Exhibit 148

	Page 1
1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
3	
4	x
5	IN RE: Case No: 7:23-cv-00897
6	
7	CAMP LEJEUNE WATER LITIGATION
8	x
9	VIDEOTAPED DEPOSITION OF STEVEN BIRD, M.D.
10	Wednesday, May 14, 2025
11	9:00 a.m 6:00 p.m.
12	Mandell, Boisclair & Mandell
13	One Park Row
14	Providence, RI 02903
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	Certified Court Stenographer:
22	Katherine A. Tevnan, CSR/RMR

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1	PROCEEDINGS
2	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: We are now on the
3	record. My name is Robert Martignetti. I'm a
4	videographer for Golkow. Today's date is
5	May 14th, 2025, and the time is 9:00 a.m.
6	This video deposition is being held in
7	Providence, Rhode Island, In Re: Camp Lejeune
8	Water Litigation. The deponent is Steven Bird, M.D.
9	Counsel will be noted on the stenographic
10	record. The court reporter is Kathy Tevnan and
11	will now swear in the witness.
12	STEVEN BIRD, M.D.
13	
14	a witness called for examination by counsel for
15	the Defendant, being first duly sworn, was
16	examined and testified as follows:
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18	DIRECT EXAMINATION
19	BY MR. BAIN:
20	Q. Good morning, Dr. Bird. Can you please

Surely. Good morning. Steven Bird,

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Α.

state your name for the record?

1 B-I-R-D.

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- 2. What is your current address? Ο.
- 3 Α. Where I live?
- 4 Q. Yes.
- 5 6 Laurel Ridge Lane in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts. 6
 - Dr. Bird, my name is Adam Bain, and I'm representing the United States in this action. The court proceeding is under oath, so it is a -as if it is in a courtroom, even though it is not. Do you understand that?
- 12 Α. Yes.
 - And you understand you're under the Q. obligation to tell the truth today?
- 15 Α. Absolutely.
- 16 The court reporter's taking down 17 everything that we say, so it's important that we don't talk over each other and that we answer 18 19 verbally yes or no, rather than shaking your head 2.0 or some other indication. Do you understand that? 21
- 22 A. Yes.

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- Q. Once the deposition is complete, you will be given an opportunity to review the transcript.

 Do you understand that?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. If you don't understand a question, I would ask that you let me know so that I can rephrase it. Is that good with you?
 - A. Yes.
- MR. MANDELL: Adam, before you start substance, I don't want to interrupt you, but Dr. Bird does reserve the right to read and sign. Okay? Sorry.
- Q. Is there any reason that you would be unable to give your most truthful and accurate testimony today?
- A. No.
 - Q. At any time, if you need a break, just let me know, and we'll take a break as long as a question's not pending. Is that fine?
 - A. Sounds good.
- Q. Do you have any questions before we begin the deposition?

- A. Thank you for the opportunity to ask a question, but I don't have any.
 - Q. Okay. I'll show you the first exhibit today marked as Exhibit No. 1.

5 (Exhibit 1, Subpoena,

marked for identification.)

- Q. Dr. Bird, you've been handed Exhibit
 No. 1. Do you recognize this document as the subpoena for your deposition today?
- A. I do.
- Q. Have you reviewed the request for production of documents that's attached to the subpoena?
- 14 A. Yes.

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- Q. Do you have any responsive materials to produce?
- 17 A. I don't believe so.
 - Q. Are you withholding any materials that would be responsive, as far as you know?
- 20 A. No.
- Q. Dr. Bird, have you ever been disqualified from testifying in any case?

- Could you be more specific?
- Have you ever had any opinions that you've offered be excluded in any case that you know of?
- I have had limitations placed and/or exclusions.
 - Q. Can you describe to me what those are, to the best of your recollection?
- Yes. So an opinion was limited in the Α. Red Hill litigation, which I think was called Feindt, F-E-I-N-D-T, versus I guess it was the U.S.
- So I was limited in providing opinions about long-term needs or long-term monitoring. There may be some other subtleties to that that I'm, you know, unfamiliar with.

And in I believe it was Delaware, I was excluded from -- or limited or excluded relating to -- that was Zantac litigation. That's all I'm familiar with.

Q. Do you know the reason that you were excluded or limited in the Zantac litigation?

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A. Well, first, I would say, since I was excluded, I've testified I think in front of four judges in the same cases, and that is under appeal.

It in part had to do with testing of Zantac pills that were expired because the drug had been withdrawn from the market and there were no unexpired pills. I think that's the -- largely the substance of it.

- Q. Do you recall the name of that case?
- 11 A. I think it's Wilson, but I could be mistaken.
 - Q. Any other circumstances where your opinions have been excluded or limited?
 - A. Not that I'm aware of.
 - Q. Have you ever been subject to a disciplinary action by a licensing body?
 - A. No.
- Q. Have you ever been subject to a disciplinary action by a hospital?
- 21 A. No.

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Q. By a laboratory?

Could you be more specific?

- A laboratory that you worked with, have you ever had any disciplinary action because of procedures at the laboratory?
- I didn't have any disciplinary actions. Α. I had privileges -- I withdrew my privileges and privileges were suspended for a year with the ability to reapply, which I did not do.
- Can you describe the circumstances of 0. that?
- So it was a lab. There was a Α. Sure. postdoc from Japan. There was a relationship between UMass Med School and University of Sapporo. And this postdoc had been fully trained but did not follow procedures. I became aware of that, reported it to the IACUC, I-A-C-U-C, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

There was a retraining, and then he again did not follow the protocol. So I terminated him, and that's what led to me voluntarily withdrawing privileges and having the privileges suspended for a year with the ability to reapply.

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- Q. And what were the reasons that privileges were withdrawn for you or you withdrew privileges, was it because of your supervision of that postdoc?
 - A. That's right. Yes, I was the PI, so I took responsibility, I reported him, and I -- and I withdrew.
 - Q. Have you ever been subject to any disciplinary action by a college or university?
 - A. No.
- 11 Q. Okay.

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- 12 (Exhibit 2, Curriculum Vitae,
- marked for identification.)
- MR. MANDELL: This will be 2?
- MR. BAIN: Yes.
- MR. MANDELL: Okay.
- Q. I'm showing you what's been marked
 Exhibit No. 2. Can you identify this exhibit as
 your curriculum vitae and prior testimony, which
 were attached to each of your expert reports in
 this case?
- A. That's what this is.

- Q. Okay. And according to this curriculum vitae, you served on the Clinician Well-Being Cooperative of the National Academy of Medicine; is that right?
 - A. That's right.
 - Q. The National Academy of Medicine is part of the National Academies, which include the National Academies [sic] of Sciences and the National Academy of Engineering. Does that sound right?
- 11 A. Yes.

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- Q. And you're familiar with the National Academies, I take it?
- A. Yes.
 - Q. Are you aware that the purpose of the National Academies is to produce and promote the adoption of independent, authoritative, trusted scientific advice ... for the benefit of society? Does that sound right?
- A. I don't think I've ever read that. Maybe you could show me the source of that.
 - Q. What is your understanding of the purpose

1 of the National Academies?

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- A. Oh, I -- you'd have to be more specific than that.
 - Q. Well, you've been involved with the National Academy, right?
 - A. I've been involved with the National Academy of Medicine, that's right.
 - Q. And do you -- do you understand what the purpose of that body is?
 - A. I think it's got numerous purposes.
- Q. And do you have any understanding of all -- of any of the purposes?
 - A. Well, certainly some of them.
- Q. Okay. What is your understanding of some of the purposes?
- A. To set the agenda for -- national research agenda with regard to certain aspects of medicine. And specifically that collaborative, I think it was called, was about physician or clinician well-being.
- I don't think they -- they probably fund some research, but probably on a limited basis.

- 1 I suspect that there's some advocacy work that National Academy of Medicine does as well. 2. 3 think that's probably the extent of my 4 understanding.
 - You're familiar with the National Research Council as an operating and programatic arm of the National Academies?
 - Α. That's my understanding.
 - Other than the Clinician Well-Being Ο. Cooperative, have you ever been a member of any other committee of the National Academies?
 - No. Α.

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- Have you ever been asked to be a member Q. of any committee of the National Academies other than the one that you've participated in?
 - I don't believe so.
- Have you ever applied to be a member of Ο. any committee of the National Academies?
 - No. Α.
- Have you cited the work of the National Academies in any of your publications?
- 22 I think I have about 75 publications. Α.

- don't recall everything that I've cited, so I don't recall.
 - Q. Okay. I understand that. Do you recall ever having cited the National Academies' work?
 - A. My answer's the same.
 - Q. You don't recall?
 - A. Correct.
 - Q. Are you familiar with an epidemiologist named David Savitz?
- 10 A. Yes.

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- 11 Q. How are you familiar with him?
- A. He's written at least two books, I
 believe, so I'm familiar with -- with him to some
 degree.
- Q. Are you aware that he's a professor of epidemiology at Brown University?
 - A. That was my understanding.
- Q. Do you consider him an authority in the field of epidemiology?
- A. It's not a term I typically use,
 authority or authoritative. Certainly he is well
 known and respected in the field.

- 1 Are you familiar with his book,
- 2. "Interpreting Epidemiological Evidence:
- 3 Connecting Research to Applications"?
- I think he's written at least two books. 4 Α.
- I don't -- and I have one of them. I think that 5
- 6 may be the one I have.
- Okay. And would you consider that to be 7
- 8 an authoritative work in the field of
- epidemiology? 9
- 10 Again, it's not a term I use, "authority"
- or "authoritative." It is a book that he wrote 11
- 12 that people use.
- 13 And that you possess? Q.
- I think I do. 14 Α.
- 15 Are you familiar with his book called
- 16 "Epidemiology and the Law"?
- 17 I've seen that referenced somewhere.
- 18 I've never read it.
- 19 Have you ever cited Dr. Savitz's work in
- any scientific materials that you've authored? 2.0
- I don't recall. 21 Α.
- 22 O. You've never discussed this case with

- 1 Dr. Savitz, have you?
- 2 A. I have not.

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- Q. You're aware that Dr. Savitz is an expert for the plaintiffs in this case, aren't you?
- A. I know he wrote something. I don't know if he's an expert or not.
 - Q. Did you read what he wrote in this case?
 - A. I believe so -- well, I don't know what he wrote in this case. I did read something by Dr. Savitz.
- 11 Q. What do you recall reading by Dr. Savitz?
- 12 A. I believe it was a rebuttal statement to someone. I can't remember the details.
 - Q. Was it primarily focused on the topic of statistical significance?
- 16 A. I don't recall.
 - Q. Okay. You're a member of the American College of Emergency Physicians; is that right?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. And you've been a member of that college since 1998; is that right?
- 22 A. That sounds about right.

- Q. You're familiar with the American College of Emergency Physicians expert witness guidelines, aren't you?
 - A. Oh, I've heard of them or looked at them a long time ago.
 - Q. Okay.

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(Exhibit 3, American College of Emergency Physician expert witness guidelines, marked for identification.)

- Q. Dr. Bird, I'm showing you what has been marked as Exhibit No. 3, and this is the American College of Emergency Physician expert witness guidelines last approved in 2021. Do you see that?
 - A. I do.
- Q. Do you attempt to bide -- abide by these guidelines in giving expert testimony in legal cases?
- A. Stand by. I have not seen this one.

21 (Pause)

MR. MANDELL: Adam, just so I

understand, the copy you're marking, is that the one in front of the doctor?

MR. BAIN: What I have done is the copy that's marking is a clean copy. I'm going to be pointing Dr. Bird to some particular provisions, which I've highlighted so that he can directly get to them.

MR. MANDELL: Okay. But -- okay. So that was my point, though.

MR. BAIN: Yes.

MR. MANDELL: We're not marking them -- we're not marking as an exhibit a premarked copy of it, with orange and green and yellow, right?

MR. BAIN: Right.

MR. MANDELL: Okay. All right.

- A. I'm sorry. What was the question?
- Q. You attempt to abide by the guidelines of this particular organization, the American College of Emergency Physicians expert witness guidelines?
 - A. Sure, I would agree with that.

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1 MR. MANDELL: Could you just show me 2. the copy that you have in front of you, Doctor, 3 that's marked up? I just want to take 4 two seconds just to read the marked-up part. 5 Okay? 6 (Pause) 7 MR. MANDELL: Thank you. 8 So, Dr. Bird, I wanted to --0. 9

MR. MANDELL: I'm so sorry. It's my baby.

Directing your attention to the first yellow highlighted provision, the first of these guidelines states that "The expert witness should possess current experience and ongoing knowledge in the area in which he or she is asked to testify."

Do you see that?

18 Α. Yes.

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- And do you abide by that guideline? Ο.
- 2.0 Α. Sure.
- 21 Is it important to you to do so? Q.
- 22 I don't know. I've seen this for the Α.

- first time now. I said I abide by the guidelines. I think that answers it.
 - Q. Is it important that an expert have the experience and ongoing knowledge in the area in which they are offering opinions?
 - A. I would generally agree with that.
 - Q. Why is that important?
 - A. To be able to give an opinion, one needs to have training, expertise, experience to offer that.
- Q. Okay. You don't hold any degree in epidemiology, do you?
 - A. That's correct, I do not.
- Q. You're not certified by the American
 College of Epidemiology?
- 16 A. That is correct.
- Q. You've never held a professorship in a field of epidemiology?
- 19 A. I agree with that.
- Q. You've never published in a
- 21 | epidemiological journal?
- 22 A. I think that's true.

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1 You have never been the principal investigator for an epidemiological study, have 2. 3 you?

- Α. That's true.
- You list several papers and peer-reviewed 0. journals in the CV that you've attached in this case as Exhibit No. 2, right?
 - Α. Yes.

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- There's a section called "Papers and Ο. Peer-Reviewed Journals"; is that right?
- That's right. 11 Α.
 - None of those publications involve any of the chemicals at issue in this case, specifically PCE, TCE, DCE, vinyl chloride, or benzene; is that true?
 - That is true. Α.
 - And none of those publications involve any of the diseases at issue in this case, specifically kidney cancer, bladder cancer, leukemia, NHL, or Parkinson's disease; is that true?
 - Stand by. Α.

1 MR. MANDELL: Adam, you're referring

- to the Tier 1 diseases? 2.
- 3 MR. BAIN: Yes.
- 4 MR. MANDELL: Okay.
- I would agree with that. 5 Α.
 - In your CV, you have a list of several book chapters; is that true?
 - Book chapters and book sections, yes.
- Okay. Book chapters and book sections. 9 Ο.
- 10 None of those book chapters involve any of the
- chemicals at issue in case, PCE, TCE, DCE, vinyl 11
- 12 chloride, or benzene, correct?
- 13 I don't recall all the chapters, but I Α.
- 14 suspect that is true.
- 15 And none of those book chapters involve
- 16 any of the diseases at issue in this case, kidney
- cancer, bladder cancer, leukemia, NHL, or 17
- Parkinson's disease, the Track 1 diseases; is 18
- 19 that true?

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- 2.0 Α. Stand by.
- 21 (Pause)
- 22 I believe that's true. Α.

- 1 Q. Okay. Dr. Bird, you don't hold a legal 2. degree, do you?
 - An illegal degree? Α.
 - A legal degree. J.D., juris doctor. Q.
 - Okay. I do not hold a J.D. Α.
 - Q. You're not licensed to practice law?
 - That is correct. Α.
 - Q. Have you ever enrolled in law school?
 - Α. No.

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- 10 Have you done any legal research in the Ο. topic of legal burdens of proof? 11
 - Oh, I don't understand that question.
 - Okay. Do you know what a legal burden of Q. proof is?
- 15 Α. No.
- 16 Let me draw your attention to the next 17 guideline marked in orange on Exhibit 3. Do you 18 see where it says, "The expert witness should 19 review the medical facts in a thorough, fair, and objective manner and should not exclude any 20 relevant information to create a view favoring 21 22 either the plaintiff or defendant"?

- A. That's not the second highlighted --
- Q. Oh, I'm sorry. Excuse me. I don't want to -- I wanted to turn the page. Actually, go back to the other page. I skipped ahead a little bit.

I did want to draw your attention to the one marked in orange, which it says, "The expert witness should not provide expert medical testimony that is false, misleading, or without medical foundation. The key to this process is a thorough review of available and appropriate medical records and contemporaneous literature concerning the case being examined."

Do you see that?

- A. Yes.
- Q. And do you attempt to abide by that guideline?
- 18 A. Sure.

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- Q. Why is that important?
- A. Well, it includes reviewing relevant data, contemporaneous literature, as well as older literature, and so in order to give an

expert opinion, I think one should generally abide by that.

- Q. Okay. Now turn to the next page. That's the one that I had read earlier. "The expert witness should review the medical facts in a thorough, fair, and objective manner and should not exclude any relevant information to create a view favoring either the plaintiff or the defendant."
 - Do you see that?
- 11 A. Yes.

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- Q. And do you attempt to abide by that quideline?
- 14 A. Sure. Certainly be an objective 15 reviewer, yes.
 - Q. Why is that important?
- A. Well, exactly what it says there. In order to review, give a fair and thorough and, importantly, objective manner, one should do that.
- Q. In particular, why is it important not to exclude relevant information to create a view

favoring either the plaintiff or the defendant?

- A. Well, there's a difference I think -- I don't know exactly what they mean about should [sic] exclude relevant information. Because at times there is lots and lots of information, and one can't include all relevant information. So because it's not always all included doesn't mean it was excluded.
- Q. Did you have any staff supporting your work on this case?
- A. Any who?
- 12 Q. Staff.
- 13 A. No.

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- Q. So you did it all by yourself?
- 15 A. I did.
- Q. What percentage of your annual income is earned from serving as an expert witness in litigation?
- A. It historically had been around
 15 percent or so.
- Q. Is your hourly rate in this case the same as the hourly rate for other cases in which you

1 | serve as an expert?

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- A. Yes. Well, the same rate as I charged in 2024.
 - Q. Can you elaborate on that? So are you charging the same rate now that you charged in 2024 on the other cases you worked on; is that what you're saying?
 - A. I'm saying I became involved in this case in 2024, and my fees in this case are what I charged in 2024.
 - In 2025, I changed my fee schedule. But since I started work on this in 2024, my fee schedule from 2024 applies.
- 14 0. Okay.
- 15 A. Does that make sense?
- Q. I think so. You worked on the Red Hill case in 2024 some, correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. And did you charge the same rate in the Red Hill case as you're charging in this case?
- 21 A. I think so, although Red Hill started in 22 '23.

- Q. Okay. So what you're saying is that the rate that you charge initially, you keep that rate throughout no matter the -- that you might change your rate for new cases in subsequent years; is that right?
 - A. That's right.
- Q. Okay.

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- A. Was that -- was that clear? Did I --
- Q. I think so.
- 10 A. Okay.
- 11 Q. Thanks for clarifying that.
- MR. MANDELL: It was clear to me.
- 13 | Thank you.
- Q. Have you ever served as an expert witness for a defendant in a toxic tort case?
 - A. Could you ask that again?
 - Q. Have you ever served as an expert witness for a defendant in a toxic tort case?
 - A. I -- I just don't know how to answer that because I don't know if I have been disclosed or not. I probably have not.
 - Q. So you've never been disclosed as an

1 expert for a defendant in a toxic tort case; is 2. that correct?

- That I would agree with. Α.
- But you believe you've been retained by a 0. defendant in a toxic tort case, but not disclosed?
 - Yes. Α.

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- Prior to this case, have you ever worked O. for any of the law firms that are involved in this case? And I will list some of them that are in the leadership group. Bell Legal, Keller Postman, Lieff Cabraser, the Dowling Law Firm, Weitz & Luxemberg, Wallace & Graham, Motley Rice. Any of those firms?
 - Α. Yes.
- Which of those firms have you worked for 0. before?
- Α. So I worked with Motley Rice in the Hawaii Red Hill. I've worked with Keller Postman in Zantac litigation. And the Weitz & Luxemberg sounds familiar, but I don't know for sure.
 - Okay. Have you ever worked with the 0.

Page 34 1 Mandell firm before? 2. Α. No. 3 You produced four general causation Q. reports in this case; is that correct? 4 5 That's right. Α. 6 Q. There was one report on bladder cancer, 7 correct? 8 Α. Yes. Q. One report on kidney cancer? 10 Α. Yes. One report on Parkinson's disease? 11 Q. 12 Α. Yes. 13 And one report on leukemia as a Q. 14 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma; is that right? 15 Α. That's correct. And a supplemental 16 report. 17 Thanks. Ο. Yes. 18 MR. BAIN: Can we go off the record 19 for just a minute? 2.0 MR. MANDELL: Sure. 21 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 22 9:29 a.m., and we're off the record.

	Page 35
1	(Discussion off the record)
2	(Exhibit 4, Report on Bladder Cancer,
3	marked for identification).
4	(Exhibit 5, Report on Kidney Cancer,
5	marked for identification.)
6	(Exhibit 6, Report on Parkinson's
7	Disease, marked
8	for identification).
9	(Exhibit 7, Report on Leukemia and
10	Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma,
11	marked for identification)
12	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is
13	9:31 a.m., and we're on the record.
14	BY MR BAIN:
15	Q. Dr. Bird, while we were off the record,
16	we got your reports in this case, and we've
17	identified them as Exhibit No. 4 being your
18	report on bladder cancer, Exhibit No. 5 being
19	your report on kidney cancer, Exhibit No. 6 being
20	your report on Parkinson's disease, and Exhibit
21	No. 7 being your report on leukemia and
22	non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Do you see that?

Page 36 of 434

1 Α. Yes.

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- And for each of those reports, you provided a materials considered list, right, with the report?
 - That's my recollection.
- And the materials considered list includes some materials that were provided by counsel and also additional materials that you independently gathered?
- I don't know that counsel provided me anything. I -- well, let's take a look.
- Q. And we'll go through some of them more specifically, but if you want to take a look.
- Oh, sure they did. I don't know what these are called. Law citations --
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 -- maybe. Α.
 - Q. So some were provided by counsel and some you independently gathered; is that right?
 - Certainly the law citations I was Α. Yeah. The literature was done by me. provided.
 - Q. And the literature that you've included

- in the materials considered list, how did you
 gather that literature?
 - A. Well, I believe I describe it in my report on page 6.
 - Q. And you're looking at Exhibit No. 4 now, the bladder cancer report?
 - A. That's right.
 - Q. Just for the record.
 - A. That's right.
 - Q. Okay. And that's the methodology by which you gathered the literature; is that right?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. If an item's not listed on one of the materials considered list, it's fair to assume that you did not consider that item in forming your opinions in this case, correct?
- A. I think that's correct insofar it didn't specifically rate -- relate to my opinion, but I reviewed lots of data, which kind of informed my opinions generally.
- Q. You understood that you were supposed to list the -- any facts or data that you considered

- 1 in forming your opinions as part of your materials considered list, correct? 2.
 - I would generally agree with that.
 - In 2009, the National Research Council of Ο. the National Academies published a report entitled "Contaminated Water Supplies at Camp Lejeune: Assessing Potential Health Effects." Were you aware of that?
 - 2009, right. 16 years ago, yes. Α.
 - You were aware of that report? Ο.
- 11 Α. Yes.

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- 12 And that document is not listed on your 0. 13 materials considered list?
 - I don't recall. Α.
- 15 Do you want to take a moment to take a Q. 16 look at the one for the bladder cancer case? 17 (Pause)
- 18 Α. Yeah, I don't see it listed there.
- 19 Do you recall reviewing that report? Q.
- 2.0 Α. Vaquely.
- 21 (Exhibit 8, 2009 National
- 22 Research Council report,

Page 39 1 marked for identification.) 2. O. I'm having marked as the next exhibit in 3 order --MR. MANDELL: It would be 8. 4 O. -- Exhibit 8 --5 6 MR. BAIN: Thank you. 7 Q. -- the 2009 National Research Council 8 report on "Contaminated Water Supplies at 9 Camp Lejeune: Assessing Potential Health Effects." 10 And I want to direct your attention to 1 1 12 page 1 of that report. Do you see --13 Hold on. There's a lot of Roman Α. 14 numerals. 15 MR. MANDELL: There are. 16 And this is just an excerpt of the 0. 17 report. 18 Α. Oh. Sorry. 19 Yeah. There's tabs to help you find it. 0. 20 Α. Thank you. And do you see "The Charge to the 21 22 Committee" on page 1 of the report, which says,

1 "The charge had several elements. One was to review the scientific evidence about the kinds of 2. 3 adverse health effects that occur -- could occur after exposure to TCE, PCE, and other 4 contaminants. The second was to evaluate studies 5 6 that were performed or that are under way on former residents of the base and to consider how 7 8 useful it will be to conduct additional studies. The third element was to identify scientific 9 considerations that could help the Navy set 10 priorities on future activities. 11 12 responsibility of the committee was to address 13 its charge in a dispassionate, expert, and 14 unbiased way. Analyses and findings were neither 15 subject to oversight nor influenced by the agenda 16 of any of the entities with [the responsibility] 17 for Camp Lejeune, former or current residents of 18 Camp Lejeune, or any other entity." 19

Do you see that?

- Α. Yes.
- 21 Directing your attention to page Roman Ο. 22 numeral V.

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- Do you see where it lists the makeup of the "Committee on Contaminated Drinking Water at Camp Lejeune"?
 - Α. Yes.
- Do you see that Dr. Savitz is the chairman of that committee?
 - Α. Yes.
- Including Dr. Savitz, how many scientists 0. are on the committee, do you see?
- 13. 11 Α.
 - Are you familiar with any of the scientists on the committee?
 - Some of the names look familiar, but I Α. wouldn't know their face.
 - Would it be fair to say that you have not co-authored any articles or book chapters with any -- with any of the members of the committee?
 - That's true. Α.
 - Do you know whether you've cited any of their scientific work in any of the articles or book chapters that you've published?

1 A. I don't recall.

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- Q. Are you aware that the National Research Council uses a peer-review process when it produces a report like this?
- A. Peer-review process can -- it can be a number of different ways that's done. So could you be more specific?
 - Q. What does "peer review" mean to you?
 - A. Well, it depends on context.
- Q. Okay. And you did work for the National Academies. Was there any peer review of the work that you did?
 - A. I don't know that the NAM work I did with their collaborative had any peer review.
 - Q. Was a report produced?
 - A. There have been a number of reports.
- Q. From that group?
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. And you're not aware of any peer review of those reports?
- 21 A. Correct.
- 22 Q. Okay. Let me direct your attention to

1	page Roman numeral X. Do you see the yellow
2	highlighted portion? It says the "report has
3	been reviewed in draft form by persons chosen for
4	their diverse perspectives and technical
5	expertise in accordance with procedures approved
6	by the National Research Council's Report Review
7	Committee. The purpose of the independent review
8	is to provide candid and critical comments that
9	will assist the institution in making its
10	published report as sound as possible and to
11	ensure that the report meets institutional
12	standards of objectivity, evidence, and
13	responsiveness to the study charge. The review
14	comments and draft manuscript remain confidential
15	to protect the integrity of the deliberative
16	process. We thank the following for their review
17	of this report: John L. Adgate, University of
18	Minnesota; Mary P. Anderson, University of
19	Wisconsin; Richard Clapp, Boston University;
20	Mary C. Hill, U.S. Geological Survey; Margot
21	Krauss, consultant; Lawrence H. Lash, Wayne State
22	University; Rosalind A. Schoof, Integral

- 1 Consulting, Inc; Michael A. Stoto, Georgetown
- University; Clifford Weisel, University of 2.
- 3 Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey; and
- Raymond S. Yang, Colorado State University." 4
- 5 Are you familiar with any of the
- 6 scientists involved in the peer review of this
- 7 report?
- 8 Α. I'm familiar with the name Lash and maybe
- Weisel. 9
- Okay. How are you familiar with them? 10 Ο.
- Again, I couldn't -- I don't know what 11
- 12 they look like, but just through research,
- 13 literature review, reviewing documents.
- 14 Okay. So you haven't collaborated with Ο.
- 15 them in any investigations or articles; is that
- 16 fair?
- 17 That's fair. Α.
- 18 Q. Or any of the other scientists listed on
- the peer review committee? 19
- That is correct. 2.0 Α.
- 21 Turning to a page 8 of the report. Ο.
- 22 you see Box 2, "Categorization of Health Outcomes

- 1 Reviewed in Relation to TCE, PCE, or Solvent 2. Mixtures"?
 - Α. Yes.

Q.

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5 "Sufficient Evidence of a Causal Relationship,"

Do you see the categories are:

- "Sufficient Evidence of an Association," 6
- 7 "Limited/Suggestive Evidence of an Association,
- 8 Inadequate/Insufficient Evidence to Determine
- Whether an Association Exists, " and 9
- "Limited/Suggestive Evidence of No Association." 10
- 11 Do you see those categories?
- 12 Α. Yes.
 - You're familiar with that categorization Q. scheme?
 - Α. I don't know that I've seen this exact categorization scheme elsewhere. It's not the categorization scheme relevant for Camp Lejeune.
 - Q. And when you say it's not relevant to Camp Lejeune, why do you say that?
- Well, this isn't what the ATSDR said or 2.0 Institute of Medicine or the Camp Lejeune Justice 21 22 Act, is my understanding.

- So it's not the same categorization scheme used by the ATSDR in its Assessment of Evidence?
 - Α. That's correct.

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0. Okay. We're going to get to that a little bit later.

Is this categorization scheme used in the work that you do outside of litigation ever?

- I'm not sure. Α.
- And do you see from this box that the National Research Council committee considering the Camp Lejeune water contamination in the year of this report, which I believe was 2009, with respect to TCE, PCE, and solvent mixtures did not list any diseases in the category of "Sufficient Evidence of a Causal Relationship" or "Sufficient Evidence of Association." Do you see that?
 - Α. I see that's what it says.
- And kidney cancer is listed in the "Limited/Suggestive Evidence of Association." Do you see that?
 - I do. Α.

- Q. And bladder cancer is listed in "Limited/Suggestive Evidence of Association" with respect to PCE. Do you see that?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. Adult leukemia's listed in "Limited/Suggestive Evidence of Association" with respect to "solvent mixtures." Do you see that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Non-Hodgkin lymphoma is listed in "Inadequate/Insufficient Evidence to Determine Whether an Association Exists." Do you see that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And Parkinson's disease is listed in "Inadequate/Insufficient Evidence to Determine Whether an Association Exists," right?
- 16 A. That's right.
 - Q. You're unaware of the reasoning process that the National Research Council Committee of Scientists used to place the diseases in these categories because you did not consider this report in reaching your conclusions in this case, correct?

- A. I'm sorry. It was a long one, so I don't understand it.
 - Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the reasoning process that the National Research Council committee used to place the diseases in the categories that it did here?
 - A. I'm sorry. I don't know what "reasoning process" means.
 - Q. The analysis it used.
- MR. MANDELL: He's just asking if you're aware of it.
- 12 A. I'm not aware of it.
 - Q. Okay. Because you did not list this report in your materials considered list, right?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

16 Go ahead.

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- A. Well, it's not -- it's not because I didn't list it. It's because I don't know.
- 19 Q. Okay.
- MR. MANDELL: Could I just say, give
 me a second just to object.
- THE WITNESS: Surely.

MR. MANDELL: And then I can put that on the record, and then you can answer.

THE WITNESS: Got it.

MR. MANDELL: Thank you.

- Q. Are you aware that the chair of the NRC committee, Dr. Savitz, was deposed earlier in this case?
 - A. I don't know that I was aware of that.
- Q. Okay. Dr. Savitz's deposition is not listed in your materials considered list for any of your reports, true?
- A. That's true.

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- Q. So it's fair to assume that you did not consider Dr. Savitz's testimony in this case in reaching your opinions?
- 16 A. I would agree with that.
- Q. Okay. You have a section in each of your reports entitled "'At Least As Likely As Not'

 Standard."
- So if you look, for example, at

 Exhibit 4, on page 7 in the bladder cancer

 report, do you see that section entitled "'At

- 1 Least As Likely As Not' Standard"?
- Conveniently highlighted for me. 2. 3 you. Yes, I see it.
 - Did plaintiffs' counsel provide you with the burdens and standard of proof section of the Camp Lejeune Justice Act?
 - I don't recall.
 - You don't recall how you became aware of Ο. that particular provision in the statute?
 - Α. Correct.

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- Do you recall how you came to put that provision of the statute in your report, why you thought it was significant to put that in your report?
 - Well, I think that's -- it's in there Α. because it's an important part of this whole litigation.
 - Q. And what's your understanding that it's an important part of the whole litigation?
 - Α. Well --
- MR. MANDELL: Objection. I'm going 22 to instruct you not to answer that to the extent

that any of that information comes from conversations you've had with any plaintiffs' counsel in this case. If you can answer it otherwise, please feel free to do that. Okay?

THE WITNESS: Thank you.

- A. Could you ask it again?
- Q. I'm going to see if I can ask the court reporter if she can read that for me.

(Record read)

MR. MANDELL: And again, my objection. Okay? Thank you.

- A. I can't answer that question because it would disclose conversations with counsel.
- Q. Do you recall whether you have read the complete language of the statute in addition to the section that you quote in your report?
- A. I don't -- I don't recall. I've read lots of things.
- Q. If you look on your bladder cancer report, which is Exhibit 4, I believe, and you look at the last page of the materials considered list. I think it's the very last page there.

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1 A. Yes.

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- Q. Do you see that you have listed "Order In re: Camp Lejeune Water Litigation," the case number's there, Docket No. 227, Eastern District of North Carolina, June 5, 2024?
- A. Yes.
 - Q. And was that among the materials that counsel provided to you?
 - A. That's my recollection.
- Q. Did you review that order?
- 11 A. To some degree, yes.
- 12 Q. Okay.
- 13 (Exhibit 9, June 5, 2024 Order, 14) marked for identification.)
 - Q. Dr. Bird, I've marked as Exhibit 9 that order, which is the June 5, 2024, order, that is on the last page of your materials considered list. And I'd like you to turn to -- hold on just a second -- page 11 of that order.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. Do you see the highlighted language there, which states, "Congress's express

Page 53 1 alteration of the burden of proof in 2. subsection 804(c) does not demonstrate Congress's 3 intent to replace the common-law causation framework"? 4 5 MR. MANDELL: Just for the record, the first word. 6 7 MR. BAIN: Okay. 8 MR. MANDELL: That's okay. I'm sure you just want to be complete. MR. BAIN: Yeah. I will. I'll 10 Thank you for that. 11 reread it. 12 MR. MANDELL: No. That's fine. 13 Yeah. That's fine. 14 So it says, "Yet Congress's express 15 alteration of the burden of proof in 16 subsection 804(c) does not demonstrate Congress's 17 intent to replace the common-law causation framework." 18 19 Do you see that? 2.0 Α. Yes. Would it be fair to say that you don't 21 22 have legal training to opine on the common-law

causation framework?

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- I would agree with that.
- If you'd turn to page 13 of this exhibit. Q. And do you see the first sentence on page 13, which states, "The causal framework for a CLJA claim and the burden of proof applicable to that framework are interlocking parts, but Congressional change to one portion does not necessitate a change to the other."

Do you see that?

- Α. Yes.
- Is it fair to say that you don't have the legal training to evaluate whether that is a correct statement of statutory interpretation?
 - I would thankfully agree with that. Α.
- Turn to page 15. And if you look about 0. halfway down the middle paragraph on that page, do you see where it says, "Although the same language canon could apply to the phrase 'as likely as not,' that phrase pertains to burdens of proof, not causation."

Do you see that?

1 A. Yes.

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- Q. And again, you're not a lawyer and don't have legal training to opine whether a burden of proof used to evaluate evidence in a legal case is the same as a standard that a scientist uses to evaluate epidemiological and toxicological findings in support of a scientific conclusion?
 - A. I agree with that.
- Q. Okay. You've done a lot of expert work over the past four years. Would you agree with that?
 - A. I've done some.
- Q. Your report lists approximately 40 cases in which you've testified at trial or deposition in the last four years. If you look at your exhibit I believe 2, which is your CV.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. You prepared expert reports in many of those cases, didn't you?
 - A. I don't recall. Certainly some of them.
- Q. For those cases in federal court where you testified, you're required to produce an

1	expert	report;	is	that	true?
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- I don't know what a federal court is or not a federal court.
 - Okay. But you have produced some reports Q. in some of those cases?
 - Α. Yes.

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- Is it fair to say that you did not quote sections of the applicable statute in any reports for those cases other than this case?
 - MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- Oh, I don't recall. 11
 - You don't recall whether you've ever cited sections of the statute in other reports? MR. MANDELL: Objection.
 - Α. I just don't recall.
- 16 Let me show you an example of an expert 17 report that you did in a prior case.

(Exhibit 10, Dr. Bird's expert report 18 19 in the Feindt case,

marked for identification.) 2.0

> I've had marked as Exhibit 10 your expert report -- or at least the start of your expert

Page 57 1 report in the Feindt case. Do you see that? 2. I don't have a copy. 3 Okay. Well, I'm sorry. I'm holding it. Q. MR. MANDELL: Could I just ask, Adam. 4 5 MR. BAIN: Yeah. MR. MANDELL: I know you've marked 6 this as Exhibit 10. But on the very first page, 7 8 it says "Exhibit A." 9 MR. BAIN: Yes. 10 MR. MANDELL: Could you just clarify so it doesn't get confusing? 11 MR. BAIN: Yes, I will. So this is 12 13 taken from a filing in the Feindt case, I 14 believe. It was Exhibit A to some type of 15 filing, as I recall. 16 MR. MANDELL: That's fine. 17 Exhibit 10 in this case is Exhibit A in a different case? 18 19 MR. BAIN: Yes. 2.0 MR. MANDELL: Okay. 21 Q. Do you recognize this as the first

six pages of your report in the Feindt case?

- 1 Well, I'm glad you clarified that because I didn't recall a six-page report. So I think --2.
 - Q. Okay.

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- -- yeah, this looks to be the first 4 six pages of a report. 5
- Do you know what the applicable statute 6 7 was in the Feindt case?
- 8 Α. No.
- You weren't aware that it was a Federal 0. Tort Claims Act? 10
- MR. MANDELL: Objection. 11
- 12 Go ahead.
- 13 I don't know. Α.
 - You did not cite any section of the Federal Tort Claims Act in the expert report you prepared in Feindt v. The United States, did you? MR. MANDELL: Objection.

18 Go ahead.

- 19 Α. Stand by.
- 2.0 (Pause)
- But at least not in the first six pages. 21 Α.
- 22 As you sit here today, can you recall Q.

having cited language of the statute in any prior report that you've written other than this case?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

A. Stand by.

(Pause)

- A. I don't recall.
- Q. If you look at Exhibit 10 again, which is the first six pages of your report in the Feindt case, do you see on page 5 and 6 you have a "Summary of Opinions" in that case?
- 12 A. Stand by.

13 (Pause)

A. Yes.

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- Q. And for the second opinion that you have in the summary of opinions, you state that, "The dose and duration of JP-5 exposure were sufficient to cause acute and long-term injuries," correct?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. You didn't express an opinion that the JP-5 exposure was more likely than not sufficient

- 1 to cause acute and long-term injuries, did you? 2. MR. MANDELL: Objection.
 - I -- my words here are as you read them. Α.
 - Okay. So you did not include the phrase Ο. "more likely than not" in that opinion? MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

Α. I did not.

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- Q. And you did not express an opinion that JP-5 exposure was as likely as not sufficient to cause acute and long-term injuries, did you? MR. MANDELL: Objection.
 - Α. I did not.
- You've used the phrase "reasonable degree 0. of scientific certainty" before, haven't you?
 - Yes. Α.
 - What does that phrase mean to you? O.
- "Reasonable degree of scientific Α. certainty" to me means more than 50 percent.
- Have you ever used the phrase "reasonable 0. degree of scientific probability"?
- Probably. Α.

- Q. And what does that phrase mean to you?
- A. The same as scientific certainty. More than -- a hair more than 50 percent.
- Q. How does that compare to "as likely as not"?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

7 Go ahead.

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- A. Well, I think "as likely is [sic] not" is really a framework for weighing the evidence, whereby scientific probability or medical certainty is an opinion about causation.
 - Q. Can you elaborate on that?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

 Go ahead.
 - A. I don't think I can.
- Q. Okay. Are you aware of any published guidelines on how to apply the "as likely as not" standard to scientific evidence?
- A. Sorry. I thought you were going somewhere else. Can you say that one again?
- Q. Okay. Are you aware of any published guidelines on how to apply the "as likely as not"

1 standard to scientific evidence?

- A. I don't recall seeing that anywhere.
- Q. You need a break? Do you want to take a five-minute break?

5 MR. MANDELL: I'm doing fine.

6 Are you okay?

7 THE WITNESS: Yeah. Let's go a

8 | little bit more.

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9 MR. BAIN: Okay.

- Q. You cite the Bradford Hill criteria in each of your reports, correct?
- 12 A. Stand by.

13 (Pause)

- 14 A. Yeah. The Bradford Hill viewpoints, 15 that's right.
- Q. What's your understanding of the Bradford Hill criteria? What are they used for?
 - A. Bradford Hill criteria came out of a lecture from Sir Austin Bradford Hill in 1965, discussing nine considerations when evaluating epidemiologic evidence and causation.
 - O. And one of the Bradford Hill criteria is

1 | strength of association, right?

A. Yes.

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Q. And in your reports, applying the Bradford Hill criteria of strength of association comparing the chemical and disease, you reference an odds ratio of greater than 1.1, which you reference as statistical significance and as fulfilling this criteria. Is that correct?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

You can answer.

A. Let me just see where.

(Pause)

- A. Can you show me --
- Q. Yeah. Let me reference you to the leukemia report, which is No. -- Exhibit No. 7. And if you turn to page 53.
- 17 A. Stand by.
 - Q. Okay. I can read there where -- the

 "Strength of Association" criteria you have there
 at the bottom of the page. And it says,

 "Strength of association is demonstrated by
 statistical significance. That is, an odds ratio

for the occurrence of an adverse health effect in
those exposed to benzene of greater than 1.1
(given the as likely as not standard applicable
to Camp Lejeune)."

Do you see that?

A. Yes.

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- Q. And is it true that you use identical language essentially for every chemical and disease across the reports in which you apply the Bradford Hill criteria in this case?
 - A. Oh, I don't know that that's true.
 - Q. Okay. Do we need to look at every one?
- A. My answer is I -- I don't know that that's true.
- Q. Okay. Let's take a look at each one, because this is an important point, I think.

MR. MANDELL: Objection. I move to strike the editorialization. Okay?

- Q. Okay. On Exhibit I guess that would be 6, which is the Parkinson's report, if you look at page 35.
 - A. Okay. I'm there.

Q. Do you see where you use the same language in the first -- it says, I'll just read it, "Strength of association is demonstrated by statistical significance. That is, an odds ratio for the occurrence of an adverse health effect in those exposed to the contaminated Camp Lejeune water of greater than 1.1."

Is that what it says there?

- A. It does. Those aren't the same words in the other report.
- Q. Okay. But it's essentially the same statement, correct, would you agree with that?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

You can answer.

- A. I mean, the words are the words.
- Q. Okay. And then if you look at Exhibit 4.
- A. Is that kidney or bladder?
- 18 Q. Bladder. Page 45.
- 19 A. Okay.

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Q. "Strength of Association. Strength of association is demonstrated by statistical significance. That is, an odds ratio for the

occurrence of an adverse health effect in those exposed to TCE of greater than 1.1" is what you state there, correct?

- A. That's right.
- Q. And then for the kidney cancer report. Have you found it in that report? Go to page 46.
 - A. Okay.

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- Q. First full paragraph, it says, "Strength of association is demonstrated by statistical significance. That is, an odds ratio for the occurrence of an adverse health effect in those exposed to TCE water of greater than 1.1," is what you state in that report; is that right?
 - A. That's right.
- Q. Okay. Would you agree it's important to analyze the risk ratios in a study's results?
 - A. Sure.
- Q. The risk ratio indicates the level of an association observed; is that true?
- A. That is a numerical representation of the association that they found, and then one can use that to opine or give a conclusion about

1	causation.

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- Q. A risk ratio of 1.0 indicates no association, correct?
 - A. I would agree with that.
- Q. Would you agree that an odds ratio of just a little more than 1 is weak?
- A. You'd have to be more specific or give me context for that.
- Q. Okay. What about an odds ratio of 1.05, would that be weak?

11 | MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. I don't know that people generally or I attach adjectives, so I don't know that I can agree with that.
- Q. Are you aware that Dr. Savitz has written in his book "Epidemiology and the Law" that a risk ratio of 1.2 is a modest association?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

You can answer.

- A. I'm not familiar with that.
- Q. Would you agree with that?

Page 68 1 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 2. Go ahead. 3 The -- it has to be taken in the full Α. 4 context. Have you used the 1.1 odds ratio as a 5 6 benchmark in any other expert reports? 7 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 8 You can answer. Outside of the Camp Lejeune? Α. 10 Yes. Ο. I don't recall. 1 1 Α. 12 Do you recall whether you used it in the 13 Feindt litigation? 14 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 15 You can answer. 16 I don't recall. 17 Have you used the 1.1 odds ratio as a benchmark in any peer-reviewed publication that 18 you've authored or coauthored? 19 2.0 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 21 Go ahead. You can answer. 22 I don't recall. Α.

- Q. Are you aware that the EPA has characterized an odds ratio between 1.0 and 1.3 as evidence of a slight positive association?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
 - A. I'm not aware of that.
- Q. Do you agree with that characterization?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection. Lack of foundation.

You can answer.

- A. I mean, I'm happy to review it if you have a source document. I don't know that I have -- I can otherwise give an opinion out of -- out of context.
- Q. Okay. Are you aware that EPA has characterized an odds ratio between 1.3 and 2.0 as evidence of a positive association?

MR. MANDELL: Objection. Foundation.

- A. I'm not aware of that.
- Q. Is it important to analyze confidence intervals in a study's results?
- A. Confidence interval are part of the results, just like the point estimate. So one

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- 1 | should consider the data provided.
- Q. Is it important to consider them together?

4 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

5 You can answer.

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- A. I would generally agree with that.
- Q. You'd agree that you can't just base an opinion on the effects size alone, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. You'd have to give me a lot more context for me to answer that.
 - Q. Okay. Would you agree that confidence intervals evaluate how precise the risk estimate is?
 - A. That may be one interpretation. It also has to do with the amount of power of a study, which is perhaps a better way to look at it.
 - Q. Can you describe what you mean by the "power of a study"?
- A. The ability of a study to detect a difference between here it's two cohorts.
- 22 | Power's often -- mostly related to sample size

and the N, that is, the number of whatever the 1 2. occurrence is.

> Is power related to precision? Q. MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

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- I have never considered that. I'm not sure.
- Are they -- are they distinct in your Q. mind?
- I think there's a lot of overlap and blur between the two.
- Would you agree that the evaluation of the strength of association criterion of the Bradford Hill analysis includes consideration of the odds ratio along with the confidence interval?

17 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

18 Go ahead.

- Perhaps. I mean, the point estimate is Α. the risk. So the most important thing is the point estimate. That's what the data resulted.
 - Q. But if there is a very wide confidence

interval, including the lower end being well
under 1, that's important to determining whether
there's a strength and association that's real,
correct?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. I can't answer that out of context.
- Q. Okay. Would you agree that the wider the confidence interval is, the less confidence there is in the point estimate?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

You can answer.

- A. Oh, I -- I don't agree with that --
- 13 Q. Why not?

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- A. -- in principle. The point estimate is the point estimate. That's what the data showed.
- Q. But confidence interval has the term "confidence" in its -- in its name. What does the confidence in "confidence interval" mean?

MR. MANDELL: Objection. Form.

A. We could be here a long time. So

"95 percent confidence interval" means that if
you were to take those data and redo the study,

if you will, that 95 percent of the time the point estimate would be between those upper and lower 95 percent confidence interval bounds. But the data are consistent with the point estimate that's given.

Q. You would agree that a 95 percent confidence interval of .9 to 1.1 is precise, wouldn't you?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. I can't answer than out of context.
- Q. What type of context would you need?
- A. The specific study, the number of subjects, how the study was conducted, follow-up, disease verification, etc. And many others.
- Q. Would the same be true to the question of a confidence interval of 0.1 to 10.0 being very imprecise?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

You can answer.

A. Again, I would need to see -- I'd need to see that in context.

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- Q. Have you ever used the terms "narrow" and "wide" in relationship to confidence intervals?
 - A. Perhaps. I don't recall.
- Q. If you were to use the word "wide" in relationship to a confidence interval, what would it mean to you?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. I can't answer that out of context. I would have to see how it was used.
- Q. Are you familiar with the term "confidence interval ratio"?
 - A. I am familiar with that.
- Q. What is your understanding of how a confidence interval ratio is determined?
- A. My understanding, it is the upper bound of the 95 percent confidence interval divided by the lower bound of the 95 percent confidence interval.
 - Q. Have you ever used a confidence interval ratio in any work that you've done?

MR. MANDELL: Objection. Form.

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- And that would include both expert 0. reports and peer-reviewed studies?
- 4 MR. MANDELL: Same objection.
 - Α. Well, certainly applies to my peer-reviewed publications. I don't know about expert reports.
 - So you've never used it in peer-reviewed 0. publications, and you're not sure about expert reports; is that true?
- 11 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 12 Go ahead.
- 13 I think that accurately summarizes my Α. 14 answer.
 - Do you recall seeing Dr. Bove use the Q. term "confidence interval ratios" in his studies?
- A. Well, I've seen it in some of his studies. 18
- 19 Q. How do you understand that Dr. Bove used confidence interval ratios? 2.0
- 21 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 22 Go ahead.

Α.	I can't recall	in which of the Dr. Bove		
studies	he used that.	And I think it describes		
that in	the articles.	I just don't have them		
committed to memory.				

- Q. When you read Dr. Bove's use of confidence interval ratios in his studies, did you agree how he used them, do you recall?
 - A. I don't think I've got an opinion.
- Q. What is your understanding of statistical significance?
- 11 A. I'm sorry. I don't understand that 12 question.
 - Q. Well, you used "statistical significance" in your reports. What do you understand statistical significance to mean in terms of associations in this case?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

You can answer.

- A. Could you repeat that question?

 (Record read)
- A. Yeah. As I say in my report, for instance, in the kidney report, I don't know what

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MR. MANDELL: It's 5.

- Q. It's Exhibit No. 5.
- A. 5 on page 46. Actually, I think you read this into the record, "-- by statistical significance. That is, an odds ratio for the occurrence" in this case of kidney cancer, "in those exposed to TCE ... of greater than 1.1."
- Q. So you're using the term "statistical significance" in this case to mean an odds ratio of an adverse health effect in those exposed to TCE in relation to this particular report, which is the bladder cancer report, of being greater than 1.1?

MR. MANDELL: Just for the record -- just for the record, it's kidney.

MR. BAIN: Oh.

MR. MANDELL: That's okay. I just want to -- I know you want it to be accurate.

MR. BAIN: Yes, I appreciate that.

Q. Let's go back and do it over again.
In terms of your use of statistical

significance in the kidney cancer report, it's a relationship between an adverse health effect in those exposed to TCE water of greater than 1.1?

A. That's right.

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- Q. And so when you use the term "statistical significance," it's how you describe it in each of your reports given the language that you used; is that right?
- A. Well, I think there's 220 pages of report, so I don't -- I can't answer about every page in the reports, but that's my intent certainly here (indicating).
 - Q. Okay. Do you use it in any other ways?
- A. Well, that's -- I don't have 220 pages committed to memory, so I don't recall.
- Q. I understand. But you're using the word "statistical significance." I just want to make sure I understand what you mean generally when you use that term.
- A. I'm using it as we just entered in the record on page 46 of the kidney cancer report.
 - Q. Um-hmm. Do you understand how

statistical significance is used in terms of determining whether an association is potentially the product of random chance?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. I'm sorry. Can you say that one again?
- Q. Okay.

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Do you understand when the term "statistical significance" is used in the context of determining whether an association can be the product of random chance?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. I'm not sure how to answer. I've never considered that question before.
- Q. Do you have a background in statistics at all?
- A. Oh, I've used statistics a lot in my -- I don't -- how many years of education I had in my residency training, my fellowship training. So I've done lots of statistics.
- Q. In terms of epidemiology, do you know how statistical significance is used?
 - A. Again, I've used epidemiology for my

1 30-years career. So it -- again, it depends on the context.

- Q. Okay. When you have a confidence interval and the lower bound of that confidence interval is less than 1, have you ever had that related to the concept of statistical significance?
 - MR. MANDELL: Objection. Form.
- A. Oh, sure. So -- I mean, formerly, people rigidly adhered to that concept, and certainly far less now.
 - Q. Okay.

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- A. The point estimate is really what's important.
- Q. So in that context, what does statistical significance mean?
- MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- A. So if the lower bound -- traditionally and rigidly, if the lower bound of the 95 percent confidence interval was below 1.00, again, it could be -- there can be different confidence interval widths.

But traditionally, that could be interpreted as not statistically significant -statistically significant, not clinically significant.

- O. Okay. Meaning what in that context? MR. MANDELL: Objection. Form.
- Well, it depends on what the point estimate in the confidence intervals are. could mean that -- well, it can mean a lot of -it depends on all of the data.
- Q. Okay. I think we'll get into more questions with context on that as we go along here.

But I do want to show you in your leukemia report, which is Exhibit 7, if you turn to page 6. Do you see the last paragraph here, you have a discussion of the concept of statistical significance. Do you see that?

- Α. Yes.
- And some of what we were just discussing, you say here, "Even though some of the epidemiological results presented in this report

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are not statistical significant under traditional methods, they are important and relevant information with regards to causation where the standard is equipoise because the concept of equipoise refers to genuine uncertainty within the expert medical community."

Do you see that?

A. Yes.

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Q. You state, "Many of the results are very nearly statistically significant and are clearly not directed towards a decrease in occurrence or risk of the cancers."

Do you see that?

- A. Yes.
 - Q. You then say, "Furthermore, the use of traditional statistical significance does not capture or account for biological plausibility of cancer causation," right?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. And you also state, "Likewise, relying on traditional statistical significance ignores known carcinogenic properties of a substance."

1 Do you see that?

> Α. Yes.

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You then say, "Lastly, biostatist- --Q. biostatisticians have largely abandoned the dichotomous interpretation of statistical significance (i.e., significant vs.

non-significant) and instead focus on the 8 estimate -- estimation of effect size [sic]."

Do you see that?

- Α. Yes.
- Why do studies test for statistical 11 Ο. 12 significance at all then?

13 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

You can go ahead.

- Well, that's been traditionally done. also gives an estimate of the power of the study to detect that change.
- Q. Have you relied on what you call "traditional statistical significance" in any articles you've published?
 - Oh, I'm sure I have. Α.
 - Have you ever referenced traditional Q.

Page 84 1 statistical significance in any expert reports that you've written? 2. 3 MR. MANDELL: Objection. Go ahead. 4 A. Probably. I don't recall. 5 6 MR. BAIN: Okay. Is this a good time 7 to take a break? 8 MR. MANDELL: Sure. How long would you like to take? THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 10 10:29 a.m., and we're off the record. 11 12 (Recess taken) 13 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 10:40 a.m., and we're on the record. 14 15 BY MR. BAIN: 16 Back from a break, Dr. Bird. 17 recently published a study in toxicological 18 reports entitled "Antipsychotic-induced 19 hyperprolactinemia: Toxicological mechanism and the increased risk of breast cancer, " is that 2.0 21 right? 22 That's right. Α.

- 1 And that was published in Toxicological -- Toxicology Reports; is that 2. 3 true?
 - That's right. Α.
 - And that's a peer-reviewed journal? Ο.
- 6 Α. Yes.

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Let me show you --0.

> MR. BAIN: I'll have this marked. (Exhibit 11, Toxicology Reports article, marked for identification.) MR. MANDELL: Thank you very much.

- Dr. Bird, I've handed you what's been marked as Exhibit 11, which is the recently published study in Toxicology Reports, which we just discussed. Is this that published article?
- Α. Yes.
- And this article was a review of studies Ο. published examining the association of antipsychotic drug use in breast cancer, correct?
 - Α. Yes.
- And to find the published studies for this review, you used "The Preferred Reporting

- Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis" checklist known as "PRISMA," right?
 - A. I did.

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- Q. And you show the search terms that you used on page 2, correct? Do you see, "The specific" --
 - A. Oh, yes.
- Q. -- "search terms were the following"? Do you see that?
- A. Yes.
 - Q. And Figure 1 on the next page, page 3, shows the PRISMA flow diagram that you used to screen studies to come up with 15 studies that were included in your review, correct?
 - A. That's right.
 - Q. Did you use PRISMA for your work in this case?
 - A. I did not prepare a PRISMA flow diagram for this case, but search -- literature search and review is effectively identical.
 - Q. So you would have used the same process that's reflected in the flow diagram, but you

- 1 didn't create a flow diagram; is that what you're 2. saying?
 - Correct, yeah. PRISMA is used for Α. scientific publications.
 - Would you say that you used PRISMA for the work that you did in this case?
 - Well, no. I would -- we don't use PRISMA that way. My methodology was the same.
 - Q. And when you say, "We don't use PRISMA in that way, " what do you mean?
 - I have only ever seen PRISMA related to a review or a meta-analysis in the scientific literature. I've never seen it used elsewhere.
 - Did you consider what you did in this case to be either a review or a meta-analysis?
 - It -- that's exactly what this is (indicating).
 - Q. No. I mean in the case, in the Camp Lejeune case.
- In part, yeah. There was a lot more 2.0 Oh. 21 to this Camp Lejeune, but the methodology was the 22 same.

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Q. Do you have a record of how many studies were retrieved in your searches for this case and how they were excluded, as you have described here in this particular article?

MR. MANDELL: Objection to form. Go ahead.

- A. No. Because they're com- -- they're apples and oranges. You can't compare the Camp Lejeune work and this (indicating).
 - O. Why not?

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- A. Because Camp Lejeune includes mechanistic studies, animal studies, other studies. This (indicating) was a review of case-control and cohort studies only.
- Q. With respect to the epidemiological studies that you reviewed for your Camp Lejeune work, did you follow the same methodology that you followed for this particular study?
- A. Largely, yes. I did the search. I reviewed the articles. It's the same.
- Q. Is there any record of your collection and methodology with respect to epidemiological

studies for Camp Lejeune that is similar to what you did for this study on antipsychotic drugs?

- A. Say that one again.
- Q. Okay. Is there any record of your collection methodology with respect to the epidemiological studies for Camp Lejeune that is similar to the methodology that you demonstrate here in this particular paper with respect to use of PRISMA?
- A. Not specifically a diagram, but the methodology is the same.
- Q. Do you have any record of what studies from your search in the Camp Lejeune work with respect to epidemiological studies were excluded and what the basis for the exclusion was?

MR. MANDELL: Objection. Form.

- A. No, there's no record of that.
- Q. Okay. With respect to epidemiological studies in Camp Lejeune, did you screen out studies based on study design, outcome, and exposure?
 - A. Well, that's all part of the evaluation

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of the literature. So you have to look at each study individually. I can't just give you a blanket answer to that.

Q. Okay. But you didn't keep a record of which studies you kept in and which studies you left out?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. No, of course not.
- Q. Okay. Did you exclude epidemiological studies based upon an incompatible control group or incompatible statistical methods?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. That is all part of the evaluation of a study. That's what we do.
 - Q. So you did do that with respect to Camp Lejeune?
- A. You consider all of the aspects of how a study is conducted when you're evaluating it.
- Q. And do you exclude some studies based on incompatible control groups or incompatible

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Page 91 1 statistical methods? 2. MR. MANDELL: Objection. 3 Go ahead. It -- I don't recall specifically all of 4 Α. the study design from all the studies that I've 5 6 read. 7 Okay. And you don't have a record for 8 Camp Lejeune as you would have a record for what you did here in the antipsychotic study? 9 10 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 11 You can answer. 12 Α. Yeah. I've already told you my 13 methodology. 14 Okay. And you already told me you don't 15 have a record --16 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 17 Go ahead. -- right? 18 Q. 19 That's right. Α. I want to ask you a few questions about 2.0 O. your discussion of the studies that you reviewed 21 22 in this particular article. If you look at

- 1 page 7 of the article.
 - Um-hmm.

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- You discuss a 2024 publication by Solmi Q. and Solmi [sic] in the first paragraph, which is a -- case-control studies of Swedish registries. Do you see that? It's in the first full paragraph on page 7.
- Yes, I see that. I don't -- was there a question?
 - Yes. You discussed those -- that study Ο. here in the report, right?
- 12 Α. Yes.
 - Okay. You state that [as read] "The Q. authors identified an odds ratio of breast cancer in women with the use of prolactin-increasing antipsychotics for 1-4 years (OR 1.20, 1.03-1.41), and for greater than or equal to 5 years (OR 1.47, 1.26-1.71). They did not detect an increased odds of breast cancer with the use of prolactin-sparing antipsychotics of either 1-4 years (OR 1.17, 0.98-1.4) or greater than equal to 5 years (OR 0.99, 7 -- 0.78, " excuse me,

Page 93 1 "-1.26)." 2. Do you see that? 3 Yes. Α. And when you have the odds ratio, that's 4 Q. the point estimate that you've been referring to, 5 6 right? 7 That's right. Α. 8 Ο. And what follows that after the comma is the confidence interval; is that correct? 9 10 Α. Technically after the semicolon, yes. 11 Q. Okay. 12 MR. MANDELL: See, I didn't correct 13 that actually. 14 MR. BAIN: Yeah. Wow, my eyes are 15 not catching that. Thank you for correcting that. 16 17 So that's the confidence interval; is that right? After the semicolon --18 19 Yes. Α. -- that range of numbers; is that right? 2.0 Ο. 21 Yes. Α. 22 Q. And are those 95 percent confidence

- 1 | intervals, as far as you know?
 - A. That's what it says.

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Q. Okay. As for the first finding, the prolactin-increasing antipsychotics for 1 to 4 years, that was an increased -- or that was a positive finding because there was a 20 percent increase in breast cancer represented by the 1.20 point estimate, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. Yes, I agree with that.
- Q. And you would also agree that the lower end of the confidence interval was above 1, right?
- A. That's right.
 - Q. And meaning that was -- under the traditional understanding of statistical significance, it was statistically significant, right?
- MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- Go ahead.
- 21 A. Yes, I agree with that.
- 22 Q. And for the second finding for

prolactin-increasing antipsychotics for greater than or equal to five years, the positive finding was because there was a 47 percent increase in breast cancer represented by the 1.47; is that right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. I agree with that.
- Q. And the lower end of the confidence interval was above 1, at 1.26, meaning that it was statistically significant, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. Under traditional statistical methods, yes, I agree with that.
- Q. Um-hmm. In the next sentence you say that they did not detect an increased odds of breast cancer with a -- prolactin-sparing antipsychotic use, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. That's what it says.
- Q. And the third finding discussed in these sentences for prolactin-sparing antipsychotics for 1 to 4 years, it was because there was a

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1 17 percent increase in breast cancer, represented by 1.17, but the lower end of the confidence 2. 3 interval, that was below 1; is that correct? 4

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

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- That's what those numbers are, right.
- And that means the finding was not statistically significant, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- Well, two things. One, we should look at Α. the Solmi article. I suspect that I used the language that they did. So in order for me to really answer that question, we need to look at Solmi article.
- Q. Okay. So you think that you just used the language from the Solmi article? MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Α. That's likely the case. I can't really comment further without looking at Solmi.

Okay. And for the fourth finding in the sentences for prolactin-sparing antipsychotics for greater than or equal to 5 years, it was

because there was a 1 percent decrease in breast cancer, represented by the .99 point estimate, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. Right. The odds ratio is the same as --.
 .99 is the same as 1.00.
- Q. In the next paragraph, you state, "While the summary" --

MR. MANDELL: Can I just say -- go ahead. I'm sorry. No, no, no. You go ahead.

MR. BAIN: Okay.

Q. You state, "While the summary statistic of studies reviewed here show a positive association of antipsychotic use and breast cancer, not every study that has examined antipsychotic use and breast cancer has found such an association. For instance, the study by Kern et al. examined the occurrence of breast cancer in women who used high prolactin-increasing antipsychotics to those who used a low-prolactin increasing medication, with a minimum use ... of 180 days," right?

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A. That's right.

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- Q. And you state, "This industry-sponsored study did not detect a statistically-significant increase in breast cancer among the high-prolactin increasing group," right?
 - A. That's right.
- Q. So in this article, you state that Kern did not find a positive association between antipsychotic use and breast cancer; is that right?
- A. Sorry. I was -- I was reading it while -- I apologize. I was reading while you were asking a question.
- Q. Okay. The question is -- and this is to restate what you state here, is that in this article you state that Kern did not find a positive association between antipsychotic use and breast cancer?
 - MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 20 A. That's what it says, yeah.
- MR. MANDELL: Go ahead.
- 22 (Exhibit 12, Kern, et al study,

1 marked for identification.)

- 2. I'm showing you what has been marked as 3 Exhibit 12, which is a study entitled "Association between prolactin increasing 4 antipsychotic use and the risk of breast cancer: 5

A retrospective observational cohort study in a

- 7 United States Medicaid population, " by Kern,
- 8 et al. Do you see that?
- 9 Α. Yes.

- 10 And is this the study that is referenced 0. in your study, Exhibit No. 11? 1 1
- 12 Α. Yes.
- 13 Take a look at page 7. And do you see Q. Table 3 there? 14
- 15 Α. Yes.
- This shows the "Relative risk for [sic] 16 17 breast cancer for high prolactin-increasing 18 antipsychotic users, compared to
- 19 non-prolactin-increasing antipsychotic users, " 2.0 correct?
- 21 That's what it says, yes. Α.
- 22 Do you see the PS-stratified risk ratio Q.

- 1 for those on treatment under the Rahman
- 2 definition?

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A. Stand by.

(Pause)

- 5 A. Oh, yes.
 - Q. What does that mean, the PS-stratified odds ratio for those on treatment under the Rahman definition?
 - A. Well, "PS" means propensity score.
- 10 O. Um-hmm.
 - A. I don't recall the Rahman definition.
 - Q. Okay. If you look at that particular figure though, which is in the last row in the column for PS-stratified hazard ratio 95 percent confidence interval, do you see that the ratio is 1.28, with a confidence interval of .40 to 4.07?
- 17 A. Yes.
 - Q. And that number represents a 20 -28 percent increase in breast cancer for the
 group on treatment of the antipsychotic; is that
 correct?
- MR. MANDELL: Objection.

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- A. Yes. That's right, with the Rahman definition. That's right.
- Q. Okay. But it's not considered a positive association because the lower end of the confidence interval is below 1, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. So no. So I did not -- I haven't reviewed this article in months.
 - Q. Um-hmm.
- A. So to fully answer the question, I'd have to review it. Because in my manuscripts that we've been talking about, I don't cite to a specific number from the Kern study.

Because in the intent-to-treat analysis, the hazard ratio was 1.00 and 0.96, which are not statistically significant, which is what I say in my article.

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Q. Well, you state in your article that "This industry-sponsored study did not detect a

- 1 statistically-significant increase in breast cancer among the high-prolactin increasing 2. 3 group, "right?
 - Α. That's right. In the intent-to-treat analysis, that's exactly right.
 - Q. Okay. But you didn't reference this 28 percent increase in cancer that's referenced in -- the particular number with the Rahman definition, correct?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead. 11

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- Α. There are a number of numbers here. did not cite any of the numbers specifically.
- So you do not cite any finding Ο. Um-hmm. of an increased risk in cancer from this study? MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- Α. Right. Because there's -- there's numbers kind of all over the place here. It did not detect a statistically significant increase. Absolutely.
 - Okay. Do you recall the Hartman case 0.

- that you were involved in?
- Yes, I think so. 2.

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3 (Exhibit 13, Dr. Bird's expert report in the Hartman case, marked for 4 identification.) 5

MR. MANDELL: Thank you.

- Dr. Bird, I've handed you what has been marked as Exhibit 13, which is the report that you issued in the Hartman case; is that correct?
- Α. Yes.
- And this case involved the toxicity of 0. diesel exhaust. Do you recall that?
 - Α. Yes.
 - If you turn to page 5 of this report, do you see where you reference some statistically significant increased risk for certain conditions with diesel exhaust exposure?
 - Α. Yes.
- 19 And at the bottom paragraph, you note the Ο. Kachuri study. Do you see that? 2.0
 - Α. Yes.
- 22 And with respect to the Kachuri study, Q.

you note the increased risk for diesel exhaust for colorectal cancer, but state that "There were no statistically significant associations observed for gasoline emissions."

Do you see that?

A. Yes.

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(Exhibit 14, "Workplace exposure to diesel and gasoline engine exhausts and the risk of colorectal cancer in Canadian men.", marked for identification.)

- Q. Dr. Bird, I've handed you what has been marked as Exhibit 14, which is "Workplace exposure to diesel and gasoline engine exhausts and the risk of colorectal cancer in Canadian men." Do you see that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And this particular study analyzes the relationship between diesel exhaust, gasoline emission -- emissions with rectal, colorectal, and colon cancer; is that right?
 - A. I believe that's true.
 - Q. And if you look at Table 4 on page 8. Do

- 1 | you see that?
- 2 A. Stand by.
- 3 (Pause)
- 4 A. Yes.

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- Q. And Table 4 is the "Adjusted odds ratio ... and corresponding 95% confidence intervals ... for rectal cancer and colon cancer in relation to occupational exposure to diesel emissions," right?
- 10 A. Yes.
 - Q. And then Table 5, which is on the next page, is the "Adjusted odds ratio ... and corresponding 95% confidence intervals ... for rectal cancer and colon cancer in relation to occupational exposure to gasoline emissions," right?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. The odds ratio that you pull out in the Hartman report is 1.98 for high exposure and colorectal cancer, right? If you look back at your Hartman report.
- 22 A. Yes.

- 1 If you look at the abstract for Kachuri, 2. the 1.98 figure that you reference is actually 3 for rectal cancer, not for colorectal cancer; is that right? 4 Α. 5 Stand by.
- 6 (Pause)

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- 7 Yeah. Let me just look something up. Α. 8 (Pause)
 - Yes. My recollection is Mr. Hartman had Α. rectal cancer.
 - Okay. So even though you said "colorectal" in the report, it is actually specifically rectal cancer; is that right?
 - That's what it looks like, yes. Α.
 - Okay. And that number is considered to Q. be a statistically significant result with a 98 percent increase because the lower end of the confidence interval is above 1, right?
- 19 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- Go ahead. 2.0
- Well, no. It's considered a 98 percent 21 increase because the odds ratio was 1.98. 22

Q. Okay. And the result is considered positive because the lower end of the confidence interval is above 1, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

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- A. Well, no. 98 percent is a clinically significant increase, so doubling of the risk.
- Q. But it is considered traditionally statistically significant because the lower ends of the confidence interval is above 1, right?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. I would agree with that, under traditional statistical methods.
- Q. Okay. Now if you turn to -- back to Table 5, which is the table looking at the relationship between gas emissions and rectal cancer and colon cancer. Are you there?

MR. MANDELL: It's on page 9 I think.

- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. Do you see that there are several relationships there where the odds ratio is

- above 1. For example, if you look at the -- and I think they've been highlighted for you, the duration of exposure at high concentration years greater than or equal to 5, the odds ratio for colon cancer is 1.13. Do you see that?
 - A. Except he didn't have colon cancer. He had -- he had rectal cancer.
 - O. I understand.
 - A. So it's not relevant.
- Q. So it wasn't relevant to the report,
 but -- is that what you're saying?
 - A. Yeah. He -- I'm talking about -- he had rectal cancer. I gave rectal cancer results.

 And the odds ratio for rectal cancer was 1.00 with gasoline emissions.
 - Q. Okay. So he had rectal cancer. Are you sure of that?
 - A. Well, he had low anterior resection.
 - Q. Okay. So there would have been -- that's why you're saying there's no reason to discuss these colon cancer results; is that right?
- 22 A. Yes.

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- Okay. I want to go back to the Bradford Hill criteria. In addition to strength of association, which we already discussed, another one of the Bradford Hill criteria is consistency, right?
- That is one of the other viewpoints, that's right.
- Q. And you say "viewpoints." Why do you use that word?
- Well, they were never intended to be criteria. They're not a checklist. So I put criteria in air -- in quotes, not air quotes, in my report and then review -- refer to them as viewpoints.
- So when you say viewpoints, you say they're not meant to be as a checklist?
- Well, that were -- they were his views in that lecture he gave 60 years ago.
- I want to refer to one of your reports. Just look at the bladder cancer report, which is Exhibit 4, and turn to page 45.

With respect to consistency, you state,

"The Bradford Hill term of consistency refers to
the concept that studies done in different
populations or that studies of different designs
yield similar results. This criterion is also
met in that studies consistently demonstrate
bladder cancer after exposure to TCE."

Do you see that?

A. Yes.

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- Q. So that's your understanding of consistency, is referring "to the concept that studies done in different populations or that studies of different designs yield similar results," right?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And you do call it "criterion" here, don't you?
- 18 A. I do.
- Q. Okay. Do you agree with the statement that "Rarely, if ever, does a single study persuasively demonstrate a cause-effect relationship"?

1 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- Yeah. Can you show me kind of where Oh. that comes from so I can understand the context?
- The context is the "Reference Ο. Yeah. Guide on Epidemiology" states, "Rarely, if ever, does a single study persuasively demonstrate a cause-effect relationship."

Do you agree with that?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- At times that may be true. Α.
- But not always? 11 Q.

12 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

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- At times it may be true.
- 15 But it -- you don't consider it to be a Q. 16 criterion?

17 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

18 Go ahead.

- 19 I don't -- I'm sorry.
- You don't consider it to be a requirement 2.0 or that you must have more than one study to 21 22 demonstrate a cause-effect relationship?

1 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 2. Go ahead. 3 Consistency is one of the Bradford Hill viewpoints, one of nine. I gave some examples 4 I don't know that I can say much else. 5 6 Q. Okay. Do you agree that "It is important that a study be replicated in different 7 8 populations and by different investigators before a causal relationship is accepted by 10 epidemiologists and other scientists"? MR. MANDELL: Objection. 11 12 Go ahead. 13 Α. It may. 14 It may be important? O. 15 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 16 Go ahead. 17 It may be relevant. Α. 18 Q. Do you believe that your opinions in this case are supported by consistent findings that 19 have been replicated in different populations by 20 different investigators? 21 22 Most of the data here are from Α. Yes.

the -- the relevant population, that is, the civilians and Marine and Navy personnel at Camp Lejeune. There are a number of studies from Camp Lejeune, which is the most relevant. gone through that in my report.

And I mentioned some other studies here. The Hadkhale and including the ATSDR 2018 morbidity study.

Q. Generally, for your opinions in this case, do you believe that they are supported by consistent findings? Are any opinions that you have that you do not have consistent finding for? MR. MANDELL: Objection. Form.

Go ahead.

- Oh, I imagine with -- there are some analyses somewhere that are not entirely consistent. That wouldn't surprise me at all. The nature of science.
- Do you believe that your opinions in this case have been generally accepted by epidemiologists and other scientists? MR. MANDELL: Objection.

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- A. I don't know if my opinions have been seen by many other people. I can't answer that question.
- Q. Have you reviewed the conclusions of the other plaintiffs' experts in this case?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. I don't know who all of the plaintiffs' experts are in these cases.
- Q. Have you reviewed any other expert reports for experts who have been retained by plaintiffs in this case?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. Oh, I'm sorry. I thought -- I was thinking of government. So, sorry, can you say that again?
- Q. Yeah. Have you reviewed the conclusions of the other plaintiffs' experts in this case?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
 - A. I have seen some. I suspect not all.
 - Q. Do you recall which ones you've seen?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- Go ahead.

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- I don't. I may not have seen them. think I've seen defense expert reports.
- Any reports that you've seen would be listed on your materials considered list; is that correct?
- A. Oh, no. Because I -- whatever I saw would have been after my report was written and I had formed my opinions.
- Ο. Okay. Are you aware that there have been supplemental materials considered lists that have been produced for you?
 - Oh, I'm sure there have been.
- And did you review those to make sure Q. they were accurate?
 - Α. I don't recall.
- Okay. Q.

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Are you aware whether other plaintiffs' experts have reached conclusions consistent with your opinions regarding whether individual chemicals, PCE, TCE, benzene, and vinyl chloride, can, as you phrase it, at least as likely as not cause kidney cancer, bladder cancer, leukemia,

non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and Parkinson's disease? 1 2. MR. MANDELL: Objection. Form and 3 foundation.

Go ahead.

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- What was the first part of the question? Α.
- Are you aware of whether other plaintiffs' experts have reached conclusions consistent with your opinions regarding whether the chemicals, PCE, TCE, benzene and, vinyl chloride, can, as you phrase it, as likely as not cause kidney cancer, bladder cancer, leukemia, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and Parkinson's disease? MR. MANDELL: Objection. Form and foundation.
 - Yeah. I'm not aware of other plaintiffs' experts' full opinions.
 - Q. Okay. So you never -- I think your testimony was that, prior to your completion of your expert reports, you hadn't reviewed the reports of any of the other plaintiffs' experts; is that right?
- That's right. Α.

- But you may have reviewed some of them after you finished your expert report?
 - Maybe. Α.

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- Okay. You're not sure as you sit here Q. today?
 - Α. That's right.
- Okay. And you may have reviewed some materials considered list supplemental that were produced after your report, you can't remember?
- Α. Correct.
- Okay. And you're aware that we are entitled to know any materials that you considered in this case?
 - Α. Sure.
- Okay. Have you reviewed the IARC evaluations for each of the individual chemicals, PCE, TCE, benzene, and vinyl chloride, with respect to those chemical relationships to kidney cancer, bladder cancer, leukemia, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and Parkinson's disease?
- I have seen those reports. I can't remember if they are separate reports or if

1 | they're all combined.

- Q. Okay. But you have reviewed some IARC reports related to those chemicals?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. And you reviewed those with respect to what IARC concluded with respect to the relationships to the Track 1 diseases that we're discussing in this case?
 - A. What's Track 1?
- Q. I'm sorry. The diseases, kidney cancer, bladder cancer, Parkinson's disease, leukemia, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.
 - A. I'm sorry. So what was the question?
- Q. You mentioned that you've reviewed some IARC -- IARC reports with respect to the chemicals in this case, PCE, TCE, benzene, and vinyl chloride. And I'm just asking you whether you reviewed those reports to see what IARC's conclusions were with respect to the relationship that they found between those chemicals and the diseases we're talking about in this case, which are kidney cancer, bladder cancer, leukemia,

Page 119 1 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and Parkinson's disease. 2. MR. MANDELL: Objection. 3 Go ahead. 4 A. Well, certainly that's part of why I review IARC monograph. That's not the only 5 6 reason certainly. Q. And this report, you did review that for 7 8 that reason? 9 MR. MANDELL: Objection. Go ahead. 10 I don't recall specifically, but I 11 Α. 12 suspect I did. 13 Q. Okay. Do you recall whether, as you sit here 14 15 today, and we'll go through some of them, whether 16 the IARC evaluation supported your opinions?

Go ahead.

A. Oh, you'd have to be way more specific than that.

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Okay. We'll get into that. One of the Bradford Hill criteria or

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- 1 viewpoints, as you call them, is biological gradient, right? 2.
- 3 Α. Yes.
- And I'm going to refer you again to your 4 report on bladder cancer, which is Exhibit No. 4. 5
- 6 Are you there?
- 7 Α. Yes.
- 8 Q. Okay. If you look at the biological gradient. 9
- 10 MR. MANDELL: Can I just ask what page, section? 11
- 12 MR. BAIN: Page 45.
- 13 MR. MANDELL: Thank you.
- 14 MR. BAIN: Are you there?
- 15 MR. MANDELL: I am. Thank you very
- 16 much.
- 17 Do you see where it says, "The concept of
- 18 a biological gradient is that a dose-response
- 19 relationship exists. That is ... the greater the
- dose (i.e., exposure), the more likely a response 20
- (i.e., presence of disease)"? 21
- 22 A. Yes.

	Q.	And	d I	take	it	you	consid	dered	that	
cri	teri	on (or v	<i>r</i> iewpo	oint	in	doing	your	analyses	in
eac	h of	the	ese	repor	cts	that	you d	did?		

A. Sure.

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- Q. If a dose-response analysis shows an increased response for a disease with an increase in dose or exposure, that would support a finding of a causal relationship; is that right?
- A. Well, that is part of biological gradient, which is a part of the Bradford Hill viewpoints.
 - O. Um-hmm.
 - A. It's a piece of information.
 - Q. So I'm not sure I got an answer though.

If a dose-response analysis shows an increased response for a disease with an increase in dose, that would support a finding of a causal relationship; is that right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection to form.

- A. My answer is the same. It is a piece of information.
 - Q. Is it supportive or non-supportive though?

1 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. You have to understand the context in the study in which you're talking about. So taking that just in isolation I don't think is valid.
- Q. Can you tell me what you mean by "taking that in isolation, I don't think that's valid"? What does that mean?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. The question about -- the question you asked is a small part of how one evaluates a -- scientific literature, and it's only a small part of the Bradford Hill viewpoints. So I don't think I can answer that question without more details or context. It's -- it's just not a valid question.
- Q. So if the Bradford Hill criteria said that a dose-response analysis that shows an increased response for a disease with an increase in dose supports a finding of causal relationship, you're saying that that's not correct?

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1 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. No. It's a piece of information, but you have to understand the context, particularly the details of the study in order for me to answer that question any differently.
- Q. But you're not willing to say that a positive dose-response relationship is supportive of causation?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. My answer is the same. I don't have anything else to add.
- Q. Okay. So you can't answer it in isolation like that; is that what you're saying?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. My answer -- I gave my answer. I can't clarify or qualify it any further.
- Q. Okay. If a dose-response analysis does not show increased response for a disease with an increase in dose, that analysis does not support a finding of a causal relationship; is that correct?

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1 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. No, same thing. You have to understand the context, the details of how a study was done, in order for me to answer that question.
 - Q. Okay. So you wouldn't agree with that?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

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- A. My answer is the same.
- Q. That you can't answer that question without knowing the whole study; is that what you're saying?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. You have to understand how a study was done, how the study results are presented in order to answer that question.
- Q. In your report, you state -- on page 47, the bladder cancer report, which is Exhibit 4. Is that right?

MR. MANDELL: Yes, that is right.

Q. Under the biological gradient section, you say, "We now know that complex dose-response

Page 125 1 relationships can occur (e.g. hormesis)" --2. Wait. I'm sorry. You're on page 47 3 where? MR. MANDELL: Yeah. He didn't start 4 at the beginning of the sentence. It's the 5 6 second sentence. 7 THE WITNESS: Okay. 8 MR. MANDELL: No. The third 9 sentence. 10 That's okay. 11 THE WITNESS: Oh, I see. Okay. 12 MR. MANDELL: It's not a criticism. 13 I'm just saying. Q. You say, "However, we know that complex 14 15 dose-response relationships can occur 16 (e.g., hormesis) and that dose-response 17 relationships are not all (or necessarily) linear." 18 19 Do you see that? 2.0 A. Yes. 21 In terms of a cancer, can you cite an Q. 22 example where a lower dose of a carcinogen is

1 considered more risky than a higher dose?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. For a carcinogen, not specifically.
- Q. Okay. One of the Bradford Hill criteria is specificity, correct?
 - A. Yes.

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Q. And looking here on page 47 of Exhibit 4, which is your bladder cancer report, you state, "Specificity in Bradford Hill's time meant that an exposure causes a single disease without any other likely explanation other than the exposure under consideration."

Do you see that?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. In relation to that, I want to talk to you a little bit about leukemia, even though this was from a bladder cancer report.

You're aware that leukemia's divided into subtypes, aren't you?

- A. Yes.
 - Q. And you're familiar with some of the

- 1 | different subtypes of leukemia?
- A. Yes.

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- Q. What are the different subtypes of leukemia that you're familiar with?
- A. AML, ALL. CLL formerly was considered part of that, but it's generally lumped under NHL now. Those -- ALL and AML are the most common of the leukemias.
- 9 Q. Okay. In your report on
 10 leukemia/non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, which is
 11 Exhibit 7 -- do you have that in front of you?
- 12 A. Yes.
 - Q. You have cited several studies in this report regarding leukemia, right?
 - A. Sure.
 - Q. And some of the studies that you cite break down leukemias into their separate subtypes, don't they?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. So I want to direct you to page 32 of this report. For example, you cite the Talibov study. Do you see that?

- 1 Α. Yes.
- 2. And that study investigated whether there 3 were elevated risks of AML, acute myelogenous leukemia, with solvent exposures, correct? 4
- 5 Α. That's right.
- 6 Q. And then you also cite the Cocco report.
- 7 Do you see that?
- 8 Α. Yes.
- That study looked at the increased risk 9 0. 10 of chronic lymphocytic leukemia, CLL, with TCE exposure, right? 11
- 12 Α. They also looked at follicular lymphoma.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- That's what it says here. I don't recall 14 15 that study.
- 16 Okay. So it looked at follicular 17 lymphoma and CLL, right --
- 18 Α. That's what it says.
- 19 -- according to what you put in your 20 report?
- 21 The -- you see the Linet report under the 22 benzene section?

1 A. Yes.

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- Q. That particular study looked at the increased risk of chronic myeloid leukemia, CML, in Chinese benzene-exposed workers, right?
 - A. I believe they also looked at AML.
 - Q. Okay. So looked at both AML and CML in those particular workers, right?
 - A. And some other non-Hodgkin lymphomas.
 - Q. Okay. I see that. Thank you.
- You'd agree that AML, CLL, and CML are distinct diseases, wouldn't you?
- 12 A. Yes, I agree with that.
 - Q. And the rate of progression of those different subtypes varies greatly, doesn't it?
 - A. It can.
- Q. Would you agree that the course of treatment is different based on the different leukemia subtype?
- 19 A. It can.
- Q. You agree that chronic leukemias progress slowly and may never need treatment?
- 22 A. At times.

- Q. You -- would you agree that acute 1 2. leukemias progress rapidly and can require 3 immediate treatment?
 - Α. I do agree with that.
 - Would you agree that the different Ο. subtypes have different risk factors?
 - They may.

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- Ο. Would you agree that benzene at high exposures have been linked to AML?
 - I agree that benzene causes AML. Α.
- Okay. You don't qualify that as high 1 1 0. 12 versus low exposures?
 - No. I said I agree that benzene causes Α. AML.
 - Benzene has not been linked to other Q. specific subtypes of leukemia, has it? MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- We'd have to go through my report. don't remember all the details about benzene and hematologic malignancies.
 - Um-hmm. Are you aware that CLL has a Ο.

Page 131 genetic risk factor? 1 2. MR. MANDELL: Objection. 3 Go ahead. 4 I suspect that's -- there are genetic Α. risk to some of these, including CLL. 5 6 Are you aware specifically though that 7 CLL has an identified genetic risk factor? 8 Α. Well, stand by. Let's look at my report. I may address that. 10 (Pause) I don't recall specifics of everything I 11 12 reviewed with CLL. 13 Q. Okay. Do you know whether there are any genetic risk factors for AML that have been 14 15 identified? 16 I suspect there are, but I couldn't tell 17 you what they are. 18 Q. Okay. Would you agree that different 19 subtypes of leukemia have different latency periods? 20

Do you know what the latency period

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Α.

Q.

They may.

- 1 generally is considered to be for acute leukemias? 2.
 - A. Oh, it would depend on what the exposure was, the intensity of the exposure, etc., and the age of the person, so I don't think I can answer that question.
 - Are you aware generally that the latency for chronic leukemias is longer than the latency for acute leukemias?
 - I would generally agree with that. Α.
- Okay. Would you agree that different Ο. 12 leukemia subtypes arise in different types of 13 cells?
 - They can, sure. Α.
 - Are you aware that IARC distinguishes between different leukemia subtypes in its cancer classifications?
- 18 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 19 Go ahead.
- I don't recall. 2.0 Α.
- 21 As a practicing doctor, do you 22 distinguish between different leukemia subtypes

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1	when	you	diagnose	patients?

2. MR. MANDELL: Objection.

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- A. Usually not.
- Q. You usually don't? Okay.

Do you have many leukemia patients in your practice?

- Α. Fortunately, leukemia is fairly rare. Although I did diagnose someone with leukemia in the last couple months.
- And you didn't specify what type of leukemia that person had?
 - No. I was trying to save his life. Α.
- Okay. So can you describe what the 0. circumstances of that were? Did you refer them to another specialist, or what happened?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- Α. He was almost dead when he came to me from his acute leukemia, and so we did everything we could do to save his life.
- Would you agree that leukemia in children is very different than leukemia in adults?

1	MR. MANDELL: Objection.
2	A. You'd have to be more specific.
3	Q. Okay. As a general matter you can't
4	answer that question as a general matter, it
5	needs to be more specific?
6	MR. MANDELL: Objection.
7	Go ahead.
8	A. There are different types of leukemia, so
9	you'd have to be more specific.
10	Q. Do you understand the difference between
11	DNA mutations and DNA alterations?
12	MR. MANDELL: Objection. Foundation.
13	A. Generally, yes.
14	Q. Do you understand that adults with AML
15	have more DNA mutations than children with AML?
16	MR. MANDELL: Objection.
17	A. I'm not familiar with that literature.
18	Q. And would that also be true with respect
19	to the statement that children with AML have more
20	structural DNA alterations than adults with AML?
21	MR. MANDELL: Objection.
22	Go ahead.

- A. I'm not familiar with that literature.
 - Q. You just mentioned a patient that you had with leukemia. How often do you see a patient with leukemia?
 - A. Do you mean do I diagnose leukemia or treat someone who has or had leukemia?
 - Q. Well, you can answer both if there's a distinction between the two.

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. So diagnosing leukemia, that is, the person comes in, didn't know they had leukemia till I tell them, that is fortunately rare.
 - O. Um-hmm.
- A. Treating someone who has a leukemia or hematopoetic cancer is certainly more common. I couldn't tell you how often that is.
- Q. Okay. Can you just generally describe, you know, what your clinical practice is? You're an emergency room physician, right, as a clinician?
 - A. So I'm board certified in emergency

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1 | medicine as well as medical toxicology.

O. Um-hmm.

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A. So my clinical practice is working in the ER as well a clinical practice of medical toxicology. So that includes -- we have a consultation service, so we are consulted and round and see patients in ERs, ICUs, floors. We take call for all of New England. We cover the Mass./Rhode Island Poison Center at night. We have a toxicology clinic where we see patients.

And so -- and then when I'm working in the ER there is nearly invariably some toxicology component to that as well.

- Q. Okay. How much of your time is -- what percentage is devoted to the ER practice versus the toxicology consulting?
- A. There's no way to break that up. For instance, when I'm on call, I'm on call for 24 hours at a time, and I may be doing tox -- getting tox consults while I'm working in the ER.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. So I can't break it up.

- Q. How often are you on call at the ER?
 - I'm not on call at the ER. Α.
 - Okay. I thought you just said you are. Q.
 - I think I know the question you want to Α. ask, but I'll just let ask you it.
 - Q. Can you describe kind of what your week-to-week work is as far as your relationship to working at the ER?
 - It varies. I work day shifts, evening shifts, weekend, holidays. I fortunately don't work night shifts anymore.
 - Um-hmm. Are you affiliated with a particular ER?
 - So UMass Memorial Health is the health system. We have technically seven hospitals. Ι work at two or three of those hospitals.
 - And how do you like receive your assignments for those hospitals? Is there some supervisor who assigns you to different times at different hospitals?
 - An administrative -- administrative assistant does that.

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- Q. Okay. Let's go back to the Bradford Hill And since we're in the leukemia criteria. report, if you look at page 54.
 - Α. 5 - 4?
- Yeah. Do you see the criteria identified Ο. as plausibility?
 - Α. Yes.

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And you state that "Plausibility: Ο. Biological plausibility refers to the concept that a relationship between an exposure and an adverse health outcome can be attributed to causation based on existing biomedical and epidemiological knowledge."

Do you see that?

- Α. Yes.
 - And can you describe how you apply that Ο. criteria?
 - So it's considering mechanistic Sure. data, it includes in vitro or in vivo studies as well as epidemiologic evidence, and combining those.
 - Okay. Did you weigh the Bradford Hill 0.

Page 139 1 criteria in reaching your conclusions in this 2. case? 3 MR. MANDELL: Objection. Go ahead. 4 What do you mean by weigh them? 5 Α. Did you evaluate each of them for 6 reaching your opinions in the case in any 7 8 particular way? MR. MANDELL: Objection. 9 I evaluated the nine Bradford Hill 10 Α. viewpoints. There is no scoring system or 11 scorecard for them. 12 13 How would you describe your methodology Q. for evaluating the criteria? 14 15 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 16 Go ahead. 17 "Weight of the evidence" approach. Α. 18 Q. Can you elaborate how the "weight of the evidence" approach is used? 19 It's a qualitative assessment using my 2.0

education, training, and 30 years of experience

in evaluating all of the data.

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- Q. Are there any particular criteria or criterion that you gave the most weight to?
- I don't think so. As it's not a scorecard, it's not a -- I don't know that I can answer it any differently.
- Q. Are there any criteria or criterion that you gave the least weight to?
- Well, I think specifically here it would be specificity.
 - Why is that? Ο.
- Well, as I say on my report on page 54, "Specificity in Bradford Hill's time meant that exposure causes a single disease without any other likely explanation other than the exposure under consideration."

But we know that's not -- that's not true, that exposures often usually cause more than one effect. And that's why I said the specificity viewpoint is difficult to meet.

Q. Other than your education and experience, is there any other source that you used to apply the Bradford Hill criterion that you looked to?

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1 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- I don't think you mentioned my 30 years of experience.
- I said other than your education and experience. I didn't say 30 years, but...
- A. Oh, okay. My training, I am the division chief of our medical toxicology. We have four fellows, so these are the things that I teach residents and fellows as well.
- Q. Okay. But you didn't consult any resource with respect to this particular case in like how to apply the Bradford Hill criteria, you just used your education, experience, training; is that true?

MR. MANDELL: Object.

- I would agree with that.
- Okay. You reviewed the ATSDR's epidemiological studies of the Camp Lejeune population, didn't you?
 - Α. Yes.
- In fact, you site the ATSDR studies as providing support for your conclusions in

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- your case -- in this case in each of your 1 reports. Do you recall that? 2.
 - I'm sure I did. Α.

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- Would you agree that those studies Q. examined potential effects of the contaminants in the Camp Lejeune water on persons exposed to that water at Camp Lejeune?
 - Can you say that again?
- Would you agree that the studies examined Ο. potential effects of the contamination in the Camp Lejeune water on persons exposed to that water at Camp Lejeune?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- Well, I think that's why they were constructed, to examine potential effects.
 - Ο. Okay.
- It's my opinion they demonstrate causation.
 - 0. I want to show you --

21 (Exhibit 15, Excerpts from the

22 ATSDR's 2018 morbidity study, marked

for identification.)

- Do you have another clip? This thing pops off when I flip them. No. No. Like one of these (indicating). Just -- no? Here, let me do this. It's just easier to flip through pages.
- 6 Q. Yeah. I'm sure we could probably find 7 some.
 - I'll just keep that separate. Put that Α. clip back on. Okay. Thanks.
 - Q. Dr. Bird, I show you what has been marked as Exhibit 15. This is excerpts from the ATSDR's 2018 morbidity study. Do you see that?
 - A. Oh, all the pages are not here, that's why it's an excerpt?
 - Q. Yes. It's excerpts, yes.
- 16 Α. Yes.

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- And this is one of the studies that you Ο. cited in at least some of your reports, right?
- 19 Α. Yes.
- 20 Q. You're aware that this study was based on a survey, aren't you? 21
- 22 A. Yes.

- Q. And you are aware that this study was never published in a peer-reviewed journal?
- A. My understanding, it was peer-reviewed, but not published in a peer-reviewed journal.
- Q. So with respect to peer review, you believe it was peer-reviewed internally by the ATSDR, but not submitted for peer review by the journal?
- A. Well, I think -- my understanding, it goes -- it underwent both internal ATSDR peer review and external peer review. I may be mistaken, but that's my understanding.
- Q. But we agree that it was never published in a peer-reviewed journal; is that correct?
 - A. I agree with that.
- Q. Are you aware that selection bias was a significant limitation of this study because those at Camp Lejeune with health problems would be more likely to return a survey due to publicity around the Camp Lejeune water contamination than those at Camp Pendleton?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

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- 1 Α. Where are you reading from?
- 2. I'm just aware -- I'm just asking, are Ο. 3 you aware that selection bias was a significant limitation, given publicity around the 4 Camp Lejeune situation? 5

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- That is a potential limitation, sure.
- Ο. And you're familiar with selection bias, aren't you?
- 10 Α. Yes.

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- What is your understanding of selection 11 Ο. 12 bias?
 - Well, there can be different types of selection bias. Generally it would be that the people included in a study do not have characteristics identical or nearly identical to people who did not respond.
 - Q. And what type of problem does that present?
- 2.0 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 21 It depends. There's -- you need more Α. 22 details about how a study's constructed and how

1 | it would affect it.

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- Q. If you turn to page 11 of the study. Do you see the first complete sentence at the top of page 11, which states, "Second, selection bias could have impacted analyses comparing

 Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton, likely biasing results away from the null (potentially overestimating the effect of the exposures) because those at Camp Lejeune with health problems may have been more likely to participate than those at Camp Pendleton with health problems."
 - Do you see that?
 - A. I see that.
- Q. You did not reference the issue of selection bias in any of your reports when discussing this study, did you?
- A. I don't recall if I specifically mentioned that in my report, but it's part of my consideration in evaluating studies.
- Q. You say it's a consideration that you have in evaluating studies. Is it important when

discussing studies to discuss significant limitations of those studies?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. It depends. I cited lots of studies. I couldn't describe all limitations or strengths to every study, but I considered that in my weighing of the evidence.
- Q. With respect to selection bias for this particular study, did you consider that to be a significant limitation?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. My recollection is that they looked at the response rate to try to evaluate selection bias. I think this is -- yeah, it's 115 pages.

 I don't recall -- well, let's see here. Hold on.
- It may be addressed in their sensitivity analyses on page 20 -- starting on page 26 of the study. So I'm happy to look at the whole study if you have it.
- Q. Well, with respect to the participation in the survey, the study found that a higher percentage of Camp Lejeune participants responded

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- 1 | to the study than Camp Pendleton participants.
- 2 | Would that be an indication of selection bias if
- 3 | that were true?
- 4 MR. MANDELL: Objection. Form and
- 5 foundation.
- A. Can you show me where that is? Because I
- 7 | don't recall that.
- Q. Okay. I don't have that in this excerpt,
- 9 but I do have -- if you turn to page 50, if you
- 10 see there on the paragraph -- first full
- 11 paragraph, it says, "We compared the percentages
- of completed HIPAA forms and medical record
- confirmation by diseases between the cohorts
- 14 For the majority of diseases, the Camp Lejeune
- 15 cohorts had higher percentages of completed HIPAA
- 16 forms and medical record confirmations than did
- 17 | the Camp Pendleton cohorts."
- Do you see that?
- 19 A. Stand by.
- 20 (Pause)
- 21 A. I do, and they're referencing Table 16
- 22 and 17, which we don't have here (indicating).

Q. Okay. Well, maybe at a break we'll get those. But if that is a correct statement, would that be an indication of selection bias?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. It could be. But they also discuss other sensitivity analyses trying to determine that.
- Q. Okay. In any case, you didn't reference the percentage of return on surveys or HIPAA forms in discussing this study in any of your reports, did you?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. That's right, I did not.
- Q. Take a look at Table 6 on page 74. And again, we're referring to the mort- -- morbidity study, which is Exhibit 15.

If you look at the results of the morbidity study in comparing the Camp Lejeune Marine and the Camp Pendleton Marine cohort of the five diseases that your reports cover, which are bladder cancer, kidney cancer, Parkinson's disease, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, and leukemias, is it fair to say that only bladder cancer had an

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- 1 odds ratio of above 1.5?
- 2. MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 3 Sorry. I was confused because not Α. everything is highlighted. 4
- 5 0. Okay.
- Not all of these diseases we're talking 6 7 about today is highlighted, so I -- I was 8 confused.
- Q. Okay. Well, I can go through them in more detail to make it clearer for you. I don't 10 want to confuse you. 11
- 12 So, for example, leukemia is at .97. 13 you see that?
- 14 Α. Yes.
- 15 Q. And bladder cancer is at 1.64. Do you see that? 16
- 17 Α. Yes.
- 18 Q. Kidney cancer is at 1.31. Do you see 19 that?
- 20 Α. Yes.
- And Parkinson's disease is at .89. Do 21 22 you see that?

1 A. Yes.

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Q. I don't think non-Hodgkin's lymphoma is called out specifically, but they do have lymphomas right below leukemia, and that's at 1.06. Do you see?

6 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. Yes.
- Q. So bladder cancer is the only one of those that we just went through that it was above 1.5, right?
- 12 A. Yes.
 - Q. And if you turn to page 76 and if you look at the bladder cancer on page 76. And these are the odds ratios for cumulative TC exposure in Marines at Camp Lejeune compared with those at Camp Pendleton, and it's broken down between low exposure, medium exposure, and high exposure. Do you see that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And if you go to the high-exposure odds ratio for bladder cancer, it's dropping below 1,

- 1 to .93. Do you see that?
- 2. Α. Yes.

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- And you don't mention that particular Q. figure in your bladder cancer report, do you, the .93 for the high exposure?
- 6 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
 - I don't recall.
 - Okay. If you look at your bladder cancer Q. report, which is Exhibit 4, and turn to page 39.
- 10 Α. 49?
- 39. 11 Q.
- 12 Okay. Α.
- And if you turn back to page 38, do you Q. 14 see you're discussing the 2018 morbidity study at 15 this part of your report?
- 16 Α. Yes.
 - If you turn to the next page on 39, you state [As read], "Marines at Camp Lejeune with any/low exposure to TCE (defined less than 110 ppb-months) had an odd -- had the odds ratio of bladder cancer of 1.28," and you then have a 95% confidence interval of .76 to 2.15, "a

- 1 | 28% increase versus their peers at Camp Pendleton."
- 2 Then you state, "The odds ratio for
- 3 | Marines at Camp Lejeune with medium exposure to
- 4 TCE (defined as between 110 and 11,030 ppb-months)
- 5 increased for bladder cancer to 1.68," a
- 6 | 95% confidence interval of 1.0 to 2.82, "a 68%
- 7 increased risk versus their peers at
- 8 | Camp Pendleton."
- 9 Do you see that?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And those correspond to the table that we
- 12 looked at just a moment ago, don't -- doesn't it?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. But you don't mention the third group,
- which is the high exposure, in which the odds
- 16 | ratio is .93 in this paragraph, do you?
- 17 A. That's right, I don't.
- 18 Q. Okay. If you go back to this particular
- 19 exhibit, Exhibit 15.
- 20 A. Is this the excerpt?
- 21 O. Yes. Yes.
- 22 And you turn to Table 6, which is on

1 | page 74.

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- A. Okay.
- Q. The odds ratios for leukemia and Parkinson's disease, do you see those? For leukemias is .97, for Parkinson's disease, it's .89, do you see that?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Because those were below 1, that means that there was a higher percentage of these diseases in the Camp Pendleton cohort compared to the Camp Lejeune cohort, right?
 - A. Well, first of all, you have to understand about Parkinson's disease, which is a disease of older people, you're comparing a low-incidence disease in one population to a low-incidence disease in another population of young people. So you're going to get a low odds ratio.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. You just know that's going to happen.

 This just says that -- this .89 says that
 there was an 11 percent decreased risk in those

1 at Camp Lejeune.

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- Q. Okay. And what about --
- A. What did I say, a -- did I say 11?

 MR. MANDELL: You did say 11.
- A. Okay. I just wanted to make sure I did.

 MR. MANDELL: I think you did, yeah.
 - A. Okay. Good.
 - Q. And for leukemia, it is below 1 there as well, right?
- 10 A. There was a 3 percent decreased risk in those at Camp Lejeune.
- Q. And you don't cite those particular figures in your reports, do you?
- A. I cite a lot of data, and there's lots of tables. I don't recall.
- Q. I want to go back to the leukemia report,
 Turn to page 42.
- 18 A. Okay.
- Q. With respect to the leukemia findings -and again, this is in reference, if you go back
 to the prior page, to the 2018 study.
- 22 A. Okay.

- 1 Q. You reference civilians exposed to medium 2. levels of TCE and PCE and you combined and you 3 have the 10,868 to 50,563 ppb-months for TCE or 4 457 to 2,118 ppb-months for PCE and you referenced an odds ratio of 1.41. Do you see 5 6 that?
 - Α. Yes.

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- And you say that that reflects a 0. 41 percent increased risk of leukemia compared to Camp Pendleton civilians, right?
- Α. That's what it says.
- 12 You don't comment on the confidence 13 interval, do you, in your -- in the text of that 14 finding?
 - Α. Yeah. I list the confidence interval.
 - You have the confidence interval, but you don't comment on it, do you? I mean, you comment that there's a -- that there is a 41 percent increased risk of leukemia, but you don't discuss the confidence interval, do you?
 - That's right. Α.
 - And isn't -- the confidence interval 0.

- 1 reflected for that particular result, would you
- agree that that's a very wide confidence 2.
- interval? 3

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- 4 Α. No.
- You would not, why not? 5 0.
- 6 Α. Because it's not.
 - So you don't consider 0.38 to 5.28 to be a wide confidence interval?
- 9 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 10 Α. As I said, I tend not to use adjectives.
- I think I said that previously. The numbers are 11
- 12 the numbers.
- 13 But doesn't that give you less confidence Q.
- in there being a 41 percent increased risk of 14
- 15 leukemia?
- 16 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 17 Go ahead.
- 18 Α. The numbers show a 41 percent
- 19 increased risk.
- Would you ever think that there was an 2.0
- occasion where it would be appropriate to comment 21
- on the confidence interval --22

1 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- Q. -- when discussing the increased risk?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection, please.
- A. Maybe. It depends on the context.
- Q. If you look back on -- if you go back to Exhibit 15. Do you have that in front of you?
 - A. What's 15?

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Q. It's the morbidity study.

MR. MANDELL: The excerpt.

- A. Yours are all labeled. Mine don't have numbers on them.
 - Q. Oh, okay. We should maybe --
 - A. That's why I keep asking.

MR. MANDELL: That's okay.

MR. BAIN: We should maybe put a number on them as we hand them to him.

- Q. The 1.41 number for leukemias that you -that we just saw in your leukemia report, is from
 Table 12 on page 86; is that right? If you take
 a look at Table 12 on page 86.
- A. Stand by. Let me just familiarize myself with this.

1 (Pause)

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- A. Okay. Your question?
- Q. The 1.41 increased -- or odds ratio representing a 41 percent increased risk is from this table, the middle column, for medium exposure; is that right?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And with respect to the low exposure group, do you see that the odds ratio is .84?
- 10 A. Yes.
 - Q. And you don't reference that particular finding in your report, do you?
 - A. That's correct.
 - Q. And you don't note the fact that the numbers analyzed in each group were very low, three cases for low exposure, four cases for medium exposure, and one case for high exposure, do you?
 - A. That's right.
 - Q. And you don't know that this was -- this was part of a dose-response analysis which failed to show a linear dose response?

Page 160 1 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 2. Go ahead. 3 Yeah, I don't mention that. Okay. Would you agree that this does not 4 Q. 5 show a linear dose response? 6 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 7 Go ahead. 8 Α. I think it's difficult to comment on a 9 dose response with only one in the high exposures. 10 Ο. Okay. That's fair. Okay. I want to ask you about the 11 12 results of some of the other ATSDR studies, which 13 were in published journals. 14 THE WITNESS: Before we get a 15 question on the record. 16 MR. BAIN: Yeah. 17 THE WITNESS: Lunch soon? Like is 18 this a good place to break or --19 MR. BAIN: It's good for me. 2.0 MR. MANDELL: Sure, it's fine. How long --21 22 THE WITNESS: It just seems like

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Page 161
     we're going in a new direction.
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                   MR. MANDELL: Yeah. And this is off
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     the record.
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                   THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is
     12:05 p.m., and we're off the record.
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                  (Lunch recess taken)
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1	AFTERNOON SESSION
2	THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is
3	12:55 p.m., and we're on the record.
4	BY MR. BAIN:
5	Q. Okay. Dr. Bird, we're back on the
6	record. You understand you're still under oath?
7	A. Yes.
8	MR. BAIN: I'd like to have this
9	marked as the next exhibit.
10	(Exhibit 16, Excerpts of the ATSDR's
11	2024 cancer incidence study preprint
12	report, marked for identification.)
13	Q. I'm showing you what will be marked as
14	Exhibit No. 16. This is excerpts of the ATSDR's
15	2024 cancer incidence study preprint report. And
16	I'd like you to turn to Table 2, which is I think
17	the first page.
18	And do you see that this is the
19	standardized incidence rates and Poisson
20	regression results for the Marine/Navy personnel
21	subgroup?

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Page 163 of 434

A. Yes.

- Q. And there's various diseases there in that table, right?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. It compares the standard incidence rates of disease in the Camp Lejeune and Camp Pendleton populations adjusted for sex, race, and age; is that your understanding?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And the standard incidence rates that -for example, Camp Lejeune, that's listed in the
 first column, that's comparing the incidence of
 the disease at Camp Lejeune to the general
 population adjusted for race, age, and sex; is
 that correct?
 - A. That's my understanding.
- Q. Okay. So if you look at urinary bladder cancer, the standard incidence rate for Camp Lejeune cohort is listed at .90. Do you see that?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And that would show that, adjusted for sex, race, and age, there are 10 percent fewer

Page 164 1 bladder cancers in the Camp Lejeune cohort than for the general population, right? 2. 3 That's right. Α. And the confidence interval for that is 4 0. from .8 to .99, correct? 5 6 Α. Yes. 7 Would you consider that to be a narrow 8 confidence interval? Again, I don't think that adding an 9 Α. adjective does much for a confidence interval. 10 Okay. The result for the decreased risk 1 1 12 is statistically significant, would you agree, 13 under traditional consideration? 14 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 15 Go ahead. The upper end of the confidence interval 16 Q. 17 is less than 1? Α. It is. 18 19 MR. MANDELL: Objection. 2.0 0. And that would be statistically significant? 21

22

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- In traditional statistical methods, yes.
- Would you agree that that result does not reflect a strong association between exposure to contaminants at Camp Lejeune and bladder cancer in relation to the general population?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- Well, importantly, that last part of the question, compared to the general population, So there's lots of reasons why the riaht? Marines have decreased incidence compared to the general population, namely the healthy Marine effect and others. So I agree with that.
- Q. Okay. Looking at kidney and renal pelvis cancers, the next row. Do you see that?
 - Α. Yes.

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- The standard incidence rate for the Camp Lejeune cohort is 1.03; is that correct?
 - Α. Yes.
- And that would reflect that, adjusted for sex, race, and age, there are 3 percent more kidney and renal pelvis cancers in the Camp Lejeune cohort than in the general

1 population, right?

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MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- That's what that number means, right. Α.
- Under traditional concepts of statistical Q. significance, that result is not statistically significant, correct?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- Α. I would agree with that.
- 10 The confidence interval there ranges from 0. .95 to 1.10, correct? 11
- 12 Α. Yes.
 - That result does not reflect a strong Q. association between exposure to contaminants at Camp Lejeune and kidney and renal pelvis cancer when compared to the general population, would you agree?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- Similar to my answer with urinary Α. bladder, correct, not unexpectedly.
- Q. Okay. Take a look at non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, NHL. Do you see that?

1 Α. Yes.

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- The standard incidence rate for the Ο. Camp Lejeune cohort is .86; is that right?
 - Α. That's right.
- So the results shows that, adjusted for sex, race, and age, there are 14 percent fewer non-Hodgkin's lymphoma cases in the Camp Lejeune cohort than in the general population, right?
 - That's what the numbers mean. Α.
- O. And the confidence interval ranges from .79 to .93; is that right?
- 12 Α. Yes.
 - And since the upper end of the confidence Q. interval is below 1, under traditional statistical significance, that result is statistically significant, correct? MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- I agree with that. Α.
- That result does not reflect a strong Ο. association between exposure to contaminants at Camp Lejeune in non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in

- 1 comparison to the general population, right?
- 2 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- A. That's generally -- that would be interpreted.
- Q. Okay. For leukemias, do you see that for row?
- 7 A. Yes.

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- Q. The standard incidence rate for the Camp Lejeune cohort is .87. Do you see that?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And that means that, adjusted for sex,
 12 race, and age, there are 13 percent fewer
 13 leukemias in the Camp Lejeune cohort than the
 14 general population, right?
 - A. That's right.
- Q. And as with the previous result, because the upper end of the confidence interval is less than 1, that decrease is statistically significant, correct?
- MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- Go ahead.
- 22 A. That's what that means.

Q. And that result does not reflect a strong association between exposure to contaminants at Camp Lejeune and leukemias in comparison to the general population, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. That's what that would mean.
- Q. Okay. I want to look now for these diseases at the third column, which is the relative risk of Camp Lejeune versus

 Camp Pendleton. Do you see that column?
- 11 A. I do. I'm trying to figure out why there
 12 is an asterisk. Oh, it's on the next page.
- 13 Okay. Yes.

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- Q. The asterisk represents that the -- the regression controls for sex, race, and five-year age groups, correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. For bladder cancer, the relative risk in comparing Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton is 1.08, right?
 - A. That's right.
- Q. And that's not above 1.1, is it?

- 1 Α. Correct.
- The lower end of confidence interval 2. 0.
- 3 is .98. Do you see that?
- 4 Α. Yes.
- And the higher end is 1.18, right? 5 Ο.
- 6 Α. That's right.
- So under traditional understanding of 7 8 statistical significance, this result is not statistically significant, right? 9
- 10 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- I would agree with that. 11 Α.
- 12 Ο. The next line is kidney and renal pelvis.
- 13 Do you see that?
- 14 Α. Yes.
- 15 And same as with bladder cancer, the
- 16 relative risk in comparing Camp Lejeune to
- 17 Camp Pendleton's 1.08, right?
- 18 Α. Right.
- 19 That's not above 1.1, is it? Q.
- Α. It is not. 2.0
- And the lower end of the confidence 21
- interval is .99, correct? 22

- 1 Α. That's right.
- 2. The upper end is 1.18; is that right? Ο.
- 3 Right. Α.
- So that result, under traditional 4 Q. statistical significance, is not statistically 5 significant, correct? 6
 - MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 8 Α. Correct.
- For non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, the relative 10 risk in comparing Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton is 1.01. Do you see that? 11
- 12 Α. Yes.

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- 13 And that's not above 1.1, is it? Q.
- 14 It is not. Α.
- 15 The lower end of the confidence interval Q.
- 16 is .92, and the upper end is 1.11, correct?
- 17 That's right. Α.
- So under traditional understanding of 18 Ο. statistical significance, that result is not 19 statistically significant, is it? 20
- 21 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 22 I would agree with that. Α.

- 1 And finally, for leukemias, the relative 2. risk in comparing Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton 3 is 1.08, right?
 - Α. Yes.

- And that's not above 1.1, is it? 5 0.
- 6 Α. It is not.
- The lower end of the confidence interval 7 8 is .96 and the upper end is 1.22, correct?
- 9 Α. Yes.
- So again, under traditional statistical 10 significance, that result is not statistically 11 12 significant, correct?
- 13 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- That's correct. 14 Α.
- 15 Okay. Could you please turn to Table 6 Q. in this study. 16
- 17 Okay. Hold on a second. Α.
- 18 Q. Have you had a chance to look at Table 6?
- 19 I'm trying to familiarize myself with it. Α.
- Just one moment. 2.0
- (Pause) 21
- 22 Α. Okay.

- Q. Table 6 is a dose-response analysis based on duration stationed at Camp Lejeune, with Camp Pendleton as a reference. Do you see that? And it's for Marine/Navy personnel subgroup; is that correct?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. And if you look at the second page, I want to go through some of the diseases that are at issue in this case.
- First of all, going to urinary bladder.

 Do you see that one?
- 12 A. Yes.
 - Q. It looks like there's a general category for that, and there's some subtypes for urinary bladder under that. Do you see that?
- 16 A. Yes.
 - Q. I just want to look at the general category for urinary bladder. Would you agree that there's not a linear dose-response relationship reflected in that analysis?
- A. Well, it is actually probably very linear.

- 1 Q. You say very linear. Is that the -- a 2. term, "very linear"?
 - A. Well, 1.16 -- there's .86, then 1.18 and 1.19. So that would -- that would probably be very close to a line.
 - Q. Okay. But would you agree that each increase in duration does not result in an increase in risk?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- With these numbers, I agree with that. 11 12 Interestingly -- this is preprint?
 - Q. Yes.

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- So the durations are different than the published?
- And I can get to that and maybe ask you right now if you understand that there was this analysis in the published version, but they reduced the categories from four categories to three categories. Were you aware of that?
 - That's my understanding. Α.
 - Do you know why they did that? Q.

1 A. I don't.

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Q. Okay. And we can go over the ones in the print version if you have the next exhibit. Oh, we can do both.

(Exhibit 17, 2024 ATSDR cancer incidence study-print version, marked for identification.)

- Q. I'm showing you what's been marked as Exhibit 17, which is the print version of the 2024 ATSDR cancer incidence study. Do you see that?
- 12 A. Yes.
 - Q. Okay. And if you look at Table 5. And I believe it's the dose-response analysis table for the same subgroup that we were looking at for the preprint version of the durations reduced from 4 to 3. Do you see that?
 - A. That's right, yes.
 - Q. Okay. So if you look at urinary bladder with respect to Table 5 of the print version, do you see it goes from 1.02 to 1.18 to 1.20?
 - A. That's right.

- 1 So there, there is an increase with each 2. increased duration, correct?
 - That's a monotonic dose response.
 - Okay. So this reflects a monotonic dose 0. response, whereas the prior table did not reflect that; is that true?
 - That's right, the unpublished version does not --
 - Q. Okay.

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- -- with different categories.
- Okay. If we look at kidney cancer. 11 0. 12 if you look at the preprint version, where you 13 have four categories. Do you see that? It goes from 1.19 to 1.08 to 1.00 to .91. Do you see 14 15 that?
 - Yes. Α.
- 17 And that's not a monotonic dose-response 18 relationship, is it?
- 19 It is not. Α.
- And if we look at kidney on the print 2.0 version, it goes from 1.12 to 1.01 to .94. 21 22 is also not a monotonic dose-response

- 1 relationship, correct?
- 2. That's correct.
- 3 For NHL, on the preprint version, it goes Q. from .94 to 1.15 to 1.00 to .94. Do you see 4
- 5 that?
- 6 Α. Yes.
- 7 And on the print version, it goes from
- 8 1.02 to 1.01 to 1.00. Do you see that?
- 9 Α. Yes.
- Neither of those are a monotonic 10 Ο.
- dose-response relationship, correct? 11
- 12 I agree with that.
- 13 Okay. And then for leukemias, it's the Q. 14 next page on the preprint version, top row.
- 15 Α. Just one second.
- 16 Okay.
- 17 Do you see it goes from 1.25 to .99 to Ο. .90 to 1.09? 18
- 19 Yes. Α.
- And that's not a monotonic dose-response 2.0 0. relationship, correct? 21
- 22 That's correct. Α.

- Q. And then just to close this out, on the print version, it goes from 1.11 to .91 to 1.15.

 Do you see that?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. And that's not a monotonic dose-response relationship, is it?
 - A. It is not.
- Q. Do any of those dose-response analyses support an inference of causation?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. Well, we just looked at a few numbers from these articles. I don't have the articles committed to memory for where the discussion of these results take place in the article.
- So just in isolation with these one numbers in this one table, I would largely agree with that, but you have to understand the whole context.
- Q. Um-hmm. Well, if I were to tell you that these results were not called out as monotonic dose-response relationships supporting causation

Page 179 1 in the main body of these articles, would you agree then that these analyses do not support it 2. 3 with respect to these diseases? 4 MR. MANDELL: Objection. Form. Foundation. 5 Well, I don't know what they -- actually 6 7 the authors say in the manuscript about those 8 numbers, so I don't know that I can comment without --9 10 0. Okay. -- seeing what they -- their 1 1 12 interpretation as well. 13 Q. Okay. 14 MR. BAIN: Okay. We can go to the 15 next one. 16 (Exhibit 18, 2024 mortality study. 17 for Camp Lejeune,. 18 marked for identification.) 19 Q. Dr. Bird, I'm showing you what has been marked as Exhibit 18. Do you see this and 20 recognize it as the 2024 mortality study for 21 22 Camp Lejeune?

1 A. I do.

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- Q. I'd like to show you Table 2 on page 6.

 This shows the standard mortality rates and

 Poisson regression risk ratios from the Navy and

 Marine personnel for various diseases, correct?
- A. Yes. Just one second. Let me just verify something.

(Pause)

- A. Okay. Yes, I'm ready.
- Q. Okay. So this compares the standard mortality rates of disease in -- or of death, right? Mortality rates are the rates of death, correct, in the Camp Lejeune and Camp Pendleton populations adjusted for sex, race, and age; is that correct?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And for urinary bladder cancer, the standard mortality rate for the Camp Lejeune cohort is .97; is that right?
 - A. That's right.
- Q. So this result shows, that adjusted for sex, race, and age, there are 3 percent fewer

- deaths from bladder cancer in the Camp Lejeune cohort than in the general population, right?
 - A. Correct.

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- Q. And the confidence interval is .74 to 1.24, correct?
 - A. That's right.
- Q. Okay. This reflect -- this result does not reflect an association between exposure to contaminants at Camp Lejeune and death from bladder cancer in comparison to the general population, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. That's right. That's what the numbers mean.
- Q. Okay. For kidney and renal pelvis cancer, the standard mortality rate for the Camp Lejeune cohort is 1.11, correct?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. So this result would indicate that, adjusted for sex, race, and age, there are 11 percent more deaths from kidney and renal pelvis cancers in the Camp Lejeune cohort than in

1 | the general population?

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- A. That's right.
- Q. And the confidence interval there is from .93 to 1.31; is that right?
 - A. That's right.
- Q. And under the traditional understanding of statistical significance, that result then is not statistically significant, correct?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. I would agree with that.
- Q. And this result does not reflect a strong association between exposure to contaminants in Camp Lejeune and death from kidney and renal pelvis cancer in comparison to the general population. Do you agree?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. Well, I think this is evidence of a causal relationship between Camp Lejeune toxic water and death from kidney and renal pelvis cancer.
 - Q. Okay. Can you explain why?
- 22 A. The SMR is greater than 1.10.

Q. Okay. And even though this doesn't meet traditional statistical significance, you still hold that it is evidence of a causal relationship?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

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- A. Yes. And also considering the healthy veteran effect.
- Q. Okay. Let me ask you, you mentioned that a couple times now, what is your understanding of the healthy veteran effect?
- A. Actually, on the previous page, Bove -Dr. Bove et al. described that. They say,

 "Factors producing a healthy veteran effect
 include the initial recruitment physical
 screening, fitness standards during military
 service, and access to health care during and
 after service. The effect was likely strong in
 the Marines/Navy personnel subgroup because most
 were aged < 65 years at the end of follow-up."
- Q. Have you done any research into studies on the healthy veteran effect?

- 1 I'm familiar with the healthy veteran effect. 2.
 - Have you reviewed any articles on it? Q.
 - Oh, at some point, I'm sure I have. Α.
 - Okay. We'll get back to that. 0.

(Exhibit 19, Article by

Sullivan-Baca, et al.,.

marked for identification.)

- I'm showing you what has been marked as 0. Exhibit 19, which is an article called "An Update on the Healthy Soldier Effect in U.S. Veterans," by Sullivan-Baca et al. Do you see that?
- 13 Α. Yes.

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- 14 And the date on that particular article 15 is 2023; is that correct?
- 16 Yes. Α.
- 17 Have you reviewed this article before? 0.
- 18 Α. I have not.
- 19 Okay. It's not in your materials considered list, correct, since you haven't 2.0 reviewed it before? 21
- 22 That's correct. Α.

- Would you expect the healthy veteran effect to dissipate as a person gets older?
 - I'm sorry. I couldn't hear you.
 - Would you expect the healthy veteran Q. effect to dissipate as a person gets older?
- Α. It may.

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- 7 If you look at the table on page 3203.
- 8 And do you see Figure 3 is represented as
- "Standardized mortality ratios for males and 9
- females in the Veterans Health Administration vs. 10
- U.S. population for different age groups"? 11
- you see that? 12
- 13 Yes. Α.
- 14 And if you look at the age 55 to 64
- 15 cohort. Do you see that?
- 16 Yes. Α.
- 17 And do you see that the numbers are Ο.
- 18 above 1 for the standard mortality ratios?
- 19 Α. Yes.
- What does that reflect as far as you 2.0 0.
- understand? 21
- 22 A. Well, this may reflect increased

1 mortality in older service personnel who were 2 exposed to toxic water.

- Q. That's your interpretation of it?
- A. That's one interpretation of it.
- Q. Okay. And do you have any idea what percentage of individuals that are included in this table might have been exposed to toxic water?
- A. Oh, I don't. I would have to take time to review this article.
- Q. Okay. Let's turn back to Exhibit 18. In think we had covered urinary bladder and kidney cancer. I wanted to go through the other ones.
 - A. What table?
- Q. Table 2.
- 16 A. Okay.

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- Q. Okay. If you look at non-Hodgkin's
 lymphoma. You see that? The standard mortality
 rate for the Camp Lejeune cohort is .73. Do you
 see that?
 - A. Yes.
- 22 Q. So that result would show that, adjusted

for sex, race, and age, there are 27 percent
fewer deaths from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in the
Camp Lejeune cohort than in the general
population, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. That's what that number means.
- Q. And the confidence interval there is from .60 to .87, correct?
 - A. Yes.

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Q. And since the upper end of the confidence interval is below 1, that decreased risk is statistically significant, correct?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. According to the kind of standard or traditional interpretations of statistical significance.
- Q. Okay. So this result does not reflect an association between exposure to contaminants at Camp Lejeune and death from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in comparison to the general population?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
 - A. That's an interpretation of those

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- Q. For leukemia, do you see that row?
- A. Yes.
 - Q. The standard mortality rate for the Camp Lejeune cohort is .87, correct?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. So that result shows that, adjusted for sex, race, and age, there are 13 percent fewer leukemias in the Camp Lejeune cohort than the general population, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. 13 percent fewer deaths due to leukemia.
- Q. Yes. That's right. Thank you.

That result does not reflect an association between exposure to contaminants at Camp Lejeune and death from leukemias in the general population, correct?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. That's one interpretation of those numbers.
- Q. Okay. Let's look at the relative risk comparisons between Camp Lejeune and

- 1 Camp Pendleton.
- For urinary bladder, the relative risk in 2.
- 3 comparing Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton is 1.02.
- Do you see that? 4
- 5 Α. That's 1.21.
- Urinary bladder. 6 Q.
- 7 I'm sorry. Yes, it's 1.02. Α.
- 8 Q. Okay. And that's not above 1.1, is it?
- It is not. Α.
- And the lower end of the confidence 10 Ο.
- interval is .72, correct? 11
- 12 Α. Yes.
- 13 So under traditional statistical Q.
- significance, that's not statistically 14
- 15 significant, correct?
- 16 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 17 I would agree with that. Α.
- 18 Q. Okay. Then the one I think that you just
- 19 referred to a minute ago, the death from kidney
- and renal pelvis cancer, the relative risk in 20
- 21 comparing Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton is 1.21,
- 22 correct?

- 1 Α. That's right.
- 2. And that is above 1.1, right? Ο.
- 3 Correct. Α.

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- The lower end of the confidence interval 4 Q. is .95 and the upper end is 1.54, correct? 5
- 6 Α. That's right.
 - So under the traditional understanding of statistical significance, that is not a statistically significant increase, correct? MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- I agree with that. 11 Α.
- Okay. For death from NHL, the relative 12 13 risk in comparing Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton is .87, correct? 14
 - Right. Α.
 - This would mean that there are 13 percent fewer deaths from NHL at Camp Lejeune in comparison to Camp Pendleton adjusted for race, age, and sex, correct?
- That's how that would be interpreted, 2.0 Α. 21 yes.
 - Q. And with respect to the healthy veteran

effect, these comparisons from Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton would in theory control for the healthy veteran effect, correct?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- Α. I'm sorry. Say that one again.
- Q. The comparison between the Camp Lejeune and the Camp Pendleton cohorts would in theory control for the healthy veteran effect, would you agree with that?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- In theory, the healthy veteran effect would be present in both groups. When you have low incidence of a disease due to healthy veteran effect in two populations, you're going to get a small number because they're -- both have -they're young and healthy veteran effect.
- So in comparing the two populations, you wouldn't say that the increase or decrease between the two would be -- would be a result of the healthy veteran effect because they both have a healthy veteran effect, correct?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

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- What I'm saying is -- so it may. I'm getting at is, when you have a disease of low incidence due to the study population, that is young and healthy veterans in both enumerator and denominator, you're going to get smaller numbers.
 - Q. Okay. I don't think I have done leukemia, so I need to do one more, which is, if you look at leukemias, the number is 1.13 comparing the deaths from Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton, correct?
 - That's right. Α.
 - And the lower end of the confidence interval is .89, right?
 - That's right. Α.
 - So under traditional statistical significance, that result is not statistically significant, correct?
 - MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 19 That is an interpretation of that. Α.
 - Okay. You don't reference the standard incidence ratios or the standard mortality ratios data in any of your reports, do you?

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- I cite a lot of data from a lot of studies in my reports. I don't recall. happy to look at a specific area.
- Q. Do you recall as you sit here today, you know, citing these figures comparing the incidence of diseases at Camp Lejeune to the general population or the deaths at Camp Lejeune in comparison to the general population?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- I cited lots of studies and lots of data Α. in my reports. I'm happy to look at a specific area of the report. I don't recall all of the data that I cited.
- Okay. You understand there's both a Ο. civilian population and military population that was at Camp Lejeune, correct?
 - Α. Yes.
- Q. Do you believe that the healthy veteran effect applies to both populations?
- I think for the civilians, the healthy 2.0 worker effect applies. 21
 - Q. Okay.

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1 MR. BAIN: 21. I'm going to skip that one (indicating). 2.

> (Exhibit 20, Evaluation of mortality among marines and navy personnel exposed to contaminated drinking water at USMC base Camp Lejeune, marked for identification.) (Exhibit 21, "Mortality study of civilian employees exposed to contaminated drinking water at USMC Base Camp Lejeune, " marked for

Dr. Bird, I've handed you what has been Q. marked as Exhibits 20 and 21. Exhibit 20 do you see is the "Evaluation of mortality among marines and navy personnel exposed to contaminated drinking water at USMC base Camp Lejeune, " 2014?

identification.)

Α. I do.

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And Exhibit 21 is a "Mortality study of civilian employees exposed to contaminated drinking water at USMC Base Camp Lejeune," also dated 2014.

- Α. That's right.
 - You discuss some of these mortality Ο. studies in your reports, don't you?
 - Α. Yes.

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- Do you recall whether you cite each of these studies in each of your reports, or do we need to go through them individually?
 - Α. I don't recall.
- Okay. Okay. Well, let's look at the Ο. bladder cancer report, which is Exhibit 4, I believe.
- Okay. In the bladder cancer report, starting on page 37, do you see you have a section called "Evidence From Camp Lejeune studies Confirms That These Chemicals Cause Bladder Cancer At Detected Concentrations"?
 - Α. Yes.
- Q. And the first report that you go into detail in the subsection is the ATSDR 2018 study, the morbidity study. Do you see that?
 - Oh, I'm sorry. Yes. Α.
 - And then on page 39, you discuss the Q.

- 2024b study, the cancer incidence study by the 1 ATSDR, correct? 2.
 - That's right. Α.

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- Okay. But in this particular report, you Q. do not discuss the ATSDR's 2014 studies in this section; is that correct?
 - Α. Stand by.

(Pause)

- Α. I'm sorry. What was the question?
- The question was, in this section of the Ο. study where -- or section of your report where you're discussing various studies in support of your opinion, you do not reference the 2014 mortality studies of either Navy/Marine personnel, or civilian personnel; is that correct?
 - That's correct -- well, I do mention I don't call out specific numbers.
 - Okay. Where do you mention them? Ο.
- In the first paragraph, it's not a complete paragraph or full paragraph, first paragraph of page 38.

- Q. Can you point that out to me specifically?
 - Yeah. I'll just read it into the record. Α.
 - Q. Okay.

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Beginning in the last sentence on page 37, "First, bladder cancer has a relatively higher survival rate compared to other cancers the epidemiology looked at. Therefore, the studies that look at mortality do not fully capture the group of people whose bladder cancer was caused by water exposure at Camp Lejeune.

"Second, bladder cancer occurs primarily in older adults. Consequently, earlier epidemiology likely failed to identify individuals who would later be diagnosed with bladder cancer as a result of their exposure at Camp Lejeune, thereby understating the effect of exposure. ATSDR recognized these shortcomings in its assessment: 'Bladder cancer occurs mainly in older people and has a five-year survival percentage of over 77 percent. Because the Camp Lejeune cohorts were relatively young at the

end of follow-up, few deaths due to bladder cancer occurred.'" And that's citing ATSDR 2017.

And I further say, "This helped explain the lack of causal relationship seen in the 2014 Bove studies."

Q. Okay. Thanks for that.

So you reference the fact that there is a lack of causal relationship seen in the 2014 Bove studies, but your paragraph explains why that might be the case; is that true?

- A. Correct.
- 12 Q. Okay.

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- A. I think that explains why -- explains the case.
- 15 Q. Okay.
- 16 A. Not why it could be the case.
- Q. So that's an explanation for not going
 over the statistics in those earlier
 2014 mortality studies for bladder cancer?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. You lost me on that one.
- Q. So that -- that explains why you didn't

- 1 | report the particular statistics for the
- 2 2014 ATSDR studies in relationship to bladder
- 3 | cancer?
- 4 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- Go ahead.
- A. I don't remember precisely when I wrote this, but that would certainly be part of it.
- Q. Okay. Okay. Let's take a look at your
 leukemia/NHL report, which I believe is
 Exhibit 7.
- Okay. On -- starting on page 38, you

 have a section entitled "Evidence From the [sic]

 Camp Lejeune Studies" --
- 14 A. Stand by.
 - Q. Okay. I'm sorry.
- 16 A. Okay.

- Q. On page 38, you have a section entitled

 "Evidence From Camp Lejeune Studies Confirms That

 These Chemicals Cause Leukemia and NHL At

 Detected Concentrations"?
- 21 A. That's right.
- Q. And if you look on page 39, you cite the

- 1 Bove cancer mortality study of Marines and Navy personnel exposed to contaminated drinking water 2. 3 at Camp Lejeune, correct?
 - Α. Just stand by. I'm refamiliarizing myself with this section.

I'm sorry. The question?

- You cite the Bove 2014 study of the cancer mortality in Marines and Navy personnel exposed to contaminated drinking water at Camp Lejeune, correct?
- That's right. 11 Α.

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- And you do cite the odds ratio of 1.11 12 13 for leukemias. Do you see that in the second 14 paragraph?
- 15 Yeah. Hold on. Let me read that Α. 16 paragraph.
- 17 (Pause)
- 18 Α. I do cite the hazard ratio of 1.11, 19 that's right.
- And that's from Table 5 of the 2.0 2014 study, which is Exhibit 20, right? 21
- 22 Α. Yes.

Q.	Okay	7.	Do	you se	ee the	two	rows above
that, t	there	is	a	hazard	ratio	for	non-Hodgkin's
lymphor	na at	.81	?				

- A. Yes. I'm trying to see what the double asterisk means. Hold on.
- Oh, I see. It's referencing back to Table 4, the double asterisk, simply saying that NHL is non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.
- Q. Okay. So you see that the .81 hazard ratio there for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, right?
 - A. Yes.

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Q. And that reflects that the risk of mortality from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, comparing Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton, is .81, meaning there's 19 percent fewer deaths; is that true?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. Yeah. That's the interpretation of those numbers.
- Q. And you do not include that figure in your report on leukemias and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma with respect to this particular study,

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- A. Let's see. In that section, I describe data around leukemia only.
- Q. But the report is for both leukemia and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, correct?
- A. Sure, the whole report is. This section, I discuss leukemia only.
- Q. In this Section IX(A)? Section IX covers both leukemia and NHL, correct?
 - A. Section IX(A), I discuss only leukemia.
- Q. But Section IX as a whole is intended to cover both leukemia and NHL, correct?
- A. Both leukemia and NHL is discussed to some degree within Section IX. Section IX(A), I discuss only leukemia.
- Q. Okay. So similarly, you don't reference the hazard ratio for the civilian study, which is reflected on Exhibit 21 in Table 4?
 - A. Okay. Hold on.
- 20 O. Okay.
- A. Let me just refamiliarize myself with Table 4.

1 (Pause)

- 2. Just one second. Α.
- 3 Okay. I'm ready.
- So in Table 4, the hazard ratio for 4 Q. non-Hodgkin's lymphoma comparing the civilian 5 6 populations is .83, correct?
 - That's right.

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- Q. Which reflects a 17 percent decrease in the risk of death from NHL in comparing the Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton populations, correct?
- 12 Α. That's right.
- And that result is not referenced in 13 Q. 14 Section IX(A) of your report, is it?
- 15 Well, IX(A) is the Navy and Marines Α. 16 section.
- 17 Q. Oh, that's correct. Thank you for 18 pointing that out. IX(B)?
- 19 Stand by. Let me look at IX(B). Α.

(Pause)

21 Okay. So I'm sorry, what was the Α. 22 question?

- Q. You don't reference this hazard ratio in Section IX(B) of your report, do you?
 - A. That's correct.
 - Q. And in Section 20 -- in Section IX(D), you discuss the 2024 mortality study, correct?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. And if you look back to Exhibit 18.
- A. Okay. Hold on. Let me just familiarize myself with this.
- 10 Okay.
- 11 Q. If you look at Exhibit 18, Table 2, 12 page 6.
- 13 A. Okay.
- Q. The comparison of the standard mortality rates between Camp Lejeune and Camp Pendleton is .87, correct?
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. Which reflects a 13 percent decrease in the risk between Camp Lejeune and Camp Pendleton, right?
- 21 A. Of dying. That's right.
- Q. And you don't reference that in

- 1 Section IX(D) of your report, do you?
- 2. Α. Stand by.
- 3 (Pause)
- 4 Okay. I oriented myself to Tables 2, 3 Α.
- So what was the question? 5 and 4.
- With respect to Table 3, which is the 6 Q. civilian comparison between Camp Lejeune and 7
- 8 Camp Pendleton for death from NHL, you see the
- number is .98? 9
- 10 Comparing Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton? Α.
- 11 Q. Yes.
- 12 Α. Yes.
- 13 Okay. And that, likewise, is not Q.
- mentioned in Section IX(D) of your report, is it? 14
- 15 Α. That's correct.
- 16 Okay. Turn to your Parkinson's report. Q.
- 17 Stand by. Α.
- (Pause) 18
- 19 Okay. Α.
- In Section VIII(A), which is part of your 20
- literature review, you discuss the 2014A cancer 21
- 22 mortality study of Marines and Navy personnel.

- 1 Do you see that?
- A. Did you say Section VIII(A)?
- 3 Q. Yes.
- 4 A. What page?
- 5 O. 27.

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- 6 A. Okay. VIII(A).
 - Q. You see the second paragraph of that section, you say, "Although this study showed a link between the water and several other diseases, the sample size was too small to calculate the relative risk for PD," Parkinson's disease, right?
- 13 A. Yes.
 - Q. Your report references the -- in the next section, the civilian study and odds ratio of 3.13, which is on the next page in the second -- or the first full paragraph. Do you see that?
 - A. Yeah. Just let me familiarize myself with it.
- 20 (Pause)
- 21 A. Okay.
- 22 O. You indicate that the civilians at

- 1 Camp Lejeune had a 213 percent higher risk of
- 2. Parkinson's disease than those at Camp Pendleton,
- 3 which is more than a doubling of the risk,
- 4 correct?
- 5 Α. Yes.
- You say, "This reenforces the idea that 6
- 7 the chemicals at Camp Lejeune were present in
- 8 sufficient quantities to cause Parkinson's
- disease"? 9
- 10 That's right. Α.
- The confidence interval there is from .76 11 Ο.
- 12 to 12.86, correct?
- 13 Yes. But let me -- I just want to verify Α.
- 14 a number. I'm just trying to familiarize myself
- 15 with the -- all of the various tables again.
- Okay. Are you looking at Exhibit 21? 16 0.
- 17 I'm looking at Exhibit 18. Α.
- Okay. I think this is from the 18 Q.
- 2014 study that I'm talking about, which is --19
- Α. 2.0 Yeah. Yup. That's why.
- -- Exhibit --21 0.
- 22 21. Α.

- 1 Q. -- 21. I know there's a lot of exhibits. 2. I'm sorry about that.
 - So if you look at Table 4, referencing Parkinson's disease, I think this is where the 3.13 number comes from. Do you see that?
 - Α. Yes.

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- And it shows that the confidence interval goes from .76 to 12.86. Do you see that?
 - That's right. Α.
- And you do reference the confidence interval in your report, but you don't have any other comment on it, do you?
 - No. Α.
- And you don't comment on the number of people at Camp Lejeune who have Parkinson's disease versus the number of people at Camp Pendleton who have Parkinson's disease that accounts for this difference, do you?
- What I say about it is in the paragraph Α. on page 28 of my report.
- Okay. So you don't -- you don't reference the raw numbers of people who died of

- 1 | Parkinson's disease, correct?
 - A. That's correct.

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- Q. And do you see on this table that it was -- it was five people at Camp Lejeune who have Parkinson's disease versus four people at Camp Pendleton who died of Parkinson's disease?
 - A. That's right.
- Q. Okay. I think we're going to turn to another topic now. You can put those exhibits aside.
- We discussed the Bradford Hill criteria that is known as biological gradient or dose response. Do you recall that?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. And are you familiar with how the dose-response analyses were done for the ATSDR cohort studies?
- 18 A. I don't recall.
 - Q. Are you familiar with the fact that the ATSDR had a water model, which provided monthly mean concentrations for the different chemicals?
 - A. Yes.

- Do you know whether the ATSDR's water model was used in the dose-response analyses that were done in 2014, 2018, and 2024?
- Α. That is my understanding, except not maybe 2024, they used duration on base.
 - Do you know why that change was made?
 - I don't. Α.
- The ATSDR reports distinguish between Q. monotonic exposure response trend and non-monotonic exposure response. Do you recall that?
- 12 Α. No.

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- You referred to monotonic exposure Q. response previously in your testimony. How would you -- what would you describe that as?
- That there's an increased risk observed with increasing dose.
 - Q. Okay. So would that be true, with each increase in dose, there must be an increase in risk?
 - Technically, yes. Α.
 - I noticed that you point out some Q.

- 1 non-monotonic exposure trends in your report. you recall that? 2.
- 3 No. I wrote over 200 pages. I don't Α. 4 recall.
 - Okay. Is it your opinion that a 0. non-monotonic exposure trend can support causality for these chemicals?
 - Α. Yes.

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

10 Go ahead.

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- Okay. What is the basis for that? Q.
- Well, it depends on the particulars of a study, how the data -- how the study is conducted.

Monotonic dose response curves are not commonly seen -- strictly speaking, monotonic dose response curves are not commonly seen in epidemiologic studies. And there may be a lot of reasons for that. So it's a piece of the puzzle, but it is not everything.

Is there any literature that you're aware of that says these particular chemicals can

exhibit non-monotonic exposure response?

- I believe there is something about that in my report. Stand by.
- Okay. Page 47 of your bladder cancer 0. report, which is Exhibit 4, may be where you're thinking of.
- I'm actually thinking of the leukemia one. Stand by.

(Pause)

O. Page 56.

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- Yeah. So in my various reports, under biological gradient -- for the various reports, I discuss varia aspect of biological gradient and that they don't -- the dose response does not have to be monotonic, it's not necessarily linear, etc.
- And what is your -- what's your basis for those statements? For example, I'm seeing on page 56 of your leukemia report, you say, "However, we now know that complex dose-response relationships can occur (e.g. hormesis) and that dose-response relationships are not all (or

- 1 necessarily) linear."
- What's the basis for that? 2.
- 3 My education, training, and experience. Α.
- Q. Okay. 4

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- And there's lots of -- published about 5 Α. 6 that.
 - Is there anything that you can -- you can cite to me today that supports that published literature?
- 10 Well, specifically with hormesis, there's a group out of UMass-Amherst. I think the main 11 12 guy is dead now. I can't remember the group's
- 13 And I've certainly read other things. name.
- 14 Maybe there's an article by Stayner,
- 15 S-T-A-Y-N-E-R or N-O-R. There -- I believe I've
- 16 read something maybe by Steenland,
- 17 S-T-E-E-N-L-A-N-D.
- 18 I've read lots in my career, and those 19 are what kind of come to mind.
- 2.0 0. Okay.
- 21 (Exhibit 22, excerpts from the
- 22 ATSDR's 2017 Assessment of Evidence,

marked for identification.)

- Q. Okay. I'm showing you what's been marked as Exhibit 22. This is -- you recognize this as excerpts from the ATSDR's 2017 Assessment of Evidence?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. And you reviewed this particular report, didn't you?
 - A. I did.
- Q. In your experience, how long does a systematic literature review take to perform?
 - A. I don't think I can give you an answer.
- Q. Well, let me maybe refer you back to something that would help you give an answer.

For that review that you did on the drugs that we looked at earlier, how long did it take you to do that systematic review of the literature?

- 18 | literature?
 - A. Oh, I've been working on that for over a year. But how much time actually spent doing it, couldn't tell you.
 - Q. Couldn't give me an estimate even?

- 1 | A. Couldn't give you an estimate.
- Q. But it took over a year from start to finish?
 - A. Well, I was working on it for over a year. I couldn't tell you how many -- how much time it took to actually do it.
 - Q. And that just had to do with one particular drug and one particular outcome that you were looking at, right?
- 10 A. Well, there were more than -- there's one class of drugs.
 - Q. One class of drugs and one outcome?
- 13 A. Correct.

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- Q. And the class of drugs was antipsychotic drugs, and the outcome was breast cancer, right?
- 16 A. That's right.
 - Q. From start to finish, for your work in this case, how long did that take?
 - A. How long did what take?
- Q. From start to finish of your work in this
 case, looking at these five chemicals and the
 five particular diseases here.

1 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. When did I start work on this case?

 Sometime last summer until the reports I think were finished, December 9th. I don't remember how many hours I spent on it.
- Q. Okay. So around six months, but you can't say how many hours?
 - A. It would be on my invoice.
- Q. Have you produced your invoices in this case to counsel?
- 11 A. Yes.

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- MR. MANDELL: And we have sent them to you.
- MR. BAIN: Okay.
- Q. You read Dr. Bove's deposition, didn't you?
- 17 A. I did.
- Q. So you're aware that he testified that he performed ATSDR's systematic review of 4 chemicals and 16 health outcomes in six weeks.
- 21 | A. I recall something like that.
- 22 Q. And he did it by himself. Do you recall

1 | him saying that?

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- A. I don't recall that.
- Q. Do you recall that Dr. Bove testified that the 2017 Assessment of Evidence was done in order to add diseases to the VA's presumptive disease list for Camp Lejeune?
 - A. Well, that wasn't my interpretation.
 - Q. What was your interpretation?
- A. They weren't trying to add things to the presumptive diagnosis list. They were just seeing what the data looked like.
- Q. And what was the purpose of looking at the data do you recall from Dr. Bove's testimony?
- A. I thought he said something to the effect as Congress wanted it done.
- Q. You don't recall him testifying that the Community Action Panel, the CAP, and several senators pushed the VA to do this assessment because they wanted more diseases listed?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
 - A. I don't recall that.
 - O. The 2017 assessment did not use

statistical significance testing to assess the evidence for causality. Do you recall that?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. I do recall reading that.
- Q. Okay. Let me ask you to take a look at page 8 of the report. Do you see at the bottom of page 8, the last paragraph there, where he states, "In our assessment, we did not use confidence intervals to determine whether a finding was 'statistically significant' nor did we use significance testing to assess the evidence for causality."

Do you see that?

A. I do.

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- Q. And you recall that?
- A. I recall reading that.
- Q. And if you look just above that, do you see where it states that "An effect estimate (e.g., risk ratio, odds ratio, or standardized mortality ratio) was considered to have good precision (or less uncertainty) if the ratio of the upper limit to the lower limit of its

1 95% confidence interval was less than or equal to 2." 2.

3 Do you see that?

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- Α. Yes. That's what it says.
- In your opinion, is it generally accepted Ο. in epidemiology to use confidence interval ratios?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- Α. I don't think I have an opinion on that.
- Have you ever seen a reference to a confidence interval equal to or less than 2 as indicating good precision other than this report?
 - I don't believe so. Α.
 - Have you personally ever used a confidence interval ratio of equal or less than 2 to indicate good precision in any work that you've done?
 - No. Α.
- If you look on pages 6 and 7, starting at 2.0 the bottom of page 6. 21
 - Just one second. Α.

1 Q. Okay.

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- Α. Okay.
- Do you where see the Assessment of Evidence uses the "Equipoise and above evidence for causation" to describe the state of the evidence with respect to the relationship between some chemicals and diseases?
 - Α. No. I didn't see that at all.
- 0. Okay. Do you see at the bottom of page 6, there's a section called "Equipoise and above evidence for causation"?
- Α. Yes.
- It states, "The evidence is sufficient to Q. conclude that a causal relationship is at least as likely as not, but not sufficient to conclude that a causal relationship exists, " and it then has some criteria for whether this category is met.

Do you see that?

- Α. Yes.
- Have you ever used the phrase "equipoise Q. and above" to describe the scientific evidence in

- 1 an article that you've published?
 - In an article? I don't think so.
- 3 What about in an expert report in Q. 4 litigation?
- 5 Α. I don't think so.

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- Would you agree that the phrase "equipoise and above" is not the sort of vernacular used in scientific literature?
- 10 Well, I think we use "equipoise" a lot in Α. medicine. 11
 - Ο. Okay. Can you describe how it's used?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- It's the basis for most drug trials, intervention trials. It's the basis for non-inferiority trials. Equipoise is a constant in medicine.
- What about epidemiology? Ο.
- I don't know. I don't have an opinion on 18 Α. 19 that.
- Do you equate "equipoise and above" with 2.0 0. "as likely as not"? 21
- 22 "Equipoise and above" to me means "as Α.

- 1 likely as not or greater." "As likely as not"
 2 means to me 50/50.
 - Q. If you say that something is equipoise or 50/50, does that mean it's not sufficient to meet a "more likely than not" standard?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

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- A. Say that one again.
- Q. If you say that the evidence is equipoise or 50/50, does that mean that the evidence is not sufficient to meet a "more likely than not" standard?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. I don't know. I don't know that I've ever used the -- that term of -- okay. It sounds a -- kind of a legal term rather than a medical expert term.
 - Q. Which term is that?
 - A. The question that you just asked.
- Q. Okay. Let's repeat that question, and you can identify what the legal term is versus the scientific term.

1 (Record read)

- A. Yeah. That sounds like a legal standard.
- Q. What part of that question, the whole thing?
- 5 A. Yes.

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- Q. Okay. Other than the assessment of the evidence, did any literature that you reviewed for this case have the "equipoise and above" standard in it?
- A. Just so we're clear, when you say "assessment of the evidence," are you referring to this 2017 USATSDR?
- Q. Yes.
- A. So the question, sorry, was: Besides that, did anything else use that term?
- Q. Any other literature you considered in this case use the term "equipoise and above"?
- A. Was it the Camp Lejeune Justice Act maybe?
 - Q. The term "equipoise and above"?
- 21 A. Maybe.
- Q. Do you want to look back at it in your

1 report?

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- 2. Α. Yeah. I don't know. I may be 3 misremembering. So I guess the answer is: don't know.
- Q. Okay. Do you recall Dr. Bove testifying 5 that the ATSDR's classification scheme that it 6 used in its Assessment of Evidence was the same 7 8 as the IOM scheme for VA presumptive --9 presumption determinations?
 - That's where I read it. So it was in the Α. Institute of Medicine 2008.
 - Okay. Ο.
 - And the other -- I just recalled. The other place I've seen that was an article authored by Dr. Goodman in 2018.
 - Okay. Yeah. I want to point you to where I think you referenced that in one of your reports. So let's take a look at the leukemia report, which is Exhibit 7, page 8.
 - MR. MANDELL: When you get to a breaking point, maybe take a five-minute break.

1	this	part.

- 2 MR. MANDELL: No. Of course. Of 3 course.
- Do you see in the middle of the page, 4 where it says, "Similar standards have been used 5 6 in other areas of toxicology, epidemiology, and by other governmental bodies. For example, as 7 8 ATSDR notes, the classification scheme used in the 2017 assessment of the evidence is one 9 10 'recommended by an IOM panel that reviewed the VA's presumptive disability decision-making 11 12 process for veterans (IOM 2008)."

Do you see that?

- A. That's what I was trying to remember.
- Q. Okay. Are you aware that Dr. Bove testified that the ATSDR picked this classification scheme due to time constraints and to add diseases to the VA presumptive list?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. That's not my recollection of his testimony. I'm happy to review it with you.
 - Q. Do you -- did you compare how the ATSDR

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- 1 defined the "equipoise and above" standard and
- how the Institute of Medicine defined the 2.
- 3 "equipoise and above" standard in its
- 2008 document? 4
- A. I did. 5
- 6 Q. You did? Okay.
- 7 (Exhibit 23, Excerpt from the IOM
- 8 2008 document, marked for
- identification.) 9
- 10 It's been helpful when you number them. Α.
- I appreciate that. But this one didn't get 11
- 12 numbered. I don't know what the -- thank you.
- 13 That's very helpful.
- So I've marked, as Exhibit 23, an excerpt 14
- 15 from the IOM 2008 document, "Improving the
- 16 Presumptive Disability Decision-Making Process
- 17 for Veterans." Do you see that?
- 18 Α. Yes.
- 19 And if you look at page 191 of that
- document. Do you see there's a section called 20
- "Equipoise and Above"? 21
- 22 A. Just one second.

Yes.

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Q. And do you see where it states, "To be categorized as Equipoise and Above, the scientific community should categorize the overall evidence as making it more confident in the existence of a causal relationship than in the non-existence of a causal relationship, but not sufficient to conclude causation.

"For example, if there are several high-quality epidemiological studies, the preponderance of which show evidence of an association that cannot readily be explained by plausible noncausal alternatives (e.g., chance, bias, or confounding), and the causal relationship is consistent with the animal evidence and the [sic] biological knowledge, then ... overall evidence might be categorized as Equipoise and Above. Alternatively, if there is strong evidence from animal studies or mechanistic evidence, not contradicted by human or other evidence, then the overall evidence might be categorized as Equipoise and Above."

1 Do you see that?

> Α. Yes.

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- Now if you look at the ATSDR's Assessment Q. of the Evidence, which is Exhibit 22.
 - Α. Hold on.

Okay. Page?

- Page 6. Do you see where they have the section on "Equipoise and above evidence for causation"? Do you see that?
 - Α. Yes.
- And it states, "The evidence is sufficient to conclude that a causal relationship is at least as likely as not, but not sufficient to conclude that a causal relationship exists. This category would be met, for example, if:
- The degree of evidence from human studies is less than sufficient but there is supplementary evidence from animal studies and/or mechanistic studies that supports causality, or
- "[2] A meta-analysis does not provide convincing evidence (e.g., the summary risk estimate is close to the null value of 1.0, i.e.,

- 1 less than or equal to 1.1), or if the meta-analysis observes a non-monotonic 2. 3 exposure-response relationship) but there is at least one epidemiological study considered to be 4 of high utility occurring after the meta-analysis 5 has been conducted, in which an association 6 7 between the exposure and increased risk of the 8 disease of interest has been found and in which chance and biases can be ruled out with 9 reasonable confidence. 10
 - "3. A meta-analysis had not been conducted, but there is at least one epidemiological study considered to be of high utility in which an association between the exposure and increased risk of ... disease of interest has been found ... in which chance and biases can be ruled out with reasonable confidence."

Do you see that?

- Α. Yes.
- Would you agree that the standards that the IOM articulated and the ATSDR used are not

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2 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. I'm going to go back to page 189 because I think that may be informative. That's page 189 of Exhibit 23.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. So the categories used by IOM in 2008 and the assessment of the evidence are the same. The details about how they grade specific things -- not grade, the details about what is required for each of those levels are not identical.
- Q. Okay. With respect to details, which of the -- of the two did you use in your assessment?
 - A. Well, let's look at my report.
- Q. Can you tell me what report you're referring to?
- 17 A. I'm in -- I don't have a number on it.

 18 The hematopoietic --
- 19 Q. That's Exhibit No. 7. And what page are 20 you on?
- 21 A. On page 7 and 8.
- Q. Okay. It looks like you've copied the

Page 231 1 same standard that the ATSDR articulated, if you're looking at pages 7 and 8; is that right? 2. 3 That's exactly what I was looking for, 4 yes. 5 0. Okay. So with respect to the details, 6 you follow the ATSDR's approach? 7 Α. Yes. 8 MR. BAIN: Okay. Let's take a break here. 9 10 MR. MANDELL: Fine. Okay. THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 11 12 2:26 p.m., and we're off the record. 13 (Recess taken) 14 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 15 2:42 p.m., and we're on the record. 16 BY MR. BAIN: 17 Dr. Bird, we're back on the record. 18 were talking about the term "equipoise and 19 above." Have you ever heard the term "equipoise"

used in the scientific community as denoting a

I don't know if I've heard that

lack of consensus among the community?

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(Exhibit 24, "Review of the 2.

3 Department of Veterans Affairs

4 Presumption Decision Process.",

marked for identification.) 5

- I'm showing you what has been marked as Exhibit No. 24, and this is a "Review of the Department of Veterans Affairs Presumption Decision Process." Do you see that?
 - Α. Yes. I've never seen this before.
- You have not seen that? If you look on page 104. Do you see where it says, "The committee concludes that the term 'equipoise' denotes a lack of consensus across the medical community and that the term as required by law to be used in the presumption decision process is inconsistent with the current scientific use"

Do you see that?

- Α. I see that's what it says.
- But you have not seen that before? Q.
- 22 No. I would say that that is one Α.

sentence on page 104 of a 160-page report that I've never read. I can't really comment on that.

- Q. And you've never heard the term "denoting a lack of consensus" among the medical community?
 - A. I've never heard that term.
- Q. Okay. Would you agree that the "equipoise and above" standard gives the veterans the benefit of the doubt when its used in the presumptive decision-making process?
 - A. Oh, say it again.
- Q. Would you agree that the "equipoise and above" standard gives the veteran the benefit of the doubt when it's used in the presumptive disease process?
- A. What is -- I guess I'm hung up on: What does "benefit of the doubt" mean?
- Q. Okay. Did you see that in Dr. Bove's testimony where he was asked, "How does the classification scheme in your view give the veteran the benefit of the doubt?"

And his answer was, "Well, having an equipoise and above does that, and I think that's

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MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. What -- I don't recall reading that, but he didn't use the term "benefit of the doubt."

 That was used in the question to him.
- Q. But he said that's what the "equipoise and above" does.
 - A. Yeah. I don't really recall it.

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- Q. Okay. Are you familiar with the term "publication bias"?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Would you agree that it's the tendency for medical journals to prefer studies that find an effect?
- MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 17 A. That's part of it, sure.
 - Q. Did you account for publication bias in any of your reports in this case?
- MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- A. Well, it's difficult to account for publication bias, except to the degree I did by

- 1 looking at abstracts, etc., that were not
- 2. published.

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- But if someone did a study and didn't publish it in any form at all, wouldn't have a way of determining that.
 - To search the medical and scientific literature, you conducted searches of the PubMed database; is that right?
 - PubMed as well as Google Scholar. Α.
- 10 Okay. You used the Google Scholar as Ο. well; is that right? 11
- 12 Α. Yes.
- And you include some of the search terms 13 Q. 14 that you used in each of your reports. If we can 15 look at one for an example.
- Okay. So, for example, if you look at 16 17 Exhibit 4, which is your report on bladder 18 cancer.
- 19 MR. MANDELL: What page?
- 0. Page 6. 2.0
- 21 Α. Yes.
- 22 And you state, under your "Methodology" Q.

section, "In my search of the medical and scientific literature, I conducted many searches of the PubMed database, using terms including (but not exclusive to)," and then you have the search terms that you used.

Do you see that?

A. Yes.

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- Q. When you say "using terms including (but not exclusive to)," are you indicating that you used additional terms or additional search strings in addition to what is listed in your report?
- A. Potentially. I don't recall all of those details. These are largely the terms. Sometimes when you do a search or you read another manuscript, you see another term used. But, in general, these are the terms that I used.

And of course I read agency reports, which had largely done these searches as well.

Q. You also indicated you identified additional articles as you were reviewing articles in the manuscripts you reviewed, right?

- That's right. The references at the back of studies that I reviewed.
 - But with respect to the search terms, we can't say that this is the only search that you did because you're indicating you might have done additional searches?
 - Correct.
 - Okay. Did you consider the searches that 0. you did to be comprehensive searches?
- 10 Α. Yes.

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- With respect to the chemicals and diseases that are at issue, are you confident that you identified all of the published articles analyzing whether the chemicals could or could not cause one of the effects at issue in this case?
- 17 I'm sorry. Say that again. Α.
- 18 MR. BAIN: Okay. I'm going to ask 19 the court reporter to read it.
- 2.0 (Record read)
- 21 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 22 Go ahead.

- A. It would not surprise me if there were articles that I did not find with my search or review, particularly around mechanistic issues, in vitro studies that may be applicable to some degree here. But the relevant studies, I have -- I've cited in reports.
- Q. Well, let me then limit the question to epidemiological studies. With respect to the chemicals and diseases at issue, would you be confident that you identified all the published epidemiological studies analyzing whether the chemicals could or could not cause one of the diseases at issue in this case?
- A. I think so. I can imagine a scenario where the keywords of a study were not PCE or perchloroethylene or tetrachlorethylene, but they used some other word, like laundry, which potentially I may not have seen. I mean, I'm speculating.
- Q. Okay. Let's look at your literature review for kidney cancer, which would be Exhibit 5. Your literature review starts at

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Page 239 1 page 31. 2. So Section VIII is your section on your 3 literature review, correct? 4 Α. Yes. And Section VIII(A) is "Occupational 5 Studies"; is that right? 6 7 Α. Yes. 8 0. And Section VIII(B) is "Water-Contamination Studies," correct? 9 10 Α. Yes. Under water contamination studies, you 11 0. 12 cite Aschengrau. I'm not sure if I pronounced that correct. Is that right? 13 14 Α. Yes. 15 And that's from 1993, right? Q. 16 That's right. Α. 17 And you cite the Andrew study from 2022; O. 18 is that correct? 19 That's right. Α. You cite the Alanee study from 2015? 20 0. And it's A-L-A-N-E-E. 21 Α. 22 Q. Yes.

- 1 (Reporter requested clarification)
- A. A-L-A-N-E-E.
 - Q. The Section C is evidence from the Camp Lejeune studies, right?
- 5 A. Yes.

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- Q. And in that section, you cite the Bove studies from 2014 and 2024, right?
 - A. Yes. As well as a 2018 morbidity study.
 - Q. Right. And you cite Rosenfeld from 2024, right?
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. You also have a section entitled

 "Studies," that did not show an association

 between the Camp Lejeune chemicals and kidney

 cancers. It's page 40. Right?
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. And in this section, you cite the
 18 1997 McLaughlin and Blot study looking at TCE and
 19 PCE and kidney cancer, right?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. You note that "This study was published in 1997, and subsequent studies have reliably

- 1 found an association with kidney cancer, " right?
 - That's right.

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- You state, "This is one example of how it Q. takes time for science evidence to accumulate and evolve, "right?
 - Α. That's right.
- And in this section, on the next page, you also cite the Vlaanderen 2013 study looking at the relationship between PC and TC and kidney cancer, right?
- Α. Yes.
 - And you cite the DeMoulin study in the Ο. next paragraph with respect to the relationship between benzene exposure and kidney cancer, right?
- Α. Yes.
 - And you cite in the next paragraph the Bosetti study from 2003 and the Wong study from 1991 with respect to vinyl chloride and kidney cancer, correct?
 - That's right. Α.
 - Have you reviewed Dr. Goodman's report on Q.

Page 242 1 kidney cancer that was produced in this case? T did. 2. 3 Q. Okay. A. Wait a second. Dr. Goodman's, which --4 5 which report? Q. Dr. Goodman was the United States 6 7 toxicology expert and --8 MR. MANDELL: No. He asked which 9 report. 10 Q. Which report? Yeah. She did a report on kidney cancer. 11 12 A. Yes. 13 Q. Okay. 14 (Exhibit 25, Table with cohort 15 studies, marked for identification.) 16 Did you review the tables at the end of 17 the report? A. I don't recall. 18 19 Okay. Let me direct your table -your -- let me direct you to Table D.1. Do you 20 21 see it? 22 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. D.1 is entitled "TCE and Kidney Cancer 2. Cohort Study Characteristics, " correct?
- 3 Yes. Α.
- Q. And do you see that this table lists over 4 25 cohort studies? 5
- 6 Α. Yes.

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- And the dates of the studies extend from 1988 to 2018. Do you see that?
- 9 Α. Yes.
- 10 And do you see the next table is Table D.2, which is "TCE and Kidney Cancer Cohort 11 12 Study Results." Do you see that?
- 13 Α. Yes.
- And this is the statistical findings of 14 15 those cohort studies, right -- or the statistical 16 analysis?
- 17 A. Well, it's some information about these studies. 18
- 19 Q. Okay. Do you see a table -- the next table is D.3, which is "TCE and Kidney Cancer 2.0 Case-Control Studies"? 21
- 22 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. And the table lists over 25 case-control studies, correct? 2.
 - Yes. Α.

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- And those studies extend from 1988 to 2022, right?
 - Α. That's right.
- And as with D.1, which was the cohort studies, in D.3, the case-control studies indicate some of the characteristics of the study, such as where it was conducted, what type of study it was, you know, what disease it looked at, what the period of the study was, characteristics of the study population, correct? MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- Some of those characteristics, yes.
- Okay. And if you look at table D.4, which is the next table, it presents some of the statistical findings from those cohort studies, correct?
 - Some of them, sure. Α.
 - Okay. So if you look at page D26. Q.

- 1 Α. Okay.
- Do you see there's a reference to the 2. 3 Vlaanderen 2013 case-control study?
 - Α. Yeah. Just one second.

5 (Pause)

6 Α. Yes.

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- And that's a study that you reference in your report, right? Page 41 at the top.
- Α. Yes.
- If you look at the study above the Vlaanderen case-control study, do you see the Christensen case-control study, 2013?
- 13 Α. Yes.
- 14 And were you aware that that study was 15 also cited in the ATSDR's 2017 assessment of the 16 evidence?
- 17 A. Oh, I don't remember everything that the 2017 cited. 18
- 19 Well, if you look at Exhibit 22, page 17. Q.
- Page? 2.0 Α.
- 21 17. Q.
- 22 A. Okay.

- Q. Do you see the Christensen study cited there?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. You don't cite the Christensen study in your report, do you?
 - A. No. I think they had some -- maybe two people with cancer. I didn't cite this study.
 - Q. That study did not find an increased risk for kidney cancer in any of the TCE exposure groups, did it?
 - A. That's right. In fact they said, "This study was subject to limitations related to the low prevalence of exposure to perchloroethylene and TCE in the Nordic population and a limited exposure assessment strategy" And only two of them had cancer.
 - Q. So there was no increased risk for either the "Any TCE exposure" group or the "Substantial TCE exposure" group in the Christensen study, correct?
- 22 A. I'm sorry?

- Q. If you look on page D26.
- A. Yes.
- Q. There was no increased risk for the

 "Any TCE exposure" group or the "Substantial TCE

 exposure" group, correct? Is that correct?
- A. Yeah. Not unexpectedly. That's exactly right.
- Q. Okay. Look on page at D12.

 Are you there?
- 10 A. No. I'm -- okay.
- Q. Do you see the Silver cohort study in 2014?
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you see the SMRs for the salaried employees?
- 16 A. Yes.
- 17 Q. 13 exposed males, do you see that?
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. And there's no increased risk for that qroup; is that correct?
- A. That's what it says. I don't remember
 the details of the Silver study to comment any

- further. I would have to review that study to
 give you a full answer.
 - Q. Okay. You don't cite the Silver study -the Silver cohort study in your kidney cancer
 report, do you?
 - A. That's correct, I do not.
 - Q. And you're aware that the Silver study was referenced in the 2017 Assessment of Evidence on page 16 of Exhibit 22?
 - A. Let's take a look.
- 11 (Pause)
- 12 A. I see it there.
- 13 | Q. Okay.

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- A. Although, strictly speaking, I'm sure it was referenced in here. It's included in a table. I don't know that it's referenced within this report.
 - Q. Okay. It's -- to be precise, it's included in that table in the report, we don't know whether it's in the text of the report; is that what you're saying?
- A. That I agree with.

Okay. Would you agree, looking at Dr. Goodman's tables, that there are a number of studies looking at the relationship between TCE and kidney cancer, including some that failed to find a statistically significant effect that aren't mentioned in your report?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- Α. Sure. I agree with that.
- Q. Okay.

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- 10 I reviewed them. I did not cite every Α. 11 study. I agree with that.
 - Okay. For example, there are some cohort studies that fail to find a statistically significant current relationship between TCE and kidney cancer, including Garabrant, Blair, Axelson, Anttila, Morgan, Ritz, Hansen, Travier, Chang, Boice, Sung, Radican, Bahr, Lipworth, Silver, and Buhagen, that are included in Dr. Goodman's tables, but are not referenced in your report.
- 21 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 22 Q. Do you agree with that?

1 Α. I agree with that.

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- And there are case-control studies, including Brownson, Jensen, Aupi; 1/2 rin, Mellemgaard, Delahunt, Dosameche, Matteoli, Christensen, and Michelet, which are included in Dr. Goodman's tables, but are not referenced in your report. Do you agree with that?
 - MR. MANDELL: Objection.
 - Α. I agree with that.
 - Okay. Let's look at your report on 0. leukemia and NHL, which is Exhibit 7. Go to page 33 of that report.

With respect to PCE and leukemia, under your PCE section on that page, you reference the Callahan 2019 report or study that discussed lymphatic hematopoetic malignancies, including leukemia, and there was a hazard ratio of 4.3 and a confidence interval of 1.4 to 13.6. Do you see that?

- Α. Yes.
- So would that statistic include not only 21 22 leukemias, but also lymphomas, in your

1 understanding?

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- A. I don't recall all the details of the Callahan study.
 - Q. Okay. So you don't know, as you sit here today, whether it would include leukemias or lymphomas?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. My answer was I don't recall the details of the Callahan study.
- Q. After that particular section, you cite some water contamination studies. Do you see that section?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. And -- give me a second.

Okay. I'm sorry. If you turn to

- 17 section XI on page 48.
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. You have a section here on "Studies That
 Did Not Show an Association Between Camp Lejeune
 Chemicals and Leukemias," right?
- 22 A. That's right.

- And that's followed by a section of "Studies That Did Not Show an Association Between Camp Lejeune Chemicals and NHL, " right?
 - Α. That's right.

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- And with respect to the studies that did not show an association between the chemicals and leukemias, you cite the Christensen study from 2013; is that right?
 - That's one of them, yes.
- And you also cite the Selden and Ahlborg study from 2011 with no significant findings relating PCE to leukemias?
- That's one of them, right. Α.
- Okay. The Selden and Ahlborg study had Ο. an SIR that was 1.01 with a 95 percent confidence interval of .51 to point -- 1.18, correct --1.81?
- 18 Α. That's correct.
- 19 Okay. Did you review Dr. Goodman's Ο. report on leukemia that was produced in this 2.0 21 case?
- 22 I've certainly read parts of it at least, Α.

Page 253 1 if not the whole thing. (Exhibit 26, Cohort study, 2. 3 marked for identification.) Did you review the tables at the end of 4 Q. the report? Do you recall that? 5 The degree to which I 6 I've seen them. 7 retained any of them, couldn't tell you. 8 Q. Okay. Do you see that there's a Table F.1 that has the cohort study characteristics for PCE and leukemia? 10 11 Α. Yes. 12 And this table lists over ten studies. Ο. 13 Do you see that? 14 Α. Yes. 15 And the dates of those studies extend Q. 16 from 1989 to 2019? 17 Α. No. 18 Q. Okay. What was wrong about that? 19 It looks like the latest one is 2011. Α.

Are you looking at page F3? It looks

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like there's a Callahan study from 2019.

Oh, I was -- I was not on F3.

- 1 Q. Okay.
- So it looks like they go through 2019. 2. Α.
- 3 Okay. So from 1989 to 2019, right? Q.
- 4 Α. Yes.
- And do you see the next table is the 5 Ο. results from the PC and leukemia cohort studies? 6
- 7 Α. Yes.

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- Ο. And it includes some of the statistical findings from those studies, right?
- 10 Α. I agree with that.
- Okay. Then if you look at Table F.6, 1 1 Ο. 12 starting on page F11.
- 13 Α. Okay.
- Do you see that this table includes PC 14 15 and leukemia case-control study characteristics,
- 17 Α. Yes.

right?

- And the table lists over seven 18 Q. 19 case-control studies, right?
- 2.0 Α. No, not over seven.
- 21 Q. Seven?
- 22 That's right. Α.

- Q. Okay. Thanks for being precise there.
 The dates of those studies extend from
- 3 | 1984 to 2014, right?
- 4 A. Yes.

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- Q. And the next table, which is Table F.7, is PCE and leukemia case-control study results, which include some of the statistical findings of those studies, right?
 - A. Yes.
- 10 Q. If you look back at page F4.
- 11 A. Okay.
- Q. Do you see the Selden and Ahlborg 2011 study cited there?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. And that's the study you mentioned in your report, right? Page 49 of Exhibit 7.
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. If you look back at the table at the study, above the Selden and Ahlborg cohort study, do you see the Pukkala cohort study in 2009?
- 21 A. Yes.
- Q. You don't cite that study in your report,

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- A. I don't recall. The name sounds familiar.
 - Q. Okay. The -- that particular study did not find an increased risk with respect to PC and leukemia; is that correct?
 - A. I don't have that study committed to memory, so I don't know the results of the study other than what's in this one part of one table, F4.
 - Q. With respect to what's reported in Table F.2 on page F4, the particular risk estimates shown there do not reflect a -- an increased risk from PC exposure to those particular exposed cases, correct?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. Well, it -- it wasn't a case-control study. So you said "cases." So it looks like it was a study of launderers with -- which don't have solvent exposure, and dry cleaners. I can't tell you anything else more about it.
 - Q. With respect to launderers and dry

- 1 cleaners to this cohort study, the -- for the men, the risk ratio was .71; is that right? 2.
 - That's right. Α.

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- And that reflects as decreased risk, correct, to the group it was being compared to, right?
- It demonstrates a 29 percent decreased risk of whatever they were -- their outcomes were.
- Okay. And for the women, the risk ratio 0. is 1.03, which is not greater than 1.1, right?
- Α. That's correct.
- So you would not consider that to be an Q. increased risk, would you?
 - 3 percent in -- I would not. Α.
- 16 If you look at page F13. Q.
- 17 Α. Okay.
- 18 Q. Do you see the Costantini case control study for 2008? 19
- 2.0 Α. Yes.
- Do you see the odds ratios for the very 21 22 low/low exposure group as being .6?

1 A. Yes.

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- Q. That doesn't reflect an increased risk of leukemia, does it?
 - A. Well, importantly, you can't take these numbers out of context. You have to understand how a study was conducted in order to really -- to give you an answer.
 - Q. Okay. But that number alone does not reflect an increased risk, does it?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. My answer is the same.
- Q. And for the medium/high group, do you see that the risk estimate is 1.0?
 - A. I see that.
- Q. And that's essentially the null value, right?
 - A. Well, that's what 1.0 is. Again, I can't comment more because I don't know the details of how this study was conducted.
 - Q. And the Costantini study in 2008 was not listed or referenced in your report was it?
- 22 A. I believe that's correct.

Q. In fact, there are a number of studies in this table -- in the tables that we looked at regarding the relationship between PC and leukemias that failed to report a statistically significant effect that aren't mentioned in your report; is that true?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. That's right. And as I acknowledged in my report. I think specifically I said in my -- "In my review of the literature, I also considered studies that did not demonstrate an association between the Camp Lejeune water contaminants and leukemia. I note a few below."
- Q. Um-hmm. So you did note some, but there's some that you did not note, correct?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
 - A. That's exactly what it says.
- Q. Okay. So among the case -- the studies that you did not note with respect to the relationship between PC and kidney -- excuse me, PC and leukemias, there are cohort studies, including Blair, Ruder, Chang, Lipworth, and

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1 Silver that you did not reference by name in your report, right? 2.

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- Α. That's probably true.
- And there are also case-control studies 0. looking at the relationship between PCE and leukemias, including Wilcosky, Miligi, Costantini, and McLean, that you didn't reference by name in your report, correct?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- I think that's true. Α.
- 12 Okay. We'll move to another topic now. 13 I want to ask you some questions about bladder 14 cancer in particular for a while.

Do you have any experience in diagnosing, treating, or consulting with plaintiffs [sic] who have bladder cancer?

- With who? Α.
- Do you have any experience in diagnosing, treating, or consulting patients who have bladder cancer?
- 22 MR. MANDELL: I think you said

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Q. Plaintiffs/patients.

MR. MANDELL: That's okay.

- A. Patients, yes. Plaintiffs, no.
- Q. Okay. What is -- what has your experience been with patients with bladder cancer?
- A. Evaluating people potentially with bladder cancer, telling someone they have bladder cancer, referring someone to urology when they have bladder cancer, or treating them when they're undergoing treatment or after treatment for their bladder cancer.
 - O. Your mic fell off.

15 (Discussion off the record)

MR. BAIN: Do you want to go off the

17 record for a minute?

18 | THE WITNESS: I'm good.

MR. MANDELL: We're okay.

Q. Do you have occasion to, you know, order
MRIs or cycoscopies [sic] to patients to detect
bladder cancer?

- A. I'm sorry. I have to do this with you, but cyc- -- that word isn't a word.
 - Q. Okay. Yeah. You know what the word is though, right?
 - A. No. There's two different -- there's two different things that are similar.
 - O. Okay. What are those?
 - A. Cystoscopy or cytology.
 - Q. Okay. And what's the distinction between those two?
- A. Cytology is looking at cells from urine,
 where bladder washes, to look for cancer cells.
 Cystoscopy is to look into someone's bladder with
 a camera.
- Q. Okay. Have you ordered either of those tests?
 - A. I have. I try not to.
 - Q. Why do you try not to?
- A. Because with cytology, my understanding
 is the cells need to be looked at fairly quickly
 after collecting them, and I worry sometimes
 if -- in an ER setting, that the cells are just

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1 going to sit around on a lab bench for a while and not get looked at. 2.

- Can you estimate how often you have Q. patients who have bladder cancer that you treat?
 - Couldn't tell you. Α.
- You don't have any certificate in urology, do you?
 - Α. I do not.

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- Q. Or oncology?
- 10 I'm not a board-certified oncologist. Α.
 - Do you know what the background risk for Ο. bladder cancer is in the adult population?
 - Α. I don't.
 - Do you know what the most common age range is for diagnosis of bladder cancer?
- 16 Well, older individuals. The five-year 17 or decile of years that is highest risk, I don't know, but it would be older individuals. 18
- 19 Do you know what the most common risk factors for bladder cancer are? 2.0
- Likely the greatest modifiable risk 21 22 factor is smoking.

- Are you aware of any other common risk factors besides smoking?
 - I suspect that being overweight or obese, working in the aniline dye industry, having schistosomiasis infection, which is an issue in Africa. I suspect -- I think that recurrent or chronic urinary infections. Those are probably the big ones.
 - Q. Are you aware of any geographic correlation with bladder cancer?
- A. Geographic -- I'm sorry. I don't 11 12 understand.
 - Q. Geographic location as being a risk factor for bladder cancer. People in certain areas of the country, certain area of the world that are greater risk of bladder cancer?
 - A. Well, short of chronic schistosomiasis infection, I don't.
 - Have you ever had occasion to do a PubMed search for a patient you see in the ER?
 - Oh, sure, I do literature searches. Α.
 - Q. Okay. Like can you give me an example of

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1 | what circumstance that would occur?

- A. I'm trying to think this weekend when I worked.
- I mean, I can't remember from this weekend, but it's a routine part of my medical care, particularly when I'm working with residents or trainees.
- Q. So let me refer you back to your bladder cancer report, which is Exhibit 4. And if you can look at page 15. Are you there?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. You state in the section on trichloroethylene, second paragraph, that "The scientific community agrees that TCE is carcinogenic." IRC, otherwise known as IARC, "classifies it as a known human carcinogen, citing 'sufficient evidence in humans for the carcinogenicity of trichloroethylene,'" and you cite IRC 2014 at 189, correct?
 - A. Yes.
- 21 Q. Okay.
- 22 (Exhibit 27, Excerpts from the 2014

- Q. Okay. Dr. Bird, I've handed you what's been marked as Exhibit 27, which is excerpts from the 2014 IARC report on "Trichloroethylene, Tetrachloroethylene, and Some Other Chlorinated Agents." Do you see that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And if you look at page 189, which is the page you cited in your report. Are you there?
- A. Yes.

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- Q. In this evaluation, IARC identifies TCE as causing kidney cancer. It says, "There is sufficient evidence ... for the carcinogenicity of trichloroethylene. Trichloroethylene causes cancer of the kidney. A positive association has been observed between exposure to trichloroethylene in non-Hodgkin lymphoma and liver cancer."
- 20 Do you see that?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. It doesn't identify a bladder cancer in

- 1 that section, does it?
- In that section, in 2014, no. 2.
- 3 It doesn't identify any leukemias either, Q. does it? 4
- 5 A. Stand by.
- 6 (Pause)
- 7 In this one page of this monograph, it 8 does not.
- Q. Are you aware of there being a subsequent 10 IR -- IARC monograph on TCE and tetrachlorethylene to this one in 2014? 11
- 12 I seem to recall only this Volume 106, 13 which was 2014.
 - Q. Okay. If you go back to your bladder cancer report, on page, 15 you also have a section on benzene. Do you see that?
- 17 Α. Stand by.
- 18 (Pause)
- 19 Α. Yes.

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20 And on the next page, you have a 21 section -- or you have a statement at the top of 22 page 16, "Every regulatory body agrees benzene is

Page 268 a known human carcinogen, " and you cite IARC 2018, 1 2. right? 3 Yes. Α. 4 Q. Okay. As well as National Toxicology 5 Program 2021 and the United States EPA 2007. 6 7 Q. Okay. 8 (Exhibit 28, 2018 IARC monograph. on benzene, marked for 9 identification.) 10 I'm showing you what has been marked 11 Ο. 12 Exhibit 28. Do you recognize this as the 2018 IARC monograph on benzene? 13 14 Α. I do. 15 And I want to refer you to pages 292 and Q. 16 293. 17 Okay. Α. 18 Q. Actually I want to refer you to page 297. 19 In the evaluation section of this report, page 297, with respect to cancer in humans, the 20 report concludes, "There is sufficient evidence 21

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in humans for the carcinogenicity of benzene.

1 | Benzene causes acute myeloid leukemia in adults.

"Positive associations have been observed for non-Hodgkin lymphoma, chronic lymphoid leukemia, multiple myeloma, chronic myeloid leukemia, acute myeloid leukemia in children, and cancer of the lung.

"A small minority of the Working Group considered that benzene also causes non-Hodgkin lymphoma. A separate small minority considered the [sic] positive association was not observed for cancer of the lung."

Do you see that?

- A. Yes, that's what it says.
- Q. The conclusion of the IARC evaluation of cancer in humans does not list benzene as causing bladder cancer, right?
 - A. On this one page, 297, it does not.
- Q. And you agree, 297 is the evaluation and rationale, which is essentially the conclusion of the report, right?
 - A. Well, that's what it's titled.
 - Q. And it also does not identify bladder

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1	cancer	as	having	а	positive	association	with
2	benzene	, (correct	?			

- A. Right. This was published in 2018. So the data evaluation was earlier than that. And on page 16 of my report, I reference at least two studies that were published subsequent to this IARC monograph.
- Q. Okay. This IARC monograph doesn't even reference there being positive associations observed between benzene and bladder cancer, does it?
- A. Oh, stand by.

13 (Pause)

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- 14 A. Sorry. I'm sorry. What was your 15 question?
 - Q. That this evaluation and rationale at the end of the IARC report does in the even recognize bladder cancer as having a positive association observed with respect to benzene.
 - A. On --
- MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 22 A. On page 297, that is correct.

- Q. Okay. Have you reviewed the IARC reports 1 2. on -- have you reviewed the IARC report on vinyl 3 chloride?
 - Α. Stand by.

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(Pause)

- Α. Yes. I cite that on page 16 of my report. Monograph 100F.
- Okay. Would you agree IARC's report on 0. vinyl chloride did not conclude that there was either a causation or association between vinyl chloride and bladder cancer specifically?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- I do not have that monograph committed to Α. memory, so couldn't tell you.
- Okay. Have you reviewed the IARC report Q. on perchloroethylene?
 - I thought we already looked at that.
- Q. So that is the same report as the one for trichloroethylene; is that right?
 - Α. That's my understanding.
- 21 Q. Okay.
- 22 That's my recollection. Α.

- Q. You mentioned that smoking is an established risk factor for bladder cancer; is that right?
 - A. I don't think that's a term I used, but it is a risk factor for bladder cancer.
 - Q. And I think you mentioned that age is also a risk factor for bladder cancer; is that right? Or do you consider it to be a risk factor?
 - A. Well, it's not modifiable, but bladder cancer's more common in older individuals.
 - Q. And what about sex, is there a distinction between the sexes with respect to the occurrence of bladder cancer?
- A. Oh, the -- oh, I don't recall. There probably is. I just don't recall.
- Q. For the bladder cancer epidemiology studies that you reviewed, did you consider whether or not smoking, age, and sex were taken into account in those studies?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Okay. Are you aware that the American

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Cancer Society has stated that "Smoking is a major risk factor for bladder cancer. People who smoke are at least 3 times as likely to get bladder cancer as people would don't" smoke?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- Q. And "Smoking causes about half of all bladder cancers." Are you aware of that statement?
 - A. I'm not aware, no. It seems about right.
- Q. Do you believe that epidemiological studies looking at bladder cancer should control for smoking?
- A. I can't just say yes or no to that because it depends on the specifics of a study. In general, one should try to account for potential confounders, but you have to take the entire study into consideration.
- Q. Okay. In -- on page 15, back on page 15 of your report, if you look at -- this is the section I believe on PCE, but at the very end, you're discussing an EPA report, it appears, from 2012 regarding PCE and potential relationship

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- 1 with bladder cancer. Do you see that?
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And at the end of that section, you say Ο. that the -- I think you're saying here that the EPA "concluded that 'Confounding by smoking is an unlikely explanation for the findings, given the adjustment for smoking by Pesch et al., " referring to a 2000 study, "'and other case-control studies.'"

Do you see that?

- Yes, that's what it says.
- So that -- you thought that that was significant, to reference the "confounding by smoking" was taken into account by those particular studies, right?
- Well, specifically, the EPA felt that was important.
- Ο. Okay. And do you feel that's important, the confounding by smoking be taken into account by epidemiological studies?
- So, in general, I would say yes, but more importantly, it depends on how a study is

- 1 conducted. And there's various ways to account for something like smoking. So I guess my answer 2.
- 3 In general, yes, but it depends.
- 4 Q. Okay.
- MR. BAIN: You want to take a break 5
- 6 now?
- 7 MR. MANDELL: Sure. How long you
- 8 want to take?
- THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 9
- 3:41 p.m., and we're off the record. 10
- (Recess taken) 11
- 12 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is
- 13 3:56 p.m. We're on the record.
- 14 BY MR. BAIN:
- 15 O. Okay, Dr. Bird. We are back from a
- 16 break, and I want to continue to refer to your
- 17 bladder cancer study and report and refer you to
- 18 page 45.
- 19 Α. Yes.
- And under the consistency criteria in the 2.0
- Bradford Hill analysis, you refer, as an example, 21
- 22 to the Hadkhale study from 2017. Do you see

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- Α. Yes.
 - And I'd like to refer you to that study. Q. (Exhibit 29, Hadkhale study, Marked for identification?)
- Dr. Bird, I've marked as Exhibit 29 the study "Occupational exposure to solvents and bladder cancer: A population-based case control study in Nordic countries, " by Hadkhale, et al. Do you see that?
- 10
- 11 Α. Yes.
- 12 And are you aware whether the Hadkhale 13 study controlled for smoking?
 - Let's see. I don't have this committed Α. to memory.
 - Q. Okay. If I can have you turn to the second page, page 1737. Do you see the reference under the methods section that "Information on smoking, socioeconomic status and other non-occupational risk factors were [sic] not available"?
 - A. Yes.

- Q. Would that be a weakness of a study, in your opinion?
 - A. It's a limitation.
 - Q. And that's only --
 - A. Hold on.
- 6 Q. Okay.

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- A. However, I would have to review all this to see if they did some sensitivity analyses or looked at other diseases associated with smoking, such as COPD or lung cancer, in order to fully answer that question.
- Q. Okay.
 - A. I -- hold on. I think -- actually, I think maybe that was done.
 - Q. Well, if you look at the page 1745. Do you see the first full paragraph, where it states, "The confirmed association between smoking and bladder cancer makes it important to estimate the role of smoking as a potential confounder. We did not have direct information about smoking of the individuals of the NOCCA cohort, but the aggregate level information can

1 be estimated ... on the basis of lung cancer risk in each of the occupations." 2.

Is that what you're referring to?

- That's exactly what I'm referring to. Α.
- Okay. And in your view, is that an 0. adequate substitute for having direct information on smoking?
- Α. It's a way to attempt to account for confounders, and it looks like they did it here.
- And you're -- are you aware of how the ATSDR studies attempted to account for smoking?
- Just one second. It occurred to me, I think I may have misspoken earlier. Just one I want to -- I thought maybe I misspoke second. a while ago now that I see the Hadkhale study, but I -- I can't recall.

Which Bove study are you talking about?

- Q. Let's say, for example, the 2024 Bove study, do you know if there was an attempt to account for smoking?
- This feels like a memory test, but I Α. believe they looked at other diseases associated

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with smoking, such as COPD and lung cancer, in Bove 2024, but I may be misremembering.

Q. Okay. That's okay.

The -- with respect to the consistency criteria on page 45, you reference the Hadkhale study and ATSDR 2018 morbidity study, right?

A. Yes.

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Q. It showed an increased risk of bladder cancer.

However, as we went over earlier today, the other -- some of the ATSDR studies did not indicate an increased hazard ratio of over 1.1 for bladder cancer.

For example, the 2024 cancer incidence study with the Marine/Navy cohort was at 1.09, the 2024 incidence cancer study for the civilian cohort was at 1.10, the 2024 mortality study for the Navy/Marine cohort was at 1.02, and the 2024 mortality study for the civilian cohort was at 2.65.

Those studies do not meet your standard for an increased risk for bladder cancer; is that

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2 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. Not every study has the same -demonstrates the same increased risk. It's the
 nature of the science. I specifically mention
 Hadkhale here and AT- -- Untied States ATSDR
 2018.
- Q. Yes. But you don't mention these other studies where the hazard ratio was below 1.1.

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- A. I don't specifically mention in this section all other studies. I agree with that.
- Q. Would you agree that the other studies where there wasn't an increased risk of over 1.1 do not reflect consistency with the studies that you do cite?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. Well, I don't recall. You just mentioned some hazard ratios from studies.
 - O. Um-hmm.
- A. I don't know that that's true because I don't have them committed to memory.

Not every study will show the same or similar increased risk. I cite two studies that are consistent.

The -- well, at least the civilian study, 0. and I can -- I can show you that one. That's 2024 mortality studies. It's Exhibit 17.

If you look, for example --

- Α. Hold on for a second. I'm in my pile. don't think it's in there. Did you label 17 with a 17?
- No. I'm sorry. I'm looking at No. 18. 11 Ο. 12 I'm sorry. 18, the mortality study. I'm sorry. 13 MR. MANDELL: That's okay.
 - There are too many exhibits. 0.
 - Α. I saw -- I saw 18 in here. Hold on. No, I got it right here.
- 17 0. Page 10.
- 18 Α. Okay.

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You see for urinary bladder, the comparison between Camp Lejeune and Camp Pendleton with respect to mortality for civilians is .65. Do you see that?

1 A. Yes.

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- Q. And so that shows a decreased risk of 35 percent when comparing mortality at Camp Lejeune to Camp Pendleton, right?
- A. In civilian workers, that's what those numbers mean.
 - Q. And that would be inconsistent with these -- the Hadkhale study and the ATSDR 2018 morbidity that you cite in the consistency part of your report.
 - A. It's different than those.
- Q. You're not willing to say "inconsistent," you're just saying "different"?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. My answer is the same.
- Q. Do you recall some of the other studies that we looked at in Dr. Goodman's tables in which there was no increased risk detected between TC and bladder cancer?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

A. I remember looking at her table, which had some statistics on it.

Q. And to the extent that those studies did not find an increased risk, that would be inconsistent with the two studies you cite here, Hadkhale and ATSDR 2018, right?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. That's an oversimplification. To fully answer that question, you have to consider the details of how each study was conducted.
- Q. Okay. Take a look at the Hadkhale study again, which is Exhibit 29. I hope it's --
 - A. It's on top.
- Q. Okay. If you look at page 1737. And do you see in the text on the right-hand column, the paragraph that begins, "Exposure was assumed to start at the age of 20 years and end at the index date or at 65 years"?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. How did you -- or did you take that into consideration at all in comparison to the potential exposure at Camp Lejeune?
- A. I'm sorry. I don't understand the question.

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- Q. Well, do you know what the average length of a person residing in Camp Lejeune was?
 - A. Well, it depends on their role.
 - Q. What's your understanding?
- A. That the mean duration for Navy and Marine Corps was 18 months. And I can't remember what the civilian was, but -- it was longer than that, but I can't remember the number.
- Q. Did you take into account that the duration of exposure in the Hadkhale study was likely much longer than the duration of exposure for most people who were at Camp Lejeune?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. Yes. That the duration of exposure was likely longer, that's true.
- Q. In addition to TCE and PCE and benzene, there were some other exposures -- or other chemicals involved in the exposures at issue in the Hadkhale study, weren't there?

If you look in the shaded section at the top, it mentions some other "aromatic hydrocarbon solvents." Do you see that?

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- 1 Α. Yes.
- 2. And one of those is trichloroethylene. 0.
- 3 Do you see that?
- 4 Α. Yes.

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- And this was based on occupational exposure levels for dry cleaners, correct, or people working in the dry cleaning industry?
 - I think it was not dry cleaning alone. I'd have to look at the details. I thought this was -- sorry. I don't want to misremember.
- Q. Well, yeah, look at Table 2. I guess it wasn't dry cleaning alone. There's the different occupations that were looked at here.
 - There you go. Α.
- 15 Is that correct? Q.
- 16 Yes. Α.
- 17 Okay. And again, this was an estimated Ο. 18 lifetime exposure or lifetime work exposure, at 19 least?
- Stand by. I don't have this committed to 2.0 Α. 21 memory.
- 22 Q. Okay.

- 1 | A. I'm sorry. The question was?
- Q. The exposure period was an assumed work life from 20 to age 65, I think we talked about that before, right?
- 5 A. Or the -- or an index date if before 65.
 - Q. Okay. Would you agree that how exposure was measured in this study can result in exposure misclassification?
 - A. Sure. Exposure misclassification can happen.
- Q. Did you account for that in evaluating this study?
 - A. Sure. It's part of an overall evaluation of a study.
- Q. And if you look at page 1745, at the very conclusion of the study, do you see where it says, "Future studies are required with
- 18 high-quality" --

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- 19 A. Can you --
- 20 MR. MANDELL: It's the last sentence 21 in the study.
 - A. Okay. The very last sentence?

1 Q. Yeah.

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- A. All right.
- Q. You see where it says, "Future studies are required with high-quality quantitative exposure measurement to explore in more detail the association of agent-specific exposure and the risk of bladder cancer"? Do you see that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And did you account for that in your consideration of the report?
- A. I read that. That's part of my evaluation of the study. I don't know how you specifically account for that one sentence.
- Q. Okay. All right. Let me turn to leukemia and NHL and ask you some questions about that report.
- A. While I'm thinking of it, I think I misspoke at one point. It had something to do with the Hadkhale study, and I think I may have misspoken about TCE versus PCE versus perchloroethylene versus tetrachlorethylene. So tetrachlorethylene, perchloroethylene, and PCE

- 1 are the same.
- 2. Um-hmm. 0.
- 3 But I think I may have misspoken at Α. 4 one point.
- Well, if you -- if you mix that up, you 5 Ο. have a chance to look at your deposition 6 7 transcript, and I think something like that can 8 be corrected.
 - Got it. Α.
- 10 Like if you said PCE and you meant to say Ο. TCE --11
- 12 Α. Right.
- 13 -- that's something you can correct. Q.
- 14 Okay. Α.
- 15 With respect to leukemia, do you know Q. 16 what the background risk for leukemia in the 17 adult population is?
- 18 Α. Low.
- 19 Okay. And what about non-Hodgkin's Ο. 20 lymphoma?
- Low, but higher than acute leukemia. 21
- 22 Do you know what the most common risk Q.

1 | factors for leukemia are?

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- A. I don't recall, but it probably -- I estimate it depends on the type of leukemia.
 - Q. Okay. And why is the type of leukemia important with respect to risk factors?
 - A. Well, I didn't say it's important.
 - Q. Okay. Well, why does it depend on the type of leukemia?
 - A. I suspect the type of leukemia risk factors may differentially increase the risk for different kind of leukemias.
 - Q. And can you name any of the risk factors for any different types of leukemia?
 - A. Ionizing radiation, Philadelphia chromosome. Those are the only ones that are coming to mind.
 - Q. What about risk factors for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, are you aware of any of those?
- A. Certainly age, but that's non-modifiable.
- 20 I don't know about ionizing radiation.
- 21 Immunosuppression. That's what comes to mind.
- Q. Do you know whether smoking is a risk

- 1 factor for either leukemia or non-Hodgkin's
- 2 | lymphoma?

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- A. Oh, I don't recall.
- 4 Q. Okay. Turning to your
- 5 leukemia/non-Hodgkin's lymphoma report, which is 6 Exhibit 7. And if you can look at page 9.
- 7 A. Um-hmm.
 - Q. Do you see on the top of that page, you state, "Moreover, ATSDR has concluded that there is 'sufficient evidence for causation for benzene and all leukemia types, i.e., ALL, CLL, AML, and CML' as well as for benzene exposure with NHL."
 - Do you see that?
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. Is it also your opinion that benzene causes those different subtypes of leukemia, all those different somebody types, ALL, CLL, AML, and CML?
- 19 A. Let's see what I wrote.
- Q. What page of your report are you referring to?
- A. Page 8, "Summary of Opinions."

1 Q. Um-hmm.

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- A. So I'm sorry, the question?
- Q. The question, is it your opinion that benzene causes all types of leukemia, including ALL, CLL, AML, and CML?
- A. Yeah. My -- I did not specifically call that out, I think, or specify that in my report. I used NHL and leukemia overall.

And then I -- I don't have my report committed to memory, but I specifically cite the ATSDR for saying that there's sufficient evidence for all of the -- ALL, CLL, AML, and CML.

- Q. And do you agree with that?
- A. I don't recall, as I sit here today, going through each type of leukemia specifically, so my report stands for itself.
- Q. Well, for example, there's a plaintiff in this case that has CML. Would you be offering a general causation opinion in that particular case that exposure to benzene is a -- can be a cause of that particular person's CML?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. That sounds like a specific causation opinion. I'm here to talk about general causation.
 - Q. No. I don't think this is specific causation. The question, is benzene exposure capable of causing CML, will you be offering that opinion in any cases?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. My answer's the same. I think I'm here to talk about general causation. I've listed leukemia and NHL. And to ask about a specific plaintiff or a specific disease I think is specific causation.
- Q. So you think asking about whether a chemical could cause a particular subtype of leukemia is a specific causation question?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 18 A. I do.

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- Q. Okay. So if you look at page 49 of your report.
 - A. Did you say 45 or 49?
- 22 Q. 49. Look at the last paragraph in

- 1 | Section 12. Do you see that?
- A. Yes.

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Q. It says, "In 2009, Lamb et al published a systematic review and meta-analysis of case-control studies and concluded that chronic myelogenous leukemia ... does not appear to be related to benzene exposure."

Do you see that?

- A. Yes.
 - Q. Do you agree with that?
- 11 A. I'm trying to -- I don't have this report
 12 committed to memory. Stand by. Let me -- I may
 13 be able to get that another way.
 - Q. Do you need to go off the record?
- 15 A. No. I'm just about ready.
- So the question was, do I disagree with the results presented on page 49 with the Lamb study?
- 19 O. Yes.
- 20 A. I do.
- 21 Q. You disagree with that?
- 22 A. Yes.

- 1 Q. Okay. And what's the basis of your 2. disagreement?
 - Well, I'm trying to -- during that time, Α. I was trying to refresh myself with my report. And earlier I cite studies that did show causal relationship between benzene and CML, along with the other citations I gave. So I do disagree with that.
 - Okay. Okay. Turning back to the Ο. 2017 Assessment of Evidence, which is Exhibit 22 --
- 12 Α. Stand by.
- 13 -- I ask you to look at page 55. Q.
- 22? 14 Α.

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- 15 Yes. There it is. Turn to page 55. Q.
- 16 Okay. Α.
- 17 And do you see, under "Benzene," where there is the remark that "AML is known to be 18 19 caused by benzene exposure, "citing IARC 2012.
- "IARC ... has concluded that positive 2.0
- associations exist for ALL and CLL. 21
- 22 epidemiological evidence from the meta-analyses,"

Page 295 1 and it's citing Khalade 2010 and Vlaanderen 2011, 2012, "indicate [sic] that benzene causes all 2. 3 types of leukemia." 4 Do you see that? Α. Yes. 5 6 Did you review those meta-analyses 7 yourself? 8 Α. Yes. 9 Q. Okay. Well, I -- I remember one Vlaanderen. 10 Α. Ι don't know if that was 2011 or 2012. 11 12 0. Did you review Khalade 2010? 13 It certainly -- the name sounds familiar. Α. 14 Okay. 0. 15 (Exhibit 30, Khalade 2010 study, 16 marked for identification?) 17 I'm showing you what's been marked as 18 Exhibit 30, which is "Exposure to benzene at work 19 and the risk of leukemia: A systematic review and meta-analysis." Do you see that? 20 21 Α. Yes.

Q. And that's the Khalade study that the

- 1 ATSDR cited, right, Khalade 2010?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And if you look at page 6.
- 4 A. Okay.
- Do you see at the bottom of the first 5 Ο. 6 column, there is a couple of sentences that say, 7 "Although there was a significant association 8 between exposure to benzene and the broad category of any leukemia, " referring to ICD C91 9 10 to 95, "there was substantial heterogeneity in the effects on specific leukemias [sic] ranging 11 12 from a strong summary effect from AML to no 13 effect for CML. Our results indicate that the 14 use of the broad category of any leukemia 15 underestimates the magnitude of the effect on 16 AML."
 - Do you see that?
- 18 A. Yes.

- Q. And were you aware that Khalade did not find an association between benzene and the subtypes of CML or AM -- ALL?
- 22 And if you look on page 3, it's referring

- to the different articles. There's no articles 1 for ALL, and the section we just read indicated 2. no effect for CML. Are you aware of that? 3
 - Α. Stand by.

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(Pause)

- You didn't provide the supplemental file, so I can't comment on that. It's -- I don't --I'm not provided any of the data.
- Q. Okay. So without having a supplemental table, you can't comment on that?
- Well, that's where all the data lies, is 11 12 in Supplemental Table 1.
 - Even though it's summarized in the Q. results here?
 - Oh, I would -- I need to see the data. Α.
- 16 Okay. Q.
- 17 So I can't comment. Α.
 - Q. I want to discuss another subtype in more detail, which is ALL, acute lymphocytic leukemia. You cite only one study that identified an elevated risk of ALL on page 15, which is
- 22 Cohn 1994, if you look at your report on page 15.

- 1 A. Page 15?
- 2 Q. Yes.
- 3 A. Okay.
- 4 Q. Let me hand you the Cohn study.

5 (Exhibit 31, Cohn study,

6 marked for identification.)

- Q. Are you familiar with the Cohn study?
- 8 Did you review this?
- 9 A. Oh, absolutely. I don't have it 10 committed to memory.
- 11 O. And this has been marked as Exhibit 31;
- 12 is that right?
- 13 A. It has.
- Q. Would you agree the study was an
- 15 ecological study? Do you know what an ecological
- 16 study is?
- 17 A. I do. I -- hold on because I don't think
- 18 | this is an ecological study.
- 19 Q. If you look under the study populations
- 20 and methods, doesn't that show that it was an
- 21 | ecological study?
- 22 A. No. You have to look at the details of

- 1 | how they did the study. So, for instance, on
- 2 page 557, they actually estimated exposure.
- 3 That's the last paragraph in the left-hand
- 4 column.

- Q. Um-hmm.
- A. So without taking time to review this
 whole study, if they are doing exposure
 estimates, then I would not classify this as an
 ecological study.
 - Q. Okay. How would you classify this study?
- 11 A. As an epidemiologic study.
- 12 Q. What type of epidemiological study?
- A. Well, let's review the details.
- I think it was a cohort study, not a case control.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 A. Oh, yeah. They -- they estimated 18 exposures. So this is not ecological.
- 19 Q. What page are you referring to?
- 20 A. Page 560, Table 4; page 560, Table 3;
- 21 | page 559, Table 2; page 558, Table 1.
- Q. Okay. So according to those tables,

- based on your review of those, you do not believe
 this is an ecological study, but an
 epidemiological study, a cohort study?
 - A. Again, I did not take the time to review every word in this, but that is my recollection.
 - Q. Okay. And what is your understanding of what an ecological study is?
 - A. Ecological studies are typically when you're -- one is looking at an area or a population comparing that to another area or another population when you don't have exposure assessments, typically.
 - Q. Are your -- is your understanding that this study gathered individual specific information regarding exposure and development of ALL?
 - A. Can you -- so I can understand the context, can you direct me where you're reading?
 - Q. Well, I'm just asking you, is it your understanding that this study gathered individual specific information regarding exposure to TCE and PCE and development of ALL?

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- A. Oh, I would have to look in the methods
 more to give you that exact thing. But they -they categorized exposures to TCE throughout
 this.
 - Q. Okay. Turn to page 56 of your report.

 Are you there?
 - A. Yes. Sorry.
 - Q. In your Bradford Hill analysis for consistency criteria, you reference the Vlaanderen 2011 manuscript and the Bassig 2024 study; is that correct?
- 12 A. Let me read that.

13 (Pause)

14 A. Yes.

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- Q. And those were the only two studies you cite with respect to this consistency analysis, right?
- 18 A. For the consistency, yes.
- Q. You're aware that the 2024 cancer
 incidence study for the Navy/Marine cohort did
 not find a hazard ranking -- or ratio above 1.1
 for leukemias generally or for NHL?

Page 302 1 MR. MANDELL: Objection. I don't recall. 2. Α. 3 Q. Okay. Take a look at Exhibit 17. 17's not marked, so which one is it 4 Α. 5 again? 6 Q. Oh, it's the cancer incidence study. 7 Α. Okay. 8 MR. MANDELL: Do you want to borrow mine? 9 10 THE WITNESS: Sure. 11 MR. BAIN: Thank you. 12 Ο. If you look to --13 MR. MANDELL: I need to borrow yours. 14 MR. BAIN: That would be difficult. 15 MR. MANDELL: It's okay. It's okay. 16 If you look at page -- or Table 3. Q. 17 Okay. Α. 18 Q. Do you see that the adjusted hazard 19 ratios for leukemias is at 1.07. Do you see that? 2.0 21 Α. Yes. 22 And for non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, Q.

- it's 1.01. Do you see that? 1
- 2. Α. Yes.

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- 3 And neither of those are above 1.1, Q. 4 correct?
- 5 That's correct. Α.
 - And if you look at Table 4, which is the comparison of civilian outcomes for Camp Lejeune versus Camp Pendleton.
 - Do you see, for leukemias, the adjusted hazard ratio is .86?
- No. I think that's -- oh, you're right. 11 12 Yes.
- 13 And for non-Hodgkin's lymphomas? Q.
- 1.19. 14 Α.
- 15 1.19, okay. You didn't cite any of these 16 particular findings in your report regarding 17 consistency; is that correct?
- 18 Α. In that consistency paragraph, I did not. 19 That's right.
 - And with respect to leukemias for the civilian population with the .86 hazard ratio, would you agree that that's inconsistent with

- these other findings that you cite with respect
 to a relationship between the Camp Lejeune
 chemicals and leukemia?
 - A. That result for leukemia is lower.
 - Q. And it's inconsistent, isn't it?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

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- A. It's lower.
- Q. It's lower than 1, right?
- A. It is -- 0.86 is lower than one.
- Q. And that reflects that there's a decreased risk of leukemia for the civilian population of Camp Lejeune versus Camp Pendleton?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- A. In this study of civilians, it represents a 14 percent decreased risk.
- 17 Q. Okay.
- MR. BAIN: Can we go off the record for a minute?
- MR. MANDELL: Of course.
- 21 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is
- $22 \mid 4:41 \text{ p.m.}$, and we're off the record.

- 1 (Recess taken)
- 2 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is
- $3 \mid 4:53 \text{ p.m.}$, and we're on the record.
- 4 BY MR. BAIN,

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- Q. Dr. Bird, how often do you treat patients with kidney cancer?
 - A. It's hard to say how many times or how often I treat someone with one specific disease. It happens. It's not a daily occurrence. It's not a weekly occurrence.
- Q. So is your testimony that you've treated patients with each of the conditions that are at issue here, bladder cancer, kidney cancer, Parkinson's disease, leukemia, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma?
 - A. Certainly.
- Q. You have? On more than one occasion for each of those diseases?
- 19 A. Absolutely.
- Q. Okay. What is the background risk for kidney cancer in the general population?
- 22 A. Oh, I don't know the background risk.

- 1 It's very similar to -- it would be very similar 2. to bladder cancer.
 - Q. And what's the most common age for diagnosis of kidney cancer?
 - Age is a non-modifiable factor for kidney cancer, so typically older age has an increased risk.
 - Ο. What are the most common risk factors for kidney cancer?
 - So male gender, some genetic things like Wilms tumor. There are others that -- it's not coming to me.
 - Smoking and --Q.
 - Oh, I'm sorry. Sorry. So hypertension. Chronic renal disease, so being on dialysis. Ι believe smoking as well, being overweight or Those are the ones that come to mind. obese.
 - Q. Okay. I'm going to ask you about just a few of the studies that you cite with respect to kidney cancer. You're kidney cancer report is Exhibit 5. Do you have that in front of you?
 - I do. Α.

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- 1 Q. If you turn to page 33.
 - Α. Okay.

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- Do you see that one of the studies that Q. you cited supporting the relationship between TCE and kidney cancer is the A-L-A-N-E-E 2015 study?
- Α. Yes.
 - And specifically, you cite the study and state that "the data indicate that TCE exposure is predisposing patients to a more aggressive form of kidney cancer with a resultant higher mortality rate."

12 Do you see that?

13 Yes. Α.

(Exhibit 32, Alanee report, 14 15 marked for identification.)

> I've marked as Exhibit 34 the study "Trichloroethylene" --

> > MS. ADAMS: 32.

Excuse me. I meant -- marked as Ο. Exhibit 32 the study "Trichloroethylene is Associated with Kidney Cancer Mortality: A Population-based Analysis, " by Alanee,

- 1 A-L-A-N-E-E, et al. Do you see that?
- 2. Yes. Α.

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- If you look on page 4011 of the study Q. with the discussion.
- Um-hmm. Α.
 - Do you see where it says in the first full paragraph in the right-hand column, "In this analysis, we found TCE to be significantly associated with mortality from kidney cancer. Due to lack of extensive research, and difficulty of measuring environmental exposure, it is still hard to conclude that TCE exposure is definitely

Do you see that?

associated with kidney cancer."

- Α. I see that. They cite the National Toxicology Program report from 2000.
 - Okay. And do you see further down on that paragraph, it states, "Our results show absence of any association between TCE exposure and kidney cancer incidence."

Do you see that?

Α. Yes.

- Q. You mentioned previously some of the established risk factors for kidney cancer, including high blood pressure, smoking. I don't know, did you mention obesity?
 - A. I said overweight or obese.
 - Q. Okay. And age as well?
 - A. Yes. That's obviously non-modifiable.
- Q. In your opinion, is it important to control for these risk factors in an epidemiological study?
- A. In general, one should try to account for confounders, but it depends on the details of each study.
- Q. To the extent these factors are not controlled for in the study, in the details of the study, there's a risk of confounding, would you agree with that?
 - A. I would generally agree with that.
- Q. For each of the epidemiological studies you cited in your kidney cancer report, did you determine whether the study controlled for the risk factors of smoking, obesity, high blood

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- 1 pressure, and age?
- 2. That is part of my standard evaluation of 3 a study.
 - If you turn to page 8 of your study -- or your report, I'm sorry, on kidney cancer, which is Exhibit No. 5.
 - Α. Okay.

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Do you see where you state that 0. "Numerous studies provide evidence of specific levels of exposure - some of which are similar in intensity with the contamination observed at Camp Lejeune"

Do you see that?

- And the rest of the sentence is "that are Α. associated with increased risks for kidney cancer [sic]."
- Yes. "Cancery," but I think that's a Ο. typo.
 - Yes. It should be "cancer," not cancery. Α.
- And after that particular sentence, you 2.0 cite several studies, and you have the exposure 21 22 levels for those studies, right?

1 A. That's right.

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- Q. Would you agree that an occupational exposure of a person who worked with TCE for 13 1/2 years would not be an exposure similar of intensity for people who were at Camp Lejeune?
 - A. It may.
 - Q. It may be similar?
- A. It may be similar. It may be different. It depends on the details of a specific person.
- Q. If a person was in the military and was stationed at Camp Lejeune for -- between one to three years, would you say that that exposure was similar to an occupational exposure of a person would worked with TCE for 3 1/2 -- 3 -- 13 1/2 years?
- A. Again, it depends on the specifics of those individuals.
- Q. So you're saying there could be people who were stationed at Camp Lejeune for one to three years who would have an occupational exposure similar to a person who worked with TC for 13 1/2 years?

- That -- Camp Lejeune's not an occupational exposure.
 - That's the point I'm getting at. Q.
 - But you said -- well, you can read back Α. the question.
 - Q. Okay. Well, let me correct. It's getting a little late in the day, so maybe I did make a misstatement. I appreciate you pointing that out.

Would you say that a person who was stationed at Camp Lejeune for one to three years, any person, could have a similar exposure to an occupational exposure of a person who has worked with TCE for 13 1/2 years?

- Depending on the individuals, what they Α. did, what their exposure was, yes, it could be similar. I go through that in my report.
- Q. Can you give me a hypothetical example of a person who was at Camp Lejeune between one to three years who would have a similar exposure to someone who worked with TCE for 13 1/2 years?
 - You said TCE for 13 1/2 years? Α.

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- 1 Q. Yeah.
- 2. Didn't you say PCE before? Α.
- 3 Q. Yes.
- Α. 4 So what -- I'm sorry.
- 5 0. Can you give me an example, a 6 hypothetical example, of a person who was at 7 Camp Lejeune for one to three years who had a 8 similar exposure to a person who worked with TCE for 13 1/2 years?
- 10 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- I think I actually do that in my report. 11
- 12 I think I do exactly or similar to that in my
- 13 report. I just have to find it.
- 14 We'll go off the record while you find
- 15 that.

- 16 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is
- 17 5:04 p.m. We're off the record.
- 18 (Recess taken)
- 19 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is 5:06
- 20 p.m., and we're on the record.
- A. So in reviewing my kidney cancer report 21
- 22 pages 32 and 33, I gave example of someone

stationed at Lejeune and their PCE exposure 1 relative to the concentration that's been shown 2. 3 to cause kidney cancer from the Aschengrau study.

I have not done that same calculation, if you will, for TCE.

- Q. Okay. To be clear, though, the Aschengrau study is a water contamination study, not an occupational study, right?
 - That's true. Α.
- And we were talking -- the question was about an occupational exposure for someone working with TCE for 13 1/2 years.

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- That's right. Α.
- You don't have that comparison in your Q. report?
 - Α. Correct.
- Q. And you cited a number of occupational studies on the association between TCE and kidney cancer in your report, including Scott 2011, Karami 2012, Ruder 2001, and Callahan 2019. You didn't do a quantitative comparison

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- between the levels of TCE at issue in that -- in
 those studies and what exposures might have been
 at Camp Lejeune, did you?
 - A. Let's look. I don't recall doing that.

 But, just to speed things up, what page do I cite
 those studies?
 - Q. I don't have that here.
 - A. Let's see.

(Pause)

- A. Oh, I kind of answered that question on page 31 and 32 of my report. It's the last sentence on page 31. I say, "A Marine stationed at Camp Lejeune could have a daily exposure 'as high as 3.6 mg/day'" of TCE. "This rate of exposure is entirely comparable to that seen in occupational exposure literature."
 - Q. Okay.
- 18 A. But the question you asked about Scott.
- MR. MANDELL: I can help you if you
- 20 want.

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- 21 MR. BAIN: Where is that? Yeah.
- MR. MANDELL: I see it on page 13.

- Q. With respect to those particular reports, do you recall doing a report-by-report comparison of those exposure levels rather than the general statement you just pointed us to?
 - A. I'm sorry. I don't understand that.

MR. BAIN: Can you reread it?

MR. MANDELL: I think you meant

studies. You said "report."

(Record read)

- Q. So with respect to those particular studies, do you recall doing a comparison for each particular study with respect to what the levels were in comparison to Camp Lejeune?
- A. I did do that. I don't know that I did it for every study, and I don't -- if I didn't write it down in my report, I don't have those memorized.
- Q. When you did it, did you make notes of it, or did you just do it in your -- when you reviewed the study?
 - A. Just do it while I'm writing a report.
 - Q. And so on pages 31 and 32 that you

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1 pointed to, you used Dr. Bove's estimated exposure at Camp Lejeune of 3.6 milligrams of TCE 2. 3 per day and stated it's "entirely comparable to 4 that seen in occupational exposure literature," 5 right?

> Α. That's right.

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- And can you point me to an occupational TCE study that you can recall and that you cited in your report that has an exposure that is quantitatively comparable to 3.6 milligrams per day?
 - Go back to page 13. Α.

I don't quantitate it any further than I mention on pages 31, 32.

- Okay. Going back to page 8 of your Q. report, the first study that you cite is the Aschengrau study. Do you see that?
- Α. Yes.
- It's No. 1 under the statement that "Numerous studies provide evidence of specific levels of exposure - some of which are similar in intensity with the contamination observed at

- 1 Camp Lejeune - that are associated with increased risks for kidney cancer [sic]"; is that right? 2.
 - Α. Yes.

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- And specifically with respect to 0. Aschengrau, you reference the 27 to 44 milligrams of PCE, right?
 - Α. Yes.
- And it's your understanding that the O. people exposed to 27 to 44 milligrams of PCE had higher kidney cancer risks than the controls in that study; is that right?
 - Α. That's my recollection.
- 13 Q. Okay.
- 14 (Exhibit 33, Aschengrau et al. 15 article, marked for identification.)
 - Dr. Bird, I've handed you what has been Ο. marked as Exhibit 33. This is, "Cancer Risk and Tetrachloroethylene-contaminated Drinking Water in Massachusetts, " by Aschengrau et al., correct?
 - That's right. Α.
 - If you go to page 285. Q.
- 22 A. Yes.

- Q. Under the methods, do you see in the second paragraph where it states, "Controls were selected to represent the population that gave rise to the cases, characterized as demographically similar permanent residents of the same towns during the period 1983-1986"?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. Do you recall where in this study you got the figure of 27 to 44 milligrams?
- A. Yes. It is on page 289. It's actually highlighted here. The left-hand column, the first full paragraph, last sentence, says, "The 90th percentiles among exposed controls were 27.1 and 44.1 mg, respectively."
- Q. So wasn't that actually referring to then the control group's exposure, not the kidney cancer cases exposure?
- A. No. Because then when you go through the results, they call out that exposure -- that exposure level, if you will. Let's see if I can give you an example.
- Yes. For -- for instance, in the

- 1 paragraph below the one I just quoted, so 2. page 289, left-hand column, last paragraph, about 3 halfway through, it says, "There was a 7" -- I'm "There was a 1.72-fold increase in the 4 sorry. crude relative risk of leukemia among ever 5 6 exposed subjects ... that increased to 5.78 among exposed subjects whose RDD was above the 7 8 90th percentile"
 - So how does that show that the cases had Ο. the exposure levels of 27.1 and 44.1 milligrams when the text referred to that as the exposed controls exposure?
 - That's my interpretation of this. Α.
 - Okay. You understand --Ο.
 - I think -- well, let me -- I -- because I think that it may come up again here in the --
 - O. Okay.
- 18 Α. -- like two paragraphs.
 - Similar verbiage about Yeah. 90th percentile exists in the next few paragraphs, but it may exist with a discussion of Table 4. Where's the description of Table 4?

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That is -- I thought it addressed it in other places and differently, but that is my interpretation of the 27.1 to 44.1 milligrams.

- Ο. Well, you understand the reference to exposed controls means those people who were exposed but did not get kidney cancer, correct? The control is the one -- someone who did not get the disease, right?
 - Α. That's right.
- Okay. And the way the case-control Ο. studies work is you're looking at people who have the disease and people who don't have the disease and you're comparing their exposures, right?
 - I would generally agree with that. Α.
- Okay. The 27.1 and the 44.1 milligrams Q. of TCE would be equivalent to 27,100 and 44,100 parts per billion of PCE; is that correct?
- Α. I'm sorry. I think you said the wrong chemical to begin with, so can you --
 - Ο. Okay.
 - -- state it. Α.
- 22 The 27.1 and 44.1 milligrams of PCE is Q.

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- equivalent -- you're right, so thank me -- thank 1
- 2. you for that. So let me go over and start over
- 3 again.
- The 27.1 and 44.1 milligrams of PCE is 4
- equivalent to 27,100 and 44,100 parts per billion 5
- of PCE, correct? 6
- 7 Maybe. We usually think of parts per
- 8 billion as a concentration. This is a mass.
- This is not a concentration. 9
- 10 Okay. So that is a mass of exposure over Ο.
- time rather than a concentration of exposure in 11
- 12 an element or in water, for example?
- 13 Α. Correct.
- 14 That's your understanding of it? Ο.
- 15 Α. Correct.
- 16 Okay. Do you ever translate, though,
- 17 milligrams of mass to part per billion of mass?
- Is that something that is done? 18
- 19 Probably. Α.
- 2.0 0. Okay.
- 21 Or maybe. I'm not sure. Α.
- 22 Q. Okay. If you look at the crude odds

- 1 ratios in Table 4. Do you see those for kidney 2 cancer?
 - A. Yes.

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Q. And, with the exception of the one which is 6.04 odds ratio, none of the other odds ratios are statistically significant under the traditional understanding of statistical significance, correct?

MR. MANDELL: Objection.

- A. Most of these point estimates are -- meet the standard of greater than 1.1 in this case, but the 6.04 is the only one that would, under traditional methods, meet the criteria for statistical significance.
- Q. Okay. Let's turn to page 48 of your report, Exhibit No. 5. Actually, I'm going to skip that. I'm going to turn to Parkinson's disease now.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. So you have had patients that you
 diagnosed or treated with Parkinson's disease,
 right?

1 A. True.

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- Q. Okay. And if you were to encounter a patient in your emergency medicine practice who you suspected had Parkinson's disease, would you normally refer that patient to a neurologist or other neurological specialist?
- A. Typically. But let me correct you. It's not just in emergency medicine. Also in toxicology.
- Q. In your toxicology practice, is there occasions when you encounter a patient for the first time as part of that practice that come in to see you as a toxicologist?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And it's because they suspect they've had some type of toxic exposure; is that what usually happens?
 - A. That's right.
- Q. And has that occurred, for example, with patients then you've determined had Parkinson's disease as a result of a toxic exposure?
 - A. Technically Parkinsonism, not Parkinson's

disease. They look nearly identical, but they're different.

- Um-hmm. How are they different? Q.
- Well, for instance, Parkinsonism as a Α. consequence of carbon monoxide poisoning destroys cells in the basal ganglia, and it looks -- the patients look like a Parkinson's disease, but it's technically Parkinsonism. It was a -- it's technically different.
- Okay. Aside from Parkinsonism, do you encounter patients in your toxicology practice that have Parkinson's disease?
- But I don't know that I've told Α. Yes. someone they have a toxic reason for their Parkinson's disease.

Because -- let me just clarify. Because they come in with known Parkinson's disease. Ι don't -- can't think of a scenario where I am then diagnosing them with Parkinson's disease from a toxicology perspective.

Do you know what the most common age range for diagnosis of Parkinson's disease is?

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- I would estimate it's in the eighth decade.
 - Do you know what the prevalence of Q. Parkinson's disease is in the population?
 - I don't. Α.

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- Do you know what the most common risk factors are for Parkinson's disease?
- Non-modifiable would be age, likely male gender. I can't think of any others off the top of my head right now.
- Okay. If you turn to page 10 of your Parkinson's disease report, Exhibit No. 6.

On page 10, you stated, "[it is] my opinion [that] water at Camp Lejeune more likely than not causes Parkinson's Disease -comfortably exceeding the at least as likely [as not] standard set forth by Congress." Is that correct?

- Α. Yes.
- Is it your opinion that the scientific evidence supports a general causation finding that each of the individual chemicals, TCE, PCE,

- benzene, and vinyl chloride, more likely than not 1 can cause Parkinson's disease? 2.
 - Hold on. I'm looking; at page 7 and 8 of Α. my report. In your question, did you include benzene?
 - Q. Let me restate it just so it's clear. Ιs it your opinion that the scientific evidence supports a general causation finding that each of the individual chemicals, TCE, PCE, benzene, vinyl chloride, more likely than not caused Parkinson's disease?
- 12 Α. Okay.

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13 (Pause)

- Sorry. I'm just getting a little tired Α. and don't have this committed to memory. Because I think I do not say vinyl chloride in my analysis. I say that the water is contaminated with those, including vinyl chloride, but I don't think I specifically called out vinyl chloride.
 - 0. Okay.
- But I don't want to misstate it, but I'm just tired and having difficulty. Just one

1 second.

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2. MR. MANDELL: Okay. So what they 3 want is an honest answer to your -- to the questions. Do you need a five-minute break? 4 5 When you say you're having difficulty, it makes

me a little worried. So do you need a

five-minute break? Because the last thing we -anybody wants you to do is just blitz through

this just to get through it.

Can you give an honest answer to that question, or do you need a five-minute break? THE WITNESS: With 60 seconds, I could probably give an honest answer.

MR. MANDELL: Okay. So how about if we just go off the record for 60 seconds.

That's -- way you don't lose your time.

17 MR. BAIN: Okay.

18 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is

5:30 p.m. We're off the record.

2.0 (Recess taken)

The time is 21 THE VIDEOGRAPHER:

22 5:33 p.m., and we're on the record.

- 1 BY MR. BAIN:
- 2. Can you answer that question? 0.
- 3 I'm sorry. Α.
- 4 MR. MANDELL: Do you want it
- 5 repeated?
- 6 Α. Yeah. Can you repeat the question?
- 7 (Record read)
- 8 Α. Not all four, but TCE, PCE, and vinyl chloride. 9
- 10 Did you review the individual reports of plaintiffs' Parkinson's disease experts in this 11 12 case, for example, Dr. Freeman and Dr. Miller,
- 13 and Dr. De Miranda?
- I don't believe so. 14 Α.
- 15 So have you been made aware that the 16 opinion of Dr. Freeman was that the evidence of a
- 17 relationship between vinyl chloride and
- 18 Parkinson's disease was below equipoise?
- 19 No. Α.
- And were you aware of the opinion of 2.0
- Dr. Moranda that the relationship between PC and 21
- 22 Parkinson's disease was a premise and not proven?

- A. I'm not aware of that.
 - Q. Outside of your interpretation of the Camp Lejeune studies, are you aware of any studies showing an association between vinyl chloride and Parkinson's disease?
 - A. Did you say outside of Camp Lejeune studies?
 - Q. Yes.

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- 9 A. I think I address that. I am not aware
 10 of other studies other than Camp Lejeune for
 11 that.
 - Q. Okay. I want to direct you to the Sallmen2024 study.
- 14 (Exhibit 34, Sallmen2024 study, marked for identification.)
 - Q. Dr. Bird, I've handed you what has been marked as Exhibit 34, which is "Parkinson's disease and occupational exposure to organic solvents in Finland: a nationwide case-control study." Do you see that?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Was this article returned on your PubMed

1 or Google Scholar searches, do you recall?

- A. I don't recall.
- Q. Are you aware that this article has been available since 2023 online?
- 5 A. No.

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- Q. This article is not mentioned in your Parkinson's report, is it?
 - A. It is not.
- 9 Q. Since your report, have you become 10 familiar with this study?
- A. Well, I don't know that I was ever unfamiliar with it.
 - Q. Were you familiar with the study before you did your report?
- 15 A. I don't recall.
- Q. Have you become familiar with this study, or are you familiar with this study?
 - A. I don't recall.
- Q. As you sit here today, do you recall anything about this study?
- 21 A. I don't recall anything about this study.
- Q. Okay. Take a look at Table 2 on page 43.

First of all, let me refer you to

Table 1. And do you see where there is an

indication of the cases and controls and the

number of people in each group?

A. Yes.

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- Q. And for the cases, there were 17,187. For the controls, there were 35,738. Do you see that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And were you aware that the authors identified 17,187 individuals with Parkinson's disease or comparable movement disorders based on prescription reimbursement registered under the Social Insurance Institution of Finland, and a total of 35,738 controls were also selected based on matches for sex, birth year, and Finland residency? Are you aware of that?
 - A. No. And I don't see where you read that.
 - Q. Okay. It's under the Method section.

In any case, let's -- let's just look at Table 2. Do you see that Table 2 has statistics for perchloroethylene, trichloroethylene, and

- 1 benzene?
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. And do you see that for perchloroethylene, they group individuals by
- 5 PPM years of exposure?
- 6 A. Yes.
- Q. And for perchloroethylene, the risk ratio for the 0 to 4.9 group is .96. Do you see that?
- 9 A. That's what it says.
- Q. And for the exposure group of 5 to 145,
- 11 | the risk ratio is 1.03. Do you see that?
- 12 A. That's what it says.
- Q. And neither of those are above 1.1, are they?
- 15 A. That's true.
- Q. And if you look at trichloroethylene, do
- 17 you see that, for the greater than 0 to
- 18 | 4.9 group, the risk ratio is .95? Do you see
- 19 that?
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. And for the 5 to 14.9 group, the risk
- 22 ratio is .97. Do you see that?

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. And for the 15 to 225 group, the risk ratio is 1.03. Do you see that?
- 4 A. Yes.

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- Q. And none of those are above 1.1, are they?
- 7 A. Correct.
 - Q. And then finally if you look down to benzene. And benzene is the one chemical that you're not -- is that correct, the one chemical you're not relating to Parkinson's disease?
- 12 A. Correct.
- Q. Okay. So we don't need to go through that.
- On page 27, of your Parkinson's disease report --
- 17 A. Okay.
- Q. I don't see that. Tab 6. Strike that.
- Is your opinion that the studies and scientific literature that you reviewed suggests that the exposures of these different chemicals "are not merely additive but ... interact

- synergistically, creating a combined risk that is greater than the sum of the individual risks"; is that true?
 - A. Let's look at my report where I specifically address that.
 - Q. Yeah. It is on page 27, and -- I just found it now. It's in the first full paragraph, in about the middle of the paragraph. Do you see that, where it says, "Studies and scientific literature suggest that these exposures are not merely additive but could interact synergistically, creating a combined risk that is greater than the sum of individual risk [sic]"?

 Do you see that?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. And you cite Rosenfeld 2024 at page 14; is that right?
- 18 A. Here on page 27, I cite Rosenfeld.
- 19 | Elsewhere in my report I cite others.
- 20 Q. Okay.
- 21 A. Bruckner is one of the authors.
- 22 Q. Okay. Can you think of any others off

Page 336 1 the top of your head? There's one other I cite. I'm blanking 2. 3 on the name. 4 Oh, here we go. What page are you looking at? 5 Ο. Page 32 and 33 and 34. 6 Α. 7 Okay. This is where you discuss the 8 additive and synergistic effects of solvents and toxins, correct? 9 10 That's right. Α. 11 Q. Okay. 12 Α. Yes. 13 But going back to Rosenfeld, which you Q. site with relationship to Parkinson's disease. 14 15 (Exhibit 35, Rosenfeld 2024 article, 16 marked for identification.) 17 Is this for me? Α. 18 Q. Yes. I've handed you what has been marked as Exhibit 35, which is --19 2.0 (Discussion off the record) 21 MR. MANDELL: Adam. 22 MR. BAIN: I've got to get my last

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- I've shown you what has been marked Exhibit 35. This is the Rosenfeld 2024 article that's referenced in your report, correct?
 - That's right. Α.
 - Q. And if you look at page 14?
 - Does that say "14 of 17"? Α.
- Q. Yes.
- Α. Okay.
- Do you see that Rosenfeld says that the Ο. "health effects should be the primary focus of [sic] ongoing cancer incidence study being prepared by the ATSDR, with further research conducted on the synergistic effects of these VOCs on human health"? Do you see that?
- 16 Α. Yes.
 - And the Rosenfeld study, to be clear, is Ο. a cancer risk assessment for the contaminated water at Camp Lejeune, right?
 - Α. That's right.
- So it's not dealing with Parkinson's 21 22 disease; is that correct?

- A. I think that is true. I don't think

 Parkinson's disease is mentioned in this article.
- Q. Would you agree that the exact relationship between the interactions of TCE, PCE, benzene, and vinyl chloride is not known?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- A. Some is known, and a lot is unknown. I would agree with that.
- Q. Would you agree that synergy determinations require empirical scientific evidence, not just theoretical plausibility?

 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead.

- A. Say that one again.
- Q. Would you agree that synergy requires empirical scientific evidence, not just theoretical plausibility?
- A. I'm sorry, but that question doesn't make any sense to me.
- Q. Okay. I'll try to rephrase it.

 Would you agree that having an opinion
 that these chemicals are synergistic requires

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- 1 empirical scientific evidence, not just theoretical plausibility? 2.
- 3 MR. MANDELL: Objection.

Go ahead. 4

- Well, I discuss, actually in about Α. three pages in my report, about that and about -and give examples of synergism in toxins.
 - Empirical evidence of that? Ο.
- Α. Yes.

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- 10 Okay. So that's in those pages of the 0. report you cited? 11
- 12 Α. Yes.
 - Okay. Are you aware of any peer-reviewed Q. epidemiological or toxicological studies showing an increased cancer risk due to the combination of TC, PC, benzene, and vinyl chloride in drinking water aside from the Camp Lejeune studies?
 - I know that was a -- I -- just if you repeat the beginning of the question is good enough for me.
 - Q. Are you aware of any peer-reviewed

- 1 epidemiological or toxicological studies regarding the increased cancer risk due to a 2. 3 combination of TCE, PCE, benzene, and vinyl chloride in drinking water? 4
 - I believe so, in studies looking at Α. TVOCs. I can't after however many hours this has been, I can't remember if it's a Camp Lejeune study or not.
 - Okay. Would those be in those -- that section of the report that you cited if there were such studies?
 - Well, it could be in a number of areas. I'm looking specifically at the section that's Summary of Opinions and it gives exposures to a chemical at a concentration and I give a reference. And this report for -- this is kidney report.
 - Q. Are you looking at the kidney report?
 - Yeah. I'm looking at the kidney -- I Α. don't know it's in this one versus another one.
- Oh, that's -- it's a Bove that looked at 21 22 And if we go to the bladder report, the TVOCs.

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- 1 TVOC is another Bove. So off the top of my head now, I can't tell you another one. 2.
 - Okay. I'm at the limit of my time, but I just wanted to ask you very quickly, did you review the public health assessment that the ATSDR did for Camp Lejeune?
 - Α. Yes.

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- And are you aware that in the public O. health assessment, the ATSDR used an additive approach to its risk assessment?
 - I don't recall that.
- Okay. And you don't recall that it stated in its public health assessment the additive approach was considered to be conservative or a health-protective assumption? Do you recall that?
 - I don't --Α.
- 18 MR. MANDELL: Objection.
- 19 I don't recall that. I'm not sure I Α. understand what that means. 2.0
- Okay. You don't understand what the term 21 22 "conservative, health-protective assumption" to

Page 342 1 be? 2. A. Correct. 3 Q. Okay. MR. BAIN: I'm done with my time. I 4 have probably a couple hours more of questions, 5 6 but these guys won't let me do it because I didn't answer that question. Thank you for your 7 8 time today. 9 THE WITNESS: Thank you for your 10 professionalism. MR. MANDELL: I do have a few 11 12 questions. 13 THE WITNESS: Okay. 14 MR. MANDELL: I just want to clarify 15 one area. 16 CROSS-EXAMINATION 17 BY MR. MANDELL: 18 Q. And I know we've been going for a little over seven hours now of questioning. So I'm 19

prepared to do this right now, or do you want a

five-minute break? It's up to you. I want to

make sure you're clear-headed.

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- Α. I'm clear-headed now.
 - Okay. All right. 0.

So could you take Exhibit No. 7, your "Hematopoietic Cancers: Leukemia & Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma" general causation report?

Α. Okay.

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- All right. You were asked a number of questions by Mr. Bain, and some of them emanated from some language on page 9 of your report. could you go to page 9 of the Exhibit No. 7.
 - Α. Yes.
- You were asked some questions about the sentence in the very top of page 9 that reads, "Moreover, ATSDR has concluded that there is 'sufficient evidence for causation for benzene and all leukemia types, i.e., ALL, CLL, AML, and CML' as well as for benzene exposure with NHL."

So do you see where I read that --

- Α. Yes.
 - Ο. -- Dr. Bird? All right.

And during that questioning, do you recall there being a reference by Mr. Bain to in

- 1 this case there was -- I think the language was one Marine, and I think it was with CML. And you 2. 3 were posed a question about that Marine. Do you remember that? 4
 - Α. Yes.

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- Q. All right. So I want to --
 - MR. MANDELL: So just to be clear and so that there's no confusion, Adam, it was CML, just for the record?
- 10 MR. BAIN: I can't recall in 11 particular.
- 12 MR. MANDELL: Okay. That's fine.
- 13 MR. BAIN: I think it probably was,
- 14 but --
- 15 That is my recollection. Α.
- 16 Okay. I just wanted to be clear. 0.
- 17 right. Thank you.
- 18 And your response was that you perceived that to be a question concerning specific 19 causation, not general causation. 20
- 21 That's right. Α.
- 22 And then Mr. Bain went on to a different Ο.

1 area of questioning. Do you recall that
2 dialogue?

A. I do.

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Q. All right. Now, you were asked a number of questions about not being a lawyer and whether you understood legal terminologies, etc.

But what makes you think it was a specific-cause question when he posed that to you about the -- that one Marine with CML?

- A. Just hearing about a person and a disease to me sounded like specific causation.
- Q. Okay. All right. Well, let me ask you this. Whether you consider -- whether you consider it general causation or specific causation, I just want to ask you a very few questions about your opinions about that sentence.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. Because my recollection is the way it began was Mr. Bain asked you, "Do you agree with that sentence that I just read to you that referred to ATSDR?" Okay?

1 A. Okay.

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- Q. All right. So do you have an opinion to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty, based on your training and experience and your work and studies and research up until today, do you have an opinion as to whether or not there is sufficient evidence for causation for benzene and all leukemia types, including ALL, CLL, AML, and CML, as well as for benzene exposure with NHL? Do you have an opinion?
- A. I do.
- 12 Q. All right.

And do you have an opinion as to whether or not benzene causes leukemia as a matter of general causation and scientific knowledge to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty?

- A. Yes.
- Q. All right. As to your opinions that -concerning that subject matter, as to whether or
 not benzene causes leukemia, including ALL, CLL,
 AML and NHL and CML, what is that opinion,
 Dr. Bird, to a reasonable degree of scientific

1 certainty?

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- That it is causative of all leukemias, including ALL, CLL, AML, and CML.
 - Q. Great. Okay.

And do you have an opinion, based on your training, your experience, studies, research, and work in these cases, as to whether or not the levels of exposure that you set forth in your bladder -- excuse me, in your hematopoetic cancer report, Exhibit No. 7, whether those levels of exposure are or are not known to be hazardous to human health generally? Do you have an opinion to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty?

- I do, and that is that they are hazardous Α. to human health generally.
- 16 Q. Okay.
- 17 MR. MANDELL: I have no further 18 questions. Thank you very much.
- 19 MR. BAIN: Okay. Thank you.
- 2.0 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time is
- 21 5:57 p.m. This deposition has concluded, and
- 22 we're off the record.

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                   (Whereupon the deposition was concluded
 1
         at 5:57 p.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATE
2	I, STEVEN BIRD, M.D., do hereby certify that
3	I have read the foregoing transcript of my
4	testimony, and further certify that said
5	transcript is a true and accurate record of said
6	testimony (with the exception of the following
7	corrections listed below):
8	Page Line Correction
9	
L 0	
L1	
L 2	
L 3	
L 4	
L 5	STEVEN BIRD, M.D.
L 6	Sworn to and subscribed before me this
L 7	day of , 2025.
L 8	
L 9	
	Notary Public
20	My commission expires:
21	
22	

Page 350 1 COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS) SUFFOLK, SS. 2 3 I, Katherine A. Tevnan, Registered Merit Reporter, Certified Shorthand Reporter No. 129093 4 and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of 5 6 Massachusetts, do hereby certify that STEVEN BIRD, 7 M.D., the witness whose deposition is hereinbefore set forth, was duly sworn by me and that such 8 deposition is a true record of the testimony given 9 10 by the witness. 11 I further certify that I am neither related 12 to or employed by any of the parties or counsel to 13 this action, nor am I financially interested in 14 the outcome of this action. 15 In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 29th day of May, 2025. 16 17 18 19 Katherine A. Tevnan, Registered Merit Reporter 20 CSR # 129093 2.1 Notary Public 22 My commission expires March 10, 2028

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Federal Rules of Civil Procedure Rule 30

- (e) Review By the Witness; Changes.
- (1) Review; Statement of Changes. On request by the deponent or a party before the deposition is completed, the deponent must be allowed 30 days after being notified by the officer that the transcript or recording is available in which:
- (A) to review the transcript or recording; and
- (B) if there are changes in form or substance, to sign a statement listing the changes and the reasons for making them.
- (2) Changes Indicated in the Officer's Certificate. The officer must note in the certificate prescribed by Rule 30(f)(1) whether a review was requested and, if so, must attach any changes the deponent makes during the 30-day period.

DISCLAIMER: THE FOREGOING FEDERAL PROCEDURE RULES

ARE PROVIDED FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY.

THE ABOVE RULES ARE CURRENT AS OF APRIL 1,

2019. PLEASE REFER TO THE APPLICABLE FEDERAL RULES

OF CIVIL PROCEDURE FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

VERITEXT LEGAL SOLUTIONS

Veritext Legal Solutions represents that the foregoing transcript is a true, correct and complete transcript of the colloquies, questions and answers as submitted by the court reporter. Veritext Legal Solutions further represents that the attached exhibits, if any, are true, correct and complete documents as submitted by the court reporter and/or attorneys in relation to this deposition and that the documents were processed in accordance with our litigation support and production standards.

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