
hat?	
A. 2010, approximately. I'm not sure.	
Q. This is, again, an approximation or estimate.	

- 12 So was it just for a couple of years?
- 13 A. No. Maybe three or four months.
- Q. Oh, okay. Where did you come -- what was your 14
- 15 job there for three or four months in Region 4 before
- 16 vou went to Chino?

17 A. Dentist.

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2

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11

9 that?

- 18 Q. Were you a clinical dentist or an
- 19 administrative dentist?
- 20 A. Clinical dentist.
- 21 Q. They had clinical offices there in the three or
- 22 four months that you were there at Region 4?
- A. They're administrative office. There's no 23
- 24 clinic over there.
- 25 Q. You said you were a clinical dentist?

1	MR. COHEN: He said before he went to Regional				
2	4.				
3	BY MR. TAYLOR:				
4	Q. This is the first time you were at Regional 4				
5	for three or four months. That's what we're talking				
6	about.				
7	A. There's no such thing as administrative				
8	dentist, only clinical dentist.				
9	Q. Well, the job you're doing now is purely				
10	administrative?				
11	A. Yes. But title-wise there				
12	Q. Okay. There we go. So your title was clinical				
13	3 dentist, but you weren't doing clinical dentistry in				
14	that three or four months; is that correct?				
15	A. Right.				
16	Q. What did you actually do there in that three or				
17	four months at Region 4?				
18	A. We were under the Perez lawsuit so we did				
19	audits of all the institutions.				
20	Q. When you say "under the Perez lawsuit," what do				
21	you mean?				
22	A. They're specific metrics that the receiver put				
23	out and guidelines they have to meet to get out of the				
24	Perez lawsuit.				
25	Q. Okay. If I remember correctly and this is				

1 just to sum up so we don't spend too much time on it, I
2 remember something about that there was a lawsuit
3 against the prison system here in California about the
4 so-called bad conditions and substandard healthcare
5 treatment provided by the prisons to the inmates. And
6 that included not just dentistry, but all their medical
7 treatment. There was a lawsuit and the court appointed
8 a receiver to take over the operations and get them on
9 track for some period of time and that included, I
10 guess, the dental division, too. Is that what you're
11 talking about?
12 A. Yes, sir.
13 Q. Okay. So during that time at Region 4, you
14 were primarily working, auditing files and systems and
15 operations to bring them within compliance with what the
16 receiver wanted?
17 A. Yes.
18 Q. Okay. So just give me a short description of
19 what you did to audit?
A. We looked at infection control. It was a big
21 issue. Second thing we looked at spacing and the
structures, we have adequate space to provide care,
23 accommodate inmate population. And fourth thing was
24 basically be able to work as a team with other
25 healthcare providers to ensure we have a continuity of

1 dare. 2 Q. Okay. In that three or four months, now that 3 we've been talking about it would it be fair to say that 4 that happened sometime in 2008 or 2009? 5 A. Repeat the question. 6 Q. In the three or four months that you -- the 7 first time you were working at Regional 4 when you were 8 doing auditing under the Perez lawsuit, would -- I'm 9 trying to see if we can pin this down to a year or 10 approximate year. Would it be fair to say that that was 11 sometime in 2008 or 2009, that three or four months? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Okay. Before that where had you been working 14 for the department of corrections? 15 A. I was chief dentist for department of juvenile 16 justice. 17 Q. Okay. So, again, trying to -- we're trying to 18 get our years and organize this so we can discuss it, 19 you know, in an organized fashion. If I remember 20 correctly -- and when we were doing Volume I of your 21 deposition on January 31st, you estimated that you were 22 the chief dentist for the department of juvenile justice 23 for about 13 years? 24 A. Yes. 25 Q. Give me those years again, those 13 years?

1	A. Approximately 1998 to 2010.		
2	Q. Okay. Very good. All right. Now, at any time		
3	when you were with the department of juvenile justice,		
4	do you recall having any workers' comp issues there,		
5	whether it was physical injuries or psychological stress		
6	claims or anything like that while you were the chief		
7	dentist for the department of juvenile justice?		
8	A. I never reported hand and back issues.		
9	Q. What did you say, 1998 to about 2010. So you		
10	said you never reported, but you had neck and back		
11	issues?		
12	A. Yes.		
13	Q. During that 13 years?		
14	A. Yes.		
15	Q. Okay. Can you tell me why you never reported		
16	them?		
17	A. No.		
18	Q. Okay. What kind of neck issues were you having		
19	during that 13 years?		
20	A. Soreness.		
21	Q. Was there anything that would bring it on		
22	particular, like a particular activity?		
23	A. Spent too much time in a patient's mouth and		
24	not taking a break.		
25	Q. Okay. And so what you're saying is, I'm using		

1	my common sense here, a dentist is working on patients			
2	and you're looking down, they're in the chair underneath			
3	you and you got the lamp over them and you have got a			
4	dental assistant there. And you are working on their			
5	teeth so you're kind of bent over with your neck looking			
6	into their mouth; is that right?			
7	A. Yes.			
8	Q. Apparently you had a lot of patients every day?			
9	A. Normal flow.			
10	Q. Normal flow. How many patients would you see			
11	in a day on average?			
12	A. Six to eight.			
13	Q. But you what you said was you never got a			
14	break so I'm assuming that there was some kind of			
15	5 workload?			
16	A. No, it depends on the patient's needs.			
17	Q. Some you would have to spend a lot more time			
18	than with others?			
19	A. Yes.			
20	Q. Did you have a lot of kids with rotten teeth			
21	because they're in the juvenile justice system?			
22	A. Yes.			
23	Q. It wasn't necessarily a patient overload, it's			
24	just that your average patient took a lot more work than			
25	your average child or teenager might be out in the			

Г

1	privat	e sector?	
2	A.	Yes.	
3	Q.	Is that what you're saying?	
4	A.	Yes.	
5	Q.	You got neck soreness?	
6	A.	Yes.	
7	Q.	Did you ever take any time off workers' comp	
8	for ne	ck soreness during that 13 years?	
9	Α.	No.	
10	Q.	Did you get treatment for your neck from any	
11	doctors or healthcare providers for your neck during		
12	2 those 13 years?		
13	A.	I just got massage therapy and things like	
14	that.		
15	Q.	Okay.	
16	A.	I went to the jacuzzi. I'm a member of the	
17	health so every day I would go.		
18	Q.	No official formal medical treatment for your	
19	neck during that time?		
20	A.	No.	
21	Q.	Is that correct?	
22	A.	Yes.	
23	Q.	How about your back, what kind of back issues	
24	were	you having during that 13 years with the department	
25	of juv	enile justice?	

	000.9		
1	A.	Times that I couldn't get up, wake up.	
2	Q.	What do you mean, couldn't get up out of bed?	
3	A.	Yes.	
4	Q.	What does that have to do with your back?	
5	A.	Couldn't get up because either I pulled my back	
6	or mu	scle or whatever.	
7	Q.	So you had a back pain?	
8	Α.	Yes.	
9	Q.	Okay. And do you have any reason to believe	
10	the ba	ack pain is related to what you were doing in work	
11	back	then?	
12	A.	Sure.	
13	Q.	What tells you it was related to work?	
14	Α.	Because I would bend and stoop all the time.	
15	Q.	Okay.	
16	Α.	You know.	
17	Q.	Basically for the same reasons you had neck	
18	soren	less?	
19	Α.	Yes.	
20	Q.	Is that what you're saying?	
21		Okay. Were you getting any official medical	
22	treatr	nent, any kind of formal medical treatment for your	
23	back	during that 13 years?	
24	A.	I might have seen a chiropractor.	
25	Q.	But that's about it, just something you might	
	1		

1 have done? 2 A. Uh-huh. 3 Q. Is that a "yes"? A. Yes. 4 5 Q. So in other words there's no doctors or healthcare providers we can talk about and discover for 6 7 your neck and your back during those years? 8 A. The back, I think it's in the Kaiser because I 9 couldn't move my back. I had to see a doctor. 10 Q. What location of Kaiser were you going to back 11 then? 12 A. Buena Park. 13 Q. Okay. So when you were with the department of 14 juvenile justice what city did you live in? 15 A. Buena Park. 16 Q. So if you got back treatment for your back 17 soreness during that time period it would most likely be 18 in your Kaiser records out of the Buena Park location? 19 A. I'm not sure, but I'm -- I went -- I'm pretty 20 sure I did. 21 Q. Okay. Any reason why you didn't report your 22 back problems to work back then? 23 A. No. 24 Q. Okay. So we're going up to the 13th year 25 before you left the department of juvenile justice is

- 1 your neck and back soreness that we've just been
- 2 discussing the first time you had any kind of workers'
- 3 comp kind of complaints from your job with the
- 4 department of corrections starting with Ironwood and all
- 5 the way up through the department of juvenile justice?
- 6 A. What's your question?
- 7 Q. Okay. I'm trying to go through your work
- 8 history and see when any workers' comp claim or physical
- 9 problems popped up.
- 10 A. When they first popped up?
- 11 Q. Yes. You told me about the 13 years between
- 12 1998 and 2010 when you were at the department of
- 13 juvenile justice in Buena Park. You told me about the
- 14 neck and back issues. I know you were working at
- 15 department of corrections before you went to the
- 16 department of juvenile justice. Did you have any
- 17 medical problems or workers' comp injuries or complaints
- 18 before you went that 13 years to the department of
- 19 juvenile justice in Buena Park?
- 20 A. No.
- 21 Q. So when you transferred from department of
- 22 juvenile justice in Buena Park to the California
- 23 Institution for Men at Chino, in your entire history of
- 24 working with the department of corrections in any
- 25 department or any division, the only thing you had ever

- 1 had was the neck soreness and the back soreness while
- 2 working as a clinical dentist at the department of
- 3 juvenile justice; is that right?
- 4 A. I had hand issues.
- 5 Q. Do you remember when you first started having
- 6 the hand issues, what year it was or where you were

7 working?

- 8 MR. TAYLOR: Let's go off the record.
- 9 (Off the record.)
- 10 THE WITNESS: No, I don't.
- 11 BY MR. TAYLOR:
- 12 Q. Okay. Let me put it this way: Could it be
- 13 that even if you had hand issues it might very well be
- 14 that didn't come out until after you left the department
- 15 of juvenile justice?
- 16 A. I'm not sure.
- 17 Q. Okay. While you were with the department of
- 18 juvenile justice did you have any kind of work
- 19 relationship problems with coworkers or management of
- 20 any kind? I know that's a broad question but we've got
- 21 to start somewhere.
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. Okay. So who was your supervisor while you
- 24 were with the department of juvenile justice when you
- 25 transferred to Chino?

1	A. Dr. Hung Do.		
2	MR. COHEN: He was the supervisor where?		
3	THE WITNESS: At Southern Youth Reception		
4	Center in Norwalk.		
5	BY MR. TAYLOR:		
6	Q. Okay. Dr. Hung Do is H-U-N-G D-A-O?		
7	A. No, D-O.		
8	Q. What is he a dentist?		
9	A. No, he was a medical doctor. He's a chief		
10	medical officer.		
11	Q. Chief medical officer. And his offices were in		
12	2 Norwalk?		
13	A. Yes.		
14	Q. But by virtue of his position he was basically		
15	your supervisor when you were the chief dentist at the		
16	department of juvenile justice at Buena Park; is that		
17	right?		
18	A. Yes.		
19	Q. And would it be fair to say that if do you		
20	know if he still works for the department of		
21	corrections?		
22	A. I don't know.		
23	Q. All right. But would it be fair to say if he		
24	still worked for the department of corrections and we		
25	wanted to find out if you had any kind of workplace		

1 relationship problems while with the department of 2 juvenile justice that we could go to him and get records 3 and he would be able to comment on that? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Okay. Was Dr. Do involved in your transferring from the department of juvenile justice to the 6 California Institution for Men at Chino? 7 8 A. No. 9 Q. He didn't have to get involved in you 10 transferring? 11 A. Just sign a paper. 12 Q. Okay. Well, he had to approve it, though; 13 right? 14 A. No. 15 Q. Oh, he didn't? Is there somebody that had to 16 approve your transfer? 17 A. They're closing -- they closed the DJJs that's 18 why I got demoted to a regular dentist. 19 Q. The department of juvenile justice closed in 20 2010? 21 A. Approximately. 22 Q. Okay. And that's why you transferred to the 23 California Institution for Men at Chino? 24 A. Regional, because there were no openings. 25 Q. So you got transferred to Regional? www.aptusCR.com

1		Α.	As a dentist until the supervising dentist		
2	р	ositic	on. They got rid of the chief dentist position.		
3		Q.	That's when you were there for that three or		
4	f	our months?			
5		Α.	There you go. I didn't want to		
6		Q.	I'm trying to organize this so we can get		
7	tl	nroug	h it and get it over with. There was no other		
8	r	easor	n why you got transferred from department of		
9	jı	iveni	le justice to Regional 4, other than the fact that		
10	j	uven	ile justice closed down and you took a demotion to		
11	á	a clini	ical dentist?		
12		Α.	I was put on that number scoring, how long		
13		priority system subject to.			
14		Q.	Understood. Okay. But it had nothing to do		
15	١	with any kind of workplace problems or discipline or			
16	ć	anyth	ing like that; is that correct?		
17		Α.	Correct.		
18		Q.	You said "yes"?		
19		Α.	Yes.		
20		Q.	Okay. All right. So now you were there for		
21	1	hree	or four months at Regional 4. We've talked about		
22	1	that a	little bit. Was there any problems there during		
23	1	that three or four months?			
24		Α.	No.		
25		Q.	How about workers' comp injuries or medical		
		1			

1	problems or anything like that during that three or four			
2	months?			
3	A. No.			
4	Q. Okay. So then what, how and why did you get			
5	transferred to Chino after you were at the Regional 4			
6	office for three or four months?			
7	A. I took a, what do you call it, step down as a			
8	dentist from a chief.			
9	Q. Right.			
10	A. Then since they got rid of the chief dentist, I			
11	moved to the next level which is supervising dentist.			
12	Q. Who got rid of the chief dentist?			
13	A. Headquarters. They still have them but they're			
14	only at headquarters in Sacramento.			
15	Q. Okay. So, in other words, they have removed			
16	the chief dentist position at Chino and other prisons			
17	and changed that and that allowed you an opportunity to			
18	transfer to Chino?			
19	A. You open up you they give you an option			
20	to go when there is an opening where somebody retires,			
21	wherever it is, whoever has the highest seniority will			
22	get that position.			
23	Q. You told me they closed down the chief dentist			
24	position at Chino and that led you opened up a			
25	position for you to transfer; is that right?			

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1	A. Supervising dentist because what happened was
2	they reorganized and got rid of because there was a
3	chief dentist at Chino also. And then reorganized it
4	and brought in the HPM3 and then basically and
5	downgraded, got rid of the chief dentist and put a
6	supervising dentist in there.
7	Q. That basically says the same thing I just said
8	but with more detail. It opened up a position for you
9	and you transferred out there as a supervising dentist
10	in Chino in 2010?
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. Okay. Had nothing to do with workplace
13	problems or discipline or anything like that?
14	A. No.
15	Q. Is that correct?
16	A. Yes.
17	MR. TAYLOR: Off the record.
18	(Off the record.)
19	BY MR. TAYLOR:
20	Q. I'm sorry, Mr. SooHoo.
21	MR. TAYLOR: And I'm sorry, Debby.
22	BY MR. TAYLOR:
23	Q. Okay. So to let me summarize this and even
24	if I don't use the exact bureaucratic lingo, if it's
25	essentially correct then tell me "yes" or "no." Okay?

		- · · J	
1	C	)kay?	
2		S	So basically, you got the opportunity in about
3	2	010 t	o transfer to Chino California Institution for Men
4	а	s a s	upervising dentist because they had done a
5	re	econf	iguration of the dental department's management
6	s	tructu	ure and they eliminated the chief dentist at
7	C	hino	; is that correct?
8		Α.	Yes.
9		Q.	Okay. And that gave you an opportunity to
10	t	ransf	er there, but you could not do it as a chief
11	¢	dentis	st because they eliminated that job title and you
12	t	ransf	erred there as a supervising dentist?
13		Α.	Yes.
14		Q.	Had nothing to do with workers' comp claims or
15	r	nedio	cal problems or workplace-related problems or any
16	ł	kind c	of discipline or anything; is that correct?
17		Α.	Yes.
18		Q.	Okay. So do you remember the approximate month
19	y	/ou s	tarted at Chino in 2010 or anything like that?
20		Α.	Maybe August.
21		Q.	Okay. You have made claims well, you have a
22	¢	claim	for damage to your, I guess, blood pressure and
23	¢	cardio	ovascular system. Are you aware of that?
24		Α.	Yes.
25		Q.	All right. What kind of problems or damage to

- 1 your cardiovascular system and your blood pressure were
- 2 caused by your workplace duties or environment?
- 3 A. The culture of the staff, supervisor.
- 4 Q. Culture of staff and supervisor?
- 5 A. Supervisors, they were not there.
- 6 Q. Some were gone?
- 7 A. They're all on workman's comp.
- 8 Q. Some are gone?
- 9 A. Or they -- for whatever reason.
- 10 Q. I understand. But did you say some of them
- 11 were gone?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. Are they all gone?
- 14 A. No, the ones in my dental department were gone.
- 15 Q. They're all gone now?
- 16 A. No, no, no. During the time I was there they
- 17 were absent. It made my job --
- 18 Q. Okay. You got to be -- all right. Come on.
- 19 Because the way you were talking about before is like
- 20 they caused your problems, but what you're saying is
- 21 they were missing so that made your workload more?
- 22 A. There you go.
- 23 Q. Okay. All right. And this was all at Chino;
- 24 right?
- 25 A. Yes, sir.

1		Q.	Can we get an agreement that every time I say
2	"(	Chino	o" I mean California Institution for Men at Chino
3	s	o I de	on't have to keep saying that over and over again?
4		Α.	Yes.
5		Q.	We're talking about the years 2010 yeah,
6	2	010	through up until 2019 or 2020; right?
7		Α.	2018.
8		Q.	2018 so we're talking about 2010 through 2018.
9	I	think	this is July 6?
10		Α.	July, July 6, but the initial when they brought
11	r	ne o	ut was July 6. Then I got orders to go to report to
12	F	Regio	onal a week later.
13		Q.	That's fine. I just want to get the time that
14	y	/ou v	vere there. So about 2010 through July 6, 2018, at
15	(	Chino	p; right?
16		Α.	Uh-huh.
17		Q.	"Yes"?
18		Α.	Yes.
19		Q.	The problems that you believe were caused to
20	y	/our	cardiovascular system and blood pleasure was part
21	¢	of it v	vas the fact that you were overworked because
22	t	here	were a lot of missing supervisors and you had to
23	t	ake	up their workload and part of it was the culture of
24	t	he st	aff?
25		Α.	Yes, sir.

	Volume II George Soohoo	S
1	Q. Is there anything else?	
2	A. My supervisor.	
3	Q. Who was your supervisor?	
4	A. Louie Escobel.	
5	Q. Louis, L-O-U-I-S?	
6	A. L-O-U-I-E.	
7	Q. L-O-U-I-E. E-S-C-O-B-E-L?	
8	A. B-E-L-L.	
9	Q. B-E-L-L. And what was his job title?	
10	A. CEO.	
11	Q. So he was CEO of the whole prison at Chino?	
12	A. Healthcare.	
13	Q. CEO of healthcare. So he wasn't just CEO of	
14	the dentistry department, he was CEO of all healthcare?	
15	A. Yes.	
16	Q. But was he just at Chino or was he a regional	
17	CEO that had other prisons under him?	
18	A. Just Chino.	
19	Q. And the first time you met Louie Escobell was	
20	when you first transferred to Chino in about 2010?	
21	A. No.	

- 22 Q. When had you previously met Mr. Escobell before
- 23 that?
- A. He didn't start until maybe -- may I use my
- 25 notes?

1	Q. Yeah, sure.
2	A. Okay.
3	Q. You know, that might help me with something
4	here. Let the record reflect that Mr. SooHoo has got
5	some notes in front of him. I actually have a copy of
6	what I think he's looking at because it looks the same
7	to me. So let's just go ahead and get that out of the
8	way. I've got here a one-, two-, three-, four-, five-,
9	six-page confidential memo stapled together, not on
10	letterhead, just on copy paper, dated November 7, 2018.
11	It appears to be from you and it says underneath
12	"Confidential, addendum to the SCIF claim." And under
13	that it says, "Stress relating to my employment at
14	California Institution for Men."
15	I'm going to show you a copy of this and I want
16	you to show it to your attorney and tell me if that's
17	the exact same full and complete copy of the notes that
18	you were referring to that you have in front of you?
19	A. Yes.
20	Q. Okay. And can you show it to your attorney,
21	please?
22	MR. TAYLOR: Phil.
23	MR. COHEN: Uh-huh, yeah, okay. So November 7,
24	2018. He's got a copy. You have a copy.
25	MR. TAYLOR: Off the record.

1	(Defendants' Exhibit A marked.)
2	BY MR. TAYLOR:
3	Q. We will mark this copy that Mr. SooHoo
4	identified as his notes collectively, all pages, as
5	Exhibit A. It is I'm going to write on here. I'm
6	hand writing now the page numbers at the bottom of each
7	page. It comes out to about five and a half pages, the
8	last page being marked as page 6. Can you see that
9	where I have written all of that, Mr. SooHoo, and
10	identify that for the record so that we can attach it
11	and we know that we have a complete set of your notes?
12	A. Yes.
13	Q. Okay. So Exhibit A is just a copy of
14	Mr. SooHoo's notes. When I asked him when he when
15	did he first run across Mr. Escobell he was going to
16	refer to his notes; is that correct?
17	A. Yes.
18	Q. And if you would, sir, then tell us where
19	you're looking for that information so I can see it on
20	Exhibit A?
21	A. This second on the first page.
22	Q. First page, second paragraph?
23	A. Yes, uh-huh, October 15th, April 25th.
24	Q. Okay.
25	A. That's approximately when he started working

1	here.	
2	Q. Okay. So it says, "I was given Individual	
3	Development Plan by the CEO, Mr. Louie Escobell, on	
4	ovember 30th, 2015."	
5	Now, was this when you were already at Chino?	
6	A. Yes.	
7	Q. And that's the first time you met him?	
8	A. I met him before, but he only was working	
9	here, like, maybe two months. He was new.	
10	Q. So you might have met him before, but you never	
11	worked with him or dealt with him in any detail?	
12	A. No, I never met him before. Just that he's	
13	worked there two months before he gave me this.	
14	Q. Okay. Fine.	
15	A. That's all I'm saying.	
16	Q. So he gave you this, personally handed you the	
17	individual development plan?	
18	A. Yes.	
19	Q. That's the first time you ever met him?	
20	A. Yes.	
21	Q. In all honesty, before you met him had there	
22	been any gossip or anybody telling you anything about	
23	this guy, like he's going to be our boss, you better	
24	watch out for him or anything about him?	
25	A. No.	

1	Q. So when you first met him as you have in your
2	notes on Exhibit A and he handed you the individual
3	development plan, you knew nothing about Mr. Escobell
4	other than he was a CEO handing you this plan; is that
5	right?
6	A. Yes.
7	Q. All right. And after that he was your direct
8	supervisor?
9	A. Him and Dr. Lissy at Regional.
10	Q. Right. As far as you know, was Mr. Escobell
11	trained as a healthcare provider, doctor or physician,
12	dentist, anything like that or was he just a civilian?
13	A. I don't know.
14	Q. Okay. But Dr. Lissy was a trained dentist;
15	right?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. And, to summarize as we sit here now, you never
18	had a problem with Dr. Lissy; is that correct? He
19	was to this day everything was okay with him and you?
20	A. We had our differences.
21	Q. Okay. Everybody does. When you say
22	"differences" what kind of differences? And you're
23	talking about Dr. Lissy; right?
24	A. Yes.
25	Q. While you were at Chino?

		-	
1		А.	Yes.
2		Q.	Okay. Go ahead.
3		Α.	We would have disagreements at timelines and he
4	v	vante	d me he doesn't understand organizational
5	S	tructu	ure of CIM, you know, so
6		Q.	Okay.
7		Α.	So we had our differences.
8		Q.	All right. So you had differences and
9	d	leadli	nes and work demands, things like that; right?
10		Α.	Yes.
11		Q.	Did it ever have anything to do with, you know,
12	ł	bad b	ehavior, like he was accusing you of sexual
13	ł	haras	sment or abusing coworkers or doing anything
14	ι	uneth	ical or abusive or improper?
15		Α.	No.
16		Q.	It was just professional disagreements over
17	(	opera	ations and deadlines and things like that?
18		Α.	Yes.
19		Q.	Did he ever threaten to fire you?
20		Α.	No.
21		Q.	Did he ever threaten to write you up or give
22	2	you p	rogressive discipline?
23		Α.	No.
24		Q.	All right. So overall, other than your
25	(	disag	reements, would you say that you and Dr. Lissy had

1	a pretty good relationship the whole time?
2	A. Yes.
3	Q. And would it be fair to say that none of your
4	psych any psychological claims or psychiatric claims
5	that you're making about stress or working conditions at
6	Chino, none of that relates to Dr. Lissy, would that be
7	fair?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. Okay. What about Mr. Escobell then, what
10	you said that, you know, your supervisor was a problem.
11	How was Mr. Escobell a problem to you?
12	I'm just and it's no big deal. I'm going to
13	verbally say that you're referring to your notes; is
14	that fair?
15	A. Yes.
16	Q. Let the record reflect that Mr. SooHoo is
17	referring to his notes we marked as Exhibit A.
18	Go ahead.
19	A. Individual development is something you give
20	to
21	Q. Individual development plan?
22	A. Plan, yes, is something you give when you
23	supervised somebody for a year. Because I have to do it
24	with my staff and it's something that basically within
25	that year if they were deficient on anything, you have

1 to give them a ECR or a LOI, whatever it is, and it has
2 to be noted on their records before you put any Ns or
3 need improvements on their IDP or independent
4 development plan. He comes in and works three months
5 and he gives me a couple Ns, which he hasn't been there
6 for two or three months.
7 Q. Right off the bat you had a problem with him
8 because he gives you an individual development plan. He
9 hasn't even worked with you for a year and he's already
10 given you a couple of Ns, meaning needs improvement, and
11 that was wrong because he hadn't even been there a year.
12 Is that what you're saying?
13 A. Yes.
14 Q. Did you protest to him at that time about that?
15 A. Yes, I tried to talk to him. He blew up.
16 Said, "I am the hiring authority. I'm your boss."
17 And so I went up to Regional. I went to a
18 higher level with it. And then I brought the medical
19 ERO in. She said let me look at it and I'll get back to
20 you.
21 Q. Let me stop you there. So right off the bat
22 Mr. Escobell did something that was, in your opinion,
23 wrongful and then he actually he acted
24 inappropriately because he blew up and got angry with
25 you?

1	Α.	Yes.
2	Q.	Was this a face-to-face meeting?
3	Α.	Yes.
4	Q.	And then what you did is you took the
5	admi	nistrative actions to go to the next authority to
6	have	them weigh in on whether what he was doing was
7	wron	g and out of line?
8	A.	Yes, and I wrote a long letter to the Regional.
9	Q.	Is that letter anywhere in your notes we marked
10	as E	xhibit A?
11	A.	I gave it to investigation so it's not here,
12	but .	
13	Q	Okay. So letter who was the letter to?
14	A.	Addressed to Robert Herrick.
15	Q	Letter to Robert H-E-R-R-I-C-K?
16	A.	Yeah. He was the CEO there at CIM before.
17	Q	Hold on. You're killing her with all these
18	lette	rs because you know what you're talking about but
19	she's	s never heard them before.
20		Robert Herrick was the CEO?
21	A.	At CIM.
22	Q	Before Louie Escobell came in?
23	A.	Yes.
24	Q	Where was Robert now?
25	A.	He's in Regional. He's the Regional CEO.

	Г		
1		Q.	Was ex-CEO of California Institution for Men at
2	C	hino	before Louie Escobell. And Mr. Herrick was now
3	re	egion	al what?
4		Α.	The regional administrator for Region 4.
5		Q.	Okay. So he was above Mr. Escobell when this
6	ir	ncide	nt of the individual development plan came up?
7		Α.	Yeah.
8		Q.	Is that correct?
9		Α.	Yeah, he hired Louie.
10		Q.	Did you know Mr. Herrick before he transferred
11	t	o bei	ng the regional wait a minute.
12		Α.	I worked
13		Q.	Hold on. Regional administrator, did you know
14	ſ	Иr. H	errick before that?
15		Α.	Yes.
16		Q.	So would it be fair to say that you trusted Mr.
17	ŀ	Herrio	ck to weigh in on this and fix this problem?
18		Α.	Yes.
19		Q.	That's why you wrote him a letter?
20		Α.	Yes.
21		Q.	Can you give me the date of the letter?
22		Α.	Somewhere between October 15 and April 25. I
23	¢	don't	know the exact date.
24		Q.	All right. Was it a one-page letter, two
25	F	bages	s?

1	A. Three pages.	
2	Q. Do you still have a copy of it?	
3	A. Yes.	
4	Q. Would you mind if we don't have that we	
5	may have it. I don't have it, but if we don't have it	
6	do you mind giving another copy to your attorney for us?	
7	A. Sure.	
8	Q. Okay. Thanks. Basically summarize what you	
9	said in that letter to Mr. Herrick?	
10	A. I explained to Mr. Herrick that basically I	
11	tried to discuss this issue, my individual independent	
12	development plan to Mr. Escobell. And he does not fully	
13	understand the impact of the IDP by giving me two Ns	
14	because there's no documentation throughout the year	
15	that justifies the two Ns. And I feel like, basically,	
16	he does not know the protocol for writing IDPs. So I	
17	asked him to review it	
18	Q. Asked him, meaning Mr. Herrick?	
19	A. Asked Mr. Herrick and Dr. Jeff Lissy to review	
20	it because it's supposed to be evaluated by Dr. Lissy	
21	and Mr. Escobell and Dr. Lissy never even saw it. He	
22	evaluated all of it himself. Because he's not a dentist	
23	so that's why it's half Lissy and half the CEO.	
24	Q. One of the other problems that Mr. Escobell did	
25	that, according to what you saw, was that he's not a	

- 1 dentist and he's not allowed to review the independent
- 2 development plan by himself because he needed -- Dr.
- 3 Lissy needed to be in on that?
- 4 A. Yes, sir.
- 5 Q. Is that correct?
- 6 A. Yes.
- 7 Q. So that was the second problem?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Did Mr. Escobell know that you had written this
- 10 letter to Mr. Herrick?
- 11 A. I sent him a copy as well.
- 12 Q. So he knew about it?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. All right. What happened then after -- did you
- 15 hear back from Mr. Herrick or what happened next?
- 16 A. I didn't hear back from anyone except the

## 17 medical ERO.

- 18 Q. So you heard from the medical ERO?
- 19 A. Cindy Ballou.
- 20 Q. Is that in your notes that we marked as Exhibit
- 21 A?
- 22 A. Yeah, right here.
- 23 Q. What does ERO stand for?
- A. Employee relations officer, medical employee
- 25 relations officer. The first page on the bottom here,

1	medical, Cindy Ballou, third sentence from the bottom.	
2	Q. Okay. Cindy Ballou is B-A-L-L-O-U. Right?	
3	A. Uh-huh.	
4	Q. How did you hear from Cindy Ballou, by letter,	
5	e-mail, memo, phone call, walking in your office, what?	
6	A. She's from Sacramento. She comes around the	
7	institution once a month and I spoke to her about my	
8	IDP. She said let me look into it.	
9	Q. And prior to you talking to her about that, you	
10	had not heard yet back from Mr. Herrick or Dr. Lissy	
11	about the letter you wrote to Mr. Herrick?	
12	A. No.	
13	Q. Okay. And so what happened after Cindy Ballou	
14	looked into it?	
15	A. On April I received a new IDP with no	
16	explanation with no Ns on it and told me to sign it.	
17	Q. How did you receive that, in the mail or did	
18	somebody hand it to you?	
19	A. No, I went into his office.	
20	Q. Whose office?	
21	A. Mr. Louie Escobell's office.	
22	Q. This time you had	
23	MR. COHEN: Directly from him?	
24	THE WITNESS: His secretary, yes.	
25	BY MR. TAYLOR:	

1	Q.	Okay. But the Ns for needs improvement had
2		removed?
3	A.	Yes.
4	Q.	Now it was clean?
5	A.	Yes. And I gave copies of the before IDP and
6	after I	DP to internal affairs. I gave them copies.
7	Q.	To show the previous one that was wrong and the
8	correc	ction that you believe he was forced to make right?
9	Α.	I I don't know. No one said anything. I
10	wasn	't informed of anything.
11	Q.	But he wouldn't even hand it to you personally,
12	he ga	ave it to his assistant and she handed it to you for
13	signi	ng?
14	A.	Yes.
15	Q.	Regardless of the history of that, now that you
16	got to	o sign one that had been cleaned up, were you
17	satist	fied that you got that result?
18	A.	Yes.
19	Q.	Okay. So tell me what else was Mr. Escobell
20	then	your major problem as far as work relations and
21	your	psych claims while working at Chino?
22	A.	Let's go to page 2.
23	Q.	Of your Exhibit A?
24	A.	Yes.
25	Q.	All right.

	Volume II George Soohoo	Soohoo vs. State of California
1	A. We were doing HPMIII interviews.	
2	Q. Which paragraph are you looking at?	
3	A. At the top.	
4	Q. Where it says, "Approximately early 2016"?	
5	A. Uh-huh.	
6	Q. Okay. Go ahead.	
7	A. Who was on the panel was me, Dr. Lissy and the	
8	CEO.	
9	Q. Mr. Escobell?	
10	A. Yes.	
11	Q. Okay. From now on, don't say CEO, say Mr.	
12	Escobell because we're that's who we're talking	
13	about. All right. Go ahead.	
14	A. So it was scheduled for two-day interviews.	
15	After the first day, he goes is there any comments or	
16	questions about the candidates we interviewed. I said,	
17	yes. Ms. Rowena Sam, our supervising dental assistant,	
18	said she's not very cordial and not very helpful.	
19	Because she and Ms. Logan was not because she's	
20	one of the applicants that applied for the position, is	
21	not very cordial to work with dental as far as getting	
22	medical records. And didn't say nothing after that.	
23	Q. Who didn't say nothing?	
24	A. No one said anything.	
25	Q. Okay.	

1	A. So next day following I went because
2	supposed to have a two-day interview so I went to no
3	one said anything we're going to have a second day
4	interview or not so I had to schedule patients for me
5	anyway. So I went to human resources personnel and
6	said, hey, are we still doing interviews. Can I
7	schedule patients. And, plus Dr. Don Lee was one of
8	my
9	Q. Say that name again.
10	A. Dr. Don Lee was a limited term dentist working
11	at CIM. He came to me and wanted me to find out if he's
12	still going to be able to work at CIM or not. I said I
13	don't know. I will go to personnel and find out.
14	Q. So you have two issues. Number one, you didn't
15	know if you were going to have a second round of
16	interviews and whether you could schedule patients.
17	And, number two, you had this interim term dentist
18	working for you that didn't know if he was still going
19	to be employed there. There was two problems you had to
20	clear up with HR?
21	A. Yes.
22	Q. All right. So go ahead.
23	A. So Ms. Serrato, I walked in
24	Q. Mr. who?
25	A. Ms. Belinda Serrato.

1	Q.	Spell?
2	Α.	S-E-R-R-A-T-O.
3	Q.	And who was she?
4	Α.	She was the one in personnel.
5	Q.	She was an HR person?
6	Α.	Yes.
7	Q.	Okay. Go ahead.
8	Α.	Told me there's no more interview because they
9	all car	nceled and that the CEO has already signed off on
10	some	one.
11	Q.	Okay.
12	Α.	And then she said we cannot I asked her
13	about	t Don Lee. She said, no, we're not going to be
14	exten	ding the limiting term. So I got both of my
15	answ	ers so I was fine with that.
16	Q.	Did you have a problem with the applicant being
17	signe	d off on without anybody talking to you about it?
18	Α.	Yes.
19	Q.	Why?
20	Α.	That's where I went to Mr. Escobell's office to
21	try to	basically when I walked in the office I guess
22	Ms. S	Serrato went
23	Q.	Mr. who?
24	A.	Ms. Serrato went and called the CEO so by the
25	time l	arrived in Mr. Escobell's office

1		Q.	She in other words, she called him and told
2	h	im yo	ou were coming?
3		Α.	I don't know if she told him I was coming but
4	s	he to	ld him I was in her office.
5		Q.	Okay.
6		Α.	But I was in her office basically found out if
7	W	/e we	ere doing second day interviews or not and also find
8	0	ut if v	we have a limited term position or I had to tell
9	D	on L	ee that he's no longer going to be needed.
10		Q.	Slow down a little. Go ahead.
11		Α.	When I went to Mr. Escobell's office, first
12	t	hing	he said, "What are you doing in personnel asking
13	ą	about	t HPMIII position?"
14		Q.	That was Don Lee?
15		Α.	No, no, no, Mr. Escobell.
16		Q.	No, I know. But the HPMIII position was
17		Mr. D	on Lee; right?
18		Α.	No. Dr. Don Lee is the limited term dentist
19		Q.	The HPMIII is the one that they just hired?
20		Α.	Well, they he signed it off.
21		Q.	Okay.
22		Α.	Okay. It's Debra Logan is the one he picked.
23		Q.	That's the HPMIII?
24		Α.	Yeah. And she works in medical records at CIM.
25		Q.	And you had advised against her because she

1	wasn't very cooperative and cordial; is that what you
2	said?
3	A. Well, beforehand there were a lot of applicants
4	who wanted to apply and said I don't want to apply
5	because I heard that the position's already spoken for.
6	And I told them I said that's not true because it's a
7	fair system. It's subject to the best qualified
8	candidates.
9	Q. I understand. But you did say that you advised
10	against Ms. Logan because she wasn't personally
11	appropriate for the job; is that fair to say?
12	A. Yes, because there was a better candidate who
13	had dental experience. She had no dental experience.
14	Q. Fine, fine, fine. But that was your advice to
15	Mr. Escobell on the interviews and somehow without
16	saying anything to you, he hired Ms. Logan anyway. You
17	had a problem with that?
18	A. We never tabulate the scores, we never even had
19	a discussion because we didn't finish interviewing yet.
20	Q. But that was the nature of a problem you had
21	with Mr. Escobell is he picked her over your advice and
22	without going through all the proper channels and
23	without telling you; is that fair to say?
24	A. Yes. And then Ms. Logan, the day after the
25	interview, she come and ask me, "Well, who" came up

to me and said, "Well, who says I was rude to them?" So 1 2 somehow that question got out back to her. 3 Q. So they gossiped about you? A. Yes. 4 5 Q. When you walked into Mr. Escobell's office he 6 said what are you doing down in HR? 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. And then what happened? 9 A. He blew up. 10 Q. When you say that, did he yell and scream at 11 vou? 12 A. Pretty much. He said, "I'm the hiring 13 authority. What are you doing questioning and I just 14 walked out. 15 Q. Okay. So is all the problems that you have 16 that you can remember with Mr. Escobell contained in 17 your letter to Mr. Herrick and Dr. Lissy that we don't 18 have a copy of yet and these notes we've marked as 19 Exhibit A? 20 A. I'm not sure if Dr. Lissy has all these notes. 21 Q. No, no, no. What I'm getting at is I'm trying 22 to -- I'm here to gather evidence and information. 23 A. Yes. 24 Q. So right now we marked as Exhibit A, we've got 25 a six-and-a-half-page set of notes. I'm assuming

- 1 there's a lot about Mr. Escobell on here; is that
- 2 correct?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 Q. And then you have also told me that you had the
- 5 letter you wrote to Mr. Herrick and to Dr. Lissy after
- 6 Mr. Escobell started your relationship off by giving you
- 7 an IDP plan with two Ns on it without ever having been
- 8 there a year. So right now I know about that letter to
- 9 Mr. Herrick that we don't have a copy of right now and I
- 10 have your notes that we've marked as Exhibit A and I'm
- 11 asking you if those documents contain all of the
- 12 problems that you had with Mr. Escobell while you were
- 13 at Chino?
- 14 A. Yes. And the letter to Mr. Herrick only
- 15 applies to IDP.
- 16 Q. I understand.
- 17 A. Okay.
- 18 Q. All right. But there's no other major
- 19 incidents or problems that you had with Mr. Escobell
- 20 that are not contained in Exhibit A or the letter that
- 21 you wrote to Mr. Herrick; is that right?
- 22 A. Major one is the second paragraph.
- 23 Q. On what page?
- A. On the second page.
- 25 Q. So I'm going to page 2 and on Exhibit A I'm

1	going	to read, "Date: April 21st, 2017, extremely			
2	stress	ed, location, Mariscos La Brisas, Chino," that's a			
3	Mexic	Mexican restaurant?			
4	Α.	Right across the street.			
5	Q.	And it says "Lunch with Dr. Muhammad Farooq,			
6	M.D. a	and Mrs. Muhammad Farooq and Mr. Escobell." Tell			
7	me ab	oout what happened on that incident?			
8	Α.	Mrs. Farooq was going to be her last day so I			
9	told th	em in advance a week ago I would take her out to			
10	lunch				
11	Q.	She was a nurse, a dentist or what?			
12	Α.	I think she was a social worker.			
13	Q.	But she worked in your department?			
14	A.	No, she worked in healthcare.			
15	Q.	Okay. How did you know her?			
16	A.	Met her through Dr. Farooq. I knew her			
17	husba	and.			
18	Q.	You knew Muhammad Farooq was a personal			
19	frienc	l of yours?			
20	A.	No, he's the chef medical executive at CIM.			
21	He's	the CME.			
22	Q.	Okay.			
23	A.	And it's his wife so basically I said, oh,			
24	okay,	like take out a lunch before her last day. And			
25	then	the last minute he asked can I bring the CEO with			

1	us for lunch.				
2	Q.	How did you feel about that when he said that?			
3	A.	I had no choice.			
4	Q.	I understand. But I'm assuming it made you			
5	feel b	ad or you didn't like that?			
6	A.	No, I didn't care for that.			
7	Q.	Okay.			
8	Α.	Okay.			
9	Q.	But you went along anyway?			
10	A.	I paid for everybody's lunch including his.			
11	Q.	So what happened?			
12	A.	We were talking normal conversation. Mr.			
13	Esco	bell was sitting to the right of me. Dr. Farooq was			
14	sittin	g in front of me and his wife was sitting to the			
15	right	to the left of him. Suddenly he just really			
16	hard	hit me in the face, really hard.			
17	Q.	Let the record reflect that Mr. SooHoo is			
18	looki	ng at me in the face and he took his			
19	A.	Left.			
20	Q.	left arm and hand and he threw it back over			
21	him a	as if somebody is backhanding somebody. Is that			
22	what	you were doing?			
23	A.	That's what he was doing.			
24	Q.	I understand. But you're demonstrating this as			
25	what	he did to you?			

## Volume II George Soohoo

1	A. Yes.	
2	Q. He backhanded you with his hand?	
3	A. Yes.	
4	Q. Were you all drinking?	
5	A. No.	
6	Q. So as far as you know	
7	A. Just water.	
8	MR. COHEN: Water, tea.	
9	BY MR. TAYLOR:	
10	Q. Was there any tequila, any margaritas at the	
11	table?	
12	A. No.	
13	Q. Okay.	
14	MR. COHEN: No alcohol?	
15	THE WITNESS: No, I don't drink.	
16	BY MR. TAYLOR:	
17	Q. I'm trying to get this down to a let's call	
18	that a street recognition. Okay? So is Mr. Escobell	
19	is he older or younger than you?	
20	A. I don't know.	
21	Q. Is he bigger or smaller than you?	
22	A. Bigger.	
23	Q. And is he an athletic kind of guy? Do you know	
24	if he's a big, athletic, aggressive kind of guy?	
25	A. He's aggressive, you know. He probably was an	

	_		
1	athl	ete	when he was younger, you know.
2	G	<b>)</b> .	And I'm just trying to it's such a bizarre
3	thin	g tł	nat you told me that I'm trying to figure out
4	stre	etw	vise like how the hell did this happen. All of a
5	sud	der	n you get backhanded and there's no there was no
6	liqu	or i	nvolved, no alcohol, as far as you know?
7	A	۱.	No.
8	G	<b>)</b> .	Had you and Mr. Escobell had any blowups or
9	disa	agre	eements or problems like that morning before you
10	we	nt t	o lunch?
11		۹.	No.
12	(	<b>Q</b> .	How about the day or two before this lunch
13	inc	ide	nt. Had you had any blowups or problems with him
14	the	n?	
15		۹.	Just what I already told you.
16	(	ຊ.	I understand. At this lunch before he
17	bad	ckh	anded you was somebody telling you jokes?
18		۹.	No.
19	(	ຸລຸ.	Well, was Mr. Escobell saying anything before
20	he	bad	ckhanded you?
21		۹.	I don't remember.
22	(	ຸລຸ.	Had you been saying something were you
23	say	/ing	g anything to anybody at the table before Mr.
24	Esc	cob	ell backhanded you?
25		۹.	No.

- 1 Q. Do you know if Dr. Farooq was friends with Mr.
- 2 Escobell as you sat there at the table, as opposed to
- 3 just being professional colleagues?
- 4 A. Can you repeat that question.
- 5 Q. Do you know -- as you sat there at the table,
- 6 do you think whether or not Mr. Escobell was personal
- 7 friends with Dr. Farooq as opposed to just being
- 8 professional colleagues?
- 9 A. I don't know.
- 10 Q. I'm trying to figure out what would lead to
- 11 this sudden bizarre act of slapping you, backhanding
- 12 you. There's no arguments, no alcohol, nobody is
- 13 telling off-colored jokes. I'm trying to look at
- 14 whether or not Dr. -- Mr. Escobell had been telling
- 15 Dr. Farooq things. In other words, they had been
- 16 talking about you before you went to lunch so that Mr.
- 17 Escobell was fired up about something. Do you know if
- 18 there was anything like that?
- 19 A. I don't know.
- 20 Q. What happened after Mr. Escobell slapped you?
- A. The only thing I heard was his wife, first one
- that said something was, "Why did you hit him and why
- 23 did you hit him so hard?"
- 24 And then I looked at Mr. Escobell and I moved
- 25 away like this and he just snickered.

_	-		
1	Q. Okay.		
2	A. And I looked at Dr. Farooq and he was just		
3 s	hocked.		
4	Q. Okay. Did you say anything?		
5	A. There were a lot of people in that restaurant		
6 a	nd I got up and I almost but I I and I		
7 b	ecause I've been in high stress situation, I said let		
8 m	ne then I took some deep breaths. And I relaxed.		
9 A	and there was so many people there I didn't say		
10 a	anything. So I just paid and I left.		
11	Q. You paid the bill and you left and you left		
12 t	hem at the table?		
13	A. Yes.		
14	Q. Okay. So he hit you in the cheek?		
15	A. In the face.		
16	Q. I know. Your cheek's on your face; right?		
17	A. Right in front.		
18	Q. He hit you in the forehead?		
19	A. On my face.		
20	Q. So that's your cheek?		
21	A. Yeah, yeah.		
22	Q. Can we agree that's your cheek?		
23	A. Yes.		
24	MR. COHEN: Is that where he hit you, in the		
25 c	cheek, not the forehead?		

	George Soohoo	State of Califo
1	THE WITNESS: Yes.	
2	BY MR. TAYLOR:	
3	Q. That's on your right-hand side?	
4	A. Uh-huh, yeah.	
5	Q. Did you go in the bathroom and see if there was	
6	a red mark or anything like that?	
7	A. No.	
8	Q. How were you dressed? Were you in a suit or	
9	your work clothes?	
10	A. Shirt and tie.	
11	Q. And, you know, sometimes you got hit in the	
12	cheek, your the inside of your cheek gets cut by your	
13	teeth. Did anything like that happen?	
14	A. I don't remember.	
15	Q. Was there any blood at all?	
16	A. No.	
17	Q. Did Mr. Escobell have a ring on his finger?	
18	A. I don't know.	
19	Q. Were there cuts or bruises on your face	
20	anywhere?	
21	A. No.	
22	Q. Did Mr. Escobell respond in any way when Mrs.	
23	Farooq said why did you hit him and why did you hit him	
24	so hard?	
25	A. Just snickered.	

Volume II

1	Q. Do you remember what the topic of conversation
2	was before he hit you?
3	A. No, we always just have just general
4	conversations, you know.
5	Q. Okay. So, but her statement to you I mean,
6	I can imagine in an alarming situation like that that
7	sometimes words are imprinted in your mind forever. Are
8	you sure those are her exact words?
9	A. That's in my mind that's what she said.
10	Q. At any time after that up until today have you
11	ever discussed this with either of the Farooqs and by
12	any means, whether casual conversations, texting,
13	e-mails, phone calls, letters, have you ever discussed
14	that with them up to this day?
15	A. No, except for that day after he came and
16	talked to me.
17	Q. Who's "he"?
18	A. Dr. Farooq.
19	Q. Okay. So we'll get to that in a second. So
20	the only time that you this is ever discussed with
21	either one of the Farooqs was the next day when he came
22	and talked to you about it?
23	A. Yes.
24	Q. I'm looking on page 2 of Exhibit A at the
25	bottom paragraph that says February 1st, 2017, to

1	November '17 highly stressed or was it in the paragraph
2	above that?
3	A. No, it's right there on April 21st, 2017, "Dr.
4	Farooq the next day came and spoke to me."
5	Q. Okay. All right. And you say in here, "Dr.
6	Farooq was afraid I would file assault charges." You
7	said that, but what did Dr. Farooq say or do to you
8	that I mean, I'm not saying you're not right, but
9	what did he say to you that made you say that, that he
10	was afraid you were going to file assault charges?
11	A. I could tell in his facial expression and his
12	eyes because I think he was afraid to that he would
13	have to reassume the position of CEO, which he didn't
14	because when Herrick left he was interim CEO for like
15	Q. Farooq?
16	A. Yes.
17	Q. Okay.
18	A. For, like, four or five months until Mr.
19	Escobell showed up.
20	Q. All right. So, but Dr. Farooq, did he say
21	anything about Mr. Escobell like he was drunk or
22	stressed out or I chewed him out after you left,
23	anything like that?
24	A. No, he stated exactly what I wrote.
25	MR. COHEN: Can I see it?

1	THE WITNESS: Sure.
2	BY MR. TAYLOR:
3	Q. Okay. So Mr. SooHoo, I know we all have our
4	own personalities and how we deal with things like that,
5	but this is a pretty, you know, this is a pretty extreme
6	incident, shocking. And I've read the paragraph there
7	on page 2 and it seems like you never took any action
8	after that, like you didn't call the police, you didn't
9	go to
10	A. I had so much respect for Dr. Farooq and he
11	said, "Just let it go." And I can he didn't come out
12	and say it; I can tell it's hidden in between the lines.
13	Q. I understand.
14	A. And so I I wasn't bleeding, but I every
15	time I saw him
16	Q. Saw who?
17	A. Mr. Escobell.
18	Q. Uh-huh.
19	A. I avoided him.
20	Q. All right. Had Mr. Escobell, as far as you
21	know, ever threatened you before that incident at the
22	Mexican restaurant in any way?
23	A. No.
24	Q. Had he ever exhibited any kind of aggressive,
25	dangerous behavior towards anybody, whether, you know,

that you heard about through gossip or you saw yourself 1 2 dr anything like that before this incident at the 3 Mexican restaurant? 4 A. I heard through gossip that he chewed out the 5 chief a III and he retired. They got in a big argument 6 and so he's had -- through gossip I heard if he don't 7 like you, that's it. 8 Q. "He," meaning Mr. Escobell? 9 A. Yes. And he's very egotistical. You'll know, 10 he likes power. 11 Q. Okay. All right. So after the conversation 12 with Dr. Faroog when Dr. Faroog came to visit you the 13 hext day, as you put it down on page 2 of Exhibit A, 14 would it be fair to say that up until today you've never 15 done anything about responding to Mr. Escobell's assault 16 on you. Would that be fair to say? 17 A. Yes. And when I did decide, it was too late 18 because you can only file a police report within one 19 year. And by the time I got walked off, I wanted to --20 started thinking about it. I said this guy is really 21 after me so I decided to file a police report. They 22 wouldn't take it. I finally talked to an attorney and 23 they said, oh, yes, you can. And I went back and I 24 think I did file and they took the report. 25 Q. You did file a police report?

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1 A. Yes. 2 Q. With what county or what city --3 A. Chino. 4 Q. -- did you file that? 5 A. I have a copy at home. 6 Q. If the day you were walked out of Chino was 7 July 6, 2018, give me an approximate date that you 8 filled out a police report with the city of Chino? 9 A. Maybe five or six months later. 10 Q. Did anything come of that police report? Was 11 there ever an arrest or any charges? 12 A. No. 13 Q. Do you know why? 14 They said it had to be within the year. 15 Q. Have you ever -- did you ever think about suing 16 him personally, Mr. Escobell, like for damages in a 17 personal injury civil lawsuit? 18 A. I spoke to Mr. Cohen about that. 19 Q. I'm not allowed to find out words that you 20 exchanged with him. 21 A. Okay. 22 Q. But generally I'm allowed to find out because 23 everybody is going to want to know. It didn't make any 24 sense that you would never take any action. What did 25 you decide ultimately about filing a civil lawsuit

1 against him? 2 A. I'm waiting to see if there's any charges on 3 this first. 4 Q. From the police report? 5 A. No, the outcome on the internal affairs investigation, on Mr. Escobell. 6 7 Q. So right now, as far as you know, there's an 8 internal affairs investigation going? 9 A. They wrote me a letter. 10 Q. Who's "they"? 11 A. Mr. -- internal affairs said they wrote me a 12 letter saying that they were referring me to the hiring 13 authority. I don't know who that is. 14 Q. So they referred the incident where Mr. 15 Escobell hit you to the hiring authority? 16 A. In my report to the -- to the hiring authority 17 and they would make the decision whether they are going 18 to do their investigation or not. 19 Q. So you made another report to internal affairs 20 with Chino, the prison? 21 A. Internal affairs is basically the CDCR's 22 internal affairs. Q. I understand. When you say "report," you told 23 24 me about a police report? 25 A. Uh-huh.

1 Q. I know that.
2 A. Yes, and I filed a report with internal
3 affairs.
4 Q. And so using the date of July the 6th, 2018,
5 when did you file the report with internal affairs?
6 A. December of last year. December of 2018.
7 MR. COHEN: 2018 or 2019? You said last year.
8 Last year is 2019.
9 THE WITNESS: I think it was '18. I'm not I
10 have to get it. I'm not sure. I think it was.
11 BY MR. TAYLOR:
12 Q. Well, December of 2019 was just, like, three
13 months ago. December 2018 would be a year and three
14 months ago.
15 A. Eighteen.
16 Q. So December of 2018 and right now as far as you
17 know that's still pending, you haven't heard anything?
18 A. I don't know if the hiring authority is
19 going because all investigations have to be
20 authorized by the hiring authority.
21 Q. I understand.
A. So basically if they're trying to cover up for
23 him, they just don't order the investigation.
24 Q. As far as you know today, is Mr. Escobell still
25 in his position as CEO of Chino?

1	A. Yes.	
2	Q. Okay. All right. Now, let's I have	
3	let's go off the record a second.	
4	(Off the record.)	
5	(Record read.)	
6	BY MR. TAYLOR:	
7	Q. Mr. SooHoo, I'm thinking about you working at	
8	your new position in Regional 4. Have you chosen to be	
9	confidential and quiet about this incident when you're	
10	at work as far as telling other people at work?	
11	A. I don't talk about it.	
12	Q. Okay. Does anybody else talk about it at work?	
13	A. They don't talk about it to me.	
14	Q. Okay. All right.	
15	A. I wouldn't know.	
16	Q. And so wow. Is there an EEOC investigation	
17	that was opened up or any kind of union investigation	
18	opened up or any other kind of investigation opened up	
19	other than the internal affairs report that you filled	
20	out?	
21	A. Not that I know of.	
22	Q. Okay. So this incident happened, the face	
23	slapping incident happened in on April 21st of 2017	
24	and you ended up leaving there when you got walked out	
25	on July the 6th, 2018; is that correct?	

1	A. Yes, sir.	
2	Q. So that is about a year and three months you	
3	were still there after this face slapping incident	
4	happened; is that correct?	
5	A. Yes, sir.	
6	Q. Have you have you filled out Exhibit A with	
7	everything significant that you can remember as far as	
8	dealing with psychological stress and the relationship	
9	with Mr. Escobell while you were still there in that	
10	year and three months?	
11	A. So what is the question?	
12	Q. Well, I'm just trying to collect everything	
13	about your psychological claims as far as, you know, the	
14	environment and the things that happened. Obviously Mr.	
15	Escobell's a major part of that, according to what	
16	you've told me so far. I know that you've told me there	
17	was also a workload problem and also that I've gotten	
18	the idea there was some other people that you were not	
19	really on good relations with either, some other staff.	
20	But Mr. Escobell seems to be one of the major players in	
21	this problem; is that correct?	
22	A. Yes, because he's my boss. He has to either	
23	support me or, you know.	
24	Q. So I'm just wondering if there's any other	
25	since you filled out Exhibit A, which is November 7th of	

2018, is there any other major incidents with Mr. 1 2 Escobell or major circumstances related to Mr. Escobell 3 that you've remembered that you have not added to it in 4 any other memos or notes? 5 A. There's two other incidents that are on here, 6 though, if you want me to discuss it, that I felt it was 7 very important, very stressful. 8 Q. When you say "on here" you mean Exhibit A? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. Two other incidents. So they happened after 11 the April 21st, 2017, face slapping incident? 12 A. Well, yes. It happened in 2017. Especially 13 with my supervising dental assistant being gone, it took 14 tremendous amount of stress for me to supervise 16 15 dental assistants on top of all my responsibilities and 16 also my dentist and hygienist. That's a tremendous 17 amount of stress. 18 Q. Why were all the other supervising dentists 19 done? 20 A. What do you mean? 21 Q. You said that there were other supervising 22 dentists that normally would have helped you with the 23 workload? 24 Α. There's only one supervising dentist at CIM. 25 Q. Okay.

1	A. There's the rest of them are dentists,
2	dental hygienists and dental assistants.
3	Q. Let's clarify something then. When you
4	mentioned that before, when we started talking about Mr.
5	Escobell?
6	A. Uh-huh.
7	Q. You said one of the problems that you had at
8	Chino was the stress of the workload and that they had
9	gotten there was no other supervising dentists there.
10	Now I may have incorrectly assumed that the stress
11	load stress of the workload and the absence of the
12	other supervising dentists was related. In other words,
13	that had there been other supervising dentists there,
14	they would have divided the workload up with you. But
15	now what you're telling me sounds like that assumption
16	is incorrect. Am I incorrect on that?
17	A. You're incorrect. There's only one supervisor
18	per institution.
19	Q. When I asked you about stressful circumstances
20	why did you mention missing supervising dentists, they
21	were no longer there? What did they have to do with
22	your stressful situation?
23	A. I meant supervising dental assistant.
24	MR. COHEN: He wasn't talking about him. He's
25	talking about a different position.

1	THE WITNESS: Supervising dental assistant.				
2	BY MR. TAYLOR:				
3	Q. So there were missing supervising dental				
4	assistants?				
5	A. Yes. She was out on I think she was out on				
6	workman's comp for almost a year.				
7	Q. What's her name?				
8	A. Rowena Sam.				
9	Q. And her being absent added to your workload?				
10	A. Yes.				
11	Q. How so?				
12	A. Because the scheduling had to do with				
13	inventory. All that is under the supervising dental				
14	assistant.				
15	Q. Okay. So you you literally had to take on				
16	her job, too?				
17	A. Pretty much because a limited term one coming				
18	limited term or acting, they don't know the protocols.				
19	Q. Did they ever replace her with limited term?				
20	A. No, just acting. And then once you pull				
21	someone who is already a dental assistant as a acting,				
22	then you are short a dental assistant. And on top of				
23	the problems at CIM, 70 percent of my dental assistants				
24	were on FMLA. So half the time I never knew who was				
25	coming or going.				

1	Q.	When you say FMLA, you mean they were pregnant?	
2	A.	Family Medical Leave Act.	
3	Q.	I understand what that is.	
4	A.	Yeah.	
5	Q.	Do you mean these women were having babies or	
6	sick c	or taking care of their parents?	
7	A.	I don't know because they don't tell you what	
8	the pi	roblems were. When you get signed off on FMLA it	
9	gets a	approved through the doctors and they're allowed to	
10	take	those time. So I I don't know what the reasons	
11	are.		
12	Q.	Okay. So you're saying that a big part of your	
13	stres	s was the extra work that was put on you by	
14	supe	rvising dental assistants being out on workers' comp	
15	and I	not replaced and other people out on FMLA and not	
16	being	g replaced. And, therefore, there was a lot of job	
17	dutie	es and things that had to be done that you had to	
18	do		
19	A.	Uh-huh.	
20	Q.	to make up for their absence. Is that what	
21	you'r	re saying?	
22	A.	Uh-huh, yes.	
23	Q.	This is all happening in 2017 and 2018?	
24	A.	Uh-huh.	
25	Q.	Is that a "yes"?	

1		A.	Yes.				
2		Q.	And what did you do, didn't you ever go to				
3	3 management and say I can't do this. This is killing me?						
4		A.	Yes, they said you have an acting, but the				
5	ac	ting	doesn't really do the job because				
6		Q.	What do you mean when you say you have an				
7	ac	ting	?				
8		A.	You get they put a position in there, but				
9	the	ey d	on't know what to do.				
10		Q.	They put an acting person in to replace the				
11	m	nissir	ng person?				
12		Α.	Yes.				
13		Q.	We have to say it on the record.				
14		Α.	Yes.				
15		Q.	So what you're saying is they would on paper				
16	6 they would cover this missing position with an acting						
17	17 position, but in reality it would not it would not						
18	8 fix the problem because the acting person didn't know						
19	what to do?						
20		Α.	Yes.				
21		Q.	That happened regularly?				
22		Α.	Yes.				
23		Q.	And did you bring that to their attention, that				
24	th	these acting people are not able to pick up and cover					
25	th	ne wo	orkload because they don't know what to do?				

Γ

1	A. Tł	nat's the best they can do. That's what they			
2	tell you.				
3	Q. 0	kay. Did you have a contact person that you			
4	were alw	vays going to at human resources or personnel			
5	that you	were talking about this staffing shortage?			
6	A. In	reality that part is supposed to belong to			
7	the HPM	1111.			
8	Q. W	/hat part is?			
9	A. A	dministration part, staffing. They were			
10	suppose	ed to go and work with human resources because the			
11	supervis	sing dentist reason we're supposed to do			
12	50 perce	ent clinical and a lot of the administrators are			
13	suppose	ed to be taking over the HPMIII.			
14	Q. V	Vhat's an HPMIII?			
15	A. H	lealth program manager.			
16	Q. A	And who was doing that?			
17	A. N	Is. Logan who just got hired, didn't know what			
18	to do.				
19	Q. (	Dkay. Did you get along with Ms. Logan? Did			
20	you hav	e any problems with Ms. Logan as far as getting			
21	along with her or having clashes with her or anything				
22	like that?				
23	A. S	The probably had more problems with me because			
24	from da	y one I told her she was not my pick because			
25	there wa	as another person who had more experience that			

1	would	have fit in. She already worked in headquarters
2	and a	Iready knew the job. She had no experience.
3	Q.	Let's put this way. If I was your psychiatrist
4	and y	ou were talking to me about all your work problems
5	and a	II the people you had problems with, I know you
6	talkec	about Mr. Escobell. I get that. Would Ms. Logan
7	be on	e of the people you talk about about your work
8	stress	?
9	Α.	Yes, it's not so much her, it's just that she's
10	newi	n dental and she didn't know what to do yet.
11	Q.	Did you get along with her? I mean, did she
12	treat	you nicely like she liked you or respected you or
13	was	she mistreating you in any way?
14	Α.	In front of me she's always nice to me but I
15	don't	know how she presented herself about me. Other
16	реор	le tell me she's not supportive of you.
17	Q.	Did she ever go out on workers' comp or FMLA?
18	A.	No.
19	Q.	She was always there?
20	Α.	Yes.
21	Q.	She wasn't one of the missing people?
22	A.	No.
23	Q.	So the day you got walked out she was there?
24	A.	Yes.
25	Q.	So when you talked to me about Ms. Logan, there

1	was also a staffing shortage. Can we agree that what we					
2	ave been discussing about these missing supervising					
3	dental assistants and these other ones out on FMLA, we					
4	will just call that a staffing shortage problem?					
5	A. Yes.					
6	Q. I heard now about some of the Mr. Escobell					
7	problems and I've heard about Ms. Logan who wasn't					
8	really doing a great job and the staffing shortage?					
9	A. And Rowena Sam who is never there.					
10	Q. Who is that?					
11	A. She's the supervising dental assistant that					
12	went out on workers' comp for nine months and then she					
13	came back for one month then go out for another nine.					
14	She's gone again.					
15	Q. Right, but she's part of the staffing shortage;					
16	right?					
17	A. She's a supervisor.					
18	Q. I understand. Well, okay. Fair enough. But					
19	Rowena Sam was just part of a whole personnel shortage					
20	problem?					
21	A. Yes.					
22	Q. Had Rowena Sam been there, she could have done					
23	something about the staffing shortage problem?					
24	A. Because a doctor doesn't cannot work in					
25	their bar unit if they don't have a dental assistant.					

1	S	so I to	ld her instead of sitting in your office you need
2	to	o assi	st the doctor to see the patient.
3		A	And she, point blank in front of two other
4	d	lentist	s, said, "Well, you tell me to go assist again, I
5	V	vill file	stress on you and I'm going to go out stress
6	0	n you	ı again."
7		Q.	Who told you that?
8		Α.	Ms. Rowena Sam.
9		Q.	All right. Got you. All right. Okay. So
10	I	et's g	0
11		Α.	The last the one thing about the last
12	t	thing a	about Mr. Escobell is that he had a meeting
13		Q.	Okay. Show me the page of your notes where
14	2	you're	atalking about?
15		Α.	Okay. All right.
16			June 18, the month before I got walked off.
17		Q.	Hold on. Hold on. Okay. So
18		Α.	June 18.
19		Q.	I've marked this as page 5. It says,
20	'	'June	18th highly stressful."
21			It's in the middle paragraph on that page; is
22	t	that rig	ght?
23		Α.	Uh-huh.
24		Q.	Is that a "yes"?
25		Α.	Yes.

	<b>J</b>				
1	Q.	Okay. So is this an incident involving Mr.			
2 8	2 Escobell?				
3	A.	Yes.			
4	Q.	So tell me what happened?			
5	A.	And Jason Bishop AW, who is the head of EEO.			
6	Q.	What does AW stand for?			
7	A.	Associate warden.			
8	Q.	So he's also the EEO coordinator?			
9	Α.	Yes.			
10	Q.	So, in other words, I know what EEO is. I know			
11	that o	ftentimes it's the EEO person that you're supposed			
12	to go	to when you're mistreated on the job; right?			
13	A.	Uh-huh.			
14	Q.	Is that a "yes"?			
15	A.	Yes.			
16	Q.	All right. So I take it that Mr. Bishop became			
17	part o	f one of these scenarios that somehow you had			
18	gotter	Mr. Bishop involved in some of your problems with			
19	Mr. E	scobell and the other problems?			
20	Α.	Mr. Escobell			
21	Q.	Is that a true or not, what I just said?			
22	Α.	Yes.			
23	Q.	I'm trying to organize this.			
24	Α.	Uh-huh.			
25	Q.	So Mr. Bishop came into your world, at least in			
	1				

- 1 part, because you brought some of these problems to him.
- 2 Is that fair to say?
- 3 A. I didn't bring any of those problems to him.
- 4 Some staff may have brought problems to him.
- 5 Q. Okay. So you didn't report any of your
- 6 problems to Mr. Bishop, you believe that other staff
- 7 reported their problems to him?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. So go ahead. Explain this incident.
- 10 A. EEO is supposed to be confidential and supposed
- 11 to be filed individually.
- 12 Q. All right.
- 13 A. He had a meeting with the whole staff and gave
- 14 them --
- 15 Q. Mr. Bishop?
- 16 A. Bishop and Escobell. I have a feeling Bishop
- 17 would not have done it without the approval of the
- 18 hiring authority, which is Mr. Escobell. And announced
- 19 to the whole staff are there any EEO issues against
- 20 Dr. SooHoo?
- 21 Q. They did that publicly?
- 22 A. In public. It stressed me out because staff
- 23 came and talked to me, said, hey, it was about you.
- 24 They gave us blank pieces of papers to fill out on you.
- 25 That stressed me out because that's -- where my rights.

And that's supposed to be filed individually. 1 2 Q. Okay. Did you -- and that happened on June 18, 3 2018? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. Where were you when they had that meeting? 6 A. In the morning huddle -- I usually have morning 7 huddles with my dentists and the hygienist. He called 8 me in and he says I --9 Q. Who's "he"? 10 A. Mr. Escobell said come to my office. We're 11 going to meet with your dental staff. And Mr. Jason 12 Bishop, Mr. Escobell left and met my whole staff and 13 gave them blank pieces of paper to fill out. 14 Q. So Mr. Escobell called you to go to his office? 15 A. And I stayed there. 16 Q. In the meantime, they had a meeting without you 17 being there, somewhere else? 18 A. Yes. 19 Q. And when you got to Mr. Escobell's office he 20 was not there obviously; right? 21 A. No. He was waiting at the front of the PK 22 where we had our morning huddles and told me to go to 23 his office and stay at his office. 24 Q. So he told you to go there. You then realized 25 that they were going to have some kind of meeting

1	withou	it you?	
2	Α.	Yes.	
3	Q.	You since learned that Mr. Escobell sent you	
4	there	to get you away from the meeting so they could	
5	have the meeting without you being there?		
6	Α.	Yes.	
7	Q.	And did you have any idea what was going on	
8	when	he sent you to his when Mr. Escobell sent you to	
9	his off	ice?	
10	Α.	I assumed it was about me because they didn't	
11	want	me there.	
12	Q.	Okay. And then how long did the meeting take	
13	3 place that morning?		
14	Α.	I have no idea.	
15	Q.	Well, you were in his office, I mean	
16	Α.	Probably 40 minutes, an hour.	
17	Q.	Then when is the first time you found out what	
18	had h	appened after that 40 minutes or an hour? Did	
19	some	body come running up to you?	
20	Α.	Yeah, staff.	
21	Q.	Who was it?	
22	Α.	A lot of staff. I don't remember anymore.	
23	Q.	Did you feel they were supportive of you or	
24	they v	were just kind of telling you?	
25	Α.	They were very supportive of me.	

1	Q.	But they explained to you what had happened at	
2	the meeting with that group?		
3	Α.	They just basically they gave them blank	
4	pieces	s of paper to fill out and wanted them to put down	
5	any E	EO issues against me.	
6	Q. What I'm talking about is when the staff came		
7	up to	you afterwards and told you what happened. Did	
8	they ju	ust they told you what had taken place at that	
9	meeti	ng?	
10	Α.	Yes.	
11	Q.	And when they were telling you this, did you	
12	2 feel supported by them or neutral or did you feel like		
13	they	were trying to help you?	
14	Α.	I think they were supportive of me.	
15	Q.	So what did you do, did you take any action	
16	abou	t that?	
17	Α.	I documented it when I got back to my office.	
18	Q.	Where did you document it?	
19	Α.	On a piece of paper.	
20	Q.	A memo of some kind?	
21	Α.	Uh-huh, that's how I formulated this.	
22	Q.	Do you still have that memo anywhere?	
23	A.	No, because they were scratch paper. When I	
24	put it	on there I probably threw it away.	
25	Q.	You wrote down a memo on scratch paper for	

1 notes and then later you typed that into Exhibit A?
2 A. Yes.
3 Q. Okay. All right. But did you take any
4 official action as far as putting in any complaints or
5 calling human resources or filing a grievance of any
6 kind?
7 A. I couldn't because Mr. Bishop was the EEO
8 coordinator and he was there. So who do I where do I
9 go. Just like when I filled to internal affairs, the
10 system is that if you it comes right back to the
11 hiring authority to the CEO and then later on after the
12 investigation it still comes back to the CEO to
13 determine what they're going to do to you.
14 Q. So what you're telling me is that you felt like
15 if you tried to take any action you would literally be
16 seeking relief from the very people that did the bad
17 things to you?
18 A. Exactly. That's why I wanted to go to internal
19 affairs in Rancho Cucamonga so it's in the Sacramento.
20 Sacramento turned around and send it back to locally.
21 Q. At any point when this stuff was happening to
22 you, and again I'm kind of using my imagination here and
23 thinking street common sense, if I have this I can
24 imagine being in this history of all this outrageous
25 stuff happening to you through your supervisors at the

- 1 workplace, and then during that time trying to ask
- 2 around what is wrong with my supervisors. Why do they
- 3 seem to hate me so much. Did you ever do anything like
- 4 that, try to find out why is this going on. I never
- 5 knew this man before and he seems to hate me from the
- 6 very beginning. He's got it in for me. Somebody in
- 7 management is trying to get me fired or get me to quit,
- 8 did you ever do anything like that?
- 9 A. Yes, I've been -- like I said before, you know,
- 10 it dawned on me and I'm trying not to make trouble so
- 11 basically I didn't -- I documented it, but I didn't know
- 12 where to go with it.
- 13 Q. Okay. Besides not knowing where to go with it,
- 14 would you agree or would you say that you were afraid to
- 15 do something because you thought that they would fire
- 16 you if you did something?
- 17 A. There's always that fear, but I don't fear that
- 18 because I know I was right. I didn't do anything wrong
- 19 so that's why I don't fear that part. It's that with
- 20 all the stress that I already have, I didn't know if I
- 21 wanted to add more stress because every time you file
- 22 stuff it adds more stress to you. I already have -- you
- 23 already know my medical conditions. I don't want to go
- 24 through all of that.
- 25 Q. Did you ever go to an employment lawyer? I

know you got a workers' comp lawyer here, but did you 1 2 ever go to an employment lawyer at any time? 3 A. Yes. 4 Q. Okay. When was that? Using these dates that 5 we have here on Exhibit A, you know, now we're up in 6 June of 2018 and July of 2018, using those dates when 7 did you go to an employment lawyer? 8 A. Probably a month after that and --Q. After what? 9 10 A. After July 6, 2018. 11 Q. Okay. And you -- was this employment lawyer 12 somebody that you knew in Buena Park or Chino or Rancho 13 Cucamonga? 14 A. I went to several. 15 Q. In what area? 16 A. I think I spoke to -- here in San Diego through 17 Mr. Cohen and I spoke to another one in Temecula and I 18 spoke to another one up north. 19 Q. Was your intention to have them protect you or 20 were you thinking about filing some kind of lawsuit 21 against them? 22 A. Both. 23 Q. And again, I can't get into the specific words 24 that you exchanged with your lawyers, but I can find out 25 about the outfall of the meetings. After meeting or

1	A. Yes, uh-huh.		
2	Q. Okay. All right. Have you have they		
3	scheduled any hearings? Have you been to any hearings		
4	related to the internal affairs investigation?		
5	A. Of Mr. Escobell, everything was done o	na	
6	computer. They sent me questions and		
7	Q. When did they send you questions?		
8	A. Oh, back in December of 2018 when I fi	iled.	
9	Q. Did you keep copies of those questions	?	
10	A. I'm not sure.		
11	Q. Did you answer those questions?		
12	A. Yes.		
13	Q. Did you keep copies of your answers?		
14	A. Some of them. I think I have some of t	hem, not	
15	all of them.		
16	Q. Okay. That tells me right there that we	e may	
17	we can't be finished with you then because that's pretty		
18	important really. This is all about Mr. Escobell and if		
19	there is an internal investigation that's going to		
20	may weigh heavily as to what happens with us meaning in		
21	the workers' comp. The questions they sent you and the		
22	answers you gave them would be very important to us as		
23	well and I'm sure your the medical legal doctors that		
24	are looking into this case. So we're going to request		
25	that you obtain copies of the questions they s	ent you	

1 and the answers you gave them. Okay? 2 Internal affair has all of that. 3 Q. Well, you know, I don't. 4 A. Okay. Q. And I -- I know that I can get them through you 5 6 and your attorney but I'm not sure I can get them 7 directly. I'm not sure. Because even though I 8 represent department of corrections, you know how it is, 9 they decide this is confidential, that's confidential. 10 One department can't get it from another department, you 11 know that; right? 12 A. Yeah. 13 Q. Okay. So let's talk about the July 6 walk out 14 incident. Do you know what I'm referring to? 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. You've got that -- I see that as a paragraph on 17 what I marked as page 5 of Exhibit A and goes on for --18 well, what you've got on Exhibit 6 is some mentioning 19 about some of your physical injuries, hearing loss, back 20 issues and hand issues. So let's stick with page 5 21 where you have the July 6, 2018. Tell me about that 22 incident. 23 A. I was seeing patients around 12:00 o'clock up 24 to around 11:00, 12:00 o'clock and I get a phone call 25 from him saying, come to my office and --

1	Q. Phone call from who?			
2	A. Mr. Escobell.			
3	Q. Okay. Let me ask you, at this point anytime			
4	ou hear from that man do you think there's trouble?			
5	A. Yes.			
6	Q. Okay. So when you get a phone call from him			
7	even before he speaks you are already thinking there's			
8 1	rouble?			
9	A. Yes.			
10	Q. So go ahead.			
11	A. So I immediately told my dental assistant that			
12	I'm going to go have a meeting with him, I'll be back.			
13	still had other scheduled patients.			
14	Q. Okay.			
15	A. And I went in the office. He had a sergeant			
16	there.			
17	Q. Sergeant who?			
18	A. From internal affairs or			
19	Q. Go ahead.			
20	A. I don't know his name or anything or lieutenant			
21	don't remember. And he asked me to turn in my phone,			
22	my set of keys, my ID.			
23	Q. When you said "he asked me," you mean Mr.			
24	Escobell or the sergeant?			
25	A. Mr. Escobell.			

1	Q.	Okay.
2	Α.	And you don't give me any choice, but I will
3	have	to walk you off and order investigation. And that
4	it's be	en he said it's been approved by Mr. Herrick
5	alread	dy, the regional administrator.
6	Q.	He's telling you this?
7	Α.	Yes.
8	Q.	Now, when you said he said you don't give me
9	any c	hoice, did you ask him what are you talking about,
10	what	have I done?
11	Α.	Yes, he would not respond. I was just, like,
12	can I	have a copy of the of the allegation. He goes,
13	nope	
14	Q.	Okay. So that tells me and correct me if
15	l'm w	rrong that they also started some kind of
16	inves	stigation against you; is that correct?
17	Α.	Yes.
18	Q.	All right. Is that do you know if your
19	charg	ges against him and his charges against you are all
20	being	g considered in the same internal investigation or
21	sepa	rate proceedings?
22	A.	I do not know.
23	Q.	Do you know as of July 6, 2018, when he said
24	you g	give me no other choice, had you already you had
25	not fi	led your internal investigation report yet, had
	1	

1	you, because you did yours in December of 2018; is that			
2	right?			
3	A. Yes.			
4	Q. So there was no internal investigations started			
5	by you as of July 6, 2018; correct?			
6	A. Correct.			
7	Q. He said you give me no other choice, but he did			
8	mention something about an investigation going on?			
9	A. On me. He going to start an investigation on			
10	me.			
11	Q. He did say something like that?			
12	A. Yes. I got a letter and I sent a copy to my			
13	3 attorney. I was exonerated from the from the			
14	charges.			
15	Q. Oh, okay. Now, I don't know about this.			
16	A. Okay. I was exonerated, but then back in I			
17	came back to work, just in December they			
18	Q. December of what year?			
19	A. December of 2019. They said, oh, there's			
20	additional charges filed. I said, how come I was never			
21	given this. Oh, we we need to interview you.			
22	Q. Okay. So			
23	MR. TAYLOR: Let's go off the record.			
24	(Off the record.)			
25	BY MR. TAYLOR:			

Γ

1	Q. Back on the record.		
2	Now I'm I don't know. I don't think I ever		
3	knew about a letter. I know that there's a thing in a		
4	lot of state agencies they send a letter of intent or a		
5	notice of adverse action. Was it one of those?		
6	A. Against me?		
7	Q. Yeah, the letter you said you got a letter.		
8	A. I got a letter saying that was all the charges		
9	on the first one that they charges, it did not sustain.		
10	Q. All right. Hold on. Hold on. So we're		
11	getting out of order here because all right. So at		
12	some point and now I need now I'm going to need some		
13	dates as best you can. Using Exhibit A as a point of		
14	reference for dates, at some point somebody filed		
15	charges against you, whether it was Mr. Escobell or your		
16	coworkers or everybody. When was that?		
17	A. I assume it's before July 6.		
18	Q. Okay. Are you telling me July 6 is the first		
19	time you were aware that some charges were sent to you?		
20	A. No, I knew there were some some allegations		
21	charging that against me that I was yelling at them		
22	and because		
23	Q. Okay. So some of your support staff or		
24	coworkers had made charges about you that you were		
25	yelling at them?		

	-				
1		A.	I wasn't I was not yelling, but that's what		
2	tł	ney were saying.			
3		Q. I understood that. When was this, that these			
4	С	harg	ed allegations against you came out? Give me a		
5	У	ear.			
6		Α.	A. 2018.		
7		Q.	Okay. So 2018. And did you ever learn who was		
8	n	nakin	g the allegations against you?		
9		Α.	One was		
10			MR. COHEN: The answer is "yes" or "no."		
11			THE WITNESS: Yes.		
12	E	BY N	IR. TAYLOR:		
13		Q.	Who was it?		
14		Α.	Nichelle Davis.		
15		Q.	What was her job and relationship to you? What		
16	Y	was her job title?			
17		Α.	Dental hygienist.		
18		Q.	Was she your direct dental hygienist or		
19	Ş	somebody else's dental hygienist?			
20		Α.	She worked for CIM and she answered to me.		
21		Q.	You were her boss. Did you work directly with		
22	her in anything during the day or did she work for the				
23	¢	dentists?			
24		A.	She worked for all of us.		
25		Q.	All right. So Nichelle Davis made allegations		

- 1 against you that you were inappropriate, abusive,
- 2 yelling and screaming?
- 3 A. She basically said I was yelling at her because
- 4 I was just questioning why she was only doing one
- 5 quadrant SRPs because the OT is complaining to me that
- 6 they don't know how to schedule her when she only want
- 7 to do one quad, that meant the patient had to come back
- 8 four times.
- 9 Q. What does one quad of an OP [verbatim] mean?
- 10 A. SRPs.
- 11 Q. What does that mean?
- 12 A. Scaling and root planing. In other words, a
- 13 deep cleaning. You have to anesthetize to do a deep
- 14 cleaning.
- Q. When you say "quadrant" you mean literally aquadrant --
- 17 A. Four quadrants of the mouth --
- 18 Q. Let me finish. You're killing her. The
- 19 quadrant, the mouth and the teeth on uppers and lowers
- are divided up in the dental practice into quadrants and
- 21 when you're working in those quadrants whatever you're
- 22 doing, scaling, cleaning, drilling, you talk about those
- 23 different quadrants; right?
- A. To a hygienist and cleaning we talk about
- 25 quadrants.

1	Q. That just means separate sections of the upper		
2	and lower teeth?		
3	A. Yes.		
4	MR. COHEN: Can we take a break.		
5	MR. TAYLOR: Take a break.		
6	(Off the record.)		
7	BY MR. TAYLOR:		
8	Q. So what you found what you're telling me is		
9	that it somehow came to your attention that Ms. Davis		
10	was only doing one or less quadrants on patients instead		
11	of more and these patients would have to come back more,		
12	be rescheduled to come back more times than necessary		
13	because she wasn't doing enough quadrants on this		
14	patient?		
15	A. Yes.		
16	Q. And in that conversation she then made up		
17	charges against you that she said you were yelling at		
18	her?		
19	A. Yes.		
20	Q. Were there any other charges against you		
21	besides what Ms. Davis was saying?		
22	A. Well, she also claimed that when she had a		
23	canceled patient I yelled at her about not having I		
24	said go ahead and see the next patient, you know,		
25	because inmates are never on time because they can only		

1	come when the COs al	low them to come out of housing. So		
2	pasically I said just work on them because what			
3	happened, administrators don't like you to someone			
4	from Sacramento, they don't like you to be sitting there			
5	doing nothing.			
6	Q. All right. Again, these were charges by			
7	Ms. Davis.			
8	A. Yes.			
9	Q. Was there anyb	ody else making charges against		
10	you?			
11	A. Yeah, Joy Marti	n.		
12	Q. Spell, please.			
13	A. J-O-Y M-A-R-T-	I-N.		
14	Q. Wonder if that's	Dave's wife. Went right over		
15	5 his head.			
16	Joy Martin is also	o a dental hygienist?		
17	A. No, she's a den	tal assistant.		
18	Q. Did she join up	with Ms. Davis in making these		
19	charges or did she file	her own separate charges?		
20	A. I don't know.			
21	Q. Were these cha	arges all coming at the same time		
22	in one batch?			
23	A. Yes, uh-huh.			
24	Q. So and all these charges were being made in			
25	2018?			

1	A. They all had meetings and they congregated and				
2	tried to do it all at once and come back. I have a				
3	feeling it's a mutiny and they're trying to collusion to				
4	get me all at once. Because the numbers will work				
5	against because I've been in the system so long.				
6	Q. So it was Nichelle Davis and Joy Martin. Would				
7	Joy Martin say you yelled at her or anything?				
8	A. I don't even remember what the charges, but				
9	those those were not sustained as well.				
10	Q. I understand. We're getting one at a time.				
11	First we have to establish what happened and then we'll				
12	2 talk about the results.				
13	A. Uh-huh.				
14	Q. Did Joy Martin say you were yelling at her or				
15	what did she say about you?				
16	A. She said that I moved her from the laboratory				
17	to be our but that and I because basically I				
18	didn't like her or whatever.				
19	Q. Did she ever say you treated her improperly,				
20	like yelling or screaming at her?				
21	A. I don't remember.				
22	Q. Anybody else besides Nichelle Davis and Joy				
23	Martin make charges?				
24	A. Tammy.				
25	Q. Spell, please.				

	0001				
1	A.	T-A Tammy, oh, she has a difficult name.			
2	Q.	Was she a dental hygienist?			
3	A.	Dental hygienist.			
4	Q.	Okay.			
5	A.	She claimed that I yelled at her at the meeting			
6	and I	have witnesses. I did not yell at her at the			
7	meeting.				
8	Q.	Yelled at her. Okay. Anybody else besides			
9	Joy, Nichelle and Tammy?				
10	A.	Rowena Sam, the supervising dental assistant.			
11	Whe	n she came back to work she claimed that I yelled at			
12	her.	That's why she's stressed out and she left again.			
13	And	told her that she had to assist the dentists.			
14	Q.	All these charges, was this done in one kind of			
15	one k	big accusation or action again you or did they come			
16	6 at different times?				
17	A.	I have no idea.			
18	Q.	At some point you were given notice of these			
19	charges; right?				
20	A.	Those, yes.			
21	Q.	How did you get notice of these charges?			
22	A.	Just by a letter from internal affairs.			
23	Q.	Okay. So a letter from internal affairs. When			
24	did th	nis come to you?			
25	A.	Maybe a couple of months after I got walked			

1	off.				
2	Q.	After you got walked off?			
3	Α.	Yes, uh-huh.			
4	Q.	After July 6 of 2018?			
5	Α.	Uh-huh.			
6	Q.	Is that a "yes"?			
7	Α.	Yes.			
8	Q.	So when you walked in when Mr. Escobell			
9	confronted you on July 6, 2018, you did not know that				
10	these	e charges had been brought against you?			
11	A.	Not all of them, no.			
12	Q.	Okay. I need to know, you know, it's important			
13	13 that I don't want to if things were handled				
14	4 different charges were handled at different times and				
15	different ways, I need to know that. Because other than				
16	that it sounds like you're putting them all together in				
17	one group. So some charges came to your attention				
18	B before July 6, 2018?				
19	A.	Yes.			
20	Q.	What kind of charges were those and who made			
21	them and when did they come?				
22	A.	I told you. Those are the ones that I know of.			
23	Q.	Nichelle and Tammy?			
24	A.	Yes. And Joy.			
25	Q.	And Joy?			

	olume II eorge Soohoo S	S tate of
1	A. Uh-huh.	
2	Q. Those	
3	A. And Rowena.	
4	Q. And you knew about that before July 6, 2018?	
5	A. I didn't know about Rowena.	
6	Q. You knew about the others?	
7	A. Yeah, because what happened there are more	
8	cause they had that meeting.	
9	Q. I understand. I'm trying to pin down dates and	
10	ow you found out. That's all. How did you find out	
11	pout these charges by Nichelle and Tammy and Joy, by a	
12	tter?	
13	A. By a letter.	
14	Q. And but that was before July 6 of 2018?	
15	A. No, afterwards. Oh, before, yeah, I'm sorry.	
16	Q. And so at some point you got a letter that	
17	aid absolved you of those charges?	
18	A. Yes.	
19	Q. Did get that letter before July 6 of 2018?	
20	A. After.	
21	Q. After. So when you walked in and talked to	
22	ere Escobell on July 26, 2018, you knew the charges had	
23	en made, but they had not been vet determined and	

- 23 been made, but they had not been yet determined and
- 24 decided?
- 25 A. Yes.

1		Q.	Then later you found out that other charges
2	W	/ere i	made. You learned about that after July 6 of 2018;
3	is	s that	right?
4		Α.	Yes.
5		Q.	And have you gotten any letter since July 6 of
6	2	018 1	that were either convicting you of these charges or
7	а	bsolv	ving you of these charges?
8		Α.	I just got that letter that said none of them
9	W	/ere s	sustained.
10		Q.	When did you get that letter, using July 6,
11		2018	, as a reference point?
12		Α.	It was around November of last year, I think.
13		Q.	Of 2019?
14		Α.	Yes.
15		Q.	Do you have a copy of that letter?
16		Α.	Yes.
17		Q.	We're going to need to get a copy of that
18	I	etter	
19		Α.	Then I got called on December of in December
20	t	hey o	called me internal affairs and they said there were
21	r	nore	charges.
22		Q.	December of what year?
23		Α.	Of last year.
24		Q.	2019?
25		Α.	Yes, and said there were more charges. I said

- 1 how come I never got a copy of it. He just said, I
- 2 don't know.
- 3 Q. Who's "he"?
- 4 A. The guy at internal affairs.
- 5 Q. Do you know his name?
- 6 A. Yeah, I can find out.
- 7 Q. You know, the first time we deposed you on
- 8 January 31st, 2020, you came in all dressed nice in a
- 9 suit and you had a whole bunch of documents with you. I
- 10 remember that. We didn't go into them. I assumed he
- 11 must have brought those because they have something to
- 12 do with this case. Did you have copies of some of these
- 13 letters of charges and all these notice letters?
- 14 A. Yes.
- 15 Q. Okay. So you do have copies of these letters?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. We need you to give those to your attorney so
- 18 he can --
- 19 A. He has -- I will give them to him again.
- 20 Q. We have to go into that. All right. We can't
- 21 talk about the letters right now. We can't talk about
- 22 the other charges. We can't talk about the questions
- and answers that you had related to the internal
- 24 investigations, but we can talk a little bit about the
- 25 meeting with Mr. Escobell on July 6, 2018, where you got

walked out. Okay? So you told me that he had an
officer there to walk you out. You walked in. He asked
for all of your stuff, your keys, your cards?
A. Uh-huh.
Q. All your other work stuff and that he said to
you you give me no other choice. Okay? Remember that?
A. Uh-huh.
Q. Is that a "yes"?
A. Yes.
Q. So then what else happened in that meeting?
A. I asked him can I go back. I still have
patient files open on the computer. I need to close
those out because I was seeing a patient. And he says,
well, okay, but I can walk you off or this gentleman can
walk you off. And, but he would have to go with you to
close out the files and in the clinic. And so he
said I want you to get your coat. All of my stuff was
still in the office, my coats and everything.
Q. Your personal stuff?
A. Personal stuff. Go pick up your personal
stuff. And the clinic was full, you know, and just
finished my patient record that I was working on. And I
told the dental assistant just reschedule all the other
patients that I have for the rest of the day. And then
he immediately

1	Q.	"He" meaning Mr. Escobell?	
2	A.	No, he had the officer walk me to the clinic	
3	and w	valk me off.	
4	Q.	Okay.	
5	Α.	And escorted me off.	
6	Q.	Were any of these people present watching you,	
7	like al	Il the people that made charges against you, your	
8	hygier	nist, your assistants, anybody watching?	
9	Α.	They were all there.	
10	Q.	You walked off in front of these people?	
11	Α.	Yes.	
12	Q.	Did anybody say anything to you as you were	
13	gettin	ng walked off?	
14	A.	I saw Ms	
15		MR. COHEN: That's a "yes" or "no."	
16		THE WITNESS: Okay.	
17	BY M	/IR. TAYLOR:	
18	Q.	So somebody did say something to you?	
19	Α.	No.	
20	Q.	You saw somebody but they didn't say anything	
21	to yo	ou?	
22	A.	No.	
23	Q.	Is that correct, you saw somebody but they did	
24	not s	ay anything to you; is that correct?	
25	A.	Yes.	

_		
	Q.	Why did you bring it up? Did they do
s	omet	hing? Did they flip you off? Did they laugh at
y	ou?	Even if they didn't say anything, why did you say
1	saw	somebody.
	Α.	They just smiled.
	Q.	They smiled. Okay. I got it. The smile that
y	ou go	ot was kind of like a mean smile, is that what
y	ou're	saying?
	Α.	Uh-huh.
	Q.	Is that a "yes"?
	Α.	Yes.
	Q.	Okay. Fair enough. And who was that that gave
у	ou th	ne mean smile?
	Α.	Joy Martin.
	Q.	Would you consider her one of your enemies, in
¢	other	words, that she had it in for you? If you were
ta	alking	g to your psychologist or psychiatrist about this
Y	voulc	I you say that she's one of your enemies at work
tl	hat h	ad it in for you?
	Α.	Yes.
	Q.	Okay. And as far as you know, does she still
Y	vork	there?
	Α.	Yes.
	Q.	All right. So then you got walked off; is that
r	ight?	
	yo yo yo tt	somet you? I saw s A. Q. you go you're A. Q. you th A. Q. you th A. Q. you th A. Q. that h A. Q. would that h A. Q.

A. Yes. 1 2 Q. I take it you were suspended somehow or out of 3 work for a while before you got transferred to Regional 4 4? 5 A. One week. 6 Q. One week. What was your status as of one week 7 as far as you know, your employment status? Were you 8 suspended without pay or were they just giving you time 9 to get transferred? 10 A. Administrative time off, ATO. 11 Q. Did you get paid for that? 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. And as you got walked off, did you know at that 14 moment as you were being walked off that you were going 15 to have a job at Regional 4? 16 A. No. 17 Q. When did you find that out, that you were going 18 to have a job at Region 4? 19 A. On maybe the 6th -- maybe the 12th or 13th. 20 They sent me a certified letter. 21 Q. The 12th or 13th of July of 2018? 22 A. Yes. 23 Q. You got a letter from which office? 24 A. Headquarters, ERO headquarters. 25 Q. And that letter said what?

		r	
1		Α.	You've been reassigned to Regional.
2		Q.	Were you happy to get that letter?
3		Α.	I was at home just being monitored I mean,
4	W	vorkir	ng out of home.
5		Q.	I understand. But you were at home but when
6	y	ou w	ere at home after you got walked off, did you think
7	y	ou h	ad been fired?
8		Α.	No.
9		Q.	Okay. So as you were being walked off, you
10	ł	knew	you still had a job but it just wasn't going to be
11	6	at Ch	ino; is that right?
12		A.	Yes.
13		Q.	Okay. Then were you expecting this letter to
14	(	come	e to tell you where you had been reassigned to?
15		Α.	No.
16		Q.	How did you know that you still had a job if
17	Ŋ	you v	veren't expecting this letter of reassignment?
18		Α.	I didn't do anything wrong.
19		Q.	Okay. So when you said that you you didn't
20	t	hink	that you had been fired it's because you had faith
21	i	n the	e system that you hadn't done anything wrong yet?
22		Α.	Yes.
23		Q.	Okay. All right. And do you have a copy of
24	t	hat l	etter where got the from headquarters
25	I	reass	signing you to Region 4?

1	A. Yes.	
2	Q. And you gave that to your attorney?	
3	A. I don't remember.	
4	Q. Well, do you still have a copy?	
5	A. Yes.	
6	Q. Will you give us a copy?	
7	A. Yes.	
8	MR. TAYLOR: Let's stop for a minute here.	
9	THE REPORTER: Off the record?	
10	MR. TAYLOR: Off the record.	
11	(Off the record.)	
12	MR. TAYLOR: We've had an off-the-discussion	
13	record [verbatim] about the fact that there are now	
14	still unobtained documents that go right to the heart of	
15	the some of the main issues in this case that Mr. SooHoo	
16	is and Mr. Cohen are going to provide to us to finish	
17	this deposition Volume III. They're going to try to get	
18	copies of the questions and answers that came on the	
19	computer to Mr. SooHoo related to the internal	
20	investigations. And they're going to advise us in	
21	writing either enclosing those documents or telling us	
22	why or we can't get them. We're going to reschedule	
23	this deposition for a Volume III and it's our intent to	
24	finish it on that date, to talk about these matters that	
25	related to the letters and the internal investigations,	

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1	as well as the body parts that we have not yet covered.
2	We're going to agree then to have Volume II of
3	the deposition transcribed into a draft form like Volume
4	I was, and provided to me by an e-mail attachment just
5	like Volume I was. So that we can use Volumes I and II
6	to make sure that we complete the deposition of Volume
7	III.
8	MR. COHEN: If I recall, you're just getting
9	the volumes. They're not sending originals out until
10	it's all completed?
11	MR. TAYLOR: No.
12	MR. COHEN: Am I right?
13	MR. TAYLOR: Correct.
14	MR. COHEN: So we don't get anything. You'll
15	get your e-mail?
16	MR. TAYLOR: I'll just get my e-mail with
17	Volume II, just like I got Volume I. And we're not
18	finishing the deposition transcripts yet to be in the
19	final form for custody, signing and
20	MR. COHEN: Corrections.
21	MR. TAYLOR: Corrections. But we do want
22	Exhibit A attached to the draft of Volume II. Okay?
23	And then our offices will work to finish schedule the
24	finishing of this deposition as soon as possible.
25	Okay, Phil?

1	MR. COHEN: Yeah, that's fine, but let's make
2	sure.
3	Mr. SooHoo, you know what documents he wants
4	you to produce?
5	THE WITNESS: I will bring everything I have.
6	MR. TAYLOR: Okay. So we talked about the
7	letters
8	MR. COHEN: So he's just going to bring
9	everything he has to the next deposition.
10	MR. TAYLOR: It would be better if you give
11	those ahead of time so that I don't have to see them for
12	the first time at the deposition. That will almost
13	that will guarantee that it will go on for a very long
14	time. It's much better that I have them ahead of time.
15	MR. COHEN: Let's see, how many pages of
16	documents do you think we're talking about, Mr. SooHoo?
17	Can you even estimate?
18	THE WITNESS: Fifty.
19	MR. COHEN: Fifty.
20	MR. TAYLOR: Okay.
21	MR. COHEN: Quite a bit. So, you know, it
22	might be better just to bring it so we all have it and
23	categorize it at the deposition.
24	MR. TAYLOR: All right. Fair enough, but don't
25	blame me if the deposition ends up going for a long time

1	then. I don't want it to go for a long time.
2	MR. COHEN: Well, we'll just set it on a day
3	where we have plenty of time, maybe a Friday where we
4	start at 10:30 in the morning.
5	MR. TAYLOR: Fair enough.
6	MR. COHEN: A day when we don't have an office
7	lunch so we don't have to take a big break.
8	MR. TAYLOR: All right. Fair enough. So so
9	with those agreements and those understandings we will
10	go off the record.
11	THE REPORTER: Counsel, did you want to order a
12	copy?
13	MR. COHEN: He's not going to do a there's
14	not going to be any transcript at this time. Just an
15	e-mail to him and then what's going to happen is when
16	everything is all completed then there will be a
17	complete original of everything and then I will be by
18	law he will have to provide me a copy and an original.
19	But the original actually will go to him to sign,
20	correct, then back to me. Then I'll let you know. But
21	l'll hold an original. That's what we'll do.
22	THE REPORTER: Off the record?
23	MR. TAYLOR: So just send me a Volume II and we
24	will take care of the custody, signing and final
25	transcripts at Volume III.

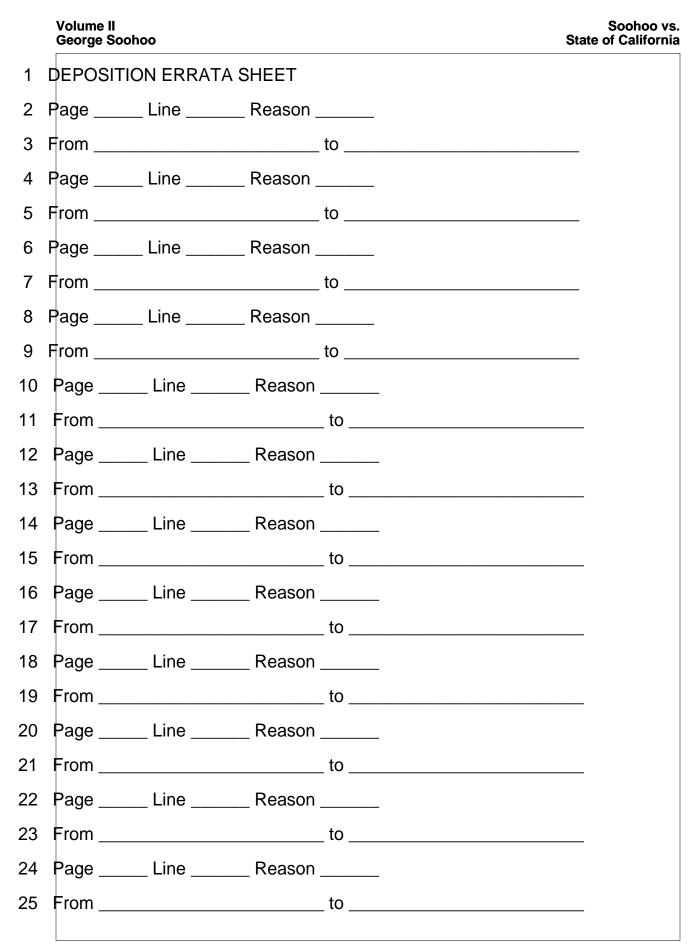
1	MR. COHEN: If she did that and that's complete
2	then I guess you might as well have her send me a copy,
3	too, and maybe him a copy, e-mail or at least e-mail
4	to him so he has it as well.
5	MR. TAYLOR: We'll have the reporter also
6	e-mail copies of Volume II.
7	MR. COHEN: And I.
8	MR. TAYLOR: Volumes I and II to Mr. SooHoo and
9	to Mr. Cohen.
10	MR. COHEN: She doesn't have to send it to me.
11	Just send it to Mr. SooHoo.
12	MR. TAYLOR: Okay.
13	THE REPORTER: I need an e-mail address.
14	THE WITNESS: G-E-O-R-G-E-M-S-O-O-H-O-O@gmail.c
15	om.
16	(Deposition concluded at 5:14 p.m.)
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1	I, the undersigned, a Certified Shorthand
2 F	eporter of the State of California, do hereby certify:
3	That the foregoing proceedings were taken
4 t	efore me at the time and place herein set forth; that
5 a	any witnesses in the foregoing proceedings, prior to
6 t	estifying, were duly sworn; that a record of the
7 p	roceedings was made by me using machine shorthand,
8 v	which was thereafter transcribed under my direction;
9 t	hat the foregoing transcript is a true record of the
10	testimony given.
11	Further, that if the foregoing pertains to the
12	original transcript of a deposition in a federal case,
13	before completion of the proceedings, review of the
14	transcript [ X ] was [ ] was not requested.
15	
16	I further certify I am neither financially
17	interested in the action nor a relative or employee of
18	any attorney or party to this action.
19	IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have this date
20	subscribed my name.
21	
22	Dated: March 6, 2020
23	
24	Debby M. Gladish RPR, CLR, CCRR, CSR No. 9803
25	NCRA Realtime Systems Administrator

1	DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY
2	Case Name: Soohoo vs. State of California
3	Date of Deposition: 02/21/2020
4	Job No.: 10066983
5	
6	I, GEORGE SOOHOO, hereby certify
7	under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of
8	that the foregoing is true and correct.
9	Executed this day of
10	, 2020, at
11	
12	
13	
14	GEORGE SOOHOO
15	
16	NOTARIZATION (If Required)
17	State of
18	County of
19	Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on
20	this day of, 20,
21	by, proved to me on the
22	basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person
23	who appeared before me.
24	Signature: (Seal)
25	

1	DEPOSI	TION ERRAT	A SHEET		
3	Name of Date of I Job No.:	ame: Soohoo v Witness: Geor Deposition: 02/ 10066983 Codes: 1. To 2. To conform 3. To correct	ge Soohoo /21/2020 clarify the re to the facts.	ecord.	
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November 7, 2018

Dr. George M. SooHoo

CONFIDENTIAL MEMO:

Addendum to the SCIF Claim.

Stress Relating to my Employment at California Institution for Men.

Date: From 2013 to 2015. Highly Stressed thru the Investigation.

Investigation regarding the issues of Ms. Nichelle Davis, RDH was changing dental treatment plans. Mr. Ronald Wortham, HPM III, reported to me that Ms. Consuelo Zen informed him that Ms. Nichelle Davis was changing treatment plans. When I reported this to Mr. Robert Herrick, CEO, he questioned me in regards to the information I received. I informed him that I received that information from Mr. Ronald Wortham, HPM III, and he indicated to me that he was given that information from Ms. Consuelo Zen, RDA. When the CEO, Mr. Robert Herrick questioned Mr. Wortham, he denied telling me that information. Ms. Consuelo Zen also denied telling Mr. Wortham that information as well. During the investigation, the truth finally surfaced and Mr. Ronald Wortham admitted to Mr. Herrick that he did informed me of what Ms. Zen told her. I finally salvaged my credibility in being honest and truthful in reporting this incidence because they had other motives to discredit me.

Date: October 15, 2015 to April 25, 2016

#### Individual Development Plan (IDP) Highly Stressed

I was given Individual Development Plan (IDP) by the CEO, Mr. Louie Escobell, on November 30, 2015. Mr. Escobell just started taking over as the CEO approximately in August or September, 2015. I had two areas that he claims I needed improvements on the IDP. I went in to speak with him and I felt degraded with his response. I informed him that when I write IDP's for all my staff and that for any "needs improvements," this has to be justified through a "Employee Counseling Report" or "Letter of Instruction." I never received an ECR or LOI that year. Since I was not able to discuss this issue with him, I elevated this up to the Regional Clinical Director, Dr. Jeff Lissy and Mr. Robert Herrick, the Regional Director for an appeal. According to Policy, the CEO and the Regional Clinical Director has equal weight in my evaluation. Ms. Cindy Ballou, the Medical ERO indicated to me that she will be looking into the issue. On April 26, 2016, I received a letter from Mr. Louie Escobell (CEO) that the IDP dated November 30, 2015 should be removed from my OPF file, and I was given a new IDP.



Date: Approximately early 2016. Do not know exact dates for the HPM III Interviews.- Highly Stressed.

HPMIII Interviews were scheduled to be for two days due to the high number of candidates. Panel consist of Mr. Louie Escobell (CEO), Dr. Jeff Lissy (Regional Clinical Director), and myself. At the end of the interviews, Mr. Escobell asked if there are any comments regarding the candidates interviewed today. I informed the panel that Ms. Rowena Sam, the Supervising Dental Assistant shared with me that Ms. Debra Logan (Supervisor Medical Record) who was a candidate was not very nice to the Dental Assistant when they needed the Medical Records). The following day, Dr. Don Lee, DDS, asked about his limited term status with CIM so I decided to go ask Personnel, Ms. Belinda Serrato if we were going to continue the Limited Term Position. When I was in Personnel, I also asked her if we were still interviewing the rest of the HPM III candidates and she informed me that the rest of the candidates cancelled their interviews. When I approached Mr. Escobell in his office regarding my visit to Personnel regarding the Limited Term Position for Don Lee, DDS., Mr. Escobell blew up and asked why I went to Personnel to ask about the HPM III position. He did not allow me to explain so I just left and never brought it up again. I did not feel like my input was important to him and he did not have to listen to anything I have to say.

#### Date: April 21, 2017 Extremely Stressed

Location: Mariscos Las Brisas- Chino, CA

Lunch with Dr. Muhammad Farooq. MD, Mrs. Muhammad Farooq, and Mr. Louie Escobell.

At about 12:15 p.m. we were all eating lunch and were just having normal conversation and Mr. Louie Escobell strikes me in the face very hard because he was sitting next to me. Dr. Farooq was shocked and his wife was extremely shocked and the first thing that came out of her mouth was "why did you hit him in the face and so hard?" Mr. Escobell just smiled and laughed it off. I was in total shock myself, and my face felt numb for a few minutes and I was able to keep my composure because there were too many people in the restaurant to make a scene. Dr. Farooq, the next day came and spoke to me and indicated he spoke to Mr. Escobell and informed him that he cannot lay hands on anyone and that he would not do it again. Dr. Farooq was afraid I would file assault charges. My wife, to this very day, was very upset with me for not filing charges. After this incidence, I also informed Dr. Jeff Lissy of what had happened as well. Since this incidence, I have avoided Mr. Escobell due to his uncontrolled abusive behavior and to this very day, I do not know why he acted the way he did, nor did he ever apologized. I have kept this inside of me for close to a year and I was full of anger, humiliated and depressed when I would think about that incident and finally I had to seek professional help and see a Psychologist.

#### February 1. 2017 to November 2017. Highly Stressed.

Stress reached a high point starting in February 1, 2017, when my Supervising Dental Assistant left work due to medical issues. She did not return till November, 2017. There are (15) Dental Assistants and managing them is a mental and stressful challenge due to the CIM culture even before I arrived to CIM as the Supervising Dentist. Getting them motivated to meet the mission was a challenged because 70% of them were on FMLA, and we also had to conform to their BU 20 contracts. I was already Supervising



(6) Dentists, (2) Dental Hygienists, with Dental Clinical requirement of 45% +++ to see patients. I am also required to attend all Executive Staff meetings, and the Wardens meeting on a weekly basis. I have two people whom I report to directly is the CEO, Mr. Louie Escobell, and Dr. Jeff Lissy, the Clinical Regional Director. Her long term absenteeism and lack of decision making was very stressful. When a unfavorable decision that had to be made to the Dental Assistants, she would tell them it was Dr. SooHoo's decision.

I always try and surpass my Clinical Requirements because I enjoy seeing patients. My average monthly production is from 60-85%, and my monthly minimum is 45%. I am highly stressed when the CEO or the department heads changes or cancel their executive staff meetings the same day. My ducats to see patients has to be put in the day before and if I cancel, this is a ding to my dashboard. I am probably the only Supervisor that has a required 45% Dental Clinical requirement. It does not impact any of the other Executive Staff because they do not have to see patients. I have mention this several times to the Ms. Monica Lopez, (CEO Executive Secretary) and Mr. Escobell, but there is no resolution. The meetings are on a monthly basis consisting of CEO Medical Executive Meeting, Medical Utilization Review Committee, Patient Safety Meeting, Dental Subcommittee Meeting (Chair), Pharmacy Review Committee, Wardens Meeting, Medical Services Meeting, Infection Control Meeting, Tool Control Meeting, Regional Dental Director Meeting, HQ Dental Staff Meeting, and a host of others.

It is always stressful when there are disagreements between what the CEO wants and what HQ or the Regional Director wants like the responsibility of the golf carts for movement to the different yards. HQ says the golf carts belong to the Dental Department because they were purchased by the HQ Dental Budget, but the CEO says the golf carts belongs to him and it is at his discretion to issue the carts to the different departments like Medical Records, Medical Lab, Pharmacy, etc. The Supervising Dental Assistant always come and complains to me about the golf carts and wants our golf carts back when they have been given to other departments by the CEO and the HPM III. Very rarely, does she try to solve these issues on her own, but she burdens me the stress to solve these issues because the Dental Assistants and the Office Technicians are the only ones in the Dental Department that uses the Golf carts. I try my best to resolve these issues and a host of other problems due to the strong personalities and the conflicts that these issues present to the CIM Dental Department. I have always set the bar very high for myself due to my work ethic and my commitment to the Department. Being in the military for 30 years, I have always been professional, integrity is vital, respect and accountability is a must. My Dental Clinical Requirements has always been met on a monthly basis with a range of 65% to 80%, which 45% is mandated. I always try my best to attend all the required meetings at the request of the CEO. All the stress was on me to make decisions to run the Dental Department when my Supervisor Dental Assistant was gone for a long period of time with 70% of my staff on FMLA or Workman's Comp issues. Majority of the problems are with her Dental Assistants if I tell her what she has to do, she will go out on stress once again or run to the CEO that I am stressing her out. Ms. Rowena Sam is very clever in working the system and when she has to deal with the problematic Dental Assistants, she wants me to handle them. Her high absenteeism has placed much stress on me to ensure the right decisions are made for the Clinical Operational needs.



Very few people volunteer for the Acting Supervising Dental Assistant Position. When Ms. Joy Martin took over from Ms. Mercedes Chavez, as the Acting Supervising Dental Assistant, she was very critical of Ms. Mercedes Chavez during her term as the Acting Supervising Dental Assistant. She wrote e-mail criticizing her of decision making and incompetence. This e-mail was sent to the CEO, Mr. Louie Escobell, and the Regional Administrator, Dr. Jeff Lissy. I spoke to her personally about sending those type of e-mails out without even letting me know of the issues. I asked her several times to follow the "Chain of Command." She would hear me but never follow the directives. She would report to the HPM III, Ms. Debra Logan and I would never know about the Clinical Operations of her staff. Since she was only in the position for a short period of time, I tried my best to work with her but she would continue to try to avoid me, because I am her direct Supervisor. She would get overtime approved through the HPM III, Ms. Debra Logan and I would never know about it till she brought her 998 to me for signature. Ms. Mercedes Chavez, Dr. Chikka Raju, and Dr. Thant Zin has informed me that Ms. Logan is trying to undermine your authority. I just informed them that she does have authority to authorize overtime and it would be nice if she came to me to discuss the overtime issues. I was trying to have everyone work as a team and get our work done so we can all go home.

#### February, 2018-Very Stressful

I left on Vacation for two weeks, and I asked Dr. Tiffany Spencer to be my Acting Supervising Dentist during this two week. I gave her a directive that please do not let any Clinical Staff leave early unless they wanted to take their own time or if it was an emergency. I found out one Friday, Dr. Spencer asked our HPM III, if she can let everyone go home early at 1:00 P.M., and she left early and asked Dr. Chikka Raju to be the Acting Supervising Dentist during her early departure. This caused a lot of friction between the two of them because DR. Raju was torn between following my directive of not letting staff off early versus letting staff off at 1:00 P.M. After I returned, I spoke to Dr. Spencer about my directive and she had no comment. I tried to give her an ECR, but the Medical ERO, said I could not because it was approved by the HPM III. The other issue was Dr. Spencer would come in late on a regular basis, like 7:30 to 7:45 a.m., and two of my Dentists, Dr. Raju and Dr. Zin, spoke to me and said it was not fair that I allow her to sign in late every day. I spoke to Dr. Spencer many times about coming to work on time and she gives me the same answer that she has traffic issues. I spoke to the Medical ERO and she recommended everyone sign a Letter of Expectation of what the Clinical hours would be from 7-3:00 p.m. The Medical ERO wanted to inform them in a signed agreement and they must show a pattern of being late all the time for any Progressive Discipline. This issues was finally resolved for now. In March, 2018, the Regional team arrived and indicated to me during the audit that many of our exams were not being completed due to Providers sending them to the Hygienist for Debridement and the charts would get lost and the exams were never completed. The Audit team revealed to me that the

majority of the ones that were not completed were Dr. Spencer's Comp Exams. Immediately, I spoke to Dr. Liao, Dr. Giang, and Dr. Lissy and decided to make sure the Dentists do the debridement the same day and not refer it to the Hygienist, to complete the Comprehensive Examinations. This caused a lot of stress because Dr. Spencer felt I was targeting her when I was only trying to solve the issues from the DCAT Audit as well as her reporting times to the CIM Clinic due to DR. Raju and Dr. Zin's comments about fairness.

#### June 18, 2018. Highly Stressful

I would have my normal morning huddles every morning at 7:00 a.m. with only my Dentists and Dental Hygienist. The CEO, Mr. Louie Escobell and the AW Mr. Jason Bishop (EEO Coordinator) requested that I do not attend the morning huddle with my Dentists and Dental Hygienists. They rounded up all 30 plus staff members including my Dental Assistants and gave them a letter asking them to fill out the letter if Dr. SooHoo has ever verbally abused them? I have been working at CIM over 10 years and I have given out Employee Counseling Letters, Letters of Instruction, and Adverse Action against staff. This was a open forum for retaliation, and they were soliciting for handwritten grievances from my staff. EEO should be handled confidentially and it has to be filed individually and not being solicited. They have violated my rights in regards to the confidentiality in a open forum and this was a mutiny to discredit my reputation. No one gave me the opportunity to hear my version or to defend myself against these alleged allegations.

#### July 6, 2018- Extremely Stressful

I was asked by the CEO, Mr. Louie Escobell, to come to his office and he informed me to relinquish my ID, my phone, and my keys, and I was escorted to my office in the D Yard Main Clinic by an Officer to gather my belongings and to be walked off the grounds at CIM while they do their investigation. I asked him can I have copies of the EEO allegations against me and he said "no". This was extremely stressful and embarrassing to be walked off in front of my whole staff from the D Yard Dental Clinic with no prior notice over EEO allegations. After weeks and months and up to this very day, I have sleep issues, I have headaches, nightmares, loss of apetite, and this has tarnished my reputation that I have established for the last 40 years. There is not a day that does not go by that I try to decipher what I have not sexually harassed anyone, I never use vulgar or foul language, or racial epithets, and I always try to be fair with my staff so they do not perceive favoritism. I do not verbally abuse anyone but I hold people accountable, and I expect everyone to do their jobs, be respectful and professional.

**Occupational Issues:** 



#### Hearing Loss:

Hearing Issues for the last 15-20 years, due to the high frequency hand piece we use for drilling and surgical extractions. I have lost 70% of my hearing in my left ear and 40% in my right ear.

#### Back Issues:

Back Issues: After close to 40 years in practice, most Dentists have back issues. I have pain in my back on a monthly basis and I see chiropractor, massage therapist, and physical therapist.

#### Hand Issues:

Hand Issues: I have arthritis, rheumatism, and on both hands. I also has mod carpal tunnel and many time my hands and fingers go numb. I soak my hands in Epsom salt and go into the Jacuzzi for my hands and back for therapy. I use a handball to do hand exercises by squeezing the handball a couple of hundred times per day. I have been having tightness of my hands and muscles for the last 20 years.

« G. /