| 1 | FEDERAL CIRCUIT JUDICIAL COUNCIL |
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| 3 | BEFORE: THE HONORABLE KIMBERLY A. MOORE |
| 4 | THE HONORABLE RICHARD G. TARANTO |
| 5 | THE HONORABLE SHARON PROST |
| 6 | |
| 7 | IN RE: COMPLAINT NO. 23-90015 |
| 8 | |
| 9 | ***SEALED HEARING*** |
| 10 | PUBLIC REDACTED VERSION |
| 11 | ***CORRECTED*** |
| 12 | |
| 13 | NATIONAL COURTS BUILDING |
| 14 | 717 Madison Place, N.W. |
| 15 | Washington, D.C. |
| 16 | Thursday, July 13, 2023 |
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| 25 | Reported by: Susanne Bergling, RMR-CRR |

7/13/2023

| 1 | APPEARANCES: |
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| 3 | ON BEHALF OF JUDGE PAULINE NEWMAN: |
| 4 | GREGORY DOLIN, ESQ. |
| 5 | JOHN VECCHIONE ESQ. |
| 6 | MARK CHENOWETH, ESQ. |
| 7 | New Civil Liberties Alliance |
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7/13/2023

| 1 | PROCEEDINGS |
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| 3 | (Proceeding called to order at 2:00 p.m.) |
| 4 | CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Good morning. We're here for |
| 5 | argument or afternoon we're here for argument |
| 6 | today. |
| 7 | Mr. Dolin, are you going to proceed? |
| 8 | MR. DOLIN: I am. |
| 9 | CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Please proceed. |
| 10 | MR. DOLIN: Thank you, Judge Moore. Good |
| 11 | afternoon, Your Honors. Gregory Dolin, senior |
| 12 | litigation counsel from the New Civil Liberties |
| 13 | Alliance, for The Honorable Pauline Newman. With me are |
| 14 | senior litigation counsel John Vecchione and, to his |
| 15 | left, Mark Chenoweth, president and general counsel of |
| 16 | the NCLA. |
| 17 | Before I begin on the merits, with the |
| 18 | Committee's permission, I would like to read our |
| 19 | objections in for the record. |
| 20 | CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Before you begin with that, |
| 21 | let me as a housekeeping matter, I just want to |
| 22 | remind counsel at the outset that our rules prohibit any |
| 23 | audio or video recording of this argument, and I want to |
| 24 | ensure that you are not recording it in any way. |
| 25 | MR. DOLIN: Judge Moore, we have read your order, |

- 1 and we certainly have no intention of violating it.
- 2 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Okay. And then I just want
- 3 to remind counsel that all aspects of this hearing are
- 4 confidential until we agree otherwise, okay?
- 5 MR. DOLIN: Yes. And, actually, I would like to
- 6 come back to that point, but, yes, I do understand that.
- 7 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Please proceed.
- 8 MR. DOLIN: So, first, just objections for the
- 9 record. First, we object to this proceeding before this
- 10 Committee and the Judicial Council of this Circuit due
- 11 to the inherent risk of an actual bias which we have
- 12 documented in our submissions.
- We particularly object to the Special Committee's
- 14 membership given that all three of the members of this
- 15 committee attempted to convince Judge Newman to retire
- 16 in exchange for not launching this investigation. We
- 17 simply do not understand, given the constitutional and
- 18 statutory requirements, why the Chief Judge and/or the
- 19 Judicial Council have refused to request a transfer of
- 20 this matter.
- 21 Second, we object to this Committee's orders
- 22 excluding parts of Judge Newman's legal team and her
- 23 chambers staff from attending this hearing.
- 24 Third, we object to the Committee's refusal to
- 25 either provide us with a recording of this proceeding or

- 1 permit us to create one.
- 2 Fourth, and perhaps most importantly, we object
- 3 to Judge Newman's continued and illegal suspension from
- 4 the duties of the office to which she was nominated and
- 5 confirmed, and our appearance here today should not be
- 6 viewed as a waiver of any of the above objections.
- 7 Finally -- and this, I guess, goes to your last
- 8 point, Judge Moore -- we reiterate our request that all
- 9 of our materials submitted to this committee, including
- 10 our letters of July 5th and 12th, the Committee's order
- 11 of July 7th, 11th, and 12th, and a transcript of this
- 12 hearing be released with appropriate redactions pursuant
- 13 to Rule 23(b)(7).
- 14 With these objections noted for the record, I am
- 15 ready to address the substance of today's hearing. On
- 16 the merits we take issue with the Committee's
- 17 characterization of Judge Newman's behavior as failing
- 18 to cooperate. Quite the contrary. Judge Newman did not
- 19 fail to cooperate with this investigation.
- 20 As we've stated in our letter of April 4th --
- 21 sorry, April 21st, that Judge Newman is willing to
- 22 cooperate with an investigation that's conducted
- 23 consistent with the limits that the Constitution, the
- 24 Judicial Disability Act of 1980, and the rules of the
- 25 Judicial Conduct and Judicial Proceedings impose on such

- 1 investigations.
- In our May 9th letter, at pages 45, we've
- 3 indicated that Judge Newman is willing to cooperate --
- 4 i.e., work together -- as the word "cooperate" is
- 5 defined in the dictionary. In our letter on May 25th at
- 6 3, we once again said that Judge Newman is committed to
- 7 providing records and undergoing appropriate medical
- 8 examination if this matter is transferred.
- 9 JUDGE PROST: But Mr. -- I'm sorry --
- 10 MR. DOLIN: Of course.
- 11 JUDGE PROST: -- but on that matter of
- 12 cooperation, even the citation you had in your brief,
- 13 that was predicated on our transferring the case, as I
- 14 understood it, and on our restoring her to sitting. Am
- 15 I -- and that's the quote that was in your brief --
- 16 MR. DOLIN: That is correct, because as of our
- 17 letter on May 25th, Judge Newman was suspended,
- 18 according to Judge Moore's own email, "pending
- 19 conclusion of this investigation." Respectfully,
- 20 there's no authority for such suspension.
- 21 We, of course, question the authority to suspend
- 22 even to -- at the conclusion of the investigation
- 23 because we submit that the Constitution does not permit
- 24 suspensions, but that aside, there's absolutely no
- 25 authority to suspend a sitting judge pending the

- 1 investigation.
- JUDGE PROST: No, I appreciate that. I just
- 3 wanted to clarify your statements about her willingness
- 4 to cooperate and the predicate of --
- 5 MR. DOLIN: Correct, and so -- correct, and she
- 6 was willing to cooperate predicated on appropriate due
- 7 process proceedings and this Council and this Committee
- 8 behaving in an appropriate and legal manner as well.
- 9 So, yes, that was predicated on those matters.
- 10 And in contrast, this committee has refused to
- 11 work cooperatively, because as we've pointed out in our
- 12 letters, cooperation is a two-way street. It means
- 13 working together. This committee, on matters big and
- 14 small, refused to cooperate and work together with Judge
- 15 Newman, as we have now said a number of times, and
- 16 refused to transfer, even though every circuit faced
- 17 with a similar situation has transferred any
- 18 investigation of a circuit judge to another circuit, and
- in refusing to do so attempted to support this refusal
- 20 with misleading data.
- 21 Just to point out that how every other circuit
- 22 dealt with this issue, even when a judge was no longer a
- 23 member of the Circuit Court, as was the case with then
- 24 Judge Kavanaugh when complaints were filed against him
- 25 citing his alleged misbehavior during Senate

- 1 confirmation hearings for his current seat, by the time
- 2 complaints were filed, he was already confirmed to the
- 3 Supreme Court.
- 4 The complaints went to the D.C. Circuit Judicial
- 5 Council, and even though Judge Kavanaugh -- but now
- 6 Justice Kavanaugh -- was no longer a member of that
- 7 Council, the matter was transferred. Chief Judge
- 8 Srinivasan was requested to transfer the matter, and it
- 9 was transferred to the Tenth Circuit. We were able to
- 10 find not a single instance when a complaint against a
- 11 circuit judge that was not dismissed outright was
- 12 handled in his home circuit, whether it's a complaint
- 13 against Judge Kavanaugh, Judge Maryanne Trump Barry, or
- 14 Judge -- I'm blanking on his name -- but the former
- 15 judge of the Sixth Circuit, Judge Jones of the Fifth
- 16 Circuit. Every single one was transferred.
- 17 This is the only time that it was not. The
- 18 Federal Circuit Judicial Council stands alone, and,
- 19 again, I fail to understand the logic behind it, and it
- 20 does show that this committee and council has refused to
- 21 cooperate with Judge Newman.
- Of course, it has refused to reinstate Judge
- 23 Newman, and as I've pointed out, Judge Prost, there is
- 24 absolutely no basis -- at least there was no cited basis
- 25 up until the order of the Judicial Council of June 5th.

- 1 JUDGE TARANTO: Can I just ask you, the word
- 2 "cooperation" you're using with reference to the
- 3 committee based on what source?
- 4 MR. DOLIN: Based on the definition of that word
- 5 in the dictionary. It means working together, Your
- 6 Honor.
- 7 JUDGE TARANTO: The -- and the -- this is about
- 8 Judge Newman's refusal to cooperate with compliance with
- 9 the orders of the Committee, right?
- 10 MR. DOLIN: The hearing is certainly meant to
- 11 address that issue. What I am submitting to this
- 12 Committee is that in order to cooperate, in order to
- 13 work together, there must be -- both parties must
- 14 actually work together. At no point was the Committee
- 15 willing to entertain any of Judge Newman's requests,
- 16 whether it's her restoration or, in fact, even given an
- 17 explanation up until June 5th after we filed our suit as
- 18 to why she remains suspended.
- 19 JUDGE TARANTO: So we're here on a -- as you
- 20 know, a very specific three-part issue, whether there
- 21 was a failure to cooperate with respect to the directive
- 22 with medical records, that's first; second, with respect
- 23 to the directive regarding the neurological and
- 24 neuropsychological examinations; and third, the request
- 25 for interview.

- 1 Can we just start briefly with the last one?
- 2 Twice, I think on April 17th and May 16th, the Special
- 3 Committee specifically invited Judge Newman to sit down
- 4 for an interview to discuss any alleged factual errors
- 5 or, more generally, in the April 17th one. What was the
- 6 good cause for Judge Newman's refusal to take up that
- 7 express invitation for an opportunity to discuss the
- 8 claims with us?
- 9 MR. DOLIN: Well, Judge Taranto, I think I would
- 10 respectfully disagree with the characterization. I
- 11 don't think it was an invitation to discuss, as you
- 12 said, factual errors or other general matters. In fact,
- 13 the invitation --
- 14 JUDGE TARANTO: I think the April 17th order was
- 15 perfectly general as to sit down for an interview. The
- 16 May 17th focused on -- was -- didn't limit it but
- 17 focused on some things that I think you all had said in
- 18 response to an earlier order and said there's been
- 19 assertions that we have made factual errors and we would
- 20 like an opportunity to have an interview to hear about
- 21 those factual errors, and yet Judge Newman has said no.
- MR. DOLIN: So, Judge Taranto, so to finish my
- 23 previous answer and then kind of to expand on it, I --
- 24 again, I so respectfully disagree with the
- 25 characterization and the following sentence. I think

- 1 that the order did not specify exactly what the
- 2 Committee wished to interview Judge Newman about. There
- 3 was just -- it's open-ended, but it didn't specify --
- 4 JUDGE TARANTO: But she said she wanted it.
- 5 MR. DOLIN: That's -- respectfully, that's not
- 6 what it said.
- 7 JUDGE TARANTO: The April 17th said sit down for
- 8 an interview.
- 9 MR. DOLIN: But an interview implies that the
- 10 Committee is asking questions, and so Judge -- it's
- 11 not -- it's not a conversation, so -- and so we would
- 12 want to -- but more fundamentally, like I said, we
- 13 object to this Committee proceeding because this
- 14 Committee cannot -- by definition cannot be a neutral
- 15 decision-maker, cannot be the neutral recommender.
- 16 JUDGE TARANTO: So it's not, in your view, that
- 17 there was no opportunity to have an interview with this
- 18 Committee, but that she's not interested in having an
- 19 interview with this --
- 20 MR. DOLIN: I don't think I suggested there was
- 21 no opportunity for an interview. I've suggested that
- 22 the Committee, in requesting an interview, did not
- 23 specify why it wants one. In fact, its request for an
- 24 interview was contrary to the prior assertion that this
- 25 Committee and this Judicial Council is apparently aware

- 1 of the personalities and aware of what has gone on,
- which is why, supposedly, it's refusing to transfer the
- 3 matter elsewhere.
- 4 But furthermore --
- JUDGE TARANTO: I'm sorry, "supposedly"? Where
- 6 do you get that?
- 7 MR. DOLIN: That was part of the order of -- the
- 8 first order that denied transfer. That was the order, I
- 9 believe, of May 3rd, and that order said one of the
- 10 reasons we're refusing to transfer is because we, the
- 11 Federal Circuit Judges, are familiar with the
- 12 personalities and with the issues in a way that other
- 13 circuits would not be familiar with.
- JUDGE TARANTO: You're referring, I assume, to
- 15 some elaboration from the Breyer Committee Report about
- 16 why the Breyer Committee implemented the statute to make
- 17 transfer an exception, right, as a general matter?
- 18 MR. DOLIN: No, Your Honor. I'm referring to the
- 19 order of May 3rd, which -- hold on -- on page -- it's a
- 20 long order. I have to find it.
- 21 (Pause in the proceeding.)
- 22 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: I think you want page 10 of
- 23 the May 3rd order.
- MR. DOLIN: Page 10, thank you. Thank you,
- 25 right. So request for a transfer, so it starts at page

- 1 9, and it suggests that in this case relative ignorance
- 2 of the judges of another circuit, of local circumstances
- 3 and personalities that might make them less able to
- 4 gauge whether corrective action would be effective and
- 5 appropriate, and judges within another circuit would be
- 6 in a poor position to persuade a judge whom they do not
- 7 know well to take the actions they believe are
- 8 necessary.
- 9 Of course, that is always true in every complaint
- 10 about a circuit judge, but this seems to me, at least
- 11 the way I read it, was a justification as to why this
- 12 matter was not asked to be transferred.
- 13 JUDGE TARANTO: Can I -- can I turn to a
- 14 different topic --
- MR. DOLIN: Of course.
- JUDGE TARANTO: -- and this is --
- 17 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Before you turn to that,
- 18 could I ask a followup question?
- 19 JUDGE TARANTO: Yes, of course.
- 20 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: I guess, Mr. Dolin, I'm
- 21 perplexed. All this says is other judges in other
- 22 circuits would be less familiar with personalities. How
- 23 does that not -- how does that equate to, therefore, you
- 24 don't need to interview Judge Newman to understand the
- 25 concerns about errors of fact that she claims may exist?

- 1 MR. DOLIN: Well, first, Judge Moore, we've
- 2 pointed out two obvious errors of fact that -- you know,
- 3 the claim that she had a heart attack and the claim that
- 4 she had a cardiac stent placed. Frankly, we don't even
- 5 understand where such allegations -- what the source of
- 6 these allegations are and on what basis they were made.
- 7 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Before we -- before we
- 8 potentially discuss that, I guess I'd like to stick with
- 9 what is the good cause for her refusal to interview. In
- 10 the May 16th order, I will read to you the portion of
- 11 the order which requests an interview.
- "Judge Newman has suggested that the Committee's
- 13 prior orders contained errors of fact, but she has not
- 14 identified any specific errors."
- I get now that you're saying she did identify one
- 16 error, at least by now she has, and that's fine. I'll
- 17 give you that.
- 18 "We have previously invited Judge Newman to meet
- 19 with the Committee for an interview in which she could
- 20 provide the Committee with information relevant to the
- 21 investigation -- that's very open-ended, you see --
- 22 including correcting any errors of fact. We again
- 23 request that Judge Newman participate in a videotaped
- 24 interview with the Committee which will provide her with
- 25 an opportunity to clarify these matters."

- 1 How is the fact that another Circuit may be less
- 2 familiar with personalities good cause for her refusing
- 3 to participate in an interview which would create the
- 4 Committee with an opportunity to gain clarity into the
- 5 matters before it?
- 6 MR. DOLIN: So a two-part answer. First, I
- 7 think, as we're now on the same page, we have clarified
- 8 some of these errors with respect to the heart attack,
- 9 with respect to the cardiac stent, with respect to the
- 10 errors on --
- 11 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Actually, you have attorney
- 12 argument about them. You don't actually have evidence,
- 13 right?
- 14 MR. DOLIN: No, I respectfully disagree. It's
- 15 not an argument. It's a statement that --
- 16 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: What's a statement?
- 17 MR. DOLIN: -- Judge -- it's a statement that
- 18 Judge Newman -- it's not an argument. It's a statement
- 19 of fact that Judge Newman did not have a heart attack.
- 20 JUDGE TARANTO: I'm sorry. Is that by somebody
- 21 with personal knowledge?
- MR. DOLIN: Yes, by somebody with personal
- 23 knowledge.
- JUDGE TARANTO: That's you?
- 25 MR. DOLIN: That is me, but I -- based on a

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- 1 personal --
- JUDGE PROST: Well, since we're there, and I hate
- 3 to interrupt the flow, but I would like to ask you about
- 4 that. If you feel it's appropriate for you to respond
- 5 and to detail for us the information with respect to her
- 6 medical condition, including a heart attack, correct,
- 7 you've made statements that she never had a heart -- she
- 8 didn't have a heart attack and she didn't have a stent,
- 9 but in our May 16th order, we repeatedly, when we talked
- 10 about getting medical records, we talked about cardiac
- 11 issues.
- 12 So can you represent to us, if she is accepting
- 13 that she didn't have a heart attack and didn't have a
- 14 stent, did she engage -- have any cardiac issues during
- 15 the period in 2021 that we're discussing that required
- 16 hospitalization or medical attention or otherwise?
- 17 MR. DOLIN: I'm trying to -- respectfully, Your
- 18 Honor, I'm trying to think through my answer, not
- 19 because I don't necessarily know the answer but because
- 20 of our standing objection to sharing medical information
- 21 with this Committee.
- 22 And so I think a better approach would be that
- 23 I -- I can't provide that answer, because --
- JUDGE PROST: Okay. Well on that point,
- 25 though --

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            MR. DOLIN: -- of our standing objection.
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             JUDGE PROST: -- in terms of sharing medical
 3
     information, some of the at least the surface
     information that we have arises from Dr. Rothstein's
 4
     1 1/2 page report, in which in at least one paragraph,
 5
 6
    which he did, which I think most physicians and
    neurologists would do, they would request certain
 7
    background medical information, and there's a reference
 8
     that he makes in that report to [a cardiac condition]
 9
    being treated by -- with a Pacemaker, and,
10
11
12
                                     a quick review of
13
     just the Mayo Clinic's report on defining that -- and
14
    you're a doctor, you probably understand this better
     than I -- is that that is a heart-related problem.
15
            MR. DOLIN: I don't think we dispute -- I think
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17
    Judge Newman -- I think she has been very open that she
    has a Pacemaker. You asked me more specifically whether
18
19
     she had any issues in 2021. Maybe I misunderstood the
    question. And so I think it's not -- it's really not a
20
     secret Judge Newman has a Pacemaker. I believe it's
21
22
     even in newspaper reports, but --
             JUDGE TARANTO: But you don't -- you don't want
23
24
     to say whether there was a cardiac event in 2021.
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MR. DOLIN: I -- not because there was one and

- 1 I'm trying to hide it, but I do not want to discuss
- 2 Judge Newman's medical records, especially ones that are
- 3 entirely irrelevant to her mental abilities, for all the
- 4 reasons we have stated in our letter or our numerous
- 5 letters.
- 6 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: But just -- I just want to
- 7 make sure we're clear. You -- you have asserted she
- 8 didn't have a heart attack in the summer of 2021.
- 9 MR. DOLIN: Correct.
- 10 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: You've admitted she's had a
- 11 Pacemaker installed, but you won't tell us whether she
- 12 had a cardiac issue that resulted in her hospitalization
- 13 for any surgical procedures in 2021?
- 14 MR. DOLIN: We've admitted that she had the
- 15 Pacemaker installed for, I believe, over a decade,
- 16 nothing to do with 2021. She's had the Pacemaker for
- 17 quite some time.
- 18 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: But you won't acknowledge
- 19 whether she was admitted to the hospital, say GW
- 20 Hospital, on, say, June of 2022, or admitted to another
- 21 hospital in May or June or July of 2021. You won't
- 22 admit or deny or discuss, so you'll say she did not have
- 23 a heart attack, and you can't imagine where we got that
- 24 idea.
- 25 MR. DOLIN: Correct.

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- 1 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: But you won't say she wasn't
- 2 in the hospital during that same time for cardiac
- 3 issues.
- 4 MR. DOLIN: Correct, although, of course, I
- 5 wouldn't know that the Committee also did not indicate
- 6 as to where its belief that Judge Newman did have a
- 7 heart attack or had a cardiac stent placed, which is a
- 8 fairly specific procedure --
- 9 JUDGE PROST: But we were -- okay, what we were
- 10 talking about -- initially I started this by, okay,
- 11 we're moving away from a heart attack and the technical
- 12 definition of a heart attack to then whether she suffers
- 13 from any cardiac issues, which could have, as the
- 14 symptoms for [the cardiac condition] indicate, could result
- 15 in confusion, dizziness, or light-headedness, fainting
- 16 or near fainting, fatigue, shortness of breath, slower
- 17 pulse, chest pain, et cetera.
- 18 MR. DOLIN: Those are conditions associated with
- 19 [the cardiac condition]. I'm not quite sure what, for
- 20 example, dizziness or shortness of breath have to do
- 21 with one's ability to carry on and work as a federal
- 22 judge.
- JUDGE TARANTO: How about to finish up the list?
- MR. DOLIN: Sorry?
- 25 JUDGE TARANTO: Finish the list. Confusion, some

- of the other items, you think that has nothing to do
- 2 with -- with the issue of --
- 3 MR. DOLIN: It might, but there is no --
- 4 JUDGE TARANTO: -- Judge Newman's ability?
- 5 MR. DOLIN: Again, anybody -- you know, I have
- 6 spoken to Judge Newman at length. Reporters have spoken
- 7 to Judge Newman at length. Former judges of this Court
- 8 have spoken to Judge Newman at length. No one, except
- 9 several staff members, have indicated that she was at
- 10 any point confused. So, yes, it --
- JUDGE PROST: But you have pinpointed the whole
- 12 heart issue, you have disputed it, and we focused on a
- 13 particular time frame as the Chief just mentioned, but
- 14 you are unwilling to disclose to us if any issues
- 15 related to [the cardiac condition] would require
- 16 hospitalization or intensive medical care during that
- 17 period that we had identified with respect to the heart
- 18 ailment.
- 19 MR. DOLIN: Correct. But also, I mean, I would
- 20 point out that the -- I think, again, I may -- I
- 21 understand that -- you know, in one of the orders, the
- 22 Committee said that the underlying question may come
- 23 into the purview, as we're discussing, refusal --
- 24 alleged refusal to cooperate, but, of course, again,
- 25 this hearing is focused on whether or not Judge Newman

- 1 cooperated, and it's not to whether she had a good
- 2 cause, and if she does not, what is the appropriate
- 3 sanction, so --
- 4 JUDGE PROST: Well, with respect to the
- 5 cooperation aspect of the medical records, as our May
- 6 16th order indicated, what we said was those records --
- 7 the medical records we were talking about would be
- 8 provided to the neurologist or people examining her, and
- 9 that seems to be kind of what happened even in, you
- 10 know, whatever limited medical exam was performed by
- 11 Dr. Rothstein.
- 12 MR. DOLIN: And I --
- JUDGE PROST: These records with respect to her
- 14 medication and coronary issues were provided to
- 15 Dr. Rothstein, correct?
- 16 MR. DOLIN: Dr. Rothstein was provided with such
- 17 records as he deemed necessary.
- 18 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: I quess that's a little bit
- 19 hard for me to understand. Was Dr. Rothstein provided
- 20 with any medical records or is his statement about her
- 21 condition in his report based on her oral discussion of
- 22 her medical conditions?
- MR. DOLIN: I will refer you to the answer I made
- 24 just moments ago. Dr. Rothstein was provided with such
- 25 information as he deemed necessary to conduct his

- 1 examination.
- JUDGE TARANTO: And you think that that's an
- 3 answer to the question, what the source of the
- 4 information was?
- 5 MR. DOLIN: That I -- I believe that is the --
- 6 the answer that -- that I can give.
- 7 JUDGE TARANTO: Okay.
- 8 MR. DOLIN: Again, I'm -- for reasons stated
- 9 before, Your Honor -- and I do mean no disrespect -- but
- 10 for reasons stated before, we're not willing to discuss
- 11 Judge Newman's medical records with this Committee --
- 12 JUDGE TARANTO: And remind me what those reasons
- 13 are, please.
- 14 MR. DOLIN: Again, this Committee -- again, this
- 15 Committee --
- JUDGE TARANTO: You keep saying "again," and if
- 17 you can state it so that I understand it clearly.
- 18 MR. DOLIN: We believe this Committee is
- 19 improperly constituted. We believe this matter should
- 20 not stay with the Federal Circuit. We believe this
- 21 Committee has not made a prima facie case as to why the
- 22 evaluation is needed in the first place.
- So, for example, if you will allow me to
- 24 sidetrack a little bit, one of the main points that the
- 25 Committee has made on numerous occasions was that Judge

- 1 Newman has extraordinary delays.
- JUDGE TARANTO: And I need to back up, get off
- 3 the statistical point, or before we get to it, do I
- 4 remember your response -- your July 5th response
- 5 objected to providing information to or agreeing to
- 6 undergo examinations with the two medical professionals
- 7 that our medical consultant identified, partly -- maybe
- 8 entirely -- anyway, you say because there hasn't been
- 9 some sort of Daubert qualification of them?
- 10 Is it your position that the Daubert standard
- 11 applies to the examiners or other submitters of expert
- 12 evidence to us?
- MR. DOLIN: My position is that we have no idea
- of who these people are or why -- on what basis they
- 15 were chosen --
- 16 JUDGE TARANTO: Can you answer the question about
- 17 whether you're asserting that the Daubert standard
- 18 applies?
- 19 MR. DOLIN: Well, I think if you let me finish my
- 20 answer, I think -- I'll get to the answer --
- 21 JUDGE TARANTO: Just try to answer the direct
- 22 question.
- MR. DOLIN: I understand, but I promise I will
- 24 get to it. Give me just a little bit of leeway.
- We don't know who these people are, we don't know

- 1 why they were chosen, and, therefore, we have no idea
- 2 whether they are or are not experts.
- 3 And so whether it's the full Daubert that applies
- 4 or any kind of smaller version of it, I think the
- 5 general idea that people doing the examination and then
- 6 providing supposedly an expert report to the Committee
- 7 have -- we have to have some assurance that these are
- 8 actually qualified people, and we have -- that they're
- 9 not biased, that they're not -- and we have no idea on
- 10 what basis these individuals were chosen.
- 11 So I don't -- I -- I think, ultimately, when
- 12 these reports are submitted and they're considered by
- 13 the Committee, I think Daubert has application
- 14 whether -- you know, whether it's verbatim or it's
- 15 just -- or it's general idea, but, you know --
- 16 JUDGE TARANTO: So let me ask you then about
- 17 that, and this is now turning back to Dr. Rothstein.
- 18 The essence of Daubert is that qualifications are in the
- 19 beginning, that the substance of the testimony must have
- 20 a sound foundation, a reliable foundation, and that it
- 21 is for that reason absolutely standard, that when the
- 22 expert testifies, he or she has to disclose the basis,
- 23 the materials he or she looked at and what their
- 24 reasoning was from them.
- 25 So if that's right, how is it that you think it's

- 1 irrelevant what materials Dr. Rothstein was supplied?
- 2 MR. DOLIN: I don't think it's irrelevant. I --
- 3 but for reasons stated previously -- and, again, of
- 4 course, Dr. Rothstein is not testifying --
- 5 JUDGE TARANTO: So you don't think it's
- 6 irrelevant. You just think that we're illegitimate
- 7 outfits that doesn't deserve to get that answer.
- 8 MR. DOLIN: I don't think it's illegit -- I
- 9 wouldn't call this an illegitimate outfit, Your Honor.
- 10 I think this Committee is improperly constituted and is
- 11 an improper body to adjudicate this matter, and because
- 12 of the -- both the bias --
- 13 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Counsel -- Counsel, in your
- 14 brief, you pointed us to Dr. Rothstein's evaluation of
- 15 Judge Newman. You told us his conclusion, that her
- 16 cognitive function is sufficient to continue her
- 17 participation on the Court, and then you expressly told
- 18 us that this examination should obviate the need for
- 19 further testing.
- This is a hearing about whether it was misconduct
- 21 for Judge Newman to refuse to undergo the medical
- 22 testing we requested. Your answer in your brief to us
- 23 was, no, it wasn't misconduct, because she did different
- 24 testing with a different person, and that should
- 25 suffice.

- 1 Why, then, would it be improper for us to seek to
- 2 know the basis upon which that other testing was
- 3 rendered, like the material that doctor considered in
- 4 forming his opinion? You've asked us to accept that
- 5 testing in lieu of the testing we requested. So why
- 6 don't we then have an opportunity to inquire about the
- 7 reliability or the basis of that testing?
- 8 MR. DOLIN: Your Honor, respectfully, I would
- 9 again say that this Committee is not a proper body to
- 10 conduct an evaluation or examination for these
- 11 proceedings because --
- JUDGE TARANTO: And from that answer, what you
- 13 submitted from Dr. Rothstein counts for nothing, because
- 14 it cannot be examined under Daubert standards.
- 15 MR. DOLIN: What we have submitted from
- 16 Dr. Rothstein is -- mostly was a point of information
- 17 that the Committee could choose to credit or not credit
- 18 as it wishes. Our response was to the Committee's
- 19 inquiry as to Judge Newman's cooperation, or lack
- 20 thereof, her reason for it, and the appropriate sanction
- 21 for doing so if she didn't cooperate.
- We wanted the Committee --
- 23 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: But didn't you tell us in
- 24 your July 5th submission that this Dr. Rothstein report
- 25 should put an end to the concern about Judge Newman's

- 1 medical history and should, therefore, obviate the
- 2 concern of misconduct for not taking the testing that
- 3 was required?
- 4 MR. DOLIN: I've mentioned the report or we've
- 5 mentioned the report as part of the broader information
- 6 to the Committee that should, in our view, frame this
- 7 proceeding that should have never started to a close.
- 8 If you look at --
- 9 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: This examination should
- 10 obviate the need for any further testing.
- 11 MR. DOLIN: Correct, and any further proceedings
- 12 before this Committee or this Judicial Council, because
- 13 if you -- looking at Judge Newman's opinions submitted
- 14 since March, looking at Judge Newman's public
- 15 statements, looking at this evaluation, there is no
- 16 basis to conclude that she's in any way disabled.
- 17 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Well, this is not about
- 18 whether she's disabled, Counsel. This is about whether
- 19 or not this Committee had a reasonable basis to order
- 20 the medical testing, to ask to interview her, and to
- 21 request her medical records be provided to someone who
- 22 would evaluate her. This is not a proceeding about
- 23 whether she's disabled.
- MR. DOLIN: So can we get -- and so this goes to
- 25 the answer I've provided to you, Judge Taranto, but can

- 1 we go to the basis --
- JUDGE TARANTO: Sure, we can get to that in just
- 3 one second. Just one thing that I wanted to make sure
- 4 about. After your July 5th responses, you know, we
- 5 issued an order two days later saying please supply us
- 6 three categories of documents, the unredacted version of
- 7 Dr. Rothstein, the actual filled-out MoCA form, and then
- 8 the category of written materials given to or relied
- 9 on -- I'm not sure what the word is -- accepted by
- 10 Dr. Rothstein, and in your July 12th response, you say,
- 11 as to that last category, the medical records, we're not
- 12 going to give you any more for the reasons we've already
- 13 discussed.
- 14 But the category, what we asked you about or
- 15 directed you to supply July 7th is not just medical
- 16 records. It was all materials. So, for example, that
- 17 would include all written materials, would include all
- 18 of the written materials that you have from this
- 19 proceeding, declarations and other things that supplied
- 20 the basis for concern about Judge Newman. In your July
- 21 12th letter, it doesn't say anything at all about that
- 22 category. Were those materials supplied to
- 23 Dr. Rothstein?
- MR. DOLIN: Your Honor, are you referring to
- 25 affidavits, various affidavits that --

- 1 JUDGE TARANTO: All of the written materials that
- 2 you -- yes, that were a part of this proceeding that
- 3 have been given to you as undergirding the -- in
- 4 particular the May 16th order for --
- 5 MR. DOLIN: It is -- it is my understanding that
- 6 materials that are sealed were not provided to
- 7 Dr. Rothstein.
- 8 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: What about the orders? Were
- 9 any of the orders which have been made public provided
- 10 to Dr. Rothstein?
- 11 MR. DOLIN: I don't know that he's reviewed the
- 12 orders either.
- 13 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: I'm sorry. I couldn't hear
- 14 you.
- 15 MR. DOLIN: I do not know whether he reviewed the
- 16 orders either.
- 17 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: But were they provided to
- 18 him? You don't know whether he reviewed them --
- 19 MR. DOLIN: I was not in the room, Your Honor.
- 20 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Pardon?
- 21 MR. DOLIN: I was not in the room, Your Honor.
- 22 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Oh, so you don't know if
- 23 Judge Newman provided him with those orders?
- MR. DOLIN: I can't comment on that.
- JUDGE TARANTO: You can't?

- 1 MR. DOLIN: I can't comment on that as to whether
- 2 or not -- whether or not they were provided or whether
- 3 he reviewed them or -- et cetera. I do know that he
- 4 reviewed those materials that he deemed in his
- 5 professional judgment appropriate before administering
- 6 the test and reaching his conclusion and writing the
- 7 letter.
- 8 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Mr. Dolin, can you speak up
- 9 just a little bit? I'm having trouble hearing you.
- 10 Sorry.
- MR. DOLIN: He was provided such materials as he,
- in his professional judgment, of decades of experience,
- 13 and being a full professor at George Washington School
- 14 of Medicine, deemed appropriate to conduct his
- 15 examination and reach his conclusions, and I was not in
- 16 the room, and I'm -- you know, despite my medical
- 17 degree, I am not going to second-guess a full professor
- 18 of neurology --
- 19 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Well, let me ask you a couple
- 20 of questions about his report. We did ask you to come
- 21 here today prepared to discuss the report and his
- 22 scoring of the report. Is it true that Judge Newman
- 23 either had at the time of his evaluation a cast on her
- 24 arm or her right wrist?
- MR. DOLIN: It is.

- 1 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: And he says in two places she
- 2 was, therefore, unable to write. Is that correct?
- 3 MR. DOLIN: That's correct. She was advised
- 4 by -- she was advised by her orthopedic surgeon not to
- 5 hold a pen until the bone was healed.
- 6 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: So not to hold a pen until it
- 7 healed. So she was not able to do any written part of
- 8 the MoCA, correct?
- 9 MR. DOLIN: Correct.
- 10 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Correct, okay. So I am going
- 11 to provide you with the MoCA, which is the same MoCA --
- 12 you can step forward if you don't have --
- 13 MR. DOLIN: I have it.
- 14 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: You have it?
- 15 MR. DOLIN: I have it.
- 16 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: I think you have a copy. So
- 17 this is the same thing we provided to you as an exhibit.
- 18 MR. DOLIN: Yep.
- 19 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: And this is the MoCA.
- MR. DOLIN: Yep.
- 21 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: As you can see, across the
- 22 top, there are three portions of the MoCA that require
- 23 writing. There is what I'll call connect-the-dots. I'm
- 24 not a doctor, so I am going to use layman's language.
- MR. DOLIN: Fair enough.

- 1 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Connect-the-dots on the left,
- 2 and there's copy a cube, and Dr. Rothstein noted that
- 3 she couldn't do either of those because she can't write
- 4 at all, right?
- 5 MR. DOLIN: Yes.
- 6 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Okay. So each of those is
- 7 worth one point, correct?
- 8 MR. DOLIN: Um-hum, yep.
- 9 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Okay. Then you have to draw
- 10 a clock where you actually fill in all the numbers and
- 11 put the hands of the clock on the correct time that's
- 12 assessed. If she can't write, how could she do that?
- MR. DOLIN: Again, Your Honor, I'm -- I can't
- 14 comment on how she accomplished that task. I can
- 15 comment on Dr. --
- 16 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Did she accomplish that task?
- 17 MR. DOLIN: Again, I was not in the room. I --
- 18 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Okay. So do you understand
- on the face of Dr. Rothstein's own report, there seems
- 20 to be an inconsistency? The inconsistency is he said
- 21 she was unable to write in two places. You confirmed
- 22 that she's been instructed by an orthopedic surgeon not
- 23 to even hold a pen.
- MR. DOLIN: Yes.
- 25 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: There are three parts of this

- 1 test that require writing. Dr. Rothstein said she
- 2 couldn't do two of the three of them because she
- 3 couldn't write, so how did she do the third?
- 4 MR. DOLIN: I suspect that there are ways to do
- 5 the third by either having the clock identified --
- 6 JUDGE PROST: Again, I'm sorry, I can't --
- 7 MR. DOLIN: I suspect there are ways to do it.
- 8 Instead of drawing it, you have a clock identified, as
- 9 well as time identified, et cetera.
- 10 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Actually, it turns out
- 11 there's not on the MoCA website. Do you know that the
- 12 MoCA website itself explains exactly how to administer
- 13 the test when you're unable to write? Let me provide
- 14 you with a copy of it. Here you go.
- MR. DOLIN: Ah, was --
- 16 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: And this is what they say all
- 17 qualified practitioners should do when a patient is
- 18 unable to write.
- 19 MR. DOLIN: So, with respect, Judge Moore --
- 20 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: The MoCA website is -- yes?
- 21 MR. DOLIN: -- with respect, Judge Moore --
- 22 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Yes, yes?
- 23 MR. DOLIN: -- if it were up to me, I would rely
- 24 on several decades' worth of experience of a full
- 25 professor of neurology at one of the nation's leading

- 1 medical schools as opposed to a --
- 2 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Counsel, this whole professor
- 3 of neurology may generally be great, but his own report
- 4 is internally inconsistent. It says she couldn't write
- 5 in two places. You've confirmed she couldn't hold a
- 6 pen. He says because she couldn't write, she couldn't
- 7 connect the dots, and she couldn't copy a cube, but then
- 8 when it comes to drawing a clock, which is required by
- 9 the test to be drawn by the patient -- if the patient
- 10 can't write, according to the MoCA, they can't do any of
- 11 those three questions according to the MoCA's own
- 12 rubric.
- So I'm wondering whether or not it's possible
- 14 that he erred in his report because he said she couldn't
- 15 write at all, but then he seems to have given her full
- 16 credit for drawing a clock.
- 17 MR. DOLIN: Of course, anything is possible.
- 18 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: But that's why the Committee
- 19 has concerns and would like to see the document, is
- 20 because his report is internally inconsistent on its
- 21 face.
- MR. DOLIN: Okay. If you'll permit me to finish
- 23 my answer I was beginning to go to, with respect, I
- 24 would put some trust in the -- or put trust in a full
- 25 professor of neurology and at one of the nation's

- leading medical schools over a -- a well respected
- 2 judge's interpretation of a MoCA website. And so I
- 3 understand what you've read, Judge Moore. Nevertheless,
- 4 I suspect that Judge -- that --
- 5 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Why -- you haven't seen the
- 6 MoCA test result, have you?
- 7 MR. DOLIN: I have not.
- 8 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Okay. So you haven't seen
- 9 it. He says that she couldn't write, so she couldn't do
- 10 the written portion. You don't think it's fair for us
- 11 to be concerned that possibly he mis-scored the test
- 12 since he has given her credit for portions that require
- 13 writing on its face? Draw a clock?
- MR. DOLIN: Again, I suspect -- I suspect that
- 15 Judge -- again, that -- not Judge -- that Dr. Rothstein
- 16 knows how to administer this test, knows how to score
- 17 it, and he was advised before -- in fact, when the test
- 18 was scheduled, he was advised before that Judge Newman
- 19 was in a cast, and he asked whether or not we should
- 20 wait --
- 21 JUDGE TARANTO: Would you agree -- I don't know
- 22 what kind of experience you have with respect to
- 23 expert-laden cases -- that highly credentialed experts
- 24 sometimes make mistakes?
- 25 MR. DOLIN: Of course. Everybody makes mistakes,

- 1 including this Committee, but --
- 2 JUDGE TARANTO: And we don't have the basis for
- 3 determining that in a document that you submitted to
- 4 obviate concern here.
- 5 MR. DOLIN: Perhaps, but, again, I think I would
- 6 go back to the point that this shouldn't be here in the
- 7 first place, that that's my -- I do want to get back to
- 8 the numbers, and so because Judge Moore asked --
- 9 JUDGE PROST: Well, before you do that, just a
- 10 quick question, because you mentioned in passing and you
- 11 moved over it, and you made the statement -- I think I'm
- 12 accurately stating it -- that we had no idea who these
- 13 people were, the people that we identified as --
- 14 MR. DOLIN: No, we don't. I'm sure the Committee
- 15 does. We don't have any idea.
- JUDGE PROST: Yes, yes, excuse me.
- 17 And did we not, in our order, when we identified
- 18 Dr. , give you a way, suggest that you feel free
- 19 to contact him if you had any questions about anything,
- 20 and did you take advantage of that? If you had a
- 21 concern that you don't know either his qualifications or
- 22 the qualifications of the doctors that were being
- 23 proposed, did you take advantage of going and asking
- 24 him?
- MR. DOLIN: No, because one of the -- because we

- 1 would also -- we would not ever learn as to on what
- 2 basis was he selected. So, no, we don't know -- no, we
- 3 did not contact Dr.
- 4 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Did you do any other research
- 5 at all on your own to ascertain the credentials of the
- 6 doctors whose names you were given as far back as April
- 7 7th?
- 8 MR. DOLIN: I have looked at their website
- 9 profiles.
- 10 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: And did that cause you to
- 11 have reason to be concerned about their credentials?
- MR. DOLIN: It didn't suggest to me that they are
- 13 either -- you know, that they -- they have their
- 14 diplomas, they have done their residency, they have
- 15 their licenses. That's all I know.
- 16 JUDGE PROST: Did you ask or inquire of
- 17 Dr. Rothstein if he had any information? He's a
- 18 renowned specialist that you've identified. Would he
- 19 be -- wouldn't he be an appropriate person to inquire in
- 20 terms of the credentials of these other people --
- MR. DOLIN: No.
- 22 JUDGE PROST: -- if you know and trust him?
- MR. DOLIN: No.
- JUDGE PROST: He wouldn't be?
- 25 MR. DOLIN: No. We would not ask Dr. Rothstein

- of his opinion of some other doctor in a different
- 2 state.
- 3 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Okay. Just to be clear,
- 4 Judge Prost said you know and trust him. I just want to
- 5 make it clear for you. For your purposes, for the
- 6 record --
- 7 MR. DOLIN: I don't.
- 8 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Yes, that's where I was
- 9 going. You didn't -- you didn't choose Dr. Rothstein,
- 10 correct?
- 11 MR. DOLIN: I did not. As with every American
- 12 who seeks medical care, generally in this country we
- 13 pick our own providers, and Dr. Newman picked this
- 14 provider.
- 15 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Her name is Judge Newman.
- 16 MR. DOLIN: She is actually a doctor as well.
- 17 She is a Ph.D.
- 18 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: To your knowledge, did she
- 19 have a prior relationship with Dr. Rothstein before this
- 20 test?
- 21 MR. DOLIN: She knows -- she has known
- 22 Dr. Rothstein for some time.
- 23 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Personally or professionally?
- MR. DOLIN: Both.
- 25 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Does that raise any concerns

- 1 with you about whether or not he's rendering an
- 2 independent judgment?
- 3 MR. DOLIN: It does not. He rendered this
- 4 judgment as -- again, in his capacity as a professor of
- 5 neurology. He put it on his letterhead. His license is
- 6 on the line --
- 7 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: But he has both a personal
- 8 and a professional relationship with her.
- 9 MR. DOLIN: But that is not surprising. I mean,
- 10 people often have both a personal and professional -- I
- 11 to this day have a professional relationship -- personal
- 12 relationship with my pediatrician. That is not
- 13 surprising.
- 14 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Are you still seeing the
- 15 pediatrician? That was a joke, just trying to insert
- 16 some levity.
- 17 MR. DOLIN: Sometimes. I'll give you an answer.
- 18 Sometimes.
- 19 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Okay.
- 20 MR. DOLIN: Although not recently because she
- 21 retired.
- 22 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: I really want to give you a
- 23 chance, and I know that it says three minutes left, but
- 24 I will extend the time because on several occasions you
- 25 sought to try to move to something that you wanted to

- 1 talk about, and we kept you on the topics that we wanted
- 2 to ask questions about.
- 3 So I feel like if there's something you wanted to
- 4 move to, I want to give you the chance to --
- MR. DOLIN: No, I am here to answer the 5
- 6 Committee's questions, but I guess two points, and I'll
- 7 try to make them quick. One of the main concerns, I
- suppose, of this Committee throughout was Judge Newman's 8
- alleged delays in production of the opinions, including 9
- that compared to an average time for -- for an average 10
- judge of this Court and her, the difference between 11
- 12 those average times is 141 days. If you do the math,
- 13 between 199 that it takes Judge Newman and the 58 that
- it takes an average judge --14
- 15 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Fifty-three.
- MR. DOLIN: -- 53, so it works out to be 141 16
- 17 In a recent paper by Dr. Katznelson, he
- calculates that the average difference between a 18
- 19 unanimous opinion and an opinion with a dissent is 143
- 20 days. So a unanimous opinion issues 143 days earlier,
- 21 on average, than an opinion with a dissent or a
- 22 concurrent opinion. That seems to track pretty well
- with Judge Newman's delays given the fact that she 23
- 24 dissents in more than half of the cases.
- 25 So her dissents -- her delays are not

- 1 extraordinary, but even more important -- and that's
- 2 leaving aside the Dr. Katznelson paper -- this is based
- 3 on the Court's own data. Judge Newman's delays between
- 4 2020 and 2021, where there was apparently no suspicion
- of any disability, and 2021 to 2023, have been reduced.
- 6 She's now --
- 7 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Counsel -- Counsel, her
- 8 sittings were reduced. She sat 65 cases through the
- 9 second period where the average judge sat 128. She sat
- 10 closer to the normal level of everyone else in the
- 11 earlier period. So the explanation, with all due
- 12 respect, to why she might have been able to get the same
- 13 number of opinions out quicker is because she sat on,
- 14 like, half the cases than she had the previous time
- 15 period compared to how --
- 16 MR. DOLIN: Of course, Judge Moore, but that was
- 17 not her choice. You -- it's hard -- it's hard for me to
- 18 understand how --
- 19 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: You say that was not her
- 20 choice? None of the time period that we measured, just
- 21 to be clear, was any period of time in which she was
- 22 prevented from sitting by any of us.
- MR. DOLIN: My understanding, based on my time in
- 24 clerking on the Court and my conversations with Judge
- 25 Newman, is that judges don't just pick their cases, that

- 1 the assignment -- and also reviewing the clerical
- 2 procedure -- the assignment is done by the Chief Judge
- 3 together working with the Office of the Clerk. Maybe
- 4 I'm wrong.
- 5 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Completely false.
- 6 MR. DOLIN: So...
- 7 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: The Chief Judge has no input
- 8 whatsoever --
- 9 MR. DOLIN: Not assignment, but assignment to the
- 10 panels, assignment to the panels, for how many --
- 11 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: That's completely false. The
- 12 Chief Judge has no input whatsoever. Every judge does
- 13 their own selection.
- 14 MR. DOLIN: Fair enough. I apologize for that
- 15 misunderstanding.
- 16 And the second point that --
- 17 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: And just to be clear, the
- 18 assignment of cases is random in the event that somehow
- 19 this transcript didn't make that clear. No judge
- 20 chooses their individual cases --
- MR. DOLIN: Of course.
- 22 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: -- and the assignment of
- 23 cases to each panel is random, but the judge's choice to
- 24 sit or not sit has always been the judge's choice
- 25 prior -- during these time periods that were measured.

- 1 MR. DOLIN: Well, fair enough, and then I
- 2 apologize for my misunderstanding and my misreading of
- 3 the clerical procedures.
- I guess -- I know I'm out of time, but I did want
- 5 to touch on the potential sanctions. As we indicated
- 6 in --
- JUDGE PROST: I'm sorry?
- 8 MR. DOLIN: Potential sanctions.
- 9 JUDGE PROST: Thank you.
- MR. DOLIN: As we indicated in our letter, not
- 11 only is the requirement that Judge Newman sit for
- 12 medical exam unprecedented, has never been done, I know
- 13 this Committee cited the Adams case. Judge Adams never
- 14 actually did sit for the medical exam and had no
- 15 sanctions imposed for it.
- 16 JUDGE TARANTO: I'm sorry, but there was an order
- 17 upheld by the Judicial Conference Committee that
- 18 required him to do so. Then on remand he -- basically
- 19 he reformed his behavior, and the Judicial Council,
- 20 after a certain waiting period, decided that the
- 21 proceeding didn't need to go forward. So there has been
- 22 an affirmed order compelling in that case a psychiatric,
- 23 I think, examination, correct?
- 24 MR. DOLIN: Which he declined to do and received
- 25 no sanction for it. Even on remand, he declined to sit

- 1 for -- because on remand, the judicial investigating --
- 2 the Special Committee requested that he sit for the exam
- 3 again. He declined to do it again. The Special
- 4 Investigative Committee recommended a six-month
- 5 suspension, which the Judicial Council of the Sixth
- 6 Circuit refused to endorse.
- 7 UNIDENTIFIED: Um-hum.
- 8 MR. DOLIN: So the requirement -- so Judge Newman
- 9 would be the first Judge in the history of this country
- 10 to sit for a forced medical examination, okay?
- But on the sanctions, to get back to the six
- 12 months, one, of course, our position is no sanctions are
- 13 warranted because we do not believe that Judge Newman
- 14 either refused to cooperate or that, if she did, that
- 15 such refusal was without a good cause, but to the extent
- 16 that this Committee or this Judicial Council believes
- 17 that a sanction is warranted, we would note that Judge
- 18 Newman has already been suspended from sitting on cases
- 19 for six months.
- 20 My understanding is that the September calendar
- 21 is out, so it would be April, May, June, July, August,
- 22 September -- six months. If it takes some time for this
- 23 Committee to issue its report, then, of course, we will
- 24 have 21 days to review it and file our appeal to the
- 25 Judicial Council, et cetera, et cetera. That gets us

- 1 probably into the October calendar. So at least on that
- 2 point, the sanction imposed, even taken into Judge
- 3 Adams' precedent, they suggested six months, and
- 4 certainly no more is appropriate here.
- I'm happy to answer any other questions, but I do
- 6 have one question for the Committee if it will permit
- 7 me, and this goes back to, Judge Moore, at the very
- 8 beginning you said this matter is confidential, and I
- 9 said I understand, but I do want to go back to that.
- 10 We would like some quidance from the Committee as
- 11 to what can -- obviously we understand that no witness
- 12 names or witness statements can be discussed, I
- 13 understand that, and we have tried to keep that -- you
- 14 know, to keep that within that order, but we would like
- 15 to have some guidance as to which part of, beyond the
- 16 fact that this hearing has occurred, can be discussed.
- 17 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: At this point, nothing. You
- 18 can submit a 23(b)(7) request to have the transcript
- 19 made public. You and I can work collectively on making
- 20 certain it's redacted. For example, quite a bit of
- 21 Judge Newman's personal medical information was
- 22 discussed, and I'm not 100 percent positive what about
- 23 that you would like to have redacted or not have
- 24 redacted. I don't remember if witness names were
- 25 discussed at all, but in any event, you know, I think

- 1 that probably we should wait and see the transcript and
- 2 then collectively work together to ensure that what is
- 3 released is something that we're both comfortable with.
- 4 Does that sound reasonable?
- 5 MR. DOLIN: That sounds reasonable. I'm
- 6 certainly happy to put in a formal 23(b)(7) request. I
- 7 think I've made it in my letter -- in my last letter to
- 8 the Committee, as well as here orally --
- 9 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: If you want me to, I will
- 10 just assume this oral request is a 23(b)(7) request --
- 11 MR. DOLIN: Right.
- 12 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: -- to have the transcript
- 13 made public --
- MR. DOLIN: After --
- 15 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: -- and if it's okay with
- 16 you --
- 17 MR. DOLIN: -- right, correct.
- 18 CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: -- I would like to review the
- 19 transcript first to ensure that nothing about it
- 20 contains information that should be otherwise kept
- 21 completely confidential.
- MR. DOLIN: Of course, and vice versa.
- 23 And then, with that, I guess I'll close with
- 24 just, you know, again, reiterating our request that our
- 25 letter brief, which, of course, the Committee can, you

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know, edit for -- I don't think that there's any witness
     names there, but the letter brief as well as
 2
     everything -- all the submissions up until now be
 3
 4
     released pursuant to 23(b)(7), and we have made those
 5
     requests in the submissions themselves.
 6
             CHIEF JUDGE MOORE: Anything further?
             Okay. Thank you, Counsel. This case is taken
 7
     under submission.
 8
 9
             (Whereupon, at 2:51 p.m. the hearing was
     adjourned.)
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| 1 | CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER |
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| 2 | |
| 3 | I, Susanne Bergling, do hereby certify that the |
| 4 | foregoing proceedings were recorded by me via stenotype |
| 5 | and reduced to typewriting under my supervision; that I |
| 6 | am neither counsel for, related to, nor employed by any |
| 7 | of the parties to the action in which these proceedings |
| 8 | were transcribed; and further, that I am not a relative |
| 9 | or employee of any attorney or counsel employed by the |
| 10 | parties hereto, nor financially or otherwise interested |
| 11 | in the outcome of the action. |
| 12 | |
| 13 | |
| 14 | |
| 15 | |
| 16 | s/Susanne Bergling |
| 17 | SUSANNE BERGLING, RMR-CRR-CLR |
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