

**September 5, 2025**

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1        \*\* C O N F I D E N T I A L \*\*  
2        \* CONTAINS ATTORNEYS' EYES ONLY MATERIAL \*  
3        UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
4        SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK  
5        Case No. 1:24-CV-10049-LJL  
6        (Consolidated with 1:25-cv-00449-LJL)  
6        -----x

7        BLAKE LIVELY,  
8               Plaintiff,  
9               - against -  
10       WAYFARER STUDIOS LLC, a Delaware  
11       Limited Liability Company, JUSTIN  
12       BALDONI, an individual, JAMEY HEATH, an  
13       individual, STEVE SAROWITZ, an individual,  
14       IT ENDS WITH US MOVIE LLC, a California  
15       Limited Liability Company, MELISSA  
16       NATHAN, an individual, THE AGENCY  
17       GROUP PR LLC, a Delaware Limited Liability  
18       Company, JENNIFER ABEL, an individual,  
19       JED WALLACE, an individual, and STREET  
20       RELATIONS INC., a California Corporation,  
21       Defendants.  
22       -----x

23       (Caption continued)

24       September 5, 2025  
25       9:10 a.m.

17       Videotaped Deposition of KATHERINE  
18       CASE, taken by Plaintiff, pursuant to  
19       Subpoena, held at the offices of Willkie  
20       Farr & Gallagher LLP, 787 Seventh Avenue,  
21       New York, New York, before Todd DeSimone, a  
22       Registered Professional Reporter and Notary  
23       Public of the State of New York.  
24  
25

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1  
2 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
3 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK  
4 Civ. Action No. 1:25-cv-779  
5 -----x  
6 STEPHANIE JONES and JONESWORKS LLC,  
7  
8 Plaintiffs,  
9  
10 - against -  
11 JENNIFER ABEL, MELISSA NATHAN,  
12 JUSTIN BALDONI, WAYFARER STUDIOS LLC,  
13 and JOHN DOES 1-10,  
14  
15 Defendants.

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11 ALSO PRESENT:

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14 JAMEY HEATH (Via Zoom)  
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16 COREY WAINAINA, Videographer  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

K. CASE - CONFIDENTIAL

THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning everyone. We are going on the record at 9:10 a.m. on Friday, September 5th, 2025. Please note that the microphones are sensitive and may pick up whispering and private conversations.

This is media unit one of the  
video-recorded deposition of Katherine  
Case in the matter of Blake Lively  
versus Wayfarer Studios LLC, et al.

This is filed in the United States  
District Court, Southern District of  
New York, the case number is

1:24-CV-10049-LJL.

My name is Corey Wainaina representing Veritext Legal Solutions and I am the videographer. The court reporter is Todd DeSimone also from the firm Veritext Legal Solutions. I am not authorized to administer an oath, I am not related to any party in this action, nor am I financially interested in the outcome.

Please be aware that all

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2                   appearances and affiliations will be  
3                   noted on the stenographic record, and  
4                   will the court reporter please swear in  
5                   the witness.

6                   \*       \*       \*

7                   K A T H E R I N E    C A S E ,  
8                   called as a witness, having been first duly  
9                   sworn, was examined and testified  
10                  as follows:

11                  EXAMINATION BY MS. BENDER:

12                  Q.        Good morning, Ms. Case.

13                  A.        Good morning.

14                  Q.        Can you please state your full  
15                  name and address for the record.

16                  A.        Katherine Hastings Case, [REDACTED]

17                  [REDACTED] .

18                  Q.        And have you ever been deposed  
19                  before?

20                  A.        No.

21                  Q.        And do you understand that you  
22                  are under oath during this deposition?

23                  A.        Yes.

24                  Q.        Okay. Do you understand that  
25                  your testimony today carries the same

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1                   K. CASE - CONFIDENTIAL

2                   A.        At times.

3                   Q.        When would TAG individuals use  
4       Signal in lieu of iMessage?

5                   A.        If we would -- if we would  
6       speak with Jed, it was primarily over  
7       Signal.

8                   Q.        And why was that?

9                   A.        I'm not sure.

10                  Q.        Was that at Jed's request?

11                  A.        No.

12                  Q.        Who suggested that you use  
13       Signal?

14                  A.        It was just the form of  
15       communication that was used.

16                  Q.        Do you recall the first time  
17       you communicated with Jed on Signal?

18                  A.        Not by date specifically, no.

19                  Q.        Did he text you on Signal?

20                  A.        Not individually, but as it  
21       related to communications.

22                  Q.        Did you have a Signal account  
23       prior to working at TAG?

24                  A.        I believe so, yes.

25                  Q.        And did you communicate on it

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2 KCASE-000003856.

3 You can put that document  
4 aside. You are being handed what has been  
5 marked Case Exhibit 8.

6 (Case Exhibit 8 marked for  
7 identification.)

8 MR. FREEDMAN: Did you mark  
9 this as 7?

10 MS. BENDER: It was marked as  
11 7, but we are going to discuss Case  
12 Exhibit 8.

13 Q. Okay. This is Bates stamped  
14 KCASE-000004949, a text ranging from August  
15 5th to August 6th, 2024.

16 Ms. Case, do you recognize this  
17 document?

18 A. I do.

19 Q. What is it?

20 A. It seems to be a text thread  
21 between myself and Melissa.

22 Q. Do you have any reason to think  
23 this document is not as it was when it was  
24 created?

25 A. No.

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2 Q. If you turn a few pages to  
3 where the Bates stamp ends in 53. At 1:58  
4 Melissa says to you "I have to drive to  
5 this fucking meeting. Do you think you'll  
6 have that copy for Jed today?"

7 Do you see that?

8 A. I do.

9 Q. Is that referring to Jed  
10 Wallace?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. What copy were you drafting for  
13 Jed Wallace?

14 A. I believe this is in regards to  
15 a client.

16 Q. Which client?

17 MR. BREED: W█ will designate  
18 it as attorneys' eyes only, please.

19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Okay.

20 Q. Which client?

21 A. I believe this was for █

22 █  
23 Q. Okay. On the next page, at  
24 4:46 p.m., Melissa says "Jed and Bryan  
25 asking me for copy lol kill me."

1 K. CASE - CONFIDENTIAL

2 Do you see that?

3 A. I do.

4 Q. Who is Bryan?

5 A. I believe Bryan Freedman.

6 Q. Bryan and Jed were working in  
7 collaboration with TAG on the [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
8 account?

9 A. I didn't work on that account,  
10 so I'm not sure.

11 Q. You worked on the copy that  
12 Melissa was requesting for that account,  
13 correct?

14 A. This was a one-off request.

15 Q. So you did some work on that  
16 account, correct?

17 A. Specifically I assisted with  
18 this copy.

19 Q. And you knew that Jed and Bryan  
20 were working together asking for the copy  
21 that you were preparing for that account,  
22 correct?

23 MR. BREED: Objection.

24 MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

25 A. Melissa alerted me at that

1 K. CASE - CONFIDENTIAL

2 time.

3 Q. You knew that both Jed and  
4 Bryan were to receive the copy, correct?

5 MR. BREED: Objection.

6 MS. EMERY: Objection.

7 A. I knew that Melissa needed the  
8 copy.

9 Q. For whom?

10 A. In her text message she said  
11 Jed and Bryan were looking for it.

12 Q. Did Mr. Freedman work with TAG  
13 and Jed on the Wayfarer account?

14 A. Not during the summer of 2024.

15 Q. When is your understanding that  
16 Mr. Freedman started that work?

17 A. It is my understanding that it  
18 was following Blake's CRD complaint, Civil  
19 Rights Department complaint in December.

20 Q. When TAG was looking to  
21 identify a subcontractor for digital  
22 services in connection with the Wayfarer  
23 account, did TAG receive multiple quotes  
24 for those services?

25 A. That was communicated to me by

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10 Q. Have you ever met Mr. Wallace  
11 in person?

12 A. No.

13 Q. And you testified earlier that  
14 you had communicated directly with  
15 Mr. Wallace, correct?

16 MS. EMERY: Objection.

17 A. Across several instances, yes.

18 Q. What were your modes of  
19 communication with Mr. Wallace?

20 A. Primarily Signal.

21 Q. What other avenues of  
22 communication?

23 A. Limited e-mail.

24 Q. Any others?

25 A. No.

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2 prep that they had spoken to anyone  
3 representing the Wayfarer parties prior to  
4 your preparation?

5                   A. I can't say.

6                   Q. Ms. Case, are you aware of  
7 various websites and social media accounts  
8 that are disparaging of Ms. Jones?

9                   MR. BREED: Objection.

10                  A. I am aware of websites about  
11 Ms. Jones.

12                  Q. Did you create any of the  
13 websites that are disparaging of Ms. Jones?

14                  A. No.

15                  Q. Who did?

16                  A. I don't know.

17                  Q. How did you become aware of the  
18 websites that are disparaging of Ms. Jones?

19                  MR. BREED: Objection.

20                  MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

21                  Q. How did you become aware of the  
22 websites disparaging Ms. Jones?

23                  A. I received a call from Melissa  
24 in early May. It was communicated to me  
25 that a website had been requested.

1 K. CASE - CONFIDENTIAL

2 Q. A website had been requested?

3 A. The creation of a website had  
4 been requested.

5 Q. By whom?

6 MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

7 MR. BREED: Let's designate  
8 this AEO, please.

9 MS. TAHLER: We can go off.

10 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Yeah.

11 A. Melissa represented to me that  
12 a potential new client had requested the  
13 formulation of a website.

14 Q. Who was that new client?

15 MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

16 A. At the time it was represented  
17 to me that it was [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

18 Q. Melissa Nathan told you that  
19 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] had requested preparation of a  
20 website about Ms. Jones?

21 MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

22 A. She represented to me that he  
23 had requested the creation of a website of  
24 this nature.

25 Q. Did she tell you anything else

1                   K. CASE - CONFIDENTIAL

2 about what [REDACTED] had requested?

3                   A. Not what he had requested  
4 specifically.

5                   Q. Generally what he had  
6 requested?

7                   A. Not necessarily what he had  
8 requested, but specific language was  
9 communicated.

10                  Q. What was that specific  
11 language?

12                  A. That Stephanie holds clients  
13 hostage, that she leaks clients' secrets,  
14 and that she treats her employees poorly,  
15 amongst others.

16                  Q. Ms. Nathan told you that  
17 [REDACTED] had said the things that you  
18 just said to her?

19                  A. No.

20                  Q. Who did Ms. Nathan say said  
21 that Stephanie holds clients hostage?

22                    MR. BREED: Objection.

23                  A. I don't know who might have  
24 said that. This language was communicated  
25 to me.

1 K. CASE - CONFIDENTIAL

2 Q. By Ms. Nathan?

3 A. The conversation was with her,  
4 yes.

5 Q. It was a conversation?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Did Ms. Nathan send you any  
8 written communications about this?

9 A. Not about the language to be  
10 used, no.

11 Q. Generally about the websites?

12 A. At that time, no.

13 Q. At any time?

14 A. There was conversation about  
15 the copy that I had written based on the  
16 information provided, I redrafted and sent  
17 back to her.

18 Q. Did you draft the copy for the  
19 website about Ms. Jones?

20 A. Based on the conversation and  
21 the language provided to me, I provided  
22 copy.

23 Q. So yes, you provided -- you  
24 wrote the copy that was -- that became the  
25 website of Ms. Jones?

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2 MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

3 A. Based on the language that I  
4 was instructed to use.

5 Q. Did anyone else provide you  
6 with that language besides Ms. Nathan?

7 MR. BREED: Objection.

8 A. No.

9 Q. And Ms. Nathan provided all of  
10 this language to you orally?

11 MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

12 MR. BREED: Objection.

13 A. She provided language to  
14 reference over the phone, yes.

15 Q. Did she put anything in writing  
16 about the language to be used in the  
17 website?

18 A. No.

19 Q. What happened -- did she send  
20 an audio message?

21 MR. BREED: Objection.

22 A. No.

23 Q. What happened after you  
24 provided Ms. Nathan with the copy?

25 A. I don't know.

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2                   Q.         Did you come to understand that  
3     the copy that you had drafted became a  
4     website about Ms. Jones?

5                   A.         I was made aware of that, yes.

6                   Q.         Who made you aware of that?

7                   A.         Melissa.

8                   Q.         And what did Melissa tell you?

9                   A.         She sent me the link.

10                  Q.         The link to which website?

11                  A.         It might have been the leaks.

12                  I don't remember which came first.

13                  Q.         She sent it to you how?

14                  A.         In a text message.

15                  Q.         And that text message sending  
16     Stephanie Jones Leaks you recognized as the  
17     copy that you had drafted, correct?

18                  A.         That's correct.

19                  Q.         Did [REDACTED] pay TAG to  
20     create this website?

21                  MR. BREED: Objection.

22                  A.         I don't know.

23                  Q.         Did [REDACTED] become a client  
24     of TAG?

25                  A.         He did not.

1 K. CASE - CONFIDENTIAL

2 Q. Do you know if Ms. Nathan had  
3 any other conversations with [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
4 other than the one you have already  
5 discussed?

6 MR. BREED: Objection.

7 MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

8 A. I don't know.

9 Q. Did Ms. Nathan report to you  
10 any other conversations with [REDACTED] [REDACTED]  
11 other than the one you have already  
12 discussed?

13 MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

14 MR. BREED: Objection.

15 A. No.

16 Q. Do you recall anything else  
17 about that initial conversation with  
18 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] other than what you have  
19 already testified to?

20 MR. BREED: Objection. That  
21 wasn't the testimony.

22 A. It wasn't a conversation with  
23 [REDACTED] [REDACTED].

24 Q. What was it with [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

25 A. I never spoke to [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

1

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2

Q. I had understood that

3

Ms. Nathan had spoken with [REDACTED] and  
then Ms. Nathan reported that to you.

4

MR. BREED: Objection, that  
wasn't the testimony either.

5

MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

6

MS. TAHLER: I'm asking for  
clarification.

7

A. I am not aware of whether or  
not Melissa spoke with [REDACTED] It was  
communicated to me that the site was at  
either his or someone affiliated with him's  
request.

8

Q. Did she tell you if she ever  
spoke to him directly?

9

A. No.

10

Q. Did she tell you who she spoke  
to about this?

11

A. No.

12

(Case Exhibit 35 marked for  
identification.)

13

Q. Ms. Case, you are now reviewing  
a document that has been marked as Case 35.  
It is a printout of the website

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2 StephanieJonesLeaks.com.

3 Do you recognize this as the  
4 copy that you drafted?

5 A. I believe so, yes.

6 Q. Do you know how this went from  
7 the copy that you drafted to becoming a  
8 website?

9 A. I do not.

10 Q. Did Melissa communicate  
11 anything to you about how this became a  
12 website after you provided her with the  
13 copy?

14 MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

15 A. No.

16 Q. Do you understand there came a  
17 time where this website was shut down?

18 MR. BREED: Objection.

19 A. No.

20 Q. Did you understand that there  
21 came a time where there was a second  
22 website?

23 A. At the time I wasn't aware that  
24 there was a second website, no.

25 Q. After you provided Ms. Nathan

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1                   K. CASE - CONFIDENTIAL  
2 with the copy for Exhibit 35, did you have  
3 any other discussions with Ms. Nathan about  
4 websites regarding Ms. Jones?

5                   MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

6                   A.        Websites, plural, no. I was  
7 asked to help alongside her to draft a  
8 handful of tweets for the Twitter page, and  
9 I was asked, again, based on language that  
10 I was provided to extrapolate that into  
11 updates to the website.

12                  Q.        You referred to the Twitter  
13 page. What is the Twitter page?

14                  A.        I don't recall the specific  
15 handle. I was told that at the time the  
16 site went public there was a corresponding  
17 Twitter page.

18                  Q.        Was that Twitter handle  
19 @LyingStephJones?

20                  MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

21                  A.        I'm not sure. I don't recall  
22 what the Twitter page was.

23                  Q.        Melissa told you that there was  
24 a corresponding Twitter handle?

25                  A.        She asked if I could assist in

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2 drafting tweets, so I inferred that the  
3 Twitter handle was related.

4                   Q.         Did she tell you that the  
5 tweets that you had drafted had in fact  
6 been posted?

7                   A.         She did not communicate that,  
8 no.

9                   Q.         Did you form an understanding  
10 that they had been posted?

11                   MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

12                   A.         Yes.

13                   Q.         Based on what?

14                   A.         Seeing them on the Twitter  
15 page.

16                   Q.         How many tweets did you prepare  
17 for the Twitter page?

18                   A.         Roughly five or six.

19                   Q.         How did you provide those to  
20 Ms. Nathan?

21                   A.         I believe maybe Signal. I  
22 don't really recall.

23                   Q.         Do you recall communicating  
24 with Ms. Nathan on Signal regarding  
25 Ms. Jones?

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1                   K. CASE - CONFIDENTIAL

2                   A.        In relation to the tweet  
3                   drafts, yes.

4                   Q.        Do you still have those Signal  
5                   messages today?

6                   A.        No.

7                   Q.        Why did you communicate with  
8                   her on Signal?

9                   A.        I don't know.

10                  Q.        Did you frequently communicate  
11                  with Ms. Nathan on Signal?

12                  A.        No.

13                  Q.        You communicated with  
14                  Ms. Nathan to make sure that the messages  
15                  would disappear, correct?

16                  MR. BREED: Objection.

17                  MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

18                  A.        No.

19                  Q.        Was there any other reason to  
20                  communicate on Signal?

21                  A.        To my knowledge, no.

22                  (Case Exhibit 36 marked for  
23                  identification.)

24                  Q.        You are reviewing what has been  
25                  marked as Exhibit 36. It is a Twitter

1                   K. CASE - CONFIDENTIAL

2 account.

3                   Does this refresh your  
4 recollection that this is the Twitter  
5 account that you reviewed where your tweets  
6 were posted?

7                   A.        To my recollection, I was only  
8 aware of one of them. I believe it was Not  
9 a Stephanie Fan.

10                  Q.        You are aware of the Twitter  
11 account Not a Stephanie Fan?

12                  A.        To my recollection, that looks  
13 like the one that I was aware of.

14                  Q.        Your tweets were posted to Not  
15 a Stephanie Fan?

16                  A.        I don't know.

17                  Q.        But you weren't aware of any of  
18 the other Twitter accounts in Exhibit 36?

19                  A.        No.

20                  MR. BREED: Objection.

21                  Q.        Did Melissa create Not a  
22 Stephanie Fan?

23                  A.        I don't know.

24                  Q.        Did she explain to you that a  
25 Twitter account was being created?

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2                   A.        There was never a formal  
3 explanation. I was simply asked to draft  
4 tweets.

5                   Q.        Do you know whether Melissa had  
6 any other assistance in this?

7                   A.        I don't know.

8                   Q.        Do you know whether she worked  
9 with Jed Wallace on this?

10                  MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

11                  A.        I spoke with Jed in conjunction  
12 to Melissa as it related to the tweets.

13                  Q.        And what did you and Jed  
14 discuss?

15                  MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

16                  MS. EMERY: Objection.

17                  A.        The tweets.

18                  Q.        What about the tweets?

19                  A.        I provided them via Signal.

20                  Q.        Was it your understanding that  
21 Jed was going to post the tweets?

22                  MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

23                  MR. BREED: Objection.

24                  MS. EMERY: Objection.

25                  A.        I don't know.

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2                   Q.       Did you speak with him other  
3 than over Signal?

4                   MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

5                   MS. EMERY: Objection.

6                   A.       No.

7                   Q.       Did you speak with him other  
8 than with regard to sending him these  
9 tweets?

10                  MR. BREED: Objection.

11                  MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

12                  MS. EMERY: Objection.

13                  A.       I don't recall.

14                  Q.       Did you speak to him at all in  
15 connection with the first website?

16                  MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

17                  MS. EMERY: Objection.

18                  A.       I don't recall.

19                  Q.       Were all of your communications  
20 with Jed Wallace regarding Stephanie Jones  
21 done via Signal?

22                  MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

23                  A.       Yes.

24                  Q.       Did Jed Wallace communicate to  
25 you that he would like communications to be

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2   done over Signal?

3                   MR. BREED: Objection.

4                   MS. EMERY: Objection.

5                   A.        No.

6                   Q.        How did you understand that you  
7   were to communicate over Signal?

8                   A.        It's where the thread was.

9                   Q.        Was the thread among you, Jed,  
10 and Melissa?

11                  MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

12                  A.        Yes.

13                  Q.        Was anyone else on this thread?

14                  A.        No.

15                  Q.        Was that your only thread with  
16 Jed?

17                  A.        I don't recall, no.

18                  Q.        Did you have any other threads  
19 related to this topic -- strike that.

20                  Did you have any other Signal  
21 threads related to this topic of the  
22 Twitter accounts or the websites generally  
23 with Melissa Nathan and anyone else?

24                  MR. FREEDMAN: Objection.

25                  MS. EMERY: Objection.

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2                   Q.        After Ms. Abel brought you on  
3 to work with Wayfarer, correct?

4                   A.        Yes.

5                   Q.        Ms. Jones was not involved in  
6 Wayfarer hiring TAG, correct?

7                   A.        I'm not sure.

8                   Q.        To your knowledge, did  
9 Ms. Jones have any knowledge, or, I'm  
10 sorry, any involvement?

11                  A.        I don't know.

12                  Q.        Did you ever talk to Ms. Jones  
13 regarding Wayfarer?

14                  A.        I did not.

15                  Q.        When did Melissa Nathan tell  
16 you that Ms. Abel was leaving Jonesworks?

17                  A.        I don't recall specifically. I  
18 know it was around the time of her first  
19 conversation with Justin.

20                  Q.        Around Ms. Nathan's first  
21 conversation with Justin?

22                  A.        Yes.

23                  Q.        Do you recall approximately  
24 when that was?

25                  A.        Late July.

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2   not exactly sure what she did; is that  
3   correct?

4                   A.        That's correct.

5                   Q.        Do you have any ill will of  
6   Melissa Nathan?

7                   A.        No.

8                   Q.        Earlier you testified that the  
9   Alexander brothers were turned down by TAG  
10   as clients?

11                  A.        That's my understanding.

12                  Q.        Isn't it true that you yourself  
13   personally worked for them on the side?

14                  A.        I wouldn't qualify it as  
15   working with them.

16                  Q.        Are you saying you didn't  
17   perform any services whatsoever for the  
18   Alexander brothers?

19                  A.        It was requested that I connect  
20   with them to create a website in  
21   conjunction with their ongoing litigation.

22                  Q.        And that was not for TAG, it  
23   was outside of TAG, right?

24                  A.        I'm not sure.

25                  Q.        Well, Melissa Nathan turned

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1

2 CERTIFICATION

3

4 I, TODD DeSIMONE, a Notary Public for  
5 and within the State of New York, do hereby  
6 certify:

7 That the witness whose testimony as  
8 herein set forth, was duly sworn by me; and  
9 that the within transcript is a true record  
10 of the testimony given by said witness.

11 I further certify that I am not related  
12 to any of the parties to this action by  
13 blood or marriage, and that I am in no way  
14 interested in the outcome of this matter.

15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set  
16 my hand this 6th day of September, 2025.

17

18 

19 TODD DESIMONE

20

21

22

23

24

25