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APPEARANCES

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-oOo-

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15

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Richard F. Ensor, Esq.

VANTUS LAW GROUP

Salt Lake City, Utah 84121

3165 East Millrock Drive, Suite 160

```
00001
        IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
 2
        FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEBRASKA
 3 PLATTE VALLEY BANK, a )
 4 Nebraska State Bank, ) Deposition of:
                ) RYAN SECRIST
 6 Plaintiff,
                 )
                )
 10 TETRA FINANCIAL GROUP, ) 8:10cv59
 11 LLC, a Utah Limited )
 12 Liability Company, and )
 13 REPUBLIC BANK, INC., a )
 14 Utah Corporation,
 15
 16 Defendants.
 17
        September 29, 2010 * 8:05 a.m.
 18
         Location: Vantus Law Group
 19
        3165 East Millrock Drive, Suite 160
 20
         Salt Lake City, Utah 84121
 21
         Reporter: HEATHER WHITE, RPR
      Notary Public in and for the State of Utah
 23
 24
```

24
25

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            PROCEEDINGS
 2
 3
              RYAN SECRIST.
 4 called as a witness, being first duly sworn, was
 5
        examined and testified as follows:
              EXAMINATION
 8 BY MR. OLSEN:
 9 Q. Can you state your name for the record,
 10 please.
 11 A. Ryan Lon Secrist.
      Q. Would you spell your last name, please.
 13
     A. S-E-C-R-I-S-T.
 14 Q. What is your business address?
      A. 3165 East Millrock Drive, Suite 400.
 16 O. And that's in the same building that we're
 17 in right here taking this deposition, isn't it?
 18 A. Yes.
 19 Q. We're on the first floor and you're on the
 20 fourth floor?
 21
     A. Yes.
22 Q. Have you ever had your deposition taken
 23 before?
 24 A. Yes.
      Q. So you know how it works?
```

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### 00005

- A. Yes.
- 2 Q. You'll try to let me finish my question,
- 3 I'll try to let you finish your answer. And the
- 4 nodding of the head and uh-huh, huh-uh, the court
- 5 reporter can't get, so if you forget, we'll remind
- 6 you; fair enough?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. What have you done to prepare for this
- 9 deposition?
- 10 A. I have visited with my counsel, I have
- 11 reviewed previous e-mails and accompanying
- 12 documentation that was related to this transaction.
- 13 Q. Have you talked to anybody in preparation
- 14 for this deposition other than your counsel?
- 15 A. No.
- 16 Q. What is your position presently?
- 17 A. My title is executive vice president.
- 18 Q. And the name of the company?
- 19 A. Tetra Financial Group.
- 20 Q. How long have you been with the company?
- 21 Since January of 2003.
- 22 Q. Have you been the executive vice president
- 23 that entire time?
- 24 A. No.
- Walk me through your various titles.

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- A. I was, January 2003, I was a national
- 2 sales manager.
- 3 Q. I'll interrupt you as you go here. As
- 4 national sales manager, what were your
- 5 responsibilities?
- 6 A. My responsibilities were, I -- were to
- 7 manage a group of sales individuals.
- 8 Q. Do you remember how many?
- 9 A. That number has fluctuated over the years. 10 Anywhere from as little as three, up to as many as
- 12 O. Have those salesmen all been located here
- 13 at this office, or are they typically located around
- 14 the country?
- 15 A. They have always been located at this
- 16 office.
- Q. How long were you national sales manager?
- 18 A. I believe I was national sales manager
- 19 until, I don't remember the specific dates, but
- 20 approximately three to four years. At that point, I
- 21 was made, by title, senior vice president.
- 22 Q. How did your responsibilities, duties
- 23 change?
- 24 A. They really didn't, I was and still am by
- 25 job description a sales manager. It was really just

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## 00007

- 1 a promotion of title.
- 2 Q. And so then how long were you senior vice
- 3 president?
- 4 A. I was senior vice president until April of 5 2009
- 6 Q. And then you got promoted in title again? A. Correct.
- 8 Q. To your present title --
- A. Yes. 10 O. -- executive vice president?
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. But do I understand that even as executive
- 13 vice president, that your duties haven't changed?
- 14 A. Very little. I still -- I still manage a
- 15 group of sales individuals and act in a sales manager
- 16 function.
- 17 Q. Is one of those salesman Mark
- 18 Christensen -- or I'm sorry, Alan Christensen?
- 19 A. He was one of my salespeople.
- 20 Q. He's no longer with the company?
- 21 A. That is correct.
- 22 Q. When did he leave?
- 23 A. Exact date, I'm not sure. It's been in
- 24 the last three to four months of this year.
- Q. How long did you supervise him?

- 1 A. It was approximately two and a half, maybe
- 2 three years.
- 3 Q. Is there anyone else in the company that
- 4 has your same duties and responsibilities?
- A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Who would that be?
- A. There is another individual by the name of
- 8 David Johnson. And then there are two other sales
- 9 managers that report to Dave and myself. But 10 essentially the role is still the same.
- 11 Q. Is Dave also an executive VP?

- 13 Q. Who is the president of the company?
- 14 A. Scott Scharman.
- Q. Is he any relationship to Chris Scharman
- 16 with the Vantus law firm?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. What's their relationship; do you know?
- I do, they are brothers
- 20 Q. Did Scott have anything to do with
- 21 initiating or starting the company?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. What is your understanding about his role
- 24 in starting the company?
- 25 A. He was one of three individuals that

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### 00009

- started Tetra Financial Group back in 2002.
- 2 Q. Who were the other two?
- 3 A. A gentleman by the name of Harold Turley
- 4 and Lon Secrist
- Q. Lon Secrist, any relationship to you?
- A. Yes, he's my father.
- Q. Is he still with the company?
- O. How long was he president?
- A. Until April 1, 2009.
- 11 Q. Do you know why he left?
- 12 A. There was a change in ownership at that
- 13 point in Tetra Financial Group
- 14 Q. Who owns Tetra Financial Group?
- 15 A. The ownership of the company is broken up
- 16 between four individuals: Scott Scharman; myself;
- 17 David Johnson, who I previously mentioned; and Jordan
- 18 Greenwell.
- 19 Q. Has that always been the ownership of the
- 20 company, or is that the ownership when it changed in
- 21 April of '09?
- 22 A. That is the ownership that became
- 23 effective April 1, 2009. That has not always been
- 24 the ownership of the company.
- 25 Q. Prior to April 1, '09, what was the

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Page 9

- 1 ownership?
- 2 A. It was -- prior to that, and since
- 3 inception and to that point, or from inception to
- 4 that point, it was Scott Scharman, Harold Turley, and
- 6 Q. Did or does Chris Scharman have any role
- 7 with the company?
- MR. ENSOR: Other than outside counsel?
- MR. OLSEN: Yes, other than outside
- 10 counsel.
- THE WITNESS: No.
- 12 O. (By Mr. Olsen) Prior to January of '03.
- 13 what was your occupation?
- 14 A. I worked for Tetra Corporate Services.
- 15 O. What was Tetra Corporate Services?
- 16 A. They are also in the leasing business.
- Q. Did that company survive?
- A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Does it have any relationship to Tetra
- 20 Financial?
- 21 A. No.
- Q. It just carries the same first name?
- 23 A. Yes, it -- it originally shared a common
- 24 ownership with the three gentlemen that owned -- that 25 previously owned Tetra Financial Group; that is no

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- 00011 1 longer the case.
- 2 Q. How long did you work for Tetra Corporate
- 3 Services?
- 4 A. One year.
- 5 O. Prior to that?
- A. I worked for a company called Cintas
- 7 Corporation.
- 8 Q. What did they do?
- A. They are a provider of uniform services.
- 10 Q. As in the clothing?
- 11 A. Clothing, uniform rental.
- 12 Q. What did you do for them?
- 13 A. I was a sales representative for that
- 14 company.
- 15 Q. How long did you work for them?
- 16 A. It was not quite three years, about two
- 17 and a half years. That's not exact, but somewhere in
- 18 that range.
- 19 Q. And prior to that, what was your
- 20 occupation?
- 21 A. Prior to that, I was a college student,
- 22 and I did a little bit of -- in the mortgage
- 23 industry.
- 24 Q. What year are we talking about when you
- 25 were a college student? I guess I probably ought to

- 1 just ask about your education. Do you have a degree?
- 2 A. Yes, I do.
- 3 Q. What's that degree in?
- 4 A. I have a bachelor of arts degree in
- 5 Spanish, with a finance minor.
- 6 Q. That's pretty interesting. Have you kept
- 7 the Spanish up?
- MR. ENSOR: Si.
- THE WITNESS: A little bit. I wish I had
- 10 more opportunity to keep it up, but yes, I have,
- 11 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) So if we went to Mexico,
- 12 you could pick out a word or two?
- 13 A. I could -- I could handle myself down
- 14 there, so. . .
- 15 Q. Where is that degree from?
- 16 A. The University of Utah.
- 17 Q. What year?
- A. I graduated in -- I've got to think about
- 19 that, December of '99.
- 20 Q. Did you do any postgraduate work?
- 21 A. No.
- Q. Can you describe for me the kind of
- 23 company that Tetra Financial is?
- 24 A. Yes, we are -- Tetra is a -- an equipment
- 25 finance company. We finance equipment acquisitions

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- 1 for businesses under a lease structure.
- 2 Q. Is that the sole business of Tetra
- 3 Financial?
- 4 MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague,
- THE WITNESS: Yes, that's our -- that's
- 6 our general business.
- 7 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Okay, what is the size of
- 8 the company in gross sales?
- 9 A. I would have to look at our most recent
- 10 financial statement to give you an accurate.
- 11 Q. I don't need anything accurate, ballpark
- 12 is fine.
- 13 A. Boy, my -- it's by recollection only, but
- 14 somewhere between 18 to 24 million dollars in gross
- 15 revenue.
- 16 Q. The equipment transactions that Tetra
- 17 finances, how do they originate with your company?
- 18 A. We originate all our transactions through
- 19 a telesales environment, where we have sales
- 20 individuals on the phone contacting companies across
- $21\,$  the nation, finance departments, looking for
- 22 potential opportunities to finance.
- 23 Q. If that particular salesman in one of
- 24 those calls finds a company that's interested, is it
- 25 that salesman's responsibility then to follow up, and

- 1 does that transaction ultimately get assigned to that
- 2 salesman?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Are those salesmen paid on commission?
- A. Commission is part of their compensation
- Q. Describe to me how the compensation is
- 7 set.
- 8 A. They, the salespeople are paid a base
- 9 salary plus a commission on sales that are completed
- 10 And they're also incented with a bonus structure.
  - Q. Let's talk about the commission. Is there
- 12. a set rate of commission for completed sales?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. What's that rate?
- 15 A. They -- the salespeople are paid ten
- 16 percent of the total gross margin or gross profit
- 17 generated in a transaction.
- 18 Q. Can you take a typical transaction and
- 19 give me an example of how that commission is
- 20 calculated?
- 21 A. Sure. If we had, for example, a \$500,000
- 22 transaction, and if there was a -- if we calculated
- 23 at -- once that transaction had closed, that there
- 24 was \$20,000 in gross margin or gross profit in the 25 transaction, the salesperson would be paid ten

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- 1 percent, or \$2,000 for originating that transaction.
- 2 Q. And that profit is figured, is it not, on
- 3 the term of that lease?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Yes, it's -- it's -- there
- 6 are many factors that go into calculating, into the
- 7 gross margin calculation. Some of it is estimated; 8 because the transaction is at inception, it's not --
- 9 the commission is not paid just at the end of term,
- 10 we have to make some assumptions. And so ves, it is
- 11 based on the terms and conditions of the lease
- 13 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) That leads to my next
- 14 question, and that is, if you had a lease of five
- 15 years, as an example, where the customer was to be
- 16 making payments on a monthly basis during that five
- 17 years, is the commission paid upfront despite the
- 18 fact that the payments -- I mean, do you assume that
- 19 all the payments are going to be made for the purpose
- 20 of paying that commission?
- 21 A. Yes, we -- we pay them a commission
- 22 upfront. And some of it is also paid on, at the end
- 23 of term if everything is completed. So there is a
- 24 portion paid on the front and a portion paid on the
- 25 back

- Q. So does that mean then that the entire ten
- 2 percent is not paid upfront?
- A. The ten percent is paid upfront on the
- 4 estimated gross margin. If that gross margin happens
- 5 to change by the end of term, then that number could
- 7 Q. When you talk about the estimated gross
- 8 margin, you're making the assumption that all the
- 9 payments are going to be made as scheduled?
- 10 A. Correct.
- 11 Q. And if they're not, what happens to that
- 12 ten percent that's already paid?
- 13 A. The company assumes that
- 14 Q. And once that customer makes all the
- 15 payments required by the particular lease, then the
- 16 salesman who initiated and handled that transaction
- 17 is paid something further?
- 18 A. Possibly. If -- only if the gross margin
- 19 were to increase or be above and beyond what was paid
- 20 on the front.
- 21 Q. And give me an example of how that
- 22 happens. I'm sorry, I interrupted you.
- 23 A. No, that's okay. Oftentimes in a lease,
- 24 there are end-of-term options included in a typical 25 lease transaction. Because of that, we have to make

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### 00017

- 1 some estimations on the front end very conservatively
- 2 as to what will happen if the lease goes full term
- 3 and all payments are made. Based on our estimations
- 4 on the front, if we estimated a little bit lower
- 5 conservatively and a little bit more is collected on
- 6 the back end, we don't know what will be collected on
- 7 the back end of a lease in most cases. And if it's
- 8 above and beyond what was estimated on the front,
- 9 then that salesperson has the opportunity to make
- 10 some additional commission if there is more gross
- 11 margin than the estimated front end.
- 12 Q. How about the bonus, you indicated that a
- 13 bonus may be paid; what's the criteria for that?
- 14 A. The sales individuals have gross margin
- 15 goals that -- that have been put in place for them.
- 16 If they do a certain amount of gross margin in the 17 amount of deals that are closed, then they will
- 18 receive a -- a cash bonus at that point. There are
- 19 three tiers of bonuses that can be paid based on the
- 20 amount of gross margin that they originate as a sales
- 21 individual.
- 22 Q. Is that an annual bonus, or the potential
- 23 for that bonus is annually?
- 24 A. Yes, it is calculated in a calendar year.
  - Q. Now, based upon the commissions that we've

### 0001

- 1 been talking about, do you, as the executive vice
- 2 president and the supervisor of a particular
- 3 salesman, share in these commissions?
- 4 A Yes
  - Q. And how does that work?
- 6 A. I am also paid a commission for
- 7 transactions that are originated and completed within
- 8 my group of sales that I oversee.
- 9 Q. Is that over and above the ten percent
- 10 commission that you've talked about with regard to
- 11 the salesmen?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. So that ten percent isn't shared somehow,
- 14 your part of the commission is over and above that?
- A. Correct.
  - Q. Is your part of the commission a stated
- 17 rate?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. What is that rate?
- 20 A. I have some transactions -- that's a
- 21 two-part question, if that's okay.
- 22 Q. That's fine.
- 23 A. I have many transactions that were in the
- 24 works prior to my acquiring some ownership in the
- 25 company. Prior to that, my commission rate was three

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## 0001

- 1 percent of the total gross margin. On any
- 2 transactions post April 1, 2009, my commission rate
- 3 is five and a half percent of the total gross margin
- 4 that is generated.
  Q. How many salesmen do you supervise
- 6 presently?
- 7 A. I currently have four salespeople. And 8 then there is another sales team of five individuals,
- 9 which is managed by another gentleman, and he reports
- 10 to me as well. So I have my own team of four people.
- 11 and then I oversee another team of five, which is
- 12 managed by a different individual.
- 13 Q. And that manager reports to you?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 Q. How did the Heggem Construction matter
- 16 originate with your company? Mr. Ensor has been used
- $17\;$  to calling it HCI, and I'd like to do the same thing
- 18 if it's all right with you?
- 19 A. Yes. To my recollection, they were
- 20 contacted by Alan Christensen, who was, at the time,
- 21 one of our sales representatives or account
- 22 executives.
- 23 Q. How did you first become aware of that
- 24 contact?
- A. I would have become aware of it from Alan.

## 00020

- Q. Do you remember a date or a month or part
- 2 of a year when that could have taken place?
- 3 A. Specifically, I don't recall when it
- $4\,$  was -- was brought to me.
- 5 Q. We can agree, can we not, that it would
- 6 have been in 2008 sometime?
- 7 A. That's when most of the contact, it looked
- 8 like, it appears was taking place. There may have
- 9 been something, a transaction in '07, but yes.
- 10 Q. That turned into a transaction of
- 11 \$565,000?
- 12 A. Correct
- 13 Q. How does that compare with other
- 14 transactions in 2008, as an example, for the company?
- 15 MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Would you -- in what aspect?
- 17 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) That's a fair response.
- 18 Is it a small matter, large matter?
- 19 A. It's probably -- it's probably a little
- 20 under the average size of our normal transaction.
- 21 Q. I notice on your website, that you give a
- 22 range of \$100,000 to \$10 million. And so based on 23 your response, do most of the transactions tend to be
- 24 the smaller end of that spectrum?
- 25 A. The best way would -- for me to answer

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### 00021

- 1 that would probably be to tell you that our -- would
- 2 be, my opinion, that our transactions, the majority,
- 3 range in that, you know, \$500,000 up to about three
- 4 or four million, somewhere in that range
- 5 Q. And then you have others that would be
- 6 less in value, and obviously others that would be
- 7 more?
- 9 O. Who is Republic Bank?
- 10 A. Republic Bank is one of our bank funding
- 11 groups. They are, they assist in funding
- 12 transactions with Tetra Financial Group.
- 13 Q. Does Tetra Financial Group fund any of its
- 14 own transactions?
- 15 A. We have, but not -- not many.
- 16 Q. And so you use someone like, or some
- 17 entity like Republic Bank to do that generally --
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. -- to do the funding?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Are there others, other funding groups
- 22 other than Republic Bank that you're used to using?
- 23 A. Yes, there are a handful of others that we
- 24 will also use
- 25 Q. And when you compare the funding groups

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- 1 that you use, what percentage of funding do you look
- 2 to Republic Bank for in comparison to the others?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- THE WITNESS: This -- this would be a --
- 5 because I don't -- this would be a little outside my
- 6 area of expertise, it would be a guess. But probably
- 7 60, 70 percent of the transactions that we do with
- 8 these types of banks we would use Republic Bank.
- 9 O. (By Mr. Olsen) What would be the
- 10 frequency of the transactions that you would do with
- 11 Republic Bank, and let's just say on a monthly basis
- 12 as an example?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation
- THE WITNESS: It -- it varies a lot. It
- 15 could be anywhere from one transaction a month, up
- 16 to, you know, seven to ten transactions a month. 17 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) And how is the decision
- 18 made to go with the Republic Bank, as an example,
- 19 instead of one of the other funding groups?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- THE WITNESS: That's a decision that's
- 22 made by our credit department. They will look at the
- 23 transaction and determine where they feel it would be 24 best suited to send
- 25 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Are you familiar with the

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- 1 criteria that the credit department uses in making
- 2. that decision?
- 3 A. Some of it.
- 4 Q. What are you familiar with?
- 5 A. Sometimes it will be. I'm familiar that
- 6 there are different -- it may be based on the cost of
- 7 the transaction. Each transaction is priced 8 differently based on credit worthiness, and one may
- 9 be stronger than another. And we may have -- we may
- 10 be able to get a little better cost of money
- 11 somewhere at one bank than another. That's a big
- 13 Q. Do you participate in that decision?
- 14 A. No.
- 15 Q. You don't make any recommendations to the
- 16 credit department as to where you'd like to see the
- 17 business placed?
- A. No.
- 19 Q. Are there any similarity or any -- let's
- 20 put it this way. Are there any of your shareholders
- 21 who are shareholders, officers, or directors of the
- 22 Republic Bank?
- 23 A. I -- I don't believe so, not that I know
- 24 of.
- 25 O. Do vou know Mark Carpenter?

- 1 A. I've -- I do. I've never met Mark
- 2 personally, just via e-mail and phone, I've had
- 3 limited dialogue with him, but I know Mark Carpenter.
- 4 Q. I take it when you've had contact with him
- 5 by e-mail and by phone, it's with regard to
- 6 transactions that Tetra has initiated and either are
- 7 looking to place or have placed with his bank?
- 8 A. Generally, yes.
- Q. And do those include more transactions
- 10 than just Heggem?
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you remember how many transactions that
- 13 you personally have had to contact Mark Carpenter
- 14 about other than Heggem?
- 15 A. When you ask that, are you asking me
- 16 personally?
- 17 Q. Yes.
- A. Very, very few. I would say less than
- 19 three. I have very little contact with Mark
- 20 Carpenter.
- 21 Q. When you say you have very little contact
- 22 with Mark Carpenter, is it because structurally your
- 23 salesman would be the one that would have most of the
- 24 contact with Mark Carpenter in a given transaction? 25 A. No, the salesman would not have any

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### 00025

- 1 contact with Mark Carpenter, it would be from our
- 2 credit department
- 3 Q. So they would have the contact with Mark
- 4 Carpenter more often than you would?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. And when you have contact with Mark
- 7 Carpenter, what generally is the nature of why you
- 8 need those contacts with him?
- 9 A. In the few occasions I've had contact with
- 10 him, it would be typically in response to credit
- 11 inquiries of transactions we may have sent to
- 12. Republic Bank for their review.
- 13 Q. Can you give me an example of what you
- 14 mean by credit questions or credit transactions?
- MR. ENSOR: Do you mean a specific
- 16 instance he recalls, or just generally? MR. OLSEN: Just generally.
- THE WITNESS: Like I said, there's been so
- 19 few, I don't -- I don't -- my most -- I had one
- 20 recent contact with Mark Carpenter that involved a
- 21 different transaction, where we were discussing a
- 22 lease that had come to term, and it was, this one
- 23 actually was a -- was a pay-off item. And my chief
- 24 credit officer was not in, and so I made that contact
- 25 because he was out.

- 00026 1 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Now, with regard to
- 2 Heggem, when the contact was first made and you
- 3 became aware of it through Alan Christensen, what was
- 4 your understanding of the request or the need?
- 5 A. My understanding was that they were
- 6 looking to do a sale lease -- and leaseback
- 7 transaction on some used, generally I think
- 8 construction type equipment.
- 9 O. Do you remember if the type of transaction 10 changed in the interim period between the time that
- 11 you first became aware of it and the time that it was
- 12. actually closed?
- 13 A. By type of transaction, could you be -- if
- 14 you could help --
- 15 O. It's a sale, it turned into a sale and a
- 16 leaseback, did it not?
- A. Yes, I believe so.
- 18 Q. And that's what you have, what your
- 19 understanding was when it first originated?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 Q. Maybe it would be better if we look at
- 22 some documents.
- 23 (Exhibit-1 marked.)
- 24 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) I want to hand you what
- 25 the court reporter has marked Exhibit 1 and ask you

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- 1 if you can identify that document.
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. What is that document?
- 4 A. This is what we deem as our credit
- 5 application that we have a perspective lessee fill 6 out when we submit a transaction, prior to submitting
- 7 a transaction to underwriting.
- 8 Q. And this particular one is Heggem
- 9 Construction, Inc., is it not?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And can you see the date of it?
- 12 A. I think that's a -- is that a 9/11/08?
- 13 Q. I think it's a nine. If you look at the
- 14 top, there is a fax date up there, which kind of
- 15 helps, I think, determine that that's a nine.
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. Is that the way it looks to you?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. In the information, you show the bank
- 20 reference of Platte Valley National Bank in
- 21 Scottsbluff, and Mark Smith as the contact person; do
- 22 you see that?
- 24 Q. Who would have filled out this document?
- A. It happens one of two ways. We typically,

- 1 standard is we send this document and the lessee most
- 2 likely, Heggem Construction would have filled this
- 3 out. The other way that it could have happened was
- 4 we could have filled it out over the phone with them
- 5 on the call. But they, most of the time, will fill
- 6 this document out themselves.
- 7 Q. When you say we, is this a document that
- 8 you originate to the customer, or that Alan
- 9 Christensen originates to the customer, or someone
- 10 else for that matter?
- 11 A. Alan Christensen, the salesperson, would
- 12 have sent this document to Heggem to fill -- to fill
- 14 Q. And if it had been done over the phone,
- 15 Alan Christensen would have been the one to walk the
- 16 customer through filling this out on the phone?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. Mark Smith, do you remember personally
- 19 contacting either Mark Smith or anyone else at Platte
- 20 Valley National Bank about this transaction?
- 21 A. I do not.
- 22 Q. Do you remember ever being advised by Alan
- 23 Christensen, or anyone else at Tetra, that they had
- 24 made such a contact?
- 25 A. I do not remember being advised of that.

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### 00029 (Exhibit-2 marked.) 2 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) The court reporter has 3 given you Exhibit 2. Can you identify that? 4 A. Yes. 5 Q. What is it? 6 A. This is a copy of a, oftentimes what we 7 call a proposal or a letter of intent that would have 8 been prepared to send out to Heggem Construction for 9 review. 10 Q. When you say prepared, prepared by someone 11 in your office? 12 A. Correct. 13 Q. Is this again Alan Christensen? 14 A. Alan would have prepared this physically, 15 but the content would have come from either me or my 16 boss, the content that goes in the proposal. 17 Q. And at the time, in July of '08, who was 18 your boss? 19 A. Scott Scharman. 20 O. And he's still your boss, that's who you 21 report to? 22 A. Yes.

23 Q. So we can agree, can we not, that at least

24 as of July 7, 2008, there were discussions between

25 Tetra and Heggem about this transaction?

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```
A. Yes.
2
      Q. You remember I asked you the question
3 earlier --
4 A. Yes.
      Q. -- when you remember that first contact.
6 So at least we know that in July we're talking about
7 it: true?
    O. Now, the funding amount is listed there at
10 $565,430. And that's the amount that ended up in the
12 A. I believe it is. I -- if it's the exact
13 penny, I'm not sure, but I believe that is the
14 amount, yes.
15 Q. Did you have anything to do with providing
16 this amount?
        MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague.
18 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) I guess instead of
19 providing, that's probably a good objection, let's
20 talk about calculating this amount.
       MR. ENSOR: The amount set forth in --
         MR. OLSEN: $565,430.
23
        THE WITNESS: I did not.
24 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Do you know who did?
25 A. That number was given to us by the
```

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## 00031

```
1 customer, by Heggem Construction.
```

- 2 Q. How do you know that?
- A. I believe we have a list of equipment that
- $4\;$  they provided us, that's my recollection of -- that
- $5\,$  it was given to us. I don't have the means also by
- 6 which to come up with this figure, it is always a
- 7 number that is given to us by the lessee.
- 8 MR. OLSEN: Rick, I don't have a copy of
- 9 this. This is Exhibit 11 that you --
- 10 MR. ENSOR: I can either run you a copy or
- 11 I can read over his shoulder, whatever you prefer.
- 12 MR. OLSEN: I suppose I better mark it
- 13 though.
- (Exhibit-3 marked.)
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) I want to hand you Exhibit
- 16 3. Have you ever seen Exhibit 3 before?
- 17 A. This does look familiar. I'm not -- I'm
- 18 not completely sure if I have seen this exact
- 19 document or not.
- $20\,$   $\,$  Q.  $\,$  I should maybe ask it this way. This list
- 21 of equipment that you said that you got from Heggem,
- 22 that you remember seeing, do you remember what it
- 23 looked like?
- 24 A. Not specifically, no.
- Q. So you wouldn't recognize it if you saw

00032

- 2 A. I don't know what the -- I would not know
- 3 what the exact list looked like.
- 4 Q. But what you are testifying about is that
- 5 you remember a list of equipment that Heggem
- 6 provided?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And do you remember whether that list
- 9 included as Exhibit 3, all of his equipment, or if it
- 10 included just certain pieces of the equipment?
- 11 A. I don't recall.
- Q. The \$565,430, is it your recollection that
- 13 the equipment list that Heggem provided you had
- 14 values that added up to this?
- 15 A. Ye
- 16 Q. Is it your recollection that -- well, do
- 17 you know whether Tetra, or anyone on behalf of Tetra,
- 18 requested that list?
- 19 A. I believe that Alan Christensen would have
- 20 requested that list so that we knew what to put
- 21 together.
- 22 Q. Did Tetra, based upon your recollection,
- 23 participate in selecting the pieces of equipment that
- 24 you were looking to buy?
- 25 A. I don't -- I don't believe so. I don't

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### 00033

- 1 specifically recall, but I do not believe we were
- 2 involved in any of the selection of the equipment.
- 3 Q. So is that common in these transactions
- 4 for the customer to tell you what they want to sell?
- 6 Q. And is it also common then that Tetra,
- 7 based upon what the customer wants to sell, that's
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, form.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Yes, it's common
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Are there ever instances
- 12 where Tetra looks at the list of equipment that the
- 13 customer wants to sell and tells the customer, well,
- 14 we'll buy those, but we're not going to buy these?
- 15 A. That has happened. I wouldn't say that's
- 16 common, but it has happened.
- 17 Q. And is it common when Tetra looks at the
- 18 list of equipment that the customer wants to sell,
- 19 for Tetra to accept the values that the customer
- 20 attaches to each piece of equipment?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague, foundation.
- THE WITNESS: It -- it -- it would depend
- 23 on the -- the circumstances in the transaction.
- 24 Sometimes ves, sometimes no.
- 25 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) And when yes, and when no?

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00034

- MR. ENSOR: Same objections.
- 2 THE WITNESS: If -- it depends on what
- 3 our -- it can depend on many factors. It could
- 4 depend on what our -- the structure of our
- 5 transaction is, what our at-risk investment is, based
- 6 on the credit. You know, it can depend on if it's 7 even necessary to obtain a value or not. If the
- 8 equipment is one of our primary sources of recovery,
- 9 you know, in the event of a default, in many of those
- 10 instances, you know, we may require something like an
- 11 evaluation or something of the equipment. But if
- 12 we're secure, then it might not be necessary.
- 13 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Well, in the Heggem
- 14 transaction, was the equipment your primary source of
- 15 recovery in the event of default?
- 16 A. No.
- Q. What was?
- 18 A. In this transaction, our primary source
- 19 would have been a security deposit.
- 20 Q. A security deposit in the amount of the
- 21 proceeds from the sale?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, form, calls for a
- 23 legal conclusion, vague.
- THE WITNESS: It was a, my understanding, 24
- 25 a security deposit in -- in the full amount of the

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## 00035

- 1 transaction.
- 2 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Well, in this case, you
- 3 bought the equipment, you bought the Heggem equipment
- 4 for \$565,430; is that right?
- 5 MR. ENSOR: Objection, assumes facts not 6 in evidence, form
- THE WITNESS: It's my understanding that
- 8 that was the amount, yes, when we closed the
- 10 O. (By Mr. Olsen) And we don't have a
- 11 dispute on whether or not this was a sale. I mean
- 12 Tetra actually bought the equipment, did they not?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And they actually, and they paid \$565,430
- 15 for it; true? 16
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, form, calls for a
- 17 legal conclusion, vague.
- THE WITNESS: We did not pay Heggem
- 19 \$565,430, no. They did not -- we did not pay them
- 20 any money for the equipment.
- 21 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Did they just give you the
- 22 equipment?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, form.
- 24 THE WITNESS: No, the money -- the money
- 25 was -- was funded into a security deposit, is where

- $\begin{array}{c} 00036 \\ 1 \end{array}$  the -- the funds went. No funds were given to
- 2 Heggem.
- 3 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Well, I'm not -- my
- 4 question wasn't whether any funds were given to
- 5 Heggem, my question was that for the purchase of the
- 6 equipment, of Heggem's equipment, Tetra paid
- 7 \$565,430?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague, legal
- 9 conclusion, asked and answered.
- THE WITNESS: I'm not sure -- I'm not sure
- 11 I agree with the wording of the question, but yet the
- 12 transaction was for \$565,000. We did not pay Heggem
- 13 \$565,000 for that equipment.
- 14 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Well, you really did,
- 15 didn't you, it just translated into a security
- 16 deposit instead of in his hand?
- A. In that aspect, yes.
- Q. Right.
- A. Yes.
- 20 Q. And you put it in a security deposit
- 21 because you wanted to secure the payments that he was
- 22 to make on the lease, on the leaseback of the
- 23 equipment?
- 24 A. Correct.
- Q. And so getting back to my original

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### 00037

- 1 question, and that was that the equipment itself was
- 2 not the primary recovery source, the security deposit
- 3 was. So that being the case, then this figure of
- 4 \$565,430, Tetra really didn't care what that figure
- 5 was?
- 6 MR. ENSOR: Objection, form.
- 7 THE WITNESS: I can't speak for everyone
- 8 in the company, but yeah, I don't believe that was a
- 9 major issue as to what the value of the equipment
- 11 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Because regardless of what
- 12 the value of the equipment was, you were secured with
- 13 the \$565,430 security deposit?
- 14 A. Correct.
- 15 O. The Exhibit 2, on the second page, it
- 16 talks about the security deposit that we've been
- 17 talking about. And it looks like this proposal back
- 18 in July of '08 talked about a security deposit in the
- 19 amount of 40 percent of the original cost of the
- 20 equipment; true?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And so based upon this proposal of July 7,
- 23 2008, Heggem then would have received 60 percent of
- 24 the original cost of the equipment from Tetra if this
- 25 proposal had been accepted; isn't that true?

### 0003

- A. Correct, yes, that's true.
- Q. So then let's move ahead to September 18
- 3 of '08.
- 4 (Exhibit-4 marked.)
- 5 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) That's Exhibit 4 that the
- 6 court reporter has given you. Can you identify that?
- 7 A. I can identify it. I don't know that I've
- 8 seen this document, but generally I know what this
- 9 document is.
- 10 Q. Tell us generally what it is.
- 1 A. This is an approval summary which our
- 12 chief credit officer would have sent and then
- 13 received back from our bank, Republic Bank, approving
- 14 the terms outlined in this -- in this letter.
- 15 Q. Who is your chief credit officer?
- 16 A. His name is Jordan Greenwell.
- 17 Q. If you'll look on the first page, you'll
- 18 note now the security deposit must be equal to 100
- 19 percent of the equipment. Do you know why that
- 20 changed from 40 percent?
- 21 A. My general recollection is that at the
- 22 time when we were discussing the proposed terms of
- 23 this transaction, Heggem wanted, I believe it was
- 24 longer terms than what we had originally proposed for 25 them. And in order to accommodate some of their

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## 00039

- 1 requests, we had to increase the security deposit up
- 2 to 100 percent to give them terms that they were
- 3 comfortable with. And I believe it was in the form
- 4 of a longer term with a different payment amount.
- Q. Okay, if you'll look back at Exhibit 2,
- 6 the base lease term there is 30 months, and it looks 7 like Exhibit 4 is 60 months. Is that the extension
- 8 that you're talking about, or the extended term?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. On the second page of Exhibit 4, there is
- 11 a "Note: Rate on SD." Do you assume that that
- 12 refers to -- I'm talking about the handwritten note
  13 below Carpenter's signature, it says the "rate on
- 14 SD," and I'm assuming that's SD for security deposit;
- 15 would you agree?
- 16 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- 17 THE WITNESS: That would be my assumption.
- 18 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) It says the rate on that
- 19 security deposit to be one percent. Is it your
- 20 understanding that that's the interest that the
- 21 security deposit was going to generate while it was
- 22 in the possession of the Republic Bank?
- 23 A. Yes, that's what I would understand that
- 24 to mean.
- 25 Q. And then there was a spread to Republic

## 00040

- 1 Bank to be six percent. Does that suggest to you
- 2 that that was the rate of return from Republic Bank
- 3 for holding the security deposit?
- 4 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- 5 THE WITNESS: That one, I do not know.
- 6 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Do you know, like on the
- 7 proposal of September 18, 2008, how your gross margin
- 8 was figured for the purpose of looking at
- 9 commissions?
- 10 A. Yes, I generally know how to calculate
- 11 that, that figure.
- 12 Q. If you were going to calculate it off of
- 13 the September 18, 2008 proposal, how would you do
- 14 that?
- 15 A. What I would have to do is I would have to
- 16 use, I would have to take my calculator and run -- I
- 17 would just run a present value calculation based on
- 18 our cost of money to Republic Bank, the payments that
- 19 were going to be received, the term of the lease, and
- 20 any estimated, whatever the end-of-term provisions
  21 were to be included. And we would -- I would have to
- 22 run a present value calculation to see what type of
- 23 margins and that.
- 24 Q. And once this transaction was closed, did
- 25 you do that?

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### 00041

- 1 A. I -- I assume that I did, yes. I would do
- 2 that on almost -- I would do that on any transaction
- 3 that was -- that was closed.
- 4 O. Would you have retained those
- 5 calculations?
- 6 A. Probably not. Only in the form of I may
- 7 have a -- we receive a commission sheet, but I
- 8 don't -- I doubt I would have it this far back. I
- 9 destroy them after usually a year.
- 10 MR. ENSOR: Can we take a break when you
- 11 reach a good point?
- 12 MR. OLSEN: That's fine.
- 13 MR. ENSOR: Okay.
- 14 (Break.)
- 15 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Back to Exhibit 2, and the
- 16 funding amount of \$565,430, if that amount was
- 17 determined as, as you suggested, was there a need to
- 18 do the inspections that were done in this case?
- 19 MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague.
- 20 THE WITNESS: I think an inspection, yes,
- 21 we wanted to make sure the equipment was there.
- 22 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Was that the only thing
- 23 that you were looking to do, was make sure the 24 equipment was there?
- A. See as how I don't order the inspection.

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### 0004

- 1 that's kind of out of my -- I just take more of a
- 2 sales role. So that kind of stuff is, I'm probably
- 3 not best served to answer it. But I wouldn't see a
- 4 lot more reason than just, you know, it could be a
- 5 secondary source of collateral for us, but we just
- 6 need to make sure it's there, that they're not making
- 7 it up.
- 8 Q. Who is responsible for ordering those
- 9 inspections?
- 10 A. Under the direction of our -- of our chief
- 11 credit officer, they will have someone in our
- 12 operations department order those. It's -- it could
- 13 be a number of people.
- 14 Q. Who makes the decision on whether to order
- 15 those inspections?
- 16 A. Ultimately, that decision is made by Scott
- 17 Scharman and/or Jordan Greenwell.
- 18 Q. And you know in this particular case that
- 19 inspections were done?
- 20 A. Just because I've been told that there was
- 21 one done.
- 22 Q. You haven't seen the inspection reports?
- 23 A. I have not.
- 24 Q. When you were told that the inspections
- 25 were done, were you told that they were also, that

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## 0004

- 1 the condition of the equipment was related in the
- 2 inspection reports?
- A. I was not told anything about the
   condition of the equipment.
- 5 Q. The pictures of the equipment was taken?
- A. I wasn't -- I was not told any of that.
   Q. Commonly, what is your understanding of
- 8 when inspections are usually done by Tetra, or
- 9 ordered by Tetra?
- 10 A. I believe in almost, almost, if not all of
- 11 our transactions, we will send someone out to inspect
- 12 the equipment.
- 13 Q. And is that generally, is the purpose of
- 14 that inspection generally, as you've mentioned in
- 15 this particular case, in the Heggem case, to make
- 16 sure the equipment exists, they're not making it up?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
   THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 19 (Exhibit-5 marked.)
- 20 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Hand you what's been
- 21 marked Exhibit Number 5. Can you identify that,
- 22 please?
- 23 A. This looks like a copy of a -- of another
- 24 letter of intent proposal.
- 25 Q. It's dated October 21 of '08?

00044

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And this has the same funding amount, does
- 3 it not, of \$565,430?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And on the second page, it looks like the
- 6 security deposit is back to 40 percent; is that
- 7 right?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 Q. Do you remember why that was the case?
- 10 A. I do not.
- 11 (Exhibit-6 marked.)
- 12 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) The court reporter has
- 13 given you Exhibit 6. Can you identify that?
- 14 A. This looks like another approval summary
- 15 letter between Tetra and Republic Bank.
- 16 Q. Is that the final one, based on your
- 17 recollection?
- 18 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Because I didn't see these
- 20 documents, I don't know if this was the final one.
- 21 Based on the date, you know, it may -- it looks like
- 22 it was close to the -- to the final time, but I don't
- 23 know for sure.
- 24 (Exhibit-7 marked.)
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Handing you Exhibit 7.

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- 1 Can you identify that?
- 2 A. This is a copy of the -- of the Sale and
- 3 Leaseback Agreement between Tetra and Heggem.
- 4 O. And you've seen that before?
- A. I have seen the general Sale and Leaseback
- 6 Agreement, but I -- I don't get involved with
- 7 documentation. So this one I don't know if I've
- 9 O. Do you see the date, October 2 of 2008?
- 10 Do you know if this transaction was backdated?
- 11 A. I do not know.
- 12 O. Well, in looking at Exhibit 6, you
- 13 indicated that the date of December 30 of '08 was
- 14 near the time the matter was closed, so maybe that's
- 15 what I need to ask you. What's your recollection as
- 16 to when the matter was closed?
- 17 A. I believe that it was -- it was closed
- 18 around the end of that year, beginning of 2009.
- 19 Q. And you'd agree, would you not, that
- 20 Exhibit 7 shows a date of October 2 of '08?
- 21 A. Yes, I would agree with that.
- Q. And that Exhibit 7 refers to \$565,430 as
- 23 the purchase price; is that not true?
- 24 MR. ENSOR: Where are you reading from?
- MR. OLSEN: Paragraph two.

- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 2 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) And so you would agree
- 3 that that was the purchase price, that's what Tetra
- 4 agreed to pay for the equipment; isn't that true?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, form
- THE WITNESS: \$565,000 -- I agree,
- 7 \$565,430 was the amount of the transaction, yes
- 8 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) That was the amount that
- 9 Tetra agreed to pay for the equipment?
  - MR. ENSOR: Objection, form.
- THE WITNESS: Again, you know, I'm not
- 12 sure Lagree with the -- with the wording, because we
- 13 did not pay -- we did not pay Heggem Construction
- 14 \$565,000.
- 15 O. (By Mr. Olsen) Eventually we're going to
- 16 talk about the titles to some of this equipment. And
- 17 Tetra received a bill of sale for some of the
- 18 equipment and also received titles to the equipment,
- 19 some of the equipment, did they not?
- 20 A. I assume they did. I have not seen the
- $21\;$  titles, but I assume that they -- that they did on
- 22 the equipment.
- 23 Q. You would assume that Tetra would have
- 24 become the owner of this equipment that was being
- 25 purchased; isn't that true?

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## 00047

- A. Yes.
- O. So then what was the consideration Tetra
- 3 gave for owning or for receiving and then owning this
- 4 equipment?
- 5 A. The agreement was that we -- we would fund
- 6 a transaction into a security deposit in the amount 7 of 565, for which Heggem Construction, if they -- if
- 8 they paid all of their obligations over the term of
- 9 the lease, then they would have future rights to
- 10 those -- to that money.
- 11 Q. They would have gotten that money?
- 12 A. Once all their obligations were satisfied,
- 13 yes.
- 14 (Exhibit-8 marked.)
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) The court reporter has
- 16 given you now Exhibit 8. Can you identify that?
- A. Yes, this is the Master Lease Agreement.
- 18 MR. ENSOR: If I can state for the record,
- 19 it is missing a page, page 15 of 16.
- 20 MR. OLSEN: Is it?
- 21 THE WITNESS: I'm not quite back there,
- 22 so...
- 23 MR. OLSEN: I've got 15 in mine.
- 24 MR. ENSOR: Do you have 15?
- 25 THE WITNESS: I do not have a 15

00048

- MR. OLSEN: Do you want to make a couple
- 2 of copies of that?
- MR. ENSOR: Yes, let's go off the record.
- 5 O. (By Mr. Olsen) Go back to the Exhibit 8.
- 6 and you were in the process of identifying that
- 7 document. You also see that it's got a date of
- 8 October 2 of 2008; do you not?
- 10 Q. Would that document, and also the previous
- 11 document, Exhibit 7, would those have been documents
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. And so then I move on to --
- 16 O. (By Mr. Olsen) The court reporter has
- 17 given you Number 9. Can you identify that?
- 18 A. Yes, this is the Lease Schedule.
- 19 Q. That's also prepared by Tetra, is it not?
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. And that shows the total lease property
- 22 cost of \$565,430; that's the same figure that we've
- 23 been talking about?
- 24 A. Yes.
- MR\_ENSOR: Line seven? 25

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### 00049

- MR. OLSEN: Line seven.
- 2 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) And in line 11, it notes
- 3 that security interest will be junior in priority
- 4 only to the security interest held by the Platte
- 5 Valley National Bank. Is that something that you
- 6 knew?
- 7 A. Yes, I was -- generally I was -- I knew
- 8 that this was the case
- 9 O. How did you know that?
- 10 A. I had turned this over to our credit
- 11 department and counsel who put this together. And I
- 12 was informed by them that this provision was in
- 13 the -- the Lease Schedule.
- 14 Q. And is that then the first time that you
- 15 were aware that Platte Valley Bank had a prior
- 16 security interest in this equipment?
- MR. ENSOR: I'm going to object to the
- 18 extent it assumes facts not in evidence and calls for
- 19 a legal conclusion. You can answer.
- THE WITNESS: I was aware previous to
- 21 that, that Platte Valley had some sort of interest in
- 22 Heggem Construction and/or this equipment. And that
- 23 was the reason why I turned it over to counsel and 24 documentation for their input as to how we approach

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- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) How did you know that?
- 2 A. I knew that because part of our
- 3 documentation oftentimes may require a -- a type of
- 4 subordination agreement. And I was made aware that
- 5 one was sent to Platte Valley, but not signed.
- 6 Q. Who made you aware of that?
- 7 A. It was Heggem, through Alan. Alan came to
- 8 me and indicated generally that Platte Valley has not 9 signed the subordination agreement.
- 10 Q. Do you remember seeing the subordination
- 11 agreement?
- 12 A. I do not.
- 13 Q. Do you know whether one was physically
- 14 prepared? 15 A. I -- I do.
- 16 Q. And how do you know that?
- A. I -- in looking back through these
- 18 documents, number one, I -- I saw that one was
- 19 prepared. And in my general recollection of my
- 20 dialogue with Alan, in that there was -- that when
- 21 Heggem had come back and said Platte Valley will not
- 22 sign the subordination, it was -- that was evidence
- 23 to me that one was prepared and sent out. 24 O. And the fact that Platte Valley didn't
- 25 agree to sign, did that have any effect on the deal

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## 00051

- 1 with Heggem going forward?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation. That
- 3 doesn't sound like you were involved in the
- 4 communications with Counsel, but to the extent you
- 5 were, don't reveal attorney/client privileges,
- THE WITNESS: It -- it could have
- 8 potentially had impact. Like I said, when I was
- 9 aware or became aware that, I don't know why we had
- 10 sent out the subordination. When I became aware they
- 11 wouldn't sign it, that's when I turned it over to
- 12 Counsel and to documentation to see what they wanted
- 13 or proposed that we do.
- 14 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Your comment was that you
- 15 didn't know why a subordination was sent out. Does
- 16 that suggest that you didn't think one was indicated
- 17 for this transaction?
- 18 MR. ENSOR: Objection, misstates his
- 19 testimony.
- THE WITNESS: I -- to clarify, I did not
- 21 know why this was sent out, because I had not
- 22 reviewed or looked at any of the filings or anything
- 23 with Platte Valley, and I did not -- so I was unaware 24 as to why the document was prepared.
- 25 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Well, ultimately you know

- 1 the deal went ahead and closed?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you know what happened in the course of
- 4 closing that deal that made the inability to get that
- 5 subordination agreement not an issue? That was
- 6 terrible, let me try that again.
- MR. ENSOR: Do you want me to object?
- MR. OLSEN: Yes, why don't you.
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) I mean, the deal closed
- 10 without a subordination; do you know why? 11 A. Specifically, other than what I know was
- 12 prepared here, what we just reviewed in the Lease
- 13 Schedule, that's something I really don't okay or not
- 14 okay. It was just my understanding that -- that they 15 were comfortable with it for -- with what they put
- 16 together here.
- 17 Q. Well, Republic Bank ultimately agreed to
- 18 go along with it because they had the security
- 19 deposit, isn't that right, to go along without a
- 20 subordination?
- A. Yes.
- Q. So again, the security deposit was the
- 23 thing that made the subordination agreement moot?
- 24 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation
- THE WITNESS: I believe that's what it --

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### 00053

- 1 what it would be.
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Take a look at Exhibit 9,
- 3 and go to Exhibit A, to the Lease Schedule. Do you
- 4 see a list of equipment?
- 5 MR. ENSOR: I don't have it either.
- 6 THE WITNESS: I didn't get an Exhibit A,
- 7 I've got an Exhibit B.
- 8 MR. OLSEN: Really? I guess I've got copy
- 9 person troubles.
- 10 MR. ENSOR: Off the record.
- 11 (Break.)
- 12 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) We're on Exhibit 9, and
- 13 now we've got Exhibit A and Exhibit B attached,
- 14 thanks to Mr. Ensor making the copies. And my
- 15 question was with regard to Exhibit A, that schedule
- 16 of equipment; do you see that?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Is that the schedule that you remember
- 19 seeing, or is that a document prepared again by
- 20 Tetra?
- 21 MR. ENSOR: You mean is that the list of
- 22 property that he thinks Platte Valley sent to him?
- 23 MR. OLSEN: Right. Not Platte Valley,
- 24 Heggem.
- 25 MR. ENSOR: Heggem.

### 00054

- THE WITNESS: This is a document prepared
- 2 by Tetra.
- 3 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) So now the list of
- 4 equipment that's found there, is that the list of
- 5 equipment, I'm not talking about this specific
- 6 document, but the items of equipment that are shown
- 7 there, are those the items that were on a list that
- 8 you saw early on in this case?
- 9 A. I'm going to assume that they are.
- 10 With -- I couldn't identify all the equipment pieces,
- 11 and so yes I'll -- I would assume that they are.
- 12 Q. Look at Exhibit B, what is that?
- 13 A. This is a Casualty Loss Schedule.
- 14 Q. What's its purpose?
- 15 A. My understanding, the purpose of a
- 16 casualty loss is in the event of a casualty on the
- 17 equipment, if it's destroyed or something of that
- 18 nature, these are the amounts that are to be paid
- 19 depending on which month the -- in which the casualty
- 20 occurs.
- 21 Q. And do you know the total casualty loss
- 22 value, how that's calculated, where it comes from?
- 23 A. I do not, I don't do any of that.
- 24 Q. Is that the credit department again?
- 25 A. It would be more the documentation

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### 00055 1 d

- 1 department under -- under the direction of -- of my
- 2 boss, Scott Scharman.
- 3 Q. The casualty loss percentage, do you know
- 4 where that comes from?
  5 A. Again, same -- same -- same answer
- (Exhibit-10 marked.)
   Q. (By Mr. Olsen) The court reporter has
- 8 given you Exhibit 10. Can you identify that?
- 9 A. This is the Final Acceptance Certificate
- 10 to the -- to the lease.
- 11 Q. That's a document prepared by Tetra?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And the previous Exhibit 9, I'm not sure I
- 14 asked you that, but that was a document prepared by
- 15 Tetra as well?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 (Exhibit-11 marked.)
- 18 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) The court reporter has now
- 19 given you Exhibit 11. Can you identify that, please?
- 20 A. This is a Bill of Sale and an accompanying
- 21 exhibit of equipment.
- 22 Q. Have you seen that before?
- 23 A. I have not.
- 24 Q. We can agree, can we not, that it shows
- 25 Heggem as seller?

00056

- A. Yes.
- 2 Q. And Tetra Financial Group, LLC, as the
- 3 buyer?
- 4 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- 5 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Isn't that what the
- 6 document says?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And Exhibit A, take a look, that's the
- 9 same list of equipment, is it not, that's been
- 10 attached to the previous documents that you've been
- 11 identifying?
- 12 A. Yes
- 13 Q. That's a document prepared by Tetra?
- 14 A. Yes, I believe this is.
  - (Exhibit-12 marked.)
- 16 O. (By Mr. Olsen) The court reporter has
- $17 \;\; given \; you \; Exhibit \; 12. \;\; Can \; you \; identify \; that?$
- 18 A. It's a copy of a personal guaranty or an
- 19 Individual Guaranty.
- 20 Q. Is it common for Tetra to ask for personal
- 21 guaranties in these transactions?
- 22 A. Yes.
- 23 Q. And the date, this one is dated October 2
- 24 of 2008?
- 25 A. Yes

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### 00057

- Q. And this is a guaranty for Thomas Justin
- 2 Heggem; true?
- 3 A. Yes.
- 4 O. And who did you understand him to be?
- A. I understood him to be one of the owners
- 6 of Heggem Construction.
- 7 Q. I should have asked you with regard to
- 8 Exhibit 11. Would you take that back, that shows a
- 9 date of October 2 of 2008; does it not?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And back to Exhibit Number 10, that shows
- 12 a date, does it not, of January 2 of 2009?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. So can we agree that that's the date this
- 15 matter was closed?
- 16 A. It would just depend on your definition of
- 17 closed, we may have different definitions there. But
- 18 I agree this is the date on which they did the final
- 19 acceptance of the equipment.
- 20 Q. The Exhibit 9, I'm not sure I asked you
- 21 about that, but the date of that was October 2 of
- 22 2008; is that right?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 (Exhibit-13 marked.)
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) The court reporter has

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- 1 given you Exhibit 13. Can you identify that?
- 2 A. This is a Security Agreement
- Q. It's between who?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation
- THE WITNESS: It indicates that it's
- 6 between Heggem Construction and Tetra Financial
- 7 Group.
- 8 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) And Heggem is referred to
- 9 as the debtor; are they not?
- 10 A. Yes.
- Q. And Tetra is the secured party?
- 12. A. Yes.
- 13 Q. And down under collateral, do you see
- 14 that, number three?
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. The cash security deposit, is that the
- 17 same cash security deposit that we've been talking
- 18 about?
- 19 A. Yes, that's my understanding.
- 20 (Exhibit-14 marked.)
- 21 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Exhibit 14, can you
- 22 identify that?
- 23 A. Yes, this is an ACH payment authorization
- 24 form
- 25 Q. What was the purpose of that, or what's

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## 00059

- 1 your understanding of the purpose of that?
- 2 A. This would have been put in place in order
- 3 for Tetra to be able to debit the monthly payments,
- 4 the monthly rental payments on the lease from Heggem.
- 5 Q. That's a document prepared by Tetra?
- Q. What's the date of that document?
- 8 A. This one does not have a date at the
- 9 bottom. I'm looking to see if there's one in the
- 10 body of the document.
- 11 MR. ENSOR: It's undated.
- 12 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Can you tell from that
- 13 document that that's part of the transaction that
- 14 we've been talking about between Tetra and Heggem?
- 15 A. I would assume that this is, yes.
- (Exhibit-15 marked.) 16
- 17 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) The court reporter is
- 18 going to give you Exhibit 15. Can you identify that?
- 19 A. This is a Notice of Assignment document.
- 20 Q. What is your understanding of that
- 21 document?
- 22 A. My general understanding of this is that
- 24 MR. ENSOR: Let me just object on
- 25 foundation grounds. Go ahead

- THE WITNESS: My general understanding of
- 2 this document is that it assigns the payments of rent
- 3 to Republic Bank as they participate, because they
- 4 participate in the funding.
- 5 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) A document prepared by
- 6 Tetra? MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 9 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) The date of that is
- 10 October 2 of 2008?
- 11 A. Yes.
- (Exhibit-16 marked.)
- 13 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Exhibit 16, can you
- 14 identify that?
- 15 A. Yes, this -- this is an insurance
- 16 information form.
- 17 Q. Tetra wants to make sure in these types of
- 18 transactions where the equipment is being leased
- 19 back, that the lessee carries the insurance on the
- 20 equipment?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. So this is a document prepared by Tetra?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 (Exhibit-17 marked.)
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Is this 17?

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### 00061

- 1 A. 17.
- 2 Q. Can you identify that?
- 3 A. This is an invoice from Tetra to Heggem,
- 4 and a copy of a check. It appears to be -- have
- 5 been, not a cancelled check, but a check that appears
- 6 to have been sent to Tetra for this invoice.
- 7 Q. The amount, it says documentation fees
- 8 \$350, and the remainder due on deposit \$435.39; do
- 9 you know what those amounts are for?
- 10 A. Yes, the documentation fee of \$350 is
- 11 simply that, it's a fee that we charge internally to
- 12 1 6 1 6 1 6 1 6 1 1 1
- 12 each of our lessees for the preparation of all the
- 13 documents. The remainder due on deposit, my
- 14 understanding of that is that the -- most of our
- 15 transactions have an initial deposit upfront that is
- 16 paid, and it is -- which is applied to the final
- 17 payment of base term rent under the lease. And we
- 18 collect one, an amount equal to one month's rent
- 19 upfront to be applied to that payment. It looks like
- 20 we did not have one full month on hand, and so the --
- 21 there was \$435.39 which needed to be collected in
- 22 order to make sure we had one full month deposit to
- 23 last payment.
- 24 Q. Back on Exhibit 9, it shows a monthly
- 25 payment of \$11,591.32, so based on what you've just

### 0006

- 1 said, does that mean that the \$435,39 would be the
- 2 balance of a monthly payment of \$11,591.32 that
- 3 hadn't been received?
- 4 A. Yes, that would be my understanding.
- 5 Q. Okay.
- 6 (Exhibit-18 marked.)
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Exhibit 18, can you
- 8 identify that?
- 9 A. Yes, this is a -- an Approval Checklist
- 10 that is provided to me by our chief credit officer
- 11 once an approval is issued on a transaction, and a
- 12 copy of what looks to be a check from Heggem
- 13 Construction. I believe this would be the check for
- 14 the one month deposit to last.
- 15 Q. Or actually part of the --
- 16 A. Part of the one month deposit to last.
- 17 Q. The other 400 and some odd dollars that
- 18 you just identified on that invoice would have been
- 19 the balance of it?
- 20 A. Correct.
- 21 MR. ENSOR: On the deposit for the last
- 22 month?
- 23 THE WITNESS: Yes, that's my
- 24 understanding. If you were to add those two
- 25 together, I believe it would calculate.

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## 00063

- (Exhibit-19 marked.)
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) The court reporter is
- 3 going to give you Exhibit 19. Can you identify that?
   4 A. This is a Sales and Assignment Agreement.
- 5 O. Who is it between?
- 6 A. Between Tetra Financial Group and Republic
- 7 Bank.
- 8 Q. Dated?
- A. December 31, 2008.
- 10 Q. What is your understanding of this
- 11 document?
- 12 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Not being a documentation
- 14 person, this -- I can't really -- I cannot speak
- 15 intelligently about this document.
- 16 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Have you seen the document
- 17 before?
- 18 A. I have seen -- I have seen a general copy
- 19 of this document, but I don't know that I've ever
- 20 read it in its entirety.
- 21 Q. It's signed by Harold Turley. Who is
- 22 Harold Turley?
- 23 A. Harold Turley was previously the -- one of
- 24 the previous owners of Tetra Financial Group.
- Q. At the time that he signed this, would he

- 00064
- 1 have been secretary/treasurer of the company?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. He would have had the authority to sign
- 4 this document, as far as you know?
- 5 A. Yes.
- Q. And in paragraph one, it refers to leased
- 7 property designated in the schedule, and it refers to
- 8 Lease Schedule No. 1. Do you know whether that
- $9\ \ refers to Exhibit Number 9?$
- 10 A. I believe it does, yes.
- 11 (Exhibit-20 marked.)
- 12 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) The court reporter has
- 13 given you Exhibit 20. Have you seen that before?
- 14 A. I have not seen this before.
- 15 Q. That's addressed to Mark Carpenter at
- 16 Republic Bank; is it not?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And it's a direction to him to wire
- 19 transfer the proceeds of the sale. Do you know what
- 20 sale that's referring to?
- 21 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- 22 THE WITNESS: I would assume it refers to
- 23 this -- this lease transaction.
- 24 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Well, the re on the letter
- 25 says Heggem Construction Master Lease Agreement, does

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## 1 it not, the Lease Schedule No. 1? 2 A. Yes. 3 Q. Those are the same documents you've 4 identified; isn't that right? 6 Q. And the amount that's shown on there, the 7 \$565,430, is the amount of the security deposit that 8 we've been talking about; is that right? 9 A. Yes. 10 Q. What is the nine, do you know what the 11 \$9,531 is? 12 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation. 13 THE WITNESS: I do not. 14 15 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Exhibit 21, can you 16 identify that? No, I have never seen this document. 18 O. The last one. Exhibit 20, was dated 19 December 31, 2008, and that's the same date of 20 Exhibit 21; is it not? 21 A. Yes.

Q. It again, does it not refer to Heggem

24 Schedule No. 12

25 A. Yes.

23 Construction, the Master Lease Agreement and Lease

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2 identified previously in this matter; is it not? A. Yes. 4 Q. And does it look to you like Mr. Turley, 5 on behalf of Tetra, is sending Republic Bank 6 documents for their execution? 7 A. I'm not sure for their execution, this one 8 looks like it's for their review. I don't think -9 it doesn't look like there's a place for them to sign 10 this. Oh, I see what you're saying, these documents 12 O. Right. 13 A. Yes. 14 Q. And at the time of December 31, 2008, 15 Mr. Turley would have been authorized to act on 16 behalf of Tetra; is that right? A. Yes. (Exhibit-22 marked.) 19 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) You've been given Exhibit 20 22. Can you identify that? 21 A. Only by what it says on here, I have not 22 seen this document. It says Commercial Security 23 Agreement. You can identify it based on what it says. 25 is a Commercial Security Agreement, between Heggem

Q. Those are the same documents you've

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## 00067

1 and Platte Valley National Bank; is that true?

2 A. Yes.

 ${\it Q.}\quad {\it And it's dated March 13 of 2002?}$ 

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. In the course of your duties with Tetra,

6 on occasion do you have to review commercial security

7 agreements?

8 A. No.

Q. So you're not familiar with the standard

10 provisions of a commercial security agreement?

11 MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague.

12 THE WITNESS: No, I'm not.

13 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Are you familiar with

14 secured transactions enough to know that generally a

15 debtor is not entitled to sell equipment that's

16 subject to a prior security agreement without the

17 permission of that security party holder?

18 MR. ENSOR: Objection, calls for a legal

19 conclusion, vague.

20 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, can I have you

21 repeat that question?

MR. ENSOR: Do you want to read it back?

23 MR. OLSEN: No, I'll rephrase.

24 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Are you familiar with

25 secured transactions to the extent that you know they

## 00068

1 generally provide for a provision preventing a debtor

2 from selling secured equipment without the secured

3 party, previous secured party's consent?

4 MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague, foundation,

5 calls for a legal conclusion.

6 THE WITNESS: I believe generally I

7 understand that, yes.

8 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Do you know if Platte

9 Valley Bank's consent was secured -- was received in

10 this particular case for Heggem to sell its equipment

11 to Tetra?

12 A. The only thing I know relative to Platte

13 Valley is that -- that they did not sign our

14 subordination agreement.

15 Q. Do you know how Tetra accounted for this

16 transaction on its books?

17 A. No.

18 Q. What did you understand was Heggem's need

19 for this transaction?

20 A. It was my general understanding that

21 they -- they needed this in order to -- it was to

22 improve, somehow improve the presentation of their

23 balance sheet financial statements in some way. I

24 don't understand bonding, things like that, but that

25 was -- they were needing some sort of bonding, and

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### 00069

- 1 needed -- this was going to help in the -- improve
- 2 presentation of financial statements, which consisted
- 3 of that, something to that regard.
- 4 Q. Did the \$565,430 have any relationship to
- 5 the value of the equipment that Tetra bought?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague.
- THE WITNESS: I -- I don't know, because I
- 8 don't know what the -- what the value was at the time
- 9 that we closed the transaction.
- 10 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) You didn't have it
- 11 appraised?
- A. Not to my knowledge.
- 13 Q. On occasion, does Tetra employ an
- 14 appraiser to give it an opinion with regard to the
- 15 value of equipment?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And in what instances does Tetra do that?
- 18 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation. You
- 19 can answer.
- THE WITNESS: It depends, I believe, on 20
- 21 the -- whether we do an appraisal or not is not my
- 22 call. But it's generally based on what are -- the
- 23 structure of our transaction, how the transaction is 24 set up, what our exposure is relative to, you know,
- 25 the impact of the value of the collateral and how

- that can potentially impact the transaction.
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Go back to Exhibit Number
- 3 9, if you would, please. Referring back again to
- 4 paragraph 11, you said before that you were aware
- 5 that Platte Valley Bank had a prior security
- 6 interest. Do you know why their name wasn't put on
- 7 the security deposit?
- 8 A. I don't -- my understanding --
  - MR, ENSOR: Objection, incomplete
- 10 hypothetical, speculation. Go ahead. THE WITNESS: That's -- that -- I don't
- 12 know why, other than I don't believe that was
- 13 their -- that they were entitled to that security
- 14 deposit.
- 15 O. (By Mr. Olsen) Why don't you believe they
- 16 were entitled to that security deposit?
- 17 A. Because the security deposit, in my
- 18 understanding, was related to this transaction, and
- 19 it was held in the name of, I believe Republic Bank.
- 20 Q. Well, that \$565,430 was the same \$565,430
- 21 that Tetra bought the equipment for, wasn't it?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague, form.
- THE WITNESS: The amount of security
- 24 deposit was equal to the amount of equipment that we

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- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) I mean, the \$565,430 in
- 2 the purchase agreement between Tetra and Heggem is
- 3 the same \$565,430 that ended up in the security
- 4 deposit at the Republic Bank; isn't that true?
- 5 MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague, form, THE WITNESS: The amounts are the same
- 7 yes.
- 8 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) I mean, we don't have two
- 9 \$565,430's, it's the same amount?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Okay. So the \$565,430 that was
- 12 consideration for purchasing the equipment by Tetra,
- 13 instead of ending up as cash in Heggem's possession,
- 14 ended up in a security deposit conditional upon his
- 15 taking care of his payments under the lease?
- MR, ENSOR: Objection, vague, calls for a
- 17 legal conclusion in regard to consideration. You can
- 18 answer.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Could you read that back
- 20 actually?
- 21 (The last question was read back.)
- 22 MR. ENSOR: Same objections
- THE WITNESS: Yes, I believe that's
- 24 accurate.
- 25 (Exhibit-23 marked.)

- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Can you identify Exhibit
- 2 23?
- 3 A. It's -- this looks like a statement from
- 4 Republic Bank on the security deposit that is being
- 5 held for this transaction
- 6 Q. Have you seen that before?
  - A. I have not.
- 8 Q. It shows Heggem Construction on that
- 9 screen print; does it not?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Do you know whether that's the security
- 12 deposit that we've been talking about, at Republic
- 13 Bank?
- 14 A. I -- I can only assume that it is.
- Q. Is this lease what they commonly refer to
- 16 as a purchase or return renewal lease?
- 17 A. I don't -- those are -- those are options
- 18 at the end of the lease to either, you know, purchase
- 19 the equipment or return it or extend the lease. We
- 20 refer to it commonly as a true lease.
- 21 Q. Those options at the end, is that what
- 22 Senator Bramble has been fussing about?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague, unclear on
- 24 foundation.
- THE WITNESS: Been, yeah, there was -- a

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- 1 few years ago, yes, that was something that he was --
- 2 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Did he introduce
- 3 legislation to restrict those kind of leases?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation
- THE WITNESS: Not to my knowledge
- 6 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) The lease provided for
- 7 \$11,591.32 for 60 months. And you keep referring to
- 8 options, and the options at the end of that lease
- 9 would have been what?
- 10 A. I'd have to confirm by looking at the
- 11 master lease, but the standard options are to buy out
- 12 the lease, you can extend it, or -- or return the
- 13 collateral
- 14 Q. Buying out the lease, what has to happen
- 15 at the end of the -- assuming all payments are made,
- 16 to do that?
- 17 A. It's the responsibility of the lessee to
- 18 provide us notice of what they intend to do at the
- 19 end of term. And if they elect to buy it, as you
- 20 indicated, or to purchase the -- buy out the lease, I
- 21 submit that request to the finance committee, and
- 22 they will come up with a figure, tell me what that
- 23 figure is, and I will present that to the lessee for
- 24 their review
- 25 Q. I take it that generally that figure isn't

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- 1 a dollar?
- 2 A. It is a dollar
- Q. It is a dollar?
- MR ENSOR: Dollar amount
- THE WITNESS: Dollar amount
- 6 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) I'm talking about one
- 7 dollar?
- 8 A. In a true lease, no, it's not. We do have
- 9 leases that are, have a one dollar buy-out option at
- 10 the end, but not --
- 11 Q. Go ahead.
- 12 A. But this one is not a -- a true lease.
- 13 that is not the case.
- 14 Q. So what's the difference between a true
- 15 lease and the type of lease that you've just
- 16 described that the buy-out would be a dollar?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection to the extent it
- 18 calls for a legal conclusion.
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) One dollar?
- MR. ENSOR: And foundation.
- THE WITNESS: Really, the way I have
- 22 always -- it's been explained to me is that, one,
- 23 there are not options in a dollar buy-out lease. At
- 24 the end of the lease you buy the equipment for one 25 dollar. In a true lease, you have the flexibility of

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## 00075

- 1 either buying it, extending it, or returning the
- 2 collateral.
- 3 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) If it's extended, I'm
- 4 sorry, if the customer asks for that lease to be
- 5 extended, then what happens then?
- 6 A. Then it will -- it extends for a period of
- 7 12 additional months.
- 8 Q. Under the same terms and conditions?
- 10 O. And then you said, I think, the other one
- 11 was to negotiate a purchase?
- A. Correct.
- 13 Q. And then what goes into that?
- 14 A. Again, they will provide us notice that
- 15 they want to purchase it. I submit a request to our
- 16 finance committee, letting them know the lessee has
- 17 elected to buy out the lease at the end. And they 18 will provide me a dollar figure as to what that
- 19 buy-out should be.
- 20 Q. Is it the true lease a couple of years ago
- 21 that came under fire in Utah or that Senator Bramble
- 22 was concerned about?
- 23 A. Yes, the -- the -- what he was concerned
- 24 about would have been in a true lease structure.
- Q. If you'd take Exhibit 20 back a minute,

- 1 your secretary/treasurer in that letter referred to
- 2 proceeds of the sale. Do you disagree with his
- 3 characterization of the \$565,430 as proceeds of the
- 4 sale?
- 5 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation, vague
- 6 to the extent it's asking for a legal conclusion.
- THE WITNESS: Again, I don't -- I've never
- 8 seen this document, I don't know if it -- if I agree
- 9 or disagree. We prepared it, so -
- 10 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Okay, that's fine. I want
- 11 to talk just a little bit about inspections. And I
- 12 have a packet of documents here that include
- 13 inspection reports, and it shows that inspections
- 14 were done by T.J. Christopher. Do you know who that
- 16 A. No.
- 17 MR. ENSOR: Is that a company or an
- MR. OLSEN: I think it's an individual.
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Or reviewed by a Dave
- 21 Pickett; do you know who that person is?
- 22 A. No.
- Q. A Ron Moore?
- 24 A. No.
- Q. An Amy Eckardt?

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### 00077

- 1 A. No.
- 2 Q. I take it that you knew that inspections
- 3 were being done, as I think you've said, to make sure
- 4 that the equipment was there and that they -- they
- 5 were being truthful about the fact that it existed.
- 6 But you don't know anything about, you've never
- 7 reviewed the inspection reports?
- A. No.
- Q. You've never seen the photos of the pieces
- 10 of equipment?
- 11 A. No.
- 12 Q. Now, who would have ordered the
- 13 inspections again? You've said that already, I can't
- 14 remember what you said.
- 15 A. Under the direction of either Scott
- 16 Scharman or Jordan Greenwell. Someone in operations,
- 17 typically people in our documentation department
- 18 order those inspections.
- 19 Q. When you say order the inspections, do
- 20 they contract with an outside company to do that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. Do you know who that is?
- 23 A. I know the names of a couple of companies
- 24 that we've used in the past. I don't know -- I don't
- 25 believe it's the same company every time, I think it

### 0007

- 1 depends on where it's located.
- 2 Q. What companies do you know?
- A. I know of a company called Quiktrak and I
- 4 know of a company called Lease Inspection. I'm not
- 5 familiar with any others.
- 6 Q. You talked about knowing that Heggem would
- 7 use the \$565,430 on its financial statement for
- 8 bonding purposes?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And I think you said that you didn't know
- 11 whether the \$565,430 had any relationship to the
- 12 value of the equipment?
- 13 A. Yes.
- 14 Q. I guess from that, then Tetra doesn't
- 15 concern itself with what the customer intends to use
- 16 the transaction for in his own personal business?
- 17 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- 18 THE WITNESS: No, I wouldn't say that
- $19\;\; I$  -- as it relates to how they account for it or the
- 20 benefit that they get from how they account for it is
- 21 what -- that's of no consequence to us.
- 22 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Well, would it concern you
- 23 at all that someone who has been requested to bond24 Heggem, looking at their financial statements saw a
- 25 deposit such as what took place here for \$565,430 and

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## 00079

- 1 had no relationship to the value of the equipment
- 2 that supported it?
- 3 MR. ENSOR: Objection, incomplete
- 4 hypothetical, speculation, form.
- 5 THE WITNESS: I -- it wouldn't -- I
- 6 wouldn't be the one to answer that question.
- 7 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Who would?
- 8 A. Probably my boss, Scott Scharman.
- 9 Q. As I recall, you said you hadn't seen
- 10 titles?
- 11 A. Correct.
- 12 Q. And you haven't seen the titles to the
- 13 property in Tetra's name?
- 14 A. Correct, I have not.
- 15 MR. ENSOR: For the record, I don't think
- 16 all of the equipment has titles.
- 17 MR. OLSEN: No, it doesn't. It's only --
- 18 in fact, let's just do one of these.
- 19 (Exhibit-24 marked.)
- 20 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Can you identify Exhibit
- 21 24?
- 22 A. They appear to be certificates of title.
- 23 Q. The first one, just as an example, is for
- 24 a 1991 Mack truck; true?
- 25 A. True.

00080

- MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation. That's
- 2 what's written on the document, we'll agree to that,
- 3 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Is that right, that's
- 4 what's on the document?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Do you know whether a 1991 Mack truck was
- 7 included in the purchase that you made, that Tetra
- 8 made of equipment from Heggem?
- 9 A. I would have to look at the exhibit.
- Q. So look at the exhibit.
- 11 MR. ENSOR: Be clear on which exhibit
- 12 you're looking at and which page.
- 13 THE WITNESS: I'm looking at Exhibit 9, on
- 14 page, the third page of Exhibit 9. There is a --
- 15 there is a 1991 Mack truck included on this exhibit.
- 16 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Okay, on Exhibit 24, it
- 17 shows the seller as Heggem Construction, and the 18 owner as Tetra Financial; isn't that right?
- 19 A. Yes, that's what it says on there.
- 20 Q. And based upon your looking back at
- 21 Exhibit 9, you'd have to conclude that that was one
- 22 of the pieces of equipment that Tetra bought from
- 23 Heggem in this transaction?
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Now, down below, it shows first lien to

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- 1 Republic Bank of \$22,500; do you know where that came
- 2 from?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. If you'd flip over -- no, Exhibit 24.
- A. Okay.
- 6 Q. Do you see the second page, it's a
- 7 document signed by Mark Carpenter. Have you ever
- 9 A. No.
- 10 Q. And then if you go, let's go to the end of
- 11 that document, Exhibit 24.
- 12 A. The last page.
- 13 Q. Just more titles.
- A. Okay.
- (Exhibit-25 marked.) 15
- 16 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Do you see Exhibit 25?
- 17 A. Yes.
- 18 Q. Do you know what that is?
- 19 A. They are powers, titled Power of Attorney.
- 20 Q. Is that a Tetra document?
- 21 A. Yes, I believe it is.
- 22 Q. And what's your understanding of the
- 23 purpose of it?
- 24 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation to the
- 25 extent it calls for a legal conclusion, as well.

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- THE WITNESS: I don't -- I do not -- I do
- 2 not know what the exact purpose of this document is. 3 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) The document states that
- 4 Tetra is a -- that Heggem is appointing somebody at
- 5 Tetra to transfer the license plates; isn't that
- 6 right?
- 7 A. Yes, that's what it says, yes
- Q. And transfer the license plates to Tetra;
- 9 is that true?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Now, just if you'll just thumb through the
- 12 rest of that document, there are other power of
- 13 attorneys that apply to other pieces of equipment; is
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And this document provided by Tetra would
- 17 be part of this Heggem/Tetra transaction; would it
- 18 not?
- 19 A. I would assume that it is, yes, but I've
- 20 never seen these.
- (Exhibit-26 marked.)
- 22 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Can you identify Exhibit
- 23 26?
- 24 A. They appear to be the vehicle sales tax

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- Q. May I just look at it a minute? I'm not
- 2 finding my copy here. I guess the question, and I'll
- 3 hand it back to you here, is that the new owner is 4 shown as Tetra, purchased from Heggem, the purchase
- 5 date of 1/5/09, and it refers to, the document refers
- 6 to various pieces of equipment; would you confirm
- 7 what I said is the case?
- 8 A. Yes, that's the case.
- MR. OLSEN: I need to take a quick
- 10 bathroom break, and I've got a few more things here
- 11 to talk about.
- 13 (Exhibit-27 marked.)
- 14 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Are you familiar with
- 15 Exhibit 27?
- 16 A. I'm familiar with this -- with this form, 17 yes.
- 18 Q. Have you seen Exhibit 27 before? 19 A. No.
- 20 Q. Do you see the date on it?
- 21 A. Let's see here.
- 22 Q. Down at the bottom
- MR. ENSOR: The date signed?
- MR. OLSEN: Yes. 24
- THE WITNESS: 9/26 25

- 1 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Right. And do you see
- 2 what -- that's a document produced by Tetra, is it
- 3 not?
- 4 A. Yes.
- 5 O. And on the left side, it's got a reference
- 6 to a checking account?
- A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And on the right side, the loans?
- 10 O. And do you see down under loans, down
- 11 toward the bottom, it says "good"?
- 13 Q. And that's opposite, what question are 14 they answering?
- A. Payment history.
- 16 Q. And then on the checking, you see down on
- 17 the rating, it says "satisfactory"?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Does Tetra have any quarrel with the way
- 20 in which Platte Valley answered that document?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- THE WITNESS: I'm not aware of any.
- 23 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Okay. Now, that reference
- 24 document, are you familiar with, in this case with 25 Heggem, that other reference documents were sent out

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### 00085

- 1 to other entities inquiring about Heggem?
- 2 A. There may have been, I --
- Q. Is that standard process?
- 4 A Yes
- Q. Can we call that due diligence, for lack
- 6 of a better word, or some investigation?
- A. Yes.
- Q. What's your understanding of why it's
- 9 done?
- 10 A. We -- I believe the company wants to get
- 11 a -- it just helps us get a better understanding of
- 12 what type of customer they are with other
- 13 institutions
- 14 Q. And that's true with regard to the
- 15 Secretary of State and the county and the bankruptcy
- 16 courts, and those kind of searches as well?
- A. Yes.
- 18 Q. And are you familiar with whether that was
- 19 done in this case with Heggem?
- 20 A. Meaning those other items?
- 21 Q. Yes, right.
- 22 A. I assume they were. I -- but I have not
- 23 seen them, but I assume that they were done.
- 24 Q. That's standard policy?
- A. Yes.

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MR. ENSOR: I'm going to object to

2 foundation

3 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) That would include Google

4 searches of the company itself; would it not?

A. It -- it could, yes

6 Q. And I assume that in addition there were

7 financial records that Tetra would require of the 8 company?

MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation,

10 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) In this case, Heggem?

A. Yes.

12 O. And is that for the same purpose that

13 you've stated here just a minute ago?

14 A. It is, it's -- I -- I believe it's a

15 little more in-depth with the financial statements

16 Q. Why is that?

A. And this is -- this is just my

18 understanding, but I believe that the financial

19 statements give a more detailed picture of -- of an

20 organization and their current situation and ability

21 to potentially repay obligations.

22 Q. In this case, when you had a security

23 deposit for 100 percent of the cost of the equipment,

24 why was it necessary to do all of that investigation 25 of Heggem as a company?

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## 00087

- MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- THE WITNESS: You know, again, I -- I
- 3 don't know why they -- they ordered it. I believe,
- 4 if I were speculating, it would be because we still 5 want to make sure Heggem is a legitimate company
- 6 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Does Tetra take issue or
- 7 quarrel at all with the actions of Platte Valley Bank
- 8 in the way in which they liquidated Heggem's assets? MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- 10 THE WITNESS: I don't know anything about
- 11 that, so I'm not sure. 12 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) So are you telling me that
- 13 as far as you know, the answer would be no?
- 14 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation
- THE WITNESS: I -- I don't know what the
- 16 answer would be, is what --
- 17 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Well, do you know whether
- 18 Tetra will take a position that Platte Valley Bank's
- 19 actions in liquidating the Heggem assets impaired
- 20 ultimate recovery of the debt?
- 21 MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague, foundation.
- 22 THE WITNESS: I do not know
- 23 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Well, the reason I'm
- 24 asking these questions, in Tetra's answer to 25 plaintiff's amended complaint, did you participate at

- 1 all in putting that together? I'm not going to mark
- 2 it. but I'll just hand it to you for your review
- MR. ENSOR: I'm going to object to the
- 4 word "participated." Counsel interviewed witnesses
- 5 before preparing any answers in this case, so in some
- 6 way, they participated.
- THE WITNESS: I may have discussed some of
- 8 these issues with Counsel.
- MR. OLSEN: That's fine.
- 10 O. (By Mr. Olsen) The fifth affirmative
- 11 defense says that Platte Valley has failed to
- 12 mitigate any alleged damage. Can you tell me what 13 the factual basis for that allegation is?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, it calls for a
- 15 legal conclusion, foundation.
- THE WITNESS: I cannot.
- 17 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Do you know who could?
- A. That would be a question I would pose to
- 19 my, either counsel or to my boss, Scott Scharman. 20 Q. Do you know what Mr. Scharman's role in
- 21 this transaction was, if any, during the time it was
- 22 being initiated and closed?
- 23 A. He would have had involvement in that I --
- 24 I do everything under his direction, so I would have
- 25 made him aware, he would have been involved in --

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- 1 in -- you know, as we put together structures and so
- 2 forth.
- 3 Q. Sometimes is, when you have a default
- 4 situation with regard to one of your leases, does it
- 5 make sense to try to keep somebody in business to try
- 6 to complete the lease, it gives you a better chance
- 7 of recovery?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague.
- THE WITNESS: There may be a situation
- 10 where that -- where that could make sense.
- 11 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) At least in this
- 12. particular case, in Heggem, there was a time when you
- 13 wanted to keep Heggem's payments coming in and rental
- 14 payments coming in so that you could cover your
- 15 commissions; isn't that right?
- 16 A. We certainly wanted to keep rental
- 17 payments coming in. And yes, commissions may have
- 18 been one issue from a sales standpoint, but generally
- 19 we -- it would have been -- we want them to keep
- 20 making their rent.
- 21 Q. If the rental payments that came in from
- 22 Heggem weren't sufficient to take care of the
- 23 commissions, would those commissions have to be
- 24 charged off?
- 25 A. What happens is, there -- the company will

- 1 do a charge back of commission if -- if there is a
- 2 first, typically a first or second payment default
- 3 on -- on a lessee. And the responsibility is to pay
- 4 back those commissions
- 5 Q. Does Tetra have any issues with regard to
- 6 Platte Valley's sale of the Heggem equipment?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation
- THE WITNESS: I don't know the answer to
- 9 that.
- 10 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) As far as you know, they
- 12 A. As far as I know, they -- they -- they may
- 13 or may not, I -- I literally do not know.
- 14 Q. And I guess I should have broken that
- 15 down. Does Tetra believe that the private sales and
- 16 the auction sales initiated by Platte Valley to sell 17 the Heggem equipment were not commercially
- 18 reasonable?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation.
- THE WITNESS: I was not a party to any of
- 21 that that was going on, so I -- I could not speak to
- 23 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Who was a party to that?
- 24 A. I'm not sure. I would -- that's something
- 25 we'd have to find out. Most likely it would be

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## 00091

- 1 either Jordan Greenwell and/or Scott Scharman would
- 2 be involved with that
- 3 Q. Did you have anything to do with hiring
- 4 Scott Tool to do an appraisal of the Heggem
- 5 equipment?
- A. No.
- Q. Have you seen the appraisal?
- A. No.
- Q. Has someone told you the value that
- 10 Mr. Tool came up with in the appraisal?
- 11 A. No.
- Q. If I told you that the value that he
- 13 assigned to the equipment was \$326,000 back in 2008,
- $14\,$  how would you reconcile that figure with the \$565,400
- 15 that ultimately became the sales price?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague, 16
- THE WITNESS: I'm not sure I understand
- 18 the question. How would I reconcile -- could you be
- 19 more specific?
- 20 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) How would you explain that
- 21 Tetra accepted and participated in a sale that
- 22 involved \$565,400 for the purchase, sale and purchase 23 of equipment, and didn't have it appraised, and now
- 24 the appraiser looking back has appraised it for a
- 25 couple 100,000 dollars less?

00092

- MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague, form,
- 2 speculation.
- THE WITNESS: My opinion would be that
- 4 they -- they gave us the values of those equipment --
- 5 of that equipment, and because we had a 100 percent
- 6 security deposit, it was not of as much consequence.
- (Exhibit-28 marked.)
- 8 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) I'm going to hand you a
- 9 group of e-mails that I have put into a packet that
- 10 the court reporter has now marked Exhibit 28. And I
- 11 just want to run through those quickly with you.
- The first one is March 20 of '08, that's
- 13 an e-mail from you to Alan Christensen; is that
- 14 right?

- 16 Q. And you say in there on the equipment, "We
- 17 will loan up to 75 percent of OLV of the equipment
- 18 per third party appraiser approved by Tetra"; what do
- 19 you mean by that?
- 20 A. I believe that I meant under this
- 21 structure, there was only a 40 percent security
- 22 deposit, so we had -- we still had quite a bit of 23 exposure, so we -- the value of the equipment came
- 24 more into play if this were to be the structure of
- 25 the transaction. And so the OLV, or the orderly

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- 1 liquidation value, is a value that can be put on the
- 2 equipment by a third-party appraiser, and we would
- 3 have been willing to loan up to 75 percent of that
- 4 number. So in the event that the transaction went
- 5 bad, there would have been some recovery value there
- 6 in the equipment.
- 7 Q. So this then didn't become necessary
- 8 because of the 100 percent deposit?
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. When it went from 40 to 100 percent?
- A. Yes.
- 12 O. The next one is March 26 of '08 from you
- 13 to Alan. What's IRB?
- A. By IRB I mean the incremental rate of
- 15 borrowing.
- 16 Q. What's the significance of that?
- A. What oftentimes lessees will, for their
- 18 financial statement reporting, will want a
- 19 transaction to meet operating lease criteria to keep
- 20 it off the balance sheet in their financial
- 21 statements, off of the debt portion and to not have
- 22 to capitalize it. In order to do that, one of the
- 23 financial accounting standards boards has outlined 24 rules or guidelines that they have to follow in a
- 25 specific transaction to meet, for a lease to meet

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- Q. And you show down there, or this is an
- 2 e-mail from Camie that you were copied on. And it

1 operating lease criteria. One of the calculations is 2 a present value calculation. And in order to use

3 that, or in order to make that calculation, there has

5 they call it the incremental rate of borrowing. And 6 they use that to make that calculation.

4 to be some sort of estimated rate, or in this case

7 Q. But you know in this case that Heggem

10 dialogue about operating lease treatment. But from

11 this e-mail, yes, it appears that that was the case.

13 Ryan, July 14 of '08. What's the, what did you

14 believe the import of, you may get a good laugh from

MR. ENSOR: There's not a starting e-mail,

12 O. Let's go to the next one. This is to

15 this; was ten percent so unreasonable that --

18 so it's hard to answer that. Look at the bottom

20 about the ten percent, what that was about?

25 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Okay. The next one,

19 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Do you remember anything

MR. ENSOR: I will just object to the

THE WITNESS: I don't specifically. It

16 A. Where does this one start?

22 extent the e-mail is incomplete.

24 would be speculation.

8 wanted to show this as an operating lease? 9 A. It -- I don't -- I don't recall a ton of

- 3 says subordination agreement for Platte Valley
- 4 National Bank, please have them print on their 5 letterhead prior to signing. Do you know what
- 6 happened to that document, I'm sorry, the physical
- 7 document?
- 8 A. No, I know it was sent to Heggem.
- Q. Do you think that Tetra still has it?
- 10 A. Like -- do you mean this, did we print one
- 11 out?
- 12 Q. Right, I'm talking about a physical
- 13 subordination agreement. I've not received a
- 14 document like that, and I'd like to know whether you
- MR. ENSOR: We should have the attachments
- 17 to this e-mail produced to you. Let me tab it and
- 18 I'll follow up on it.
- 19 MR. OLSEN: Would you do that? That's 20 fine, okay.
  - MR. ENSOR: I'm going to give that to you.
- 22 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Let's skip ahead to the
- 23 one at -- there's one at the top, Camie Thomas,
- 24 December 29, but the one below it from you to Camie.
- A. Okav.

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- $00095 \\ 1 \;\; \text{September 23 of 2008.} \;\; \text{"I think we don't have the}$
- 2 inspector call until Thursday. We will just tell
- 3 Heggem that our inspectors were not available until
- 4 then." What did you mean by that? This is to Camie
- 5 Johnson
- 6 A. I -- I'm not sure what I meant when I 7 wrote this. It looks like it was something relative
- 8 to the -- to the documentation, it had to have been
- 9 in order from -- if I was discussing it with Camie,
- 10 she's our documentation manager.
- 11 Q. So when you refer to inspectors, are you
- 12 referring to something in-house like your document 13 managers as opposed to those that were out in the
- 14 field looking at this equipment?
- 15 A. No, I believe -- I believe I would have
- 16 been referring to, just knowing how I use that word,
- 17 I would have been referring to the inspectors that we
- 18 engage to go inspect the equipment.
- 19 Q. So you were wanting to hold this up until
- 20 they reported back that the equipment existed?
- 21 A. That -- I think that's a fair, yes, a fair
- 22 understanding.
- 23 Q. We'll skip the next one and the next one.
- 24 Go to one that's October 7 of '08.
- 25 A. Okav

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- O. Talking about "There is really no funding.
- 2 but I just want to get it closed." What were you, do
- 3 you remember what you were referring to there?
- 4 A. I don't know exactly what I was meaning
- 5 what I meant. But I -- I assume I was just talking
- 6 about, you know, there was no funding going out to
- 7 anybody, but I just wanted to get it closed, did we
- 8 have everything we need.
- 9 O. December 29, the next one, from you to 10 Camie, the next e-mail. You say, "I don't want to
- 12 A. I'm sorry, the next page?
- 13 Q. Yes. She says to you, "I don't think our
- 14 closing with the bank should have any reflection on
- 15 when they add the transaction to their books," I
- 16 assume that's Heggem?
- A. Uh-huh (affirmative).
- 18 Q. Was Heggem fussing a little bit about
- 19 wanting some record of the transaction so that they
- 20 could get it on their books; do you remember that?
- MR. ENSOR: This e-mail looks incomplete
- 22 as well, so I'm going to ask on that basis.
- 23 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) I'm just asking for your 24 recollection
- 25 A. Vaguely, yeah.

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- Q. She says, "The closing date for them
- 2 should be the Acceptance date and the commencement
- 3 date will be January 1 regardless of our closing with
- 4 the bank." And then you say, well, I don't want to
- 5 draw any attention to the acceptance date at this
- 6 point, I just want to send them an e-mail by
- 7 Wednesday saying it's closed. Do you remember why
- 8 you did that, why you said that?
- 9 A. I -- I do vaguely remember something was 10 going on with them pushing to get something from us,
- 11 and we may have not had it.
- 12 O. Well, look at the bottom e-mail where you
- 13 tell Camie they want to get it on their books for
- 14 this year?
- MR. ENSOR: I'll just reiterate my
- 16 previous objection, this e-mail being incomplete.
- Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Do you see that?
- 18 A. Yeah, it -- it's -- I do agree that
- 19 they -- it looks like they did want to get it on
- 20 their books. I don't know what -- I don't know
- 21 specifically what I was discussing when I wrote this
- 23 Q. Okay, look at the next one, December 30 of
- 24 '08, you said, "There is no way these guys will be
- 25 able to handle 3 months of back rent." Why did you

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## 00099

- 1 believe there's no way they'd be able to handle three
- 2 months of back rent?
- 3 A. I can only assume it was because of
- 4 the financial condition of this company. If there
- 5 was -- if there was any back rent, I figured I
- 6 probably ought to discuss it with Scott and see what 7 we wanted to do there to make it feasible for them.
- 8 Q. Well, you asked for financial information
- 9 from them. Did the financial information that Heggem
- 10 produced suggest to you that they were deficient
- 11 financially?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague. 12
- 13 THE WITNESS: They were not a very good
- 14 financially credit -- financial credit company, hence
- 15 the 100 percent security deposit.
- 16 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Why weren't they very
- 17 financially -- what did you use, financially?
- 18 They just weren't financially sound.
- 19 Q. Sorry.
- 20 A. I just know that generally. Without
- 21 having the numbers in front of me, I wouldn't be able
- 22 to speak to it.
- 23 Q. What do you refer to at the end of that
- 24 e-mail when you tell Camie and Jamie Strode, "Don't
- 25 be mad. I know you hate this deal"?

- A. I don't know, it was probably just a -- a
- 2 friendly discussion with my documentation people.
- 3 Sometimes they get overwhelmed with the amount of
- 4 documents that are going on. I can only imagine it
- 5 was just -- you know, they might oftentimes say they
- 6 in jest, they hate a transaction because it's 7 required ten times the work of another one, or
- 8 something like that. I don't know.
- Q. Okay, go to the next one, or a couple of
- 10 pages down. I'm looking at the one from you to Alan
- 11 Christensen dated March 4, 2009, at the top he
- 12 responds to you. And down at the bottom, evidently
- 13 you found out the rent was rejected, and so you say,
- 14 tell them to fix it quick. And then you go on to
- 15 tell Alan in the March 4, 2009 e-mail, this is
- 16 garbage and they better get it fixed quick or we are
- 17 going to unwind this deal. I am so pissed about this
- 18 right now. Make sure they get this message loud and
- 19 clear. Not going to call them, it won't be pretty.
- 20 I'll cash the security deposit, unwind it. This is
- 21 their only chance. Is that non-sufficient funds in
- 22 month two?
- 24 Q. Bull crap. So you were pretty unhappy?
- A. No question.

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### 00101

- O. And I just have to assume you were unhappy
- 2 because here you had a deal that the first month, or
- 3 the second month, rather, it was causing a default?
- 4 A Yes
- Q. And so those are your instructions to Alan
- 6 to find out what was going on?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Now, the next one, March 26, from you to
- 9 Alan, that's of '09. You see that third bullet
- 10 point, and on the flip side, I want you to make this
- 11 call because you and I need to get as much rent as we
- 12 can out of them so we don't have to charge back the
- 13 commissions. So again, what was the significance of
- 14 that to the company?
- 15 A. To the --
- 16 Q. To Tetra?
- 17 A. Well, generally, to Tetra, we're trying to
- 18 get -- we want them to stay in business as long as we
- 19 can. As it relates to the salesperson, I always
- 20 instruct them, if we've got some challenges, you try
- 21 to get it fixed, otherwise there's going to be a
- 22 charge back in commission too. And we need to get --
- 23 I want them working on it, and I want them, you know,
- 24 not just throwing in the towel if payment one is

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## 00103

- 1 paid; is that right?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Less the deposit that you had for the
- 4 last -- last month's rent?
- 5 A Yes
- Q. Less the security deposit that's held.
- 7 And so they needed \$123,000 to get out of this deal;
- 8 is that right?
- 9 A. Yes
- 10 Q. And if they had paid Tetra \$123,263.72,
- 11 what would have happened?
- MR. ENSOR: Objection, vague, foundation.
- THE WITNESS: Then there -- the way it was
- 14 explained to me, there would have been no further
- 15 obligation from Heggem Construction at that point.
- 16 O. (By Mr. Olsen) So what would have
- 17 happened to the equipment? 18
- 19 MR. ENSOR: Objection, foundation
- THE WITNESS: The equipment stays there 20
- 21 and we release any position that we may have had of
- 22 interest in that equipment.
- 23 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Run ahead a couple of
- 24 pages to the one August 18 of 2009. You're telling
- 25 Justin about this payoff, and you're saying the only

## 00104

- 1 item not figured -- have you got it?
- A. I'm sorry.
- Q. It's at the top, August 18.
- 4 A. Got it.
- 5 Q. And you're saying the only item not

 $\begin{array}{cc} 00102 \\ 1 & Q. \end{array} \text{ But you said earlier the charge back of}$ 

4 A. I don't believe I said that. If I did.

3 just does that?

2 commissions wouldn't affect the salesman, the company

5 then no, it does affect the salesman. Typically in a

7 charge back of the commission to the salesperson, to

10 Q. Down below there, there is a reference of 11 sales tax of \$637.82; is that Utah sales tax?

8 me, to anyone who has been paid a commission on the

6 first or second payment default, there will be a

9 transaction. I apologize if I misstated that.

12 A. No. that -- typically the sales tax is

13 where, based on where the -- the equipment is

15 Q. July 9 of 2009, you evidently got the

MR. ENSOR: Page 962?

19 one in between there.

21 getting that letter?

16 letter from Platte Valley Bank's legal counsel?

20 Q. (By Mr. Olsen) Okay. Do you remember

22 A. Yes, I -- I do remember getting a letter.

23 Q. And so then you do a calculation to tell

24 them what they owe; is that right? And that's when 25 you use the casualty loss, less the rent that they

THE WITNESS: Okay, I'm sorry, there was

- 6 figured into this payoff is the taxes that would be
- 7 due as part of the payoff. Once you have the final 8 funds lined up, I'll get my tax people to gather
- 9 those numbers and I'd give you the aggregate payoff
- 10 amount. What tax figures are you talking about?
- 11 A. I'm required to check if -- if anyone is
- 12 ever paying off a lease, if there are any taxes that
- 13 are due, and that would either be sales tax and/or
- 14 property tax. And I just defer to my tax folks on
- 16 O. At some point did you have a conversation
- 17 with Justin Heggem?
- Q. Was that about the default?
- A. Yes, among I think a handful of things
- 21 related to it, yes.
- 22 O. Did vou ever have a conversation with
- 23 Justin Heggem or anybody from Heggem while the
- 24 transaction was being initiated and closed? 25 A. I may have had a conversation or two with

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1 e-mail, it's from Alan to you, and he gives you

4 O. Now, that's June 5 of '09. So would that

6 Justin about the things that you've just testified

8 A. I would say it was probably around that

10 Q. And so did you talk to his father also?

13 having -- I may have placed that call, but I do not

14 recall actually having a conversation with him, or

MR. OLSEN: Thank you, I don't have

MR. ENSOR: We'd like to read and sign.

A. I -- I don't -- I don't recall a

12 conversation with his father. I don't recall

THE WITNESS: Okay.

15 getting him on the phone.

20 (Concluded at 11:02 a.m.)

17 anything else.

18

22

23

24

25

A. Yes.

7 to?

9 time.

2 Heggem's, his father's phone number; do you see that?

5 date be around the time that you would have talked to

## 00105 1 somebody from Heggem. I -- typically the salesperson 2 handles most of those. I wouldn't know -- I wouldn't 3 be able to say for sure. 4 Q. When you say you had a conversation with 5 Justin Heggem about the default and various things, 6 what do you remember about that conversation? 7 A. Very generally, there were actually, I 9 had with Justin. It was primarily centered around 10 what -- what's going on, are you going to be able to 11 make your rent payments, are you going to be able 12 to -- you know, are you in business, are you going to 13 stay in business, those types of things. I'm just 14 trying to figure out at this point what is going on 15 and -- to report back to my finance committee. 16 Q. And who does the finance committee consist 18 A. Internally it consists of Scott Scharman 19 and Jordan Greenwell. And then ultimately we have to 20 provide that information to the -- to Republic Bank. 21 Q. And do you know who participates from 22 their bank, or who did participate from their bank? 23 A. I don't, because I don't -- I'm not the

24 one that contacts them

00107

25 Q. I want you to look at the June 5, 2009

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
3 STATE OF UTAH
                 ) ss.
4 COUNTY OF SALT LAKE )
        I, Heather White, Registered Professional
6 Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of
  Utah, do hereby certify:
        That prior to being examined, the witness,
8 RYAN SECRIST, was by me duly sworn to tell the truth,
  the whole truth, and nothing but the truth;
        That said deposition was taken down by me
10 in stenotype on September 29, 2010, at the place
  therein named, and was thereafter transcribed and
11 that a true and correct transcription of said
  testimony is set forth in the preceding pages;
        I further certify that, in accordance with
13 Rule 30(e), a request having been made to review the
  transcript, a reading copy was sent to Mr. Ensor for
14 the witness to read and sign before a notary public
  and then return to me for filing with Mr. Olsen.
       I further certify that I am not kin or
16 otherwise associated with any of the parties to said
 cause of action and that I am not interested in the
17 outcome thereof.
18
        WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL this 12th
  day of October 2010.
19
20
                 Heather White, RPR/CSR
21
                Notary Public
22
                  Residing in Salt Lake County an Secrist.txt
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00108
1 Case: Platte Valley Bank v. Tetra Financial Group,
   LLC
  2 Case No.: 8:10cv59
   Reporter: Heather White
  3 Date taken: September 29, 2010
            WITNESS CERTIFICATE
        I, RYAN SECRIST, HEREBY DECLARE:
         That I am the witness in the foregoing
   transcript; that I have read the transcript and know
  6 the contents thereof; that with these corrections I
   have noted this transcript truly and accurately
  7 reflects my testimony.
  8 PAGE-LINE CHANGE/CORRECTION
                                               REASON
  12
  13
  15
             No corrections were made.
      I. RYAN SECRIST, HEREBY DECLARE UNDER THE
   PENALTIES OF PERJURY OF THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES
  18 OF AMERICA AND THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF UTAH THAT THE
   FOREGOING IS TRUE AND CORRECT
 20
                       RYAN SECRIST
 21
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22 Rvan Secrist.txt

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