

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, :

Plaintiff, :

v. :

Case No. 1:23-cv-04738 (KPF)

COINBASE, INC. and COINBASE GLOBAL, :
INC., :

Defendants, :

**DECLARATION OF JOHN DEATON IN SUPPORT OF JOHN DEATON’S BRIEF ON
BEHALF OF 4,701 COINBASE CUSTOMERS, AS *AMICI CURIAE*
IN SUPPORT OF COINBASE’S
MOTION TO CERTIFY INTERLOCUTORY APPEAL**

I, John E. Deaton, hereby declare under penalty of perjury pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1746 as follows:

1. I am an attorney duly admitted to practice in the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. I am managing partner at the Deaton Law Firm and I submit this declaration in support of my brief on Behalf of 4,701 Coinbase Customers, as Amici Curiae in Support of Coinbase’s Motion to Certify Interlocutory Appeal.
2. Attached as **Exhibit A** is a true and correct copy of one XRP Holder affidavit contained in ECF 831-26, filed with the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York on June 13, 2023.
3. Attached as **Exhibit B** is a true and correct copy of the hearing transcript held in *SEC v. LBRY, Inc.*, No. 21 Civ. 260, 2022 WL 16744741, on January 30, 2023.

4. Attached as **Exhibit C** is a true and correct copy of the hearing transcript held in *SEC v. LBRY, Inc.*, No. 21 Civ. 260, 2022 WL 16744741, on November 21, 2022.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated: April 26, 2024
Swansea, MA

By: /s/ John E. Deaton
John E. Deaton

XRP HOLDER AFFIDAVIT (RETIREMENT - CATEGORY 5)

Under oath, I solemnly swear:

1. My name is [redacted] and I am 18 years of age or older.
[full legal name]
2. I reside at [redacted]
[street name, city, state, ZIP code, country]
3. I am an XRP Holder. I acquired XRP in the secondary market and not from Ripple Labs Inc. ("Ripple"), its executives, or affiliates.
4. I acquired XRP for the first time on 3/15/2020
[mm/dd/yyyy]
5. I hold XRP in a licensed brokerage retirement account. My XRP funds represent a significant portion of my life savings.
6. Because of the enforcement action filed in the matter of *SEC v. Ripple Labs Inc.*, my broker suspended all trading of XRP. I cannot sell my XRP. I cannot convert my XRP into Bitcoin, Ethereum, or any other digital asset. I cannot convert my XRP back into U.S. dollars or other fiat currencies.
7. My XRP retirement funds have been frozen until there is a resolution of the *SEC v. Ripple Labs Inc.* case.
8. When I acquired the XRP in my retirement account, I did not rely on any promises, statements, or inducements of Ripple, its executives, or affiliates. Because my XRP funds are frozen, if I or my family experienced a life-altering event that required the need to access my XRP funds, I would be unable to do so.
9. My XRP funds being frozen and my inability to trade and/or convert my XRP has caused me to experience significant anxiety and/or stress.

Signature of Affiant:

[redacted signature]

Date: 3-15-2021

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

* * * * *		*
U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE		*
COMMISSION,		*
	Plaintiff.	* No. 1:21-cv-260-PB
		* January 30, 2023
		* 3:00 p.m.
	v.	*
LBRY, INC.,		*
	Defendant.	*
* * * * *		*

TRANSCRIPT OF MOTIONS HEARING
BEFORE THE HONORABLE PAUL J. BARBADORO

APPEARANCES:

<u>For the SEC:</u>	Peter Moores, Esq.
	Marc Jonathan Jones, Esq.
	Amy Burkart, Esq.
	Securities and Exchange Commission

<u>For the Defendant:</u>	Keith Miller, Esq.
	Emily Drinkwater, Esq.
	Rachel Mechanic, Esq.
	Perkins Coie LLP
	Timothy John McLaughlin, Esq.
	Shaheen & Gordon

<u>For the Amicus:</u>	John Deaton, Esq.
<u>Naomi Brockwell</u>	Deaton Law Firm

<u>Court Reporter:</u>	Brenda K. Hancock, RMR, CRR
	Official Court Reporter
	United States District Court
	55 Pleasant Street
	Concord, NH 03301
	(603) 225-1454

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 THE CLERK: The Court is in session and has for
3 consideration a motion hearing in civil matter 21-cv-260-PB,
4 U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission versus LBRY, Inc.

5 THE COURT: All right. So, the SEC is seeking three
6 different remedies. I thought we would structure the
7 discussion on the three remedies. Let's start with the request
8 for an injunction. I want to hear the SEC first, because I
9 want to be sure I understand what relief it is they're seeking,
10 and then I'll hear from LBRY as to its response.

11 The *amici* has raised some arguments that are not being
12 litigated by the other parties in the case, and at the end of
13 it I'll give them a chance to say anything they want to say and
14 hear the SEC's response on that.

15 All right. So, that's how we're going to proceed.

16 So, first let me hear from the SEC about your request
17 for an injunction.

18 MR. MOORES: Thank you very much, your Honor. Peter
19 Moores on of behalf of the Securities and Exchange Commission.
20 I'm here along with my colleagues, Marc Jones and Amy Burkart
21 as well.

22 So, to address the first request, your Honor, we
23 actually attached to our papers a proposed injunctive relief
24 and the language thereof, and essentially there are two parts
25 of that. One is the follow the law, you know, the LBRY is --

1 THE COURT: Who are you proposing that I enjoin?

2 MR. MOORES: Correct. So, in the language of the
3 proposed injunction language we have LBRY's agents, servants,
4 employees, attorneys and all persons in active concert or
5 participation, and that is tracking the Rule 65 language, your
6 Honor, and so that is what we're asking for. It is
7 specifically that.

8 THE COURT: Does LBRY continue to have agents after it
9 ceases to exist?

10 MR. MOORES: So, your Honor, as of now it has agents,
11 and we believe that it would -- those agents are bound by the
12 injunction, or at least the proposed injunction that we're
13 seeking here. And with respect to injunctive and how it
14 applies in a future contempt proceeding, your Honor, successors
15 and assigns would also be subject to the injunction.

16 THE COURT: But LBRY's going to go out of existence;
17 it's going to dissolve, right?

18 (Mr. Moores nodded)

19 THE COURT: And are you saying that LBRY's agents will
20 continue to be bound by this injunction after LBRY ceases to
21 exist?

22 MR. MOORES: As at least a successor, yes, your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Don't separate entities like Odysee have a
24 right to be heard before they're made the subject of an
25 injunction?

1 MR. MOORES: They do, your Honor, but the Courts in
2 the First Circuit, if we look at the Webster case from 1980,
3 sort of outline that, as well as the Supreme Court in Regal
4 Knitwear company versus NLRB, which is back in 1945, which
5 essentially says that successors and assigns can be --

6 THE COURT: Well, successors and assigns are different
7 from agents. I agree a successor is easy to deal with, but
8 you're not alleging that LBRY has a likely successor, are you?

9 MR. MOORES: Well, your Honor, if we just go back and
10 look at the facts of Odysee, they are currently an agent or
11 would be participating along with LBRY in concert with them.
12 However, if LBRY was to dissolve and disappear, then I do
13 believe that they would satisfy the definition of a successor
14 here, because there has been a transfer of a significant amount
15 of the business operations of LBRY to Odysee as well as its
16 assets.

17 THE COURT: Is there evidence that LBRY was offering
18 LBC as a security?

19 MR. MOORES: That LBRY or Odysee?

20 THE COURT: Odysee, I'm sorry, that Odysee was
21 offering LBC as a security?

22 MR. MOORES: So, your Honor, we believe that in the
23 summary judgment record we did submit a number of exhibits in
24 which Odysee is making the same statements that LBRY was
25 contemporaneously. So, just taking a step back, your Honor --

1 THE COURT: Odysee didn't have pre-mined LBC. That
2 was LBRY.

3 MR. MOORES: No, but it appears that Odysee was using
4 at some point some of LBRY's pre-mined LBC. I know in the
5 declaration that Julian Chandra had provided in the reply
6 brief, I believe that Odysee is on the record as saying that it
7 has only bought LBC on the market and then has offered and sold
8 that.

9 But I think that some of the facts, if you look at --

10 THE COURT: It's only a secondary purchaser of LBC,
11 right, in the same way that somebody that bought on an exchange
12 from LBC that had been previously sold by LBRY?

13 MR. MOORES: I don't believe the actual facts would
14 bore that out, your Honor. I believe that LBRY was developing
15 a number of programs and that Odysee was taking advantage of
16 some of those reward programs, to include, if you were to
17 review the Block Explorer -- and I have actually a printout of
18 some of the Block Explorer, your Honor, here, but it
19 essentially demonstrates that even to the present day that
20 there are a number of transfers of LBC that are being conducted
21 by -- and we believe that some of those are being done by
22 Odysee and not necessarily by LBRY as part of its rewards
23 programs.

24 THE COURT: Is this LBC that's from the pre-mined, or
25 is this LBC that had been earned by miners and purchased on an

1 exchange?

2 MR. MOORES: And I know that there appears to be a bit
3 of discrepancy about this, your Honor, and obviously further
4 discovery would get to the bottom of it, but the evidence that
5 we show, that we've seen indicates that you can trace that LBC
6 back to the LBRY pre-mined, the initial \$400 million LBC that
7 had been mined by LBRY in October of 2015.

8 THE COURT: There is LBC that comes into existence
9 from mining, not the pre-mine, right?

10 MR. MOORES: That is correct. There's approximately
11 767 million LBC circulating in existence as of today, we've put
12 that in our papers, and 400 million was part of the pre-mine,
13 your Honor.

14 THE COURT: But my order was dealing with offerings by
15 LBRY of LBC which was part of their pre-mine, right, not
16 secondary sales, not things like that?

17 MR. MOORES: Well, I think the full scope would have
18 been what we had, which was LBRY's offer and sales of LBC as an
19 investment contract, your Honor, and that would have included
20 the sales that LBRY did through Altonomy, which is the market
21 maker, and they transacted about 4.4 -- sorry -- 7.4 billion
22 LBC, which we don't have the full records of, but
23 mathematically and probabilistically that would include LBC
24 that was bought and sold on the secondary market that was not
25 part of LBRY's original pre-mine, your Honor. So, yes, your

1 order would at least have encompassed part of the market-making
2 activity by LBRY.

3 THE COURT: Well, to the extent it came from LBRY's
4 pre-mine offerings, not from LBC that it acquired through
5 different means, like purchasing -- if it had purchased LBC
6 from miners, say. So, I guess you and I may be talking past
7 each other.

8 MR. MOORES: Your Honor, perhaps your opinion doesn't
9 get into this level of detail with respect to --

10 THE COURT: Right. I don't think it -- it
11 intentionally didn't.

12 MR. MOORES: Right. But LBRY itself from the time
13 period from 2020 through 2021 was buying and selling on the
14 open market through Altonomy.

15 THE COURT: I understand that, but there are many
16 people that acquired LBC. Some acquired it directly from LBRY,
17 some acquired it from mining activities, some acquired it on
18 exchanges, some of what they acquired may have been from
19 miners, some of it may have been from people who acquired LBC
20 as an investment, and some of it may have been repurchased by
21 LBRY. Those are secondary owners -- secondary offerers who try
22 to deal with those, not the initial offering of the LBC by
23 LBRY.

24 So I'm not sure -- you say those things are
25 indistinguishable. Like, you're saying LBRY just as much

1 offered LBCs in security if they acquired some of it on an
2 exchange and sold it to somebody else as if it was selling its
3 own pre-mine?

4 MR. MOORES: Your Honor, in terms of the Howey test
5 analysis, I believe that buying LBC on the secondary market and
6 then offering it, as LBRY had, with all the attendant promises
7 would be selling it as an investment contract.

8 THE COURT: Then you would say that that would also be
9 true of anyone else who bought LBC?

10 MR. MOORES: No, not necessarily, your Honor. That's
11 not our position. Our position here today is about LBRY's
12 offers and sales, not necessarily where the LBC originally came
13 from, but LBRY's offers and sales of LBC as an investment
14 contract.

15 THE COURT: I have to tell you I have a significant
16 problem with the idea of using the judicial power to enjoin an
17 entity that is going to dissolve and burn its pre-mine. I just
18 have a lot of trouble with that concept. To the extent you
19 want me to enjoin people that aren't parties to the case and
20 haven't had an opportunity to meaningfully contest your
21 request, I have a lot of trouble with that as well.

22 So, those are things you have to overcome in my mind.
23 Is there anything else you want to say on that issue?

24 MR. MOORES: Yes, your Honor, just with the notion of
25 the factors that we sort of laid out in our papers. So, first,

1 isolated recurring nature of the violation, I think we've
2 already talked about that in our papers. I'll skip over that.

3 The egregiousness of the conduct. I think what's
4 important here is the notion of what is the conduct and
5 egregiousness of the conduct vis-a-vis and compared to the
6 actual scope of the injunctive --

7 THE COURT: I think for the injunction the issue is
8 what is the real potential that they may continue to violate,
9 and an entity that doesn't exist anymore and doesn't have any
10 pre-mined, it's hard for me to see how there's a likelihood
11 that it will continue to violate. That's why we need to
12 separate, in my mind, at least, each form of relief:
13 injunction, disgorgement and penalty. And for the injunction,
14 I mean, I've already drawn the conclusion that they violated,
15 LBRY violated the Securities Act.

16 MR. MOORES: Mm-hmm.

17 THE COURT: That's a conclusion I've already reached
18 and I continue to believe is a correct conclusion. But the
19 issue of -- I've long been concerned about addressing a remedy
20 here that would be appropriate for the violation, and one form
21 of response to this violation is injunctive relief; but I am
22 inclined to accept that, if LBRY does what it promises, that
23 there seems to be very low likelihood that LBRY will reoffend,
24 and, to the extent you want to contend an entity that hasn't
25 been named in this action is an agent and should be subject to

1 injunction, that is problematic for me.

2 So, those are the concerns I have about the
3 injunction. Anything else you want to say about the
4 injunction?

5 MR. MOORES: Yes, your Honor. I just want to go into
6 a couple of the prongs that you're talking about, whether the
7 defendant will be in a position to violate again and the last
8 prong, which is the sincerity of the defendant's assurances
9 against future violations, because I think that's what you're
10 most concerned about.

11 THE COURT: Absolutely, yeah. And I also think that
12 it's a trust-but-verify situation, that I think I'd have to see
13 LBRY go out of existence before I can be able to establish that
14 there isn't any need for an injunction against LBRY. But
15 assuming that LBRY is prepared to do what it says -- I have no
16 reason to doubt that it is prepared to do what it says -- once
17 it does it, there doesn't seem to me to be a basis to enjoin
18 LBRY, at least, maybe these other entities you're talking
19 about, like Odysee. But, again, I have a problem with that
20 idea. I had never done that, that I can recall, issued an
21 injunction to enjoin somebody who isn't a party to the
22 litigation and who hasn't been given a fair opportunity to
23 argue otherwise. It's, like, Tough luck, you don't get to be
24 heard, you're enjoined.

25 MR. MOORES: I understand, your Honor.

1 THE COURT: There's nothing preventing you from
2 seeking to file an action against Odysee, and you can do that,
3 if you want, but you haven't done that here.

4 MR. MOORES: Well, your Honor, Odysee didn't exist at
5 the time that we filed this action, obviously.

6 THE COURT: But it has been in existence. It was in
7 existence as of the date I issued my order, because I referred
8 to it.

9 MR. MOORES: It was. It was formed in 2021, I
10 believe, after this case was filed. And so, to the point of
11 what's going to continue on in the future, again, we're not
12 asking the Court to specifically identify any other non-party,
13 but within the framework of Rule 65 it says, you know, that an
14 injunction would be applied to an agent, servant, employee or
15 attorney, etcetera, and so, to the extent that Odysee, for
16 example, is an agent, then it would be bound today just by the
17 plain language --

18 THE COURT: It's an interesting question that I don't
19 have an answer to except to say, ordinarily principal agency
20 relationship requires a principal with the ability to control
21 the agent. To the extent the principal no longer exists, I
22 wonder how that is an ability to control the agent. I don't
23 think Odysee is a successor in any traditional role in the
24 sense that they acquired all or substantially all of the assets
25 or they acquired the stock of LBRY. That would make them a

1 successor. Neither of those things has happened or is likely
2 to happen.

3 MR. MOORES: Well, your Honor, just on the facts of
4 that I would disagree with a little bit about the notion that
5 Odysee doesn't --

6 THE COURT: What assets of LBRY did Odysee acquire
7 when it came into existence? I thought it was a subsidiary of
8 LBRY.

9 MR. MOORES: So, it was a wholly owned subsidiary, and
10 at the point --

11 THE COURT: Have there been asset transfers?

12 MR. MOORES: Yes, there have been.

13 THE COURT: What assets have been transferred?

14 MR. MOORES: So, my understand there is \$1.6 million,
15 which is at this point substantially all of LBRY's liquid
16 assets, because LBRY --

17 THE COURT: When was that transfer made?

18 MR. MOORES: So, the transfer would have occurred over
19 2021 and 2022. Again, your Honor, we don't have all the -- we
20 don't have discovery on this, so we don't have the detail of
21 exactly when that happened, but it would have been after this
22 case was filed, and LBRY then -- and it describes it as
23 commercial loan terms, so I'm not sure what that means.

24 THE COURT: So, it was a loan of monies from LBRY to
25 Odysee? Is that --

1 MR. MOORES: Correct, of \$1.6 million, which was more
2 than its liquid assets -- it was a substantial majority of its
3 liquid assets at the time --

4 THE COURT: Of Odysee's liquid assets or LBRY's?

5 MR. MOORES: Of LBRY's. Odysee itself hasn't
6 generated much assets. What we see from Julian Chandra's
7 declaration that it was tens of thousands of dollars, perhaps,
8 have been generated by Odysee itself. So, pretty much all its
9 operational funding has come in a transfer from LBRY. All of
10 its IP, all of its software application development, all of
11 that was created by LBRY in 2020.

12 THE COURT: All of LBRY's IP has been transferred?

13 MR. MOORES: Not all of LBRY's IP, but the odyssee.com
14 and attendant software application, which is the largest in
15 terms of users --

16 THE COURT: Refresh my memory. I haven't gone back
17 over my prior order or the record.

18 MR. MOORES: Yes, your Honor.

19 THE COURT: But we obviously have the LBRY blockchain.

20 MR. MOORES: Correct.

21 THE COURT: But Odysee, as I'm remembering it, and I
22 may be wrong, you'll correct me, is only one application that
23 runs on -- can run on the LBRY blockchain, and Odysee can
24 actually run on something other than the LBRY blockchain, if
25 I'm remembering correctly. So, there's a significant part of

1 what LBRY is and what LBRY does or has done that's quite
2 distinct from what Odysee is and what Odysee has done; isn't
3 that right?

4 MR. MOORES: So, I'll just go through the historical
5 development, your Honor, and perhaps this will be helpful, and
6 I'm sure Mr. Miller has some additional facts to add.

7 So, LBRY had developed sort of the protocol and LBRY
8 network, which included the sort of user-application layer as
9 well as the software that interacts between the blockchain and
10 the protocol and the user application. That was developed by
11 LBRY initially. And then they had created a web-based user
12 application called lbry.tv, and in 2020 LBRY developed
13 odysee.com, which was another web-based user application, and
14 they ultimately decided to shut down lbry.tv.

15 Now, LBRY has another desktop application which you
16 can download. It's sort of not its web-based application, and
17 that, I believe, still exists and continues today that LBRY
18 supports. But in terms of odysee.com, and that is by far the
19 largest. So, whenever LBRY is saying the number of users, and
20 it's touting large numbers of users, our understanding is that
21 that is actually based on the users for odysee.com.

22 THE COURT: Odysee doesn't operate the LBRY
23 blockchain, does it?

24 MR. MOORES: I'm sorry. Say again?

25 THE COURT: Odysee doesn't operate the LBRY

1 blockchain?

2 MR. MOORES: So, my understanding is that when LBRY
3 created Odysee it retained sort of the operation of the LBRY
4 protocol and blockchain and had its engineers working on that
5 part of it, your Honor, but two-thirds of the employees of LBRY
6 were transferred over to Odysee to continue to work on
7 odysee.com, and that's a web-based user application. And that,
8 arguably, your Honor, is a majority of LBRY's assets at the
9 time, was its IP; it was the ability to work on those
10 user-based applications.

11 THE COURT: So, there were, in your mind, substantial
12 transfers of assets from LBRY to Odysee, over a million dollars
13 in cash, IP, other assets; much of the staff went from LBRY to
14 Odysee. Although, Odysee does -- again, I may be
15 oversimplifying this and may be misremembering it, but I'm
16 remembering it as having, at least the way LBRY portrayed it,
17 as a set of functions that are more like lbry.tv than LBRY writ
18 large.

19 MR. MOORES: So, the LBRY protocol and LBRY -- to work
20 on that, the engineers working on that, my understanding that
21 used to -- converted it into sort of a Go software language
22 would have been done by LBRY employees, whereas the web-based
23 application, odysee.com, and all the attendant services around
24 that would have been transferred over to Odysee.

25 We actually attach an exhibit that's Exhibit 8 to our

1 opposition papers, and it's LBRY in 2022 and sort of describes
2 what the future of LBRY was going to be and what the future of
3 Odysee was going to be, and LBRY said to the public, basically,
4 that all of the marketing campaign, all of the community
5 building, all of those types of functions that LBRY used to do
6 in order to build supply and demand in the LBRY network were
7 being transferred over to Odysee, and that LBRY was no longer
8 going to be doing that type of service as well, which, again,
9 is a large part of the business that LBRY was engaged in
10 previously or a component part.

11 THE COURT: Okay. I hear you. I'll take a harder
12 look at the materials you submitted on that point.

13 What else do you have on the injunction issue that you
14 want to say before I turn to LBRY?

15 MR. MOORES: Sure, your Honor. Just dealing with the
16 sort of sincerity of the reassurances by the defendant that it
17 won't continue to violate the securities laws, we have a number
18 of times that LBRY has said, We have stopped, you know, selling
19 at this point, and I think our papers tried to address that
20 those are not factual; they're inconsistent with the actual
21 records here in terms of LBRY first said it had stopped selling
22 any LBC in February of 2021, and we showed that that wasn't
23 true.

24 In terms of its understanding of what was wrong and
25 what was in the Court's Order, it thought that MoonPay on

1 selling to users as pre-mined in that way was not a violation,
2 when, in fact, this Court had found that it was a violation.
3 The Court -- LBRY has represented that the reason why it had
4 stopped selling in February of 2021 was because it was on
5 notice from the SEC that it was filing its case. The record
6 and testimony during the course of the discovery showed that
7 LBRY stopped using Altonomy, for example. It wasn't until
8 March of 2021, and that's because Altonomy stopped working with
9 them, and it wasn't because they were on notice that they were
10 violating securities --

11 THE COURT: This is kind of bleeding over to other
12 arguments that you want to make I think into the
13 appropriateness of, say, a penalty.

14 Let's be fair here. You are not alleging that LBRY
15 engaged in any fraudulent activity, first. Second, although I
16 held that LBRY had fair notice sufficient to allow for the
17 enforcement of the Securities Act against it for those
18 offerings, the fact of the matter is that this was one of the
19 first non-fraud cases that did not involve an initial coin
20 offering, right, where the SEC sought enforcement against an
21 issuer where there was no allegation of fraud and no initial
22 coin offering?

23 MR. MOORES: Your Honor, I'm not sure exactly what
24 "initial coin offering" really means. When somebody is
25 offering --

1 THE COURT: I would say before they begin operations
2 they offer their token; whereas LBRY began operations. And I
3 agree you can argue whether that's just a matter of degree, I
4 think I said that at the last hearing, a question of degree
5 rather than kind. The fact of the matter is there is a
6 difference, and they turned out to be wrong. But they weren't
7 being deceptive about what they were doing, were they? They
8 were right out front. I mean, you did a great job of
9 demonstrating how many times they quite clearly said to people
10 over and over again. We look at interest here, and we have
11 incentives in interest that are aligned with yours, and we will
12 make this blockchain more valuable, which will make your token
13 more valuable. They were very up front about what they were
14 doing. They weren't doing it in secret, they weren't making
15 false statements about what they were doing; at least it didn't
16 come to me in the pleadings that I've seen so far.

17 MR. MOORES: Your Honor, and we do acknowledge that we
18 did not bring a fraud case here. That was not the case. It
19 was a pure Section 5 violation. In terms of the sincerity of
20 the defendant's assurances against future violations, I don't
21 think that that hinges upon whether or not it was a fraud case
22 or a fraud charge that was brought.

23 I would like to bring at least one recent statement by
24 the company to the Court's attention, and then I'll stand down
25 and maybe reserve some of my other arguments on penalty.

1 THE COURT: Sure, yeah.

2 MR. MOORES: And I've given this to Mr. Miller as
3 well, LBRY's counsel. I can hand it up, or I could just read
4 it, whichever --

5 THE COURT: If it's short you can read it. If it's
6 longer, hand it up, because I can read faster than you can
7 speak, or at least in a way that the reporter can --

8 MR. MOORES: All right. Well, I will read it, and you
9 can tell me if it's sufficient.

10 MR. MILLER: Your Honor, we would object to this, what
11 he's about to enter.

12 THE COURT: Why don't you just hand it up, and I'll
13 look at that and decide whether to allow it.

14 (Document provided to the Court by the Clerk)

15 MR. MOORES: Can I at least describe --

16 THE COURT: Let me read it first and I will give you a
17 chance to briefly describe it.

18 MR. MOORES: Sure.

19 (Pause)

20 THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead. You can describe what it
21 is.

22 MR. MOORES: Okay. So, this is a tweet from LBRY
23 dated January --

24 THE COURT: Do you know who at LBRY tweeted it?

25 (Mr. Kauffman raised his hand)

1 THE COURT: I'm not surprised. I suspected it was
2 you. That's why I'm smiling, because the last time I had a
3 hearing I was on the receiving end of some very forceful
4 remarks from the person who offered this comment.

5 But go ahead.

6 MR. MOORES: Sure, your Honor. So, for those who
7 don't have it in front of them, this is a tweet from LBRY last
8 week, last Monday, I believe, January 23rd, in which LBRY says,
9 This is the biggest call we made wrong. We thought by being
10 honest and open the SEC would go after us last, but they
11 actually went after us first because we made it easy. We can
12 not emphasize enough how important it is to obscure your
13 activity from U.S. regulatory agencies.

14 And so, why this is relevant here is in terms of the
15 sincerity of defendant's assurances against future violations,
16 LBRY has taken the position that it is important to obscure
17 your activity from U.S. regulatory agencies, and we think that
18 that demonstrates their --

19 THE COURT: I'll be interested in hearing LBRY's
20 counsel's response on this. A lot of this -- like, I don't
21 take personally Mr. Kauffman's statements about me. He's very
22 angry. This was blood, sweat and tears that people put into
23 this thing over multiple years. I don't expect them to be
24 happy, you know? And he is very frank about just telling you
25 what he thinks, whether his lawyer likes it or not. Sometimes

1 his lawyer doesn't like it when he says the things. I can tell
2 by the way the lawyer is cringing when he says certain things
3 to me. We can smile about it, but this was somebody's blood,
4 sweat and tears over multiple years, a real serious thing that
5 they thought was going to work, and I don't expect them to be
6 happy, and, just because they aren't happy about it, doesn't
7 mean that I think they are fraudulent or deceptive or anything
8 like that. I just haven't seen that from LBRY here, and their
9 current counsel has been nothing but cooperative and
10 forthcoming in responding to my requests for information. I
11 mean, I don't want counsel to behave like Mr. Kauffman, but I
12 don't hold it against LBRY that he's angry.

13 MR. MOORES: Understood, your Honor. And with respect
14 to -- I think your comment earlier is that you would need to
15 see that LBRY had burned its tokens and didn't exist anymore
16 before you sort of issued your ruling here. And, obviously, it
17 has been a couple of months, and they haven't burned their
18 tokens.

19 THE COURT: Well, I think they need to get an answer
20 from me, and I'm assuming, and I'll hear what their counsel
21 says, but I'm assuming if I issue an order that says, If you do
22 X, we won't see a need for an injunction, once we verify that X
23 has been done. If they agree with that, they'll do X, and then
24 there won't be an injunction, and if they don't do X then you
25 can come back and say, Hey, Judge, you said no injunction, but

1 they aren't doing what you told them, so please now issue an
2 injunction, in which case I would probably do it.

3 I think they need a little bit of -- they need to know
4 what I'm going to do before they burn it, and I don't think
5 that's an unreasonable thing to expect from them.

6 MR. MOORES: Right. And I guess what I would be
7 proposing is maybe a practical solution or a more efficient way
8 of handling it, your Honor, which is, if they dissolve and if
9 you enjoin them until the point that they dissolved, then that
10 would be another way to handle it as well, your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Okay.

12 MR. MOORES: Thank you.

13 THE COURT: Let me hear what LBRY has to say. So, I
14 think the biggest concern I have, and I need to study the
15 record better on this, but they seem to be saying that under
16 the language of Rule 65 Odysee is an enjoinable entity, even
17 though it wasn't named in the action and even though it's not a
18 successor in the typical way that I would think of as a
19 successor to LBRY.

20 What's your response to that?

21 MR. MILLER: Thank you, your Honor. We submitted an
22 affidavit to try to short circuit this argument, Mr. Julian
23 Chandra, who is CEO. We tried to identify the factors that we
24 think completely distinguish LBRY from Odysee. The employees,
25 number of employees. I think Mr. Chandra said there's 18

1 current employees. LBRY has eight. Yes, a lot of them came
2 from LBRY. Why? Because they understood the business, the
3 application business. So, one thing that's important, and I
4 asked Mr. Chandra this question: Tell me what the 18 people
5 do. It's different. So, tell me what. Did they do any coding
6 on the LBRY blockchain? None. What do they do? Sales. They
7 do their own coding because there's, you know, software
8 between --

9 THE COURT: I thought Odysee needs software distinct
10 from the LBRY blockchain to function.

11 MR. MILLER: Yes.

12 THE COURT: I may be misunderstanding it completely,
13 but that's what I thought Odysee was, something that could run
14 on the LBRY blockchain but wasn't the LBRY blockchain.

15 MR. MILLER: Exactly. It's an application that runs
16 on the LBRY blockchain, but it can run on any blockchain.

17 THE COURT: That's what, yeah, I was thinking. At
18 least according to your representations it isn't necessary to
19 run on the LBRY blockchain; it could run on other kinds of
20 blockchains.

21 MR. MILLER: And Mr. Chandra also puts in his
22 affidavit another fact, which is they borrowed money. They
23 borrowed money from LBRY. They didn't have any money. They
24 borrowed money from LBRY to get it going, to pay its employees.

25 What does Odysee do today? Okay. Look at how it

1 operates. It doesn't -- it has LBRY tokens, it has LBC, and
2 where do they get them? They buy them on the open market. How
3 do they make money?

4 Judge, during our last hearing on summary judgment you
5 asked me how is LBRY going to make money if I'm a VC? Pitch
6 that to me. Let me pitch you what Odysee does. It has
7 customer premium fees in cash, it obtains advertising revenue,
8 and it has revenue from subscribers. So, they don't have
9 pre-mined tokens that they can use to sell to fund the
10 business. It's a completely separate and distinct entity and
11 business.

12 There's more in the affidavit, your Honor. I don't
13 want to bore you with going through each and every point, but
14 the point here is Odysee is separate and distinct. The problem
15 -- and I go back to your comment during the November 21st
16 conference that we had. You made this point, and I think it's
17 loud and clear to the crypto industry: Let's make the best out
18 of a bad situation. And you asked the SEC, Provide some
19 clarity, particularly for the secondary holders, right? Odysee
20 is no different than anyone else. Naomi Brockwell, secondary
21 holder, Odysee secondary holder. They use LBC. If someone
22 comes and you'll ask me how does Odysee use LBC --

23 THE COURT: Yeah, I do want to -- I know there may be
24 some artificiality to this, but I think it makes sense to hold
25 this issue of secondary acquirers of LBC to the end, because

1 this is an issue that has been of concern to me from the
2 beginning, but it's not an issue that the parties have
3 litigated with me. The SEC has elected not to litigate it, and
4 this argument, which has been an interesting argument that some
5 of the *amici* present, and I have been thinking about before I
6 received the *amici* filings about it, does not necessarily
7 follow that the token is the security that is restricted. What
8 I was focused on is what the parties were litigating, was
9 whether these particular offerings of the token were securities
10 offerings, and I said that they were. That does not
11 necessarily mean that every offering of the -- every resale of
12 the token violates the Securities Act because it's a restricted
13 security. That does not necessarily mean that, and it might
14 mean that, but that's an issue that the parties have not
15 litigated in my case.

16 I think you're going to litigate it in Ripple, aren't
17 you? At some point the SEC is going to have to do that,
18 because there are a lot of tokens that have consumptive use
19 that maybe ultimately should be regulated as a commodity rather
20 than as a security. But that's not me. That's not my job.
21 That's the SEC's job, and I can't make the SEC litigate
22 something in front of me that it doesn't want to.

23 There is a principle in jurisprudence, I think it's
24 called the party presentation principle, that the litigants get
25 to control what issues they want the court to resolve, not the

1 judge, and, while I would like that issue to be resolved, the
2 SEC has rejected every suggestion I have made that they should
3 resolve that issue with me.

4 And I can tell you this, though: I don't have the
5 power to take up issues that the SEC doesn't choose to litigate
6 with me, but I can be absolutely clear I'm not going to do
7 anything to restrict resales of LBC in this case, because the
8 SEC had its chance to argue that in front of me, and they are
9 not arguing it. So, to the extent that somebody has some kind
10 of concern that this Court is going to restrict resales of LBC,
11 I'm not, because I think that raises interesting issues.

12 But if I'm wrong, Counsel, you'll tell me, but I
13 recall you telling me many times, Oh, that's an issue of
14 policy. The Commission has to make the policy. I said, Okay,
15 that's true, but don't come to me asking me to order some kind
16 of relief that goes to things that you aren't litigating with
17 me. And that's -- am I frustrated by that? I am frustrated by
18 that. But that's the SEC that controls what it chooses to
19 litigate, and judges can't just go reach out and decide issues
20 that would be interesting for the judge to decide. That's just
21 --

22 MR. MILLER: So, your Honor, what I would say is the
23 SEC has put that issue squarely before you. Why? They want an
24 injunction from Odysee. Odysee is no -- it's just like any
25 other secondary holder of LBC. That's what I would argue.

1 They put that squarely before you by saying, We want a
2 permanent injunction against Odysee. They're not entitled to a
3 permanent injunction, like you said. They weren't a party to
4 this litigation, right? They weren't a party. The SEC could
5 have amended their complaint. The SEC, if they thought that
6 Odysee and LBRY was continually violating, they could have
7 sought a preliminary injunction. They didn't do this. So, now
8 that they're asking for an injunction against Odysee, I think
9 it is before the Court, more importantly, regulation through
10 enforcement. And that's what the SEC is doing. There's no
11 qualms. They recognize it. They're regulating through
12 enforcement.

13 It has to come to a point in time where the Court
14 needs to step in, and that's the frustration I think that the
15 crypto industry and my client has, is someone needs to say, and
16 in this case I think it can be said, and that is LBRY offered a
17 security. People who have -- but LBC is not a security. It
18 could be, but it's no more than a rock. A rock is a thing. If
19 you bundle it with a bunch of other rocks and sell it as an
20 interest saying, It's going to go up because I'm going to
21 create a lot of rocks, then it could be a security, but in and
22 of itself it's nothing; it's software code.

23 THE COURT: Yeah, I mean, I get the point. Is it
24 oranges or is it the contract to sell -- contract to buy an
25 orange tree or something in a market coupled with a promise to

1 fertilize the trees and harvest the oranges. It's a
2 legitimate, interesting issue and an important issue that at
3 some point needs to be resolved.

4 But, again, I hear your point, I'll think about the
5 Odysee issue, but up until now neither you nor they have
6 litigated this argument. Not once did one of you say to me,
7 Oh, yeah, our offerings were securities but our tokens are not,
8 okay? Certainly they never claimed, Issue an order that the
9 tokens are the security, and you never claimed, We should win
10 because the tokens are not a security. That is a new argument
11 that has emerged only late in this process, but I've got to
12 tell you it's one I've been thinking about for many, many
13 months, because courts kind of look to analogies when they try
14 to determine how to apply concepts like very broad definitions,
15 like securities, and if you play it out you have to ask
16 yourself to what extent does that fit or not fit?

17 And that's primarily a concern about secondary sales,
18 and this case isn't primarily, at least up until this point,
19 has not been about primarily secondary sales, and I can
20 understand why LBRY didn't make that argument, because it was
21 facing a huge problem regardless of how that issue was, because
22 it's my conclusion, right or wrong, that these offerings of LBC
23 were investment contracts, and therefore meet the definition of
24 a security, whether or not the token stripped from the rest of
25 the offering is itself an investment contract. That's why I

1 can understand why you didn't raise it, but people may be
2 trying to read something into my order that isn't there. It
3 isn't there because it wasn't litigated by the parties because
4 it wasn't necessary to the particular form of relief that the
5 SEC was seeking. I thought we would get there at the remedy
6 stage, potentially, but the SEC's argument every time I raise
7 it is, Oh, it's a matter of policy. We're not litigating that
8 here, and the Commission has to decide that, and blah, blah,
9 blah.

10 But I understand your point. In order to extend an
11 injunction to Odysee, you would have to necessarily conclude
12 that its LBC transactions somehow violate the registration
13 requirement because they are restricted and because, doing
14 that, in order to grant them the injunction you would have to
15 buy the argument that the tokens themselves are the security,
16 right? That's your --

17 MR. MILLER: Yeah. And I think they've put this
18 squarely in issue for your Honor to rule on.

19 THE COURT: I don't think they've put it squarely in
20 issue. I don't think they would say that, because they are
21 trying as hard as they possibly can not to put it as an issue
22 for whatever reason in front of me.

23 Okay. Thank you. I appreciate that.

24 Let's turn to the -- well, inevitably we've bled into
25 this question that the *amici* are raising. Did you want to say

1 anything about that, just briefly? And then we'll go on.

2 There is somebody -- are you representing one of the *amici*?

3 MR. DEATON: Yes, your Honor, Naomi Brockwell.

4 THE COURT: Okay. Mr. Brockwell (sic), why don't you
5 just -- I don't think you have a right to do this, but I'm
6 happy to give you a brief opportunity to say what you want to
7 say, and then the government can respond to that.

8 MR. DEATON: Absolutely, your Honor. John Deaton on
9 behalf of Naomi Brockwell. I acknowledge you exercise your
10 discretion, but, your Honor, I have to respectfully disagree
11 that it's not before the Court. This permanent injunction says
12 "all persons in active concert." That can be implied that
13 all LBC holders who may have received LBC. It violates
14 Morrison, because there are international LBC holders.

15 And here's the thing that I implore of the Court,
16 because I know my comments have to be brief as a non-party. I
17 would ask the Court to look at the 11/21 transcript hearing.
18 It's extraordinary, Judge. It's extraordinary the fact that
19 Mr. Kauffman spoke and how your Honor handled that situation.
20 "Secondary sales" was brought up 14 times in that brief
21 transcript. The word "clarity" was raised 16 times.

22 THE COURT: A lot of them by me.

23 MR. DEATON: Half by your Honor, and your Honor was
24 saying something needs to be done, there needs to be clarity.
25 These users -- the SEC concedes that people, many, if not more,

1 received LBC and acquired it for non-investment reasons, for
2 consumptive use, just like Naomi Brockwell, but they won't
3 provide clarity because of their policy issues and whatnot.

4 I'm not asking your Honor to do the SEC's job, but I
5 am asking your Honor to clarify what you meant. I put in as
6 Exhibit B that huge article by Lewis Cohen.

7 THE COURT: I read that article before you put it in.
8 Again, I didn't raise that stuff for the fun of it. It's
9 something that I've been concerned about, because it appears to
10 me that certainly blockchain is a legitimate, important
11 technology, and there's a need for tokens, and there are
12 consumptive uses for tokens, and the evidence in my case was
13 there are consumptive uses for LBC that don't have anything to
14 do necessarily with investment. So, trying to be clear about
15 how you address tokens of that type while still protecting the
16 public from unregistered securities offerings is an important
17 challenge, and I don't think -- I don't fully understand the
18 SEC's ultimate position on that at this point.

19 MR. DEATON: Your Honor, but here's the problem, and I
20 understand your Honor intentionally avoided it for those
21 reasons, but in that article they do quote, they interpret --
22 and I'm not necessarily agreeing with them. It's a bit
23 awkward, because they are critical of the Court's decision in
24 the article.

25 THE COURT: I thought it was a very -- I mean, I don't

1 mind that people are critical of me. I thought their analysis
2 was very interesting. I think it misunderstood my ruling and
3 doesn't understand the party presentation principle, which is
4 an important restraint on judicial power. It's to prevent
5 judges from going out and using cases as vehicles to decide
6 whatever issue interests them. Within the last five-or-so
7 years there is a Supreme Court case that discusses this very
8 issue. So, I think the authors, they raise the very issue I
9 have been concerned about.

10 MR. DEATON: Yes.

11 THE COURT: They misunderstand my order as being
12 something different from what it is --

13 MR. DEATON: Right.

14 THE COURT: -- and I understand why. I used the
15 language of the case law, which is, they offered LBC as a
16 security. From that one statement they construe my order to be
17 saying I think tokens are securities --

18 MR. DEATON: Exactly.

19 THE COURT: -- when I'm saying, no, I haven't made
20 that determination. That issue hasn't been raised in front of
21 me. No one should understand my order as taking a position on
22 an issue that wasn't briefed that I was thinking about but
23 consciously hadn't decided simply because I used the language
24 of the case law that defines what an investment contract is.
25 So, that's my position on that particular issue.

1 But I think the authors of that article, it's a very
2 carefully thought-out, interesting article, and I don't mind
3 that it's critical of me. In my view, it misunderstands my
4 order, but that's fine.

5 MR. DEATON: Your Honor, that's the issue, is that
6 they do say that it reads, and I'm not necessarily agreeing
7 with it --

8 THE COURT: To the extent it's necessary to disabuse
9 anybody that the order had some meaning -- when I issue an
10 order on remedy I'll make clear that I am not taking the
11 position that LBC is or is not a security. What I held, and
12 all that I held, and I think the SEC acknowledges this, is that
13 the offerings here of LBC were investment contracts, and they
14 are subject to the registration requirement.

15 MR. DEATON: Your Honor, and that's why I'm here, and
16 I'll sit down real soon. That's why I'm here before you and
17 traveled, because that clarity needs to be made. It was made
18 in Telegram in the second decision that Judge Castel out of the
19 Southern District of New York, he stated, the first time he
20 said it, and the second time he says, You're not listening.
21 The underlying contract is not the security. The Gram token,
22 its alphanumeric code, that's not the security. It is the
23 offering and it's the scheme, and I think that needs to be
24 clear.

25 Here's the thing: The SEC would agree, I believe they

1 would agree that Naomi Brockwell's acquisition of LBC doesn't
2 even meet the first prong of Howey. She does all her own
3 efforts to build her platform, so it doesn't meet the third
4 prong of Howey. Arguably, they could try to say she's in some
5 kind of common enterprise, yet this injunctive request that
6 they're asking could be argued to be applied against her. So
7 I'm asking that, your Honor, if you do enter injunctive relief
8 or in the clarification that you state that your ruling has
9 nothing to do with secondary sales.

10 THE COURT: I absolutely will intend to do that,
11 unless the SEC changes its position and argues that some of the
12 relief I order should affect secondary sales. If they stick to
13 their current position, which is, I'm not asking you to do
14 anything with respect to secondary sales, I'm going to make it
15 very clear that nothing in my order has anything to do with
16 secondary sales. And, as I said, I have doubts about whether
17 to grant any injunction at all here, and, to the extent I don't
18 grant any injunction at all, that part of your concern will go
19 away, because I won't be granting any injunction in any way
20 that could be, in my view, misconstrued to apply to secondary
21 sales, something the SEC has expressed multiple times to me it
22 has no desire to try to effect in this particular case.

23 MR. DEATON: Your Honor, the final thing I would say
24 is, if you don't order injunctive relief at all, if you would
25 still address that, because if you review the record, when

1 counsel for the SEC was up here in the initial presentation
2 this afternoon it was a little confusing, because you said,
3 Wait, my order has nothing to do with secondary sales, and then
4 there was this discussion, well, there is a market where maybe
5 it is. It is a bit confusing, and a clarification on that
6 issue would help not just LBC holders but the industry at
7 large. And it's not doing SEC's job; it's just making sure
8 that your decision isn't misapplied.

9 THE COURT: I don't want my order to be misunderstood,
10 to be misapplied, again. And I commend both LBRY and the SEC.
11 They tried in my case to raise a very narrow set of issues. If
12 you look at the order you can see this is not in dispute, that
13 is not in dispute. There's only one little issue that is in
14 dispute. My view of judging is you focus on only that which
15 you need to focus on to resolve the problem in front of you,
16 and that's the way -- someone would call that incrementalism.
17 It's an idea that judges should be restrained in what they do,
18 because we are not accountable directly to the public, only to
19 higher courts, and we should rule as narrowly as we can to
20 resolve the problem in front of us.

21 But I understand your point. I appreciate it. Thank
22 you.

23 MR. DEATON: Your Honor, sincerely on behalf of Naomi
24 and Brockwell and LBC holders, I appreciate you giving me an
25 opportunity.

1 THE COURT: Sure.

2 So, let me just ask the SEC, have I misstated anything
3 you -- I understand you to say, have said to me repeatedly, We
4 are not seeking in this action to regulate secondary sales of
5 LBC; we are not asking you to do that in anything that you are
6 doing, Judge. That's what I've understood your position to be.
7 Have I misunderstood your position?

8 MR. MOORES: No. I do think just a clarification.
9 I'm not sure exactly what secondary sales -- the term has been
10 bandied about, but we're concerned about the offers and sales
11 by LBRY. So, with all due respect to the *amici*, I think what
12 they're presenting is not what's in front of the Court, and we
13 agree with you.

14 But just with respect to secondary sales, to the
15 extent that that incorporates what LBRY has offered and sold,
16 then I think what we're asking for an injunction -- we don't
17 think LBRY should be going out into the secondary market --

18 THE COURT: Let's talk about an exemplar case, because
19 I'm not sure I'm completely understanding you. If LBRY made
20 certain sales to an investment club -- I can't remember the
21 name of it. Right? Remember that?

22 MR. MOORES: Flipside Crypto, your Honor.

23 THE COURT: Pardon me?

24 MR. MOORES: Flipside Crypto, your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Flipside Crypto, right? Okay. Flipside

1 Crypto bought that, right, that LBC?

2 MR. MOORES: Correct.

3 THE COURT: If Flipside Crypto decided tomorrow to
4 sell their LBC holdings, you would not in any way argue that
5 you are seeking any way to restrict the ability of Flipside
6 Crypto to sell its LBC. Am I right about that?

7 MR. MOORES: Correct. Not in this case, your Honor.

8 THE COURT: Not in this case. Okay. So, nobody
9 should have any more thought that this case involves any effort
10 to restrict someone like Flipside Crypto from reselling their
11 LBC. I'm not saying that they can resell it; I'm not saying
12 they can't resell it. I'm saying I can only address problems
13 that the litigants present to me, and the SEC has very
14 consciously and repeatedly refused to address those issues in
15 this litigation and said this litigation does not concern that.
16 So, I will make it very clear, Counsel, that when somebody like
17 Flipside wants to resell, this order, this Court's order does
18 not in any way restrict their ability to do that.

19 MR. DEATON: Thank you, your Honor.

20 THE COURT: All right. And that's because the SEC
21 acknowledges that its litigation in this case does not reach
22 those particulars matters, okay? I understand your point. To
23 the extent LBRY -- your view is, and I'm now understanding it,
24 I think, for the first time -- to the extent LBRY bought LBC
25 from someone else other than its pre-mine and then tried to

1 resell it, you would say that is a resale that should be
2 subject to an injunction, but to the extent anybody else other
3 than LBRY or Odysee are doing it, you're not trying to restrict
4 their ability to do that in this litigation at all?

5 You've got to tell me one way or the other, okay? I'm
6 entitled to know what your position is.

7 MR. MOORES: It is, your Honor. We're just saying the
8 Rule 65 encompasses agents, servants, employees and attorneys.
9 Just to be clear, we want the full scope of Rule 65. That's
10 all.

11 THE COURT: All right. All right. All right.

12 Okay. Let's deal with disgorgement. What's the SEC's
13 position on the disgorgement remedy? So I understand your view
14 is essentially that it's their burden to prove that they have
15 legitimate business expenses that offset any profits they
16 otherwise would have earned. You say they haven't demonstrated
17 that. I think you say you need some discovery before you can
18 adequately respond to their contention. They say you conceded
19 in your pleadings that all of their expenses were business
20 expenses, and they say, Look, we've provided, we've given you
21 our financial statements, and we show that we had had
22 legitimate business expenses. You say that's not sufficient.
23 So, elaborate on your argument there as I've --

24 MR. MOORES: I think you've got a lot of that in a
25 nutshell, your Honor, essentially that we lack the full

1 information in order to present to the Court --

2 THE COURT: What are your concerns? Are your concerns
3 that they have siphoned off profits and, say, paid them to
4 people like Mr. Kauffman and put that under the guise of a
5 business expense? Is that your concern, that they, instead of
6 paying salaries, they were effectively paying dividends which
7 are not business expenses?

8 MR. MOORES: Your Honor, I think that there's sort of
9 a twofold nature. One is, you're trying to figure out what the
10 total amount that LBRY received as benefit for the sales, and I
11 don't think we have the full information on that. Then, with
12 respect to the expenses, in order to do the analysis we believe
13 that you really have to understand what the expenses are and
14 figure out whether or not they're applicable.

15 If I just take one sort of giant step back, your
16 Honor, with respect to -- I know Mr. Miller has talked about
17 legitimate business expenses and this notion where you can
18 essentially spend away all of the money that was unjustly
19 enriched. We think that that is sort of a misread of the
20 equitable principles in the first place.

21 THE COURT: Do you doubt that their assets are as
22 limited as they say they are now?

23 MR. MOORES: There have been representations about
24 their assets that are inconsistent with what they are now;
25 however, we believe that they do have limited assets, your

1 Honor.

2 THE COURT: So, how do you get blood from a stone,
3 right, in terms of disgorgement? What's the answer to that
4 problem?

5 MR. MOORES: So, disgorgement is not blood from a
6 stone, your Honor. Disgorgement is not to be reduced by the
7 inability of the person to pay. The Courts have ruled that
8 way. I know it is one of the factors for a penalty in terms of
9 the ability to pay but with respect to --

10 THE COURT: I haven't dealt with that particular
11 issue. So, you say, and your brief, I assume, cites these,
12 they just escape me, there are cases that say even a company
13 with no remaining assets can be subjected to a disgorgement
14 remedy, because if they siphon them off into other areas or
15 wasted them on things that weren't legitimate business expenses
16 what happens to the order? I just order it and then nothing
17 happens, right?

18 MR. MOORES: Well, you know, it would be up to the
19 Commission at that point to try to collect on the order, and,
20 to the extent it could not, then your point is well taken, no
21 blood from a stone. But with respect to -- and my
22 understanding of the law, and we can get to the cases, your
23 Honor, about this, but that it is an equitable remedy, and so
24 it is ordered by the Court even to the extent that the parties
25 don't necessarily have the cash on hand to satisfy.

1 THE COURT: I'll read the cases in your brief on that
2 point. It's just not something I have had to deal with before.
3 But I get your point. So, you say, Okay, the judge should
4 issue it whether or not they have the ability, if the judge is
5 satisfied that there are net profits that had been earned.
6 Okay. The burden is on LBRY to show that it has legitimate
7 business expenses, right?

8 MR. MOORES: Correct.

9 THE COURT: You say they haven't done that, and, B,
10 before I can finally take a position on that I need to do some
11 discovery?

12 MR. MOORES: Yes, your Honor.

13 THE COURT: Okay. How limited -- there already have
14 been, if we try to reduce your time to, say, \$500 an hour,
15 hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal time spent by the SEC
16 on this particular case, no doubt. I don't know what LBRY's
17 been paid, LBRY's lawyers have been paid, but I would assume
18 hundreds of thousands of dollars paid to the lawyers. At what
19 point do -- what's the minimum amount of discovery that you
20 would need to be able to respond?

21 So, for example, there are a couple of accounts you've
22 identified where, I don't know, what's that \$3,000,000 kind of
23 thing, you know? And could you make some really targeted,
24 expedited discovery and have a limited, say, maybe three
25 depositions of people with the greatest knowledge of particular

1 matters, resolve that within about 30 days, and then file a
2 supplemental taking a position on exactly how much is
3 legitimate business expense and how much isn't?

4 MR. MOORES: Yes, your Honor. I mean, I think what we
5 had originally envisioned was something like six weeks just in
6 order to make sure we could draft up the request, and then the
7 request would then be submitted back to us and that we could
8 then, as necessary, take depositions.

9 However, I mean, one of the overarching principles
10 here, your Honor, that might make this a little bit easier is
11 the notion of unjust enrichment, and I know the Court cites
12 this in Liu, which is the *Third Restatement* about restitution
13 on unjust enrichment, sort of walks through the concepts, and I
14 think that one of the initial positions or the fundamental
15 position that LBRY is taking is that it can spend away what it
16 was unjustly enriched.

17 THE COURT: I don't think that's their position. They
18 can engage in legitimate business expenses that happen to
19 deplete or overcome any net profits that it's made.

20 MR. MOORES: And so, the fundamental principle, it's
21 in Liu and it's in a number of other cases, it would be
22 inequitable that a wrongdoer should make a profit out of his
23 own wrong; unjust enrichment is supposed to revert back to the
24 status quo and is supposed to ultimately deprive the wrongdoer
25 of a wrongful gain, and the way that at least the *Restatement*

1 portrays it is that --

2 THE COURT: But in Liu doesn't the Court make clear
3 that, in order for it not to be a penalty, you have to make an
4 allowance for legitimate business expenses?

5 MR. MOORES: You do. And I think it's really
6 important also to look at Liu itself in terms of who the
7 petitioners were there. So, the petitioners were individuals;
8 it was not a company. So, when you say "legitimate business
9 expenses," this was a misappropriation case, and the court was
10 trying to determine what amount the individuals had put in
11 their own pocket, and so, when you are trying to measure how
12 much an individual puts in their own pocket, the amount of
13 money that was raised and ultimately spent on business expenses
14 was not put into the individual's own pocket.

15 And so, actually on remand and down to the Ninth
16 Circuit, when it came back to the Ninth Circuit, they sort of
17 said the notion of profits here is a bit of a misnomer.

18 And so, in this case and, again, we haven't had the
19 full discovery, so we don't sort of fully appreciate this, but
20 the *Restatement* lays out, and there's a couple of sections,
21 there's Section 49, and there's Section 51, and 49 talks about
22 how you measure unjust enrichment, and essentially it is the
23 amount of money that was paid or the amount of money that was
24 received by the defendant, and that's essentially what you'd
25 refer to as the principal.

1 And then, when you look at Section 51, then it tries
2 to measure, well, what is the amount of gain that the defendant
3 was able to gain the benefit of based upon that principal, and
4 there's a couple of important illustrations. So, for example,
5 in Restatement Section 51, illustration 2 talks about if there
6 was an embezzler and that embezzler stole \$100,000 to buy
7 Blackacre and it appreciates in value to \$150,000. Then the
8 amount of unjust enrichment is not the \$100,000, it's actually
9 the \$150,000, because that would represent not only the
10 principal, the amount that was taken, embezzled, stolen but
11 also the gain on that as well.

12 THE COURT: I agree that that basic concept of
13 depriving them of gain is the way to go about analyzing this
14 particular problem. But, to the extent that they can try to
15 make the LBRY blockchain work, engaged contractors, rented
16 facilities, paid reasonable salaries that aren't simply covers
17 for dividend transfers to the investors, that those expenses
18 need to be deducted from the total amount that they generated
19 from their offerings.

20 MR. MOORES: Right. And it appears on facts, and,
21 again, we don't have all of them, and so that discovery would
22 be helpful on this, that there are essentially -- I think
23 LBRY's position is there is no gain upon the principal, right?
24 So, there is the amount that they raised from the sales, which
25 is the principal, and then there was no gain on that because

1 the company ultimately was not able to turn a profit, etcetera,
2 but the unjust enrichment in that circumstance is the amount
3 that was first received.

4 So, illustration 24 in Restatement Section 51 is
5 important on this. It talks about, if the trustee stole
6 \$100,000 from a fund and then ultimately bought Blackacre and
7 it depreciated, so it went down in value, then the unjust
8 enrichment in that context is still \$100,000. Just because the
9 investment and the expenses didn't enure to a benefit, into a
10 profit, it doesn't mean that the original amount, the
11 principal, is not actually to be returned --

12 THE COURT: But doesn't Liu draw a distinction between
13 entities which are wholly fraudulent in their activities, in
14 which case you look at it very differently from a business that
15 is not a fraudulent business and simply does something that
16 entitles you to disgorgement? In that case this was a
17 legitimate business. It was engaged in offerings that were not
18 proper because they weren't registered, but it was not an
19 illegitimate business. So, you have to be careful -- like an
20 example about, oh, person A defrauded somebody of a million
21 dollars, invested the million dollars in property, it went down
22 by 100,000, that makes complete sense to me. But people
23 operating a business, legitimate business, who use profits from
24 unregistered offerings to buy a facility at \$1,000,000 that
25 goes down to \$900,000, you don't necessarily treat the profit

1 as a million, you treat it as 900,000, because the buying of
2 that property was a legitimate business activity. It didn't
3 turn out to be as valuable, but that is a legitimate business
4 expense.

5 So, I think those two examples illustrate how you
6 treat a purely fraudulent business differently from a business
7 that is not a fraudulent business who engages in unregistered
8 offerings of securities. Does that make sense to you?

9 MR. MOORES: I understand your point. I would
10 respectfully disagree that the unjust enrichment is the amount
11 that was received by -- through the conduct of the wrongful
12 action.

13 THE COURT: But if I operate a legitimate business, I
14 raise money through offerings to run a legitimate business that
15 I don't register, right, and I buy the property that is going
16 to be the core property on which I'm going to operate my
17 business, and it turns out that I put all my money from my
18 illegal offering in that business and it went down to 900,000,
19 you say that loss of the value of a property that you bought to
20 operate your business is not a legitimate business expense?

21 MR. MOORES: I'm not going to characterize it as an
22 illegitimate business expense --

23 THE COURT: Right.

24 MR. MOORES: -- your Honor, but it would be something
25 that you would deduct from the amount that was actually paid by

1 the investors.

2 THE COURT: I'm not sure I agree with you on that
3 point. I'll have to think that true. I will look at the
4 examples more carefully.

5 MR. MOORES: Yeah. So, I think the *Restatement* is
6 illustrative of this as well. And it sort of just makes sense,
7 because it results in some potentially absurd results where
8 disgorgement would change, the amount of unjust enrichment
9 would change over time based upon just the amount of
10 expenditures or dissipation of assets.

11 THE COURT: I think it could change over time. I
12 think it could change over time.

13 MR. MOORES: Well, I understand if there was gains
14 over time, but this is not a situation in which there are
15 actual profits and you're deducting --

16 THE COURT: But if to try to operate the business you
17 lose money, that offsets against the profits you otherwise
18 would have made. So, when that business winds up and it has
19 \$100,000 less because it engaged in a legitimate business
20 expense, that it bought a piece of real estate that didn't end
21 up appreciating, in fact, it depreciated, that still seems to
22 be a legitimate business expense.

23 MR. MOORES: Your Honor, I'm not disagreeing with you
24 how a company, if it spent it honestly in terms of trying to
25 run a business --

1 THE COURT: Which is what LBRY did here.

2 MR. MOORES: It would be a legitimate business
3 expense, but that doesn't ultimately deduct from a gain,
4 because a gain would be something in addition to the original
5 principal. That's where the profit comes in, your Honor.

6 THE COURT: Okay.

7 MR. MOORES: Thank you.

8 THE COURT: I will tell you that what does concern me
9 is that you be given some reasonable opportunity to make sure
10 that LBRY -- and, again, this isn't a fraud case. I haven't
11 seen evidence that LBRY has engaged in any fraudulent
12 activities, but it is very common for businesses that are
13 closely held to charge things as business expenses to the
14 company that don't turn out to be business expenses. It's one
15 way in which people pass through income to the founders of the
16 business. That often happens. Personal expenses often get
17 intermingled with business expenses, and all of those things
18 are entirely, in my mind, fair game for you to argue don't
19 reduce it by the full amount that they say for these reasons,
20 and you should be given some -- there's an argument you should
21 be given some reasonable opportunity to check that out before
22 you are forced to respond to their argument. I'm not persuaded
23 by their general claim that they make in their brief that you
24 said in your brief that everything -- they used all the money
25 to plow back into the business. That isn't enough in my mind.

1 So, I think that's my principal area of concern where you may
2 be entitled to some brief, very focused, very brief opportunity
3 for discovery.

4 MR. MOORES: Thank you, your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right. Let me hear from LBRY's
6 counsel.

7 MR. MILLER: First of all, your Honor, with respect to
8 disgorgement, the Court has wide discretion to determine what's
9 appropriate under the circumstances. I would argue in this
10 circumstance, given the fact that LBRY's insolvent, broke,
11 given the fact --

12 THE COURT: I have no belief that this has happened,
13 but if LBRY is broke because it siphoned off all of its profits
14 to its founders and owners, that wouldn't be a basis not to
15 order disgorgement, right? Their point is blood from a stone
16 is not the appropriate way to think about disgorgement, because
17 we want to make sure that they haven't diverted these profits
18 out of the business, and, just because the business doesn't
19 have anything left doesn't mean that profits weren't diverted
20 in ways that aren't legitimate business expenses.

21 MR. MILLER: 2018, 2019, 2020, three years of an
22 investigation, 2021, 2022, two years of discovery, and now
23 they're coming to the Court and saying, Well, there may be some
24 illegitimate business expenses here. We would like to drive
25 LBRY further into the hole. They don't have the money.

1 Let's be practical here, okay? It's a waste of
2 judicial resources, it's a waste of time for the defendant, and
3 it's a waste of the plaintiff, the government, to do this.

4 THE COURT: That point does resonate with me. I
5 recognize company of limited means, very complex discovery,
6 very complex litigation. I'm sensitive to the practical
7 problems that LBRY faces.

8 MR. MILLER: Thank you, your Honor.

9 THE COURT: Briefly on the penalty, okay?
10 Multi-factored analysis. My preliminary assessment of this is
11 this is the kind of case that calls for a Tier 1 penalty
12 because of the absence of fraud allegations, the fact that
13 there was some measure of uncertainty, not enough to render
14 enforcement impossible, but should be taken into account when
15 considering a penalty, and that's my thinking about why we
16 should consider something a Tier 1 penalty.

17 I recognize your view that this has, in your mind,
18 continued, even after the litigation was brought, and I want to
19 hear what LBRY's response is to that argument. What else did
20 you want to add?

21 MR. MOORES: Thank you, your Honor. So, going back to
22 the ultimate purposes of the penalty itself, which is
23 punishment and deterrence, we think that the deterrence part of
24 this is really, really important. We believe that -- and,
25 look. You know, we obviously ask for gross pecuniary gain

1 which could be under a Tier 1, Tier 2 or Tier 3 analysis. So,
2 we understand your position, your Honor, but our position is
3 consistent with that as well, and we still get gross pecuniary
4 gain.

5 So, it kind of comes down to the question of what's
6 important here to send sort of -- making sure LBRY or somebody
7 else similarly situated, you know, knows from the outset that
8 they, their actions, raising money illegally is not going to be
9 to their betterment, it's actually going to be to their
10 detriment, and the penalty should be set at a level in which
11 the parties understand that it can't be an efficient breach of
12 the securities laws.

13 THE COURT: I agree with that.

14 MR. MOORES: They can't raise tens of millions of
15 dollars and then write a check at the very end for \$50,000 and
16 say, well, you know, that wasn't so bad, but -- and so the
17 deterrence value --

18 THE COURT: But the next company that tries to do what
19 LBRY has done, now that there is a ruling from a court, would
20 not be in the same position as LBRY is.

21 You have to go back to the time this action was filed.
22 This was relatively early on in the development of the SEC's
23 position with respect to crypto offerings, and I don't think a
24 company that tried to do today what LBRY did, if found to have
25 violated the registration requirement, that a court will be

1 looking at giving them a Tier 1 penalty. Do you see what I'm
2 saying?

3 MR. MOORES: Understood, your Honor, and, again, gross
4 pecuniary gain we believe is within the scope of Tier 1.

5 THE COURT: I hear you.

6 MR. MOORES: But I think that when you said looking
7 back at when this case was filed, and this case was filed in
8 March of 2021, at that point in time the Dow report had been
9 issued in 2017, Munchee, which was an enforcement action in
10 December of 2017, there have been numerous statements by
11 Chairman Clayton at the time, public speeches in 2017, 2018,
12 numerous enforcement actions, no-action letters. Judicial
13 opinions ultimately came out with Kik and Telegram. So, all of
14 those had occurred prior to the filing of an action in this
15 case.

16 So, I would respectfully disagree in terms of sort of
17 what's sort of clarity and whether or not LBRY was on notice,
18 because I think Mr. Miller had said that the investigation
19 began in 2018, and during that entire time period it did not
20 slow the speed in which LBRY was selling and offering and
21 selling LBC as investment contracts.

22 THE COURT: And your argument about continuing to sell
23 even after the litigation was brought, just refresh my memory,
24 what are the sales that you're pointing to on that?

25 MR. MOORES: Sure. So, the sales were MoonPay, which

1 was sort of direct to the consumer through LBRY's website.
2 LBRY says that that actually went through November of 2021, but
3 the record in this case suggests that it went through at least
4 March of 2022.

5 We had subpoenaed MoonPay, and they gave us records
6 through I think November 4th of 2021, but there were sales that
7 appear to have been ongoing after that as well due to
8 testimony. So, for example, they were running the MoonPay
9 server, which we have documented evidence and we put in the
10 papers, in 2022, as well as the testimony by the CTO, which
11 indicated that they were running the MoonPay server in 2022.

12 There were sales to employees that was ongoing, and
13 LBRY has admitted that this ran through 2022, at least. So,
14 afterwards -- and then, in addition, so sort of a rewards
15 program that LBRY was offering in which, in exchange for
16 services it was selling, offering and selling LBC continued
17 through 2021 and 2022, we believe.

18 And with respect to some of the sales that LBRY has
19 said that it stopped, it said it stopped selling at least on
20 the open market in 2021, at least we know that continued at
21 least into March of 2021, and I think the representation by
22 LBRY is that, oh, well, once it knew there was a case coming
23 down, and it doesn't appear based upon the record that that was
24 the case. The motivation was at least Altonomy, which was its
25 market maker, once it learned about the case that was what

1 precipitated LBRY to actually stop selling --

2 THE COURT: I will be interested in LBRY's response.
3 I think they disagree with you on these facts. The other area
4 where I think there's disagreement is your claim is the total
5 amount of offerings, the number I don't have off the top of my
6 head, something like 20 million or something.

7 MR. MOORES: Approximately 22 million.

8 THE COURT: 22 million. They say that's flat-out
9 wrong in their reply brief. Can you just give me your response
10 to their contention in the reply brief that that number is just
11 flat-out wrong?

12 MR. MOORES: Sure, your Honor. So, what the number is
13 based upon is two sort of factors, one which is their
14 interrogatory answer, which was approximately 14 million,
15 670-or-so-thousand dollars, and that comes directly from their
16 interrogatory answer, the amount that they raised in dollars,
17 once they converted into dollars, and then the amount that they
18 still had in various crypto, so it was the monetary value of
19 the crypto that they had received for their sales.

20 The remaining balance of approximately \$7,483,177
21 represents the amount that they had transferred or sold --
22 sorry -- offered and sold to either beta testers or debuggers
23 or other people through their rewards programs from their
24 Community Fund; and so we don't have from LBRY the sort of full
25 value of when they made those sales and the price at that

1 point, but what we did is we took sort of by quarter, which is
2 the amount of information we had, and we found the average
3 price by quarter for those LBC sales. We calculated that
4 ultimately it added up to, again, that 7.4 million, \$7.5
5 million figure, so we added that to the \$22 million to
6 determine what the gross pecuniary benefit was to LBRY for the
7 sales. So, it's coming from their interrogatory answers, which
8 is the \$14 million, and then it comes from the --

9 THE COURT: You say their reply is wrong why? You saw
10 in their reply they said the \$22 million figure is wrong,
11 right?

12 MR. MOORES: Right. So, I think they acknowledge
13 their interrogatory answers as being accurate with some
14 adjustments. For example, they increase the amount based upon
15 the sales to their employees. I think it was \$1,800 that they
16 added. They didn't adjust it for MoonPay sales, even though
17 the MoonPay sales occurred after their interrogatory answers in
18 September of 2021.

19 But I think that the sort of differential is that we
20 had valued the sale of the \$142 million LBC from their
21 Community Fund, which I don't think that they incorporated
22 within -- now, they said something to the effect of that it
23 somehow was part of their interrogatory answers, and I think
24 that's where the difference of opinion is, your Honor.

25 THE COURT: Well, I'll hear what their response is on

1 that. I was somewhat confused about -- I mean, I'm not a
2 forensic accountant. I have not tried to examine the materials
3 you submitted with that level of specificity. I expect you
4 both to give me the basics that I need. It just isn't
5 something I intend to spend the time on to try to conduct my
6 own forensic accounting of the company to determine which of
7 you is right.

8 MR. MOORES: Understood. I think, at minimum, we
9 agree that their interrogatory answer, the 14-something-million
10 dollars, forms sort of a core, your Honor. We believe that
11 additional valuation needs to be done of the community sales of
12 142 million LBC, and I don't think they've incorporated that.

13 THE COURT: All right. Let me hear LBRY's response on
14 that, and then we'll wrap up.

15 MR. MILLER: Your Honor, once again, for civil
16 penalties this Court has wide discretion to determine what is
17 an appropriate civil penalty. The factors that the Court needs
18 to address is the egregiousness of the violation, the
19 defendant's scienter, repeated nature of the violation,
20 defendant's admissions of wrongdoing and cooperation with
21 authorities and defendant's financial situation.

22 With respect to the financial situation, I think we
23 all know LBRY is insolvent. There's no qualms about that. SEC
24 hasn't said that they dispute that, at least not that I've
25 heard. A first-Tier penalty we believe is appropriate, not for

1 the amount that the SEC has somehow calculated, \$22 million,
2 based on net proceeds. We don't think that that's a fair
3 interpretation of the amount that they would be required to
4 disgorge.

5 Mr. Kauffman submitted an affidavit to try to clarify.
6 There were some sales to employees after the amount that they
7 identified in their interrogatory. He didn't think that that
8 was -- as he put in his affidavit, he didn't think that that
9 was -- that those sales to -- which were ongoing. This is a
10 program that was set up. He didn't think that that was deemed
11 to be a security, and so he didn't stop it. He finally stopped
12 it. No sales -- no further sales occurred after November --
13 or, I'm sorry -- February of '22.

14 THE COURT: In terms of the totals, do you agree on
15 the 14 million, and you think they are misstating the total
16 when they get it up to 22?

17 MR. MILLER: I don't know how they get to 22, your
18 Honor.

19 THE COURT: How do you feel about the 14 million?

20 MR. MILLER: Yeah, we've admitted that the \$14 million
21 occurred. I'm not sure if the net proceeds is the accurate way
22 to describe civil penalty in this situation.

23 THE COURT: Yeah, I have to look at that. But in
24 terms of you agree at 14 million; you say you don't understand
25 what counsel has just said about how they get up to 22?

1 MR. MILLER: That's correct.

2 THE COURT: It's something about the Community Fund
3 sales. Isn't that how you say you get up to 22?

4 MR. MOORES: Yeah. 142 million LBC.

5 THE COURT: 142 million LBC in the Community Fund.
6 They've tried to come up with an average price or something.

7 MR. MOORES: Yes, using the LBRY's expert data.

8 THE COURT: Yeah. So, that's how they get to that.
9 Do you have any thought about that particular issue?

10 MR. MILLER: Yeah. Again, I'm not -- I contest the
11 fact that I don't believe that that's -- we don't understand
12 how they got to 22. And I think, more importantly, again,
13 going back to the factors that the Court needs to address for
14 civil penalties --

15 THE COURT: You've already got me on this. I thought
16 I made clear no fraud; wrong but out front about what they were
17 doing, which, to my mind, is different from somebody that's
18 trying to scam people. I mean, I think that's an important,
19 very important consideration in determining the scope of a
20 penalty. I will consider these other factors as well, and I
21 understand how long it went on, how much total was gained as a
22 result of it, those are factors that need to be considered as
23 well.

24 But I do think it is important to recognize -- unless
25 it is shown through some limited discovery that this money that

1 LBRY generated was siphoned off to founders and others, or that
2 the business was intermixing personal expenses, private jets
3 for people to fly, that kind of stuff, which I see no evidence
4 of, I don't see -- the expenses that are legitimate should be
5 reduced against the profit to determine the disgorgement
6 remedy, and it's also reasonable to conclude that, if there
7 were legitimate business expenses attempting to operate a
8 business in a non-fraudulent way that consumed the proceeds of
9 these sales, that that's a relevant factor in determining not
10 only the disgorgement but the amount of the penalty.

11 MR. MILLER: I would just argue, your Honor, it could
12 be for civil penalty, it could be, because a Section 1
13 violation is, in some scenario I think it's 50, it may go on up
14 because of interest, okay, or the amount of pecuniary -- or.

15 THE COURT: Right.

16 MR. MILLER: So we would argue that the first prong of
17 that.

18 THE COURT: I have discretion to do 50,000 rather than
19 to do the gross pecuniary --

20 MR. MILLER: Right, and we think that that's
21 appropriate under these circumstances.

22 THE COURT: Because of the other factors that I'm
23 supposed to consider?

24 MR. MILLER: That's right.

25 THE COURT: All right. I hear you on that.

1 MR. MILLER: And I would just -- I am concerned, your
2 Honor, that this is never ending.

3 THE COURT: I want it to end. Believe me, I want it
4 to end for me as well as for you, okay? And I'm very sensitive
5 to the costs involved and the delay. The SEC marches on. Its
6 lawyers continue to get paid. It operates its businesses in
7 perpetuity with taxpayer dollars. You're a private entity
8 trying to respond, paying very high-priced lawyers, very high
9 hourly rates. I'm very sensitive to that. I understand it.
10 But I also think that the SEC has a responsibility to try to
11 satisfy itself that it has provided the judge with the facts,
12 and I do think some very limited discovery would be
13 appropriate.

14 But, okay. I hear you.

15 I hear you.

16 All right. Here's what I've decided to do: I'm going
17 to take the matter under advisement, but I am going to have a
18 Zoom scheduling conference with the parties, say, on Monday.

19 I don't start that trial till Tuesday, right?

20 THE CLERK: Right.

21 THE COURT: On Monday for the purpose of reaching an
22 agreement about very narrow, very focused, very expedited
23 discovery on certain limited, targeted issues. So, the SEC has
24 got to come to that conference telling me, We need to do, at a
25 minimum, these three depositions and ask these requests to

1 investigate these accounts, okay? I'll give you a brief period
2 of time to do that. The depositions will be limited in the
3 amount of time it takes -- you're given to do them, how many
4 are going to be given. The discovery requests are going to be
5 very narrow, very limited, very expedited. And then you're
6 going to be given an opportunity to file a supplemental brief,
7 and then file a reply. That, then, ends your costs in
8 connection with the case. I'll decide the case after that.

9 My tentative view is, unless you have persuaded me,
10 and I'll take under advisement and consider it, your point
11 about Odysee, is that I won't be inclined to issue an
12 injunction at all in this case. If LBRY does what it says it's
13 going to do, I'm not convinced that I should be issuing
14 injunctions against Odysee or other entities who aren't parties
15 to the case, first.

16 Second, I am, unless -- LBRY has made a proffer that
17 it has legitimate business expenses that exceed any profits
18 that it has earned so that it has no net profits to disgorge,
19 right? That's your position.

20 You have a right to contest that. This discovery will
21 allow you to do it. If your supplemental brief persuades me
22 that there are net profits, then I will order disgorgement. If
23 I'm not persuaded, then I won't order disgorgement.

24 With respect to penalty, I'm inclined to issue a
25 Tier 1 penalty in a smaller amount, like \$50,000, but I want to

1 hear what this additional discovery produces, and I want to
2 investigate your argument about gross profit being a factor in
3 determining the amount of the penalty, okay? You've caught my
4 attention on that. I will pay attention to it.

5 Finally, with respect to the *amici*, I will be very
6 clear that no order I have issued and no order I will issue is
7 intended to affect secondary purchasers such as Flipside,
8 because the SEC has not asked me to take any action with
9 respect to those people. All right. So, I will make that very
10 clear. Nothing I have done and nothing I will do is going to
11 do that, because that was not a subject of litigation in my
12 mind.

13 I recognize LBRY's argument with respect to Odyssey.
14 To the extent that I do include injunctive relief that
15 encompasses Odyssey, I'll have to grapple with your claim that
16 that necessarily implicates secondary sales. But none of that
17 would suggest, because the SEC says, Well, you can do that
18 against Odyssey because it's an affiliated entity, they're not
19 saying your client or Flipside Crypto are affiliated in ways
20 that would subject them to the injunction. So, I'll make that
21 very clear. I can't do more for you than that, in my view,
22 because the SEC has very carefully not chosen to make that a
23 subject of this litigation, but I will make it clear.

24 All right. So, I appreciate your filings. I'll look
25 them over again carefully. I'll consider what you've had to

1 say. That's my tentative view about how I'm going to approach
2 this case. Unless the additional materials persuade me
3 otherwise, no injunction. Any disgorgement has to be of a net
4 profit, not a gross profit. Tier 1 penalty likely a monetary
5 in the neighborhood of \$50,000, unless I'm persuaded by the
6 supplemental discovery.

7 We will meet, and I will lay out for you in response
8 to your specific request very detailed what you can do, what
9 you can't do, under what circumstances. It will get done,
10 you'll make a supplemental filing, you'll make a reply filing,
11 I'll take the matter under advisement and issue an order, and
12 that will end the case at my level.

13 All right. Anything else from you before we wrap up?

14 MR. MOORES: No, thank you, your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Anything else from you before we wrap up?

16 MR. MILLER: Just, your Honor, I'm not sure if LBRY is
17 going to be able to provide discovery. Its employees haven't
18 been paid since December 2nd. They are all looking for other
19 jobs. I'm just not sure that LBRY will be in a position to
20 respond to any of the discovery requests.

21 THE COURT: Okay. We'll have to take that up. I
22 mean, at some point basically you're going to go into
23 dissolution or file bankruptcy or something, right?

24 MR. MILLER: That's right.

25 THE COURT: Okay. We'll have to deal with that if and

1 when it comes up. We'll talk about it on our conference call
2 when I set these things up. All right.

3 And, finally, just for the *amici*, I didn't want to cut
4 you off. You understand what I'm doing? That's my view about
5 the maximum extent I can do something for you and people in
6 your client's position.

7 MR. DEATON: I do, your Honor. I would ask,
8 respectfully, if you could consider commenting about the token
9 itself, that it's not a security. If you would consider that.

10 THE COURT: Just look me up. I'm a minimalist. I
11 decide only what I need to decide and nothing else, because I'm
12 so likely to be wrong about things. It's a question of
13 humility, essentially. Don't do anything you don't need to do,
14 because it lessens the likelihood that you'd make a mistake, is
15 what it comes down to.

16 MR. KAUFFMAN: I'm sure all my unemployed employees
17 will appreciate that.

18 THE COURT: Yeah, I understand, Mr. Kauffman. I get
19 it.

20 Okay. Thank you. That concludes the proceeding.

21 THE CLERK: All rise.

22 (WHEREUPON, the proceedings adjourned at 4:37 p.m.)
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Brenda K. Hancock, RMR, CRR and Official Court Reporter of the United States District Court, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript constitutes, to the best of my knowledge, skill, ability and belief, a true and accurate transcription of the within proceedings.

Date: 3/10/23

/s/ Brenda K. Hancock
Brenda K. Hancock, RMR, CRR
Official Court Reporter

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P R O C E E D I N G S

THE COURT: Good afternoon, Judge. We are here for a status conference in 21-cv-260-PB, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission vs. LBRY, Inc.

THE COURT: All right. I wanted to consult with you regarding our next steps. Let me first hear from the SEC and then from LBRY.

MR. MOORES: Thank you. Peter Moores on behalf of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

We have had discussions with counsel for LBRY and have tried to fashion a schedule for the Court going forward. I think next steps would be remedies. The parties have spoken to see if we could, you know, resolve it short of the Court's involvement.

But barring that, we think that there's probably a need for a very short period of -- and when I say we, again, this is just the Commission's position. We are -- we're not currently in agreement on a schedule. But we believe there would be just a need for a short period of discovery, we're proposing 45 days, and that is just to determine whether or not -- how to calculate if there's to be disgorgement or some other equitable remedy here and just sort of to update some of the discovery that we have already received from LBRY as to sort of subsequent sales in order to make a calculation and make a recommendation or a proposal to the Court. We think

1 that that would then follow with a briefing schedule.

2 So essentially the SEC's brief on remedies would be
3 due approximately 60 days from today, so that would be
4 approximately January 20th. Then LBRY, to the extent it wanted
5 to file a brief in opposition or with its own proposal as an
6 appropriate remedy, would be following the Court's schedule,
7 which I think is about three weeks later, and that's about
8 February 10th, 2023, with a reply brief due about a week later,
9 according to the local rules as to scheduling, approximately
10 February 17th.

11 So the 45 days, your Honor, would take us to about
12 January 5th. That would just give us time to propound sort of
13 updated interrogatories or requests and then our brief would be
14 due 15 days after the close of that brief factual window --
15 factual discovery window for -- only for remedies purposes,
16 your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Do you anticipate the need for an
18 evidentiary hearing?

19 MR. MOORES: I would think that we could do it on
20 the papers, your Honor, with perhaps an affidavit submission
21 basically calculating the number of sales and the amount of
22 money that was generated and what would be appropriate other
23 remedies, injunctive relief, penalties, et cetera, your Honor.

24 So at this time we would not anticipate the need for
25 an evidentiary hearing.

1 THE COURT: And what have you done to try to meet
2 and confer and agree upon a proposed schedule?

3 MR. MOORES: Your Honor, we've spoken a couple times
4 with LBRY's counsel and as of the last conversation, we did not
5 have an agreed-upon schedule, although I leave it to Mr. Miller
6 or Ms. Mechanic as to what LBRY's current position is. It
7 might have changed since we last talked.

8 THE COURT: All right. What are LBRY's views as to
9 how we should proceed?

10 MR. MILLER: Good afternoon, your Honor. Keith
11 Miller representing LBRY.

12 Your Honor, to be frank, the company doesn't have
13 45 days. It has --

14 THE COURT: I'm sorry.

15 MR. MILLER: It has a --

16 THE COURT: I'm sorry. Could you repeat what you
17 said? I didn't hear it all.

18 MR. MILLER: Sure.

19 The company doesn't have 45 days. Okay? And I've
20 explained that to the SEC in an attempt to try to resolve this.

21 The SEC is entitled -- is asking for three things,
22 your Honor: An injunction, disgorgement, and civil penalties.

23 I've explained to the SEC that disgorgement would
24 not be appropriate in this case. Why? Because they have
25 alleged in their complaint that all the money that they raised

1 in connection with this Section 5 violation went into the
2 operations. It's paragraph 6 of their -- of their -- of their
3 complaint. Now they want to get disgorgement.

4 I've explained to them -- there's a recent Supreme
5 Court case called *SEC vs. Liu* where the Supreme Court has said
6 if you're going to get disgorgement -- first of all, it's
7 questionable whether you can get disgorgement in a Section 5
8 case, but if you do get disgorgement, they have to be offsetted
9 by legitimate business expenses. The SEC has -- has pled that
10 the -- everything they've raised was used for operations here.

11 In addition, in the most recent settlement case --
12 well, large settlement case that the SEC has brought against --
13 in New York in *SEC vs. Kik*, which they settled, after a finding
14 on summary judgment, the SEC ended up not obtaining
15 disgorgement in that case and getting about a 5 percent of the
16 total raise in a fine.

17 The SEC doesn't want to talk about that. They want
18 disgorgement. They want to have a hearing on disgorgement.
19 And I think what we would ask the Court to do is appoint an
20 immediate mediator to try to get this resolved. The company
21 doesn't have 45 days.

22 THE COURT: Okay. What is the SEC's response to
23 LBRY's request that I appoint a mediator?

24 MR. MOORES: Your Honor, I'm not sure if that would
25 actually advance the situation here.

1 I believe, as Mr. Miller was alluding to, there's a
2 difference of opinion as to the applicable law and that's why
3 we were proposing a briefing schedule to the Court, to decide
4 what is the appropriate equitable remedy, disgorgement,
5 et cetera.

6 With respect to mediation, I think what Mr. Miller
7 started with is that the company doesn't have long to live.
8 I'm not sure if the parties could get through mediation any
9 quickly -- or more quickly than it could in terms of the
10 limited discovery and, you know, within 60 days our brief would
11 be to the Court.

12 THE COURT: Well, let me just interrupt and ask. I
13 may be reading into his statement, but I think his position is
14 that disgorgement would not be an appropriate remedy in this
15 case based on facts that could be presented without any
16 discovery and that we should really have briefing on an
17 accelerated basis on the pure legal issue if we can't agree to
18 mediation, that we should give him a chance to move before
19 discovery that the remedy you're seeking is not one that you're
20 legally entitled to have.

21 So I -- I strongly favor efforts at this point for
22 the SEC to work with LBRY and try to come up with an acceptable
23 way to resolve this case. It seems to me that the -- the
24 principal point that the SEC was trying to make it made in its
25 summary judgment motion and it -- either that will be appealed

1 ultimately or -- or not.

2 But what follows from here seems to be the kind of
3 thing that I would very strongly favor trying to resolve by
4 agreement. And if we can't, my inclination would be to say,
5 all right, let's give LBRY a chance to present what I think
6 they're arguing to me, that, Judge, you just shouldn't do this
7 and there are legal reasons why the remedy they're seeking are
8 not appropriate.

9 And so I guess that's -- my starting point is, boy,
10 this seems like a case where the SEC should be willing to
11 engage in efforts to mediate, but, secondly, given LBRY's
12 precarious financial situation, I would be strongly inclined --
13 if what LBRY's really seeking in the alternative is an
14 opportunity to persuade me that as a matter of law the SEC
15 shouldn't get the remedy it's seeking, I'd be inclined to do
16 that before ordering a period for additional discovery that
17 seems to be based on the assumption that, of course, the SEC's
18 entitled to disgorgement.

19 So let me just go back to LBRY and say have I read
20 you right, sir? Are you really saying to me that, hey, Judge,
21 we'd really like mediation, but if you don't -- for some reason
22 aren't inclined to do that, give us a chance to persuade you on
23 an expedited basis that as a matter of law the SEC should not
24 be entitled to the remedy it's trying to seek from us and there
25 shouldn't be any period of discovery on it?

1 MR. KAUFFMAN: May I speak?

2 THE COURT: It's up to -- your lawyer should -- if
3 you want to speak privately with your lawyer, I can move you
4 into a --

5 MR. KAUFFMAN: Keith, I would like to speak, if
6 that's all right you.

7 THE COURT: It's okay --

8 MR. MILLER: Your Honor --

9 THE COURT: Sir, let me ask counsel first.
10 Would you like an opportunity to speak to your
11 client in a breakout room or -- I'm generally very willing to
12 hear what a client wants to say, so -- but if you want to speak
13 to him in a breakout room first, I'm willing to move you into a
14 breakout room. So let me just ask counsel first.

15 And I say this, Mr. Kauffman, because I've worked
16 with lawyers over my entire career. They're control freaks and
17 they can't stand the thought that their clients would want to
18 say anything to the judge and they're scared to death whenever
19 the client does. So just as a courtesy to the lawyer, I'm
20 going to give him a chance to talk to you, if that's what he
21 wants to do. But if he wants -- if he will let you speak, I'd
22 be happy to.

23 So let me just ask counsel. What's your preference
24 here? Do you want to speak to him in a breakout room --

25 MR. MILLER: Yeah.

1 THE COURT: -- or should he fire away?

2 MR. MILLER: If we could speak in a breakout room --

3 MR. KAUFFMAN: Well, I would like to speak to the
4 judge, though.

5 THE COURT: Yeah, I --

6 MR. MILLER: Yes, I --

7 THE COURT: -- I will give you ultimate -- I just
8 want to ask you to consult first.

9 MR. KAUFFMAN: Okay.

10 THE COURT: At the end of the day, Mr. Kauffman, if
11 after consulting you still want to speak, I won't -- I won't
12 shut you down. I'll give you a chance to speak. Okay?

13 So, Jen, just move them into a breakout room. You
14 can both exit out', when you're ready, you'll come back.

15 But, Mr. Kauffman, I want to be clear. I won't deny
16 you the opportunity to speak. Okay?

17 MR. MOORES: Your Honor, if I may, before we go to
18 breakout room, just one --

19 THE COURT: Who's speaking now?

20 THE CLERK: Mr. Kauffman already --

21 MR. MOORES: Peter Moores on behalf of the SEC.

22 THE CLERK: -- went into the breakout room.

23 THE COURT: Yeah, Mr. Kauffman's already in the
24 breakout room. So I'm going to move --

25 MR. MOORES: Okay.

1 THE COURT: -- counsel there as well.

2 MR. MILLER: Thank you, your Honor.

3 (Defendant and counsel conferred in a breakout room.)

4 THE COURT: Jen, you haven't moved him?

5 THE CLERK: He is in there. His audio wasn't
6 working, so his cell phone is in the breakout room and he's
7 speaking to --

8 THE COURT: I still see him on my screen.

9 THE CLERK: Yeah. I added him in there. He didn't
10 choose to go in with his video. He only chose to go in with
11 his audio.

12 THE COURT: Oh, okay. I just don't want him to
13 think we can hear what he's saying.

14 THE CLERK: Yeah. He knows that we can't.

15 THE COURT: Okay. All right.

16 Hold on. Now he went in.

17 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Kauffman. Your lawyer's
18 going to move -- move the lawyer back in for a second.

19 MS. MECHANIC: Can you put me in there as well?

20 THE CLERK: Yup.

21 MS. MECHANIC: This is Rachel Mechanic. Thank you.

22 THE CLERK: Yeah.

23 THE COURT: This is musical chairs here.

24 THE CLERK: Do you want to go back in now, Attorney
25 Mechanic?

1 MS. MECHANIC: Yes, if there's --

2 MR. MILLER: We're back, Rachel.

3 MS. MECHANIC: Oh, you're back. Okay. Then no.

4 THE CLERK: Okay.

5 MS. MECHANIC: Thank you.

6 THE COURT: All right. So, Mr. Kauffman, you've had
7 a chance to consult with your lawyer. As I said, I won't cut
8 you off if you wanted to say something. Did you want to speak?

9 MR. KAUFFMAN: Well, I promise not to talk for too
10 long, but I just wanted to be sort of explicit about the
11 current situation.

12 I mean, we have been going back and forth with the
13 SEC for five years. Throughout that entire period, we have
14 begged them, we've said, we will do anything, make any
15 changes -- like there are other currencies like Ethereum and
16 bitcoin that have this non-securities designation. We've
17 said -- we offered years ago, we'll destroy the entire premine.
18 We offered years ago, we'll fold the entire company and give
19 you every dollar in our bank accounts. All that we have ever
20 wanted was to achieve the same legal status that these other
21 cryptocurrencies have.

22 I consider you, Judge, and the SEC together to be
23 something that is bordering on omnipotence. Okay? The United
24 States Government is the most powerful force in the world. I'm
25 not -- I just want to know the rules. Tens of thousands of

1 other companies just want to know the rules. It's okay if we
2 lose. You can issue a judgment for a bajillion dollars. Okay?
3 We have three weeks left. You know, that's fine. I -- we can
4 lose. You guys make the rules. I'm not trying to argue.

5 What I don't -- what I would like to come out of
6 this is at least some knowledge of what the rules are. There
7 are so many smart people who want to be building and working in
8 this -- in this field. Everyone in my company, whether we work
9 at LBRY or not, wants to keep doing this work. And I -- I
10 thought for sure that by the end of this we would at least know
11 what they are. And -- and still no one does.

12 And we're going to end up in a situation, like I
13 don't -- I honestly don't care about arguing the penalties. I
14 mean, you guys have won. LBRY is almost certainly dead. It's
15 almost certainly all dead. The SEC's objective of bankrupting
16 us through the process, which they threatened privately three
17 years ago, they succeeded. So we're not trying to fight.

18 But I -- I mean, I just don't know if you appreciate
19 the amount of chaos that has been created by this decision and
20 the complete lack of understanding that the industry still has
21 about what they can and cannot do.

22 But, you know, we would destroy everything if, for
23 example, it would -- the SEC would be -- make it clear that
24 secondary market -- that secondary sales aren't securities
25 sales. They're still going to argue that they are and it's

1 going to be another five years in court.

2 So, like, the project is dead. It's dead. Okay?
3 And, like, we're not trying to save it. It's been killed.
4 There's no path forward. Like -- but at least if the industry
5 could get something out of this to have some clarity about what
6 the rules are and aren't. Because even with this, it's
7 honestly just made it worse. And the SEC is just going to
8 continue what it has been doing for years. They've issued zero
9 no-action letters, they tie you up in this process, and it's
10 exactly what they want to continue to do. Okay? And it's what
11 they're going to continue to do to more companies.

12 There isn't a single company that anyone on this
13 call from the SEC would be able to say what they're doing is
14 legal. And what they do is they pick from a set of a hundred
15 thousand companies -- my company happens to platform some
16 conservative figures, it happens to platform gun manufacturers,
17 do some things that the left centrists that run our regulatory
18 agencies don't like -- they use their discretion and their
19 power to crush us. And they've won. I'm not trying to fight.
20 I accept completely that this is the outcome.

21 But if there could be any clarity so that people
22 could know, how do you legally launch a cryptocurrency? Is it
23 the only way you can do it is back in 2009 if you did it
24 anonymously, that's the only way?

25 And that's the situation that we have. Like, if I

1 was talking to a young person, I would tell that person, move
2 out of the United States and launch your cryptocurrency
3 anonymously. This is the situation that's been created. And
4 people like me who want to be good American citizens, who want
5 to follow the law, are being driven into the criminal
6 underground.

7 And that's a -- I think that's a very bad situation
8 for America and I would hope that -- that this outcome does not
9 further it, whatever happens from here.

10 THE COURT: Okay. Just a quick comment. You
11 probably aren't intending this, but whether you are or not,
12 when you speak of the SEC and me as us, and that we are
13 omnipotent, that's not the way the American judiciary
14 functions. And just so we're clear on that, you know, you're
15 entitled --

16 MR. KAUFFMAN: Well, what you're taught in school it
17 turns out is not always reality. Okay?

18 THE COURT: And you --

19 MR. KAUFFMAN: I mean, it's very difficult to
20 believe in the rule of law if you pay attention to the
21 cryptocurrency space.

22 THE COURT: Hang on a second, sir. I let you speak,
23 so just please let me finish.

24 What you think doesn't matter, but I didn't want to
25 let -- and you're entitled to believe whatever you want to

1 believe. I would not, though, leave your remark go unnoticed.
2 I don't work for the SEC. I don't respond --

3 MR. KAUFFMAN: Well, so, I mean --

4 THE COURT: Just hang on a minute, sir. You're
5 going to have to stand quiet now and I'll address my remarks to
6 your lawyer. I've given you an opportunity to speak.

7 So, counsel, so you understand, I don't -- I think
8 you understand this. I don't work for the SEC. We aren't
9 working together. This is an independent decision that I've
10 made. The SEC has its mission and Mr. Kauffman would be
11 surprised, I guess, to understand that I have a great deal of
12 sympathy for the problem that he and LBRY are facing here and
13 I'm actually quite interested in trying to encourage a
14 resolution of this matter in such a way that -- where the SEC
15 would take positions on things like what about the secondary
16 market for the LBRY token. Are there --

17 MR. KAUFFMAN: I --

18 THE COURT: -- ways in which a company like this
19 could function in a way that didn't result in its offering
20 qualifying as a Section 5 requirement to register.

21 I'm actually quite sympathetic to that particular
22 position and I want to encourage the SEC, in dealing with LBRY
23 here, a company where there has been, as far as I'm aware, no
24 allegation of fraudulent activity by LBRY, and in a situation
25 in which at the time it launched, I understand their concern

1 about the lack of clarity in the SEC's position.

2 And so I -- I share the interest that Mr. Kauffman
3 has identified in trying to make the best of a bad situation
4 here and seeing whether the SEC can be moved to work towards a
5 resolution of this matter with LBRY that might provide some
6 greater clarity.

7 So I -- I am not omnipotent. I can't order the SEC
8 to do things that it doesn't want to do, except where it's
9 legally required to do so, and I'm not -- I'm not able -- I
10 lack the power to force the SEC to meet with you and try to
11 reach some kind of agreement.

12 But I would like the SEC's response here. Why
13 shouldn't we take this opportunity to try to resolve what's
14 left of this dispute, if necessary, preserve LBRY's ability to
15 appeal my decision, if that's what it's choosing to do, but
16 also if, as Mr. Kauffman is hinting, that the company's
17 basically dead anyways, why are we wasting a lot of time in
18 trying to get disgorgement of a company that isn't going to
19 survive and is there something we can do to provide greater
20 clarity. For example, what's the SEC's position with respect
21 to people who are holding the LBC token right now other than
22 LBRY?

23 So can you give me your thoughts about what -- is
24 there anything we can do from the SEC's perspective that will
25 help to resolve what's left of this dispute by agreement and

1 perhaps provide some greater clarity about what happens going
2 forward, and do you really have some legitimate expectation
3 that there's substantial amount of cash available for you to
4 acquire from -- in disgorgement from LBRY or are you just
5 trying to force the company into bankruptcy?

6 MR. MOORES: Your Honor, may -- I believe you're
7 addressing that to me --

8 THE COURT: I am.

9 MR. MOORES: -- so I am going to please respond to
10 your -- so, first of all, your Honor, we're not opposed to
11 mediation and talking with LBRY's counsel and Mr. Kauffman in
12 terms of his participation in that. What I was suggesting
13 beforehand was I was -- we were skeptical of the efficacy of
14 the mediation based upon sort of past discussions, your Honor,
15 and I apologize if I didn't make that clear in terms of, you
16 know, what would be a faster and more efficient way forward.

17 And I'm not going to try to address a lot of what
18 Mr. Kauffman said, but with respect to discussions that we've
19 had in the past with LBRY's counsel, you know, this is the end
20 of 2022. We have had numerous discussions with LBRY's counsel
21 over the years about what would be a pathway in which the sort
22 of offer and sale of LBC would not be a security. And year
23 after year went by and -- and sort of none of those discussions
24 sort of changed the policies or practices that LBRY --

25 THE COURT: Well, let me --

1 MR. KAUFFMAN: You are a liar, Peter.

2 THE COURT: Wait, wait.

3 MR. KAUFFMAN: You are lying right now to the --

4 THE COURT: Stop.

5 MR. KAUFFMAN: -- judge's face. You are a liar.

6 You are a liar, sir.

7 THE COURT: Mr. Kauffman --

8 MR. KAUFFMAN: I will do anything. They can say it
9 right now. I'll -- I will destroy the company, I'll give them
10 every dollar in the bank account, I will fire everyone, I will
11 shut down everything, and I will give you the premine.

12 Is it not a security now, Peter?

13 THE COURT: Mr. Kauffman -- Mr. Kauffman --

14 MR. KAUFFMAN: These are simple questions. If
15 the rule of law is real that these are questions that are
16 answerable, so why can't anyone tell me if that's legal. If
17 the rule of law is clear and fair notice isn't a defense,
18 because the average person -- the average person can understand
19 the law, then these are very clear questions that ought to have
20 yes and no answers that the regulators ought to be able to
21 answer.

22 THE COURT: All right.

23 MR. KAUFFMAN: If they --

24 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Kauffman, that is
25 enough. Now, this is a court proceeding.

1 MR. KAUFFMAN: Yeah, it's -- because it's all fake.
2 All right? I'm sorry. This is all fake.

3 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Kauffman, this is your
4 last chance. Will you abide by the rules of the court and
5 speak when I recognize you and otherwise refrain from speaking?
6 If you're not willing to abide by those rules, we're going to
7 have to deal with you in a different way, like turning off your
8 microphone so you can't speak.

9 MR. KAUFFMAN: Yeah, I --

10 THE COURT: This is a court proceeding. Will you
11 follow my direction, Mr. Kauffman?

12 MR. KAUFFMAN: Sure.

13 THE COURT: Okay. Good. So don't speak again
14 unless I recognize you. Okay?

15 All right. Let me try to go back and make some
16 progress with you, counsel.

17 I'm not really interested in the past. I'm
18 interested in the future. It doesn't surprise me that you and
19 Mr. Kauffman have vastly different views about history. Okay?
20 That happens in cases I'm involved in all the time.

21 I'm talking about the future because whatever has
22 occurred in the past, it was before I made a ruling. That
23 ruling has now been made. And unless it is reversed on appeal,
24 it is the ruling that will govern what goes forward for both
25 parties in this case.

1 So it strikes me that now is a time in which the SEC
2 should be reaching out again to LBRY, through counsel, and
3 trying to reach an accommodation.

4 And are you willing to do that?

5 MR. MOORES: Yes, your Honor. We've already had a
6 couple of conversations with counsel and we're willing to
7 continue those conversations and try to figure out a way that
8 this can be resolved in the best interest of -- of the
9 Commission. We can't speak for the Commission ourselves, you
10 know, we're -- you know, in terms of the actual final sort of
11 settlement, but we could come to an agreement as to what we
12 would recommend to the Commission, your Honor.

13 We -- we have engaged in discussions in the past.
14 We are willing to do it in the future --

15 THE COURT: Well --

16 MR. MOORES: We believe that that would be --

17 THE COURT: -- why don't you tell me, just in
18 general, what are your preliminary thoughts about how LBRY
19 could continue to operate and LBC could continue to be used on
20 the LBRY blockchain? Do you have thoughts about how that could
21 happen?

22 MR. MOORES: So, your Honor, as I believe in your
23 opinion, it's -- really, the focus is on the sort of offerings
24 and sale that LBRY had -- had done. And that's -- to be frank,
25 that's not all the LBC that's in circulation, right? This case

1 is about only the ones that were offered and sold by LBRY in
2 the manner and fashion in which they did.

3 There are ways -- you know, again, this is -- I've
4 been saying this for years. There are ways in which it can be
5 done, even if it is not registered, that, in theory, you know,
6 especially the LBC that is circulating out there today, would
7 not be in violation of the securities laws.

8 THE COURT: Right. And you're willing to spell
9 those out in negotiations with counsel if I ask you to engage
10 on an expedited basis in mediation, not draw this out six
11 months.

12 The message I'm getting is the company doesn't
13 have a future that's six months out. They've got to reach
14 agreement, if they're going to, relatively quickly about these
15 matters.

16 I mean, do you have a realistic expectation that the
17 SEC is going to acquire substantial sums from LBRY by way of
18 disgorgement?

19 MR. MOORES: Your Honor, representations have been
20 made to us about the lack of resources at the company. We have
21 had financial statements and bank statements over time and so
22 we have a limited visibility into -- into the resources of the
23 company currently.

24 We don't know what their current resources are, but
25 you know, your Honor, it -- it's really -- I am definitely

1 willing to engage in those conversations, your Honor.

2 And just as a matter of process, it's the Commission
3 which is going to make the ultimate decision, your Honor --

4 THE COURT: I -- I understand that, but we've got to
5 move expeditiously here. And this is the -- this is the
6 challenge. And I recognize it can be difficult for you, too.
7 I understand that.

8 But if, indeed, LBRY were willing to engage in
9 negotiations that led to substantial restriction or even
10 destruction, say, for example, in the -- of the premine here,
11 of the remaining premine in its hands, that would seem to be a
12 good basis going forward to try to reach an agreement that
13 would allow people who believe in the LBRY blockchain as
14 something other than an investment to continue and I would
15 think the SEC would have an interest in trying to do that.

16 And, you know, if Mr. Kauffman is willing to, as he
17 says he's been for a long time, we don't need to get into the
18 past, to -- to destroy the premine, to -- to do something like
19 that as a starting point, there's no realistic -- I mean,
20 obviously assets could be hidden. This could be very different
21 from what it appears. But it appears very unlikely the SEC
22 could obtain substantial sums in disgorgement here.

23 Counsel has a -- certainly a credible argument about
24 to the extent the money was placed into business expenses.
25 It's something that has to be considered when evaluating

1 whether if there is any money it could be paid by way of
2 disgorgement. And, you know, the mission here, I'm sure, it
3 should be, of the SEC is not simply to put LBRY out of
4 business. It should be to find a way going forward to address
5 the problem that the SEC saw and, to the extent possible, try
6 to reach some kind of resolution.

7 So I -- I -- that's my initial reaction, is that
8 that's what I would strongly encourage the SEC to do, but you'd
9 have to do it on an expedited basis.

10 So let me -- let me turn back to LBRY's counsel and
11 ask you.

12 I don't believe I can force the SEC to mediate with
13 you. I think you would understand that. I can't make them
14 agree to give up any rights that they have without evaluating
15 the legal basis for their claims. Now, I've tried to strongly
16 encourage the SEC to engage in discussions with you on an
17 expedited basis.

18 But assume that they don't, that they don't do that,
19 what would be your next step? Would you like to file a legal
20 brief asserting your company's position about why the remedies
21 that they've said they want discovery for would not be
22 obtainable against you? Is that -- would that be your
23 position, counsel?

24 MR. MILLER: Yes. Yes, we would like to argue three
25 positions with respect to a permanent injunction, whether that

1 is needed in this situation, both to LBRY and also the
2 secondary users that are using it right now, should they
3 somehow be affected by a -- without clarity from the SEC
4 regarding this injunction.

5 The next prong would be disgorgement. As I said
6 already, I don't believe they're entitled to disgorgement in
7 this type of situation.

8 And the third is the amount of civil penalty and
9 what they should be showing in order to get a civil penalty and
10 what that civil penalty should be.

11 These are all -- your Honor, this, as you -- as you
12 I think rightly observed, this is not a difficult case to
13 settle. It's just whether the SEC wants to settle it. This
14 has a -- this is an opportunity for the SEC to create some
15 clarity around, particularly, secondary sales. Right? And
16 that is very important for the industry. Okay? Even if
17 there's a Section 5 against the entity that issued these tokens
18 and they burned all the premine that's left, there is still
19 operating tokens and they're operating on a large platform with
20 1.5 million -- over 1.5 million users. They are going to be
21 affected. So how do we deal with that?

22 And I think there is an opportunity here, if the SEC
23 doesn't want to engage in these types of negotiations through a
24 mediator and we can't agree on what's the best appropriate
25 relief here, then we would ask by next Tuesday, your Honor, if

1 we haven't come up to we're going to mediate on this date by
2 next Tuesday, we apprise the Court that we want to file an
3 emergency motion, legal briefs, on the issue of remedies.

4 THE COURT: I think that makes sense to me, counsel.
5 I'll hear the SEC briefly in response, but that's what I'm
6 inclined to do is to give you an opportunity to try to meet and
7 confer and see if you can lay out a path to resolve this --
8 what remains of the case by agreement. And if you can't, the
9 only step I think available to LBRY would be to file this brief
10 and then I could evaluate the legal issues and decide where we
11 would go from here.

12 But I -- I do think that there -- it should be in
13 the interest of the SEC to try to explore with LBRY whether
14 there are ways to resolve this case in such a way that people
15 who are other than the -- LBRY itself that are holders of LBC
16 that want to use LBC on the LB -- on the LBRY blockchain,
17 should be able do that and -- without confusion about whether
18 those secondary sales are restricted in some way. And it would
19 seem to me the SEC would be -- should be able to be in a
20 position in settling this particular case to -- to provide some
21 clarity about that.

22 So I -- I would hope that the SEC would be willing
23 to engage in discussions, but I can't make you and I won't try.
24 I just will say that I -- I'm inclined to accept LBRY's
25 counsel's proposal to allow the filing of an additional brief

1 on remedy with its legal arguments as to why your remedy should
2 be restricted and I hope that the SEC would approach this
3 realistically.

4 I guess I'd ask LBRY's counsel one other thing.

5 So I -- I'm operating under the assumption that
6 there just isn't a lot there to recover from -- by disgorgement
7 or fines, for example, and it appears that financial statements
8 have been exchanged in the past.

9 Would LBRY be willing to engage in that kind of
10 transparency going forward in an effort to settle the case, to
11 provide some financial assurances regarding its current status
12 to the SEC?

13 So I'd ask you that, counsel, before I ask the
14 SEC --

15 MR. KAUFFMAN: I have -- I have them prepared and
16 ready for today. The company -- excluding our cryptocurrency
17 holdings, which I expect will be destroyed, that is, our LBC
18 Holdings which I would expect to be destroyed, we have under
19 \$500,000 in cash and we have around \$2 million in debts that
20 are unpaid.

21 THE COURT: Okay.

22 MR. KAUFFMAN: I had to borrow \$2 million to get
23 through this trial. I borrowed enough money to get us through
24 the end of the year under the expectation that, you know, this
25 would be over by then. And there's -- it's -- there's nothing.

1 There's absolutely nothing. I've been working the phones.
2 There -- until this is over, there is no chance of us getting
3 another dollar from anyone in our network.

4 THE COURT: All right, counsel -- let me talk to
5 counsel then.

6 So, counsel, I guess your client has said that he's
7 willing to be transparent regarding his finances. So I -- if
8 the SEC expresses any willingness to have continued
9 discussions, I think that would be a good starting point for
10 you to share some documents on the financial status and see
11 where it leads.

12 But let me just ask for a brief response from the
13 SEC here to LBRY's proposal.

14 MR. MOORES: Your Honor, you know, again, we are not
15 opposed to any sort of discussions with trying to resolve it
16 and we will willingly engage from the staff level with LBRY's
17 counsel on that to see if there is a pathway forward.

18 And with respect to -- just taking a step back and
19 looking at sort of the bigger picture that the Commission will
20 be considering, it's obviously, as Mr. Kauffman alluded to,
21 that there are a number of other, you know, companies in this
22 space that are potentially raising money and -- illegally or
23 through unregistered offerings.

24 And it's important also to make sure I think from
25 the Commission's perspective, that someone isn't just going to

1 do it thinking that at the end of the game that they won't
2 actually ever have to pay any sort of disgorgement or penalty
3 just based upon their current financial situation.

4 So I -- I can't speak for the Commission as to what
5 they will ultimately decide on what is the right policy and
6 approach across the industry as to what is appropriate in
7 taking money that is unjustly enriched from the wrongdoer and
8 potentially providing that back to the wronged investors or
9 seeking rescission and restitution, the equitable remedy, but
10 those -- you know, again, looking across the entire industry
11 where there could be clarity that you're seeing that is
12 provided by working out a solution, if it is also a solution
13 that doesn't benefit the Commission in terms of that -- that
14 larger view and policy approach, your Honor, and making sure
15 that, you know, to the extent that LBRY wasn't able to, you
16 know -- and I'm not suggesting it will have the means of doing
17 this -- but if a week from now, a month from now, a year from
18 now, it was able to generate tremendous amounts of revenue
19 based upon the business that was built with the illegal raise,
20 again, due to principles of unjust enrichment, those are just
21 the types of things that are normally disgorged --

22 THE COURT: All right. Let's -- yeah, but let's
23 start being realistic here. Okay? The prospect of that
24 happening appears to be very slim.

25 So I understand your concerns. I understand your

1 larger -- I understand the Commission's larger concerns. But
2 here's a couple of thoughts to just keep in mind as you think
3 about what to do.

4 First, Mr. Kauffman -- and I didn't want -- intend
5 to require anybody to negotiate in public here. These are
6 discussions that you can have --

7 MR. KAUFFMAN: I want nothing more than to negotiate
8 in public.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 MR. KAUFFMAN: Anyone who sees the SEC negotiate in
11 public with us would see that they are tremendously bad faith
12 actors. I would love it --

13 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Kauffman --

14 MR. KAUFFMAN: -- if --

15 THE COURT: I'm going to ask you to stop. I'm
16 going to ask you to stop talking. You need to exercise
17 self-restraint here.

18 I did not intend to require anyone to disclose
19 anything, but Mr. Kauffman has said multiple times as a part of
20 a resolution of this case he is prepared to burn the remaining
21 premine. So that's one thing to keep in mind.

22 Another thing to keep in mind is Mr. Kauffman,
23 through counsel, has agreed to be transparent regarding the
24 company's current financial status. That's something to keep
25 in mind.

1 Third, with respect to secondary sales, it's -- I
2 understand the concern about precedent that the SEC sets in one
3 case and people need -- and people trying to take -- take
4 advantage, if that would be the SEC's concern, of a resolution
5 in this case. But you need to also bear in mind I rejected the
6 fair notice defense that LBRY raised here, but it is a reality
7 that LBRY entered this market at a time of greater uncertainty
8 than exists now. And if there is a company that lacks
9 sufficient solvency to have any prospect of disgorgement or
10 paying fines, the company is prepared to burn its premine, and
11 some agreement can be raised with respect to this case based on
12 the unique circumstances of this case that the LBC token,
13 regardless of who it was originally acquired from that's not in
14 LBRY's own control or related parties' control, that that --
15 that those secondary sales can continue because LBRY, going
16 forward, will not be in the same way incentivized, aligned
17 with, and engaged in the sale of LBC with the intention of
18 using it as an investment in the way it has previously, that
19 that would seem to be a reasonable starting point for
20 discussion that the SEC should be willing to be at least
21 responsive to.

22 So I think if you step back and think about what has
23 been said today, you have the framework for a settlement. And
24 I can't make you do anything. I'm not going to try. But I do
25 think counsel -- if counsel for LBRY is not able to get a -- a

1 satisfactory response from you within a week or so, then they
2 should file a status report with me and I'll set a schedule for
3 the legal briefing of the -- LBRY's position that no further
4 discovery is warranted and we should have an expedited ruling
5 from the Court regarding the limited scope of remedy.

6 So I think that's a -- a reasonable approach going
7 forward. I think there is a framework here that is worth
8 exploring and I would strongly encourage the SEC to do that.

9 So you don't have to agree to anything, you can just
10 stand on your rights as any party in litigation can, but that's
11 what I would encourage you to do. And if you don't express
12 sufficient interest in resolving the case, then LBRY can notify
13 me and we'll set a briefing schedule for the briefing of the
14 legal issue regarding relief.

15 Let me ask LBRY's counsel, is that acceptable to
16 you?

17 MR. MILLER: Yes, it is, your Honor. Thank you.

18 THE COURT: And what's -- what's the date you said
19 by which you should file a status report?

20 MR. MILLER: I was thinking next Tuesday.

21 THE COURT: All right.

22 MR. MILLER: So it would give us, you know, a week.

23 THE COURT: It is -- it is over the Thanksgiving
24 holiday, so what I would -- by next Tuesday I'd ask you to file
25 a status report and if you are -- if you don't feel you have

1 made sufficient progress, you should represent that and request
2 that the Court set a schedule for briefing the legal issue
3 regarding scope of remedy.

4 What I would do is have LBRY file something 14 days
5 thereafter, have the SEC and have LBRY file a reply, and then I
6 would try to rule on it on an expedited basis to see where we
7 go from there.

8 Counsel, though, because it is over the Thanksgiving
9 holiday, I think you have to be realistic here. And so even if
10 you haven't nailed down everything, if you feel you're making
11 sufficient progress, you could represent to the Court that we
12 should extend that deadline by another seven days or something
13 while you firm up your efforts to -- to resolve things.

14 All right. Does the SEC understand what I'm
15 proposing and did you have any additional matters you wanted to
16 raise with me?

17 MR. MOORES: No. No, your Honor, we -- we
18 definitely understand and we've heard all your comments today,
19 your Honor, and we're agreeable to the schedule.

20 I, like you, caution that it is the Thanksgiving
21 holiday, if the report wasn't due back to the Court until the
22 Friday, December 2nd. But we -- we are willing to work
23 expeditiously on this, your Honor.

24 THE COURT: Yeah. And, as I said, there -- SEC --
25 excuse me.

1 LBRY has been relatively clear about certain things
2 that it's willing to do and if that isn't a good starting point
3 for settlement for you and you're not willing to pursue it, you
4 should just tell them and we should get on with things.
5 Because I don't know what more they could do to start serious
6 discussions with you than what counsel has proposed.

7 So if that isn't enough for you to get you going on
8 trying to work this thing out, you know, all that would be left
9 is assuring yourself that they haven't profited from this in a
10 way that there's still sufficient profits available for you to
11 extract and having a willingness on your part to come to some
12 kind of understanding because of the unique circumstances of
13 this case, how you would agree to have secondary sale issues
14 resolved.

15 Is that --

16 MR. KAUFFMAN: I --

17 MR. JONES: Your Honor --

18 THE COURT: Yes. I'm sorry. Who's speaking?

19 MR. JONES: Sorry. This is Marc Jones from the SEC.

20 THE COURT: Yeah, go ahead.

21 MR. JONES: I -- I just wanted to raise with the
22 Court, your Honor, that we absolutely understand your
23 expectation is to try to resolve this.

24 Secondary sales, just to try to set expectations
25 here, a resolution that would involve some sort of secondary

1 sales clarity in the way that LBRY seems to be asking for would
2 seem to be beyond the controversy that's before the Court here
3 and difficult to fashion into a -- into a settlement of these
4 matters.

5 It really is, essentially, an ask to have the SEC
6 make policy through a settled remedy because obviously the way
7 that LBRY gets treated, you know, should be -- you know, there
8 should be consistency across -- across the industry.

9 We will see what we can do, but I did not want the
10 Court to conclude today without saying it could be very
11 difficult for the SEC to fashion a policy about secondary sales
12 in this circumstance because it really is policy and we're
13 constrained by all of the things that have to go into it before
14 the SEC makes policy; that to try to -- to try to create it in
15 a -- either a settled or adjudicated --

16 THE COURT: Yeah, I'm not -- I understand -- I
17 understand, counsel, the problem that anytime you take any
18 position in any matter that someone might try to then me-too
19 it. And I'm not interested in participating in SEC
20 policymaking, but I've got a problem here. Right?

21 The problem here is this. You've got a company that
22 without fraudulent intent, at a time when things were less
23 certain than they are now, engaged in certain practices and
24 developed a blockchain that has legitimate uses and a token
25 that has consumptive uses.

1 And it seems to me reasonable that in an effort to
2 settle this case, not as to establish systemwide policy, that
3 the SEC should be willing to consider whether there are
4 creative solutions to resolve this problem in a way such as
5 that the LBRY -- the people who created LBRY and who hope to
6 profit from the sales of securities aren't profiting from it,
7 but that people who acquired the token because they believe it
8 has use on the LBRY blockchain, that the LBRY blockchain should
9 not be -- have to become dysfunctional simply to satisfy the
10 SEC. That -- that seems to me to be a -- an issue worth
11 exploring.

12 At the end of the day, whether you decide to pursue
13 that or not is totally up to the SEC. It's not within my
14 province. I give legal rulings. And I'll give you a legal
15 ruling on the remedy if you aren't able to reach an agreement.
16 And that's the way it goes. I -- I don't --

17 MR. KAUFFMAN: We --

18 THE COURT: -- set policy and I'm going to -- I'm
19 going to make a legal ruling if the parties can't agree.

20 But I've gone about as far as I possibly can and I
21 won't go further except to say I expect LBRY to file by next
22 Tuesday a status report either informing the Court that
23 settlement negotiations have been sufficiently productive that
24 they should continue or that the Court should set a schedule
25 for briefing a -- LBRY's motion the limited scope of remedy

1 without further discovery.

2 I'm not ruling out that I might need discovery or
3 have to hold a hearing, but I'm -- I want to hear LBRY's
4 arguments about why disgorgement is simply not an appropriate
5 remedy here, how the scope of injunctive relief should be
6 limited as a matter of law. They have an argument. They have
7 briefed these issues responsively. Counsel did a highly
8 effective job arguing LBRY's position. And I'm inclined to
9 give counsel the leeway to present additional briefs if the
10 parties can't agree on settlement negotiations.

11 All right. So, Jen, you understand what I'm
12 ordering from here? You should just make a note that we should
13 expect a filing from LBRY by next Tuesday either regarding a
14 request that the Court extend the deadline for settlement
15 discussions further or that the Court set a schedule for
16 briefing LBRY's position on remedy. All right?

17 THE CLERK: Yes, Judge. And I just would say as a
18 housekeeping matter there is a pending Daubert motion that's
19 still active on the docket.

20 THE COURT: That's denied without prejudice. All
21 right? We'll see where we go from there.

22 MR. KAUFFMAN: I --

23 THE COURT: That clears the docket on that.

24 MR. KAUFFMAN: Judge, just you're aware, public
25 blockchains have existed in the United States since 2009. In

1 that time period, the SEC has not indicated in a clear way that
2 a single public blockchain, not one of them, is not a security.
3 They haven't issued a single no-action letter to any company
4 dealing in public blockchain tokens.

5 They may act like they will consider your request.
6 It is absolutely -- they are acting in bad faith when they
7 suggest that. There is absolutely no chance that they will
8 give clarity to secondary sales. And without that clarity on
9 secondary sales, it is true that the LBRY project will be dead.

10 And that's okay. I -- I'm just -- I'm moving
11 forward. I have to move forward realistically as a CEO and for
12 my people. And this is what -- the SEC got what they wanted.
13 It's fine. I'm not trying -- again, they win. They've got all
14 the power. I'm not trying -- but that is what will happen.

15 And I would just -- like realistically they can say,
16 oh -- they can act like they're going to talk about it.
17 They're not going to entertain it.

18 THE COURT: And they --

19 MR. KAUFFMAN: There's no chance. So --

20 THE COURT: They have the right not to entertain it
21 and your lawyer has the right to on your behalf file a legal
22 memorandum that will prevent --

23 MR. KAUFFMAN: I'm just letting you know. You can
24 say things like, oh, I don't want LBRY to be hurt or whatever,
25 but they -- they -- in reality, they -- it's -- it will have

1 been killed by them. And -- and I certainly blame them more
2 than you, but you certainly get a bit of an assist.

3 So, like, that's going to be the outcome. I accept
4 it. I'm not mad. I'm not trying to be mad at you. That's
5 what -- it is what it is. But that's --

6 THE COURT: That's all right. You can be mad at me.
7 I'm used to people being mad at me. That's -- it comes with
8 the territory.

9 MR. KAUFFMAN: Well, you're much better than them.
10 I mean, I -- I understand why they -- you know, you trust them,
11 you have -- it's difficult to see through their -- you know, to
12 see through their lies in such a short time period. You
13 haven't seen --

14 THE COURT: If your counsel were in the room with
15 you right now, he'd be grabbing your coattails. So --

16 MR. KAUFFMAN: Oh, it doesn't matter. It's -- you
17 know, I -- you know, I -- you know --

18 THE COURT: Okay. Let's -- let's -- we've had
19 enough back and forth, Mr. Kauffman. I'm not here to engage in
20 dialogue with you.

21 So -- all right. So we're done for today. I'll
22 look for your filing, counsel, and we'll -- we'll go from
23 there.

24 All right? Thank you. That concludes the hearing.

25 (Proceedings concluded at 2:54 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Liza W. Dubois, do hereby certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate transcription of the within proceedings, to the best of my knowledge, skill, ability and belief.

Submitted: 12/27/22

/s/ Liza W. Dubois
LIZA W. DUBOIS, RMR, CRR