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1 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
3 SAN DIEGO DIVISION
Civil Action No. 21-MD-02992-GPC-MSB

4
5 IN RE: BANK OF AMERICA CALIFORNIA
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS LITIGATION

6 VIDEO DEPOSITION OF CHLOE NOEL EAST, Ph.D.
7 May 15, 2025
8

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1 important UI is for individuals who are receiving it as 09:28AM
2 well as the harms that will be caused as a result of 09:29AM
3 denying some UI benefits and the -- and to provide an 09:29AM
4 estimate of the cost faced by class members as a result 09:29AM
5 of this denial. 09:29AM
6 Q. And just for clarifying the record, by "UI" 09:29AM
7 you mean unemployment insurance. 09:29AM
8 A. Yes. Thank you. 09:29AM
9 Q. Much shorter. 09:29AM
10 And what you just testified to, that -- 09:29AM
11 that was the assignment you were given in connection with 09:29AM
12 this case; is that accurate? 09:29AM
13 A. Yes. 09:29AM
14 Q. Okay. Let's mark as Exhibit 2 your expert 09:29AM
15 report. Have you seen this document before? 09:29AM
16 (Exhibit Number 2 was marked.) 09:30AM
17 A. Yes. 09:30AM
18 Q. Does this accurately reflect your opinions 09:30AM
19 in this case? 09:30AM
20 A. Yes. 09:30AM
21 Q. Since -- what is the date of that report? 09:30AM
22 A. The date is March 4, 2025. 09:30AM
23 Q. As you sit here today, do you have anything 09:30AM
24 you would like to change or amend from your report? 09:30AM
25 A. No. 09:30AM

1 Q. Do you intend to offer any additional 09:30AM
2 opinions beyond what's contained in your report? 09:30AM
3 A. Not as I sit here today, no. 09:30AM
4 Q. So as you sit here today, the report, 09:30AM
5 Exhibit 2, in front of you, accurately reflects your 09:30AM
6 opinions that you intend to offer as of today in this 09:30AM
7 case? 09:30AM
8 A. Yes. Although I did review the two 09:30AM
9 rebuttal reports by the Bank of America experts and have 09:31AM
10 some thoughts based on those reports that may come up 09:31AM
11 today as well. 09:31AM
12 Q. Well, just for purposes of the record, 09:31AM
13 let's put in the designations first and then I will 09:31AM
14 clarify which reports you reviewed just so we can get that 09:31AM
15 clear. 09:31AM
16 A. Uh-hmm. 09:31AM
17 Q. So let's do Plaintiffs' Supplemental Expert 09:31AM
18 Designation as Exhibit 3. Have you seen this document 09:31AM
19 before? 09:31AM
20 (Exhibit Number 3 was marked.) 09:31AM
21 A. Yes. 09:31AM
22 Q. Does this accurately reflect your retention 09:31AM
23 by Plaintiffs? 09:31AM
24 A. Yes. 09:32AM
25 Q. Okay. What's the date of this designation? 09:32AM

1 Q. Now, is this one of the rebuttal reports 09:35AM
2 you were referring to that you said you have reviewed and 09:35AM
3 have certain opinions on? 09:35AM
4 A. Yes. 09:35AM
5 Q. Okay. And then let's mark as Exhibit 7 the 09:35AM
6 McCrary report. 09:36AM
7 Okay. So I would like to mark as 09:36AM
8 Exhibit 7 the April 4, 2025, report by Justin McCrary. 09:36AM
9 Have you seen this document before? 09:36AM
10 (Exhibit Number 7 was marked.) 09:36AM
11 A. Yes. 09:36AM
12 Q. Is this the second rebuttal report you were 09:36AM
13 referring to when you said you had reviewed two rebuttal 09:36AM
14 reports by Bank of America? 09:36AM
15 A. Yes. 09:36AM
16 Q. Okay. So why don't we turn back to the -- 09:36AM
17 I don't know the number -- Stango 2024 report, which is 09:36AM
18 Exhibit 5. 09:36AM
19 So to the extent you have any opinions on 09:36AM
20 this report, which is dated October 2024, are those 09:36AM
21 opinions contained in your expert report that is marked as 09:37AM
22 Exhibit 2? 09:37AM
23 A. Yes. 09:37AM
24 Q. Do you have any additional opinions on the 09:37AM
25 report, which is marked as Exhibit 5, besides those that 09:37AM

1 are contained in Exhibit 2? 09:37AM

2 A. No, not today. 09:37AM

3 Q. Okay. And so turning to Exhibit 6, which 09:37AM

4 is the Stango report dated April 2025, and you testified 09:37AM

5 you have seen this document before; correct? 09:37AM

6 A. Correct. 09:37AM

7 Q. So what, if any, are your opinions on this 09:37AM

8 report -- 09:37AM

9 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Vague. 09:37AM

10 Q. (By Ms. Brys) -- that is marked as 09:37AM

11 Exhibit 6? 09:37AM

12 MS. HUNSICKER: Sorry. Objection. Vague. 09:37AM

13 A. Can you provide some more information 09:38AM

14 about what you mean, please? 09:38AM

15 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Do you agree with his 09:38AM

16 opinions in Exhibit 6? 09:38AM

17 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Vague. 09:38AM

18 A. Some of the points made in this report I 09:38AM

19 do not agree with. 09:38AM

20 Q. (By Ms. Brys) And which points are those? 09:38AM

21 A. I do not have the list off the top of my 09:38AM

22 head. I can go through and discuss, but I don't have a 09:38AM

23 list off the top of my head. 09:38AM

24 Q. And just to clarify again for purposes of 09:39AM

25 the record, your -- any additional thoughts you have on 09:39AM

1 either Exhibit 6 or Exhibit 7 are not contained in 09:39AM
2 Exhibit 2 because those post date the date of your report; 09:39AM
3 is that accurate? 09:39AM
4 A. Correct. 09:39AM
5 Q. Okay. So just for purposes of refreshing 09:39AM
6 your recollection, why don't we take a look at the Table 09:39AM
7 of Contents. We will just look at the Table of Contents 09:39AM
8 for Exhibit 6. If you can read the Table of Contents at 09:39AM
9 Pages 1 and 2. 09:40AM
10 Okay. So first, as you sit here today, do 09:42AM
11 you intend to offer a supplemental report? 09:42AM
12 A. No. 09:42AM
13 Q. Okay. Are you in the process of preparing 09:42AM
14 any further reports? 09:42AM
15 A. No. 09:42AM
16 Q. However you did testify you have additional 09:42AM
17 thoughts and disagree with certain opinions in Exhibit 6; 09:42AM
18 is that accurate? 09:42AM
19 A. Yes. 09:42AM
20 Q. Okay. So just to understand which opinions 09:42AM
21 you disagree with, which I understand you're not in the 09:42AM
22 process of preparing a report to set forth, after you have 09:42AM
23 reviewed Pages 1 and 2 of Exhibit 6, have you identified 09:42AM
24 any opinions contained therein which you disagree with? 09:42AM
25 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Confusing. 09:42AM

1 A. So after reviewing Pages 1 and 2, the idea 09:42AM
2 that the interest rate calculations cannot be applied 09:43AM
3 classwide is something that I disagree with, and the idea 09:43AM
4 that there needs to be a distinction made between certain 09:43AM
5 types of class members is also something that I disagree 09:43AM
6 with. 09:43AM

7 Q. (By Ms. Brys) And why do you believe that 09:43AM
8 the interest rate calculations can be applied classwide? 09:43AM

9 A. I believe the interest rate calculations 09:43AM
10 can be applied classwide because that's very consistent 09:43AM
11 with how economists think about calculating the impact of 09:43AM
12 a policy change or a business decision on a population. 09:44AM
13 If the vast majority of a population is impacted in a 09:44AM
14 given way, then it's standard practice to apply that most 09:44AM
15 common experience to the entire population. 09:44AM

16 Q. And then as to the second idea that you 09:44AM
17 stated you disagree with, why do you disagree with the 09:44AM
18 idea that there needs to be a distinction made between 09:44AM
19 certain types of class members? 09:44AM

20 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Misstates 09:44AM
21 testimony. 09:44AM

22 A. So I do not think it's necessary to 09:44AM
23 distinguish between different types of class members in 09:44AM
24 order to get a reliable estimate of the harm caused on 09:44AM
25 class members. Again because this is very standard 09:45AM

1 practice, that if there's a common experience that most 09:45AM
2 people in the group have, that we, as economists, would 09:45AM
3 be comfortable and think that is accurate to apply that 09:45AM
4 most common experience to everybody in the group. 09:45AM

5 Q. (By Ms. Brys) And are those opinions, 09:45AM
6 although they are dated from March 2024, generally 09:45AM
7 reflected in Exhibit 2? 09:45AM

8 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Vague. 09:45AM

9 A. Yes. 09:45AM

10 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Based on your previous 09:45AM
11 review of Exhibit 6, is there anything you would change in 09:45AM
12 your Exhibit 2? 09:45AM

13 A. No. 09:45AM

14 Q. And when I say "previous review," I mean 09:46AM
15 not of the Table of Contents, Pages 1 and 2. But to the 09:46AM
16 extent you had previously testified that you had reviewed 09:46AM
17 Exhibit 6, after you have reviewed Exhibit 6, does that 09:46AM
18 change your opinions in Exhibit 2? 09:46AM

19 A. Thanks for clarifying. 09:46AM

20 No, it does not. 09:46AM

21 Q. Okay. So turning to Exhibit 7, which is 09:46AM
22 the McCrary report April 2025. And you have seen this 09:46AM
23 document before; correct? 09:46AM

24 A. Correct. 09:46AM

25 Q. Have you discussed this document with 09:46AM

1 A. Yes. 09:53AM

2 Q. Okay. I think we have -- and also in 09:53AM

3 connection with Exhibit 7, you're not in the process of 09:53AM

4 preparing a supplemental report in connection with the 09:53AM

5 opinions listed by Mr. McCrary in Exhibit 7; is that 09:53AM

6 accurate? 09:53AM

7 A. Yes. 09:53AM

8 Q. Okay. And do you -- you do not, as you sit 09:53AM

9 here today, intend to offer a supplemental or additional 09:53AM

10 report to address any opinion -- opinions that are 09:53AM

11 contained in Exhibit 7; is that accurate? 09:53AM

12 A. Yes. 09:53AM

13 Q. Okay. And what is your hourly rate in 09:53AM

14 this matter? 09:54AM

15 A. \$400. 09:54AM

16 Q. And approximately how many hours have you 09:54AM

17 worked on this case? 09:54AM

18 A. I'm guessing about a hundred. 09:54AM

19 Q. And have you invoiced all of those hours? 09:54AM

20 A. Not yet. 09:54AM

21 Q. Okay. Did you review any materials in 09:54AM

22 preparation for your deposition today? 09:54AM

23 A. Yes. 09:54AM

24 Q. What materials did you review? 09:54AM

25 A. I reviewed my report, the Exhibit 5, 6 and 09:54AM

1 Q. Are you aware of any errors in your report 10:02AM
2 or opinions that you would like to amend? 10:02AM
3 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Vague. 10:02AM
4 A. No, I am not aware of any. 10:02AM
5 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Since the issuance of your 10:02AM
6 report, have you changed any of your opinions? 10:02AM
7 A. No. 10:02AM
8 Q. And then you previously testified that the 10:02AM
9 only additional documents you have reviewed since your 10:02AM
10 report are the additional expert reports; is that 10:02AM
11 accurate? 10:03AM
12 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Misstates 10:03AM
13 testimony. 10:03AM
14 A. I reviewed the expert reports as well as 10:03AM
15 some of the literature that is cited in those expert 10:03AM
16 reports and the work papers that were provided to 10:03AM
17 supplement the report by Justin McCrary. 10:03AM
18 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Okay. Now turning to the 10:03AM
19 data listed under Appendix B, how did you decide what data 10:03AM
20 to review in connection with this -- your representation 10:03AM
21 of Plaintiffs in this action? 10:03AM
22 A. Well, I've been studying unemployment 10:03AM
23 insurance since 2012, so I'm very familiar with what are 10:03AM
24 the most commonly used and most useful datasets that 10:03AM
25 capture unemployment insurance received and also 10:04AM

1 household finance -- financial information. So I used 10:04AM
2 that background knowledge to make the decision. 10:04AM
3 Q. And you decided on the three items that are 10:04AM
4 listed under data in your Appendix B; is that accurate? 10:04AM
5 A. Yes. 10:04AM
6 Q. Was there any data that you decided not to 10:04AM
7 use? 10:04AM
8 A. No. 10:04AM
9 Q. Were there any opinions that you were asked 10:04AM
10 to provide that are not reflected in your report? 10:04AM
11 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Beyond the 10:04AM
12 scope. 10:04AM
13 A. No. 10:04AM
14 MS. BRYs: Why don't we take a break here 10:04AM
15 before we go into particular reports. 10:04AM
16 THE DEPONENT: Sounds good. 10:05AM
17 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: All right. Off record 10:05AM
18 10:05 AM. 10:05AM
19 (Recess from 10:05 AM to 10:17 AM) 10:17AM
20 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We're back on record at 10:17AM
21 10:17 AM. 10:17AM
22 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Okay. Why don't we turn to 10:17AM
23 Exhibit 2. 10:17AM
24 A. Okay. 10:18AM
25 Q. And again just to clarify for the record, 10:18AM

1 "harm"? 10:45AM

2 Q. What is your understanding of what -- to 10:45AM

3 the extent you have one, of what the damages are to the 10:45AM

4 claim denial class? 10:45AM

5 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection to the extent 10:45AM

6 that's beyond the scope of the report. 10:45AM

7 A. So my understanding is that the 10:45AM

8 consequential damages are going to be calculated 10:45AM

9 potentially using an interest rate and that my assignment 10:45AM

10 was to think about an accurate estimate of that interest 10:45AM

11 rate. 10:46AM

12 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Okay. And what is your 10:46AM

13 understanding of the interest rate? 10:46AM

14 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Vague. 10:46AM

15 A. Can you clarify what you mean by 10:46AM

16 "understanding of"? 10:46AM

17 Q. (By Ms. Brys) You testified that your 10:46AM

18 assignment was to think about an accurate estimate of the 10:46AM

19 interest rate for consequential damages to the classes. 10:46AM

20 What in your opinion is the proper 10:46AM

21 interest rate that should be used? 10:46AM

22 A. In my opinion, the interest rate of 10:46AM

23 20.8 percent is an accurate and conservative estimate of 10:46AM

24 the cost faced by class members. 10:46AM

25 Q. And how do you come up with 20.8 percent? 10:46AM

1 A. For this, I'll refer us to a paragraph in 10:46AM
2 my report. Let me find the number here. 10:47AM
3 So for this it's in Paragraph 36. 10:47AM
4 Q. And so does Paragraph 36 then accurately 10:47AM
5 refer to the basis by which you came up with 20.8 percent? 10:47AM
6 A. Yes, it does. Although this is sort of 10:47AM
7 building on earlier paragraphs that are explaining why a 10:47AM
8 credit card interest rate is an appropriate interest rate 10:47AM
9 since you could take an interest rate not from a credit 10:48AM
10 card as well. 10:48AM
11 Q. And then why, in your opinion, is it 10:48AM
12 appropriate to take an interest rate from a credit card? 10:48AM
13 A. Because after my review of the literature 10:48AM
14 and of the data, the most common experiences of UI 10:48AM
15 recipients that have their UI benefits or part of their 10:48AM
16 UI benefits denied to them is going to be to borrow 10:48AM
17 either on either a credit card or something more 10:48AM
18 expensive than a credit card or to cut their spending or 10:48AM
19 some combination of the two. 10:48AM
20 Q. And in coming up with the amount of -- or 10:48AM
21 the -- strike that -- of the -- in coming up with the 10:48AM
22 20.8 percent interest rate, did that include any 10:48AM
23 consideration for the amount that would be borrowed? 10:49AM
24 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Vague. 10:49AM
25 A. No. It's my understanding that that will 10:49AM

1 be factored into the method for consequential damages but 10:49AM
2 that's not factored into the 20.8 percent. 10:49AM

3 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Okay. So to be accurate, 10:49AM
4 you didn't consider whether or not somebody was borrowing, 10:49AM
5 for purposes of your assignment, \$5 or \$2,000. 10:49AM

6 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Misstates 10:49AM
7 testimony. 10:49AM

8 A. My assignment was to focus on an interest 10:49AM
9 rate that is representative of the costs of being denied 10:49AM
10 access to UI benefits. 10:49AM

11 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Okay. And would it be 10:49AM
12 accurate to say that is irrespective of the UI benefits to 10:49AM
13 which they would not have access to? 10:50AM

14 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Misstates 10:50AM
15 testimony. 10:50AM

16 A. I considered the amounts of UI benefits 10:50AM
17 that individuals were denied in thinking about the -- 10:50AM
18 in -- in understanding sort of the general outlines of 10:50AM
19 the situation here, but I did not consider that amount in 10:50AM
20 the 20.8 percent because the amount is not the thing 10:50AM
21 that's important. The thing that's important is the cost 10:50AM
22 of being denied benefits which is reflected in the 20.8. 10:50AM

23 Q. (By Ms. Brys) And is the 20.8 percent 10:50AM
24 reflective of the proper interest rate regardless of the 10:51AM
25 class? 10:51AM

1 A. To clarify you mean the three classes we 10:51AM
2 were talking about before? 10:51AM

3 Q. Correct. 10:51AM

4 A. Yes, I agree. 10:51AM

5 Q. Okay. Are there any other opinions that we 10:51AM
6 haven't particularly discussed today in general overview 10:51AM
7 that are important in your report or by way of your 10:51AM
8 assignment that you intend to offer in connection with 10:51AM
9 this case? 10:51AM

10 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Vague. 10:52AM

11 A. I would just come back to the three main 10:52AM
12 opinions in my report. So the first is that UI benefits 10:52AM
13 provide this crucial safety net for individuals who are 10:52AM
14 experiencing a job loss because they're a highly 10:52AM
15 vulnerable and financially precarious group. And as a 10:52AM
16 result of that, the typical UI recipient does not have 10:52AM
17 enough savings to cover the loss of UI benefits even 10:52AM
18 partially or temporarily. 10:52AM

19 And then finally, that the credit card 10:52AM
20 interest rate is a good estimate and, if anything, an 10:52AM
21 underestimate of the cost faced by recipients who lost 10:53AM
22 access to their benefits. 10:53AM

23 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Okay. And so you previously 10:53AM
24 testified that you reviewed certain articles in connection 10:53AM
25 with both your report and in preparation for your 10:53AM

1 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Did you do a survey of any 12:22PM
2 class members in connection with this case? 12:22PM
3 A. Thanks for clarifying. 12:22PM
4 No, I didn't. 12:22PM
5 Q. So would it be accurate to say you used 12:22PM
6 existing datasets instead of conducting surveys personally 12:22PM
7 as to an understanding of -- that forms the basis of the 12:22PM
8 opinions in your report? 12:22PM
9 A. Yes. I used the method that I use in all 12:22PM
10 of my research, which is taking advantage of large 12:22PM
11 representative datasets that are preexisting to 12:22PM
12 characterize a population. 12:22PM
13 Q. Okay. So generally speaking in your 12:22PM
14 research, you don't interview individuals who may be 12:22PM
15 impacted in connection with your opinions. 12:23PM
16 A. Generally that's correct, yeah. 12:23PM
17 Q. Are there ever situations where you do 12:23PM
18 interview individuals or individual situations? 12:23PM
19 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Overbroad. 12:23PM
20 A. Do you mean in -- in a research project? 12:23PM
21 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Correct. 12:23PM
22 Because you -- you testified that in your 12:23PM
23 research, you usually take advantage of large 12:23PM
24 representative datasets and you further testified that, 12:23PM
25 generally speaking, that's the method you use. 12:23PM

1 What do you mean by suddenly lose access to UI benefits? 12:32PM

2 A. What I mean here is if individuals don't 12:32PM

3 have access to their full amount of UI benefits that 12:32PM

4 they're entitled to and that that happens suddenly or 12:32PM

5 quickly. 12:32PM

6 Q. Okay. Would it be -- are you referring to 12:32PM

7 a permanent or a temporary loss? 12:32PM

8 A. I'm not being specific in that sentence 12:32PM

9 because it actually doesn't matter if it's a permanent or 12:32PM

10 a temporary loss. Individuals are not going to be able 12:32PM

11 to cover their expenses regardless if it's permanent or 12:32PM

12 temporary. 12:32PM

13 Q. And in connection with your opinions in 12:32PM

14 this case, have you identified which of the class members 12:33PM

15 suddenly lost access to UI benefits? 12:33PM

16 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Confusing. 12:33PM

17 A. I'm not sure I understand what -- what 12:33PM

18 you're asking. 12:33PM

19 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Is your opinions in 12:33PM

20 Paragraph 20, which I understand is about the vast 12:33PM

21 majority of UI recipients in California, have you 12:33PM

22 identified of those in the class which ones in particular 12:33PM

23 are impacted or would your opinion in Paragraph 20 relate 12:33PM

24 to? 12:33PM

25 A. Well, what I'm focused on here is 12:33PM

1 characterizing what is the most common experience among 12:33PM
2 UI recipients in California using this data that is 12:34PM
3 representative, and I'm doing that rather than analyzing 12:34PM
4 individual class member data. Because again, this is 12:34PM
5 sort of the common approach that economists will take 12:34PM
6 when they're trying to look at the effect of a policy 12:34PM
7 change or a business decision on individuals. 12:34PM

8 Q. Okay. If we could take a quick look at 12:34PM
9 Paragraph 23 of your report. 12:34PM

10 How many households were you looking at in 12:34PM
11 particular in Paragraph 23 of your report? 12:34PM

12 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Vague. 12:35PM

13 A. In which part of this paragraph are you 12:35PM
14 referring to? 12:35PM

15 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Of course I have the wrong 12:35PM
16 paragraph. 12:35PM

17 I think by way of -- I calculated that 12:35PM
18 even after receiving stimulus payments, most UI 12:35PM
19 recipients. 12:35PM

20 Is there any particular sample size you 12:35PM
21 looked at in making your opinions in Paragraph 23? 12:35PM

22 A. Well, just -- just a point of 12:35PM
23 clarification. When -- when -- when I say sample size, I 12:35PM
24 generally think of the number of households but when 12:35PM
25 I'm -- 12:35PM

1 Q. Did you take any steps to ensure that the 01:34PM
2 population of UI recipients in California accurately 01:34PM
3 reflected the circumstances of proposed class members? 01:34PM

4 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Vague. 01:34PM

5 A. What do you mean by "accurately 01:34PM
6 reflected"? 01:34PM

7 Q. (By Ms. Brys) You testified earlier that 01:34PM
8 there are certain classes that are being proposed as you 01:34PM
9 understand in this litigation regarding unemployed -- UI 01:34PM
10 benefit recipients in the state of California. 01:34PM

11 So did you take any steps to ensure that 01:34PM
12 your use of the national sample accurately reflected the 01:34PM
13 proposed class members in this litigation? 01:34PM

14 MS. HUNSICKER: Same objection. 01:35PM

15 A. In this analysis -- well, in the -- in the 01:35PM
16 main analysis, I'm using the SIPP data that allows me to 01:35PM
17 look at California UI recipients and that sample should 01:35PM
18 be representative of the class members who are California 01:35PM
19 UI recipients during the same time period. 01:35PM

20 And then to extend to the SHED data and 01:35PM
21 make sure that it's reasonable to extend to the SHED 01:35PM
22 data, I make that comparison between California UI 01:35PM
23 recipients and the nationwide sample of UI recipients. 01:35PM

24 Q. (By Ms. Brys) And to the extent you can 01:35PM
25 recall, what is the size of the sample of the SHED data 01:35PM

1 get a sense about the financial situation of households 01:40PM
2 who are likely eligible for the SNAP program or what's 01:40PM
3 called food stamps. 01:40PM
4 Q. Okay. And so would that be in connection 01:40PM
5 with any publications you have in connection with the SNAP 01:40PM
6 program? 01:40PM
7 A. Yes. 01:40PM
8 Q. And what publications would those be 01:40PM
9 specifically? 01:41PM
10 A. That is a report I put out through the 01:41PM
11 Hamilton project, which is a think tank within the 01:41PM
12 Brookings think tank. I do not remember when that came 01:41PM
13 out but sometime last calendar year. 01:41PM
14 Q. Okay. And in Paragraph 21, I understand 01:41PM
15 that based on the SHED data, you conclude that UI 01:41PM
16 recipients will have to turn to borrowing or cutting back 01:41PM
17 on necessities or a combination of the two when UI 01:41PM
18 recipients are cut off from their benefits; is that 01:41PM
19 correct? 01:41PM
20 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Misstates the 01:41PM
21 report. 01:41PM
22 A. Can you repeat the question? 01:41PM
23 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Okay. So in Paragraph 21, 01:41PM
24 it is my understanding in the last sentence that you 01:41PM
25 conclude that UI benefit recipients will have to turn to 01:42PM

1 borrowing or cutting back on necessities or a combination 01:42PM
2 of the two when UI recipients are cut off from their 01:42PM
3 benefits; is that accurate? 01:42PM

4 A. So the way that I would frame what I'm 01:42PM
5 saying in this sentence is that because recipients are 01:42PM
6 going to have a hard time covering the loss of UI 01:42PM
7 benefits using their own savings, they're going to turn 01:42PM
8 to other measures. 01:42PM

9 But I just want to be clear I'm not saying 01:42PM
10 every single person will do this. I'm just saying that 01:42PM
11 this is the most common response among UI recipients; 01:42PM
12 that they're going to turn to some other way to finance 01:42PM
13 their spending, like borrowing or cutting back on 01:42PM
14 necessities or some combination. 01:42PM

15 Q. Okay. So it's not all UI benefits 01:43PM
16 recipients. It is the most common response; is that 01:43PM
17 accurate? 01:43PM

18 A. Yes. 01:43PM

19 Q. And what do you mean by cut off from their 01:43PM
20 benefits? 01:43PM

21 A. I mean when they are denied access to 01:43PM
22 their UI benefits or some of their UI benefits by the 01:43PM
23 bank. 01:43PM

24 Q. So even if it is a loss of \$5 for a week, 01:43PM
25 your conclusion would still apply? 01:43PM

1 A. Well, my understanding is that the median 01:43PM
2 amount that individuals lost access to was around \$900 01:43PM
3 and the median length was almost three months, so that 01:43PM
4 would not be the typical experience of somebody in the 01:43PM
5 class. 01:43PM

6 Q. And so if you're referring to the median 01:43PM
7 length, you're not talking about a permanent loss to UI 01:44PM
8 benefits. You're talking about a temporary period of 01:44PM
9 time; is that accurate? 01:44PM

10 A. Yes. 01:44PM

11 Q. And that is just to a portion of their 01:44PM
12 benefits; is that accurate? 01:44PM

13 A. Yes. 01:44PM

14 Q. And your opinion is based on, again, the 01:44PM
15 median data. So you are not offering an opinion as to 01:44PM
16 every UI recipient regardless of the amount that was -- 01:44PM
17 lost access to or the period of time. It is based on the 01:44PM
18 median. 01:44PM

19 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Misstates 01:44PM
20 report. 01:44PM

21 A. So my opinion is characterizing what is 01:44PM
22 the most common response to the loss of UI benefits and 01:44PM
23 this will be the case for the vast majority of people who 01:44PM
24 lost their UI benefits. 01:45PM

25 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Or access to part of it? 01:45PM

1 remembering that, I can't say that for sure. 01:46PM

2 Q. (By Ms. Brys) So similarly based on the 01:46PM

3 SHED data, you conclude that 22 percent of UI recipients 01:46PM

4 in 2020 to 2021 reported having unpaid medical debt; is 01:46PM

5 that correct? 01:46PM

6 A. Yes. 01:46PM

7 Q. But it's possible that 78 percent did not 01:46PM

8 have unpaid medical debt. 01:46PM

9 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Calls for 01:47PM

10 speculation. 01:47PM

11 A. While people are receiving UI or have 01:47PM

12 recently received UI before they are denied, yes, that is 01:47PM

13 possible. 01:47PM

14 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Okay. And so in -- I 01:47PM

15 believe it's in Paragraph 30, but you ultimately conclude 01:47PM

16 that credit card borrowing is the most common source of 01:47PM

17 borrowing for people who receive UI; is that correct? 01:47PM

18 A. Yes. 01:47PM

19 Q. Okay. I didn't know if you were reading. 01:47PM

20 A. Oh, sorry. 01:47PM

21 Q. You like to read. I don't want to rush 01:47PM

22 you. 01:47PM

23 A. I appreciate that. 01:47PM

24 Q. Okay. So to -- to come up with this 01:47PM

25 determination, I understand that you looked at two survey 01:48PM

1 responses in particular. 01:48PM

2 Would it be accurate to say that you 01:48PM

3 looked at survey responses that said put it on my card 01:48PM

4 and paid it off in full at the next statement and put it 01:48PM

5 on my credit card and pay it off over time. 01:48PM

6 A. Yes. 01:48PM

7 Q. And so part of your claim that credit card 01:48PM

8 borrowing is the most common source of borrowing, is based 01:48PM

9 on individuals who indicated that they would put it on 01:48PM

10 their card and put it -- and pay it off in full at the 01:48PM

11 next statement. 01:48PM

12 A. Part of it is based on that, yes. 01:48PM

13 Q. Did you consider those who use credit card 01:48PM

14 borrowing but pay no interest because they do not carry a 01:48PM

15 balance between credit card statements? 01:48PM

16 A. Yes, I considered that. 01:48PM

17 Q. And how is that reflected in your report? 01:48PM

18 A. That's reflected in the report in this 01:48PM

19 question about what is the most common source of 01:49PM

20 borrowing among people who receive UI. 01:49PM

21 I included in this consideration 01:49PM

22 individuals who responded that they would put the \$400 01:49PM

23 expense on their credit card and pay it off in full at 01:49PM

24 the next statement. 01:49PM

25 Q. So for the individuals who put it on their 01:49PM

1 credit card and pay it off in full, wouldn't they not be 01:49PM
2 accruing credit card interest because they paid off the 01:49PM
3 balance in full on the next statement? 01:49PM

4 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Vague. 01:49PM

5 A. I don't think we can say that for sure 01:49PM
6 based on the data -- or that I can say that for sure 01:49PM
7 based on the data that I've reviewed because the question 01:49PM
8 is asking about the \$400 expense and it's not clear if 01:50PM
9 individuals already have debt that they're carrying on 01:50PM
10 their credit card before the \$400 expense is occurring. 01:50PM

11 Q. (By Ms. Brys) However, if the individual 01:50PM
12 marked that they would pay it off in full at the next 01:50PM
13 statement, what interest would they be accruing on that 01:50PM
14 \$400 debt if they paid it off in full at the next 01:50PM
15 statement? 01:50PM

16 A. In terms of credit card interest, they 01:50PM
17 would not be accruing any. 01:50PM

18 Q. So would it be overestimating the cost of 01:50PM
19 borrowing for that class member? 01:50PM

20 A. What I would say is that while they're not 01:50PM
21 accruing credit card interest on that \$400, it doesn't 01:50PM
22 mean that there's no cost associated with putting the 01:50PM
23 \$400 on a credit card because the money still has to come 01:50PM
24 from somewhere, either spending that they were planning 01:51PM
25 to do otherwise or their savings. So it may not be 01:51PM

1 reflected exactly in the credit card interest rate but 01:51PM
2 there's still a cost associated with that. 01:51PM
3 Q. And have you done studies on the 01:51PM
4 variability of credit card interest rates? 01:51PM
5 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Vague. 01:51PM
6 A. What type of studies do you mean? 01:51PM
7 Q. (By Ms. Brys) How would you determine what 01:51PM
8 the appropriate credit card interest rate should be for 01:51PM
9 the individuals about which you opine in your report? 01:51PM
10 A. For that analysis, I used estimates of the 01:51PM
11 credit card interest rate that were existing in the 01:51PM
12 literature and I talk about that in Paragraph 36. 01:51PM
13 Q. And so to the extent you're referencing the 01:52PM
14 literature, are you referencing the particular articles 01:52PM
15 listed in Footnotes 45 and 46? 01:52PM
16 A. Yes. 01:52PM
17 Q. And for purposes of understanding the 01:52PM
18 credit score, do those datasets or sources limit it to 01:52PM
19 California unemployment insurance benefit recipients? 01:52PM
20 A. No, those sources don't. 01:52PM
21 However the data that I'm bringing to 01:52PM
22 those sources do take account of that. So earlier in 01:52PM
23 that same paragraph, I calculated using the SHED data 01:52PM
24 that the median UI recipient in 2020 and 2021 had a good 01:52PM
25 credit score, and then I used these sources to estimate 01:53PM

1 regardless of whether people who would use savings are 01:56PM
2 included in the sample. 01:56PM
3 Q. So in the statistical code, why did you 01:56PM
4 exclude individuals who would have used savings? 01:56PM
5 A. Primarily because the focus was to figure 01:57PM
6 out what the most common sources of borrowing are among 01:57PM
7 the sample. And therefore, that group was not important 01:57PM
8 to answering that question. 01:57PM
9 Q. So did you consider individuals who marked 01:57PM
10 using money from a bank loan or line of credit? 01:57PM
11 A. Yes. 01:57PM
12 Q. Okay. So you did not exclude those from 01:57PM
13 your statistical code like you excluded the ones who 01:57PM
14 currently have money in checking, savings or cash? 01:57PM
15 A. Correct. 01:57PM
16 Q. Did you consider individuals who had 01:57PM
17 borrowed from a friend or family member? 01:57PM
18 A. Yes. I considered them and that was much 01:57PM
19 less common than credit card borrowing, which is why I 01:57PM
20 didn't focus on them in the report. 01:57PM
21 Q. Did you consider individuals who marked 01:57PM
22 they would use a payday loan deposit, advance or 01:57PM
23 overdraft? 01:58PM
24 A. Yes. 01:58PM
25 Q. And why did you consider that population? 01:58PM

1 A. Well, for this analysis, I was focused on 01:58PM
2 getting a sense about what are the borrowing options 01:58PM
3 available to UI recipients to get a sense about the 01:58PM
4 borrowing costs, and so I wanted to include different 01:58PM
5 types of potential borrowing. 01:58PM

6 Q. Did you include individuals who marked by 01:58PM
7 selling something? 01:58PM

8 A. Yes. 01:58PM

9 Q. And why did you include those by selling 01:58PM
10 something who marked that as their response? 01:58PM

11 A. So for this -- for selling something, 01:58PM
12 while it isn't a source of borrowing exactly, it is a, 01:58PM
13 sort of, financial mechanism that people use to deal with 01:58PM
14 changes in their finances. So it seemed important to -- 01:58PM
15 to think about that as a potential option as well. 01:58PM

16 Q. And so for purposes of understanding your 01:58PM
17 opinion, you are offering the interest rate of 01:59PM
18 20.8 percent as a representative interest rate; is that 01:59PM
19 accurate? 01:59PM

20 A. Yes. 01:59PM

21 Q. And is that 20.8 percent interest rate 01:59PM
22 applicable to all classes? 01:59PM

23 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Confusing. 01:59PM

24 A. All classes or all class members or... 01:59PM

25 Q. (By Ms. Brys) All -- all -- I guess we 01:59PM

1 will start with all classes. So all of the claimed denial 01:59PM
2 class, the credit rescission class. Would you say that 01:59PM
3 the 20.8 percent is applicable to all different proposed 01:59PM
4 classes as you understand them? 01:59PM

5 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Confusing. 01:59PM

6 A. I would say it's applicable to the claim 01:59PM
7 denial, the credit rescission and the account freeze 01:59PM
8 classes that we were discussing earlier. 01:59PM

9 Q. (By Ms. Brys) And it is your opinion that 01:59PM
10 the 20.8 percent is representative to all individuals 01:59PM
11 within each of those classes. 02:00PM

12 A. It is my opinion that we can use 02:00PM
13 20.8 percent as a representative number of the cost faced 02:00PM
14 by class members, yes, in all three classes. 02:00PM

15 Q. So to the extent you look at, for instance, 02:00PM
16 the account freeze class, would your opinion change based 02:00PM
17 on the balance of the account at the time it was frozen? 02:00PM

18 A. No, it would not. 02:00PM

19 Q. What if the balance was negative? Would 02:00PM
20 that impact your opinion? 02:00PM

21 A. No, it would not because I'm focused on 02:00PM
22 the most common response and the cost of the most common 02:00PM
23 response. 02:00PM

24 Q. So would your opinion change if 12,000 of 02:00PM
25 the accounts were frozen for less than one week? 02:01PM

1	MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Calls for	02:01PM
2	speculation.	02:01PM
3	A. It's hard to say given that I haven't seen	02:01PM
4	any data that suggests that that's the case.	02:01PM
5	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
6	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
7	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
8	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
9	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
10	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
11	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
12	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
13	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
14	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
15	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
16	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
17	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
18	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
19	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
20	Q. (By Ms. Brys) So even for a claim of less	02:02PM
21	than \$5, you would still use the credit card borrowing	02:02PM
22	20.8 percent interest rate.	02:02PM
23	A. Yes. Because the 20.8 is representative	02:02PM
24	of the cost faced by the majority of class members. And	02:02PM
25	some will have slightly higher amounts and some will have	02:02PM

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1 slightly lower amounts but my goal is to provide a 02:02PM
2 representative number that can be applied to -- to all 02:02PM
3 class members. 02:02PM

■ ■ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
■ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
■ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
■ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
■ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
■ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
■ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]
■ [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

11 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Is it your opinion that 02:02PM
12 those individuals would have taken on credit card debt? 02:02PM

13 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Calls for 02:02PM
14 speculation. 02:02PM

15 A. Again, my method is not trying to identify 02:02PM
16 which individuals would turn to credit card borrowing but 02:03PM
17 rather that most individuals returned to credit card 02:03PM
18 borrowing or some method that's more expensive than 02:03PM
19 credit card borrowing. 02:03PM

20 Q. (By Ms. Brys) But most is not all; 02:03PM
21 correct? 02:03PM

22 A. Correct. 02:03PM

23 Q. I can turn to more data. 02:03PM

24 So I understand you previously referenced 02:03PM
25 the Pulse data? 02:03PM

1 loss of benefits to \$5 or if it is a permanent loss 02:11PM
2 because UI benefits have ended, they've expired, your 02:11PM
3 opinions are the same? 02:11PM
4 A. Yes, my opinions are the same. Because 02:11PM
5 part of the value of UI benefits is that they're paid in 02:11PM
6 a timely manner because individuals need the benefits in 02:11PM
7 order to cover their spending needs. And so whether or 02:11PM
8 not it's temporary, my opinions don't change. 02:11PM
9 Q. And the amount that is lost, your opinions 02:11PM
10 don't change; is that -- 02:11PM
11 A. Correct. Uh-hmm. 02:11PM
12 Q. Do you know whether any class 02:11PM
13 representative here turned to expensive methods of 02:11PM
14 borrowing when a portion of their UI benefits were halted? 02:11PM
15 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Outside the 02:11PM
16 scope of the report. 02:11PM
17 A. I have seen information in the expert 02:11PM
18 report of McCrary that indicates that. 02:11PM
19 Q. (By Ms. Brys) And you understand that the 02:12PM
20 class representatives are seeking to represent the class? 02:12PM
21 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Calls for a 02:12PM
22 legal conclusion. 02:12PM
23 A. I do understand that, although it is 02:12PM
24 outside the area of my expertise. 02:12PM
25 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Did you review any materials 02:12PM

1 that pertained to the class representatives in connection 02:12PM
2 with your report? 02:12PM
3 A. No, I did not, because I was focused on 02:12PM
4 getting a large and representative sample of UI 02:12PM
5 recipients in California. 02:12PM
6 Q. So for purposes of the record, you didn't 02:12PM
7 review any of their interrogatory responses or written 02:12PM
8 discovery responses. 02:12PM
9 A. Correct. 02:12PM
10 Q. None of the documents that they produced. 02:12PM
11 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Vague. 02:12PM
12 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Did you review the documents 02:12PM
13 that they produced in this case? 02:12PM
14 A. I did not. 02:13PM
15 Q. Did you review any of the deposition 02:13PM
16 testimony that the class representatives provided? 02:13PM
17 A. No. 02:13PM
18 Q. And so you didn't consider any of the class 02:13PM
19 representatives' responses or materials or documents in 02:13PM
20 forming your opinion in this case. 02:13PM
21 A. There's some sort of overall statistics 02:13PM
22 that were included in the expert report of Victor Stango 02:13PM
23 that I reviewed in preparing my report, but I did not 02:13PM
24 review any individual level data on class members, no. 02:13PM

■ [REDACTED] ■

■ [REDACTED] ■

■ [REDACTED] ■

■ [REDACTED] ■

■ [REDACTED] ■

■ [REDACTED] ■

■ [REDACTED] ■

■ [REDACTED] ■

9 Q. (By Ms. Brys) And so potentially the class 02:14PM

10 representatives, then, as I understand are nonrandom? 02:14PM

11 MS. HUNSICKER: It's outside the scope of 02:14PM

12 expertise. 02:14PM

13 MS. BRYs: I'm trying to understand what 02:14PM

14 she means by, "don't draw conclusions from small samples 02:14PM

15 sizes that are potentially nonrandom." 02:14PM

16 Q. (By Ms. Brys) What -- what do you mean by 02:14PM

17 that? 02:14PM

18 A. I mean that in a statistical sense, the 02:14PM

19 nine individuals might not be a random sample of the 02:14PM

20 entire class. 02:14PM

21 Q. They could just be the best. Okay. 02:14PM

22 So in Paragraph 32 of your report, you 02:14PM

23 stated that the costs of cutting consumption after the 02:15PM

24 loss of UI benefits are likely at least as high as the 02:15PM

25 cost of the preferred option of borrowing; is that 02:15PM

1 is not higher if UI recipients are not required to cut 02:18PM
2 their consumption. Would that be accurate? 02:18PM
3 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Confusing. 02:18PM
4 A. Yeah, not higher than -- than what? 02:18PM
5 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Than the consumption they 02:18PM
6 did not have to cut. 02:18PM
7 MS. HUNSICKER: Same objection. 02:18PM
8 A. I think the -- so this sentence, just to 02:18PM
9 clarify, is not saying the value of UI benefits is the 02:18PM
10 same as the consumption that they have to cut. It's that 02:19PM
11 the value of UI benefits is larger, the more recipients 02:19PM
12 need to cut their consumption. 02:19PM
13 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Okay. So for -- turning to, 02:19PM
14 again, the credit card interest rate. You conclude that 02:19PM
15 it is a conservative measure of the opportunity cost of 02:19PM
16 lost funds to the proposed class members. 02:19PM
17 Why do you opine that it is a conservative 02:19PM
18 measure? 02:19PM
19 A. This is for a couple of different reasons. 02:19PM
20 Primarily that the most common responses 02:19PM
21 are going to be borrowing on a credit card or cutting 02:19PM
22 consumption or -- and/or cutting consumption, and that 02:19PM
23 the cost of cutting consumption is going to be much 02:19PM
24 higher than the cost of borrowing because households are 02:19PM
25 reducing consumption on necessities like food and medical 02:20PM

1 care. And so this -- applying the credit card interest 02:20PM
2 rate to the full population is a conservative estimate 02:20PM
3 for the many people who have to cut consumption. 02:20PM

4 Q. And then in connection with this opinion, 02:20PM
5 what evidence or data did you rely upon? 02:20PM

6 A. What do you mean "this opinion"? Which 02:20PM
7 opinion? 02:20PM

8 Q. The credit card interest -- the credit 02:20PM
9 interest rate as a conservative measure of the opportunity 02:20PM
10 cost of lost funds. 02:20PM

11 A. For this, I relied on a lot of different 02:20PM
12 things, which is why I'm being a little slow in 02:20PM
13 answering. 02:20PM

14 The literature that I reviewed all shows 02:20PM
15 that people cut consumption when UI benefits are less 02:20PM
16 generous or when UI benefits run out. And the analysis 02:21PM
17 that I did suggests that the most common responses are 02:21PM
18 borrowing on a credit card or some more expensive 02:21PM
19 borrowing or -- I should say the most common responses 02:21PM
20 are borrowing on credit card or cutting consumption, 02:21PM
21 which will be even more expensive. 02:21PM

22 Q. And then you opine in Paragraph 36 that the 02:21PM
23 median recipient had a good credit score. 02:21PM

24 A. Yes. 02:21PM

25 Q. Again, that is using the median to 02:21PM

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

5 Q. Have you identified any data specifically 02:44PM

6 collected from this class? 02:44PM

7 MS. HUNSICKER: Asked and answered. 02:44PM

8 A. No. I've been focused on aggregate 02:44PM

9 representative data rather than individual data on the 02:44PM

10 class. 02:44PM

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

15 Q. And as I understand, you have not 02:45PM

16 identified any data specifically collected for this credit 02:45PM

17 rescission subclass; is that accurate? 02:45PM

18 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Asked and 02:45PM

19 answered. 02:45PM

20 (Interruption.) 02:45PM

21 MS. BRY: Off record for a second. 02:45PM

22 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Off record 2:45 PM. 02:45PM

23 (Recess from 2:45 PM to 2:46 PM) 02:46PM

24 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: On record 2:46 PM. 02:46PM

25 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Okay. So turning back to 02:46PM

1	the question.	02:46PM
2	I understand that you have not identified	02:46PM
3	any data specifically collected for the credit rescission	02:46PM
4	subclass identified in Mr. Regan's Paragraph 65; is that	02:46PM
5	accurate?	02:46PM
6	A. Correct. I was focused on aggregate and	02:46PM
7	representative data rather than on individual data on	02:46PM
8	class members.	02:46PM
9	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
10	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
11	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
12	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
13	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
14	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
15	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
16	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
17	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
18	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
19	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
20	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
21	Q. (By Ms. Brys) And I understand as to your	02:47PM
22	testimony today that you understand and you opine that the	02:47PM
23	aggregate measure or the accurate measure is the median.	02:47PM
24	MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Misstates	02:47PM
25	testimony.	02:47PM

1 A. What do you mean by "accurate measure"? 02:47PM

2 Q. (By Ms. Brys) You have testified that you 02:47PM

3 have not collected data specifically to any of the classes 02:47PM

4 identified in the population as to those classes 02:47PM

5 themselves; is that accurate? 02:47PM

6 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Confusing. 02:48PM

7 A. I have not identified or I have not 02:48PM

8 analyzed any data on the class members specifically 02:48PM

9 because my assignment was to focus on calculating an 02:48PM

10 interest rate that could be used to measure the aggregate 02:48PM

11 harm to the class. And that by identifying this number 02:48PM

12 that can be representative of the majority of the class, 02:48PM

13 that that can lead to an accurate measure of the 02:48PM

14 aggregate harm. 02:48PM

15 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Have you identified any data 02:48PM

16 that used -- as to the class members that used UI benefits 02:48PM

17 to cover necessary expenses as opposed to luxury or 02:48PM

18 discretionary purchases? 02:48PM

19 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Asked and 02:49PM

20 answered. 02:49PM

21 A. I have not identified any -- any 02:49PM

22 individual-level data of class members because I wanted 02:49PM

23 to use a dataset that was representative of all 02:49PM

24 individuals rather than focusing on just some 02:49PM

25 individual's experiences. 02:49PM

1 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Have you identified the 02:49PM
2 median debt carried by the class members' households? 02:49PM
3 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Asked and 02:49PM
4 answered. 02:49PM
5 A. I have not identified that because I 02:49PM
6 wanted to focus on data that is aggregate and 02:49PM
7 representative of the class as a whole rather than 02:49PM
8 individuals. 02:49PM
9 Q. (By Ms. Brys) And so is it your opinion 02:49PM
10 that the median debt carried by a class member household 02:49PM
11 is not representative of the class? 02:49PM
12 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Misstates 02:49PM
13 testimony. 02:49PM
14 A. No, that's not my opinion. 02:49PM
15 My opinion is that that data is not -- 02:49PM
16 well, it's not even my opinion. 02:49PM
17 I focused on data that comes from a large 02:50PM
18 representative dataset given that my understanding is 02:50PM
19 that data does not exist for class members. 02:50PM
20 Q. (By Ms. Brys) Have you asked for that 02:50PM
21 data? 02:50PM
22 A. No. 02:50PM
23 Q. So you don't know if it exists? 02:50PM
24 MS. HUNSICKER: Objection. Misstates 02:50PM
25 testimony. 02:50PM

1 think we've looked at this before. 03:02PM

2 A. Uh-hmm. 03:02PM

3 Q. In this one for the expenses, you've 03:02PM

4 included everything from rent and mortgage to credit card 03:02PM

5 bills, utility bills, student loans, et cetera. 03:02PM

6 A. In the sentence about the 21 percent, yes, 03:02PM

7 that's correct. 03:02PM

8 Q. And why did you identify those expenses in 03:02PM

9 particular? 03:02PM

10 A. I believe it was two factors. 03:02PM

11 One is that these are important bills that 03:03PM

12 individuals have to pay regularly and the data focuses on 03:03PM

13 these important bills that individuals have to pay 03:03PM

14 regularly. And so I was following what the data allowed 03:03PM

15 me to speak to. 03:03PM

16 MS. BRYN: What number are we on? 17? 03:03PM

17 MR. SHUCHART: Uh-hmm. 03:03PM

18 Q. (By Ms. Bryn) So I would like to introduce 03:03PM

19 as Exhibit 17 a report by Levine dated April 2025. Have 03:03PM

20 you seen this document before? 03:04PM

21 (Exhibit Number 17 was marked.) 03:04PM

22 A. Yes. 03:04PM

23 Q. I take it -- have you seen this document 03:04PM

24 after the date on the first page of this document? 03:04PM

25 A. Yes. 03:04PM

1 Q. Did you review this report in connection 03:04PM
2 with preparing for your deposition today? 03:04PM
3 A. Yes. 03:04PM
4 Q. Do you agree with his opinions in that 03:04PM
5 report? 03:04PM
6 A. I probably need more time -- 03:04PM
7 Q. Okay. 03:04PM
8 A. -- to page through every single opinion 03:04PM
9 but in general, yes I do. 03:04PM
10 Q. Oh. 03:04PM
11 A. Okay. 03:05PM
12 Q. Do you agree with the opinions reflected in 03:05PM
13 that report? 03:05PM
14 A. I agree with the opinions reflected, the 03:05PM
15 first and second opinion. The third I was not asked to 03:05PM
16 provide an opinion on so am not going to provide an 03:05PM
17 opinion on his opinion. 03:05PM
18 Q. Okay. So for purposes of making the 03:05PM
19 transcript easy to read, can you tell me which of -- can 03:06PM
20 you advise me which of the opinions, by reading them 03:06PM
21 aloud, that you agree with? 03:06PM
22 A. Sure. 03:06PM
23 The first one is use of a compound 03:06PM
24 interest rate is an appropriate measure of the 03:06PM
25 opportunity cost of delayed UI benefits, and the second 03:06PM

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1 is the credit card interest rate is a conservative 03:06PM
2 measure of opportunity of the cost of depriving UI 03:06PM
3 recipients of their benefits. 03:06PM

4 Q. And you do not have an opinion on whether 03:06PM
5 or not you agree with his third opinion, which is the 03:06PM
6 minimum wage is an appropriate measure of the value of 03:06PM
7 lost time for the customer service class. 03:06PM

8 A. Correct. 03:06PM

9 Q. And as I understand, that is because you 03:06PM
10 were not asked to form an opinion as to that opinion. 03:06PM

11 A. Correct. 03:06PM

12 Q. So turning to Paragraph 45 of his report, 03:06PM
13 have you reviewed this paragraph before? 03:07PM

14 A. Yes. 03:07PM

15 Q. And in it I believe he opines that class 03:07PM
16 members paid an effective interest rate of at least 03:07PM
17 15.9 percent. Do you see that? 03:07PM

18 A. Yes. 03:07PM

19 Q. Why do you and Levine in this report come 03:07PM
20 to different measurements on the credit card borrowing 03:07PM
21 rate for the class members? 03:07PM

22 A. Well, it's very common when two economists 03:07PM
23 are answering the same research question to review 03:07PM
24 slightly different research or slightly different data 03:07PM
25 and come to slightly different conclusions because of 03:07PM

1	A. Okay.	03:31PM
2	Q. The last sentence here says, Taken	03:31PM
3	together, this evidence points to the vast majority of UI	03:31PM
4	recipients in California between 2020 and 2021 being	03:31PM
5	unable to cover their expenses if they suddenly lose	03:31PM
6	access to UI benefits.	03:31PM
7	Do you see that sentence?	03:31PM
8	A. Yes.	03:31PM
9	Q. What do you mean by if they suddenly lose	03:31PM
10	access to benefits -- UI benefits?	03:31PM
11	A. So here I mean if individuals are denied	03:31PM
12	some or all of the UI benefits that they are entitled to	03:31PM
13	without a lot of notice, you know, all of a sudden.	03:31PM
14	Q. And what is your understanding of who	03:31PM
15	suddenly lost access to UI benefits in this case?	03:31PM
16	A. My understanding is that all class members	03:31PM
17	suddenly lost access to UI benefits in this case.	03:31PM
18	Q. Do you have an understanding as to whether	03:32PM
19	members of the account freeze class suddenly lost access	03:32PM
20	to UI benefits?	03:32PM
21	A. So my understanding is that members of the	03:32PM
22	account freeze class in addition to having their account	03:32PM
23	frozen, which meant that they suddenly lost access to	03:32PM
24	their UI benefits because their account was frozen, that	03:32PM
25	they also suddenly lost access to benefits by having a	03:32PM

1 claim denied. 03:32PM

2 Q. And is it your understanding that account 03:32PM

3 freeze class members were unable to access the UI funds in 03:32PM

4 their accounts while those accounts were frozen by the 03:32PM

5 bank? 03:32PM

6 A. It's my understanding that account freeze 03:32PM

7 class members were unable to access the funds while the 03:32PM

8 accounts were frozen. 03:32PM

9 There were some small subset of class 03:32PM

10 members who may have been able to access benefits on 03:32PM

11 paper checks but unclear how large that is. And 03:33PM

12 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

13 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

14 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

15 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

16 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

17 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

18 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

19 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

20 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

21 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

22 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

23 [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

24 Q. Okay. What is your understanding of which 03:33PM

25 classes your proposed interest rate will be used to 03:33PM

1 calculate damages for? 03:33PM

2 A. So it's my understanding that it's the 03:33PM

3 three classes we've been talking about, so the claim 03:33PM

4 denial class, the credit rescission class, the account 03:34PM

5 freeze class, plus the fifth class, which is the EMV chip 03:34PM

6 class. 03:34PM

7 Q. And what's your understanding of how the 03:34PM

8 20.8 percent interest rate that you proposed will be used 03:34PM

9 to calculate damages for the claim denial class? 03:34PM

10 A. The 20.8 percent interest rate that I 03:34PM

11 proposed will be used by multiplying this interest rate 03:34PM

12 by the amount of time the individuals lost access to UI 03:34PM

13 benefits and the principal amount of UI benefits that 03:34PM

14 they lost access to. 03:34PM

15 Q. And what is the principal amount of 03:34PM

16 benefits for a hypothetical claim denial class member? 03:34PM

17 A. It would be the amount of benefits that 03:34PM

18 they were denied because of indicator one. 03:34PM

19 Q. And what's your understanding of how the 03:34PM

20 interest rate you proposed will be used to calculate 03:34PM

21 damages for the credit rescission class? 03:35PM

22 A. The interest rate will be multiplied by 03:35PM

23 the amount of time individuals did not have access to 03:35PM

24 their full UI benefits multiplied by the principal amount 03:35PM

25 of UI benefits they were denied access to. 03:35PM

1 Q. And what's your understanding of how the 03:35PM
2 20.8 percent interest rate you proposed will be used to 03:35PM
3 calculate damages for the account freeze class? 03:35PM

4 A. For the account freeze class, the interest 03:35PM
5 rate I propose will be multiplied by the length of time 03:35PM
6 individuals were denied UI benefits and multiplied by the 03:35PM
7 amount of UI benefits that that class was -- or that each 03:35PM
8 member of that class was denied. 03:35PM

9 Q. And what is your understanding of the 03:35PM
10 principal amount of UI benefits that an account freeze 03:35PM
11 class member was denied? 03:35PM

12 A. My understanding is that is the account 03:35PM
13 balance that was frozen in this account freeze class. 03:36PM

14 Q. And what's your understanding of the extent 03:36PM
15 to which account freeze class members might have continued 03:36PM
16 to receive ongoing benefits? 03:36PM

17 A. My understanding is that that was rare, at 03:36PM
18 least until March, and that there's no hard data that 03:36PM
19 suggests that most people were continuing to receive UI 03:36PM
20 benefits. 03:36PM

21 Q. And what is your understanding of how the 03:36PM
22 20.8 percent interest rate will be used to calculate 03:36PM
23 damages related to those delayed benefit payments? 03:36PM

24 A. Again, it will be multiplied by the length 03:36PM
25 of time individuals were denied access to UI benefits and 03:36PM

1 the principal amount that they were denied. 03:36PM

2 Q. And the principal amount in this case for 03:36PM

3 the account freeze class related to their denied -- 03:36PM

4 delayed benefit payments would be what? 03:36PM

5 A. The amount of benefits that they were 03:37PM

6 denied access to. 03:37PM

7 Q. And is it your understanding that those 03:37PM

8 ongoing benefits were received right away? 03:37PM

9 A. No, it's not my understanding. 03:37PM

10 Q. What is your understanding of when they 03:37PM

11 were received, if at all? 03:37PM

12 A. It's my understanding that there was a 03:37PM

13 delay, but I don't have a good sense about the exact 03:37PM

14 length of that delay. 03:37PM

15 Q. Okay. Can you go to Paragraph 10(F) of 03:37PM

16 your report, please. 03:37PM

17 Your opinion here says, In my opinion, the 03:37PM

18 average credit card interest rate of 20.8 percent is an 03:37PM

19 appropriate figure to use to calculate the cost to class 03:37PM

20 members resulting from denial of access to their 03:37PM

21 principal claim amounts and frozen account balances. 03:37PM

22 Can you explain what you mean by that, 03:37PM

23 please? 03:37PM

24 A. Yes. 03:37PM

25 So in my report, I review research and 03:38PM

1 conduct my own analysis to come up with the 20.8 credit 03:38PM
2 card interest rate as appropriate, if anything, 03:38PM
3 underestimate of the cost faced by class members. And 03:38PM
4 because my report is focused on providing this interest 03:38PM
5 rate that will lead to an aggregate damages calculation, 03:38PM
6 the important thing is that the 20.8 percent is 03:38PM
7 representative of a large -- large number of class 03:38PM
8 members, and so there might be some class members that 03:38PM
9 have slightly lower interest rates that they face or 03:38PM
10 slightly higher interest rates that they face. But when 03:38PM
11 applying this average measure to the entire class and 03:38PM
12 aggregating up, it will be just as good as taking those 03:38PM
13 slightly lower or slightly higher and aggregating all of 03:38PM
14 those up. It will be -- it will lead to the same 03:39PM
15 estimate. 03:39PM

16 Q. When you say "just as good," what do you 03:39PM
17 mean by that? 03:39PM

18 A. I mean it will lead to the same estimate 03:39PM
19 of the aggregate damages. 03:39PM

20 Q. Okay. Are all -- are all proposed class 03:39PM
21 members individuals in California who received UI benefits 03:39PM
22 in 2020 or 2021? 03:39PM

23 A. Yes. All proposed class members are UI 03:39PM
24 recipients in California who received benefits during 03:39PM
25 2020 or 2021, which is why my analysis of the SIPP data 03:39PM

CERTIFICATE OF COURT REPORTER

I, DEANNA BAYSINGER, a Registered Professional Reporter and Notary Public within and for the State of Colorado, commissioned to administer oaths, do hereby certify that previous to the commencement of the examination, the witness was duly sworn by me to testify the truth in relation to matters in controversy between the said parties; that the said deposition was taken in stenotype by me at the time and place aforesaid and was thereafter reduced to typewritten form by me; and that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of my stenotype notes thereof.

That I am not an attorney nor counsel nor in any way connected with any attorney or counsel for any of the parties to said action nor otherwise interested in the outcome of this action.

My commission expires: November 8, 2026.



DEANNA BAYSINGER

Registered Professional Reporter

Notary Public, State of Colorado