1 2	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION				
3					
4 5	WALTER HOLLAND,) CASE NO. 5:00-CV-1722) JUDGE DAN A. POLSTER)				
6) Plaintiff) DEPOSITION OF vs.				
7 8) JAMES D. BRODELL, M.D. CONSOLIDATED FREIGHTWAYS) CORPORATION, et al.,)				
9					
10	Defendants)				
11					
12 13	Videotaped deposition taken before me,				
14	Christine Breinz, Notary Public within and for the				
15	State of Ohio, on the 29th day of October, 2001, at				
16	4:15 PM, pursuant to notice, taken at the offices of				
17	Dr. James D. Brodell, 2614 East Market Street,				
18	Warren, Ohio, to be used in accordance with the				
19	Federal Rules of Civil Procedure or the agreement of				
20	the parties in the aforesaid cause of action pending				
21	in the United States District Court for the Northern				
22	District of Ohio, Eastern Division.				

SIMONI COURT REPORTING WARREN/YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO (330) 399-1400, 746-0934

A P P E A R A N C E S On Behalf of the Plaintiff: J. Thomas Henretta, Attorney at Law On Behalf of the Defendants: James J. Turek, Attorney at Law REMINGER & REMINGER CO., L.P.A.

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5 PROCEEDINGS 1 JAMES D. BRODELL, M.D. 2 having been duly sworn according to law, on his 3 oath, testified as follows: 4 DIRECT EXAMINATION 5 BY MR. TUREK: 6 Good afternoon, Doctor. Would you please Ο. 7 introduce yourself to the jury? 8 My name is James David Brodell. 9 Α. 10 Q. Dr. Brodell, where are we for the purpose of taking your trial testimony? 11 In my office. 12Α. And where is your office located? Q. 13 2614 East Market Street, Warren, Ohio. 14Α. Dr. Brodell, you are testifying today about 15 Q. your examination and review of various 16 medical records regarding Mr. Walter 17 Holland; is that correct? 18 Yes. 19 Α. Q. All right. And, Doctor, you have your file 20 with you and material generated by your 21 involvement in this matter? 22

1 A. Yes.

3

2	Q. All right. Doctor, before we begin, it is
3	necessary that we discuss, at least for a
4	moment here, your education, your training
5	and your professional experience that
6	qualifies you as an expert in orthopedics
7	So, first of all, Doctor, could you begin
8	by telling the jury about your educational
9	background?
10	A. I went through the public school system here is
11	Warren, Ohio, and graduated from Harding
12	High School, which is not far down the
13	road from here. In 1974, I graduated from
14	Washington and Jefferson College, a small
15	liberal arts school near Pittsburgh,
16	Pennsylvania. That was a Bachelor of Arts
17	degree and my major was in biology. I
18	then spent four years in Cleveland and
19	graduated in 1978 from Case Western
2 0	Reserve University School of Medicine.
21	That was my M.D. degree. It was then on
22	to Rochester, New York, for five years,

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7 and in 1983 I finished my residency in 1 orthopedics. 2 Q. Doctor, when you say your residency in 3 orthopedics, could you tell the jury, what 4 is orthopedics? 5 Α. It's a specialty area in medicine that involves 6 the diagnosis, treatment and 7 rehabilitation of problems related to the 8 musculoskeletal system. In other words, 9 we take care of problems related to the 10 neck, mid and lower back areas, arms and 11 legs as it relates to a host of problems, 12 including congenital and developmental 13 abnormalities, arthritis, infection, 14 metabolic disease, cancer and trauma. 15 Doctor, does the field of orthopedics --16 Ο. generally, is that where you would find 17 spine conditions, arthritic conditions in 18 the spine, traumatic injuries to the 19 spine? Would that all fall within the 20 broad category of orthopedics? 21 22 Yes. Although, there's overlap with other Α.

specialties. 1 All right. Doctor, in addition to your Q. 2 educational experience, could you explain 3 to the jury and describe your professional 4 history, where you've worked 5 professionally? 6 Okay. Since 1983, I moved back here to my 7 Α. hometown of Warren, Ohio, and I've been 8 continuously practicing as a solo, private 9 practitioner. So, we're moving up on 18 10 or 19 years, I believe. 11 Doctor, do you have hospital staff privileges? Q. 12 Yes. 13 Α. Q. And where? 14 I spend almost all of my clinical time at the 15 Α. largest of our community hospitals, 16 Trumbull Memorial. I also have courtesy 17 or consulting privileges at several other 18 facilities. 19 Doctor, can you give the jury an idea of what 20 Q, would -- what is your practice like? Ι 21 mean, what do you do on a daily basis, on 22

a weekly basis in terms of seeing 1 patients, where you would see them and 2 what you would be involved in doing? 3 I'm a general orthopedic surgeon, which means 4 Α. that I see a cross section of all of those 5 things that I just mentioned to you. On 6 many days, I'm in the office seeing 7 patients and I'll see between 60 and 70 8 patients a day in my office with a varietY 9 of these bone and joint related problems. 10 Some days, I'm in the operating room down 11 at the hospital. That would involve 12 larger cases, like total joint 13 replacements or bad fractures of the 14 femur, tibia, pelvis and so forth. Most 15 of my operations, though, are ambulatory 16 procedures related to things like 17 arthroscopy, where we use a little 18 telescope to look inside people's joints. 19 Q . Doctor, how many days a week, then, would you 20 actually be in the hospital doing some 21 kind of surgery? 22

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10 Two to three. It depends on how much needs to Α. 1 be done. 2 Okay. Now, Doctor, in the field of orthopedic Q. 3 surgery, is there a professional 4 certification recognized in that 5 particular specialty? 6 Α. Yes. 7 Q. What -- could you tell the jury a little bit 8 about that? 9 Our specialty board is known as the American Α. 10 Board of Orthopedic Surgery. 11 And what exactly does that board do vis-a-vis Q. 12all the orthopedic surgeons out there in 13 14 the country? 15 Α. They make sure that the practitioners are qualified to practice within that 16 17 specialty. Q. How do they do that? How do they make sure 18 that they are -- the practitioners are 19 qualified in this field? 20 By making sure that requirements are met. 2 1 Α. And what would be the requirements for 22 Q.

11 orthopedic surgeons, at least as it 1 2 relates to the American Board of Orthopedic Surgery? 3 One must graduate from an accredited program 4 Α. and have appropriate letters of 5 recommendation from the professors, б practice in a given location for two years 7 with additional letters of recommendation 8 from the community doctors and then 9 there's also a written, followed by an 10 oral examination. If everything is in 11 order, your education is proper and you 12 pass the examination, both the written and 13 oral part, then a certificate is sent to 14 you, which is evidence of your 15 qualification to practice within the 16 specialty. 17 Q. Does that mean when you get that certificate 18 that you just described that you are board 19 certified? 20 Yes. 21 Α. Q. Doctor, are you board certified? 22

12I was certified in 1985. 1 Α. Yes. Q. 2 And, Doctor, have you undergone any recertification since 1985? 3 Yes. I was voluntarily recertified in 1995. Α. 4 Q. All right. Now, Doctor, a little bit more 5 about this board certification process. б Is being board certified either something 7 that you are or you are not? 8 Yes. 9 Α. Q. All right. There's no in between? 10 Α. No. 11 Doctor, have you had an opportunity to review Q. 12 some -- the records and testimony of 13 Dr. Dennis Zaslow of Philadelphia? 14 Yes. 15 Α. Q. Doctor, at my request, did you check to see if 16 Dr. Zaslow is listed as a board certified 17 orthopedic surgeon by the American Board 18 of Orthopedic Surgery? 19 2.0 Α. Yes. And what did you find? Q. 21 He is not. 22 Α.

13 Q, Doctor, what does that mean, that Dr. Zaslow is 1 not board certified by the American Board 2 of Orthopedic Surgery? 3 That he hasn't -- that either he hasn't met the Α. 4 recommend -- the requirements to sit for 5 the exam or he failed the examination. 6 Q. Does that mean that he is not qualified in the 7 eyes of the board to practice orthopedic 8 surgery? 9 MR. HENRETTA: Objection. 10 Yes. 11 Α. Q., I'm sorry. You can answer. 12Yes. 13 Α. Doctor, finally, with respect to this -- the 14Q, Board of Orthopedic Surgery, who makes up 15 that board? 16 The board is comprised **of** professors in the 17 Α. country who alternate, and then in 18 addition to eight to ten members of the 19 20 board, there are approximately 200 oral examiners. 21 Q, Are you one of those 200 oral examiners in 22

14 orthopedic surgery? 1 Since 1998, I have been an oral examiner. 2 Yes. Α. And very briefly, Doctor, could you tell the 3 Q. jury, what does that mean then to be an 4 oral examiner for the American Board of 5 Orthopedic Surgery? 6 One week out of the year, I travel to Chicago 7 Α. and I'm a representative of the board. I 8 examine applicants to make sure they're 9 qualified to practice within the 10 specialty, both the new applicants for 11 certification as well as currently 12 practicing orthopedic surgeons for the --13 for recertification. 14 Thank you, Doctor. Now, as it relates to your 15 Ο. involvement in this particular matter, you 16 were first asked by me to review some 17 medical records; is that correct? 18 19 Α. Yes. And, Doctor, following the review -- in 20 Q. addition, I should say, to the review of 21 22 medical records, you also conducted an

15 examination of Mr. Holland? 1 2 Α. Yes. And you have authored a report regarding your Q. 3 review of the records, your examination 4 and some of your opinions about all of 5 those things; is that correct? 6 Yes. 7 Α. Q. All right. Now, Doctor, with respect to, first 8 of all, some of the housekeeping matters, 9 you have, in order to -- in exchange for 10 doing these medical services, you have 11 been paid, correct? 12 13 Α. Yes. Q, All right. And, in fact, you are being paid 14 today for the time for this particular 15 16 deposition and your testimony, correct? 17 Α. Yes. 18 Q. All right. And, Doctor, that is consistent with your practice in other matters? 19 In other words, let me -- how often do you 20 find yourself testifying in trial? 21 By way of deposition, as we're doing today? 22 Α.

16 Q. Correct 1 Two or three times a month. 2 Α. All right. And you have never testified for me 3 Q. before at Reminger and Reminger, have you? 4 Not that I recall. It's possible, though --5 Α. Ο. Okay. 6 7 -- if it was a long time ago. Α. Doctor, have you been qualified before today Q. а to -- before this case to testify in court 9 as an orthopedic surgeon? 10 Many times, yes. 11 Α. All right. Have you ever not been qualified, 12 Q. as been found not to be an expert in that 13 field? 14 15 Α. No. All right. Doctor, then, let me direct your 16 Ο. attention to some of the issues that 17 pertain to Walter Holland. And, by all 18 means, if you need to refer to your 19 20 report, go ahead and do so. Doctor, first of all, what do you understand from the 21 history you obtained -- now, I'm going to 22

17 jump ahead a little bit to your 1 examination, because you did obtain a 2 history from Mr. Holland about the 3 accident of April of 1998; is that 4 correct? 5 б Α. Yes. All right. And, again, feel free to refer to Q. 7 your report. What history did he give 8 you? 9 Well, he presented with complaints of Α. 10 long-standing aching and stiffness in his 11 lower back, pain that would intermittently 12 radiate into his legs, more on the left 13 leg than the right, and this was 14 associated with numbness and tingling of 15 his feet. He told me that if he dipped 16 his toes into water that he was unable to 17 differentiate hot from cold. At times, 18 his low back discomfort would radiate up 19 his spine, down into his arms and was 20 accompanied by numbness and tingling of 21 his hands. And then we also discussed a 22

18 little bit about some chronic 1 gastrointestinal and urological trouble 2 that he had been having. 3 All right. Doctor, let me, a little more 4 Q. specifically, talk about the incident 5 itself. 6 Okay. 7 Α. And in that regard -- also, from your review off Q, 8 the records, because I know you've got 9 those that you've had to review. First of 10 all, do you understand that the incident 11 occurred on April 6, 1998? 12 Yes. The patient related all of his low back 13 Α. difficulty that I just described to an 14 incident that occurred on April 6th of 15 1998. 16 Q, Doctor, during the course of your history, 17 Mr. Holland is in your office, I presume, 18 and you're asking him questions about what 19 happened and he's answering them? Is that 20 the way it goes? 21 22 Α. Yes.

As simple as that, okay. Did he tell you that 1 Q. 2 after the impact that he was able to get out of his tractor and go over to the 3 other tractor trailer that was involved to 4 determine the status of that particular 5 individual? Did he go into that kind of 6 detail? 7 He may have, but I did not document that in my Α. а record and I don't remember that 9 conversation. 10 All right. Doctor, were you told by 11 Q, Mr. Holland that after the accident he 12climbed back into his tractor after 13 checking on the driver, got his triangles 14 out, went and put those out on the roadway 15 where they belonged and then went back and 16 otherwise cooperated with the police 17 during their investigation? Did that 18 generally --19 Α. That --20 Or not in that detail? 21 Q. 22 Α. That may have been discussed with me, but it

20 wasn't -- I didn't document that in my 1 records and I don't recall. 2 All right. Now, Doctor, in this particular Q. 3 incident, did Mr. Holland seek treatment 4 immediately from the accident scene? 5 6 Α. No. And instead do you understand that he waited 7 Q. about eight hours for another truck to 8 come with another driver and then he --9 then Mr. Holland, the other driver drove 10 that truck and trailer to Indianapolis, 11 then to Chicago and then back to 12 Philadelphia over the course of the next 13 five days? 14 Well, I know that now and from a review of 15 Α. transcripts of records, but at the time, I 16 don't believe that we discussed it in that 17 great of detail. 18 19 Q. Okay. Doctor, one of the issues in this case revolves around degenerative disk disease. 20 Doctor, in your practice, are you familiar 21 with that particular condition? 22

1AYes.2All right. Is that something that you would3find regularly or is that a rather unusu4thing for you to come across in your5AA daily occurrence with patients.6AA daily occurrence with patients.7QAll right. And, Doctor, is there anything8A daily occurrence with patients.9AAubout Mr. Holland's condition or anythin9about his case that you feel puts him10about his case that you feel puts him11outside of your expertise or your12A.13Q.14no.15A.16others, involves what conditions what17No.18others, involves what conditions what19Q.10henderlying incident; that is, the11henderlying incident; that is, the12A.13V.14henderlying incident; that is, the15henderlying incident; that is, the16April 6 accident. I would like you to17he basis for it, but could you please18he basis for it, but could you please19the basis for it, but could you please20the basis for it, but could you please21the basis for it, but could you please22think happened to Mr. Holland, medically	B		21
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22 speaking, as a result of the April 6, 1998 1 accident? 2 He had a stretching of the muscles and 3 Α. ligaments about the spine of his mid and 4 lower back area. That type of a soft 5 6 tissue injury is commonly known as a sprain or a strain. 7 8 Q. Okay. Did he sustain any other injury in the 9 accident of April 6, 1998? Yes. 10 Α. Q, What other injury? 11 Α. Bruises or contusions of his thighs. 12 All right. Doctor, anything else that your 13 Q. review of the records or from your 14 examination of Mr. Holland you attribute 15 to the subject accident? 16 No. 17 Α. Q. All right. Now, with respect to the activities 18 that I just described a few moments ago 19 that Mr. Holland did following the 20 21 accident, are those -- is that conduct consistent with someone with a low back 22

23 strain like you diagnosed? 1 2 Α. Yes. Q. All right. 3 of mild to moderate severity, not of severe Α. 4 consequence. 5 All right. Now, Doctor, you are aware that Q. 6 there is medical opinion being expressed 7 in this case to the effect that the 8 subject accident caused some degree of 9 herniation at the L-5, S-1 level. Are you 10 aware of that? 11 12 Α. Yes. Q. First of all, do you agree with that? 13 14 Α. No. All right. And, Doctor, let's talk about, just 15 Q. 16 so far, the chunk that we've broken off to chew already, and that is the conduct of 17 18 Mr. Holland from the time of the accident 19 to the time that he first sought treatment 20 on April 10, that Friday, in Philadelphia? 21 Α. Okay. Q. Okay. Now, with respect to that conduct, would 22

24 you find that going back into his truck, 1 refusing treatment at the scene, driving 2 to Indianapolis, to Chicago and then back 3 4 to Philadelphia over the course of five days is consistent or inconsistent with 5 someone who has suffered a traumatic 6 herniated L-5, S-1 disk? 7 MR. HENRETTA: Objection. 8 Q. YOU can answer. 9 I think the proper answer would be no. 10 Α. Q. 11 Okay. In other words, it was sort of a long question, 12 Α. but I don't believe, based on that 13 behavior, that it's consistent with 14 blowing out an L-5, S-1 disk. 15 Q. What would you have expected to see instead by 16 way of the behavior of Mr. Holland 17 following the impact if he, indeed, 18 sustained a fresh, new herniation at L-5, 19 s-1? 20 21 MR. HENRETTA: Objection. 22 There would have been abrupt and severe low Α.

	2 5
1	back pain, radiating pain down one or both
2	legs and that would be associated with
3	numbness, tingling and weakness in a
4	particular distribution. The idea that he
5	was able to get up and around, so on and
6	so forth, is not consistent with a severe
7	low back injury.
8	Q. You said, Doctor, in your answer you used
9	the phrase particular distribution, and
10	the jury is going to hear a little bit
11	about that probably before they hear from
12	you. So, we don't have to go into a great
13	detail, because it is rather technical,
14	but could you describe for the jury what
15	you mean by a particular distribution when
16	we're talking about a potential injury to
17	L-5, s-1?
18	A. Okay. Stacked one on top of another in a
19	person's back are bony blocks known as
20	vertebrae. In between each of those bony
21	blocks is a jelly disk called a nucleus
22	palposes.

1 Q. Okay.

2	A. The vertebrae surround, in the back, the spina	1
3	column or the spinal cord, I should	
4	say, that breaks down into lots of little	
5	nerves that are called the cauda equina.	
6	The cauda equina means horse's tail. It	
7	looks like a horse's tail of all these	
8	nerves coming down. And then each of	
9	those nerves exist on each side to go down	
10	into the leg to provide sensation, the	
11	ability to move, so on and so forth.	
12	If one herniates an L-5, S-1 disk,	
13	that means some of the jelly material	
14	between the fifth lumbar vertebra and the	
15	sacrum, which is a confluence of bone down	
16	below, making up the tail area of us humar	ור
17	beings. If a portion of that herniates on	c.
18	sticks out, it presses on the L-5 nerve	
19	root or, I'm sorry, if it's an L-5, S-3	1
2 0	disk, it presses on the S-1 nerve root,	
21	and that S-1 nerve root provides sensation	n
22	to a particular area of the foot. It	

1

27 supplies a reflex and the ability to move 1 a certain muscle group. 2 Q. And is that true, Doctor --3 Was that clear enough? 4 Α. Q, That was pretty clear. 5 6 Α. Okay. Doctor, is that like for everybody or is that 7 Q. just in some people? 8 There's a little overlap and it can be a little Α. 9 different in one person to another, but as 10 I just described, it's a pretty constant 11 12 part of human anatomy. 13 Q., So, if you have an injury to a certain part of the back, a certain level of your 14vertebral column, the -- if there is some 15 kind of nerve problem, it's going to be in 16 17 a special place because that's where the nerve runs to from that particular injured 18 19 spot? That was a quicker and better synopsis than I 20 Α. provided, yes. 21 I'm not sure it's better, but I just -- if I Q, 22

can understand it, then I know anyone can. 1 Now, Doctor, in this case, first of all, 2 could you tell the jury, where would --3 you would -- the L-5, S-1 would result in 4 what kind of symptoms? I think you said 5 in the foot. 6 Numbness along the lateral border of the foot. Α. 7 That means the outside part of the foot. 8 Q. Okay. 9 Weakness of the calf muscle, which could be Α. 10 varying in severity, but basically enough 11 weakness that one would have trouble 12standing up on their toes, and then also 13 the loss of the Achilles tendon reflex. 14 What is the Achilles tendon reflex? Q. 15 The Achilles tendon is the largest tendon of 16 Α. the body that runs behind the ankle and 17 goes down to the foot. You take a little 18 reflex hammer and you strike it lightly, 19 holding the foot in the proper position 20 and then you'll see a little jerk of the 21 foot. 22

And if you don't see that reaction, you say Q. 1 that it's an abnormal finding? 2 Correct, and it would imply a failure of the Α. 3 electric conduction of the S-1 nerve root. 4 Q. So, if you were getting -- conversely, if 5 you're getting normal Achilles tendon 6 reflexes upon examination, then that's 7 telling you that there isn't a problem 8 with the L-5, S-1; is that correct? 9 It makes it significantly less likely, that's Α. 10 true. 11 That would at least be inconsistent with Q. 1 2 Okay. an L-5, S-1 neuropathy? 13 Relatively inconsistent, yes. Α. 14 Okay. Doctor, then let's return to 15 Q. Mr. Holland's history. We got him back to 16 Philadelphia on Friday, the 10th, where he 17 first sought medical treatment, and in 18 that regard, he saw Chris Boucher, a 19 chiropractor in Philadelphia. Are you 20 familiar with that treatment from the 2 1 22 records you reviewed?

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30 Α. Yes. 1 All right. And are you familiar with what that 2 Q. particular chiropractor diagnosed? 3 4 Α. Yes. And what was that? Q. 5 Cervical, thoracic, lumbosacral sprain/strain 6 Α. with subluxation; contusion, sprain/strain 7 knee and leg 8 All right. And based upon what you told the 9 Ο. jury a little earlier what you thought 10 occurred to Mr. Holland in the accident, 11 that seems consistent? 12It does. The only thing I wouldn't agree with 13 Α. is the terminology subluxation. That 14 would imply that one vertebra might have 15 slipped forward or backward on another 16 one, and I don't believe that there is any 17 evidence that that occurred in this case. 18 All right. And, Doctor, then the next -- late: 19 Ο. that very same day, Mr. Holland, at the 20 referral of Dr. Boucher, the chiropractor 21 22 went to the emergency department at the

31 Albert Einstein Medical Center. 1 Are you aware of that? 2 Yes, and when I talked to the patient, I -- and 3 Α. as I documented things in my record, I 4 wasn't quite sure whether he went to the 5 emergency room before he saw the 6 chiropractor or after, but it's become a 7 little bit more apparent to me, I guess, 8 that he went to the chiropractor first and 9 then went to the emergency room. 10 Q. And, Doctor, first of all, are you familiar 11 with the Albert Einstein Medical Center in 12 Philadelphia? 13 14 Α. Yes. Q, Does that particular facility enjoy a good or 15 excellent, fair reputation? 16 It's one of the most famous medical centers in 17 Α. the country. It's considered to be an 18 19 extremely high-quality facility. 0. And from your reading of the records generated 20 at that facility regarding Mr. Holland, 21 22 what did they diagnose with respect to his

32 condition? 1 There was some discussion of low back pain, but 2 Α. they were mainly concerned with swelling 3 involving the lower extremities. To that 4 end, they obtained what was known -- what 5 is known as a Doppler ultrasound. That's 6 a little listening device for the veins in 7 the legs, and they were basically looking 8 for evidence of a blood clot in the legs. 9 Q . And, Doctor, what significance -- okay. 10 So, the diagnosis there is lower extremity 11 edema, swelling or bruising of the lower 12 extremities. What significance does the 13 fact that they didn't do any kind of 14 diagnostic tests of the back have for you, 15 if any? 16 In my opinion, it means that they did not 17 Α. consider his lower back complaints to be 18 sufficient to document a formal physical 19 examination or even get X-rays. 20 21 Q . Doctor, would the -- would that be consistent, 22 in your opinion, with someone suffering

from a traumatic herniated L-5, S-1 disk, 1 to go through the Albert Einstein Medical 2 Center emergency room without so much as 3 even an X-ray of the low back? 4 No. Α. 5 Q. On the other hand, Doctor, is everything that 6 you saw the emergency room record do for 7 Mr. Holland consistent with a low back 8 strain and bruised legs? 9 10 Α. Yes. All right. Doctor, then the next treatment was Q. 11 by a physiatrist by the name of 12 Dr. Verada. Are you familiar with the 13 records he generated? 14 Α. Yes. 15 All right. And apparently he was seen on Q. 16 April 23 at the request of the 17 Is that consistent with chiropractor. 18 your understanding? 19 Possible. My date for Dr. Verada was 20 Α. May 2nd of '98, but there are a lot of 21 22 records. I may just have that --

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Okay. In fact --Ο. 1 -- out of order. 2 Α. -- there was a report that you would have seen 3 Q. generated --4 Oh, okay. 5 Α. -- on May 2, 1998 --6 Q. 7 Okay. Α. -- by Dr. Verada talking about that particular 8 Q. examination. 9 Okay. 10 Α. And, in fact, if you don't have it in front of 11 Q. you right now, let me go ahead and hand it 12 to you. And, in particular, Doctor, I 13 want you to look at the neurological 14examination section and the diagnosis 15 section. Again, this is for Dr. Verada. 16 17 Α. Okay. Okay. Doctor, what did -- according to his 18 Q. records anyway, what did Dr. Verada find 19 by way of neurological examination? 20 It was normal. 21 Α. And what significance, if any, do you place on 22 Q.

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that normal neurological finding, given 1 2 the debate about whether he had a herniated L-5, S-1 disk at that time? 3 A normal neurological examination would not be Α. 4 consistent with a clinically significant 5 herniated disk. 6 Q. All right. And what was the diagnosis, then, 7 that Dr. Verada came up with? 8 Acute, severe thoracic and lumbosacral 9 Α. sprain/strain with associated myofascitis, 10 right thigh contusion with strain. 11 Q. Okay. Is myofascitis another name for like 12 muscle pain? 13 It's just another medical term implying that Α. 14 the patient is having low back pain. 15 Q. Okay. Doctor, is there -- would you find -- do 16 you believe, is it your opinion that 17 Dr. Verada's opinions, as we've just 18 discussed them, are consistent with a back 19 strain? 20 21 Α. Yes. Objection. 22 MR. HENRETTA:

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Would you agree that they're inconsistent with Q. 1 a herniated L-5, S-1 disk? 2 MR. HENRETTA: Objection. 3 Α. Yes. 4 Doctor, now, in continuing with his treatment 5 Q. after Dr. Verada, he was seen by a partner 6 of the chiropractor, and that is 7 Dr. Mangino, an anesthesiologist. Did you 8 see that? 9 10 Α. Yes. Now, is an anesthesiologist -- how are they 11 Q. different from an orthopedic surgeon with 12respect to the treatment of a back? 13 Anesthesiologists are best known in this 14 Α. country as providing the method by which 15 patients sleep for surgery and they also 16 provide spinals; for example, to make the 17 legs go to sleep, and they also do other 18 regional blocks to facilitate surgeon's 19 operative procedures. Over the last ten 20 21 years, anesthesiologists have also been 22 actively involved in what's become known
37 as pain management, and I believe that 1 that is the function of Dr. Mangino in 2 this particular type of case. 3 Q. So that -- and have you had an opportunity to 4 review Dr. Mangino's report dated May 8, 5 1998, which I believe was his first 6 report? 7 Yes. Α. 8 Q. Did you note that in his history he reports 9 that Mr. Holland told him that 10 Mr. Holland -- that is, he was traveling 11 at about 35 to 40 miles per hour when his 12 truck was hit from behind? 13 Α. Yes. 14 Q. Okay. Is -- by the way, is that what 15 Mr. Holland told you, that he was going 16 40 miles per hour at the time he was hit? 17 I believe so, yes. 18 Α. Q. All right. And that's what you have in your 19 report, correct? 20 21 Α. Yes. All right. Doctor, then with respect to 22 Q.

38 Dr. Mangino's report, do you note that he 1 found -- he did a -- tested the Achilles 2 tendon reflex? 3 Yes. 4 Α. And what did he find? 5 Q. The Achilles reflexes were normal. 6 Α. And again, Doctor, that would be inconsistent 7 Q. with an L-5, S-1 herniation, correct? 8 Yes. 9 Α. Doctor, now, what does it mean to have patellar 10 Q. tendon reflex diminished? The patellar tendon reflex is tested by taking 12 Α. a little reflex hammer and tapping right 13 below the kneecap area of the knee and 14 then you'll see a little leg jerk. That's 15 probably the most common --16 Q. Oh, yeah. 17 -- reflex that most patients are familiar with 18 Α. in a doctor's office. 19 20 Does that have anything to do with the L-5, Q. s-1? 21 That is an L-4 nerve root level. That's No. 22 Α.

the tendon reflex for the L-4 nerve root. 1 So, finding a diminished or abnormal patellar 2 Q. tendon reflex relates to a different level 3 of the back than the L-5, S-1? 4 Correct. 5 Α. Q . Okay. Doctor, would you agree or disagree that 6 Dr. Mangino's initial findings were 7 consistent with your opinion that this was 8 a strain superimposed over preexisting 9 degenerative condition? 10 Yes, that was his diagnosis, and consistent 11 Α. with my opinion. 12 All right. Doctor, at this point in May of Q. 13 1998, in the treatment chronology anyway, 14 there was an MRI that was done. Are you 15 aware of that? 16 17 Α. Yes. 18 Q. Have you had a chance to actually see the film? 19 Α. Yes. What, in your opinion, does that film reveal? 20 Q, Well, three things: Number one, the quality or 21 Α. resolution of the film, in my opinion, was 22

40 suboptimal; number two, the film 1 demonstrated multi-level degenerative disk 2 and joint disease. That means that he has 3 arthritis in his lower back; and then, 4 lastly, there was some evidence of bulging 5 6 of the disk at L-5, S-1. Q. Now, Doctor, do you have an opinion whether 7 those findings, as you saw in the MRI of 8 May 18, 1998 preexisted the subject 9 accident? 10 Α. Yes, I have an opinion. 11 And what is that? Q. 12 They were there prior to the accident. Α. 13 14 Q. Doctor, just a quick -- again, I don't -- the jury has been told some things before 15 they're going to hear from you regarding 16 degenerative disease, but I think it's 17 important to just touch on a few of the 18 characteristics of it. How can you tell 19 20 this jury within a reasonable degree of certainty that the stuff that is seen on 21 that MRI actually was there six weeks 22

41 earlier? 1 2 Α. Because we know from experience that those types of changes take many years to 3 develop, not just a few weeks. 4 Q. Well, would you expect to see those kinds of 5 findings absent trauma in a man of 6 7 Mr. Holland's age, weight and job classification? а Yes. 9 Α. That's something that is not unusual? Q. 10 Α. No 11 Q. Okay. 12It's normal. It's abnormal, but it would be Α. 13 normal for him. 14 Q. Okay. And, Doctor, then in terms of the 15 characteristics, a little bit more -- just 16 a little bit more on the characteristics 17 of degenerative disease, is this something 18 that is chronic or does this just come and 19 go away then? 20 A. Well, you have to distinguish between patient 21 symptoms and the X-ray or imaging findings 22

42 of the arthritis. 1 Q. Well, will arthritis ever go away on an X-ray? 2 3 No. Α. Q. All right. So that if we would expect to take 4 an X-ray of Mr. Holland's back, or an MRI, 5 in ten years, what would you expect to see 6 compared to what you saw in May of 1998? 7 Worsening of the arthritic change involving the 8 Α. joints and disk spaces. 9 Even though you're certain that you would see Q. 10 some worsening of that, can you be certain 11 as to how much his symptoms in ten years 12 would be worse or not? 13 MR. HENRETTA: Objection. 14 No. Α. 15 And why is that then? 16 Q. Because just because the X-rays or imaging 17 Α. studies look worse as time goes by, that 18 does not necessarily correlate with how 19 the patient feels. Some patients will 20 sort of smolder along and say they have 21 22 aching and stiffness. Some patients will

say they feel worse over the progression 1 of time. Interestingly enough, some 2 patients will have long periods of time 3 where they say they feel substantially 4 better. 5 But, Doctor, isn't it true that if you -- that 6 Ο. degenerative condition that is visible to 7 you and that you described to the jury on 8 the May 18 MRI is a permanent condition? 9 MR. HENRETTA: Objection. 10 The imaging finding on X-ray and on the MRI is 11 Α. a permanent condition, but that does not 12necessarily mean that the patient is going 13 to suffer permanently from that condition. 14 Okay. Now, Doctor, one other thing about the 15 Q. interpretation of these MRIs. Are you a 16 radiologist? 17 No. 18 Α. Do you work in concert with radiologists on a 19 Q. regular basis? 20 Yes. 21 Α. What is their role in the treatment, let's say 22 Q.

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44 of Mr. Holland? If he had come to you as 1 2 a treating patient, what role, if any, would a radiologist have played? 3 4 The radiologists have special and sophisticated Α. 5 training in the interpretation of regular X-rays and various imaging studies, 6 7 including the MRI. I usually will look at the studies of a particular patient 8 myself, but 1 also rely fairly heavily on 9 the interpretation of the radiologist, 10 because that's their area of expertise, 11 Q. Okay. Now, Doctor, with -- finally, with 12 respect to your review of that May 18 MRI, 13 are the findings there, do those findings 14 require some traumatic explanation for 15 them when you look at that particular 16 film? 17 MR. HENRETTA: Objection. 18 19 Α. NO. Okay. Doctor, let's jump ahead to the 20 Q. July 2000 MRI. Did you have a chance to 21 look at that? 22

1 Α. Yes. 2 Q. Doctor, with respect to that particular MRI, first of all, let's ask the same question 3 I ended with before. Is there something 4 about that MRI in July of 2000 that 5 requires a trauma to explain it? 6 No. 7 Α. And why is that? Q. 8 The findings were as follows when I looked at Α. 9 the July 6, 2000 MRI: First of all, the 10 quality of the study was better. In other 11 words, the resolution or the -- when I 12 looked at the films, I felt that I could 13 see better on those films than the earlier 14 studies. I saw disk bulging at L-4, L-5; 15 multiple levels had disk desiccation, 16 which means that they were losing their 17water content; and I thought that there 18 was a probable disk herniation at L-5, 19 S-1. 20 Now, Doctor, that's -- the difference, then, 21 Q. between your interpretation of the May and 22

46 1 the July two years later MRI is that in 2 the second one you see a herniation for sure? 3 Α. Correct. 4 Q. All right. And that is at L-5, S-1? 5 6 Α. Yes. 7 Q. Okay. Now, Doctor, what if Mr. Holland is making complaints at this time about pain 8 in the upper thighs, just below the 9 buttocks? Would you attribute that to the 10 finding that you've just talked about on 11 that July MRI? 12 Some of it, yes; some of it, no. 13 Α. Q. All right. Talk about both of those for the 14 jury, what -- some of it, yes, first. 15 The part that would be correlated with low 16 Α. back, buttock and proximal thigh pain 17 would be the patient's advanced 18 multi-level degenerative disk and joint 19 It means he has a lot of disease. 20 arthritis in his back. The symptoms would 21 not be consistent with an L-5, S-1 22

herniated disk.

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-	nernraced drsk.
2	\mathbb{Q} . Okay. Doctor, then I want to go through
3	again continue with the chronology of
4	treatment and leading up to your
5	examination; that, indeed, Mr. Holland was
6	then seen by Dr. Clements in Philadelphia
7	Are you aware of that?
8	A. Yes.
9	Q. And Dr. Clements saw him in 1998 through the
10	time that he returned to work in November
11	of 1998? If you want
12	A. The answer is yes, but I had down for my review
13	that he probably successfully returned to
14	work in October of 1998.
15	Q. Okay. With respect to Dr. Clements, who do you
16	understand was at the Temple University,
17	Department of Orthopedic Surgery?
18	A. I
19	Q. Here, I'll be happy to show you. I don't
2 0	expect you to recall all these things.
21	There's his report.
22	A. Yes, David Clements, M.D., from Temple

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48 University. The date of this letter is 1 March 9th of 2000. 2 All right. And from your review of the Ο. 3 records, let me -- here, we'll just do it 4 this way. Would you read what his 5 impression is, the number listed there? 6 Okay. This is the second page --7 Α. Right. 8 Ο. -- letter from Dr. Clements. "Impression, 9 Α. lumbar strain secondary to a work-related 10 automobile accident 4-6-98." 11 MR. HENRETTA: Objection. 12 "Number two, degenerative changes in the lumbar 13 Α. spine, including possible left-sided small 14 disk herniation." 15 Doctor --16 Q. "Number three" --17 Α. 18 Q. -- let me interrupt you. 19 Yes. Α. And go through a couple of these, just so that 20 Q. we can see what your findings --21 I just want to move to MR. HENRETTA: 22

49 1 strike the work related. So --MR. TUREK: Okay. 2 MR. HENRETTA: We have to keep this 3 clean. 4 The first impression with the patient is that Q. 5 he got a lumbar strain attributable to the б 4-6-98 auto accident. Is that something 7 you agree with? 8 Yes. 9 Α. Q. All right. Dr. Clements further opines that 10 Mr. Holland had completely recovered from 11 that strain, back strain when he was 12 released back to work on August 27, 1998. 13 Do you agree with him in that respect? 14 Yes. 15 Α. All right. Doctor, then are you aware that 16 Q. Mr. Holland did, in fact, return to work 17 in November of 1999? 18 Α. Are we talking 1998? 19 Q. I'm sorry, 1998. That was just a trick 20 question there to see if you were paying 21 attention. 22

<u>F</u>		υ
Н	A	Either October or November of 1998, yes.
2	Q	All right. And do you understand that he went
m		back to work as an over-the-road truck
4		driver?
ы	A.	Yes.
9	Ø	All right. And that he continued to work for
7		another year?
œ	A.	He I believe he worked for eight months.
σ	ŏ	Okay. Eight months before he sought additional
10		treatment?
	A.	Eight or nine months, correct.
12	ŏ	Okay. So, from the time he returned to work in
13		late 1998 until he went back to see
14		Dr. Mangino in April of 1999, you
15		understand there was no treatment in
16		between there?
17	A	I that's correct. I was unable to identify
л 1		any record of medical treatment during
Ч 0		that eight or nine month hiatus.
50	ŏ	All right. And, Doctor, is that consistent
51		with someone who has recovered from a back
22		strain?

51 1 Α. Yes. Okay. By the way, Doctor, would you expect 2 Q. during the course of that work that 3 Mr. Holland was doing, if you assume he 4 was doing over-the-road truck driving --5 that is, long periods of time driving --6 7 as well as load -- doing some loading and unloading and some chaining and 8 unchaining, would you espect him to have 9 10 occasional back pain? MR. HENRETTA: Objection. 11 12 Α. Yes. 13 Q . Would you say that that back pain -- would you have an opinion whether that occasional 14back pain he would have had would be 15 related to the subject -- to the April '98 16 17 accident? MR. HENRETTA: Objection. 18 My opinion would be that it would be just a 19 Α. matter of the normal course of 20 work-related event and not related to the 21 prior accident. 22

52 Q . All right. Doctor, then again with respect to 1 the chronology of his treatment, 2 Dr. Hayken, Gerald Hayken of the -- an 3 4 orthopedic surgeon in Mount Laurel, New Jersey, examined Mr. Holland. Are you 5 aware of that? 6 7 Yes. I believe that was in June of 2000. Α. Q. All right. So, we are now over two -- by the 8 time Dr. Hayken sees him, we are now over 9 two years past the accident, correct? 10 11 Α. Yes. 12 Q. And did you find from Dr. Hayken that his opinions were consistent with, first of 13 all, your opinions about what injuries 14 were attributable to the subject accident? 15 Yes and no. 16 Α. Okay. Tell the jury how yes and tell the jury Q, 17 how no. 18 19 Dr. Hayken's diagnosis was lumbosacral strain Α. superimposed on disk degeneration and 20 facet joint arthritis. Basically, what 21 he's saying is that the patient has a 22

53 low -- has a soft tissue injury 1 superimposed on arthritis. I agree with 2 3 that except that I wouldn't agree that the strain was an ongoing problem at that 4 In other words, **I** would simply 5 point. have made the diagnosis of arthritis in 6 the lower back and then I would have said 7 with a history of a strain two years ago. 8 MR. HENRETTA: Move to strike. 9 And, Doctor, do you believe --10 Q . All right. strike that. Do you have an opinion as to 11 whether or not the subject incident 12aggravated this preexisting -- I mean, I 13 hear this aggravated coming up now and 14 then, and the jury is going to hear that. 15 What is your opinion about whether or not 16 that preexisting degenerative condition 17 was aggravated by our accident? 18 In my opinion, there was no aggravation. 19 Α. And what do you base that on, Doctor? Q. 20 You have to divide between patient symptoms and 21 Α. 22 what can actually be documented or proven.

54 In this particular case, one can say that 1 the patient was aggravated or had pain 2 after the accident, but that's different 3 than saying that somehow the arthritis in 4 the lower back was worsened, or 5 accelerated, or that the arthritis was 6 made even more severe as a result of the 7 accident. There's no proof of that in 8 this case. 9 Doctor, then let's go ahead to your examination 10 Ο. of Mr. Holland and begin by telling the 11 jury when that occurred. 12 December 8th of last year. 13 Α. All right. So, in the chronology, this is 14 Ο. 15 where you come in, and would you tell the jury, first of all, what you found upon 16 physical examination of Mr. Holland? 17 My examination involved looking at the patient, 18 Α. inspecting the involved areas and doing a 19 neurological examination. In this 20 particular case, I found that he was 621 feet tall and weighed 303 pounds. 22 He was

55 friendly and cooperative. The lower back 1 area was normal appearing. There was 2 diffuse tenderness. His ability to move 3 his lower back was restricted because of 4 complaints of pain. There were no 5 abnormal neurological findings and no 6 evidence of lower extremity atrophy. 7 What significance does that have with respect Ο. 8 to your concern about the potential for a 9 herniated L-5, S-1? 10 There were no findings consistent with a Α. 11 herniated L-5, S-1 disk. 12 All right. Now, Doctor, did you conduct any 13 Q. other tests during that examination? 14 15 Yes. Α. What were those and what were the results? 16 Q. I obtained regular X-rays of his lower back. 17 Α. And what did they reveal, if anything? 18 Q. Arthritis at multiple levels. 19 Α. Is that, first of all, consistent with what you 20 Q. had seen on the other films? 21 22 Α. Yes.

56 Q. Okay. So, it's kind of what you expected to 1 see? 2 Yes. Α. 3 Doctor, you talked a little bit about this Q. 4 earlier, and I want to go back to the 5 symptoms he described and I want to make 6 sure that we've explained what they mean 7 to you. That is, for instance, you 8 indicated earlier that he complained of 9 pain traveling up the spine and down the 10 arms causing numbness and tingling of the 11 hands? 12 Yes. 13 Α. Q. 14 What -- I mean, then in your letter -- in your report, you say that's a non-anatomical 15 symptom complex. What does that mean? 16 That means that the nerves simply don't run 17 Α. that way and that it's impossible for a 18 reasonable person to experience something 19 like that. So, it would be a complaint 20 that would have a so-called functional or 21 supratentorial basis. In other words, it 22

57 would be more in his mind than having an 1 actual organic basis. 2 Q. All right. So, there's nothing you can tell 3 the jury -- we don't have a chart or a 4 model that you can point and say when this 5 thing is touching against that thing, you 6 get that kind of --7 No, that's not the way the human body works. 8 Α. Q. Okay. What about the difficulty distinguishing 9 hot and cold water by dipping toes into 10 water? What -- you mentioned that 11 earlier. What do you attribute that to? 12 Well, those symptoms sound like the types of 13 Α. problems that people with diabetes have. 14 15 People with diabetes have high blood sugars and that adversely affects the 16 ability of nerves to conduct electricity, 17 and the lack of ability to differentiate 18 19 hot from cold is common in diabetes. Okay. Doctor, then that wouldn't be related to Q. 20 the accident, in your opinion? 21 No. 22 Α.

58 Q. All right. Doctor, then with respect to the 1 other -- you mentioned some incontinency? 2 He had some problems with urinary dribbling, 3 Α. and he said that he also had constipation 4 alternating with diarrhea over a long 5 period of time. 6 7 Is that in any way related to an L-5, S-l? Q. No. 8 Α. Okay. What about complaints of pain in just 9 Ο. the -- that is, the muscle of the thighs? 10 Did he make any complaints to you of those 11 kinds of things? 12 I did not document that. 13 Α. All right. Because there was, in fact, if you 14 Q. can believe it or not, yet another doctor 15 who examined Mr. Holland after you, and 16 that is Dr. LaVoice. Have you had an 17 opportunity to review Dr. LaVoice's 18 19 particular -- his --2.0 Yes. I --Α. -- report? 21 Q. I read his report. 22 Α.

59 All right. In that report, did you note that 1 Q. he -- that Mr. Holland apparently was 2 3 making complaints referrable to both thighs and that Dr. LaVoice could not 4 really come up with any explanation for 5 all those complaints? 6 7 I read that, yes. Α. 8 Is that a fair reading of what Dr. LaVoice was Ο. saying? 9 10 Α. Yes. Okay. Now, with respect then to your 11 Q. examination, Doctor, did you conduct any 12further tests that we have not covered or 13 any other symptoms he described that we 14 haven't talked about? 15 Number -- the number one, I actually looked at 16 Α. his magnetic resonance studies. I think 17 we discussed those. 18 Q. Right. 19 The only other thing that we haven't discussed 20 Α. are his electrical studies. He had two 21 22 electrical studies in the past.

Okay. And electrical studies are EMGs? 1 Ο. They're called nerve conduction EMG studies. 2 Α. Okay. And what is the purpose of that kind of 3 Q. study? 4 To see if there's any evidence of a pinched 5 Α. nerve in the lower back area. б And what diagnostic value do you attribute to 7 Ο. those tests? 8 Well, most physicians that have experience with 9 a. low back problems do not give a tremendous 10 amount of weight to electrical studies, 11 because many times they'll lead you down 12 the wrong path. In this particular case, 13 the patient had electrical studies once in 14 1998 and then later the following year and 15 they showed completely different things. 16 Okay. Doctor, at this time -- by the way, in 17 0. your examination, was there any kind of 18 testing or anything that you wanted to do 19 that you couldn't do with respect to this 20 patient? 21 22 Α. No.

61 All right. And, Doctor, then I would like to, 1 Q. in conclusion here, to run through then 2 your opinions that you hold within a 3 reasonable degree of medical certainty 4 based upon, of course, your education and 5 experience and training, but also your 6 review of the records and your examination 7 of the Plaintiff. 8 Okay. 9 Α. Okay. And, again, all of your answers, you Ο. 10 know, have to be within a reasonable 11 degree of medical certainty, more likely 12 than not, scientifically speaking, okay? 13 And you understand that. 14 15 Okay. Α. Doctor, with that in mind, do you have an 16 Q. 17 opinion as to whether or not Mr. Holland had a condition in his lower back that 18 preexisted the subject accident? 19 Yes, I have an opinion. 20 Α. And what is that opinion? 21 Q. He did have a condition antedating or 22 Α.

1 preexisting the accident, which would be 2 known as axial skeletal spondylosis. 3 That's the fancy medical term meaning arthritis up and down his spine. 4 And, Doctor, is -- do you have an opinion as to 5 Q. whether he still has that condition today? 6 Yes, I have an opinion. 7 Α. And what is that opinion? 8 Q. He does have the arthritis that I mentioned 9 Α. 10 based on his regular X-rays and also his magnetic resonance imaging studies. 11 12 Q. Doctor, do you have an opinion as to whether there is a cure for arthritis in the low 13 back? 14 Do I have an opinion on that? 15 Α. Q. Yeah. 16 17 My opinion is, number one, there's no cure for Α. the arthritis; but, number two, there are 18 19 things that can be done to help the 20 patient feel better, even though they're afflicted with the condition. 21 22 Q. Doctor, then what did -- what is your opinion

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63 as to what Mr. Holland sustained by way of 1 injury in the April 1998 accident? 2 Do I have an opinion about what he sustained? 3 Α. 4 Q. Yes. What is your opinion as to what he sustained? 5 6 A soft tissue injury, a stretching of the Α. 7 muscles and ligaments about the spine of his lower back. That would be known as a 8 lumbosacral sprain/strain. 9 Q. Then, Doctor, at the time of your -- strike 10 11 that. Doctor, do you have an opinion as to whether or not, based upon your review 12 of the records, Mr. Holland was able to 13 return to work having recovered from that 14 15 strain that you attribute to the subject accident? 16 17 Yes, I have an opinion. Α. And what is that? 18 0. 19 Α. The record documents that after approximately five or six months that he was 20 21sufficiently improved and healed that he 22 was able to return to work.

		04
1	Q.	All right. And, Doctor, then again as it
2		relates to your exam, could you again just
3		tell the jury make sure we do this
4		within a reasonable degree of medical
5		certainty what did you find were his
6		medical problems at the time of your
7		examination in December of 2000?
8	Α.	Number one, lumbosacral spondylosis. This is
9		also known as degenerative disk and joint
10		disease or, to the lay public, arthritis.
11	Q.	Okay.
12	Α.	Number two, obesity; number three, diabetes
13		mellitus and hypertension.
14	Q.	Doctor, do you have an opinion as to when
15		whether any of those conditions you
16		diagnosed in December of 2000 were
17		attributable to the subject accident?
18		MR. HENRETTA: Objection.
19	Α.	Yes, I have an opinion.
20	Q.	And what is that?
21		MR. HENRETTA: Objection.
22	Α.	None of them are related to the April 1998

65 accident. 1 Q. Doctor, do you have an opinion as to whether or 2 not Mr. Holland can work? 3 MR. HENRETTA: Objection. 4 Α. Yes. 5 Q. What is your opinion? 6 I believe that he could work if he was 7 Α. motivated to do so. However, he has 8 9 significant underlying problems, including malignant obesity, hypertension, diabetes 10 and a lot of arthritis up and down his 11 12spine. He is also not getting any 13 younger, and all of those things might make it difficult 'for him to engage in a 14 strenuous vocation, such as driving truck 15 16 and all of the associated lifting, 17 pushing, pulling, so on and so forth. MR. TUREK: Thank you, Doctor. 18 Ι have no further questions. 19 If I could see your 20 MR. HENRETTA: file. 21 22 THE WITNESS: Sure.

66 1 (OFF THE RECORD) 2 CROSS EXAMINATION BY MR. HENRETTA: 3 Dr. Brodell, Mr. Holland is not one of your 4 Ο. 5 patients, right? Correct. 6 Α. 7 You've never treated him for anything, right? Q. 8 Α. Correct. He didn't call and make an appointment to see 9 ο. 10 you? Correct. 11 Α. Since he's not one of your patients, you don't 12 Q. 13 have particularly any professional duty 14 owing him; is that correct? I mean, there's no physician/patient privilege or 15 relationship; is that correct? 16 It's correct to the extent that I didn't have 17 Α. any obligation to continue treatment. 18 19 However, if 1 had identified a serious 20 problem, I would have some moral or ethical obligation to pass that along to 21 his treating physicians. 22

1 Q. Sure. Now, you only saw him once and that was here in your office back in December of 2 2000, right? 3 Α. Yes. 4 And the reason you saw him was because an 5 Ο. attorney for Consolidated Freightways and 6 Mr. Pearson asked you to do so, right? 7 The law firm of Reminger and Reminger asked 8 Α. 9 me --Right. Well, they represent Consolidated 10 Q. 11 Freightways and Mr. Pearson. 12 Α. Okay. They're the Defendants in this case, okay. And 13 Ο. I'm not sure which attorney it was. I'll 14 15 say that attorney. An attorney asked you 16 to look at some of his medical records and 17 to examine him, correct? Α. Yes. 18 And you were also asked to prepare a report 19 Q. 20 concerning your findings and then give 21 testimony here in court today, right? 22 Α. Yes.

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68 1 Ο. Now, for your examination and your report on 2 Walter Holland, how much did you charge 3 the law firm for that? Α. \$1,000. 4 5 Q. Okay. Did you conduct any diagnostic tests? Α. Yes. 6 So, that would have been in addition to the 7 Ο. 1,000, correct? 8 Yes. There would have been an additional 9 Α. charge for the low back X-rays that I 10 obtained. 11 Well, how much would that have been? 12 Q. 13 Α. Probably around \$100. Oh, okay. How much did you charge Mr. Turek to 14 Q. 15 meet you today prior to your testimony? 16 Α. \$250. And then for the deposition testimony today or 17 Q. the trial testimony is about \$750, sound 18 19 about right? 20 Α. Correct. 21 Okay. So, today, your charge will be around Ο. 22 \$1,000 for the testimony today?

Α. 1 Yes. Q. Okay. Now, over the course of a month, how 2 3 many of the reports for which you charge 4 \$1,000 do you normally generate? 5 I average approximately one a week. Α. All right. I want to ask you -- show you here б Q. 7 a copy of a deposition, which is your trial testimony from 19, September 2001, a 8 little -- just a while ago. It's in the 9 case of Sylvia Lewis versus Bruce Emery. 10 Do you recall that particular trial 11 testimony? 12 13 Α. No. Q. Okay. That's a -- the lawyers in that case 14 were from Harshman, Bernard and Ramage, 15 16 Bill Ramage was representing the 17 Plaintiff, and for the Defendant, it was Stephen Bolton of Manchester, Bennett, 18 19 Powers and Ullman. Mr. Ramage asks you -asked you this question on page 37 --20 excuse me, on page 38. I'll show that to 21 your attorney. And just, I guess, for the 22

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record in this proceeding, that was Sylvia 1 Lewis versus Bruce Emery. It was pending 2 in the Mahoning County Court of Common 3 Pleas before Judge James C. Evans. 4 5 Mr. Ramage asked you this question. "Now, Doctor, over the course of a month, how 6 7 many of these reports would you generate?" 8 At that time, your answer was, "Four to 9 eight," is that correct? Α. Yes. 10 Q, 11 That's only been a month ago. So, would that 1 2 be the answer today or would your average of one a week be the answer today? 13 14 Α. Well, I average between 45 and 55 a year. So. some months or some weeks 1 might do one 15 or two exams, but it averages out during 16 17 the course of a year to be about 45 or 55. Q . My question would be, was this a truthful 18 answer when he asked you, how many -- over 19 20 the course of a month, how many of these 21 reports would you generate and you said 22 four to eight?

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Correct. 1 Α. Q. 2 Okay. That's all. Thank you, Doctor. Ι 3 believe you said earlier that you do about two or three depositions a month? 4 5 Α. Yes. Q. The records you reviewed when you saw 6 7 Mr. Holland on 12-8-2000 to which you refer to in your report to Mr. Turek of 8 the same date, which records did you 9 review? Do you have them by name? 10 No. 11 Α. Q. 12Okay. I could -- if they're listed in the letter from 13 Α. Reminger and Reminger, I might be able to 1415 go through it for you. Well, why don't you look and see, because I 16 Ο. don't recall -- I heard you mention a few, 17 but I would like to know every document 18 19 that you reviewed in order to render your opinions, or at least by name. 20 Okay. Number one, Chris Boucher, DC; number 2 1 Α. two, William Mangino, M.D.; number three, 22

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1 Callow Hill Open MRI; number four, Allied 2 Medical Group; number five, Gerald Hayken, 3 M.D.; and, number six, Written House 4 Square Imaging. All right. Now, had you reviewed any 5 Ο. deposition testimony at that time -- in 6 7 other words, before you generated your 8 report? Α. No. 9 When did you review deposition testimony? Q. 10 Α. Yesterday. 11 And whose deposition testimony did you review? 12 Q. 13 Α. Barry Foss, M.D. and Dr. Zaslow, and then there were exhibits and --14 15 Sure. Q. 16 Α. -- medical records that went along with them. All right. Have you read any of Dr. Zaslow's 17 Q. reports that he generated, about which he 18 has testified in this proceeding? 19 20 Α. Yes. 21 Q. Okay. When did you read those reports? Yesterday 22 Α.

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73 1 Ο. All right. Are they contained in your file? 2 Α. Right here. 3 Q. Oh, the exhibits to his deposition? 4 Α. Yes. Is there any correspondence in this deposition 5 Q. from Dr. Zaslow to Dr. -- his name is 6 7 Boucher, by the way? I don't recall. 8 Α. Okay. When did you -- well, you wrote in your 9 Ο. report, didn't you, Doctor, that there was 10 11 never a problem with low back pain prior to the April 6, '98 crash? 12 13 Α. Yes. Is that correct? Now, Mr. Holland didn't tell 14 Q. 15 you, did he, that -- why he did not treat at the scene and left? Did he give you a 16 17 reason for that? 18 Α. No. 19 Oh, by the way, was he cooperative with you? Q. 20 Α. Yes. 21 Q. Okay. I believe when you examined him, his low 22 back pain was constant -- or consistent, I

1 believe, were your words, consistent? I wrote down that it was long standing. 2 Α. You didn't indicate that his pain was 3 Ο. consistent? 4 5 Α. You mean constant? No, I think it was consistent. 6 Q. 7 Under his chief complaints? I don't believe I Α. used that word. 8 You used constant? 9 Ο. Α. No, I didn't use that word either. I reported 10 long-standing aching and stiffness of his 11 lower back. 12 All right. Now, with respect to Dr. Zaslow, do 13 Q. 14 you agree that, according to his testimony, that the 7-6 -- July 6, 2000 15 MRI reading, that he indicated there's a 16 17 substantial disk herniation at L-5 and s-l? And I just ask if you agree that 18 19 that's what he said. 20 Α. Yes. 21 Ο. Okay. And are you aware that on his first 22 visit with Dr. Zaslow, Mr. Holland's first

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visit that Dr. Zaslow has testified that 1 he noted in the past medical history 2 3 portion that there had never been any back 4 surgery performed on Mr. Holland prior to 5 the 4-6-98 crash? Α. You did use the word surgery? 6 7 Ο. I did. 8 Α. Correct. That he never had been treated for back 9 Ο. problems prior to the 4-6-98 crash? 10 Yes. 11 Α. 12 Ο. And that he suffered no trauma to his back in 13 the past? Α. Yes. 14 And that his doctor, Dr. Zaslow, determined 15 Ο. that there was radicular pain across his 16 17 back and down into the lateral legs, thighs? 18 19 Α. Yes. That Dr. Zaslow provided a diagnosis in his 20 Q. testimony, and that was herniation of disk 2.1 22 at L-5, S-1, correct?

76 1 Α. Yes. That he had chronic low back pain syndrome, 2 Q. 3 correct? 4 Α. Yes. Q. 5 And that he had lumbar radiculopathy causing 6 irritation and numbness and tingling in 7 his leqs; is that correct? Yes. 8 Α. Q. 9 Are you aware that Dr. Zaslow, in his next 10 visit with his patient, Mr. Holland, 11 reviewed an EMG and noted accordingly that 12 the EMG objective findings prove that 13 there was a major problem at L-5, S-1 and 14 that problem was radiculopathy? I read that, yes. 15 Α. 16 Q. Okay. And that he believed, Dr. Zaslow 17 believed that this is in keeping with the disk herniation that he noted on 18 Mr. Holland's back and that he further 19 20 believed that this supported the 21 subjective pain radiating down the legs of 22 Mr. Holland?

77 Α. Yes. 1 All right. You're aware that Dr. Holland has 2 Q. 3 performed three epidural injections to help relieve Mr. Holland's pain? 4 Dr. Zaslow? 5 Α. Ο. Yes. 6 Yes. 7 Α. 8 Q. Are those painful, the injections? 9 Α. Yes. Okay. They're, I guess, with a long needle? 10 Q. 11 Α. Yes. 12 Q. All right. Now, his degenerative process, as 13 it has been called, had nothing to do with 14 the truck crash, right? 15 Α. That's true. 16 Q. Many people in their mid to late fifties have 17 some form of degenerative process along 18 the spine; is that correct? 19 Α. Yes. I mean, in Mr. Holland's case -- and, by the 20 Q. way, these people -- and I guess that put: 21 me in that category. We can work, as did 22

Mr. Holland, every day. We can engage in 1 normal activities, correct? 2 MR. TUREK: Objection as to every 3 4 day. The record does not reflect that Mr. Holland worked every day. 5 MR. HENRETTA: Well, all right. 6 7 Everyday activities. I'm not talking about work. 8 MR. TUREK: Okay. 9 Q. He could work regularly --10 MR. HENRETTA: Thank you. 11 Q. -- he could perform everyday, normal 12 activities; is that correct? 13 I think when you started the question, you were Α. 14 talking about people in general. 15 Q. People, and I did. And I did. And the answer would be yes to that 16 Α. Q. 17 All right. And generally perform work without 18 any restrictions, right? Yes. 19 Α. 20 Q. As did Mr. Holland, as far as you know? 21 Α. Yes. Q. All right. And essentially carry on a normal 22

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life without the need to medicate? 1 Many times, that's the true -- that is true, 2 Α. 3 yes. Okay. Now, I guess, would you characterize 4 Q. this condition, this particular 5 6 degenerative process as sort of a quiet condition in that it is -- a person could 7 have the condition, but be symptom free in 8 9 terms of pain? 10 Α. In many cases, that is true. 11 Q . All right. Let's say that Walter Holland, 12 indeed, had some degenerative process in 13 his low back at the time of the crash. Ι 14 would like you, if you can, to assume 15 certain facts as true. 16 Okay. Α. All right. That -- and some of this, I've said Q. 17 earlier; that the past medical history of 18 Walter Holland indicates that there are no 19 prior symptoms of back problems; that he 20 21 was essentially pain free and he had no prior trauma to his back and that he had 22

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1 no real physical limitations, as it relates to his low back. 2 That is to say, 3 he was able to work and engage in normal, daily activities. Assume those as true. 4 Also assume, if you will, Doctor, 5 that his truck was rear ended by another 6 truck with sufficient force to disable 7 that truck, the one that struck him; that 8 the driver of the truck which crashed into 9 Mr. Holland's sought immediate medical, 10 11 emergency room medical treatment at a 12 local hospital and broke the windshield 13 with his head and hands; that 14 Mr. Holland's treating physicians recommend surgical intervention on his 15 If you assume those facts as true, 16 back. 17 don't you think that the crash and the resulting injuries then aggravated or 18 19 accelerated or made worse any underlying 20 or preexisting condition he may have had? 21 MR. TUREK: Objection. You can

22 answer.

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81 Α. No. 1 Q, Do you believe that it's good medical practice 2 that when a physician is faced with an 3 4 orthopedic injury to exhaust all forms of conservative treatment before surgical 5 invention -- intervention? б 7 Α. Yes. Doctor, you saw Mr. Holland once and reviewed 8 Q. some of his records before you gave your 9 opinion on December 8, 2000, correct? 10 11 Yes. Α. 12 Q, His treating physicians, three of whom have given testimony in his trial, have seen 13 14 him on many occasions since April 6th of '98, correct? 15 16 Α. Yes. Q. 17 All right. Do you believe that you are in a 18 better position than his treating physicians to give medical opinions about 19 20 Walter Holland as those opinions relate to the truck crash of -- and the injuries 21 sustained in the 4-6-98 crash? 22

In a better position? Α. 1 Q. 2 Yes. 3 Α. No. 4 MR. HENRETTA: Thank you, Doctor. 5 MR. TUREK: Doctor, just a couple of questions on follow up here. 6 7 REDIRECT EXAMINATION BY MR. TUREK: 8 9 Q. You were given some assumptions, and I want to 10 talk about the first one that was given to 11 you, and that is that Mr. Holland never 12 had any prior back problems or complaints 13 of pain or treatment. Doctor, when you 14 were given that assumption, the fact is, 15 you have no way of knowing whether that is 16 a true statement or not, do you? 17 Α. Correct. Q. In fact, Doctor, are you aware of any -- is 18 19 there some collection point that we can 20 get on the internet or something like that 21 and find out whether or not Mr. Holland 22 has ever been treated with someone with

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83 1 whom he is not telling us? 2 Α. No. 3 So, we're basically dependent upon Mr. Holland Ο. to be forthright on those issues, and if 4 he had experienced some back pain or if he 5 had gotten treatment and hadn't told us 6 7 about it, you can think of no way we could 8 find out, can you? Correct. 9 Α. Doctor, the -- asked -- the only other thing I 10 Q. want to talk about is you were asked about 11 12 the symptoms of pain associated with that 13 degenerative condition, and that is, I think you've made it clear, that the 14 condition itself doesn't mean there has to 15 be pain? 16 Correct. 17 Α. 18 Q. Could the pain go away? 19 Α. Yes. MR. TUREK: I have no further 20 questions. 21 RECROSS EXAMINATION 22

84 BY MR. HENRETTA: 1 Doctor, a history from a patient is important, Q. 2 is it not, in order for the physician to 3 arrive at a number of things, diagnosis, 4 choice of treatment; is that correct? 5 6 Yes. Α. 7 Q. And how else can one get a history if not from the patient; other than providing records, 8 but the patient's history is important to 9 the doctor, is it not? 10 11 Yes. Α. MR. HENRETTA: Okay. Thank you. 12 TUREK: Thank you, Doctor. 13 MR. And I have the 14 THE WITNESS: 15 opportunity to waive viewing and reading if I so choose and I do so choose. 16 17 (WHEREUPON THE DEPOSITION OF JAMES D. BRODELL, M.D., WAS CONCLUDED AT 5:30 PM AND SIGNATURE WAIVED) 18 19 2.0 21 22

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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2 I, Christine Breinz, a Notary Public within and 3 for the State of Ohio, duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify that the above-named 4 5 JAMES D. BRODELL, M.D., was by me first duly sworn to testify the truth, and that this deposition was 6 7 written in the presence of the witness and by me transcribed, and that the deposition was taken at 8 9 the time and place in the notice specified. I certify that I am not of counsel or relative 10 11 to either party or otherwise interested in this 12 action. 13 I further certify that the above and foregoing is a true and complete transcript of all the 14 testimony and proceedings had in this deposition, as 15 16 shown by stenotype notes written in the presence of the witness at the time of this deposition. 17 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and Seal 18 19 of Office at Warren, Ohio, this 30th day of October, 20 2001. 21 Breinz, stine λarv 22 My Commission Expir SIMONI COURT REPORTING EOFC

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