TOGUT, SEGAL & SEGAL LLP One Penn Plaza, Suite 3335 New York, New York 10119 (212) 594-5000 Kyle J. Ortiz Bryan M. Kotliar Brian F. Shaughnessy Amanda C. Glaubach

Counsel for Eletson Holdings Inc.

#### UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

In re:

ELETSON HOLDINGS INC.,

Debtor.<sup>1</sup>

Chapter 11

Case No. 23-10322 (JPM)

#### NOTICE OF FILING OF TRANSCRIPT RELATED TO THE COURT'S RULING ON MARCH 12, 2025 RELATING TO THE EMERGENCY MOTION OF ELETSON HOLDINGS INC. FOR ENTRY OF A FURTHER ORDER IN SUPPORT OF CONFIRMATION AND CONSUMMATION OF THE COURT-APPROVED PLAN OF REORGANIZATION [DOCKET NO. 1459]

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**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that, on February 19, 2025, Eletson Holdings Inc. ("<u>Holdings</u>") filed the *Emergency Motion of Eletson Holdings Inc. for Entry of a Further Order in Support of Confirmation and Consummation of the Court-Approved Plan of Reorganization* [Docket No. 1459] (the "<u>Emergency Motion</u>").<sup>2</sup>

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that, on February 24, 2025, the Court entered an order scheduling a hearing on the Emergency Motion to be held on March 12, 2025. *See* Docket No. 1470.

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that, on March 4, 2025, objections to the Emergency Motion were filed by (a) the Former Majority Shareholders [Docket

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Capitalized terms used but not defined herein shall have the meaning ascribed to such terms in the Emergency Motion.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Prior to November 19, 2024, the Debtors in these cases were: Eletson Holdings Inc., Eletson Finance (US) LLC, and Agathonissos Finance LLC. On March 5, 2025, the Court entered a final decree and order closing the chapter 11 cases of Eletson Finance (US) LLC and Agathonissos Finance LLC. Commencing on March 5, 2025, all motions, notices, and other pleadings relating to any of the Debtors shall be filed in the chapter 11 case of Eletson Holdings Inc. The Debtor's mailing address is c/o Togut, Segal & Segal LLP, One Penn Plaza, Suite 3335, New York, New York 10119.

23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 2 of 102

No. 1506], (b) the Daniolos Firm [Docket No. 1507]; and (c) Reed Smith LLP [Docket Nos. 1508 & 1509], which Holdings responded to on March 7, 2025 [Docket Nos. 1522 & 1523].

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that, on March 12, 2025, the Court held a hearing on the Emergency Motion and issued an oral decision granting the Emergency Motion, in part (the "<u>Decision</u>"), which begins on page 53 of the transcript attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u> (the "<u>Transcript</u>").

**PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE** that, the Emergency Motion and all related pleadings, as well as all other case related filings, can be viewed and/or obtained by (i) accessing the Court's Website for a fee, or (ii) by contacting the Office of the Clerk of the United States Bankruptcy Court, Southern District of New York. Please note that a PACER password is required to access documents on the Court's Website.

DATED: March 13, 2025 New York, New York TOGUT, SEGAL & SEGAL LLP By:

<u>(s/ Kyle J. Ortiz</u> KYLE J. ORTIZ BRYAN M. KOTLIAR BRIAN F. SHAUGHNESSY AMANDA C. GLAUBACH One Penn Plaza, Suite 3335 New York, New York 10119 (212) 594-5000

Counsel for Eletson Holdings Inc.

23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 3 of 102

### EXHIBIT A

Transcript of March 12, 2025 Decision

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 4 of 102

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1 2 UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT 3 SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK 4 - - - - -x 5 6 In the Matter of: 7 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL., Main Case No. 8 Debtors. 23-10322-jpm 9 10 - - - -x 11 12 United States Bankruptcy Court 13 One Bowling Green New York, New York 14 15 March 12, 2025 16 9:36 AM 17 18 19 20 21 BEFORE: 22 HON. JOHN P. MASTANDO, III U.S. BANKRUPTCY JUDGE 23 24 25 ECRO: MARIA

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 5 of 102

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2 Scheduling Order signed on 2/24/2025 Re: Sanctions Motion. 3 (related document(s)1459) with hearing to be held on 3/12/20254 at 09:30 AM at Videoconference (ZoomGov) (JPM) (Rodriguez-5 Castillo, Maria) 6 7 Notice of Hearing /(Hearing Date: 3/12/2025 at 9:30 AM, Responses Due: 3/4/2025 at 5:00 PM, Replies Due: 3/7/2025 at 8 9 12:00 PM) Notice of Hearing of Emergency Motion of Eletson Holdings Inc. for Entry of a Further Order In Support of 10 Confirmation and Consummation of the Court-Approved Plan of 11 Reorganization (related document(s)1459, 1470) 12 13 Notice of Agenda /(Hearing Date: 3/12/2025 at 9:30 AM - Via 14 15 Zoom) Notice of Agenda of Matters Scheduled for Hearing on March 12, 2025 at 9:30 AM (Prevailing Eastern Time) (related 16 document(s)1496, 1459, 1523, 1507, 1470, 1466, 1460, 1522, 17 18 1509, 1465, 1499, 1508, 1506, 1481) 19 20 Response /Eletson Holdings Inc.'s Omnibus Reply In Support of 21 Its Foreign Opposition Sanctions Motion (Attachment: Appendix A) (related document(s)1459, 1507, 1509, 1508, 1506) 22 23 24 25

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 6 of 102

3 1 2 Notice of Proposed Order /Notice of Filing of Revised Proposed 3 Order with Respect to the Emergency Motion of Eletson Holdings Inc. for Entry of a Further Order in Support of Confirmation 4 5 and Consummation of the Court-Approved Plan of Reorganization (Attachments: Ex. A: Revised Proposed Order with Ex. 1, Ex. B: 6 Redline of Revised Proposed Order) (related document(s)1459, 7 1470) 8 9 Declaration /Declaration of Jared C. Borriello, Esq. In Support 10 of Eletson Holdings Inc.'s Omnibus Reply In Support of Its 11 Foreign Opposition Sanctions Motion (Attachments: Exs. 1-39) 12 (related document(s)1459, 1507, 1522, 1509, 1508, 1506) 13 14 15 Objection to Motion Objection of the Majority Shareholders of 16 Eletson Holdings Inc. to Emergency Motion for Entry of a Further Order in Support of Confirmation (related 17 18 document(s)1459) 19 20 Transcribed by: River Wolfe 21 eScribers, LLC 22 7227 North 16th Street, Suite #207 23 Phoenix, AZ 85020 24 (800) 257-0885 operations@escribers.net 25

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 7 of 102

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    A P P E A R A N C E S (All present by video or telephone):
 3
    TOGUT, SEGAL & SEGAL LLP
           Attorneys for Eletson Holdings Inc.
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           One Penn Plaza
 6
           Suite 3335
          New York, NY 10119
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9
    BY:
          JARED C. BORRIELLO, ESQ.
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          LEILA EBRAHIMI, ESQ.
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           JOHN C. GALLEGO, ESQ.
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          AMANDA C. GLAUBACH, ESQ.
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          BRYAN M. KOTLIAR, ESQ.
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          JOHN MCCLAIN, ESQ.
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          KYLE J. ORTIZ, ESQ.
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          MICHAEL B. GALIBOIS, ESQ.
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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 8 of 102

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1 2 REED SMITH LLP 3 Attorneys for Reed Smith LLP 1717 Arch Street 4 5 Suite 3100 Philadelphia, PA 19103 6 7 DEREK M. OSEI-BONSU, ESQ. 8 BY: 9 JOSHUA M. PELES, ESQ. 10 11 12 REED SMITH LLP 13 Attorneys for Reed Smith LLP 14 599 Lexington Avenue 15 New York, NY 10022 16 17 BY: ANDREW L. BUCK, ESQ. 18 CHRISTOPHER M. LAUKAMG, ESQ. 19 LOUIS M. SOLOMON, ESQ. 20 RICHARD SOLOW, ESQ. 21 22 23 24 25

# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 9 of 102

REED SMITH LLP Attorneys for Reed Smith LLP 1201 Market Street Wilmington, DE 19801 BY: KEVIN W. COCKERHAM, ESQ. DECHERT LLP Attorneys for Official Committee of Unsecured Creditors 1095 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10036 BY: OWEN HANEY, ESQ. DAVID A. HERMAN, ESQ. KARLI K. WADE, ESQ. STEPHEN D. ZIDE, ESQ. 

# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 10 of 102

SIDLEY AUSTIN LLP Attorneys for Lassia Investment Company, Glafkos Trust Company, and Family Unity Trust Company 787 Seventh Avenue New York, NY 10019 WILLIAM E. CURTIN, ESQ. BY: JERI L. MILLER, ESQ. RIMON, P.C. Attorneys for Daniolos Law Firm 100 Park Avenue 16th Floor New York, NY 10017 BY: MICHAEL S. LAZAROFF, ESQ. 

# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 11 of 102

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1 2 UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE 3 Attorneys for Office of the United States Trustee One Bowling Green 4 5 Suite 534 6 New York, NY 10707 7 8 BY: DANIEL RUDEWICZ, ESQ. 9 10 11 CHALOS & CO, P.C. 12 Attorneys for Sunrise Finance 13 55 Hamilton Avenue Oyster Bay, NY 11771 14 15 16 BY: BRITON P. SPARKMAN, ESQ. 17 18 19 CLYDE & CO US LLP 20 405 Lexington Avenue 21 New York, NY 10174 22 23 BY: VERONICA L. DUNLOP, ESQ. 24 JOHN R. KEOUGH, ESQ. 25

# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 12 of 102

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 2
    ALSO PRESENT:
 3
          RICK ARCHER, Media
           ELENA EVANGELATOU, Aegean Baltic Bank
 4
 5
           JENNIFER FUREY, ESQ., Eletson Holdings, Inc.
 б
           CLARA E. GEOGHEGAN, Media
7
          UDAY GORREPATI, Media
          NATHANIEL KOSLOF, ESQ., Eletson Holdings, Inc.
8
 9
          MARK LICHTENSTEIN, ESQ., Pach Shemen
          DAWN L. PERSON, Reorganized Holdings
10
          RON PIKE, Petitioning Creditor
11
          ADAM SPEARS, Pach Shemen
12
13
          VINCE SULLIVAN, Media
14
          BLANKA WOLFE, Media
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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 13 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

10 PROCEEDINGS 1 THE COURT: Good morning, everyone. We're here on 2 3 case number 23-10322, Eletson Holdings. 4 Can I have appearances for the record, please? MR. ORTIZ: Good morning, Your Honor. Kyle Ortiz of 5 6 Togut, Segal & Segal for Eletson Holdings, joined on the line 7 by my partners Brian Shaughnessy and Bryan Kotliar. 8 THE COURT: Good morning. 9 MR. HERMAN: Good morning, Your Honor. David Herman from Dechert on behalf of the official committee of unsecured 10 creditors. 11 12 THE COURT: Good morning. 13 MR. HERMAN: Morning. MR. SOLOMON: Good morning, Your Honor. It's Lou 14 15 I hope you can both hear and see me. I'm in a Solomon. 16 different spot because I actually have another hearing that I've asked to put off. But if Your Honor is able to hear me, 17 18 it's Lou Solomon for Reed Smith. 19 THE COURT: Yes, I am, and good morning. Thank you. 20 Thank you. Thank you. MR. SOLOMON: MR. CURTIN: Good morning, Your Honor. William 21 22 Curtin, Sidley Austin for Lassia Investment Company, Glafkos 23 Trust Company, and Family Unity Trust Company. 24 THE COURT: Good morning. 25 MR. CURTIN: Good morning.

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 14 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

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MR. LAZAROFF: Good morning, Your Honor. Michael 1 2 Lazaroff on behalf of -- from Rimon, P.C. on behalf of the 3 Daniolos Law Firm, solely to contest jurisdiction and service. 4 THE COURT: Good morning. MR. RUDEWICZ: Good morning, Your Honor. Daniel 5 6 Rudzewicz on behalf of the United States Trustee. 7 THE COURT: Good morning. 8 Okay. Who'd like to begin? 9 MR. ORTIZ: Good morning, Your Honor. Kyle Ortiz of Togut, Segal for Eletson Holdings. We did file an agenda 10 yesterday at docket 1528. There is one matter on the agenda 11 today, Your Honor. It's the emergency motion of Eletson 12 Holdings for entry of a further order in support of 13 confirmation, consummation of the Court-approved plan of 14 15 reorganization that was filed at 1459. If it's all right with Your Honor, I'll just jump into that matter. 16 THE COURT: Please. 17 18 MR. ORTIZ: Your Honor, today we are here, once again, 19 forced to seek sanctions against parties who invoked the 20 jurisdiction of this Court but flatly refuse to abide by the 21 confirmation order entered by the Court four-and-a-half-months 22 ago. As Your Honor noted in your February 20th, 2025 ruling, 23 the standard for contempt requires, "One, the order that the 24 party allegedly failed to comply with is clear and unambiguous. 25 Two, proof of noncompliance is clear and convincing. Three,

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 15 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 the party has not diligently attempted in a reasonable manner 2 to comply."

As a quick, at this point, I'm sure wholly unnecessary reminder, Your Honor, the clear and unambiguous language of the confirmation order provides, among other things, at paragraph 5(i), that, "The debtor and the petitioning creditors and each of their respective related parties are hereby directed to cooperate in good faith to implement and consummate the plan."

9 At paragraph 5(iii), it says that in connection with 10 all actions required to effectuate the plan:

"The debtors are hereby authorized and directed to 11 take or not take any and all actions as instructed by 12 13 the petitioning creditors and shall not take any actions inconsistent with the plan or this 14 15 confirmation order without the prior written consent 16 of the petitioning creditors or further order of the Court." 17 18 At paragraph 7, Your Honor, it says: "On the effective date, pursuant to section 5.2(c) of 19 the plan and Sections 1141(b) and (c) of the 20 Bankruptcy Code, all property of each of the debtor's 21

estates, including interest held by the debtors in the respective nondebtor direct and indirect subsidiaries and affiliates, shall vest in Reorganized Holdings free and clear."

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 16 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 At paragraph 12, Your Honor, it says: "Upon entry of this confirmation order, all holders of 2 3 claims or interests or other parties-in-interest, along with their respective present or former 4 5 employees, agents, officers, directors, principals, and affiliates shall be enjoined from taking any 6 7 actions to interfere with the implementation or 8 consummation of the plan."

9 Your Honor, all of these provisions are clear and These and others we have read into the record 10 unambiquous. many times are the provisions being violated. And to the 11 extent any of these provisions somehow weren't clear and 12 unambiguous when entered, Your Honor reiterated all of these in 13 your January 24, 2025 bench ruling and January 29, 2025 order. 14 15 And Judge Liman reiterated certain of these and other planned provisions in his December 23, 2024 and February 14th, 2025 16 17 rulings.

18 As just one example, Your Honor, paragraph 1 of the 19 January 29th order provides:

Pursuant to Section 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code, the debtors and the related party, a term that includes counsel, including, without limitation, the ordered parties, a term that includes Reed Smith, are authorized, required, and directed to comply with the confirmation order and plan to assist in effectuating

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 17 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

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implementing and consummating the terms thereof."

2 Yet, Your Honor, here we are today, at a time when a 3 majority of these parties subject to this motion were found at the February 20th, 2025 hearing to be in contempt of, or at 4 least to have not complied with, the January 29th order, and 5 6 many were later sanctioned by the Court pursuant to the 7 February 27, 2025 order. Nonetheless, there is still a concerted, coordinated effort, not just to fail to comply with 8 9 the confirmation order and numerous subsequent orders and rulings of this Court and the district court, but to actively 10 obstruct efforts to implement and consummate the plan and even 11 most recently, going to a new extreme by seeking to enjoin our 12 13 efforts to consummate the plan.

Certainly, Your Honor, it violates the injunction 14 15 provisions of the confirmation order and directive to aid in implementation to seek to enjoin implementation of the plan. 16 It is not credible to challenge the clear and unambiguous 17 18 nature of something that has been reiterated so many times. Your Honor, we can quote decisions of Your Honor quoting Judge 19 20 Liman quoting Your Honor. If that isn't clear and unambiguous, 21 nothing is.

22 So let's juxtapose the clear and unambiguous 23 obligations of the plan that I just read, with the violating --24 with what the violating parties are so clearly doing in their 25 own words. If you look at the chart in our appendix of their

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 18 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

own statements, all made in proceedings instituted after the 1 2 binding confirmation order was entered on November 4th, 2024, 3 you will see plainly clear and convincing evidence of 4 noncompliance. Despite efforts by Reed Smith to grossly mischaracterize these documents, they aren't really hiding it. 5 6 The statements in these filings are just flat admissions of 7 noncompliance, Your Honor. Again, on November 4th, pursuant to paragraph 12 of the confirmation order, these parties were 8 9 enjoined by an unstayed order from interfering with the plan.

But on November 11th, 2024, the minority shareholders 10 sought relief in Greece and procured an order appointing a 11 provisional board with the specific mandate of, among other 12 13 things, "to appeal with the respective statutory legal remedies and means before the Greek courts", not the U.S. courts, "in 14 15 order to challenge the decision of voluntary bankruptcy, dated 10/25/2024, Chapter 11, in which it was filed by the U.S. 16 bankruptcy court for reason of lack of international 17 18 jurisdiction."

Your Honor, if they'd wanted to challenge jurisdiction, they needed to do that back at the motion to dismiss stage. And they didn't. In fact, it wasn't even one of their arguments. As far back as the motion for relief from stay they filed a docket number 6 in this case, their very first filing, nearly every motion they have filed has said jurisdiction and venue are proper. And any possible debate

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 19 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

about jurisdiction ended with the motion to convert. Your
 Honor has reiterated your jurisdiction in numerous recent
 rulings.

Nonetheless, that provisional board's mandate goes on,
"to appear and be represented before the competent Greek courts
in order to oppose otherwise and as an impediment to the
recognition of the above bankruptcy decision in Greece due to
the inadequacy of the issuing party's international
jurisdiction in the bankruptcy decision."

Your Honor, this could not be more clear and 10 convincing evidence of their effort, in their own words, to 11 seek to "oppose otherwise and as an impediment to the plan", a 12 plan that specifically enjoins them from interfering with 13 implementation. Clearly, the minority shareholders were in 14 15 violation of the confirmation order in seeking this relief, and the provisional board members all agreed to take on this role, 16 despite a mandate that violated the confirmation order. 17 And 18 again, it's clear and unambiguous.

The other parties to this motion, Your Honor, were all directed under section 53 of the plan to seek to withdraw or to oppose this. They did not. Specifically, Your Honor, they were directed by Holdings to "file the necessary pleadings with the Greek courts to withdraw or dismiss with prejudice the proceedings filed there concerning the appointment of the provisional board". You can see that in an email attached as

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 20 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 exhibit 1 to document 1416.

And none of these parties, Your Honor, have ever diligently attempted to comply with the confirmation order. Instead, they have shown up to oppose recognition in Liberia, oppose recognition in Greece, and sought to obtain an injunction in Greece, among other (indiscernible).

7 Notably, Your Honor, the opposition to recognition in Greece and the injunctive proceedings in Greece were both filed 8 9 after the entry of the January 29, 2025, order. Reed Smith, Your Honor, will no doubt point to the fact that a Greek court 10 declined to recognize Mr. Spears on a provisional basis, simply 11 wanting a full hearing and only because they opposed it, again, 12 after the January 29 order was entered. But that does nothing 13 but demonstrate exactly why we need sanctions because they are 14 15 misleading foreign courts in contravention of the plan, trying to collaterally attack and get conflicting rulings to create 16 confusion. If you need an example of that, they're literally 17 18 doing it right now, pointing to that ruling in Reed Smith's 19 opposition.

And a quick just twenty-second aside here, Your Honor, to note how inapplicable notions of comity and extraterritoriality are in the context of court actions brought in violation of the confirmation order commenced after the conclusion of a Chapter 11 proceeding. There has never been a case, ever, where a bankruptcy court halted implementation of a

confirmed Chapter 11 plan to yield to later commenced actions designed specifically with the professed intent to interfere with implementation of the plan. We cover that in the brief with Judge Posner's Rimsat decision, and I'm not going to speak further to it because Your Honor has ruled multiple times that comity has no relevance to these questions.

7 It's worth emphasizing again that the provisional board sought their mandate when already bound by the 8 9 confirmation order and when the debtors were still represented by Reed Smith in these cases to do something that they and Reed 10 Smith were enjoined from, interfering with the plan. 11 We certainly never provided written consent for any of these 12 13 actions, as is required by the plan in section 53 of the confirmation order. 14

15 And it was during this time, Your Honor, still in that space between the entry of the confirmation order that bound 16 everybody and the effective date, while Reed Smith is still 17 18 debtor's counsel, where Reed Smith should have been telling its clients that under U.S. law, forget Liberian and Greek law, 19 20 that they were bound by the confirmation order and that they 21 must comply. But instead, they were arguing before the district court and this Court that recognition was required and 22 23 additional unspecified steps would need to be taken and also, 24 in their typical absurdity, that they weren't obligated to comply until the effective date. But the effective date 25

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 22 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 couldn't happen, and they wouldn't do anything to aid in 2 implementation, setting in motion the delay in implementation 3 that persists to this day, Your Honor.

However, neither at that time nor at any later date 4 have the former owners and directors or Reed Smith ever 5 6 identified a single solitary thing that is not within their 7 control of the same former owners, directors, and officers that recognition was needed for in any other jurisdiction. As Your 8 9 Honor (indiscernible) held on January 24th, corporate acts required of entities before this Court and bound by its rulings 10 do not require recognition, yet they continue to make these 11 arguments and refuse to comply, forcing us to seek recognition 12 in other jurisdictions due to their contempt and not because we 13 need recognition to be effective, Your Honor, but because we 14 15 want recognition so that we can seek the aid of those courts in enforcing on these parties in the places that they have fled 16 17 to.

18 Then, of course, they oppose those efforts, which more than anything reveals the games they are playing and that this 19 20 was by design to collaterally attack Your Honor's orders. Thev 21 played this same game, Your Honor, with the foreign recognition 22 order as well, arguing in their current response to the 23 Liberian proceedings that, "The December 20, 2024 order by 24 Judge Mastando was not for Adam Spears to act as foreign 25 representative of cointervenor Eletson Holdings Inc. in

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 23 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

Liberia. Rather, it was for Adam Spears to be the sole foreign
 representative of the Reorganized Eletson Holdings Inc."

3 Mr. Solomon made this same argument to you on February 4 20th, long after both this Court and the district court had 5 made clear that there are not two Eletsons, when he stated, "We" -- and I pause briefly, Your Honor, to emphasize the 6 7 constant use of the term "we" -- "We have never taken the position that Mr. Spears has no authority to speak on behalf of 8 9 Reorganized Holdings. He has no authority to speak in what the brief says. He has no authority to speak on behalf of 10 Holdings. And that is what was held by the Greek court." 11

Your Honor, of course, responded that you'd already 12 ruled on such issues. And this was clarified further by the 13 amended foreign rep order entered last week that removed the 14 15 ability for them to misuse defined terms to circumvent the rulings of this Court and the district court. But it gets to 16 what, Your Honor, is a demonstration of Reed Smith's continued 17 18 role in playing games and misusing words, playing with defined terms, and living in some mysterious space between words to 19 20 continue to facilitate an open defiance of this Court's orders.

And it is all in service of they and their clients' very favorite tactic, Your Honor. Delay. And to a degree, Your Honor, despite all the orders, all the rulings, it has worked. Here we are, four-and-a-half months after the confirmation order was entered, having spent 53.5 million and

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 24 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 converted over 200 million of debt into equity, and they not 2 only haven't lifted a finger to hand over what belongs to us, 3 but they are in courts in Liberia and Greece clearly and openly 4 opposing recognition and collaterally attacking Your Honor's 5 orders.

The only court they can't seem to find their way to is 6 7 this one. And who is asking for delay? Who is writing letters to the Court encouraging Your Honor to wait until the Greek and 8 9 Liberian courts provide clarity on what this Court has long ago clarified? Reed Smith. So Reed Smith can selectively quote in 10 their opposition the interim measures filing in Greece, where 11 their clients say that they, "do not intend to show disrespect 12 to this Court". 13

But come on. There's got to be some effort at honesty with the Court. I mean, that same pleading, Your Honor, filed more than two weeks after the January 29, 2025 order was entered, argues this Court does not have jurisdiction, that the bankruptcy was in bad faith, and then seeks to enjoin us from taking actions to enforce your orders, actions that they have necessitated through their contempt.

They intend no disrespect, but they didn't have enough respect for this Court to even file the AOR with the Court under seal. No disrespect. No disrespect in taking up two years of your time, only to slink away and collaterally attack your jurisdiction in other places in violation of your orders.

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 25 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

We are well into the realm of farce, Your Honor. 1 2 Again, despite all the many clear and unambiguous rulings, Reed 3 Smith did not instruct its clients that such actions were in 4 violation of Your Court's orders, and they must comply. No. 5 They ran into this court with letters and declarations saying: 6 "Liberian and Greek proceedings will provide clarity 7 as to the very issues addressed by Your Honor, including the extraterritorial effect of the 8 9 confirmation order and the order and the present corporate form of Eletson Holdings, consistent with 10 the principles of international comity." 11

Again, that letter was written after you'd already ruled on the issue on January 24th. As Your Honor noted on February 20th, what that letter is really asking is that you grant the delay they are seeking to obtain conflicting orders in violation of the confirmation order.

And even now, while ostensibly claiming to be just Reed Smith in their opposition, they are arguing before this Ocurt that, "provisional Holdings' returns appear to provide the Greek and Liberian courts with material facts which were admitted Pach Shemen", ignoring that, we filed as Eletson Holdings, "to guide those tribunals' decisions to grant recognition in accordance with the respective laws."

Your Honor, they are forbidden by the confirmation
order from taking or not taking any actions unless instructed

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 26 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

There are no exceptions for helpful guidance. 1 in writing. And 2 I'm sorry, Your Honor, but a cursory review of those returns 3 demonstrates that they are challenging the jurisdiction of this Court and seeking to seeking to have recognition denied. 4 How anyone could come before this Court and argue that such actions 5 are consistent with the plan and the unambiguous language in 6 7 the confirmation order and not clear and convincing evidence of noncompliance is beyond me. Indeed, making such arguments 8 9 demonstrates that they are not diligently attempting to comply.

The bigger problem is, frankly, Your Honor, I don't 10 think they care. They seem to clearly know they are violating 11 your orders, but if they can delay long enough, they are hoping 12 to get away with it by getting a conflicting ruling to sow 13 confusion. My refrain concerning their strategy all the way 14 15 back in the motion to dismiss was delay, deflect, and avoid. Maybe you remember this. Delay, deflect, and avoid. 16 That is the Eletson strategy. That is still the strategy. 17

18 These parties, Your Honor, many of them are now, as of 19 today, 14,000 in on sanctions, and they haven't blinked. They 20 just want to get where they manage to get one of these many 21 proceedings to stick and then go around interfering with implementation by waving around competing, conflicting orders, 22 23 saying your orders have no effect until such-and-such happens 24 and you aren't a competent authority and that competent 25 authorities in Greece have ruled differently.

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 27 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

Thus, they need, they must, be directed to withdraw all oppositions and to instead aid in implementation. This is entirely consistent with Navigator Gas, which at paragraph 4 of Judge Blackshear's order directing the former directors and former majority shareholders in that case:

б "To take all steps reasonably necessary, as requested 7 by the committee, to oppose any efforts to undermine the court's confirmation order and letter of request, 8 9 including by causing the withdrawal of the Cambridge 10 petition and any other related or associated filings made in the High Court of Justice of the Isle of Man 11 or any other court in objection to any of the 12 committee's plan, the confirmation order, the 13 reorganization contemplated thereby, or the letter 14 15 request."

Here, I want to be very crystal clear, Your Honor. We are not asking Your Honor to direct Greek or Liberian courts to do anything. We are, again, respectfully asking Your Honor to direct parties that you have already ruled multiple times are subject to the jurisdiction of this Court to comply with orders you have already unequivocally held they are bound by under Section 1141 and required under Section 1142 to implement.

For each of these parties, Your Honor, it comes back to a question Judge Liman repeatedly asked and Reed Smith repeatedly dodged. What have you done to help implement the

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 28 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 plan? What have you done? These parties have affirmative 2 obligations to do as directed and are affirmatively enjoined 3 from interfering. Go through each party and ask what they've 4 done to implement the plan that they are bound by under Section 5 1141 and 1142.

6 What have the former minority shareholder has done to 7 implement the plan? They filed a proceeding seeking 8 appointment of a provisional board in violation of the plan. 9 They did not receive written consent to do to do that, and they 10 have not responded to directions to undo that.

What have the former majority shareholders done to implement the plan? They have not responded to our direction to them, consistent with the confirmation order, to direct others that they continue to claim to control to withdraw opposition to these proceedings or to withdraw their own oppositions in Liberia.

What has the provisional board done to help implement the plan? They have opposed recognition in both Liberia and Greece and sought an injunction on actions to implement the plan, actions which of course wouldn't be necessary if they just did the corporate actions within their control. They have not, as directed, withdrawn these oppositions.

What has Vassilis Hadjieleftheriadis done to implement the plan -- and I apologize for getting his name off -- holding himself out as president of Holdings, done to halt these

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 29 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 proceedings?

25

2 What have Vassilis Kertsikoff and Laskarina 3 Karastamati done? They have joined proceedings as directors of 4 Corp. and the SMEs, despite this court and the district court 5 unambiguously finding that the interest in subsidiaries, such 6 as Corp. and the SMEs, vest with Reorganized Holdings on the 7 effective date pursuant to section 5.2(c) of the plan and paragraph 7 of the confirmation order and Sections 1141(b) and 8 9 (c) of the Code, something Your Honor reiterated on January 24th. 10

11 So Mr. Solomon can say that these entities are nondebtors, but that is a meaningless distinction in the 12 13 current context and again demonstrates not only a failure to reasonably attempt to comply, but a willful disregard for what 14 15 has been held again and again to be the consequence of the Section 5.2(c) of the plan and paragraph 7 of the 16 plan. confirmation order are unambiguous as to the vesting in 17 18 Holdings of the interest in Holding's subsidiaries and 19 affiliates.

Judge Liman was unambiguous in interpreting those sections on both December 23rd and February 14th. And Your Honor was unambiguous on January 24th, January 29th, and February 20th. But they keep saying the same things as if nothing matters.

So what has Reed Smith done? Reed Smith hasn't told

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 30 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 its told his clients it must withdraw these proceedings and aid 2 implementation by doing the things that are fully within their 3 client's control. We have directed all of these parties, 4 including the various law firms claiming to represent them at 5 various times, to take actions to or instruct others to 6 withdraw these actions, and they have not taken any steps to 7 ensure those things happen.

Indeed, nobody's really responded except to tell us 8 9 they aren't bound until things are recognized, while opposing such recognition, which ignores your explicit rulings on 1141 10 and 1142. Undeterred by numerous rulings, they file letters 11 saying these actions will aid the Court in deciding things that 12 are already decided, like issues of comity. And they argued 13 that these proceedings that are undeniably, on their face, 14 15 seeking to undo the plan are appropriate. And they're just providing guidance to these courts. 16

Again, Your Honor, this is farcical. All of these 17 18 actions are clear and convincing violations of the clear and 19 unambiguous language of the confirmation order, in paragraph 1 20 of the January 29th order, and many other rulings. And it is 21 unquestionable they have not attempted to comply in a reasonable manner. Reasonable efforts to comply do not include 22 23 making arguments rejecting not once, not twice, not thrice -- I 24 don't even know if there's a word for beyond thrice, Your Frice (sic)? But the confirmation order says not to do 25 Honor.

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 31 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 anything inconsistent with my client's direction.

2 We have not directed Reed Smith, whose role in this case should have terminated on November 19th, except for the 3 fact that they chose two days later to sign on a new engagement 4 with people who, by claiming to be the board or the provisional 5 6 board of Eletson, were actively in violation of the 7 confirmation order to represent an entity whose mandate is to oppose recognition against its former client. And that's 8 9 exactly what they've been doing. They're doing everything they can to give these actions brought in violation of the 10 confirmation order legitimacy, and it is having devastating 11 12 consequences.

Again, we've had to spend over 5-million dollars in 13 additional legal fees since the confirmation order was entered 14 15 in an effort to obtain compliance and the benefit of what we paid over 53.5 million and the conversion of 200 million in 16 debt for. If these actions in violation of the plan succeed, 17 18 it may result in confusion that will require many, many more 19 millions until we can obtain what this Court granted. That's 20 not the bargain this Court approved.

So Your Honor, I don't know what the right number is. Judge Blackshear ordered 10,000 dollars a day in 2003, which is about 25,000 dollars a day in today's dollars. We know that the 1,000-dollars-a-day has had no impact because the parties that are subject to that have not felt compelled to comply. We

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 32 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 asked for 50,000 a day in the motion.

2 We respectfully request that Your Honor set whatever 3 amount the Court believes will be sufficient to compel 4 compliance and bring these parties in line in light of the clear and convincing evidence they have no intent of complying 5 6 because now that you've ruled against them, they now don't 7 think you have jurisdiction and don't think you are a competent authority. To protect the bargain approved by this Court and 8 9 the sanctity of the Court itself, we respectfully request these parties be held in contempt and sanctioned sufficiently to 10 coerce compliance. And I would note in that context that 11 certain of these proceedings are occurring this week, on 12 13 Friday, and certain other proceedings are happening next Wednesday in Greece. So if we're thinking about coercing 14 15 compliance, it's in that kind of time frame.

And Your Honor, I'd just note real quickly for you, a ruling came down in Liberia yesterday with regard to the motion to dismiss that was filed by the former owners. And I just got to find that real quick. And it's a short ruling, so I'm going to just read it to you really quick.

21 "The movants herein, all domestic nonresident Liberian 22 corporations, have filed a" -- four-court motion --23 "four-count motion to dismiss, contending that this 24 court lacks subject matter jurisdiction over the 25 instant enforcement proceedings pending before this

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 33 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

Movant averred that it is the commercial court 1 court. of Liberia that has exclusive jurisdiction over all 2 insolvency cases. The respondents filed the 3 resistance, in which they contend that the Insolvency 4 5 and Restructuring Act of 2017, upon which movants rely, does not apply to domestic nonresident Liberian 6 7 corporations and maritime entities registered under Liberian law." 8

9 You may remember that Mr. Pierre informed you of the10 same, Your Honor.

"The sole issue before this court is whether this 11 court lacks jurisdiction over enforcement of a foreign 12 13 judgment. The answer is a resounding no. This court says that the civil law court exercises general 14 original jurisdiction, including maritime jurisdiction 15 in admiralty cases, over all cases to which another 16 17 court is not given exclusive original jurisdiction. Additionally, the Insolvency and Restructuring Act of 18 2017, which formed the basis of movant's motion, is 19 not applicable to domestic nonresident Liberian 20 corporations. Movants are all domestic nonresident 21 Liberian corporations, so the Insolvency and 22 23 Restructuring Act is not applicable to them." 24 It goes on, and then, "Wherefore, in view of the 25 foregoing, movants' motion to dismiss is denied and dismissed,

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 34 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

31

1 and the resistance thereto sustained. It is hereby so 2 ordered." 3 So at least that one, that motion to dismiss, there's 4 still the whole proceeding, but the motion to dismiss was 5 denied. 6 So with that, Your Honor, unless you have any 7 questions at this time, I will yield. Thank you, Counsel. 8 THE COURT: 9 MR. ORTIZ: Thank you, Your Honor. Anyone else like to be heard in support of 10 THE COURT: 11 the motion? MR. HERMAN: Your Honor, David Herman from Dechert for 12 13 the committee. Very briefly. 14 THE COURT: Please. 15 MR. HERMAN: Your Honor, I'm not going to say anything about the merits because I think that we've had a number of 16 arguments on this and Your Honor has already ruled on many of 17 18 these issues multiple times. I just want to emphasize the last point that Mr. Ortiz covered regarding the effect of the 19 20 sanctions. 21 On behalf of the committee, we really think that whatever remedy Your Honor orders here needs to be sufficient 22 23 to bring about compliance with the Court's orders. And in 24 thinking about this, I went back and took a look at the case 25 law that addresses the purposes of civil contempt and

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 35 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 sanctions. And as Mr. Ortiz mentioned, the purpose here is to 2 coerce compliance. The Second Circuit said In re: Markus, 3 which is 78 F.4th 554, this is a case that has been cited to 4 Your Honor in prior briefing, that the civil contempt and 5 sanctions power is to "coerce future compliance with the 6 court's orders."

7 Similarly, the Second Circuit in Bagley v. Santacroce, 8 800 F.2d 33, 1986, at page 63, the Second Circuit again stated, 9 "The purpose of civil contempt, broadly stated, is to compel a 10 reluctant party to do what a court requires of him."

In In re: Bambi, 492 B.R. 183 at 191, this is the Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York, again states that the bankruptcy court's use of civil contempt under Section 105(a) and Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 9020 is "to compel a reluctant party to do what the Court requires of him."

So all that I would urge, Your Honor, I have no doubt 17 18 that Your Honor is going to find the parties in contempt 19 here -- I certainly hope so; it's very clear -- is that 20 whatever remedy needs to be sufficient to accomplish the 21 purposes of civil contempt sanctions, which is to coerce compliance. I think there is merit to incrementalism here. 22 Ι 23 understand that. But 1,000 dollars a day is less than these 24 individuals are paying Reed Smith and these other firms to come to a hearing and try to defend them, unless, of course, Reed 25

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 36 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

33

Smith is doing this pro bono, which I guess is possible. 1 2 But we really think that the sanctions need to be 3 harsher here in order to bring about compliance with Your Honor's orders and finally bring this case to a close, more 4 than four months after the confirmation was ordered entered. 5 6 Thank you. 7 THE COURT: Thank you. 8 Would anyone else like to be heard in support of the 9 motion? Okay. Would anyone like to be heard in opposition? 10 MR. SOLOMON: Yes, Your Honor. Lou Solomon for Reed 11 12 Smith, and shall I proceed? 13 THE COURT: Please. MR. SOLOMON: Herman wonders why we're here. We're 14 15 here because Reed Smith has been Reed Smith as Reed Smith. I'm here on behalf of Reed Smith. I am here only on behalf of Reed 16 Smith. We have made that clear every way that we think the 17 18 English language allows. Mr. Ortiz, by the way, he would like some effort at 19 20 honesty. I would like some from him because by throwing Reed 21 Smith in with the whole lump of whatever else he wants to talk about, that's dishonest. He identifies three requirements for 22 23 sanctions. We're all familiar with them. 24 With respect to what's actually going on in Greece and 25 in Liberia, I'm actually not going to not going to speak to

### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 37 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 that, Your Honor. We had read the same things that Mr. Ortiz 2 read, and I think he misstates them. But all we were saying 3 with respect to that is that with -- well, Your Honor, you're 4 not going to get from Reed Smith today any information that's 5 going to be helpful to see that in those courts, it is 6 Reorganized Holdings that is abusing the bankruptcy.

7 They are claiming that they control Gas, and they 8 don't. We have never taken the position, and nobody I know has 9 taken the position, that they don't -- that they cannot control 10 the equity, but they're going further than that. And they are, 11 I think, abusing Your Honor's orders.

But I can't sit here and argue that because anytime 12 anybody tries to call something to Your Honor's attention, they 13 get accused of sanctions. And so I can't address that and will 14 15 not address that. I'm going to focus on what is the clear and convincing evidence of Reed Smith's role involvement, control, 16 participation. There is absolutely none. And on whether Reed 17 18 Smith is diligently attempting to comply with Your Honor's 19 orders. And we have.

Let me take the last point first. We have done all that Your Honor has asked us to do. With respect to Your Honor's orders, Your Honor identified a certification that it wanted from Reed Smith, and we gave it unhesitatingly. We have advised Your Honor multiple times that we have advised the client to comply with Your Honor's orders. We have not advised

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### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 38 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 that our client must violate the law of another jurisdiction.
2 We have no role in those other jurisdictions. We don't know
3 anything about it. We're not licensed to practice there and
4 wouldn't presume to know that.

5 But what we have done is everything in our power. I 6 have not seen anything from Reorganized Holdings to ask us to assist in any way that we actually can do. We don't control 7 8 those proceedings. We don't represent anyone in those 9 proceedings. We're not in those. We, Reed Smith, is not in those proceedings. And so I believe that the record before 10 Your Honor is unequivocal that Reed Smith has done everything 11 in its power to comply and to authorize, advise compliance to 12 the extent that that we can. 13

I'm going to address in just a few minutes the suggestion that Reed Smith has to withdraw from representing Reed Smith, apparently, because that's who they've continually gone after here. And I'll address that shortly.

18 With respect to the clear and convincing evidence of Reed Smith's participation, Your Honor will note that one 19 20 single day before the opposition deadline is when Holdings, 21 Reorganized Holdings -- and I'm using Reorganized Holdings 22 because it's otherwise it gets quite confusing. We can call it anything that Your Honor wishes. It was only a day before 23 24 that, for the first time, they identified five additional law 25 firms in Greece and Liberia against whom they want sanctions.

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 39 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

Now, this is improper under the rules, and I believe this whole
 motion is improper under the rules.

If Your Honor will look at their opening brief about 3 4 what they said about Reed Smith, it was a two-page nothing. 5 They had no specifics. And what they -- and in fact, we knew that, and at that point, I had asked Your Honor, since Your 6 7 Honor had just ruled in a way that absolved Reed Smith of sanctions in the other -- in the prior motion, why is Reed 8 9 Smith continuing to be here? And Your Honor wanted us all to go forward, and we did. 10

And so they threw in a short nothing that didn't have 11 any facts in it and then held all of their arguments to the 12 13 reply, where for the first time we see facts, no support, but assertions of a factual nature and cases, none of which we --14 15 none of which we had had seen before. It's an improper 16 sandbag. It's improper under the Rules. And it is -- and having for the first time identified five law firms in Greece 17 18 and Liberia, none of whom we have anything, anything, to do 19 with with respect to what they are doing there. And I will put 20 the lie to something that is seen for the first time in the 21 reply about the Liberian law firm in just a minute.

22 So given that there is no proof against Reed Smith and 23 no proof that Reed Smith has anything to do with those Greek or 24 Liberian lawyers, there is no clear and convincing evidence 25 that Reed Smith has done anything sanctionable. What we get

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## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 40 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

instead in their reply -- there's nothing in their opening papers -- is that Reed Smith is the architect of the entire obstructive scheme. There's nothing cited for that. These are just irresponsible words of counsel who are trying to keep Reed Smith -- I don't know -- enough shots on goal. Maybe they think they will get one. I don't think Your Honor is going to create that kind of error.

The two things that they identify is that, in foreign 8 9 proceedings that Reed Smith has not appeared in and doesn't represent anybody in, there are words in those and relief that 10 is sought that is reminiscent of arguments that we made here, 11 which we have not made since Your Honor has rejected them, 12 other than to appeal. And I will take that up in a moment. 13 But those are public briefs, obviously. Nothing says that Reed 14 15 Smith has anything to do with what's going on there. And we do 16 not.

And the other thing that they argue that suggests that 17 18 we are the architect is that we continue to argue that the 19 oppositions are proper or valid. Okay. So there's one searing 20 error of law in the assertion there, the suggestion that Reed 21 Smith cannot take an appeal on behalf of a party. It has been rejected by the courts repeatedly. I don't think there is a 22 23 case that says that Reed Smith may not take an appeal. 24 But Your Honor, if Your Honor feels that Reed Smith

25 should not be taking an appeal on behalf of any of these

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 41 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

parties, if Your Honor says so, we will withdraw from those 1 2 appeals. I think it's improper. I don't think the law 3 supports it. I believe it's arguably unconstitutional. But 4 we're not here to fight any longer about that. We believe that these parties have a right to appeal. And we cited to Your 5 6 Honor the cases, and I will remind Your Honor of them in a 7 moment of the cases that say it is not improper to take an appeal from the court's order. 8

9 We respectfully disagree with some of what Your Honor has said and with what Judge Liman has said. And we have a --10 we have an appeal going on in the Second Circuit. That is not 11 sanctionable. And if it is sanctionable, it can't be 12 sanctionable against Your Honor's order. They haven't brought 13 a 1927 motion in the proper court. They haven't brought a Rule 14 15 11 motion. They haven't given any notice of that. These are proper, even if arguments that Your Honor disagrees with. 16 So those are the two things they say, foreign proceedings that we 17 18 have nothing to do with and that we were making arguments on 19 appeal from what Your Honor has ruled. None of those is 20 sanctionable.

21 Well, what we have said in connection with this motion 22 is that we are representing only Reed Smith. And we made very 23 clear from the beginning, when this motion was filed, that we 24 are not representing any interest, any entity other than Reed 25 Smith. Your Honor, we filed -- Mr. Ortiz said that we were

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### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 42 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 fired from representing the debtors. That is correct. And 2 when we took on another representation, and that is correct.

And we made very clear under rule 1.4 of the Local Rules the respects in which we were doing that. 1.4 allows us to make limited appearances. I'm sorry. I keep looking because my phone -- I keep losing where Your Honor is. I apologize.

1.4 allows a limited scope representation. We made 8 9 very clear in that writing to Your Honor. We filed it twice, most recently at docket -- forgive me, Your Honor. I'm here by 10 I'll find the docket number where we did that. And we 11 myself. made very clear that our authority was limited to take to 12 13 representing ourselves because they are attacking us and appeals. And that is what we are doing, and that is all that 14 15 we are doing.

Now, he says, well, why don't you withdraw? Because 16 we haven't ever appeared in any respect, other than those 17 limited respects in which we have said. And to make clear that 18 19 everybody understood that when they filed this motion, we said 20 we are representing only Reed Smith. Now, the law permits us 21 to do that. Rule 1.4 permits us to do that. The court, the 22 law, the Rule says that for any other matter, these parties are 23 to be considered unrepresented.

24 But I will go a step further. If Your Honor wishes us 25 to file a formal motion to withdraw, even though we haven't

### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 43 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

appeared, we will file a formal motion to withdraw. It's the Werns (ph.) case, it's a Judge Liman case, and the Schoenberg case in the Second Circuit, both of which say that this Court respectfully does not have any jurisdiction to sanction us for taking an appeal.

6 It is part of the statutory structure. It is the part 7 of America that I think one should be quite proud of. Parties 8 are allowed to take appeals. I don't believe that undermines 9 anything in Your Honor's order. Nothing else is being done by 10 Reed Smith. And those are the two cases that we would call 11 Your honor's attention to.

We believe those parties are entitled to counsel. But if Your Honor feels differently, then they will find other counsel. That is not so easy. Every time they try to look for other counsel, those counsel are then threatened with sanctions.

The reply brief calls us a mouthpiece. There's no 17 18 basis, in fact, to suggest that we have done anything like 19 that. We are not a mouthpiece. At this point, we are 20 representing only ourselves. Your Honor, Judge Liman himself 21 says that it is unexceptional that the confirmation order requires recognition before it is binding in foreign 22 23 jurisdictions and that it may be correct that the new board and 24 new shareholders will not be recognized in those countries 25 until there is a recognition proceeding.

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### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 44 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

And I understand that what Holdings wants -- what 1 2 Eletson Holdings knew -- the Reorganized Holdings wants to do 3 is to make those nonevents. Is to prohibit anybody from saying anything in those foreign proceedings. I take no position on 4 it, Your Honor. What I say is that Reed Smith has no role in 5 it and therefore can't be accused and then can't be sanctioned 6 7 for anything that is going on in those proceedings. I believe those -- let me stop there. 8

9 They suggest that we've been running point. They say 10 in their paragraph 19 of the reply. Again, nothing is 11 supported for that assertion. What they say is that, well, we 12 hired a Liberian lawyer, and that is true. We didn't. Our 13 client did. Over a year, fifteen months ago, Levona raised an 14 issue before Judge Liman. We hired a Liberian lawyer to answer 15 the question about who had authority to speak, and we did.

And when Ms. Lamin Blamo was before Your Honor, she admitted that and said, no, no, no, that has something to do with the arbitration proceedings. It definitely did not have to do with enforcement of the judgment. That is when the last time we had -- that is before the hearing before Your Honor, in January of 2025. That is what they are referring to by running point.

Eletson, the debtor at the time, was entitled to counsel. It needed counsel. We actually prevailed on that application to Judge Liman. And so I don't think there's

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### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 45 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

anything untoward about that. But the suggestion that we somehow are corralling and conspiring, it's irresponsible. It's sort of conspiracy theorist and Trilateral Commission. I think it's totally irresponsible that there's nothing to be -there's nothing to cite for it. And Your Honor should reject it.

7 They purport to say that we have said the proceedings 8 in those foreign jurisdictions are appropriate. That's a false 9 statement. Nothing is cited for that. They misquote what they 10 cite for that. What we have said, Your Honor, is that we have 11 read those papers. We don't read them any better than they do. 12 It's obvious to me that we don't read them any worse either.

13 But what we say is that it appears that those proceedings, proceedings, are valid. We spoke to nothing about 14 15 what's being filed in those proceedings. We rely on the fact that Judge Liman also believes that there have to be 16 proceedings in those other jurisdictions. Some of the 17 18 proceedings that we are talking about, Your Honor, were brought 19 by Reorganized Holdings. And so there's nothing to support --20 we're not taking the position -- we have no view because we 21 have no right to have a view. We don't represent the party. 22 And we're trying to be lawyers here, advocates, and not 23 principals.

They say, well, what have we done to assist? Well, we've answered every question that Your Honor has. We've given

### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 46 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

them the documents that they have asked for. We have not -- we have respectfully declined to give them privileged documents. That is a matter that's now in the Second Circuit. We implore Your Honor not to sanction us for making an argument that we are duty-bound to make in the Second Circuit, which has not been found to be frivolous or unwarranted by anyone.

7 They then say that, well, because they control Gas, we have to do various things. They don't control Gas, obviously. 8 9 That relates to the arbitration ruling, not to Your Honor's ruling. And there's just nothing to connect Reed Smith to 10 anything that's going on there. In Rimsat, which was just 11 talked about, what, in fact, Judge Posner said is that the 12 Doctrine of International Comity requires the courts of one 13 nation to avoid, where possible, interfering with the courts of 14 15 another.

But this is all -- this is all theoretical. The issue against Reed Smith is what has Reed Smith done? Reed Smith has done nothing sanctionable. Reed Smith is representing itself only here. When Your Honor asks for a certification of what Reed Smith's role was, we gave it. If Your Honor wishes, another certification, we will give that.

We are ending -- we are lending no aid or comfort. We are doing what we can. We've advised, Your Honor repeatedly that we have repeatedly advised the client to comply with U.S. law. I believe that is in the record several places. I think

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### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 47 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

44

we've only taken half the time that Mr. Ortiz has taken, but I 1 2 do think I've covered the information. I'm happy to answer any 3 questions that Your Honor has. 4 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel. 5 MR. SOLOMON: Thank you, Your Honor. THE COURT: Would anyone else like to be heard in 6 7 opposition to the motion? MR. CURTIN: Yes, Your Honor. William Curtin from 8 9 Sidley. Your Honor, just again, I already gave my appearance. But just to be clear, I'm here on behalf of Lassia Investment 10 Company, Glafkos Trust Company, and Family Unity Trust Company. 11 Your Honor, I think that's important because despite the fact 12 that this third sanctions motion seeks sanctions against my 13 clients, if you look at the chart and you look at all the 14 15 pleadings that have been filed, the majority shareholders are not listed as parties, with one minor exception to any of those 16

17 foreign actions.

18 Your Honor, apparently recognizing that after we filed 19 a very brief page reply pointing that out, or three-page 20 reply -- objection, I'm sorry, the reply seems to pivot and now 21 impute some kind of corporate authority or corporate obligation, rather, on my clients to direct others to take 22 23 certain actions. Your Honor, there is no, to quote the case 24 law, clear and unambiguous order that directs my clients to 25 take any of those corporate actions. I'm not sure whether Your

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 48 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

Honor could issue such an order, but it doesn't really matter because that order does not exist and therefore cannot be clear and unambiguous. Then today, at the hearing, we seem to pivot once again. And now, the request seems to be just to increase the amount of sanctions generally, moving far afield from what was sought in the original motion.

7 Your Honor, I don't know that there's much more that I can say on behalf of my clients because I do not think that 8 9 this motion properly alleges behavior on behalf of my clients that could be sanctioned. Again, we've talked about this case 10 law over several times. But in order for a bankruptcy court to 11 hold a party in contempt for violation of an order, that can 12 only occur "if there is no fair ground of doubt as to whether 13 the order barred that case creditors' conduct." That's from 14 15 the Supreme Court Taggart case that we've talked about a lot.

16 Here, the (indiscernible) own evidence and even allegations don't support a finding of contempt against my 17 18 clients. None of the foreign actions that are discussed in the 19 papers were initiated by my clients. And they can't terminate 20 actions that they are not party to. Accordingly, there's no 21 basis for sanctions based upon this third sanctions motion and 22 would ask that Your Honor deny the motion as to my clients. 23 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel. 24 Would anyone else like to be heard?

MR. LAZAROFF:

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Yes, Your Honor. Michael Lazaroff from

# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 49 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

Rimon, P.C., appearing on behalf of the Daniolos Law Firm, 1 2 solely to oppose jurisdiction and service, as we have done on 3 the prior sanctions motions, and with apologies to Your Honor 4 that I need to repeat the same arguments again. But because the Daniolos Law Firm keeps getting included in these motions, 5 6 we feel we do need to continue to raise these objections, 7 hopefully to get a clearer order. We believe Your Honor has already removed them from within the purview of the ordered 8 9 parties and the sanctions. To the extent Your Honor hasn't, we would ask that you do that now so that we don't have to go 10 through this another time. 11

The Daniolos Law Firm is a Greek law firm. 12 No business contacts with the United States. No connection to the 13 United States. The only minimal actions listed have been for a 14 15 Greek law firm providing representation or advice to Greek residents and citizens under Greek law or appearing in Greek 16 courts. So that wouldn't create any jurisdiction. To review, 17 18 if we can, the procedures on the original sanctions motion from 19 November, we submitted the same type of opposition to service 20 and jurisdiction. It was unopposed. Was unopposed at 21 argument.

When Your Honor then scheduled a hearing an evidentiary hearing on January 6th, on December 30th, we sent a letter seeking clarification and then that our unopposed request to deny the sanctions motions with regard to Daniolos

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### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 50 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 should be -- or dismiss Daniolos from the sanctions motions for 2 the reasons described in the submission. The same day, Your 3 Court so ordered that letter and explicitly added and directed 4 that Daniolos Law Firm does not need to attend or participate 5 in the evidentiary hearing scheduled to commence on January 6 6th, 2025. Therefore, the Daniolos Law Firm did not do that 7 and was not involved in the subsequent proceedings.

As a result, I think, of the way that the parties who 8 9 were involved created the order, the January 29th order did include the Daniolos Law Firm as an ordered party. As a 10 result, they were included in the February 6th sanctions 11 motions. And on February 17th, we submitted a similar 12 13 response, solely to object to service and to jurisdiction. And on February 20th, when Your Honor at the hearing made findings, 14 Your Honor listed the ordered parties and did not include the 15 Daniolos law firm. 16

Thus, we believe that since all of these sanctions go back to that original November sanctions motions and Your Honor already has excluded the Daniolos Law Firm, we believe, from the ordered parties, there would be no basis for the Daniolos Law Firm to continue to be involved in sanctions motions for violating those orders.

The reasons that we have previously provided to Your Honor is that since the Daniolos Law Firm is in Greece and a Greek law firm and Greece is a signatory to the Hague

# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 51 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 Convention and the sanctions and contempt motion are brought 2 pursuant to Bankruptcy Rules, Federal Rule of Bankruptcy 9020, 3 which incorporates 9014, which requires service by Rule 7004, 4 which incorporates the Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 4, which 5 requires Hague service pursuant to the Hague Convention as 6 mandatory for those countries that have signed.

Greece is a signatory. Greece is a country which has specifically and explicitly objected to mail service, which the courts also understand and determine includes email service. There is no allegation here that there was any service of the Daniolos Law Firm via the Hague Convention. Therefore, they haven't been properly served. And that's one basis.

And the second basis that we've described in our papers are that there is no -- that there would be no jurisdiction that could comport with Constitutional due process. There's neither general jurisdiction or specific jurisdiction.

And since we have briefed this three times and discussed this with Your Honor two other times, I'll simply rest on our papers on those points and ask Your Honor if you have any questions.

THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.
Would anyone else like to be heard?
Okay. Mr. Ortiz.
MR. ORTIZ: Thank you, Your Honor. I'll try to be

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 52 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

very brief because I think we've covered a lot of these things
 many times before, and I don't think I heard much that was new.

With regard to the Reed Smith arguments, look, Your Honor, they cannot really get around the fact that they took on a new client post-effective date that's existence is a violation of the order, and they are nonetheless the ones putting in arguments that these foreign opposition proceedings are proper and should continue and provide clarity.

9 And I just want to be very clear, Your Honor. We're not saying they cannot take an appeal in the United States. 10 Of course they can. We are saying they can't use other 11 proceedings in other countries as additional kind of collateral 12 attack appeals. We're saying them writing letters saying that 13 these foreign proceedings are proper indicates that they aren't 14 15 informing their clients that they need to withdraw from these 16 proceedings. They're saying they're okay.

And as, Your Honor, we've noted many times, the 17 18 Supreme Court case in Maness (ph.) that we've cited over and 19 over notes that you still have to comply with orders unless 20 they're stayed. And none of these orders that have been 21 entered, whether the confirmation order, the January 29th order, or any of those later orders are stayed. And they're 22 all pretty clear and unambiguous about the fact that folks need 23 24 to do what we direct in compliance and not to interfere. And saying that these proceedings should persist is interfering. 25

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 53 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

We've also -- just to be clear, Your Honor, this isn't in, I don't think, any of the exhibits, but we can certainly provide it. We have specifically directed Reed Smith many, many times with many letters to many of their offices to not continue to represent Holdings or any of its subsidiaries. But they continue to represent this Provisional Holdings, and they've done that in these proceedings post-effective date.

I don't know how he can really say he's not a 8 9 mouthpiece when he is, again, the one arguing to this Court that these other proceedings -- and he can say that I'm not 10 being honest about them, or he's not being honest about them. 11 That doesn't matter. First of all, I think that's absurd. 12 Your Honor can read them himself, and I'm -- yourself, and I'm 13 sure you have. But they clearly oppose recognition. And we 14 15 have instructed all of these parties in numerous emails, including Reed Smith, including, by the way, Daniolos and these 16 other firms, that they're directed to withdraw them consistent 17 18 with the confirmation order, and they have not.

Him selectively quoting Judge Liman, I don't really think deserves much of a response. You've read that entire transcript. He's ruled very clearly who has authority. All he's saying is that getting additional proceedings seems proper. But that doesn't mean it's proper to show up and oppose them. And I think that's very clearly what Navigator Gas ruled. I'd also note that Judge Liman, in that same

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 54 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 ruling, disagreed with his concept of limited appearance.

2 And he is just flatly wrong that we cannot prohibit 3 people from opposing recognition. That is literally the 4 Navigator Gas case to a T. Recognition proceedings are not additional appeals, which, by the way, gets to this him just 5 6 being so upset that this fictional promise that he thought of 7 himself didn't get put forward because it was wanting to have these opportunities to have additional bites of the apple, 8 9 which, by the way, if you look at what has happened once we went and got recognition, they have sought to oppose them. 10 So it's played out exactly as kind of expected. 11

The new firms that he mentioned being so wildly 12 improper, the main reason they weren't in the initial motion is 13 because we didn't know of them until the reply. And we have 14 15 sent letters to those firms as well, who, if there are -- and I don't know where Your Honor is on this, but you indicated at 16 least at one point that if somebody is holding themselves out 17 18 as representing the debtor before this Court, then they might 19 be subject to it. So that's why those parties are included.

With regards to the majority shareholders, Mr. Curtin says they are not a party, with one minor exception. It's not a minor exception. It's an opposition to recognition in Liberia. That's pretty significant. That's clearly a violation of the confirmation order and subsequent orders and clearly a violation of their being bound by the confirmation

# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 55 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 order to help implement it and not to do anything that we don't
2 direct them to do in writing.

The plan provides them to do as directed. In the exhibits, there are many, many emails from Mr. Kotliar to Mr. Curtin asking his clients to withdraw the oppositions in Liberia to withdraw or instruct other parties that they have corporate control over to withdraw the proceedings in Greece. And they have not. And again, yes, you can order them to do that. Again, that's the Navigator Gas case.

And again, with regard to Daniolos they are included within the parties that we have directed to inform their clients to withdraw these foreign oppositions. And they very clearly do not believe that they need to do that. So if they are subject to the jurisdiction of this Court, I think they are in the same boat as other related parties.

And with that, Your Honor, unless you have any questions, I don't think I have anything further at this time. THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

19 Did anyone else wish to be heard?

20 MR. SOLOMON: Your Honor, I would correct just two 21 errors of Mr. Ortiz's, with Your Honor's permission.

The first is that Judge Liman did nothing of the sort with respect to limited appearance. I don't know what he's talking about. I say, again, that since we never appeared for the party, it's hard to have a motion to withdraw. But we're

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 56 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

perfectly happy to make a motion to withdraw for a party that
 we did not appear for.

3 We have no role in those other proceedings, and we 4 have not represented Provisional Holdings in any of the matters 5 that he's talking about, even in this Court. Now, since he now concedes, for the first time, having put in his brief something 6 7 completely different, even in his reply brief, that there's nothing sanctionable about taking appeals and that is the limit 8 9 what Reed Smith is doing, then I think there is then absolutely no basis to suggest that Reed Smith has done anything wrong. 10

He said if Your Honor had suggested that if we represent the debtor before this Court, Reed Smith is not representing the debtor before this Court and nor are any of the law firms we didn't even serve and didn't go to the Hague Convention but put into the brief right before our reply was due.

Thank you, Your Honor. 17 18 THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel. Did anyone else wish to be heard? 19 20 The Court is prepared to rule. Okay. 21 Pending before the Court is Reorganized Eletson Holding Inc.'s emergency motion of Eletson Holdings, Inc. for 22 entry of a further order in support of confirmation and 23 24 consummation of the Court-approved plan of reorganization. That motion was filed on February 19th, 2025. We will refer to 25

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### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 57 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

it as the sanctions motion at docket 1459. Filed in support is
 the declaration of Jared Borriello, which we will refer to as
 the Borriello declaration, also at docket 1459.

On March 4th, 2025, Sidley Austin filed the objection of the majority shareholders of Eletson Holdings Inc. to emergency motion for entry of a further order in support of confirmation. That's the objection, which can be found at ECF docket number 1506.

9 Also on March 4th, 2025, the opposition of nonparty 10 Daniolos Law Firm to the emergency motion of Eletson Holdings 11 Inc. for entry of a further order in support of confirmation 12 and consummation of the Court-approved plan of reorganization 13 was filed. The Daniolos objection is at docket number 1507.

And on that same date, Reed Smith filed the memorandum of law in opposition to the emergency motion of Eletson Holdings Inc. for entry of a further order in support of confirmation and consummation of the Court-approved plan of reorganization. The Reed Smith objection is at docket number 1508. Filed in support was the declaration of Louis Solomon at docket number 1509.

On March 7th, 2025, Reorganized Eletson Holdings filed
its omnibus reply in support of its foreign opposition
sanctions motion. That reply is found at docket number 1522.
And filed in support of the reply is the declaration of Jared
Borriello in support of Eletson Holding Inc.'s omnibus reply in

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 58 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

support of its foreign opposition sanctions motion. That's the
 reply declaration.

3 In the reply, Reorganized Eletson Holdings Inc. has 4 grouped together examples of alleged violations of the majority and minority shareholders, the purported provisional board, and 5 6 purported Provisional Eletson Holdings Inc., as appendix A to 7 the reply. The examples of violations are grouped into the following categories, one, arguments that the United States 8 9 bankruptcy court lacks jurisdiction, two, arguments that the bankruptcy cases were filed in bad faith, and three, arguments 10 in foreign proceedings challenging enforcement of the Chapter 11 That's the reply appendix A at pages 1 through 15. 12 11 plan. 13 The filings and exhibits referenced in appendix A are exhibits attached to the Borriello declaration and the reply 14 15 declaration.

16 The Court will briefly outline certain factual history 17 as is relevant for today's ruling.

On October 25th, 2024, the Court entered the memorandum opinion and order confirming petitioning creditors' amended joint Chapter 11 plan of reorganization of Eletson Holdings Inc. and its affiliated debtors, sustaining objections to competing plan and denying motion in limine. That's the confirmation opinion at docket number 1212.

24 On November 4th, 2024, the Court entered the findings 25 of fact, conclusions of law, and order confirming petitioning

# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 59 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

56

1	creditors' amended joint Chapter 11 plan of Eletson Holdings
2	Inc. and its affiliated debtors, the confirmation order, at
3	docket 1223. Paragraph 5(i) of the confirmation order states
4	that, "The debtors and the petitioning creditors and each of
5	their respective related parties", which is defined in the
6	Chapter 11 plan, "are hereby directed to cooperate in good
7	faith to implement and consummate the plan." That's from the
8	confirmation order at paragraph 5(i).
9	The confirmation order also states that:
10	"The debtors are hereby authorized and directed to
11	take or not take any and all actions as instructed by
12	the petitioning creditors and shall not take any
13	actions inconsistent with the plan or this
14	confirmation order."
15	That's in the confirmation order, paragraph 5(iii).
16	Further, paragraph 12 of the confirmation order
17	provides that:
18	"Upon entry of the confirmation order, all holders of
19	claims or interests and other parties-in-interest,
20	along with their respective present or former
21	employees, agents, officers, directors, principals,
22	and affiliates shall be enjoined from taking any
23	actions to interfere with the implementation and/or
24	consummation of the plan."
25	That's from the confirmation order at paragraph 12.

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 60 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

The Court notes that on December 23rd, 2024, Judge 1 2 Liman, in a hearing on the confirmation appeal, held in 3 relevant part that the Chapter 11 plan and confirmation order entered by this Court "recognize the new board of Eletson and 4 gives the new board of Eletson under 5.2 of the plan the 5 ability to act on behalf of Eletson, which is under section 5.1 6 7 and 5.11 of the plan, and gives them under the plan of confirmation authority", and some bracketed text within the 8 9 quote for clarification. That's from TX 40 submitted in connection with the evidentiary hearing. And it's the Judge 10 Liman hearing transcript, page 31, lines 15 through 17. We'll 11 refer to that as the December 23rd Judge Liman hearing 12 transcript. See also the Chapter 11 plan, sections 5.2, 5.4, 13 5.10, and 5.11. 14

On January 24th, 2025, this Court issued a decision, which we will refer to as the January 24th decision, finding that certain ordered parties might be held in contempt and liable for sanctions for their failure to effectuate and implement the Chapter 11 plan and confirmation order pursuant to sections 1141 and 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code and as directed by Reorganized Eletson Holdings, Inc.

The Court also found that effectuating or implementing the confirmation order did not implicate or offend "international comity". This Court found in the January 24th decision:

### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 61 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

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"While Reed Smith argues that Section 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code applies to just state preemption, this argument misses the point because the Court is not seeking to displace foreign law here with this Court's order, but to enforce the confirmation order, which may involve implementing corporate acts in a foreign jurisdiction."

8 That's from the January 24th decision hearing9 transcript page 34, lines 2 through 7.

This Court then ordered that the debtors and the 10 related parties "pursuant to Section 1142 of the Bankruptcy 11 Code, are authorized, required, and directed to comply with the 12 confirmation order and the plan to assist in effectuating, 13 implementing, and consummating the terms thereof." That's from 14 15 docket number 1402, which is the January 29th, 2025 order in support of confirmation and consummation of the Court-approved 16 plan of reorganization. We'll refer to it as the January 29th 17 18 order.

19 The Court further ordered that the "debtors and the 20 related parties, including without limitation the ordered 21 parties, are authorized, required, and directed to take all 22 steps reasonably necessary, as requested by Reorganized 23 Holdings, to unconditionally support the effectuation, 24 implementation, and consummation of the plan", and bracketed 25 text for clarification, including at that time by taking all

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 62 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

steps reasonably necessary to update or amend the address of record, the AOR, and update or amend the corporate governance documents with LISCR. That's id, and see also the January 24th transcript at page 43, lines 21 through 25.

5 In addition, Judge Liman at the February 14th, 2025 6 hearing regarding confirmation appeals, stated in part:

7 "This ruling does not offend principles of extraterritoriality or comity. The district court is 8 9 not applying the ruling of the bankruptcy court extraterritorially. It is applying it to a proceeding 10 in the United States relating to an entity that 11 voluntarily invoked the powers of the United States 12 13 court and that is properly here, Principles of comity apply when the conduct of a United States court will 14 15 infringe on sovereign interests of a foreign state," citing Next Investors, LLC v. Bank of China, 12 F.4th 16 119, 131. "Here, the United States court is not 17 18 taking action that would require a party to infringe some sovereign interest of a foreign state." 19

That's from district court docket number 270, which is Judge Liman's hearing transcript, the February 14th hearing transcript, page 103, lines 14 through 25 and page 104, line 1. Following evidence that certain parties did not

satisfy the requirements in the January 29th order to takecertain actions as directed by Reorganized Eletson Holdings,

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## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 63 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

this Court issued a decision on February 20th, 2025, finding that, "Although the Court finds that the January 24th decision and the January 29th order are clear and unambiguous, the Court will provide the parties one final opportunity for compliance." That was the February 20th decision, ECF docket number 1468. The February 20th transcript at page 105, lines 5 through 8.

7 Based on certain parties' subsequent noncompliance with the February 20th decision, the Court entered an order in 8 9 support of confirmation and consummation of the Court-approved plan of reorganization and imposing sanctions on certain 10 That was on February 27th, 2025 at docket number 11 parties. 1495. We will refer to it as the sanctions order. The former 12 13 majority shareholders, the purported provisional board, Mr. Hadjieleftheriadis, and the AOR were sanctioned for failing to 14 15 comply with the Chapter 11 plan, the confirmation order, the January 24th decision, the January 29th order, and the February 16 20th decision. 17

As to any issues regarding service and/or notice, the Court agrees with Reorganized Eletson Holdings that claims about service and/or notice have previously been addressed by the Court in the February 20th decision. That's from the reply brief at paragraph 2. But see the February 20th hearing transcript, page 90, line 22 through page 94, line 1.

24The Daniolos Law Firm argues that they have not been25served according to the Hague Convention. That's the Daniolos

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 64 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

objection, paragraph 30. They further argue that because of
the deficient notice, the Court does not have jurisdiction over
them. That's id at 33. And they argue that exercising
personal jurisdiction over them is inconsistent with due
process. That's id at 37. The Court disagrees for several
reasons.

7 First, as the Court noted in the February 27th sanctions order, Daniolos has previously submitted several 8 9 declarations related to the substance of these proceedings. They have submitted to the Court the supplemental declaration 10 of John Markianos-Daniolos in support of motion for stay of 11 enforcement of January 29th, 2025 order pending appeal. 12 That's at docket number 1453, which was filed as a supplement to the 13 declaration of John Markianos-Daniolos, attached to the letter 14 15 to the Honorable John P. Mastando regarding compliance with That is at docket number 1407. And the declaration of 16 order. John Markianos-Daniolos regarding the motion for stay of 17 18 enforcement of January 29th, 2025 order pending appeal attached 19 to the letter to the Honorable John P. Mastando regarding 20 update on Greek proceeding. That's at ECF docket number 1410.

Second, the Court also notes that Daniolos purports to be counsel to purported Provisional Eletson Holdings and/or the purported provisional board. See e.g. ECF docket number 1453, Daniolos declaration at paragraph 2. Purported Provisional Holdings and the purported provisional board purport to be the

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 65 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

debtor in this case, or may be, depending on their arguments, 1 2 and thus Daniolos is acting potentially as counsel to the 3 debtor, in their client's own view. Thus, service upon 4 Daniolos is also sufficient service upon and notice to the purported provisional board and the purported Provisional 5 6 Eletson holdings. The Court also finds that service upon Reed 7 Smith is also sufficient service upon and notice to the purported provisional board and purported Provisional Holdings. 8

9 Reorganized Holdings argues in the sanctions motion that, one, paragraph 12 of the confirmation order enjoins the 10 ordered parties from taking actions to interfere with the 11 Chapter 11 plan, and the confirmation order also requires 12 parties to assist in effectuating implementing and consummating 13 the terms of the plan; two, that despite such requirements, the 14 15 ordered parties have failed to withdraw their opposition to the recognition proceedings in Liberia and have filed briefs in 16 opposition to Reorganized Eletson Holdings in Greece; that, 17 18 three, the Navigator Gas case is instructive, as the violating 19 parties in that case similarly sought to obstruct consummation of the Chapter 11 plan in violation of Section 1142 and were 20 21 held in contempt; and four, that the Court should find the ordered parties in contempt and impose sanctions for violating 22 terms of the confirmation order and the January 29th order. 23 24 That's from the sanctions motion, paragraphs 38 through 44. 25 Section 1142 of the Bankruptcy Code provides that, A,

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 66 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

notwithstanding any otherwise applicable nonbankruptcy law, 1 2 Rule, or regulation relating to financial condition, the debtor 3 and any entity organized for the purpose of carrying out the plan shall carry out the plan and shall comply with any orders 4 5 of the court. And B, the court may direct the debtor and any other necessary party to execute or deliver or to join in the 6 7 execution or delivery of any instrument required to effect the transfer of property dealt with by a confirmed plan and to 8 9 perform any other act that is necessary for the consummation of That's 11 U.S.C. 1142. Certain ellipses within the 10 the plan. quotes. Section 1142 generally concerns implementation of the 11 plan. See In re: Voyager Digital Holdings, 649 B.R. 111, 134 12 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2023). 13

Similar to Section 1142, which requires, inter alia, 14 15 that debtors and former debtors "comply with any orders of the court" and "perform any other act" to carry out the plan. 16 The confirmation order requires the debtors and the petitioning 17 18 creditors and their related parties to "cooperate in good faith 19 to implement and consummate the plan" and "enjoins them from 20 taking any actions to interfere with the implementation or 21 consummation of the plan", and some bracketed text for 22 clarification. That's from the confirmation order, paragraphs 23 5(i) and 12, and see also the reply brief, paragraph 13. 24 The Court agrees with the Reorganized Eletson Holdings

and finds that the former minority shareholders, the former

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 67 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

majority shareholders, purported Provisional Eletson holdings, the purported provisional board, and Mr. Hadjieleftheriadis have failed to "cooperate in good faith to implement and consummate the plan" and have violated the injunction against "taking any actions to interfere with the implementation or consummation of the plan". That's from, again, the confirmation order, paragraphs 5(i) and 12.

8 Indeed, these parties have also actively opposed
9 Reorganized Eletson Holdings' attempts to obtain recognition in
10 foreign proceedings. See, for example, the sanctioned motions,
11 paragraphs 26, 33, and 39.

First, the Court finds that the former minority shareholders have failed to "cooperate in good faith to implement and consummate" the Chapter 11 plan and in fact have taken actions, for instance, the original action seeking to establish the purported provisional board to oppose the confirmation order.

On November 12, 2024, the First Instance Court of Piraeus in Greece, we'll refer to as the Greek court, appointed a provisional board of Eletson Holdings Inc. See the sanctions motion at paragraph 31.

Elafonissos Shipping Corp. and Keros Shipping Corp., which are the former minority shareholders, had sought relief from the Greek court to appoint the temporary board to, inter alia, manage the company while the confirmation order was being

# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 68 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 appealed.

2 The purported provisional board is comprised of the 3 following and includes certain of the previous board members, 4 Vassilis Hadjieleftheriadis, Konstantinos Hadjieleftheriadis, 5 Ioannis Zilakos, Niki Zilakou, Adrianos Psomadakis-6 Karastamatis, Eleni Giannakopoulou, Panos Paxinos, and 7 Emmanouil Andreoulakis. The former minority shareholders have also collaterally attacked the confirmation order before the 8 9 Greek court by, for instance, stating in the November 11th, 2024 in the petition to appoint the purported provisional board 10 that Eletson Holdings Inc.'s "the bankruptcy was manipulated", 11 even though the debtors voluntarily availed themselves of the 12 protections of this Court in the Chapter 11 bankruptcy, and 13 this Court had already issued the confirmation opinion and 14 15 entered the confirmation order at that time. See the reply declaration exhibit 1 at 25 and 26 and also the sanctions 16 motion at paragraph 9. 17

18 In another proceeding before the Greek court on 19 February 4th, 2025, the former minority shareholders have 20 further asserted that, "It follows that the exclusive 21 jurisdiction for the initiation of the insolvency proceedings lies exclusively with the courts of Greece", which is a further 22 23 violation of the confirmation order, given that the debtors, as 24 just stated, had voluntarily elected to convert this case to Chapter 11 and submitted to the jurisdiction of this Court. 25

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# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 69 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

See the Borriello declaration, exhibit 19 at pages 42 and 55. Also, the former minority shareholders have asserted in a February 19th, 2025 Greek injunction motion that while the bankruptcy filing was initiated in "bad faith", this Court nevertheless confirmed the petitioning creditors' Chapter 11 plan. That's from the reply at paragraph 4. And see the reply declaration, exhibit 31 at 21.

Not only does this argument collaterally attack this 8 9 Court's confirmation of the Chapter 11 plan over the debtors Chapter 11 plan, but these arguments also directly contradict 10 Judge Liman's finding in dismissing the confirmation appeal, 11 that "As of the effective date and by order of the bankruptcy 12 13 court, Eletson Holdings is now the Reorganized Eletson Thus, as Judge Mastando recently ruled, there are 14 Holdings. 15 not two separate Eletson holdings. Judge Mastando stated, "Essentially, Reorganized Eletson Holdings is the only Eletson 16 Holdings Inc." That's from Judge Liman's February 14th hearing 17 18 transcript, page 96, lines 17 through 24. See also the January 19 24th hearing transcript, page 26, lines 16 through 21.

The Court also notes that no other party, such as, for instance, the former majority shareholders, the purported provisional board or purported Provisional Holdings or any of the board members has taken any action to correct or rectify any actions of the former minority shareholders.

25 Second, the requirement to comply in good faith to

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### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 70 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

implement and effectuate the confirmation order and the injunction against "taking any actions to interfere with the implementation or consummation of the plan" have also been violated by the former majority shareholders, the purported provisional board, purported Provisional Eletson Holdings, and Mr. Hadjieleftheriadis.

7 The Court first notes that Mr. Hadjieleftheriadis is identified as the purported "president, treasurer, director of 8 9 Eletson Holdings Inc." That's from Trial Exhibit 104, submitted in connection with the evidentiary hearing. And he 10 is the director and president of Glafkos Trust Corporation. 11 See docket number 1474. And he also recently became the owner 12 13 and manager of Lassia Investment Company. See docket 1472. 14 And Glafkos and Lassia are two of the former majority 15 shareholders.

Indeed, as discussed below, purported Provisional Eletson Holdings Inc., with Mr. Hadjieleftheriadis in these roles, has filed oppositions to both the Liberian and Greek proceedings initiated by reorganized Eletson Holdings, seeking recognition of the confirmation order. See e.g. the Borriello declaration, exhibits 11 and 19.

22 Moreover, the Court notes that certain former 23 directors of the debtor, Vassilis Kertsikoff and Laskarina 24 Karastamati, are purported to serve on the board of Reorganized 25 Eletson Holding subsidiaries that filed the joinder seeking to

# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 71 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

dismiss the ongoing Liberian recognition proceeding. See reply
 at paragraph 10 and see the reply declaration, exhibit 26,
 pages 62 to 63.

The Court also agrees that former majority 4 shareholders, the purported provisional board, purported 5 6 Provisional Eletson Holdings, that their inaction and as well 7 as actions, including filing the opposition to proceedings in Liberia and Greece by Reorganized Eletson Holdings Inc., have " 8 9 frustrated the Court's direct orders and the full implementation of the Court-ordered plan." That's from the 10 sanctions motion at paragraph 39. 11

Indeed, the former majority shareholders and purported 12 Provisional Eletson Holdings, parties that have previously 13 argued in this court that the foreign recognition of the 14 15 confirmation order must be obtained to effectuate the plan, have filed pleadings in opposition to the foreign recognition 16 proceedings. See the reply, paragraph 12, and the Borriello 17 18 declaration, exhibit 11, which is the majority shareholders 19 joining and opposing the Liberian recognition. See also reply 20 declaration exhibit 26, Provisional Eletson Holdings opposing 21 Reorganized Eletson in Greece.

22 Purported Provisional Eletson Holdings Inc., as is 23 stated, joined by the former majority shareholders, filed the 24 opposition to a proceeding filed by Reorganized Eletson 25 Holdings Inc. on January 9th, 2025 in Liberia, which we'll

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### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 72 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

refer to as the subsequent Liberian proceeding. And they asserted that "having made a finding concerning the bad faith actions of Murchinson and its affiliates, the U.S. bankruptcy court nevertheless concluded that this conduct was not relevant to the issue of whether the petitioning creditors' plan should be confirmed". That's the Borriello declaration, exhibit 11, paragraph 1.3.

8 This argument collaterally attacks the confirmation 9 order by undermining this Court's decision, decided after a 10 confirmation trial at which both sides presented evidence to 11 confirm the petitioning creditors' Chapter 11 plan over the 12 former debtors' Chapter 11 plan in a proceeding to which the 13 debtor voluntarily consented to jurisdiction.

Also on January 17th, 2025, purported Provisional Eletson Holdings Inc., joined by one of the minority shareholders, filed an injunction in the Greek court on January 17 17th, collaterally attacking Reorganized Eletson Holdings Inc. We'll call this the Greek Injunction petition at reply, paragraph 10, and see also the Borriello declaration, exhibit 26 at pages 54 to 55.

In the Greek injunction petition, purported Provisional Eletson Holdings Inc. argues that the confirmed Chapter 11 plan "does not have any consequence as to Eletson Holdings Inc. in Greece, nor is it binding", and ellipses within the quote and bracketed text for clarification. That's

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 73 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 the reply declaration, exhibit 26 at 54 through 55.

2 Provisional Eletson Holdings Inc. further argues that 3 Eletson Holdings "has not been declares" to be in bankruptcy in U.S. bankruptcy court, as this Court lacks jurisdiction. 4 See The Court finds this argument as further example of a 5 id. 6 violation of the confirmation order because as expressed 7 earlier, the debtors voluntarily converted to and benefited from the protections of Chapter 11 in this Court. 8

9 Thus, the Court agrees that -- thus, the Court agrees that despite the former majority shareholders and purported 10 provisional board's demands that recognition be sought in 11 Liberia -- that's from the objection in paragraph 25 -- and in 12 Greece, purported Provisional Eletson Holdings and the former 13 majority shareholders have collaterally attacked the 14 15 confirmation order by -- and the minority shareholders by opposing any attempt by Reorganized Eletson Holdings to 16 recognize the confirmation order. That's from the reply, 17 18 paragraph 19.

Further, the majority shareholders argue that since "none of the foreign actions have been initiated by the majority shareholders and the majority shareholders cannot terminate or withdraw these foreign actions, there is no basis to hold the majority shareholders in contempt for actions taken by others", and ellipses within the quote and some bracketed text for clarification. That's from the former majority

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### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 74 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

shareholders' objection, paragraph 8. While the former
 majority shareholders may not have technically initiated the
 foreign actions, they have litigated against the recognition
 proceedings. See the reply paragraph 12, as discussed.

Moreover, whether the former majority shareholders 5 6 initiated the proceedings is, of course, only part of the 7 question. As the Court noted earlier, the former majority shareholders joined in the subsequent Liberian proceeding to 8 9 oppose recognition of the confirmation order, violation of the confirmation order requiring shareholders to cooperate in good 10 faith to effectuate the confirmation order. See the Borriello 11 declaration, exhibit 11, paragraph 3.3, parenthetical, arguing 12 that "the bankruptcy proceedings were initiated in bad faith" 13 and that "Adam Speers is not recognized and has no such 14 15 authority".

Moreover, even if the former majority shareholders did not technically initiate foreign opposition proceedings, they are capable of and empowered to influence or at least attempt to and disclose that, inter alia, "the purported provisional board and/or the former minority shareholders regarding taking actions contrary to the foreign recognition proceedings".

The Court agrees with Reorganized Eletson Holdings Inc. that "despite the former majority shareholders' purported powers and former majority shareholders' obligations under the Bankruptcy Code, the confirmation order, the January 29th

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 75 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

order, the Court's February 20th, 2025 order requiring 1 2 certifications regarding compliance, and the Court's recent order concluding that they had failed to comply with the 3 sanctions order, the former majority shareholders have never 4 5 taken any steps to cause Holdings or its subsidiaries to support foreign recognition of the confirmation order." 6 That's 7 from the reply at paragraph 11. Again, certain bracketed text 8 and ellipses within the quote.

9 Therefore, the former majority shareholders, the former minority shareholders, the purported provisional board, 10 the purported Provisional Holdings, and Mr. Hadjieleftheriadis 11 have failed to "cooperate in good faith to implement and 12 consummate the plan" and have violated the injunction against 13 "any actions to interfere with the implementation or 14 15 consummation of the plan or interfering with distributions and payments contemplated by the plan". That's the confirmation 16 order, paragraphs 5(i) and 12. 17

18 The Court will now discuss the legal standard for19 imposing sanctions and a finding of contempt.

As counsel has discussed, bankruptcy courts have the power to impose civil contempt sanctions pursuant to Section 105(a) of the Bankruptcy Code for a party's failure to adhere to an order of the court. See e.g. In re: Bambi, 492 B.R. 183, 191. That's (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2013). Parenthetical, "Courts may use civil contempt pursuant to Section 105(a) to compel a

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 76 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

reluctant party to do what a court requires of them" and
 internal citations omitted and ellipses within the quote.

A bankruptcy court retains post confirmation
jurisdiction to "interpret and enforce its own orders,
particularly when disputes arise over a bankruptcy plan of
reorganization". That's see In re: Petrie Retail, 304 F.3d
223, 230 (2d Cir. 2002).

"To impose civil contempt sanctions, the movant must 8 9 show that, one, the order the party allegedly failed to comply with is clear and unambiguous; two, the proof of noncompliance 10 is clear and convincing; and three, the party has not 11 diligently attempted in a reasonable manner to comply." That's 12 In re: Chief Exec. Officers Clubs, 359 B.R. 527, 535 (Bankr. 13 S.D.N.Y 2007), citations omitted. The "clear and convincing 14 15 standard" requires a "quantum of proof adequate to demonstrate the reasonable certainty that a violation occurred". And see 16 id. 17

The Court finds that the former majority shareholders, the former minority shareholders, purported Provisional Eletson Holdings, the purported provisional board, Mr.

Hadjieleftheriadis are in contempt of the confirmation order and this Court's January 29th order for failing to comply with their obligations and continuing to act in violation of the Chapter 11 plan, confirmation decision, the confirmation order, and the January 29th order. See also the sanctions motion,

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 77 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 paragraph 39.

2	First, the orders are clear and unambiguous. The
3	confirmation order clearly states that the parties are
4	"directed to cooperate in good faith to implement and
5	consummate the plan." That's the confirmation order, paragraph
б	5(i). And "upon entry of the confirmation order, the parties
7	are enjoined from taking any actions to interfere with the
8	implementation and or consummation of the plan." That's the
9	confirmation order, paragraph 12.

10 The Court, further implementing the terms of the confirmation order, also ordered that certain parties are 11 "authorized, required, and directed to take all steps 12 reasonably necessary, as requested by Reorganized Eletson 13 14 Holdings, to unconditionally support the effectuation, 15 implementation, and consummation of the plan", and ellipses within the quote and bracketed language clarification. 16 That's from the January 29th order, and see also the January 24th 17 18 hearing transcript at page 43, lines 21 to 25.

Reed Smith argues that "principles of international comity" apply to the former debtors and purported Provisional Eletson Holdings, despite this Court's finding, for example, that, "just because the plan references compliance with applicable law, that does not mean that there is applicable law that needs to be applied here" in effectuating the confirmation order. That's from the objection, paragraph 25. See also the

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### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 78 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

January 24th hearing transcript at 36, lines 9 through 12.
 But this argument, again, has already been addressed
 by this Court. And even if issues of international comity were
 implicated, which they are not, purported Provisional Eletson
 Holdings Inc. and the former shareholders do not have to oppose
 Reorganized Eletson Holdings' actions in Liberia and Greece
 seeking recognition of the confirmation order.

8 The Court also notes that as counsel indicated, Court 9 is not asking Greek or Liberian courts to do anything here by 10 this order.

11 Therefore, the Court's prior orders are clear and 12 unambiguous.

The Court also finds that the noncompliance is clear 13 and convincing. The clear and convincing standard requires a 14 15 "quantum of proof adequate to demonstrate the reasonable certainty that a violation occurred". That's In re: Chief 16 Executive Officers Clubs, 359 B.R. at 535. The Court agrees 17 18 with Reorganized Eletson Holdings that the former majority and 19 minority shareholders, the purported provisional board, 20 purported Provisional Eletson Holdings, and Mr. 21 Hadjieleftheriadis have a clear record of noncompliance. See 22 sanctions motion in paragraph 1. 23

These parties have "actively opposed judicial recognition proceedings filed by Reorganized Eletson Holdings in Liberia and Greece", id. And again, just by way of example,

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 79 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

some of which we've already covered, by, one, filing an 1 2 opposition to the subsequent Liberian proceeding, asserting 3 that the U.S. bankruptcy court erred in confirming the 4 petitioning creditors' Chapter 11 plan -- see the Borriello declaration, exhibit 11, paragraph 1.3 -- and arguing before 5 the Greek court that Mr. Spears is not a representative of 6 7 Eletson Holdings Inc. and that the confirmed Chapter 11 plan "does not have any consequence as to Eletson Holdings in 8 9 Greece, nor is it binding", ellipses within the quote, and bracketed text for clarification. Again, that's the reply 10 declaration, exhibit 26 at 54 to 55. 11

Furthermore, after the Court issued the February 20th decision, the parties continued to "press their arguments that the confirmation order should not be judicially recognized in both Liberian and Greek proceedings and have not withdrawn their oppositions in either forum." That's from the reply, paragraph 37.

The pattern of noncompliance reflects more than a quantum of proof that the former majority and minority shareholders, purported Provisional Eletson Holdings, the purported provisional board, and Mr. Hadjieleftheriadis have "frustrated this Court's direct orders and the full implementation of the Court-ordered plan". That's from the sanctions motion, paragraph 39.

The party to be held in contempt must not have

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 80 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

diligently attempted to comply with the Court's orders in a 1 2 reasonable manner. Again, as stated earlier, the former 3 majority and minority shareholders, purported Provisional 4 Eletson holdings, the purported provisional board, and Mr. Hadjieleftheriadis have not reasonably attempted to comply with 5 the confirmation order. Instead, they have taken 6 7 obstructionist behavior in response to Reorganized Eletson Holdings Inc.'s pleadings in foreign courts. That's from the 8 9 reply at paragraph 14. See also the sanctions motion at 10 paragraph 39.

The confirmation order requires the debtors and petitioning creditors and their "related parties", as defined therein and in the plan, to "cooperate in good faith to implement and consummate the plan" and to not "take any actions to interfere with the implementation or consummation of the plan". That's from the confirmation order, again, paragraphs 5(i) and 12.

18 As outlined earlier, examples of the obstructionist 19 behavior include, one, the former minority shareholders' filing 20 of the Greek petition seeking the appointment of the 21 provisional board, violating paragraph 12 of the confirmation order. Again, that's the Borriello declaration, exhibit 1 at 22 The purported provisional board, joined by the former 23 27. 24 majority shareholders, filing an opposition to the subsequent 25 Liberian proceeding, asserting that "having made a finding

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#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 81 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 concerning the bad faith actions of Murchinson and its 2 affiliates, the U.S. bankruptcy court nevertheless concluded 3 that this conduct was not relevant to the issue of whether the 4 petitioning creditors' plan should be confirmed". That's the 5 Borriello declaration, exhibit 11, paragraph 1.3.

6 And in the Greek injunction petition, the purported 7 Provisional Eletson Holdings Inc. and the former minority shareholders assert that the confirmed Chapter 11 plan "does 8 9 not have any consequence as to Holdings in Greece, nor is it binding", and again, ellipses within the quote and bracketed 10 text for clarification. That's the reply declaration, exhibit 11 26 at 54 through 55. They further assert that Eletson Holdings 12 Inc. "has not been declared" to be in bankruptcy in U.S. 13 bankruptcy court "as this Court lacks jurisdiction", again, 14 15 despite debtors voluntarily submitting to the jurisdiction of 16 this Court.

Therefore, given the clear and unambiguous language in 17 18 the confirmation order and the January 29th order, the clear 19 and convincing proof of noncompliance, and the failure of the 20 former majority and minority shareholders, purported 21 Provisional Eletson Holdings Inc., the purported provisional board, and Mr. Hadjieleftheriadis to diligently comply with the 22 23 confirmation order and the January 29th order, the parties are 24 found to be in contempt.

25

Where the Court finds the party in contempt, it may

### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 82 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

1 impose monetary sanctions upon that party. See In re: Markus, 2 78 F.4th 554, 570. That's (2d Cir. 2023). Parenthetical, "a 3 bankruptcy court's inherent sanctioning authority includes the 4 power to impose civil contempt sanctions in nonnominal amounts 5 to compensate an injured party and coerce future compliance 6 with the court's order". In In re: Markus, the Court imposed a 7 daily 1,000-dollar sanction upon debtor's counsel for failure to comply with the court's orders. That's id at 570. 8

9 The court can impose sanctions relative to the 10 "character and magnitude of the harm threatened by continued 11 contumacy and the probable effectiveness of any suggested 12 sanction in bringing about compliance with the court's order". 13 See In re: Chief Executive Officers, 359 B.R. at 530. Here, 14 the sanctions are warranted, given this Court's contempt 15 finding stated above.

Accordingly, based on the foregoing, it is hereby ordered that, one, the motion is granted in part. Two, the following parties are found in contempt for violating the Chapter 11 plan, the confirmation order, and the January 29th order. That is the former minority shareholders, the former majority shareholders, purported Provisional Eletson Holdings, the purported provisional board, and Vassilis

23 Hadjieleftheriadis.

24The former minority shareholders, the former majority25shareholders, purported Provisional Holdings and the purported

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 83 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

provisional board and Mr. Hadjieleftheriadis are authorized, 1 2 required and directed to withdraw any and all filings that 3 oppose or undermine in any way the judicial recognition of the 4 confirmation order, including, without limitation, filings in 5 the Liberian proceedings and the Greek proceedings, and are enjoined from making any filings in any court seeking to oppose 6 7 or undermine in any way the judicial recognition of the confirmation order, including, without limitation, by 8 9 initiating or prosecuting any legal actions that seek to oppose or undermine the confirmation order. 10

As a result of this Court's finding of contempt, the 11 Court hereby imposes the following sanctions on the former 12 minority shareholders, the former majority shareholders, 13 purported Provisional Eletson Holdings, Inc., the purported 14 15 provisional board, and Vassilis Hadjieleftheriadis. These are coercive monetary sanctions of 5,000 dollars per day per party 16 until such parties comply with the confirmation order, the 17 18 January 29th order, and this order.

19 Reorganized Eletson Holdings Inc.'s rights are
20 expressly reserved to seek additional coercive and compensatory
21 monetary sanctions in to-be-determined amounts, including,
22 without limitation, to pay for Reorganized Eletson Holdings
23 Inc.'s fees and expenses in connection with the sanctions
24 motion, the Liberian proceedings, the Greek proceedings, and
25 all further actions related thereto. Any other relief sought

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### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 84 of 102 ELETSON HOLDINGS INC., ET AL.

81

in the motion and not addressed herein and any arguments are 1 2 deemed to be either withdrawn or denied without prejudice. 3 Counsel, if you can submit an order consistent with the ruling. 4 5 Good morning, Your Honor. Kyle Ortiz of MR. ORTIZ: б Togut, Segal & Segal for Eletson Holdings. We'll be happy to 7 do that, Your Honor. Okay. Anything else for today? 8 THE COURT: 9 MR. ORTIZ: Not for today, Your Honor. Thank you. THE COURT: Okay. We're adjourned. 10 Thank you, 11 everyone. Thank you, Your Honor. 12 MR. SOLOMON: (Whereupon these proceedings were concluded at 11:20 AM) 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25

# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 85 of 102

				82
1				
2	I N D E X			
3	RULINGS:	PAGE	LINE	
4	Sanctions motion is granted in part,	79	20	
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73				

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 86 of 102

CERTIFICATION I, River Wolfe, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. R. Wy River Wolfe (CDLT-265) TTA-Certified Digital Legal Transcriber eScribers 7227 North 16th Street, Suite #207 Phoenix, AZ 85020 Date: March 13, 2025 

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 87 of 102 March

Eletson Holdings	F	2g 87 of 102		March 12, 202
	added (1)	78:10,14	AOR (3)	5:4
Α	47:3	against (13)	21:22;59:2;60:14	ARCHER (1)
A	addition (1)	11:19;28:8;29:6;	apologies (1)	9:3
abide (1)	59:5	35:25;36:22;38:13;	46:3	architect (2)
11:20	additional (8)	43:17;44:13;45:17;	apologize (2)	37:2,18
	18:23;28:14;35:24;	64:4;67:2;71:3;72:13	25:24;39:7	arguably (1)
bility (2)	49:12;50:22;51:5,8;	agenda (2)	apparently (2)	38:3
20:15;57:6	80:20	11:10,11	35:16;44:18	argue (7)
ble (1)	Additionally (1)	agents (2)	appeal (15)	23:5;34:12;37:17,
10:17	30:18	13:5;56:21	15:13;37:13,21,23,	18;61:1,3;70:19
above (2)	address (5)	ago (3)	25;38:5,8,11,19;40:5;	argued (2)
16:7;79:15	34:14,15;35:14,17;	11:22;21:9;41:13	49:10;57:2;61:12,18;	27:13;68:14
absolutely (2)	59:1		49.10, <i>37</i> .2,01.12,18, 66:11	
34:17;53:9		agreed (1)		argues (7)
absolved (1)	addressed (4)	16:16	appealed (1)	21:17;58:1;60:24;
36:7	22:7;60:20;75:2;	agrees (7)	65:1	62:9;69:22;70:2;
absurd (1)	81:1	60:19;63:24;68:4;	appeals (7)	74:19
50:12	addresses (1)	70:9,9;71:22;75:17	38:2;39:14;40:8;	arguing (6)
absurdity (1)	31:25	aid (7)	49:13;51:5;53:8;59:6	18:21;19:22;22:18;
18:24	adequate (2)	14:15;19:1,15;24:2;	appear (3)	50:9;71:12;76:5
abusing (2)	73:15;75:15	27:1,12;43:22	16:5;22:19;53:2	argument (8)
34:6,11	adhere (1)	alia (3)	appearance (3)	20:3;43:4;46:21;
accomplish (1)	72:22	63:14;64:25;71:19	44:9;51:1;52:23	58:3;66:8;69:8;70:5;
32:20	adjourned (1)	allegation (1)	appearances (2)	75:2
accordance (1)	81:10	48:10	10:4;39:5	arguments (19)
22:23	admiralty (1)	allegations (1)	appeared (4)	15:22;19:12;23:8;
	30:16	45:17	37:9;39:17;40:1;	27:23;31:17;36:12;
according (1)	admissions (1)	alleged (1)	52:24	37:11;38:16,18;46:4;
60:25	15:6	55:4	appearing (2)	49:3,7;55:8,9,10;
Accordingly (2)	admitted (2)	allegedly (2)	46:1,16	62:1;66:10;76:13;
45:20;79:16	22:21;41:17	11:24;73:9	appears (1)	81:1
accused (2)	Adrianos (1)	alleges (1)	42:13	arise (1)
34:14;41:6	65:5	45:9		73:5
act (8)			appendix (4)	
19:24;30:5,18,23;	advice (1)	allowed (1)	14:25;55:6,12,13	around (3)
57:6;63:9,16;73:23	46:15	40:8	apple (1)	23:21,22;49:4
acting (1)	advise (1)	allows (3)	51:8	aside (1)
62:2	35:12	33:18;39:4,8	applicable (5)	17:20
action (3)	advised (5)	along (2)	30:20,23;63:1;	assert (2)
59:18;64:15;66:23	34:24,24,25;43:23,	13:4;56:20	74:23,23	78:8,12
actions (51)	24	Although (1)	application (1)	asserted (3)
12:10,12,14;13:7;	advocates (1)	60:2	41:25	65:20;66:2;69:2
17:22;18:1,13;21:19,	42:22	amend (2)	applied (1)	asserting (2)
19;22:3,25;23:5;	Aegean (1)	59:1,2	74:24	76:2;77:25
25:19,20,21;27:5,6,	9:4	amended (3)	applies (1)	assertion (2)
12,18;28:10,17;44:17,	affiliated (2)	20:14;55:20;56:1	58:2	37:20;41:11
23,25;45:18,20;	55:21;56:2	America (1)	apply (3)	assertions (1)
46:14;56:11,13,23;	affiliates (6)	40:7	30:6;59:14;74:20	36:14
40.14,50.11,15,25, 59:25;62:11;63:20;	12:24;13:6;26:19;	Americas (1)	applying (2)	assist (5)
	56:22;69:3;78:2	6:12	59:9,10	13:25;35:7;42:24;
64:5,15;66:24;67:2;	affirmative (1)	among (3)	appoint (2)	58:13;62:13
68:7;69:3;70:20,22,	25:1	12:5;15:12;17:6	64:24;65:10	associated (1)
23;71:3,21;72:14;	affirmatively (1)	amount (2)	appointed (1)	24:10
74:7;75:6;77:14;78:1;	25:2	29:3;45:5	64:19	attached (4)
80:9,25	afield (1)	amounts (2)	appointing (1)	
actively (4)				16:25;55:14;61:14,
14:10;28:6;64:8;	45:5	79:4;80:21	15:11	18 attack (5)
75:23	again (35)	and/or (5)	appointment (3)	attack (5)
acts (2)	11:18;15:7;16:18;	56:23;60:18,20;	16:24;25:8;77:20	17:16;19:20;21:24;
19:9;58:6	17:12;18:7;22:2,12;	61:22;71:20	appropriate (2)	49:13;66:8
actually (5)	24:18;26:13,15,15;	Andreoulakis (1)	27:15;42:8	attacked (2)
10:16;33:24,25;	27:17;28:13;32:8,12;	65:7	approved (2)	65:8;70:14
35:7;41:24	41:10;44:9;45:4,10;	ANDREW (1)	28:20;29:8	attacking (3)
ADAM (4)	46:4;50:9;52:8,9,10,	5:17	arbitration (2)	21:4;39:13;69:17
9:12;19:24;20:1;	24;64:6;72:7;75:2,25;	answered (1)	41:18;43:9	attacks (1)
71:14	76:10;77:2,16,22;	42:25	Arch (1)	69:8
/ 1.14	,,,,			

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## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 88 of 102 March

Eletson Holdings	F	9 88 of 102		March 12, 2025
attempt (3)	21:18;32:12,13,14;	9:14	broadly (1)	14:14;18:12;32:19;
26:14;70:16;71:18	34:6;45:11;48:2,2;	blinked (1)	32:9	50:2
attempted (6)	55:9,10;57:20;58:2,	23:19	brought (6)	certainty (2)
12:1;17:3;27:21;	11;59:9;62:25;65:11,	board (41)	17:22;28:10;38:13,	73:16;75:16
73:12;77:1,5	13;66:4,12;69:3;70:3,	15:12;16:16,25;	14;42:18;48:1	certification (3)
attempting (2)	4;71:13,25;72:20,22;	18:8;25:8,17;28:5,6;	Bryan (1)	34:22;43:19,21
23:9;34:18	73:3,5;76:3;78:2,13,	40:23;55:5;57:4,5;	10:7	certifications (1)
attempts (1)	14;79:3	60:13;61:23,25;62:5,	BUCK (1)	72:2
64:9	bargain (2)	8;64:2,16,20,24;65:2,	5:17	challenge (3)
attend (1)	28:20;29:8	3,10;66:22,23;67:5,	business (1)	14:17;15:15,19
47:4	barred (1)	24;68:5;71:20;72:10;	46:13	challenging (2)
attention (2)	45:14	73:20;75:19;76:21;	~	23:3;55:11
34:13;40:11	based (3)	77:4,21,23;78:22;	С	CHALOS (1)
Attorneys (8)	45:21;60:7;79:16	79:22;80:1,15		8:11
5:3,13;6:3,11;7:3,	basis (9)	board's (2)	call (4)	Chapter (28)
13;8:3,12	17:11;30:19;40:18;	16:4;70:11	34:13;35:22;40:10;	15:16;17:24;18:1;
AUSTIN (3)	45:21;47:20;48:12,	boat (1)	69:18	55:11,20;56:1,6;57:3,
7:2;10:22;54:4	13;53:10;70:22	52:15	calls (1)	13,19;60:15;62:12,
uthorities (1)	Bay (1)	bono (1)	40:17	20;64:14;65:13,25;
23:25	8:14	33:1	Cambridge (1)	66:5,9,10;69:11,12,
uthority (12)	became (1)	Borriello (13)	24:9	23;70:8;73:24;76:4,7;
20:8,9,10;23:24;	67:12	54:2,3,25;55:14;	came (1)	78:8;79:19
29:8;39:12;41:15;	begin (1)	66:1;67:20;68:17;	29:17	character (1)
44:21;50:21;57:8;	11:8	69:6,19;71:11;76:4;	Can (26)	79:10
71:15;79:3	beginning (1)	77:22;78:5	10:4,15;14:19;	chart (2)
authorize (1)	38:23	both (9)	16:25;19:15;21:10;	14:25;44:14
35:12	behalf (16)	10:15;17:8;20:4;	23:12;26:11;28:10,	Chief (3)
authorized (7)	10:10;11:2,2,6;	25:18;26:21;40:3;	19;35:7,13,22;43:23;	73:13;75:16;79:13
12:11;13:24;56:10;	20:8,10;31:21;33:16,	67:18;69:10;76:15	45:8,12;46:18;49:11;	China (1)
58:12,21;74:12;80:1	16;37:21,25;44:10;	bound (8)	50:2,8,10,13;52:8;	59:16
availed (1)	45:8,9;46:1;57:6	18:8,16,20;19:10;	54:7;79:9;81:3	chose (1)
65:12	behavior (3)	24:21;25:4;27:9;	capable (1)	28:4
Avenue (6)	45:9;77:7,19	51:25	71:18	<b>CHRISTOPHER</b> (1)
5:14;6:12;7:5,14;	believes (2)	Bowling (1)	care (1)	5:18
8:13,20	29:3;42:16	8:4	23:11	Cir (2)
averred (1)	belongs (1)	<b>BR</b> (6)	carry (2)	73:7;79:2
30:1	21:2	32:11;63:12;72:23;	63:4,16	Circuit (7)
avoid (3)	below (1)	73:13;75:17;79:13	carrying (1)	32:2,7,8;38:11;
23:15,16;43:14	67:16	bracketed (9)	63:3	40:3;43:3,5
away (2)	bench (1)	57:8;58:24;63:21;	case (23)	circumvent (1)
21:24;23:13	13:14	69:25;70:24;72:7;	10:3;15:23;17:25;	20:15
	benefit (1)	74:16;76:10;78:10	24:5;28:3;31:24;32:3;	citations (2)
В	28:15	Brian (1)	33:4;37:23;40:2,2,3;	73:2,14
	benefited (1)	10:7	44:23;45:10,14,15;	cite (2)
back (6)	70:7	brief (11)	49:18;51:4;52:9;62:1,	42:5,10
15:20,22;23:15;	better (1)	18:3;20:10;36:3;	18,19;65:24	cited (5)
24:23;31:24;47:18	42:11	40:17;44:19;49:1;	cases (9)	32:3;37:3;38:5;
oad (6)	beyond (2)	53:6,7,15;60:22;	18:10;30:3,16,16;	42:9;49:18
21:18;55:10;66:4;	23:8;27:24	63:23	36:14;38:6,7;40:10;	citing (1)
69:2;71:13;78:1	bigger (1)	briefed (1)	55:10	59:16
Bagley (1)	23:10	48:18	categories (1)	citizens (1)
32:7	binding (5)	briefing (1)	55:8	46:16
Baltic (1)	15:2;40:22;69:24;	32:4	cause (1)	civil (11)
9:4	76:9;78:10	briefly (3)	72:5	30:14;31:25;32:4,9,
Bambi (2)	bites (1)	20:6;31:13;55:16	causing (1)	13,21;48:4;72:21,25;
32:11;72:23	51:8	briefs (2)	24:9	73:8;79:4
Bank (2)	Blackshear (1)	37:14;62:16	certain (15)	claim (1)
9:4;59:16	28:22	bring (4)	13:15;29:12,13;	25:14
Bankr (3)	Blackshear's (1)	29:4;31:23;33:3,4	44:23;55:16;57:17;	claiming (4)
63:13;72:24;73:13	24:4	bringing (1)	59:23,25;60:7,10;	22:17;27:4;28:5;
Bankruptcy (40)	Blamo (1)	79:12	63:10;65:3;67:22;	34:7
12:21;13:20;15:15,	41:16	BRITON (1)	72:7;74:11	claims (3)
17.16.7 9.17.25	<b>BLANKA</b> (1)	8.16	Certainly (4)	13.3.56.19.60.19

17;16:7,9;17:25;

BLANKA (1)

Certainly (4)

8:16

13:3;56:19;60:19

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 89 of 102 March 12, 2025

CLARA (1) 19:25 9:6 clarification (9) 49:12 46:24;57:9;58:25; 63:22;69:25;70:25; 74:16;76:10;78:11 clarified (2) 70:14 comfort (1) 20:13:21:10 43:22 clarity (3) 21:9;22:6;49:8 comity (10) clear (46) 11:24,25;12:4,25; 13:9,12;14:17,20,22; 15:3;16:10,18;20:5; 22:2;23:7;24:16; 47:5 27:18,18;29:5;32:19; 33:17;34:15;35:18; 36:24;38:23;39:3,9, 12,18;44:10,24;45:2; 30:1 49:9,23;50:1;60:3; 73:10,11,14;74:2; 42:3 75:11,13,14,21;78:17, 18 clearer (1) 46:7 clearly (11) 24:13 14:24;16:14;21:3; 23:11;50:14,21,24; 51:23,25;52:13;74:3 client (6) 28:8;34:25;35:1; compel (4) 41:13:43:24:49:5 clients (15) 18:19:21:12:22:3: 28:25 27:1;44:14,22,24; 45:8,9,18,19,22; 79:5 49:15:52:5.12 clients' (1) 80:20 20:21 client's (3) 27:3;28:1;62:3 close (1) 33:4 53:7 Clubs (2) 73:13;75:17 CLYDE (1) 8:19 CO(2)8:11.19 **COCKERHAM**(1) 79:5,12 6:7 **Code (9)** 14:5 12:21;13:20;26:9; comply (34) 57:20;58:2,12;62:25; 71:25;72:22 coerce (5) 29:11;32:2,5,21; 79:5 coercing (1) 29:14 coercive (2) 80:16,20 cointervenor (1) 80:17

complying (1) collateral (1) 29:5 comport (1) collaterally (9) 48:15 17:16:19:20:21:4, comprised (1) 24;65:8;66:8;69:8,17; 65:2 concedes (1) 53:6 concept (1) 51:1 17:21;18:6;22:11; concerning (4) 16:24;23:14;69:2; 27:13:43:13:57:24; 59:8,13;74:20;75:3 78:1 commence (1) concerns (1) 63:11 commenced (2) concerted (1) 17:23;18:1 14:8commercial (1) concluded (3) 69:4;78:2;81:13 Commission (1) concluding (1) 72:3 conclusion (1) **Committee (5)** 6:11;10:10;24:7; 17:24 31:13.21 conclusions (1) committee's (1) 55:25 condition (1) Company (11) 63:2 7:3,4,4;10:22,23, conduct (4) 23;44:11,11,11; 45:14;59:14;69:4; 64:25:67:13 78:3 confirm (1) 29:3;32:9,15;72:25 69:11 compelled (1) confirmation (115) 11:14.21:12:5.15: compensate (1) 13:2,25;14:9,15;15:2, 8;16:15,17;17:3,23; 18:9,14,16,20;20:25; compensatory (1) 22:9,16,24;23:7;24:8, competent (4) 13;25:13;26:8,17; 16:5;23:24,24;29:7 27:19,25;28:7,11,14; competing (2) 33:5;40:21;49:21; 23:22:55:22 50:18:51:24.25; completely (1) 53:23;54:7,11,17; 55:23;56:2,3,8,9,14, compliance (17) 15,16,18,25;57:2,3,8, 28:15;29:4,11,15; 19,23;58:5,13,16; 59:6;60:9,15;62:10, 31:23;32:2,5,22;33:3; 35:12;49:24;60:4; 12,23;63:17,22;64:7, 61:15;72:2;74:22; 17,25;65:8,14,15,23; 66:9,11;67:1,20; complied (1) 68:15:69:8,10:70:6, 15,17;71:9,10,11,25; 72:6,16;73:3,21,24, 11:24;12:2;13:24; 24;74:3,5,6,9,11,24; 14:8;17:3;18:21,25; 75:7;76:14;77:6,11, 19:12;22:4;23:9; 16,21;78:18,23; 24:20;26:14;27:21, 79:19;80:4,8,10,17 22;28:25;34:18,25; confirmed (8) 35:12;43:24;49:19; 18:1;63:8;66:5; 58:12:60:15:63:4.15: 69:6,22;76:7;78:4,8 confirming (3) 66:25;72:3;73:9,12, 55:19,25;76:3 22;77:1,5;78:22;79:8; conflicting (4)

17:16:22:15:23:13, 22 confusing (1) 35:22 confusion (3) 17:17;23:14;28:18 connect (1) 43:10 connection (6) 12:9:38:21:46:13; 57:10;67:10;80:23 consent (3) 12:15;18:12;25:9 consented (1) 69:13 consequence (4) 26:15;69:23;76:8; 78:9 consequences (1) 28:12 considered (1) 39:23 consistent (6) 22:10;23:6;24:3; 25:13;50:17;81:3 conspiracy (1) 42:3 conspiring (1) 42:2 constant (1) 20:7 **Constitutional** (1) 48:15 consummate (10) 12:8;14:11,13;56:7; 63:19;64:4,14;72:13; 74:5;77:14 consummating (3) 14:1;58:14;62:13 consummation (18) 11:14:13:8:53:24: 54:12,17:56:24; 58:16,24;60:9;62:19; 63:9,21;64:6;67:3; 72:15;74:8,15;77:15 contacts (1) 46:13 contemplated (2) 24:14;72:16 contempt (30) 11:23:14:4:19:13; 21:20;29:10;31:25; 32:4,9,13,18,21; 45:12,17;48:1;57:17; 62:21,22;70:23; 72:19,21,25;73:8,21; 76:25;78:24,25;79:4, 14,18;80:11 contend (1) 30:4 contending (1) 29:23 contest (1)

context (3) 17:22;26:13;29:11 continually (1) 35:16 continue (9) 19:11;20:20;25:14; 37:18:46:6:47:21; 49:8;50:5,6 continued (3) 20:17;76:13;79:10 continuing (2) 36:9;73:23 contradict (1) 66:10 contrary (1) 71:21 contravention (1) 17:15 control (11) 19:7;25:14,21;27:3; 34:7,9,16;35:7;43:7, 8:52:7 contumacy (1) 79:11 **Convention** (5) 48:1,5,11;53:15; 60:25 conversion (1) 28:16 convert (2) 16:1:65:24 converted (2) 21:1;70:7 convincing (14) 11:25;15:3;16:11; 23:7;27:18;29:5; 34:16;35:18;36:24; 73:11,14;75:14,14; 78:19 cooperate (9) 12:8:56:6;63:18; 64:3,13;71:10;72:12; 74:4;77:13 coordinated (1) 14:8 Corp (4) 26:4,6;64:22,22 corporate (9) 19:9;22:10;25:21; 44:21,21,25;52:7; 58:6;59:2 **Corporation** (1) 67:11 corporations (4) 29:22;30:7,21,22 corralling (1) 42:2

11:3

42:2 **counsel (21)** 13:22;18:18;31:8; 37:4;40:12,14,15,15; 41:24,24;44:4;45:23; 48:22;52:18;53:18;

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 90 of 102 March

March 12, 2025

	1		[	
61:22;62:2;72:20;	cover (1)	35:20	77:12	12:23;24:17,19;
75:8;79:7;81:3	18:3	dealt (1)	definitely (1)	25:13;44:22;49:24;
countries (3)	covered (4)	63:8	41:18	52:2;63:5;68:9;76:22
40:24;48:6;49:12	31:19;44:2;49:1;	debate (1)	deflect (2)	directed (24)
country (1)	76:1	15:25	23:15,16	12:7,11;13:24;
48:7	create (3)	debt (2)	degree (1)	16:20,22;24:1;25:2,
course (6)	17:16;37:7;46:17	21:1;28:17	20:22	22;27:3;28:2;47:3;
19:18;20:12;25:20;	created (1)	debtor (11)	delay (7)	50:3,17;52:3,11;56:6,
32:25;49:11;71:6	47:9	12:6;41:23;51:18;	19:2;20:22;21:7;	10;57:21;58:12,21;
<b>COURT (172)</b>	credible (1)	53:12,13;62:1,3;63:2,	22:15;23:12,15,16	59:25;74:4,12;80:2
10:2,8,12,19,24;	14:17	5;67:23;69:13	deliver (1)	directing (1)
11:4,7,17,20,21;	Creditor (1)	debtors (21)	63:6	24:4
12:17;14:6,10,10;	9:11	12:11,22;13:21;	delivery (1)	direction (2)
15:17;17:10,22,25;	Creditors (9)	18:9;39:1;55:21;56:2,	63:7	25:12;28:1
18:22,22;19:10;20:4,	6:11;10:11;12:6,13,	4,10;58:10,19;63:15,	demands (1)	directions (1)
4,11,16,16;21:6,8,9,	16;56:4,12;63:18;	15,17;65:12,23;66:9;	70:11	25:10
13,15,17,22,22;22:5,	77:12	70:7;74:20;77:11;	demonstrate (3)	directive (1)
19;23:4,5;24:11,12,	creditors' (8)	78:15		14:15
			17:14;73:15;75:15	
20;26:4,4;27:12;	45:14;55:19;56:1;	debtors' (1)	demonstrates (3)	directly (1)
28:19,20;29:3,8,9,24;	66:5;69:5,11;76:4;	69:12	23:3,9;26:13	66:10
30:1,1,11,12,13,14,	78:4	debtor's (3)	demonstration (1)	director (2)
17;31:8,10,14;32:10,	crystal (1)	12:21;18:18;79:7	20:17	67:8,11
12,15;33:7,13;38:14;	24:16	December (6)	denied (4)	directors (7)
39:21;40:3;44:4,6;	current (2)	13:16;19:23;26:21;	23:4;30:25;31:5;	13:5;19:5,7;24:4;
45:11,15,23;47:3;	19:22;26:13	46:23;57:1,12	81:2	26:3;56:21;67:23
48:22;49:18;50:9;	cursory (1)	DECHERT (3)	deny (2)	directs (1)
51:18;52:14,18;53:5,	23:2	6:10;10:10;31:12	45:22;46:25	44:24
12,13,18,20,21;55:9,	CURTIN (8)	decided (2)	denying (1)	disagree (1)
16,18,24;57:1,4,15,	7:8;10:21,22,25;	27:13;69:9	55:22	38:9
22,24;58:3,10,19;	44:8,8;51:20;52:5	deciding (1)	DEPARTMENT (1)	disagreed (1)
59:8,9,13,14,17,20;		27:12	8:2	51:1
60:1,2,3,8,19,21;61:2,	D	decision (18)	depending (1)	disagrees (2)
5,7,10,21;62:6,21;		15:15;16:7,9;18:4;	62:1	38:16;61:5
63:5,5,16,24;64:12,	daily (1)	57:15,16,25;58:8;	<b>DEREK</b> (1)	disclose (1)
18,19,24;65:9,13,14,	79:7	60:1,2,5,8,16,17,21;	5:8	71:19
18,25;66:4,13,20;	DANIEL (2)	69:9;73:24;76:13	described (2)	discuss (1)
67:7,22;68:4,14;69:4,	8:8;11:5	decisions (2)	47:2;48:13	72:18
	<b>Daniolos (26)</b>	14:19;22:22	deserves (1)	discussed (5)
16;70:4,4,5,8,9,9;			50:20	
71:7,22;72:18,23;	7:13;11:3;46:1,5,	declaration (27)		45:18;48:19;67:16;
73:1,3,18;74:10;75:3,	12,25;47:1,4,6,10,16,	54:2,3,19,24;55:2,	design (1)	71:4;72:20
8,8,13,17;76:3,6,12;	19,20,24;48:11;	14,15;61:10,14,16,24;	19:20	dishonest (1)
78:2,14,14,16,25;	50:16;52:10;54:10,	65:16;66:1,7;67:21;	designed (1)	33:22
79:6,9;80:6,12;81:8,	13;60:24,25;61:8,21,	68:2,18,20;69:6,19;	18:2	dismiss (10)
10	24;62:2,4	70:1;71:12;76:5,11;	Despite (11)	15:21;16:23;23:15;
Court-approved (6)	date (10)	77:22;78:5,11	15:4;16:17;20:23;	29:18,23;30:25;31:3,
11:14;53:24;54:12,	12:19;18:17,25,25;	declarations (2)	22:2;26:4;44:12;	4;47:1;68:1
17;58:16;60:9	19:4;26:7;49:5;50:7;	22:5;61:9	62:14;70:10;71:23;	dismissed (1)
Court-ordered (2)	54:14;66:12	declared (1)	74:21;78:15	30:25
68:10;76:23	dated (1)	78:13	determine (1)	dismissing (1)
courts (22)	15:15	declares (1)	48:9	66:11
15:14,14;16:5,23;	DAVID (3)	70:3	devastating (1)	displace (1)
17:15;19:15;21:3,9;	6:16;10:9;31:12	declined (2)	28:11	58:4
22:20;24:17;27:16;	DAWN (1)	17:11;43:2	different (2)	disputes (1)
34:5;37:22;43:13,14;	9:10	deemed (1)	10:16;53:7	73:5
46:17;48:9;65:22;	day (9)	81:2	differently (2)	disregard (1)
72:20,24;75:9;77:8	19:3;28:22,23;29:1;	defend (1)	23:25;40:13	26:14
Court's (24)	32:23;35:20,23;47:2;	32:25	Digital (1)	disrespect (4)
20:20;22:4;24:8;	80:16	defiance (1)	63:12	21:12,21,23,23
31:23;32:6,13;38:8;	days (1)	20:20	diligently (7)	distinction (1)
58:4;66:9;68:9;69:9;	28:4	deficient (1)	12:1;17:3;23:9;	26:12
		61:2		distributions (1)
72:1,2;73:22;74:21;	DE (1)		34:18;73:12;77:1;	
75:11;76:22;77:1;	6:5 doodling (1)	defined (4)	78:22	72:15
79:3,6,8,12,14;80:11	deadline (1)	20:15,18;56:5;	direct (10)	district (8)

#### 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 91 of 102

March 12, 2025 employees (2) 14:10:18:22:20:4, 62:13:74:24 6:7,15,16,17,18;7:8,9, 11:77:22:78:5.11 16:26:4:32:12:59:8. effectuation (2) 13:5;56:21 18;8:8,16,23,24;9:5,8, exhibits (5) 50:2;52:4;55:13,13; empowered (1) 20 58:23:74:14 9 docket (23) effort (5) 71:18 Essentially (1) 67:21 11:11:15:23:39:10, 14:8;16:11;21:14; encouraging (1) exist (1) 66:16 11;54:1,3,8,13,18,20, 28:15:33:19 21:8establish (1) 45:2 existence (1) 23;55:23;56:3;58:15; efforts (6) ended (1) 64:16 59:20;60:5,11;61:13, 14:11,13:15:4; 16:1 estates (1) 49:5 19:18;24:7;27:22 ending (1) 12:22 expected (1) 16,20,23;67:12,13 43:22 **EVANGELATOU (1) Doctrine** (1) eg (3) 51:11 43:13 61:23;67:20;72:23 enforce (3) 9:4 expenses (1) document (1) either (3) 21:19:58:5:73:4 even (14) 80:23 42:12;76:16;81:2 14:11;15:21;21:22; explicit (1) 17:1 enforcement (6) documents (4) Elafonissos (1) 29:25;30:12;41:19; 22:17;27:24;38:16; 27:10 15:5;43:1,2;59:3 64:22 55:11;61:12,18 39:25;45:16;53:5,7, explicitly (2) elected (1) enforcing (1) 14;65:12;71:16;75:3 47:3;48:8 dodged (1) expressed (1) 24:25 65:24 19:16 everybody (2) ELENA(1) 18:17;39:19 engagement (1) 70:6 dollars (6) 28:13,22,23,23; expressly (1) 9:4 28:4 everyone (2) English (1) 10:2;81:11 32:23;80:16 Eleni (1) 80:20 domestic (4) 33:18 evidence (10) extent (3) 65:6 Eletson (86) enjoin (3) 15:3:16:11:23:7: 13:12;35:13;46:9 29:21;30:6,20,21 done (22) 9:5,8;10:3,6;11:10, 14:12,16;21:18 29:5;34:16;35:18; extraterritorial (1) 24:25;25:1,4,6,11, 12;19:25;20:2;22:10, enjoined (7) 36:24;45:16;59:23; 22:8 17,23,25;26:3,25; 21;23:17;28:6;41:2, 13:6;15:9;18:11; 69:10 extraterritoriality (2) 34:20;35:5,11;36:25; 23;53:21,22;54:5,10, 25:2;56:22;74:7;80:6 evidentiary (4) 17:22;59:8 40:9,18;42:24;43:17, 15,21,25;55:3,6,20; enjoins (3) 46:23;47:5;57:10; extraterritorially (1) 56:1;57:4,5,6,21; 18;46:2;50:7;53:10 16:13;62:10;63:19 67:10 59:10 doubt (3) 59:25;60:19;61:22; enough (3) exactly (3) extreme (1) 17:10;32:17;45:13 62:6,17:63:24:64:1,9, 21:21:23:12:37:5 17:14:28:9:51:11 14:12 down (1) 20;65:11;66:13,13,15, ensure (1) example (6) 29:17 16,16;67:5,9,17,19, 27:7 13:18:17:17:64:10:  $\mathbf{F}$ due (5) 25:68:6.8.13.20.21. entered (15) 70:5:74:21:75:25 F2d (1) 16:7;19:13;48:15; 22,24;69:15,17,22,23; 11:21;13:13;15:2; examples (3) 55:4,7;77:18 53:16:61:4 70:2,3,13,16;71:22; 17:13;20:14,25; 32:8 F3d (1) **DUNLOP**(1) 73:19;74:13,21;75:4, 21:17;28:14;33:5; except (2) 49:21;55:18,24;57:4; 27:8;28:3 8:23 6,18,20,24;76:7,8,20; 73:6 77:4,7;78:7,12,21; 60:8:65:15 exception (3) F4th (3) during (1) 44:16;51:21,22 18:15 79:21;80:14,19,22; 32:3:59:16:79:2 entire (2) duty-bound (1) 37:2;50:20 81:6 exceptions (1) face (1) 43:5 Eletsons (1) entirely (1) 23:1 27:14 20:5 24:3 excluded (1) facilitate (1) Ε ellipses (8) entities (3) 47:19 20:20 63:10;69:24;70:24; 19:10;26:11;30:7 exclusive (3) fact (12) 72:8;73:2;74:15;76:9; 30:2,17;65:20 entitled (2) 15:21;17:10;28:4; earlier (4) 70:7;71:7;77:2,18 40:12;41:23 78:10 exclusively (1) 36:5;40:18;42:15; else (10) entity (4) 65:22 43:12;44:12;49:4,23; easy (1) 28:7;38:24;59:11; Exec (1) 31:10;33:8,21;40:9; 40:14 55:25;64:14 **ECF (4)** 44:6;45:24;48:23; 63:3 73:13 facts (3) 54:7;60:5;61:20,23 52:19;53:19;81:8 entry (10) execute (1) 22:20:36:12,13 effect (4) email (2) 11:13;13:2;17:9; 63:6 factual (2) 16:25:48:9 36:14;55:16 22:8;23:23;31:19; 18:16;53:23;54:6,11, execution (1) emails (2) 16;56:18;74:6 fail (1) 63:7 63:7 50:15;52:4 equity (2) effective (7) **Executive** (2) 14:8 21:1;34:10 12:19;18:17,25,25; emergency (5) 75:17;79:13 failed (7) 11:12;53:22;54:6, erred (1) 19:14;26:7;66:12 exercises (1) 11:24;62:15;64:3, 10,15 30:14 13;72:3,12;73:9 effectiveness (1) 76:3 **Emmanouil** (1) error (2) exercising (1) failing (2) 79:11 effectuate (5) 65:7 37:7,20 61:3 60:14:73:22 12:10;57:18;67:1; emphasize (2) errors (1) exhibit (17) failure (5) 68:15;71:11 20:6:31:18 52:21 17:1;65:16;66:1,7; 26:13;57:18;72:22; emphasizing (1) 78:19;79:7 effectuating (5) **ESO (21)** 67:9;68:2,18,20;69:6, 13:25;57:22;58:13; 18:75:8,9,17,18,19,20; 19;70:1;71:12;76:5, fair (1)

23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 92 of 102 March 12, 2025

45:13 filings (6) faith (16) 12:8;21:18;55:10; 56:7;63:18;64:3,13: final (1) 66:4,25;69:2;71:11, 60:4 13;72:12;74:4;77:13; finally (1) 78:1 33:4 false (1) 42:8 8:12 familiar (1) 33:23 63:2 find (6) Family (3) 7:4;10:23;44:11 far (2) 15:22;45:5 farce (1) 22:1 farcical (1) 27:17 favorite (1) 20:22 February (28) finds (8) 11:22;13:16;14:4,7; 20:3;22:14;26:21,23; 47:11,12,14;53:25; 59:5,21;60:1,5,6,8,11, finger (1) 16,21,22;61:7;65:19; 21:2 fired (1) 66:3,17;72:1;76:12 Federal (3) 39:1 32:14:48:2,4 Firm (19) feel (1) 46:6 feels (2) 37:24:40:13 fees (2) firms (8) 28:14;80:23 felt (1) 28:25 first (14) few (1) 35:14 fictional (1) 51:6 fifteen (1) five (2) 41:13 fight (1) 38:4 **flat** (1) file (6) 15:6 11:10;16:22;21:22; flatly (2) 27:11;39:25;40:1 filed (37) fled (1) 11:15:15:16.23.24; 19:16 16:24;17:8;21:15; Floor (1) 22:21;25:7;29:18,22; 7:15 30:3;38:23,25;39:9, focus (1) 19;42:15;44:15,18; 34:15 53:25;54:1,4,13,14, folks (1) 49:23 19,21,24;55:10; 61:13;62:16;67:18, 25;68:16,23,24; 69:16:75:24 filing (7) follows (1) 15:24;21:11;66:4; 65:20

22:24 15:6;24:10;55:13; forced (1) 80:2,4,6 11:19 forcing (1) 19:12 foregoing (2) 30:25;79:16 Finance (1) foreign (33) 17:15;19:21,24; financial (1) 20:1,14:30:12:37:8; 38:17;40:22;41:4; 42:8;44:17;45:18; 21:6;29:19;32:18; 49:7,14;52:12;54:22; 39:11;40:13;62:21 55:1,11;58:4,6;59:15, finding (11) 19;64:10;68:14,16; 26:5;45:17;57:16; 70:20,22;71:3,17,21; 72:6;77:8 60:1;66:11;69:2; 72:19;74:21;77:25; forget (1) 79:15;80:11 18:19 findings (2) forgive (1) 47:14:55:24 39:10 form (1) 60:2;62:6;63:25; 22:10 64:12;70:5;73:18; formal (2) 75:13;78:25 39:25;40:1 formed (1) 30:19 former (58) 13:4;19:5,7;24:4,5; 25:6,11:28:8:29:18; 7:13:11:3:36:21; 56:20:60:12:63:15, 46:1,5,12,12,15;47:4, 25,25;64:12,23;65:7, 6,10,16,19,21,24,25; 19;66:2,21,24;67:4, 48:11;54:10;60:24 14,22;68:4,12,23; 69:12;70:10,13,25; 27:4;32:24;35:25; 71:1,5,7,16,20,23,24; 36:17:50:17:51:12. 72:4,9,10;73:18,19; 74:20;75:5,18;76:19; 15:53:14 77:2,19,23;78:7,20; 15:24:34:20:35:24: 79:20,20,24,24;80:12, 36:13,17,20;50:12; 13 52:22:53:6:61:7; forum (1) 64:12,18;67:7;74:2 76:16 forward (2) 35:24;36:17 36:10;51:7 found (8) 14:3;43:6;54:7,23; 57:22,24;78:24;79:18 11:20;51:2 four (2)33:5;62:21 four-and-a-half (1) 20:24 four-and-a-half-months (1) 11:21 four-count (1) 29:23 four-court (1) following (5) 29:22 55:8;59:23;65:3; frame (1) 79:18:80:12 29:15 frankly (1) 23:10 forbidden (1) free (1)

12:25 Frice (1) 27:25 Friday (1) 29:13 frivolous (1) 43:6 frustrated (2) 68:9;76:22 full (3) 17:12;68:9;76:22 fully (1) 27:2 FUREY (1) 9:5 further (22) 11:13;12:16;18:5; 20:13;34:10;39:24; 52:17;53:23;54:6,11, 16;56:16;58:19;61:1; 65:20,22;70:2,5,19; 74:10:78:12:80:25 Furthermore (1) 76:12 future (2) 32:5;79:5 G game (1) 19:21 games (2) 19:19;20:18 Gas (8) 24:3;34:7;43:7,8; 50:25;51:4;52:9; 62:18 gave (3) 34:23:43:20:44:9 general (2) 30:14:48:16 generally (2) 45:5:63:11 **GEOGHEGAN**(1) 9:6 gets (3) 20:16;35:22;51:5 **Giannakopoulou** (1) 65:6 given (7) 30:17;36:22;38:15; 42:25;65:23;78:17; 79:14 gives (2) 57:5,7 Glafkos (5) 7:3;10:22;44:11; 67:11,14 goal (1) 37:5 goes (2) 16:4:30:24 Good (26)

10:2,5,8,9,12,14,19, 21.24.25:11:1.4.5.7.9: 12:8;56:6;63:18;64:3, 13;66:25;71:10; 72:12;74:4;77:13; 81:5 **GORREPATI**(1) 9:7 governance (1) 59:2 grant (2) 22:15,22 granted (2) 28:19:79:17 Greece (30) 15:11;16:7;17:5,6, 8,8;21:3,11;23:25; 25:19;29:14;33:24; 35:25;36:17;47:24, 25;48:7,7;52:7;62:17; 64:19;65:22;68:8,21; 69:24;70:13;75:6,25; 76:9;78:9 Greek (34) 15:14;16:5,23; 17:10;18:19;20:11; 21:8;22:6,20;24:17; 36:23;46:12,15,15,16, 16;47:25;61:20; 64:19,24:65:9,18; 66:3;67:18;69:16,18, 21;75:9;76:6,15; 77:20;78:6;80:5,24 Green (1) 8:4 grossly (1) 15:4 ground (1) 45:13 grouped (2) 55:4,7 guess (1) 33:1 guidance (2) 23:1;27:16 guide (1) 22:22 Η Hadjieleftheriadis (17) 25:23;60:14;64:2; 65:4,4;67:6,7,17; 72:11;73:21;75:21; 76:21;77:5;78:22; 79:23;80:1,15 Hague (6) 47:25;48:5,5,11; 53:14:60:25 half (1)

68:7;76:1;77:19,24

44:1

25:25

halt (1)

Eletson Holdings	F	93 of 102		March 12, 2025
halted (1)	41:12,14	22,25;46:3,7,9,22;	44:12	indirect (1)
17:25	history (1)	47:14,15,18,24;48:19,	impose (6)	12:23
Hamilton (1)	55:16	20,25;49:4,9,17;50:1,	62:22;72:21;73:8;	indiscernible (3)
8:13	hold (2)	13;51:16;52:16,20;	79:1,4,9	17:6;19:9;45:16
hand (1)	45:12;70:23	53:11,17;81:5,7,9,12	imposed (1)	individuals (1)
21:2	holders (2)	Honorable (2)	79:6	32:24
HANEY (1)	13:2;56:18	61:15,19	imposes (1)	influence (1)
6:15	holding (5)	Honor's (13)	80:12	71:18
happen (2)	25:24;51:17;53:22;	19:20;21:4;33:4;	imposing (2)	inform (1)
19:1:27:7	54:25;67:25	34:11,13,18,22,25;	60:10;72:19	52:11
happened (1)	Holdings (103)	38:13;40:9,11;43:9;	improper (7)	information (2)
51:9	9:5,8,10;10:3,6;	52:21	36:1,2,15,16;38:2,	34:4;44:2
happening (1)	11:10,13;12:24;	hope (2)	7;51:13	informed (1)
29:13	16:22;19:25;20:2,9,	10:15;32:19	impute (1)	30:9
happens (1)	11;22:10,22;25:25;	hopefully (1)	44:21	informing (1)
23:23	26:6,18;34:6;35:6,20,	46:7	inaction (1)	49:15
happy (3)	21,21;41:1,2,2;42:19;	hoping (1)	68:6	infringe (2)
44:2;53:1;81:6	50:5,6;53:4,22;54:5,	23:12	inadequacy (1)	59:15,18
hard (1)	10,16,21;55:3,6,21;	23.12	16:8	inherent (1)
52:25	56:1;57:21;58:23;	Ι	inapplicable (1)	79:3
harm (1)	59:25;60:19;61:22,	1	17:21	initial (1)
79:10	25;62:6,8,9,17;63:12,	id (7)	Inc (32)	51:13
harsher (1)	24;64:1,20;65:11;	59:3;61:3,5;70:5;	9:5,8;19:25;20:2;	initiate (1)
33:3	66:13,14,15,16,17,22;	73:17;75:25;79:8	53:22;54:5,11,16;	71:17
hear (2)	67:5,9,17,19;68:6,8,	identified (5)	55:3,6,21;56:2;57:21;	initiated (7)
10:15,17	13,20,22,25;69:15,17,	19:6;34:22;35:24;	64:20;66:17;67:9,17;	45:19;66:4;67:19;
heard (9)	22,24;70:2,3,13,16;	36:17;67:8	68:8,22,25;69:15,17,	70:20;71:2,6,13
31:10;33:8,10;44:6;	71:22;72:5,11;73:20;	identifies (1)	22,24;70:2;71:23;	
45:24;48:23;49:2;	74:14,21;75:5,18,20,	33:22	75:5;76:7;78:7,13,21;	initiating (1) 80:9
43.24,48.23,49.2, 52:19;53:19			80:14	initiation (1)
hearing (24)	24;76:7,8,20;77:4,8; 78:7,9,12,21;79:21,	<b>identify (1)</b> 37:8	include (4)	65:21
10:16;14:4;17:12; 32:25;41:20;45:3;	25;80:14,19,22;81:6 Holdings' (3)	<b>ignores (1)</b> 27:10	27:22;47:10,15; 77:19	<b>injunction (11)</b> 14:14;17:6;25:19;
46:22,23;47:5,14;	22:19:64:9:75:6	ignoring (1)	included (4)	64:4;66:3;67:2;69:16,
40.22,23,47.3,14, 57:2,10,11,12;58:8;	Holding's (1)	22:21	46:5;47:11;51:19;	18,21;72:13;78:6
59:6,21,21;60:22;	26:18	impact (1)	40.3,47.11,51.19, 52:10	injunctive (1)
	honest (2)	28:24	includes (5)	17:8
66:17,19;67:10; 74:18;75:1	50:11,11	impediment (2)	13:21,23;48:9;65:3;	injured (1)
held (11)			79:3	79:5
12:22;19:9;20:11;	honesty (2) 21:14;33:20	16:6,12	including (14)	insolvency (5)
	Honor (151)	<b>implement (20)</b> 12:8;14:11;24:22,	12:22;13:22;22:8;	30:3,4,18,22;65:21
24:21;26:15;29:10; 36:12;57:2,17;62:21;	10:5,9,14,17,21;		24:9;27:4;30:15;	instance (4)
76:25		25;25:4,7,12,17,19,	50:16,16;58:20,25;	64:15,18;65:9;
help (3)	11:1,5,9,12,16,18,22;	23;52:1;56:7;57:19;		
	12:4,18;13:1,9,13,18;	63:19;64:3,14;67:1;	68:7;80:4,8,21	66:21
24:25;25:17;52:1	14:2,14,19,19,20;	72:12;74:4;77:14 implementation (23)	<b>inconsistent (4)</b> 12:14;28:1;56:13;	<b>instant (1)</b> 29:25
helpful (2)	15:7,19;16:2,10,19,	<b>1</b>		
23:1;34:5	21;17:2,7,10,20;18:5,	13:7;14:16,16;	61:4	Instead (5)
hereby (7)	15;19:3,9,14,21;20:6, 12,17,22,23;21:8,15;	16:14;17:25;18:3;	incorporates (2)	17:4;18:21;24:2;
12:7,11;31:1;56:6,		19:2,2;23:22;24:2;	48:3,4	37:1;77:6
10;79:16;80:12	22:1,7,13,24;23:2,10,	27:2;56:23;58:24;	increase (1)	instituted (1)
herein (2)	18;24:16,17,18,23;	63:11,20;64:5;67:3;	45:4	15:1 instance (2)
29:21;81:1	26:9,22;27:17,25;	68:10;72:14;74:8,15;	incrementalism (1)	instruct (3)
HERMAN (8)	28:21;29:2,16;30:10;	76:23;77:15	32:22	22:3;27:5;52:6
6:16;10:9,9,13;	31:6,9,12,15,17,22;	implementing (6)	Inc's (6)	instructed (4)
31:12,12,15;33:14	32:4,17,18;33:11;	14:1;57:22;58:6,14;	53:22;54:25;65:11;	12:12;22:25;50:15;
hiding (1)	34:1,3,21,22,24;	62:13;74:10	77:8;80:19,23	56:11
15:5	35:11,19,23;36:3,6,7,	implicate (1)	Indeed (5)	instructive (1)
High (1)	9;37:6,12,24,24;38:1,	57:23	23:8;27:8;64:8;	62:18
24:11	6,6,9,16,19,25;39:6,9,	implicated (1)	67:16;68:12	instrument (1)
himself (4)	10,24;40:13,20;41:5,	75:4	indicated (2)	63:7
25:25;40:20;50:13;	16,20;42:5,10,18,25;	implore (1)	51:16;75:8	intend (2)
51:7	43:4,19,20,23;44:3,5,	43:3	indicates (1)	21:12,21
hired (2)	8,9,12,18,23;45:1,7,	important (1)	49:14	intent (2)

# 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 94 of 102 March

March 12, 2025

	Γ		1	March 12, 2025
18:2;29:5		61:2,4;65:21,25;	20:14;31:18;34:20;	68:1,19;69:1;71:8;
inter (3)	<b>.</b>	69:13;70:4;73:4;	41:19	75:9;76:2,15;77:25;
63:14;64:24;71:19	J	78:14,15	41.19 later (5)	80:5,24
interest (5)		jurisdictions (5)	14:6;18:1;19:4;	licensed (1)
12:22;26:5,18;	January (47)	19:13;35:2;40:23;	28:4;49:22	35:3
38:24;59:19	13:14,14,19;14:5;	42:8,17	LAUKAMG (1)	LICHTENSTEIN (1)
interests (3)	17:9,13;19:9;21:16;	<b>JUSTICE (2)</b>	5:18	9:9
13:3;56:19;59:15	22:13;26:9,22,22;	8:2;24:11	Law (43)	9.9 lie (1)
interfere (11)	27:20;41:21;46:23;	juxtapose (1)	7:13;11:3;18:19,19;	36:20
13:7;18:2;49:24;	47:5,9;49:21;57:15,	14:22	27:4;30:8,14;31:25;	lies (1)
56:23;62:11;63:20;	16,24;58:8,15,17;	17.22	35:1,24;36:17,21;	65:22
64:5;67:2;72:14;74:7;	59:3,24;60:2,3,16,16;	Κ	37:20;38:2;39:20,22;	lifted (1)
77:15	61:12,18;62:23;		43:25;44:24;45:11;	21:2
interfering (8)	66:18;68:25;69:14,	Karastamati (2)	46:1,5,12,12,15,16;	light (1)
15:9;16:13;18:11;	16;71:25;73:22,25;	26:3;67:24	47:4,6,10,16,19,21,24,	29:4
23:21;25:3;43:14;	74:17,17;75:1;78:18,	Karastamatis (1)	25;48:11;53:14;	Liman (17)
49:25;72:15	23;79:19;80:18	65:6	54:10,15;55:25;58:4;	13:15;14:20;24:24;
interim (1)	<b>Jared (2)</b> 54:2,24	KARLI (1)	60:24;63:1;74:23,23	26:20;38:10;40:2,20;
21:11	<b>JENNIFER (1)</b>	6:17	laws (1)	41:14,25;42:16;
internal (1)	9:5	keep (4)	22:23	50:19,25;52:22;57:2,
73:2	<b>JERI</b> (1)	26:23;37:4;39:5,6	lawyer (2)	11,12;59:5
international (7)	7:9	keeps (1)	41:12,14	Liman's (3)
15:17;16:8;22:11;	JOHN (6)	46:5	lawyers (2)	59:21;66:11,17
43:13;57:24;74:19;	8:24;61:11,14,15,	KEOUGH (1)	36:24;42:22	limine (1)
75:3	17,19	8:24	LAZAROFF (5)	55:22
interpret (1)	join (1)	Keros (1)	7:18;11:1,2;45:25,	limit (1)
73:4	63:6	64:22	25	53:8
interpreting (1)	joinder (1)	Kertsikoff (2)	least (4)	limitation (5)
26:20	67:25	26:2;67:23	14:5;31:3;51:17;	13:22;58:20;80:4,8,
into (7)	joined (6)	KEVIN (1)	71:18	22
11:16;13:10;21:1;	10:6;26:3;68:23;	6:7	legal (4)	limited (6)
22:1,5;53:15;55:7	69:15;71:8;77:23	kind (5)	15:13;28:14;72:18;	39:5,8,12,18;51:1;
Investment (4)	joining (1)	29:15;37:7;44:21;	80:9	52:23
7:3;10:22;44:10;	68:19	49:12;51:11	legitimacy (1)	line (5)
67:13	joint (2)	knew (2)	28:11	10:6;29:4;59:22;
Investors (1)	55:20;56:1	36:5;41:2	lending (1)	60:23,23
59:16	JOSHUA (1)	Konstantinos (1)	43:22	lines (9)
invoked (2)	5:9	65:4	less (1)	57:11;58:9;59:4,22;
11:19;59:12	Judge (27)	KOSLOF (1)	32:23	60:6;66:18,19;74:18;
involve (1)	13:15;14:19;18:4;	9:8	letter (8)	75:1
58:6	19:24;24:4,24;26:20;	Kotliar (2)	22:12,14;24:8,14;	LISCR (1)
involved (3)	28:22;38:10;40:2,20;	10:7;52:4	46:24;47:3;61:14,19	59:3
47:7,9,21	41:14,25;42:16;	Kyle (3)	letters (6)	listed (3)
involvement (1)	43:12;50:19,25;	10:5;11:9;81:5	21:7;22:5;27:11;	44:16;46:14;47:15
34:16 <b>Ioannis (1</b> )	52:22;57:1,10,12;	L	49:13;50:4;51:15 Levona (1)	<b>literally (2)</b> 17:17;51:3
65:5	59:5,21;66:11,14,15,	L	41:13	litigated (1)
irresponsible (3)	17	lack (1)	Lexington (2)	71:3
37:4;42:2,4	judgment (2)	15:17	5:14;8:20	living (1)
Isle (1)	30:13;41:19	lacks (5)	liable (1)	20:19
24:11	judicial (3)	29:24;30:12;55:9;	57:18	LLC (1)
issue (7)	75:23;80:3,7	70:4;78:14	Liberia (18)	59:16
155uc (7)	judicially (1)		17:4;20:1;21:3;	LLP (9)
		Lomin (1)		
22:13;30:11;41:14;	76:14	Lamin (1) 41.16		
22:13;30:11;41:14; 43:16;45:1;69:5;78:3	76:14 jump (1)	41:16	25:16,18;29:17;30:2;	5:2,3,12,13;6:2,3,
22:13;30:11;41:14; 43:16;45:1;69:5;78:3 <b>issued (4)</b>	76:14 <b>jump (1)</b> 11:16	41:16 language (6)	25:16,18;29:17;30:2; 33:25;35:25;36:18;	5:2,3,12,13;6:2,3, 10;7:2;8:19
22:13;30:11;41:14; 43:16;45:1;69:5;78:3 <b>issued (4)</b> 57:15;60:1;65:14;	76:14 jump (1) 11:16 jurisdiction (41)	41:16 language (6) 12:4;23:6;27:19;	25:16,18;29:17;30:2; 33:25;35:25;36:18; 51:23;52:6;62:16;	5:2,3,12,13;6:2,3, 10;7:2;8:19 Local (1)
22:13;30:11;41:14; 43:16;45:1;69:5;78:3 <b>issued (4)</b> 57:15;60:1;65:14; 76:12	76:14 <b>jump (1)</b> 11:16 <b>jurisdiction (41)</b> 11:3,20;15:18,20,	41:16 <b>language (6)</b> 12:4;23:6;27:19; 33:18;74:16;78:17	25:16,18;29:17;30:2; 33:25;35:25;36:18; 51:23;52:6;62:16; 68:8,25;70:12;75:6,	5:2,3,12,13;6:2,3, 10;7:2;8:19 <b>Local (1)</b> 39:3
22:13;30:11;41:14; 43:16;45:1;69:5;78:3 issued (4) 57:15;60:1;65:14; 76:12 issues (6)	76:14 <b>jump (1)</b> 11:16 <b>jurisdiction (41)</b> 11:3,20;15:18,20, 25;16:1,2,9;19:8;	41:16 <b>language (6)</b> 12:4;23:6;27:19; 33:18;74:16;78:17 <b>Laskarina (2)</b>	25:16,18;29:17;30:2; 33:25;35:25;36:18; 51:23;52:6;62:16; 68:8,25;70:12;75:6, 25	5:2,3,12,13;6:2,3, 10;7:2;8:19 Local (1) 39:3 long (3)
22:13;30:11;41:14; 43:16;45:1;69:5;78:3 issued (4) 57:15;60:1;65:14; 76:12 issues (6) 20:13;22:7;27:13;	76:14 <b>jump (1)</b> 11:16 <b>jurisdiction (41)</b> 11:3,20;15:18,20, 25;16:1,2,9;19:8; 21:17,25;23:3;24:20;	41:16 <b>language (6)</b> 12:4;23:6;27:19; 33:18;74:16;78:17 <b>Laskarina (2)</b> 26:2;67:23	25:16,18;29:17;30:2; 33:25;35:25;36:18; 51:23;52:6;62:16; 68:8,25;70:12;75:6, 25 Liberian (26)	5:2,3,12,13;6:2,3, 10;7:2;8:19 Local (1) 39:3 long (3) 20:4;21:9;23:12
22:13;30:11;41:14; 43:16;45:1;69:5;78:3 issued (4) 57:15;60:1;65:14; 76:12 issues (6) 20:13;22:7;27:13; 31:18;60:18;75:3	76:14 <b>jump (1)</b> 11:16 <b>jurisdiction (41)</b> 11:3,20;15:18,20, 25;16:1,2,9;19:8; 21:17,25;23:3;24:20; 29:7,24;30:2,12,15,	41:16 <b>language (6)</b> 12:4;23:6;27:19; 33:18;74:16;78:17 <b>Laskarina (2)</b> 26:2;67:23 <b>Lassia (5)</b>	25:16,18;29:17;30:2; 33:25;35:25;36:18; 51:23;52:6;62:16; 68:8,25;70:12;75:6, 25	5:2,3,12,13;6:2,3, 10;7:2;8:19 Local (1) 39:3 long (3)
22:13;30:11;41:14; 43:16;45:1;69:5;78:3 issued (4) 57:15;60:1;65:14; 76:12 issues (6) 20:13;22:7;27:13;	76:14 jump (1) 11:16 jurisdiction (41) 11:3,20;15:18,20, 25;16:1,2,9;19:8; 21:17,25;23:3;24:20; 29:7,24;30:2,12,15, 15,17;35:1;40:4;46:2,	41:16 <b>language (6)</b> 12:4;23:6;27:19; 33:18;74:16;78:17 <b>Laskarina (2)</b> 26:2;67:23	25:16,18;29:17;30:2; 33:25;35:25;36:18; 51:23;52:6;62:16; 68:8,25;70:12;75:6, 25 <b>Liberian (26)</b> 18:19;19:23;21:9;	5:2,3,12,13;6:2,3, 10;7:2;8:19 Local (1) 39:3 long (3) 20:4;21:9;23:12 longer (1)
22:13;30:11;41:14; 43:16;45:1;69:5;78:3 issued (4) 57:15;60:1;65:14; 76:12 issues (6) 20:13;22:7;27:13; 31:18;60:18;75:3 issuing (1)	76:14 <b>jump (1)</b> 11:16 <b>jurisdiction (41)</b> 11:3,20;15:18,20, 25;16:1,2,9;19:8; 21:17,25;23:3;24:20; 29:7,24;30:2,12,15,	41:16 <b>language (6)</b> 12:4;23:6;27:19; 33:18;74:16;78:17 <b>Laskarina (2)</b> 26:2;67:23 <b>Lassia (5)</b> 7:3;10:22;44:10;	25:16,18;29:17;30:2; 33:25;35:25;36:18; 51:23;52:6;62:16; 68:8,25;70:12;75:6, 25 <b>Liberian (26)</b> 18:19;19:23;21:9; 22:6,20;24:17;29:21;	5:2,3,12,13;6:2,3, 10;7:2;8:19 Local (1) 39:3 long (3) 20:4;21:9;23:12 longer (1) 38:4

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 95 of 102 March 12, 2025

		9		March 12, 2025
40:14;44:14,14;49:3;	30:7,15	55:5;63:25;64:12,23;	Movant (2)	32:12;40:23,24;49:2,
51:9	MARK (1)	65:7,19;66:2,24;	30:1;73:8	5;51:12;57:4,5
looking (1)	9:9	69:15;70:15;71:20;	movants (3)	next (2)
39:5	Market (1)	72:10;73:19;75:19;	29:21;30:5,21	29:13;59:16
losing (1)	6:4	76:19;77:3,19;78:7,	movants' (1)	Niki (1)
39:6	Markianos-Daniolos (3)	20;79:20,24;80:13	30:25	65:5
lot (2)	61:11,14,17	minute (1)	movant's (1)	nobody (1)
45:15;49:1	Markus (3)	36:21	30:19	34:8
Lou (3)	32:2;79:1,6	minutes (1)	moving (1)	nobody's (1)
10:14,18;33:11	Mastando (5)	35:14	45:5	27:8
LOUIS (2)	19:24;61:15,19;	mischaracterize (1)	much (3)	nonbankruptcy (1)
5:19;54:19	66:14,15	15:5	45:7;49:2;50:20	63:1
lump (1)	material (1)	misleading (1)	multiple (4)	noncompliance (10)
33:21	22:20	17:15	18:5;24:19;31:18;	11:25;15:4,7;23:8;
	matter (7)	misquote (1)	34:24	60:7;73:10;75:13,21;
Μ	11:11,16;29:24;	42:9	Murchinson (2)	76:18;78:19
	39:22;43:3;45:1;	misses (1)	69:3;78:1	nondebtor (1)
magnitude (1)	50:12	58:3	must (8)	12:23
79:10	matters (2)	misstates (1)	18:21;22:4;24:1;	nondebtors (1)
mail (1)	26:24;53:4	34:2	27:1;35:1;68:15;73:8;	26:12
48:8	may (10)	misuse (1)	76:25	none (9)
main (1)	28:18;30:9;37:23;	20:15	myself (1)	17:2;34:17;36:14,
51:13	40:23;58:6;62:1;63:5;	misusing (1)	39:11	15,18;38:19;45:18;
majority (40)	71:2;72:25;78:25	20:18	mysterious (1)	49:20;70:20
14:3;24:5;25:11;	Maybe (2)	moment (2)	20:19	Nonetheless (3)
44:15;51:20;54:5;	23:16;37:5	37:13;38:7	20.17	14:7;16:4;49:6
55:4;60:13;64:1;	mean (3)	monetary (3)	Ν	nonevents (1)
66:21;67:4,14;68:4,	21:15;50:23;74:23	79:1;80:16,21		41:3
12,18,23;70:10,14,19,	meaningless (1)	months (3)	name (1)	nonnominal (1)
21,21,23,25;71:2,5,7,	26:12	20:24;33:5;41:13	25:24	79:4
16,23,24;72:4,9;	means (1)	more (7)	NATHANIEL (1)	nonparty (1)
73:18;75:18;76:19;	15:14	16:10;19:18;21:16;	9:8	54:9
77:3,24;78:20;79:21,	measures (1)	28:18;33:4;45:7;	nation (1)	nonresident (4)
24;80:13	21:11	76:18	43:14	29:21;30:6,20,21
making (5)	Media (5)	Moreover (3)	nature (2)	nor (5)
23:8;27:23;38:18;	9:3,6,7,13,14	67:22;71:5,16	14:18;36:14	19:4;53:13;69:24;
43:4;80:6	members (3)	morning (17)	Navigator (5)	76:9;78:9
Man (1)	16:16;65:3;66:23	10:2,5,8,9,12,13,14,	24:3;50:24;51:4;	Notably (1)
24:11	memorandum (2)	19,21,24,25;11:1,4,5,	52:9;62:18	17:7
manage (2)	54:14;55:19	7,9;81:5	nearly (1)	note (5)
23:20;64:25	mentioned (2)	most (2)	15:24	17:21;29:11,16;
manager (1)	32:1;51:12	14:12;39:10	necessary (8)	35:19;50:25
67:13	merit (1)	motion (63)	16:22;24:6;25:20;	noted (5)
mandate (5)	32:22	11:12;14:3;15:20,	58:22;59:1;63:6,9;	11:22;22:13;49:17;
15:12;16:4,17;18:8;	merits (1)	22,24;16:1,19;19:2;	74:13	61:7;71:7
28:7	31:16	23:15;29:1,17,22,23;	necessitated (1)	notes (7)
mandatory (1)	MICHAEL (3)	30:19,25;31:3,4,11;	21:20	49:19;57:1;61:21;
48:6	7:18;11:1;45:25	33:9;36:2,8;38:14,15,	need (12)	66:20;67:7,22;75:8
Maness (1)	might (2)	21,23;39:19,25;40:1;	17:14,17;18:23;	notice (6)
49:18	51:18;57:17	44:7,13;45:6,9,21,22;	19:14;24:1;33:2;46:4,	38:15;60:18,20;
manipulated (1)	MILLER (1)	46:18;48:1;51:13;	6;47:4;49:15,23;	61:2;62:4,7
65:11	7:9	52:25;53:1,22,25;	52:13	notions (1)
manner (4)	million (4)	54:1,6,10,15,23;55:1,	needed (3)	17:21
12:1;27:22;73:12;	20:25;21:1;28:16,	22;61:11,17;62:9,24;	15:20;19:8;41:24	notwithstanding (1)
77:2	16	64:21;65:17;66:3;	needs (3)	63:1
many (18)	millions (1)	68:11;73:25;75:22;	31:22;32:20;74:24	November (9)
13:11;14:6,18;22:2;	28:19	76:24;77:9;79:17;	neither (2)	15:2,7,10;28:3;
72.10 70.77.70.		VD-77-VI-VI-1	19:4;48:16	46:19;47:18;55:24;
23:18,20;27:20;	minimal (1)	80:24;81:1		
28:18,18;31:17;49:2,	46:14	motions (8)	nevertheless (3)	64:18;65:9
28:18,18;31:17;49:2, 17;50:3,4,4,4;52:4,4	46:14 <b>minor (3)</b>	<b>motions (8)</b> 46:3,5,25;47:1,12,	<b>nevertheless (3)</b> 66:5;69:4;78:2	64:18;65:9 number (20)
28:18,18;31:17;49:2,	46:14	motions (8)	nevertheless (3)	64:18;65:9

maritime (2)

8:6,21;14:12;28:4;

40:17,19;50:9

15:10;16:14;25:6;

18,20,23;55:23;

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 96 of 102 March

March 12, 2025

		-	1	Waren 12, 2025
58:15;59:20;60:5,11;	6:11;10:10	order (171)	5:8	68:2,11,17;69:7,19;
61:13,16,20,23;67:12	omitted (2)	11:13,21,23;12:5,	ostensibly (1)	70:12,18;71:1,4,12;
numerous (4)	73:2,14	15,16;13:2,14,19,25;	22:17	72:7;74:1,5,9,25;
14:9;16:2;27:11;	omnibus (2)	14:5,7,9,15;15:2,8,9,	others (5)	75:22;76:5,17,24;
50:15	54:22,25	11,15;16:6,15,17;	13:10;25:14;27:5;	77:9,10,21;78:5
NY (7)	once (4)	17:3,9,13,23;18:9,14,	44:22;70:24	paragraphs (6)
5:15;6:13;7:6,16;	11:18;27:23;45:4;			
	51:9	16,20;19:22,23;20:14,	otherwise (4)	62:24;63:22;64:7,
8:6,14,21		25;21:16;22:9,9,16,	16:6,12;35:22;63:1	11;72:17;77:16 parenthetical (3)
0	One (26) 8:4;11:11,23;13:18;	25;23:7;24:4,8,13;	ourselves (2) 39:13;40:20	71:12;72:24;79:2
0	15:21;21:7;23:20;	25:13;26:8,17;27:19, 20,25;28:7,11,14;		
1. (1)			out (7)	Park (1)
object (1)	31:3;35:19;37:6,19;	33:3;38:8,13;40:9,21;	25:25;44:19;51:11,	7:14
47:13	40:7;43:13;44:16;	44:24;45:1,2,11,12,	17;63:3,4,16	part (6)
objected (1)	48:12;50:9;51:17,21;	14;46:7;47:9,9;49:6,	outline (1)	40:6,6;57:3;59:6;
48:8	55:8;60:4;62:10;	21,22;50:18;51:24;	55:16	71:6;79:17
objection (10)	69:15;73:9;76:1;	52:1,8;53:23;54:6,11,	outlined (1)	participate (1)
24:12;44:20;54:4,7,	77:19;79:17	16;55:19,25;56:2,3,8,	77:18	47:4
13,18;61:1;70:12;	ones (1)	9,14,15,16,18,25;	over (18)	participation (2)
71:1;74:25	49:6	57:3,19,23;58:5,5,13,	21:1,2;28:13,16;	34:17;35:19
objections (2)	ongoing (1)	15,18;59:24;60:3,8,	29:24;30:2,12,16;	particularly (1)
46:6;55:21	68:1	12,15,16;61:8,12,16,	41:13;45:11;49:18,	73:5
obligated (1)	only (17)	18;62:10,12,23,23;	19;52:7;61:2,4;66:9;	parties (58)
18:24	17:12;21:2,6,24;	63:17,22;64:7,17,25;	69:11;73:5	11:19;12:7;13:23;
obligation (1)	26:13;33:16;35:23;	65:8,15,23;66:12;	OWEN (1)	14:3,24;15:8;16:19;
44:22	38:22;39:20;40:20;	67:1,20;68:15;69:9;	6:15	17:2;19:16;23:18;
obligations (4)	43:19;44:1;45:13;	70:6,15,17;71:9,10,	own (7)	24:19,23;25:1;27:3;
14:23;25:2;71:24;	46:14;66:8,16;71:6	11,25;72:1,1,3,4,6,17,	14:25;15:1;16:11;	28:24;29:4,10;32:18;
73:23	open (1)	23;73:9,21,22,24,25;	25:15;45:16;62:3;	38:1,5;39:22;40:7,12;
obstruct (2)	20:20	74:3,5,6,9,11,17,25;	73:4	44:16;46:9;47:8,15,
14:11;62:19	opening (2)	75:7,10;76:14;77:6,	owner (1)	20;50:15;51:19;52:6,
obstructionist (2)	36:3;37:1	11,16,22;78:18,18,23,	67:12	11,15;56:5;57:17;
77:7,18	openly (1)	23;79:6,12,19,20;	owners (3)	58:11,20,21;59:23;
obstructive (1)	21:3	80:4,8,10,17,18,18;	19:5,7;29:18	60:4,11;62:11,13,15,
37:3	opinion (3)	81:3	Oyster (1)	19,22;63:18;64:8;
obtain (5)	55:19,23;65:14	ordered (18)	8:14	68:13;74:3,6,11;
17:5;22:15;28:15,	opportunities (1)	13:22;28:22;31:2;		75:23;76:13;77:12;
19;64:9	51:8	33:5;46:8;47:3,10,15,	Р	78:23;79:18;80:17
obtained (1)	opportunity (1)	20;57:17;58:10,19,		parties' (1)
68:15	60:4	20;62:11,15,22;	<b>PA (1)</b>	60:7
obvious (1)	oppose (18)	74:11;79:17	5:6	parties-in-interest (2)
42:12	16:6,12,21;17:4,5;	orders (35)	Pach (3)	13:3;56:19
obviously (2)	19:18;24:7;28:8;46:2;	14:9;19:20;20:20,	9:9,12;22:21	partners (1)
37:14;43:8	50:14,24;51:10;	23;21:5,19,25;22:4,	page (13)	10:7
occur (1)	64:16;71:9;75:5;80:3,	15;23:12,22,23;	32:8;44:19;57:11;	party (25)
45:13	6,9	24:20;31:22,23;32:6;	58:9;59:4,22,22;60:6,	11:24;12:1;13:21;
occurred (2)	opposed (4)	33:4;34:11,19,22,25;	23,23;66:18,19;74:18	25:3;32:10,15;37:21;
73:16;75:16	17:12;25:18;64:8;	47:22;49:19,20,22;	pages (4)	42:21;45:12,20;
occurring (1)	75:23	51:24;63:4,15;68:9;	55:12;66:1;68:3;	47:10;51:21;52:25;
29:12	opposing (6)	73:4;74:2;75:11;	69:20	53:1;59:18;63:6;
October (1)	21:4;27:9;51:3;	76:22;77:1;79:8	paid (1)	66:20;73:1,9,11;
55:18	68:19,20;70:16	organized (1)	28:16	76:25;78:25;79:1,5;
off (2)	opposition (23)	63:3	Panos (1)	80:16
10:17;25:24	17:7,19;21:11;	original (6)	65:6	party's (2)
offend (2)	22:18;25:15;33:10;	30:15,17;45:6;	papers (5)	16:8;72:22
57:23;59:7	35:20;44:7;46:19;	46:18;47:18;64:15	37:2;42:11;45:19;	pattern (1)
Office (1)	49:7;51:22;54:9,15,	<b>ORTIZ</b> (17)	48:14,20	76:18
8:3	22;55:1;62:15,17;	10:5,5;11:9,9,18;	paragraph (47)	pause (1)
officers (6)	68:7,16,24;71:17;	31:9,19;32:1;33:19;	12:5,9,18;13:1,18;	20:6
13:5;19:7;56:21;	76:2;77:24	34:1;38:25;44:1;	15:8;24:3;26:8,16;	Paxinos (1)
73:13;75:17;79:13	oppositions (8)	48:24,25;81:5,5,9	27:19;41:10;56:3,8,	65:6
offices (1)	24:2;25:16,22;	Ortiz's (1)	15,16,25;60:22;61:1,	pay (1)
50:4	37:19;52:5,12;67:18;	52:21	24;62:10;63:23;	80:22
Official (2)	76:16	<b>OSEI-BONSU</b> (1)	64:21;65:17;66:6;	paying (1)
			, , , , ,	

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## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 97 of 102 March 12, 2025

32:24 payments (1) 72:16 PC (4) 7:12;8:11;11:2; 46:1 PELES (1) 5:9 pending (4) 29:25:53:21:61:12, 18 people (2) 28:5;51:3 per (2) 80:16,16 perfectly (1) 53:1 perform (2) 63:9,16 permission (1) 52:21 permits (2) 39:20,21 persist (1) 49:25 persists (1) 19:3 PERSON(1) 9:10 personal (1) 61:4 petition (6) 24:10:65:10:69:18, 21;77:20;78:6 Petitioning (15) 9:11;12:6,13,16; 55:19,25;56:4,12; 63:17;66:5;69:5,11; 76:4;77:12;78:4 Petrie (1) 73:6 ph (2) 40:2;49:18 Philadelphia (1) 5:6 phone (1) 39:6 Pierre (1) 30:9 PIKE (1) 9:11 Piraeus (1) 64:19 pivot (2) 44:20;45:3 places (3) 19:16;21:25;43:25 plainly (1) 15:3 plan (100) 11:14;12:8,10,14. 20;13:8,25;14:11,13, 16,23;15:9;16:12,13,

20:17:15:18:1.3.11. 13:23:6:24:13:25:1.4. 7,8,12,18,20,24;26:7, 16,16;27:15;28:17; 52:3;53:24;54:12,17; 55:12,20,22;56:1,6,7, 13,24;57:3,5,7,7,13, 19:58:13,17,24:60:10, 15;62:12,14,20;63:4, 4,8,10,12,16,19,21; 64:4,6,14;66:6,9,10; 67:3;68:10,15;69:5, 11,12,23;72:13,15,16; 73:5,24;74:5,8,15,22; 76:4,7,23;77:13,14, 16;78:4,8;79:19 planned (1) 13:15 played (2) 19:21;51:11 playing (3) 19:19;20:18,18 pleading (1) 21:15 pleadings (4) 16:22;44:15;68:16; 77:8 please (4) 10:4;11:17;31:14; 33:13 point (10)12:3:17:10:31:19: 34:20:36:6:40:19: 41:9,22;51:17;58:3 pointing (2) 17:18;44:19 points (1) 48:20 position (5) 20:8;34:8,9;41:4; 42:20 Posner (1) 43:12 Posner's (1) 18:4 possible (3) 15:25;33:1;43:14 post(1)73:3 post-effective (2) 49:5:50:7 potentially (1) 62:2 power (5) 32:5;35:5,12;72:21; 79:4 powers (2) 59:12;71:24 practice (1) 35:3 preemption (1) 58:2 prejudice (2)

16:23;81:2 prepared (1) 53:20 PRESENT (4) 9:2:13:4:22:9; 56:20 presented (1) 69:10 president (3) 25:25:67:8,11 press (1) 76:13 presume (1) 35:4 pretty (2) 49:23;51:23 prevailed (1) 41:24 previous (1) 65:3 previously (4) 47:23;60:20;61:8; 68:13 principals (3) 13:5;42:23;56:21 principles (4) 22:11;59:7,13; 74:19 prior (5) 12:15:32:4:36:8; 46:3:75:11 privileged (1) 43:2 pro (1) 33:1 probable (1) 79:11 problem (1) 23:10Procedure (2) 32:14;48:4 procedures (1) 46:18 proceed (1) 33:12 proceeding (14) 17:24;25:7;31:4; 40:25;59:10;61:20; 65:18;68:1,24;69:1, 12;71:8;76:2;77:25 proceedings (60) 15:1;16:24;17:8; 19:23;22:6;23:21; 25:15;26:1,3;27:1,14; 29:12,13,25;35:8,9, 10;37:9;38:17;41:4,7, 18;42:7,14,14,15,17, 18;47:7;49:7,12,14, 16,25;50:7,10,22; 51:4;52:7;53:3;55:11; 61:9;62:16;64:10; 65:21;67:19;68:7,17; 71:4,6,13,17,21;

75:24;76:15;80:5,5, 24.24:81:13 process (2) 48:16:61:5 procured (1) 15:11 professed (1) 18:2 prohibit (2) 41:3:51:2 promise (1) 51:6 proof (8) 11:25;36:22,23; 73:10,15;75:15; 76:19;78:19 proper (8) 15:25;37:19;38:14, 16;49:8,14;50:23,23 properly (3) 45:9;48:12;59:13 property (2) 12:21;63:8 prosecuting (1) 80:9 protect (1) 29:8 protections (2) 65:13;70:8 proud (1) 40:7 provide (6) 21:9:22:6,19:49:8; 50:3:60:4 provided (2) 18:12;47:23 provides (5) 12:5;13:19;52:3; 56:17;62:25 providing (2) 27:16;46:15 provisional (68) 15:12;16:4,16,25; 17:11;18:7;22:19; 25:8,17;28:5;50:6; 53:4;55:5,6;60:13; 61:22,23,24,25;62:5, 5,8,8;64:1,2,16,20; 65:2,10;66:22,22; 67:5,5,16;68:5,6,13, 20,22;69:14,22;70:2, 11,13;71:19;72:10, 11;73:19,20;74:20; 75:4,19,20;76:20,21; 77:3,4,21,23;78:7,21, 21;79:21,22,25;80:1, 14,15 provisions (5) 13:9,11,12,16; 14:15 Psomadakis- (1) 65:5 public (1)

37:14 purport (2) 42:7:61:25 purported (55) 55:5,6;60:13;61:22, 23,24,25;62:5,5,8,8; 64:1,2,16;65:2,10; 66:21,22;67:4,5,8,16, 24;68:5,5,12,22; 69:14,21:70:10,13; 71:19,23;72:10,11; 73:19,20;74:20;75:4, 19,20;76:20,21;77:3, 4,23;78:6,20,21; 79:21,22,25,25;80:14, 14 purports (1) 61:21 purpose (3) 32:1,9;63:3 purposes (2) 31:25;32:21 pursuant (11) 12:19;13:20;14:6; 15:7;26:7;48:2,5; 57:19;58:11;72:21,25 purview (1) 46:8 put (5) 10:17:36:19:51:7; 53:6.15 putting (1) 49:7 Q quantum (3) 73:15;75:15;76:19 quick (4) 12:3;17:20;29:19, 20 quickly (1) 29:16 quite (2) 35:22;40:7

**quote (11)** 14:19;21:10;44:23; 57:9;69:25;70:24; 72:8;73:2;74:16;76:9; 78:10 **quotes (1)** 

63:11 **quoting (3)** 14:19,20;50:19

### R

raise (1) 46:6 raised (1) 41:13 ran (1) 22:5

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 98 of 102 March 12, 2025

Rather (2)	10;22:2,18;
20:1;44:22	26:25,25;28
re (10)	25;33:11,15
32:2,11;63:12;	16,20;34:4,
72:23;73:6,13;75:16; 79:1,6,13	35:9,11,15, 36:4,7,8,22,
read (10)	37:2,4,9,14
13:10;14:23;29:20;	38:22,24;39
34:1,2;42:11,11,12;	40:10;41:5;
50:13,20	17,17,18,20
real (2)	50:3,16;53:
29:16,19	54:14,18;58
really (10)	74:19
15:5;22:14;27:8; 29:20;31:21;33:2;	<b>refer (8)</b> 53:25;54:2;
45:1;49:4;50:8,19	16;58:17;60
realm (1)	64:19;69:1
22:1	referenced (1
reason (2)	55:13
15:17;51:13	references (1)
reasonable (7)	74:22
12:1;27:22,22; 73:12,16;75:15;77:2	<b>referring (1)</b> 41:21
reasonably (6)	reflects (1)
24:6;26:14;58:22; 59:1;74:13;77:5	76:18 <b>refrain (1)</b>
reasons (3)	23:14
47:2,23;61:6 receive (1)	<b>refuse (2)</b> 11:20;19:12
25:9	regard (4)
recent (2)	29:17;46:25
16:2;72:2 recently (4)	52:10 regarding (8)
14:12;39:10;66:14;	31:19;59:6;
67:12 recognition ( <b>40</b> )	61:15,17,19 72:2
16:7;17:4,5,7;	regards (1)
18:22;19:8,11,12,14,	51:20
15,21;21:4;22:23;	registered (1)
23:4;25:18;27:10;	30:7
28:8;40:22,25;50:14;	regulation (1)
51:3,4,10,22;62:16; 64:9;67:20;68:1,14,	63:2 reiterated (5)
16,19;70:11;71:3,9,	13:13,15;14
21;72:6;75:7,24;80:3,	16:2;26:9
7	reject (1)
recognize (3) 17:11;57:4;70:17	42:5 rejected (2)
recognized (4)	37:12,22
27:9;40:24;71:14; 76:14	<b>rejecting (1)</b> 27:23
recognizing (1)	related (11)
44:18	12:7;13:21;
<b>record (6)</b> 10:4;13:10;35:10;	52:15;56:5; 61:9;63:18;
43:25;59:2;75:21	80:25
rectify (1) 66:23	<b>relates (1)</b> 43:9
<b>REED</b> (78)	relating (2)
5:2,3,12,13;6:2,3; 10:18;13:23;15:4;	59:11;63:2 relative (1)
17:9,18;18:10,10,17,	79:9
18;19:5;20:17;21:10,	relevance (1)

10;22:2,18;24:24; 26:25.25:28:2:32:24. 25;33:11,15,15,15,16, 16,20;34:4,16,17,23; 35:9,11,15,16,19; 36:4,7,8,22,23,25; 37:2,4,9,14,20,23,24; 38:22,24:39:20; 40:10;41:5;43:10,17, 17,17,18,20;49:3; 50:3,16;53:9,10,12; 54:14,18;58:1;62:6; 74:19 refer (8) 53:25;54:2;57:12, 16;58:17;60:12; 64:19;69:1 referenced (1) 55:13 references (1) 74:22 referring (1) 41:21 reflects (1) 76:18 refrain (1) 23:14 refuse (2) 11:20;19:12 regard (4) 29:17:46:25:49:3: 52:10 regarding (8) 31:19;59:6;60:18; 61:15,17,19;71:20; 72:2 regards (1) 51:20 registered (1) 30:7 regulation (1) 63:2 reiterated (5) 13:13,15;14:18; 16:2;26:9 reject (1) 42:5 rejected (2) 37:12,22 rejecting (1) 27:23 related (11) 12:7;13:21;24:10; 52:15;56:5;58:11,20; 61:9;63:18;77:12; 80:25 relates (1) 43:9 relating (2) 59:11:63:2 relative (1) 79:9

18:6 relevant (4) 55:17;57:3;69:4; 78:3 relief (6) 15:11,22;16:15; 37:10;64:23;80:25 reluctant (3) 32:10,15;73:1 rely (2) 30:6;42:15 remedies (1) 15:13 remedy (2) 31:22;32:20 remember (2) 23:16;30:9 remind (1) 38:6 reminder (1) 12:4 reminiscent (1) 37:11 removed (2) 20:14;46:8 reorganization (9) 11:15;24:14;53:24; 54:12,18;55:20; 58:17;60:10;73:6 **Reorganized (39)** 9:10:12:24:20:2.9: 26:6;34:6;35:6,21,21; 41:2;42:19;53:21; 54:21;55:3;57:21; 58:22;59:25;60:19; 62:9,17;63:24;64:9; 66:13,16;67:19,24; 68:8,21,24;69:17; 70:16;71:22;74:13; 75:6,18,24;77:7; 80:19,22 rep (1) 20:14 repeat (1) 46:4 repeatedly (5) 24:24,25;37:22; 43:23,24 **reply (38)** 36:13,21;37:1; 40:17:41:10:44:19. 20,20;51:14;53:7,15; 54:22,23,24,25;55:2, 3,7,12,14;60:21; 63:23;65:15;66:6,6; 68:1,2,17,19;69:18; 70:1,17;71:4;72:7; 76:10,16;77:9;78:11 represent (8) 27:4:28:7:35:8; 37:10;42:21;50:5,6; 53:12 representation (3)

39:2,8;46:15 representative (3) 19:25;20:2;76:6 represented (3) 16:5;18:9;53:4 representing (10) 35:15;38:22,24; 39:1,13,20;40:20; 43:18;51:18;53:13 request (6) 24:8,15;29:2,9; 45:4;46:25 requested (3) 24:6;58:22;74:13 require (3) 19:11;28:18;59:18 required (11) 12:10;13:24;18:13, 22;19:10;24:22; 58:12,21;63:7;74:12; 80:2 requirement (1) 66:25 requirements (3) 33:22;59:24;62:14 requires (14) 11:23;32:10,15; 40:22;43:13;48:3,5; 62:12;63:14,17;73:1, 15;75:14;77:11 requiring (2) 71:10:72:1 reserved (1) 80:20 residents (1) 46:16 resistance (2) 30:4:31:1 resounding (1) 30:13 respect (8) 21:22;33:24;34:3, 21;35:18;36:19; 39:17;52:23 respectfully (6) 24:18;29:2,9;38:9; 40:4;43:2 respective (7) 12:7,23;13:4;15:13; 22:23;56:5,20 respects (2) 39:4,18 responded (4) 20:12;25:10,12; 27:8 respondents (1) 30:3 response (4) 19:22;47:13;50:20; 77:7 rest (1) 48:20 **Restructuring (3)** 

result (4) 28:18;47:8,11; 80:11 Retail (1) 73:6 retains (1) 73:3 returns (2) 22:19:23:2 reveals (1) 19:19 review (2) 23:2;46:17 **RICHARD**(1) 5:20 RICK (1) 9:3 right (6) 11:15;17:18;28:21; 38:5;42:21;53:15 rights (1) 80:19 RIMON (3) 7:12;11:2;46:1 Rimsat (2) 18:4;43:11 role (8) 16:16;20:18;28:2; 34:16:35:2:41:5; 43:20:53:3 roles (1) 67:18 **RON** (1) 9:11 **RUDEWICZ (2)** 8:8:11:5 Rudzewicz (1) 11:6 **Rule** (10) 32:14;38:14;39:3, 21,22;48:2,3,4;53:20; 63:2 ruled (12) 18:5;20:13;22:13; 23:25;24:19;29:6; 31:17;36:7;38:19; 50:21,25;66:14 rules (5) 36:1,2,16;39:4;48:2 ruling (13) 11:22;13:14;17:18; 23:13:29:17,19:43:9, 10;51:1;55:17;59:7,9; 81:4 rulings (11) 13:17;14:10;16:3; 17:16;19:10;20:16, 23;22:2;27:10,11,20 running (2) 41:9.21

30:5,18,23

#### Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Pg 99 of 102 March 23-10322-jpm Eletson Holdings March 12, 2025

	•	9 00 0. 202	T	March 12, 2025
	section (19)	5,8,10,16,20;72:4,9,	24;38:22,25;39:20;	spoke (1)
S	12:19;13:20;16:20;	10;73:18,19;75:5,19;	40:10;41:5;43:10,17,	42:14
	18:13;24:22,22;25:4;	76:20;77:3,24;78:8,	17,17,18;49:3;50:3,	spot (1)
same (13)	26:7,16;32:14;57:6;	20;79:20,21,24,25;	16;53:9,10,12;54:14,	10:16
19:7,21;20:3;21:15;	58:1,11;62:20,25;	80:13,13	18;58:1;62:7;74:19	stage (1)
26:23;30:10;34:1;	63:11,14;72:21,25	shareholders' (4)	Smith's (5)	15:21
46:4,19;47:2;50:25;	Sections (5)	71:1,23,24;77:19	17:18;20:17;34:16;	standard (4)
40.4,19,47.2,50.25, 52:15;54:14	12:20;26:8,21;	Shaughnessy (1)	35:19;43:20	11:23;72:18;73:15;
sanction (4)	57:13,20	10:7	sole (2)	75:14
40:4;43:4;79:7,12	seek (8)	Shemen (3)	20:1;30:11	state (3)
sanctionable (7)	11:19;14:16;16:12,	9:9,12;22:21	solely (3)	58:2;59:15,19
36:25;38:12,12,13,	20;19:12,15;80:9,20	Shipping (2)	11:3;46:2;47:13	stated (9)
20;43:18;53:8	seeking (15)	64:22,22	solitary (1)	20:5;32:8,9;59:6;
sanctioned (6)	14:12;16:15;22:15;	short (2)	19:6	65:24;66:15;68:23;
14:6;29:10;41:6;	23:4,4;25:7;27:15;	29:19;36:11	SOLOMON (14)	77:2;79:15
45:10;60:14;64:10	46:24;58:4;64:15;	shortly (1)	5:19;10:14,15,18,	statement (1)
sanctioning (1)	67:19,25;75:7;77:20;	35:17	20;20:3;26:11;33:11,	42:9
79:3	80:6	shots (1)	11,14;44:5;52:20;	statements (2)
sanctions (57)	seeks (2)	37:5	54:19;81:12	15:1,6
11:19;17:14;23:19;	21:18;44:13	show (3)	SOLOW (1)	STATES (15)
31:20;32:1,5,21;33:2,	seem (3)	21:12;50:23;73:9	5:20	8:2,3;11:6;32:13;
23;34:14;35:25;36:8;	21:6;23:11;45:3	shown (1)	somebody (1)	46:13,14;49:10;55:8;
40:16;44:13,13;45:5,	seems (3)	17:4	51:17	56:3,9;59:11,12,14,
21,21;46:3,9,18,25;	44:20;45:4;50:22	sic (1)	somehow (2)	17;74:3
47:1,11,17,18,21;	Segal (5)	27:25	13:12;42:2	stating (1)
48:1;54:1,23;55:1;	10:6,6;11:10;81:6,6	sides (1)	sorry (3)	65:9
57:18;60:10,12;61:8;	selectively (2)	69:10	23:2;39:5;44:20	statutory (2)
62:9,22,24;64:20;	21:10;50:19	SIDLEY (4)	sort (2)	15:13;40:6
65:16;68:11;72:4,19,	sent (2)	7:2;10:22;44:9;	42:3;52:22	stay (3)
21;73:8,25;75:22;	46:23;51:15	54:4	sought (11)	15:23;61:11,17
76:24;77:9;79:1,4,9,	separate (1)	sign(1)	15:11;17:5;18:8;	stayed (2)
14;80:12,16,21,23	66:15	28:4	25:19;37:11;45:6;	49:20,22
sanctity (1)	serve (2) 53:14;67:24	<b>signatory (2)</b> 47:25;48:7	51:10;62:19;64:23; 70:11;80:25	<b>step (1)</b> 39:24
29:9	served (2)	signed (1)	Southern (1)	STEPHEN (1)
sandbag (1)	48:12;60:25	48:6	32:12	6:18
36:16	service (16)	significant (1)	sovereign (2)	steps (7)
Santacroce (1) 32:7	11:3;20:21;46:2,19;	51:23	59:15,19	18:23;24:6;27:6;
satisfy (1)	47:13;48:3,5,8,9,10;	similar (2)	sow (1)	58:22;59:1;72:5;
59:24	60:18,20;62:3,4,6,7	47:12;63:14	23:13	74:12
saying (13)	set (1)	Similarly (2)	space (2)	stick (1)
22:5;23:23;26:23;	29:2	32:7;62:19	18:16;20:19	23:21
27:12;34:2;41:3;	setting (1)	simply (2)	SPARKMAN (1)	still (7)
49:10,11,13,13,16,25;	19:2	17:11;48:19	8:16	14:7;18:9,15,17;
50:22	Seventh (1)	single (2)	speak (6)	23:17;31:4;49:19
scheduled (2)	7:5	19:6;35:20	18:4;20:8,9,10;	stop (1)
46:22;47:5	several (4)	sit (1)	33:25;41:15	41:8
scheme (1)	43:25;45:11;61:5,8	34:12	SPEARS (6)	strategy (3)
37:3	shall (8)	slink (1)	9:12;17:11;19:24;	23:14,17,17
Schoenberg (1)	12:13,24;13:6;	21:24	20:1,8;76:6	Street (2)
40:2	33:12;56:12,22;63:4,	SMEs (2)	specific (2)	5:4;6:4
scope (1)	4 	26:4,6	15:12;48:16	structure (1)
39:8	shareholder (1) 25:6	SMITH (73)	specifically (5)	40:6
SDNY (3)		5:2,3,12,13;6:2,3;	16:13,21;18:2;48:8; 50:3	subject (6)
63:13;72:24;73:14	<b>shareholders (57)</b> 15:10;16:14;24:5;	10:18;13:23;15:4; 17:9;18:10,11,17,18;	specifics (1)	14:3;24:20;28:25; 29:24;51:19;52:14
seal (1)	25:11;40:24;44:15;	19:5;21:10,10;22:3,	36:5	submission (1)
21:23	51:20;54:5;55:5;	18;24:24;26:25,25;	Speers (1)	47:2
searing (1)	60:13;63:25;64:1,13,	28:2;32:24;33:1,12,	71:14	submit (1)
37:19	23;65:7,19;66:2,21,	15,15,15,16,17,21;	spend (1)	81:3
Second (10)	24;67:4,15;68:5,12,	34:4,18,23;35:9,11,	28:13	submitted (7)
32:2,7,8;38:11; 40:3;43:3,5;48:13;	18,23;69:16;70:10,14,	15,16;36:4,7,9,22,23,	spent (1)	46:19;47:12;57:9;
40:3;43:3,5;48:13; 61:21;66:25	15,19,21,21,23;71:2,	25;37:2,5,9,15,21,23,	20:25	61:8,10;65:25;67:10
01.21,00:25	,,,,,,,,,,,,,	,-:,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,-,,-,,-,,-,,-,,-,,		

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 100 of 102 March

March 12, 2025

	1	5	Γ	March 12, 2025
submitting (1)	45:15	13:11;14:18;18:5;	57:9	46:20,20,24
78:15	talk (1)	24:19;27:5;31:18;	type (1)	unquestionable (1)
subsequent (8)	33:21	34:24;45:11;48:18,	46:19	27:21
14:9;47:7;51:24;	talked (3)	19;49:2,17;50:4	typical (1)	unrepresented (1)
60:7;69:1;71:8;76:2;	43:12;45:10,15	to-be-determined (1)	18:24	39:23
77:24	talking (3)	80:21	10.21	Unsecured (2)
subsidiaries (6)	42:18;52:24;53:5	today (8)	U	6:11;10:10
12:23;26:5,18;50:5;	technically (2)	11:12,18;14:2;		unspecified (1)
67:25;72:5	71:2,17	23:19;34:4;45:3;81:8,	UDAY (1)	18:23
substance (1)	telling (1)	9	9:7	unstayed (1)
61:9	18:18	today's (2)	unambiguous (22)	15:9
succeed (1)	temporary (1)	28:23;55:17	11:24;12:4;13:10,	untoward (1)
28:17	64:24	together (1)	13;14:17,20,22;	42:1
such-and-such (1)	term (3)	55:4	16:18;22:2;23:6;	unwarranted (1)
23:23	13:21,23;20:7	<b>Togut (3)</b>	26:17,20,22;27:19;	43:6
sufficient (5)	terminate (2)	10:6;11:10;81:6	44:24;45:3;49:23;	up (4)
29:3;31:22;32:20;	45:19;70:22	told (2)		17:4;21:23;37:13;
29.3,31.22,32.20, 62:4,7	43.19,70.22 terminated (1)	26:25;27:1	60:3;73:10;74:2; 75:12;78:17	50:23
·	28:3			
sufficiently (1)		took (3)	unambiguously (1)	update (3)
29:10	terms (7)	31:24;39:2;49:4	26:5	59:1,2;61:20
suggest (3)	14:1;20:15,19;	totally (1)	unconditionally (2)	Upon (11)
40:18;41:9;53:10	58:14;62:14,23;74:10	42:4	58:23;74:14	13:2;30:5;45:21;
suggested (2)	theoretical (1)	transcript (13)	unconstitutional (1)	56:18;62:3,4,6,7;
53:11;79:11	43:16	50:21;57:11,13;	38:3	74:6;79:1,7
suggestion (3)	theorist (1)	58:9;59:4,21,22;60:6,	undeniably (1)	upset (1)
35:15;37:20;42:1	42:3	23;66:18,19;74:18;	27:14	51:6
suggests (1)	thereby (1)	75:1	under (17)	urge (1)
37:17	24:14	transfer (1)	16:20;18:19;21:23;	32:17
Suite (2)	therefore (7)	63:8	24:21,22;25:4;30:7;	USC (1)
5:5;8:5	41:6;45:2;47:6;	treasurer (1)	32:13;36:1,2,16;39:3;	63:10
SULLIVAN (1)	48:11;72:9;75:11;	67:8	46:16;57:5,6,7;71:24	use (4)
9:13	78:17	Trial (2)	undermine (4)	20:7;32:13;49:11;
Sunrise (1)	therein (1)	67:9;69:10	24:7;80:3,7,10	72:25
8:12	77:13	tribunals' (1)	undermines (1)	using (1)
supplement (1)	thereof (2)	22:22	40:8	35:21
61:13	14:1;58:14	tries (1)	undermining (1)	
supplemental (1)	thereto (2)	34:13	69:9	V
61:10	31:1;80:25	Trilateral (1)	understood (1)	
support (22)	thinking (2)	42:3	39:19	valid (2)
11:13;31:10;33:8;	29:14;31:24	true (1)	Undeterred (1)	37:19;42:14
36:13;42:19;45:17;	third (2)	41:12	27:11	various (3)
53:23;54:1,6,11,16,	44:13;45:21	Trust (7)	undo (2)	27:4,5;43:8
19,22,24,25;55:1;	though (2)	7:3,4;10:23,23;	25:10;27:15	Vassilis (6)
58:16,23;60:9;61:11;	39:25;65:12	44:11,11;67:11	unequivocal (1)	25:23;26:2;65:4;
72:6;74:14	thought (1)	Trustee (2)	35:11	67:23;79:22;80:15
supported (1)	51:6	8:3;11:6	unequivocally (1)	venue (1)
41:11	threatened (2)	try (3)	24:21	15:25
supports (1)	40:15;79:10	32:25;40:14;48:25	unexceptional (1)	VERONICA (1)
38:3	Three (6)	trying (3)	40:21	8:23
Supreme (2)	11:25;33:22;48:18;	17:15;37:4;42:22	unhesitatingly (1)	vest (2)
45:15;49:18	55:10;62:18;73:11	twenty-second (1)	34:23	12:24;26:6
sure (3)	three-page (1)	17:20	UNITED (11)	vesting (1)
12:3;44:25;50:14	44:19	twice (2)	8:2,3;11:6;46:13,	26:17
sustained (1)	threw (1)	27:23;39:9	14;49:10;55:8;59:11,	via (1)
31:1	36:11	Two (16)	12,14,17	48:11
sustaining (1)	thrice (2)	11:25;20:5;21:16,	Unity (3)	view (4)
55:21	27:23,24	23;28:4;37:8;38:17;	7:4;10:23;44:11	30:24;42:20,21;
55.21	throwing (1)	40:10;48:19;52:20;	unless (5)	62:3
Т	33:20	40.10,48.19,52.20, 55:9;62:14;66:15;	22:25;31:6;32:25;	02:5 VINCE (1)
1	<b>Thus (7)</b>	67:14;73:10;79:17		
taatia (1)	24:1;47:17;62:2,3;	two-page (1)	49:19;52:16	9:13 violate (1)
<b>tactic (1)</b> 20:22	66:14;70:9,9	36:4	unnecessary (1) 12:3	35:1
		50:4 TX (1)		
Taggart (1)	times (13)	14(1)	unopposed (3)	violated (5)
				÷

## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 101 of 102 March

March	12,	2025
-------	-----	------

13:11;16:17;64:4; 67:4;72:13 violates (1)	whose (2)	21.24		
		21:24	6:12	11:15;54:1,3
violates (1)	28:2,7	yesterday (2)	11 (37)	1468 (1)
violates (1)	wildly (1)	11:11;29:17	15:16;17:24;18:1;	60:5
14:14	51:12	yield (2)	38:15;55:12,20;56:1,	1472 (1)
violating (8)	willful (1)	18:1;31:7	6;57:3,13,19;60:15;	67:13
14:23,24;23:11;	26:14	York (7)	62:12,20;63:10;	1474 (1)
47:22;62:18,22;	WILLIAM (3)	5:15;6:13;7:6,16;	64:14;65:13,25;66:5,	67:12
77:21;79:18	7:8;10:21;44:8	8:6,21;32:12	9,10;67:21;68:18;	1495 (1)
violation (20)	Wilmington (1)	, ,	69:6,11,12,23;70:8;	60:12
16:15;17:23;21:25;	6:5	Z	71:12;72:7;73:24;	14th (5)
22:4,16;25:8;28:6,10,	wish (2)		76:4,5,7;78:5,8;79:19	13:16;26:21;59:5,
17;45:12;49:6;51:24,	52:19;53:19	ZIDE (1)	11:20 (1)	21;66:17
25;62:20;65:23;70:6;	wishes (3)	6:18	81:13	15 (2)
71:9;73:16,23;75:16	35:23;39:24;43:20	Zilakos (1)	111 (1)	55:12;57:11
violations (3)	withdraw (23)	65:5	63:12	1506 (1)
27:18;55:4,7	16:20,23;24:1;	Zilakou (1)	1141 (4)	54:8
voluntarily (6)	25:14,15;27:1,6;	65:5	24:22;25:5;27:10;	1507 (1)
59:12;65:12,24;	35:15;38:1;39:16,25;		57:20	54:13
69:13;70:7;78:15	40:1;49:15;50:17;	1	1141b (2)	1508 (1)
voluntary (1)	52:5,6,7,12,25;53:1;		12:20;26:8	54:19
15:15	62:15;70:22;80:2	1 (9)	1142 (12)	1509 (1)
Voyager (1)	withdrawal (1)	13:18;17:1;27:19;	13:20;24:22;25:5;	54:20
63:12	24:9	55:12;59:22;60:23;	27:11;57:20;58:1,11;	1522 (1)
	withdrawn (3)	65:16;75:22;77:22	62:20,25;63:10,11,14	54:23
$\mathbf{W}$	25:22;76:15;81:2	1,000 (1)	11771 (1)	1528 (1)
	within (14)	32:23	8:14	11:11
WADE (1)	19:6;25:21;27:2;	1,000-dollar (1)	119 (1)	16 (1)
6:17	46:8;52:11;57:8;	79:7	59:17	66:19
wait (1)	63:10;69:25;70:24;	1,000-dollars-a-day (1)	11th (2)	16th (1)
21:8	72:8;73:2;74:16;76:9;	28:24	15:10;65:9	7:15
wants (3)	78:10	1.3 (3)	12 (16)	17 (2)
33:21;41:1,2	without (7)	69:7;76:5;78:5	13:1;15:8;56:16,25;	57:11;66:18
warranted (1)	12:15;13:22;58:20;	1.4 (4)	59:16;62:10;63:23;	1717 (1)
79:14	80:4,8,22;81:2	39:3,4,8,21	64:7,18;68:17;71:4;	5:4
waving (1)	WOLFE (1)	10 (2)	72:17;74:9;75:1;	17th (3)
23:22	9:14	68:2;69:19	77:17,21	47:12;69:14,17
way (13)	wonders (1)	10,000 (1)	1201 (1)	183 (2)
21:6;23:14;33:17,	33:14	28:22	6:4	32:11;72:23
19;35:7;36:7;47:8;	word (1)	10/25/2024 (1)	1212 (1)	19 (4)
50:16;51:5,9;75:25;	27:24	15:16	55:23	41:10;66:1;67:21;
80:3,7	words (6)	100 (1)	1223 (1)	70:18
Wednesday (1)	14:25;16:11;20:18,	7:14	56:3	191 (2)
29:14	19;37:4,10	10017 (1)	13 (1)	32:11;72:24
week (2)	worked (1)	7:16	63:23	19103 (1)
20:14;29:12	20:24	10019 (1)	131 (1)	5:6
weeks (1)	worse (1)	7:6	59:17	1927 (1)
21:16	42:12	10022 (1)	134 (1)	38:14
weren't (3)	worth (1)	5:15	63:12	19801 (1)
13:12;18:24;51:13	18:7	10036 (1)	14 (2)	6:5
Werns (1)	writing (5)	6:13	59:22;77:9	1986 (1)
40:2	21:7;23:1;39:9;	10174 (1)	14,000 (1)	32:8
what's (3)	49:13;52:2	8:21	23:19	19th (3)
33:24;37:15;42:15	written (4)	103 (1)	1402 (1)	28:3;53:25;66:3
Wherefore (1)	12:15;18:12;22:12;	59:22	58:15	_
30:24	25:9	104 (2)	1407 (1)	2
Whereupon (1)	wrong (2)	59:22;67:9	61:16	
81:13	51:2;53:10	105 (1)	1410 (1)	2 (3)
Who'd (1)		60:6	61:20	58:9;60:22;61:24
	Y	105a (3)	1416 (1)	20 (1)
11:8		20 14 70 00 05	17:1	19:23
11:8 whole (3)		32:14;72:22,25		
11:8 whole (3) 31:4;33:21;36:1	year (1)	10707 (1)	1453 (2)	200 (2)
11:8 whole (3)	year (1) 41:13 years (1)			

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## 23-10322-jpm Doc 1536 Filed 03/13/25 Entered 03/13/25 10:03:28 Main Document Eletson Holdings Pg 102 of 102 March

March	12,	2025
-------	-----	------

73:7 59:20	4th (6)	63 (2)
2003 (1) 27th (2)	15:2,7;54:4,9;	32:8;68:3
28:22 60:11;61:7	55:24;65:19	649 (1)
<b>2007</b> (1) <b>29</b> (4)	E	63:12
73:14 13:14;17:9,13;	5	6th (3)
<b>2013 (1)</b> 21:16 72 24 2014 (22)		46:23;47:6,11
72:24 <b>29th (22)</b>	5(1)	7
<b>2017 (2)</b> 13:19;14:5;26:22; 30:5,19 27:20;47:9;49:21;	60:6 5 000 (1)	/
<b>2023 (2) 2</b> 7.20,47.9,49.21, <b>5</b> 8:15,17;59:24;60:3,	<b>5,000 (1)</b> 80:16	7 (4)
2023 (2)     58.15,17,59.24,00.5,       63:13;79:2     16;61:12,18;62:23;	<b>5.1 (1)</b>	12:18;26:8,16;58:9
<b>2024 (9)</b> 71:25;73:22,25;	57:6	7004 (1)
13:16;15:2,10; 74:17;78:18,23;	5.10 (1)	48:3
19:23;55:18,24;57:1; 79:19;80:18	57:14	78 (2)
64:18;65:10 2d (2)	5.11 (2)	32:3;79:2
<b>2025 (26)</b> 73:7;79:2	57:7,14	787 (1)
11:22;13:14,14,16;	5.2 (2)	7:5
14:4,7;17:9;21:16; <b>3</b>	57:5,13	7th (1)
41:21;47:6;53:25;	5.2c (3)	54:21
54:4,9,21;57:15; <b>3.3 (1)</b>	12:19;26:7,16	
58:15;59:5;60:1,11; 71:12	5.4 (1)	8
61:12,18;65:19;66:3; <b>30</b> (1)	57:13	
68:25;69:14;72:1 61:1	50,000 (1)	8 (2)
20th (15) 304 (1)	29:1	60:6;71:1
11:22;14:4;20:4; 73:6	527 (1)	800 (1)
22:14;26:23;47:14; <b>30th (1)</b>	73:13	32:8
60:1,5,6,8,17,21,22; 46:23	53 (2)	
72:1;76:12 31 (3)	16:20;18:13	9
<b>21 (4)</b> 57:11;64:21;66:7	53.5 (2)	
59:4;66:7,19;74:18 <b>3100</b> (1)	20:25;28:16	9 (2)
<b>22 (1)</b> 5:5	530 (1)	65:17;75:1
60:23 <b>33 (3)</b>	79:13	90 (1)
<b>223 (1)</b> 32:8;61:3;64:11	534 (1)	60:23
73:7 <b>34</b> (1)	8:5	9014 (1)
<b>23 (1)</b> 58:9 12:16 <b>250 (3)</b>	535 (2)	48:3
13:16 <b>359 (3)230 (1)</b> 73:13;75:17;79:13	73:13;75:17	9020 (2)
<b>230 (1)</b> 73:7 <b>36 (1)</b> 73:7	<b>54 (4)</b> 69:20;70:1;76:11;	32:14;48:2 94 (1)
<b>23-10322 (1)</b> 75:1	78:12	60:23
10:3 <b>37 (2)</b>	<b>55 (6)</b>	<b>96 (1)</b>
<b>23rd (3)</b> 61:5;76:17	8:13;66:1;69:20;	66:18
26:21;57:1,12 <b>38 (1)</b>	70:1;76:11;78:12	9th (1)
<b>24 (2)</b> 62:24	554 (2)	68:25
13:14;66:18 <b>39 (5)</b>	32:3;79:2	00.25
<b>24th (14)</b> 64:11;68:11;74:1;	570 (2)	
19:9;22:13;26:10, 76:24;77:10	79:2,8	
22;57:15,16,24;58:8;	599 (1)	
<b>5</b> 9:3;60:2,16;66:19; <b>4</b>	5:14	
74:17;75:1	5i (8)	
25 (6) 4 (3)	12:6;56:3,8;63:23;	
59:4,22;65:16; 24:3;48:4;66:6	64:7;72:17;74:6;	
70:12;74:18,25 40 (1)	77:17	
<b>25,000 (1)</b> 57:9	5iii (2)	
28:23 <b>405 (1)</b>	12:9;56:15	
<b>25th</b> (1) 8:20	<b>5-million</b> (1)	
55:18 <b>42 (1)</b>	28:13	
<b>26 (9)</b> 66:1	(	
64:11;65:16;66:19; 68:2 20:60:20:70:1: 50:4:74:18	6	
68:2,20;69:20;70:1; 59:4;74:18	(1)	
$\begin{array}{c} 76:11;78:12 \\ 27(2) \\ \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} 44(1) \\ 62:24 \\ \end{array}$	<b>6</b> (1)	
<b>27 (2)</b> 62:24 14:7:77:22 402 (2)	15:23	
14:7;77:23 <b>492 (2) 270 (1)</b> 32:11;72:23	<b>62 (1)</b> 68:3	