21 various committees on the Hill.

I've been involved in various aspects relating to a number of the Independent Counsel investigations currently

24 that the administration faces. And my responsibilities can 25 encompass everything from subpoena compliance -- I have a

Q If you do choose to answer questions, your answers
 might be used against you in any future proceeding. Do you

21 that?

25 understand that?

1 number of lawyers who work with me so we try to comply with 2 the subpoenas through documents.

Obviously. White House employees often come to me

4 or the lawyers who work for me seeking advice. A typical

5 scenario might be if such a witness has been contacted by an

6 agent or a congressional investigator and they may ask me for

7 advice. And also the various legal issues that we confront

8 in these investigations. I try to handle and work with

9 Mr. Ruff and others. And I give advice to a number of the

10 advisors, legal advice to a number of the advisors at the

11 White House.

O All right, If I can direct your attention first 12

13 to approximately the end of January, early February of

14 this year, do you recall receiving a call from Mr. Peter

15 McGrath?

16 A I recall receiving a call from a Mr. McGrath

17 who was in New England. I believe his name was Peter,

18 but I certainly remember getting a call from a Mr. McGrath.

19 Yes.

20 Q Okay. And what is your best recollection on when

21 you received that telephone call?

22 A I would say probably late January, maybe early

23 February.

24 Q Okay. You don't recall any more specifically than

25 that?

Page 6

A I don't. I know that at one point I executed a 2 document and it may be in there, I haven't reviewed it

3 particularly recently.

Q If that helps to review -- my recollection is that

5 it was not referenced in there, but feel free to refer to

6 that.

10

A Okay. Well, it may not have been because I don't

8 think I thought of that as a privileged communication, so it

9 may not be in there. I think late January or early February.

Q All right. Do you maintain telephone logs for

11 incoming calls?

12 A I do not. No.

13 Q Do you maintain a calendar to note incoming calls

14 or by any mechanism other than a telephone log?

15 A No, I do not. I don't maintain a telephone log at

16 all.

17 Q Okay. Did you speak to Mr. McGrath after you

18 received his telephone call?

A I did. I mean, I think what happened was

20 Mr. McGrath, as I recall reached out, I think, to

21 Bruce Lindsey and perhaps, I'm not certain, to another

22 member of the counsel's office, but to Mr. Lindsey and

23 I was asked, either by Mr. Lindsey or by Ms. Mills, to

24 return Mr. McGrath's phone call, who I didn't know. So

25 I did do that.

Page 7

What I don't remember, Mr. Apperson, is whether we 2 traded calls, Mr. McGrath and I, but at some point he and I

3 spoke. And I didn't know him. And, if you want, I'll tell

4 you the best I can --

O That would be fine.

A What I remember of the conversation, what seemed a

7 little odd to me was that Mr. McGrath said something to the

8 effect that -- he had referred to, I think it was his

9 brother, as "my guy."

He said, "My guy has been contacted, my guy may

11 have information that -- " I think he suggested was

12 consistent -- I think he used a summary like "consistent with

13 information from a Mr. Bayani Nelvis," who is a steward at

14 the White House.

I think Mr. McGrath said to me, you know, "My

16 guy is loyal," or something like that and that, you know,

17 depending on what he was asked, he would -- he might answer

18 in a manner that was consistent with what Mr. Nelvis had

19 said. But we didn't talk a lot about it at that point, I

20 believe, and this may help in the timing, I believe there

21 were already press accounts about Bayani Nelvis' testimony,

22 about what the press reported he had seen.

And then Mr. McGrath said, "You guys," and I

24 assumed that meant us at the White House or the lawyers,

25 "Do you take care of the payment of lawyers?" Or, "Can

I you take care of us?" Or something to that effect.

And I said, "No, I'm not sure what you're referring

3 to, unless you're referring to the Justice Department

4 program," and there's a program at the Justice Department

5 that if you fit under right criteria and you're a government

6 employee and you need counsel, your counsel can get

7 compensated at the rate of \$99 an hour. And I clearly

8 referenced that obliquely. And then I just sort of thought

9 that was a strange comment from him.

He may have said, but I'm not positive,

11 Mr. Apperson, that he was also -- he thought that there were

12 reporters or reporters who would pay who might be interested

13 in his -- as he would say, "my guy's" but I took it to be his

14 brother's story.

10

15 And that is, right now, the best I recall about

16 that conversation, which I think probably lasted roughly five

17 minutes or so.

18 Q I appreciate that. Let me back you up.

19

Q As, I understand it, your recollection is that you 20

21 first heard of a Mr. McGrath having made a phone call to

22 either Mr. Lindsey or to Ms. Mills in the counsel's office.

A Yes. I'm fairly certain the call was to

24 Mr. Lindsey and I believe Mr. Lindsey asked me to return the

25 call, but it may have been Ms. Mills who asked me to return

Page &

Page 12

1 the call, but I think the original call, as best I remember.
2 I may be wrong, was to Mr. Lindsey.
3 Q Okay. Regardless of whether you spoke to
4 Mr. Lindsey or Ms. Mills —
5 A Right.
6 Q — and their asking you to return the call, what
7 did they tell you as to who Mr. McGrath was and who be
8 represented or his connection with what he later described as
9 this guy or his guy?
10 A I'm not sure. They may — and I just — they may
11 have said he represents a former steward or military guy at
12 the White House. I just — they may very well have said

13 that. I just don't recall definitively.

14 Q Did you understand when you returned the phone call

15 that the Mr. McGrath who was calling was functioning in a

16 legal representation capacity for another person?

A Yes. I clearly was under the impression I was
calling a lawyer on behalf of someone else. That's right.

Q Okay. And at that time, you understood that the
someone else was -- was what? What was your understanding?

A I'm not sure. It's been a while ago. I don't
remember if at that point I understood that I was calling
someone who was representing a steward or former steward or a
military aide or a former military aide. But at some point.

25 I learned -- I think I learned that he was representing his

Page 11
1 return -- I chose not to return any of his calls after that
2 one conversation we had.

Q Okay. Are you aware of who else he attempted to 4 call at the White House after that?

5 A He may -- again, and I just can't -- I'm not. I 6 think he may have tried to contact Mr. Lindsey or Ms. Mills,

Q Okay. Before you return to the original phone call

7 but I'm certainly not certain of that. He may not have.

9 when you had the conversation and your discussions with 10 either Mr. Lindsey or Ms. Mills, did either of them express

11 to you any sort of concern with respect to this person or the 12 conversation that they had with this person before asking you

13 to return the telephone call?

14 A I want to answer your question. What I want to 15 avoid, as you know, at some point today, there are certain

16 communications over which there will be a claim of privilege

17 and now you're asking me about a conversation with counsel, 18 so I don't want to be in a position of inadvertently waiving 19 anything.

20 Q Well, if you need to -- let's at least identify

21 what the conversation is and --

A I may have had -Q I'm sorry. Let me finish --

Q I'm sorry. Let me finish --

24 A I will.

25 Q -- because the court reporter can't get both of us.

I brother, who had worked at the White House. I think I

2 learned that during the conversation. There is a chance that

3 I had been told that before, but I don't think so.

4 Q Okay. And in your conversation with Mr. McGrath

5 on the telephone, was it clear to you or did you have an

6 understanding that his brother had been contacted with7 respect to the Independent Counsel's investigation?

A It's the only conversation I had that I didn't --

9 in the entire time I've been here, that it just seemed

10 somewhat strange to me. I wasn't quite sure why I was being

11 contacted. I didn't like the reference to "my guy has a

12 mixed memory" or whatever he said to that effect.

13 I wasn't quite sure -- I left the conversation,

14 in all candor, what I was thinking was that there was someone

15 during the first days of the Monica Lewinsky situation who

16 might frankly be interested in selling his story.

I quite frankly didn't have a particularly good
 feel about the communication and the next day or a day later

19 I had heard that Mr. McGrath was saying that the White House

20 had reached out to him, I think I had heard that he had said

21 a Mr. Brower had reached out to him. And so I didn't quite

22 have -- I guess what I'm saying is a very strong view was to

23 why Mr. McGrath had called.

And indeed he called me back a couple of times or to other people at the White House and I, frankly, chose not to Let's go ahead and at least identify the

2 conversations and then you can assert --

3 A Right.

Page 10

4 Q - you know, what you need to for the record.

5 A I will. I don't think I need to on this one.

6 I do believe that at some point I had a conversation with

7 my colleagues in which I stated that I had sort of an

8 uncomfortable feeling about my conversation with Mr. McGrath.

9 And Mr. Lindsey may or Ms. Mills -- Mr. Lindsey, actually, I

10 don't think Ms. Mills, but Mr. Lindsey may have suggested

11 that the conversation seemed odd.

12 What I don't remember -- I don't believe

13 Mr. Lindsey spoke to Mr. McGrath directly, but I may be wrong

14 about that. And that's the extent of my conversation.

15 Q All right. That clearly references a conversation

16 you had with Mr. Lindsey -

17 A After.

18 Q - after the conversation.

19 A Yes. Right.

Q Do you recall any conversation with either of them

21 before you had the conversation with Mr. McGrath?

22 A Yes, the conversation where I was asked to return

23 the call.

Q Okay. And that's what I'm inquiring about, were there any --

Page 10

Page 13

1 A Yes. I don't --

2 Q I'm sorry. Let me finish. Was there any

3 conversation beyond a simple, "Lanny, I received a call from

4 Mr. McGrath, would you return the call and see what he

5 wants?

A I don't remember any. I mean, to the best of my

7 recollection, no. To the best of my recollection, in

8 substance, that would have been the call, "Can you return

9 this fellow's call?"

10 O Okay. Did you have the post-conversation

11 discussions with Mr. Lindsey or Ms. Mills -- are those the

12 only two that you likely have discussed this with?

13 A And I probably would have said the same to Chuck

14 Ruff, just because it seemed -- what he said to me seemed a

15 little unusual. And knowing my practice, I usually speak

16 with Chuck about a lot of matters, I probably would have just

10 With Chuck about a for of matters, I probably woul

17 mentioned that to Chuck as well.

18 Q Okay. How do you normally receive a phone message

19 such as this, that someone is asking you to return the call?

20 Is that on a little yellow slip in the office or is it sent

21 by an e-mail communication?

22 A No. Here, I believe I was handed either a pink

23 slip or a yellow slip that Mr. Lindsey's assistant or

24 secretary would have taken and I would have kept it, returned 24

25 the call and then tossed it.

1 trying to sell his story."

Q And do you remember who you talked to about that?

3 A I remember that - I don't, but I would surmise it

4 would have been some combination of Ms. Mills, Mr. Lindsey

5 and Chuck Ruff.

6 I can't tell you, Mr. Apperson, if it was all

7 three, but those would have been the people with whom I would

8 have made that comment.

9 Q Okay. Do you remember if during any of the

10 discussions that you had about your conversation with

11 Mr. McGrath on this incident that you just described whether

12 or not any of the persons with whom you spoke made notes

13 during your conversation?

14 A I'm confident they did not.

Q Was anyone else present during your conversation

16 with Mr. McGrath, your telephone call, in your office?

17 A No. I was in my office, at my desk. No, no one

18 else would have been present.

19 Q Okay. Let me direct your attention, please, to

20 January 21, 1998, a Wednesday. Do you recall the news

21 article in the Washington Post about the Monica Lewinsky

22 matter that broke on that date? Is that a recollection to

23 you?

15

24 A Yes. I mean, I don't remember the words of the

25 article, but I do remember - I believe that was the first

Page 14

1 Q Okay. It's your practice to dispose of those type

2 of messages, phone messages, after you make the call?

3 A Yes. Right. I don't really have a practice; I

4 don't do it all that often; but, yes. I mean, here I was

5 given a slip from Mr. Lindsey, returned the call and then

6 I'm quite confident I just tossed it.

7 Q Okay. And was that single discussion you had with

8 Mr. McGrath -- you indicated you did not return several of

9 his telephone calls. Was there ever a time thereafter when

10 you again spoke with him?

11 A I don't believe so. I don't believe so.

12 Q Okay.

13 A And, again, I want to be clear. I don't remember

14 if he called me once or a couple of times, but I do remember

15 him calling me again after the time he and I spoke.

Q Okay. Other than the one conversation that

17 you recall after your conversation with Mr. McGrath with

18 Mr. Lindsey or Ms. Mills where you expressed the concern

19 about the telephone call, did you have subsequent

20 conversations with either of them about Mr. McGrath or his

21 brother?

22 A I think later on we learned or heard a rumor that

23 Mr. McGrath was trying to sell his story to a tabloid

24 magazine. And I may very well at that point mentioned that,

25 "Look at this, the fellow who I spoke to or his client is

1 day that it hit the newspaper and then it was a big story.

Q Okay. That's what I wanted to focus your attention

3 on.

A Yes. Okay.

5 Q During that time period, first, do you know Sidney

6 Blumenthal?

7 A I do know Sidney Blumenthal.

8 Q And he works at the White House. Is that correct?

A That is correct.

10 Q And what's his position there?

1 A He is a senior advisor to the President. I'm not

12 sure of Sidney's exact title. It may be counsellor to the

13 President, but he's one of the President's senior advisors.

14 Q Okay. What do you understand that he does at the

15 White House in that capacity?

16 A He advises the President, I think, on a whole host

17 of issues; many of which, frankly, I don't deal with Sidney

18 on. I think he deals a fair bit with issues dealing with

19 England. I somehow remember he had a lot to do with Prime

20 Minister Blair's visit here.

21 He deals with a lot of communications and message

22 related issues, but I just don't work with him on those

23 issues, so I don't feel qualified to talk about sort of his

24 portfolio.

Q Okay. Is it fair to say -- I notice you shrugged

Page 17

- I your shoulder when you began, before answering that question.
- 2 Is it fair to say that his duties are kind of fluid in what
- 3 he works on, his portfolio changes from time to time?
- A I don't know if that's fair to say. I mean, I
- 5 would probably shrug my shoulders at what Gene Sperling,
- 6 who is the head of the NEC, does, if you were to ask me
- 7 about it.
- I mean, I know people's titles, but it's often hard
- 9 at the White House to know actually what people do. I mean,
- 10 I sort of spend my time on the investigations, candidly, so
- 11 many other people can handle other issues. So it has nothing
- 12 to do with whether it's fluid or not. I just simply am not
- 13 that familiar with what Sidney does day to day.
- O Okay. Do you understand his duties, however, to be
- 15 fluid in nature?
- A I don't have an understanding that they're fluid or 16
- 17 not fluid, candidly. I mean, I know be works sort of in the
- 18 overall communications message area, but I couldn't do a lot
- 19 better than that in describing them.
- Q Okay. What do you understand his relationship to 20
- 21 be with the President?
- 22 A He's a senior advisor to the President.
- O Does his relationship extend beyond that of a 23
- 24 senior advisor to the President?
- A You know, I don't know if I feel equipped to answer 25

- 1 meets with him, but Sidney has never shared with me that he
- 2 is particularly -- he's never defined his relationship with
- 3 the President to me.
- Q All right. What do you understand of
- 5 Mr. Blumenthal's relationship with the First Lady?
- A Again, my understanding, which is somewhat
- 7 indirect, is that he does have a relationship with the First
- 8 Lady and that they're friendly. Again, I don't know if
- 9 they're personal friends or the extent of it, but as far as I
- 10 know, they have a relationship. Again, I've never personally
- 11 witnessed it.
- Q All right. Do you recall -- and, again, I'll go 12
- 13 back to the time period we identified when the Washington
- 14 Post article appeared, January 1, 1998, do you recall
- 15 Mr. Blumenthal on or about that date revealing to you a
- 16 conversation that he had had with the President regarding
- 17 Monica Lewinsky?
- A Whatever -- I'm aware of the conversation you're 18
- 19 referencing. The first part is it certainly wasn't on or
- 20 about the day of the 21st of January. It certainly was not
- 21 that. But as to the second part of that, I think that I
- 22 cannot answer that question under a claim of executive
- 23 privilege and governmental attorney-client privilege.
- 24 Q Okay. Let me back up and we'll get back to that.
- 25 A Okay.

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Page 20

- 1 that. I don't know. I am not particularly close to Sidney
- 2 in the sense other than dealing with him professionally.
- My sense is he has the confidence of the President,
- 4 but I've certainly not been around when they've been together
- 5 speaking other than in big groups, so I don't really feel I'm

O Okay. Do you understand he's a personal friend of

- 6 able to elaborate on that.
- 8 the President, in addition to his position at the White
- 9 House?
- A I have an understanding that Sidney did have a
- 11 relationship with the President of some sort, or at least the
- 12 President knew of Sidney before, but I don't know if they're
- 13 personal friends.
- Q Okay. And what is the basis of that understanding? 14
- A A Washington Post article that I read about the
- 16 time that Sidney was joining the administration. There was a
- 17 profile of him and I read it and in that Washington Post
- 18 article it was referenced that as a journalist, Blumenthal
- 19 had been a supporter of the President and the administration
- 20 and that was actually my -- that's what I base that on.
- Q Okay. Is it based on anything that Mr. Blumenthal
- 22 has ever said to you or said in your presence with respect to
- 23 his relationship with the President?
- A No. I mean, I do understand that he has a
- 25 relationship with the President and, as a senior advisor, he

- Q You said it was certainly not on or about January
- 2 21st. When do you recall the conversation?
- A Well, it was a very -- it was certainly a very
- 4 brief conversation. Very brief. And so to define it, in
- 5 case we have to go in front of another court, I would say
- 6 that my entire conversation with Mr. Blumenthal was probably
- 7 on this matter no more than three minutes.
- 8 Mr. Apperson, it's hard for me to tell you exactly,
- 9 but it was -- it was probably -- you probably could help me
- 10 if you would tell me when Mr. Blumenthal testified here.
- 11 That would probably be a marker. It was before then, but I
- 12 don't think it was that much before then. And that would be
- 13 helpful to me in trying to figure out when I remember the
- 14 conversation.
- 15 Q So your best recollection is it was somewhat -- it
- 16 was before and somewhat close in time to his first appearance
- 17 before the grand jury?
- 18 A I probably should say I could be wildly off on my
- 19 estimates, and so I don't purport to know exactly, but my --
- 20 as I'm sitting here today, I would say maybe a couple of
- 21 weeks, a week before Mr. Blumenthal came in front of the
- 22 grand jury, whenever that was.
- 23 Q Let me attempt to do this.
- 24

25

Q You have brought with you a letter from your

Page 24

Page 21

1 attorney that was sent to the Independent Counsel's office

- 2 dated March 9th and an attached statement that you had
- 3 prepared dated March 9, 1998. Is that correct?
- A That's right. This was my attempt back in March to
- 5 provide to you those conversations at the time that I had had
- 6 that we felt were potentially subject to privilege.
- 7 Q Okay. And let me in an attempt to try to get the
- 8 time period, to see if this helps --
- 9 A Right.
- 10 O If it doesn't, it doesn't.
- 11 A I don't think -- to short circuit it, I'm confident
- 12 I had my conversation with Mr. Blumenthal after I wrote this
- 13 document, so if that's where you're going, I'm quite
- 14 confident of that.
- 15 Q Okay. But let me --
- MR. BENNETT: That tells us that it would have been
- 17 after March 9th.
- 18 THE WITNESS: That's exactly right, Mr. Bennett.
- 19 It certainly was after March 9th.
- 20 MR. BENNETT: Okay.
- 21 BY MR. APPERSON:
- 22 Q Does that help in establishing how -- with that as
- 23 a guidepost, do you have a sense of how long after March 9th?
- 24 A Again, I could be wildly off, but, you know,
- 25 sitting here now, I would say within a couple of weeks of

- I A Again, I won't give you the substance of it because
- 2 I believe the conversation is privileged both on the basis of
- 3 executive privilege and attorney-client privilege. It would
- 4 probably, you know, have been related to this general matter
- 5 you're investigating, maybe something that had been, you
- 6 know, something from a news account.
- 7 Again, I -- what I feel more comfortable telling
- 8 you, Mr. Apperson, is I would suspect that I talked about
- 9 something else with him. I don't have a vivid memory of what
- 10 else that is. I do remember the conversation, though, that
- 11 you're referencing.
- 12 Q All right. At this point, without revealing what
- 13 the conversation was, it had to do with -- he recounted for
- 14 you, correct, a conversation which he had had, which he
- 15 informed you that he had had with the President, is that
- 16 correct?
- 17 A L again, don't want to go into the substance of
- 18 it, but I think it's safe to say that I had assumed that in
- 19 your question and, yes, that would be my best recollection.
- 20 I don't feel comfortable saying much more about it at this
- 21 point.
- 22 Q Okay. The information he provided when you had
- 23 your conversation, was that the first you ever heard of that
- 24 account, that story or however you want to characterize it?
- 25 What he told you, was that the first time you ever heard that

- 1 Mr. Blumenthal testifying and, again, if you asked me when,
- 2 knowing I could be wildly off, if you said to give my best
- 3 guess. I'd say maybe he said this to me in early May.
- 4 Q Okay.
- 5 A And, again, Mr. Apperson, I want to be clear here,
- 6 I could be pretty far off on that time.
- 7 Q I appreciate that. What were the circumstances of
- 8 your having this conversation with Mr. Blumenthal? Where did
- 9 it take place?
- 10 A As I recall, it occurred in Mr. Blumenthal's
- II office. I had come by, which I don't do that often with
- 12 Mr. Blumenthal, but I had come by, I think in part just to
- 13 see how he was doing, which is frankly something I sometimes
- 14 do, just on an emotional level, to see how people are holding
- 15 up. And it was when I was in there in his office that we
- 16 would have had the conversation that you're referencing.
- 17 Q Okay. Did you talk about anything else other than
- 18 this? And I mean after -- if you had gone by his office to
- 19 ask how he was holding up. presumably you asked that and --
- 20 A Right. I probably asked that.
- 21 Q Was anything else discussed other than responding
- 22 to "How are you holding up" and then moving on to this topic?
- 23 A Probably. Probably something else would have been
- 24 discussed.
- 25 Q Do you recall what that was?

- I from anybody?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q All right. What did Mr. Blumenthal say was the
- 4 purpose of telling you this?
- 5 A I don't believe he did, but in general I believe
- 6 people give me information when they do because they see me
- 7 as a lawyer in the counsel's office who is involved in this
- 8 matter, a lawyer who tries to share information with
- 9 Mr. Ruff, and I think he understood, as do many, that there's
- 10 at least a potential of impeachment proceedings being brought
- 11 in this matter, that your office may provide a report to the
- 12 Congress, and that as White House counsel one of our
- 13 responsibilities is to represent and advise the President in
- 14 his official capacity and that providing whatever sketchy
- 15 level of facts he did would help enable me and my colleagues
- 16 to advise the President. That would be my understanding of
- 17 why he and others speak to me.
- 18 Q All right. Was your understanding based on
- 19 anything that he told you at the time?
- 20 A Mr. Apperson, I've been there since the beginning.
- 21 I think it's fair to say, and I think anyone in my position
- 22 knows, that at some point you get known in the White House,
- 23 when people come and speak with me and choose to speak to me
- 24 as opposed to a non-lawyer, that's why they're doing it, but
- 25 they don't necessarily begin every conversation by saying,

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In re: Grand Jury Proceedings
                                                            Multi-Page
                                                          Page 25
                                                                                                                              Page 27
 1 "Lanny, can I come in here now? I'm telling you this
                                                                           A I would simply characterize it as I came by and
 2 because - " but that is my understanding.
                                                                     2 visited with Mr. Blumenthal for a couple of moments and I
       Q Okay. Well, you've certainly had conversations in
                                                                     3 don't recall if it was impromptu or if he had said, which he
 4 the White House where persons have begun a conversation as
                                                                     4 may at times, and other people, "When you have a chance, can
 5 "I'm telling you something because -- " correct?
                                                                     5 you come by?"
       A More often than not, people come in and say,
                                                                              I don't remember why I did it, but I would have
 7 "I have - " a typical conversation, someone will come in
                                                                     7 come by and would have done it candidly in conjunction with
 8 and say, "Lanny, I've been contacted by someone, an agent
                                                                     8 my responsibilities.
 9 or the press or someone else, you know, what are my rights,
                                                                              MR. APPERSON: Okay. I think we're at the point
10 what can I do, here was my involvement."
                                                                    10 the grand jury needs to break for lunch, as is our practice
11
          They don't necessarily say, "Lanny, I'm coming to
                                                                    11 here, as I understand it. And so we would appreciate your
12 you because you're the special counsel to the President," but
                                                                    12 patience as we take a lunch break and then we'll return.
13 it's clear to me they're seeking my advice.
                                                                    13
                                                                              THE WITNESS: At what time?
                                                                    14
                                                                              THE FOREPERSON: We will return at 1:35.
14
       Q Okay. Let me go back to the original question.
15
       A Sure.
                                                                    15
                                                                              THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.
16
       Q When you had the discussion with Mr. Blumenthal on
                                                                    16
                                                                              THE FOREPERSON: You're welcome.
                                                                    17
                                                                              MR. APPERSON: Thank you.
17 that occasion when he related the conversation, and without
18 saying what the conversation was, did he tell you tell you
                                                                    18
                                                                              THE WITNESS: Thank you, Mr. Apperson.
19 why he was relating that conversation to you?
                                                                    19
                                                                              (Whereupon, at 12:35 p.m., a luncheon recess was
                                                                    20 taken.)
20
       A I don't recall if in that conversation he said
21 "I'm either seeking legal advice or imparting information,"
22 or "Lanny, you know, you may want to know this information."
23 I candidly don't remember. Or if I said something like -- I
24 don't remember.
25
       Q Okay. Do you recall if he said, "Lanny, I'm
                                                                                                                             Page 28
                                                         Page 26
 I concerned about something and I want to pass it on to you"?
                                                                     1
                                                                                 AFTERNOON SESSION
       A I think I had an understanding in general and I am
                                                                                                         (1:41 p.m.)
 3 not comfortable going into any further of the conversation
                                                                     3 Whereupon.
 4 between Mr. Blumenthal and me.
                                                                                     LANNY ARTHUR BREUER
          Again, I had the understanding, whether it was
                                                                     5 was recalled as a witness and, after having been previously
 6 explicit or implicit, when Mr. Blumenthal was speaking to me
                                                                     6 duly sworn by the Foreperson of the Grand Jury, was examined
                                                                     7 and testified further as follows:
 7 he was doing so because of my position. Mr. Blumenthal and I
 8 are not friends. I would not be someone be would naturally
                                                                                     EXAMINATION (RESUMED)
 9 speak to.
                                                                              THE FOREPERSON: Welcome back, Mr. Breuer.
10
                                                                    10 I'd like to remind you that you are still under oath.
          Indeed, as you know, I don't know a lot about his
11 other responsibilities and so he and I don't sort of chat
                                                                    11
                                                                              THE WITNESS: Thank you.
12 daily about other issues other than this particular issue, so
                                                                    12
                                                                              MR. APPERSON: And we have a quorum?
13 I think he did it based on my position.
                                                                   13
                                                                              THE FOREPERSON: Yes, we do.
                                                                    14
                                                                              MR. APPERSON: And there are no unauthorized
       Q All right. Though, again, just to clarify, he
15 provided this information to you when you did an informal
                                                                    15 persons present?
16 drop by to say, "How are you doing," or "How are you holding
                                                                   16
                                                                              THE FOREPERSON: There are none.
17 up."
                                                                    17
                                                                              BY MR. APPERSON:
18
                                                                    18
      A Right. I don't accept the characterization of just
```

Q Mr. Breuer, let me pick back up on our discussion

19 of the conversation that you had with Mr. Blumenthal. Did he

A I think that that would reveal the substance of my

20 tell you when he had had the conversation with the President

23 conversation with Mr. Blumenthal, so I believe that that

24 information is protected by the attorney-client privilege and

21 that he related to you?

25 executive privilege.

19 an informal - well, certainly, it was informal, but, you

22 you in the hall. I don't sort of set up meetings with

24 informal

20 know, as any lawyer in an institution does, occasionally you

21 go by and you visit with people, you see them or they grab

23 people. So I'm not sure I agree with the characterization of

Q Okay. How then would you characterize it?

1 Q So you're asserting the privileges even with

- 2 respect to when Mr. Blumenthal had the discussion with the
- 3 President?
- 4 A Well, what I'm trying to do, frankly, is assert it
- 5 over the conversation because I don't want to provide
- 6 information and then have an argument that I have waived the
- 7 substance of it, so I'm trying to caveat the entire
- 8 conversation and it seems to me, unless I'm wrong, I should
- 9 tell you the best I can when I had the conversation, the
- 10 length of when I had the conversation, the location of where
- 11 I had the conversation, who was present at the conversation,
- 12 but at that point, I think I probably ought not, unless I get
- 13 more direction, ought not to provide any of the substance of
- 14 what Mr. Blumenthal said because as a matter of law I don't
- 15 want to waive the contents of that. I hope you understand.
- 16 Q I understand your position. What did you do as a
- 17 result of your conversation with Mr. Blumenthal?
- 18 A I don't believe I did anything as a result of my
- 19 conversation with Mr. Blumenthal.
- 20 Q Okay. Did you have discussions with anyone else
- 21 after that conversation where you relayed any portion of that
- 22 conversation to another person?
- 23 A I believe I would have had a conversation
- 24 referencing my conversation with Mr. Blumenthal, a brief
- 25 conversation with Mr. Ruff.

- Page 30
- 1 Q Okay. And how long after your conversation with
- 2 Mr. Blumenthal do you recall having such a conversation with
- 3 Mr. Ruff?
- 4 A Oh, that same day, maybe -- my best estimate, it
- 5 would have been a window of approximately two hours. And,
- 6 again, that's a very rough estimate, Mr. Apperson.
- Q As far as the time, that day?
- 8 A Yes. As far as the time. I thought your question
- 9 was when did I speak to Mr. Ruff and my memory would be it
- 10 was within a couple of hours of the time I spoke with
- 11 Mr. Blumenthal.
- 12 Q Okay. So clearly that day, at some point.
- 13 A I don't want to say "clearly." My memory today
- 14 would be that, yes, I believe it was that same day. To the
- 15 best of my memory.
- 6 Q All right. First of all, was anyone else present
- 17 when Mr. Blumenthal related this conversation with the
- 18 President to you?
- 19 A No.
- 20 Q When you had the subsequent conversation with
- 21 Mr. Ruff, was anyone else present when you relayed this?
- 22 A No. No.
- 23 Q All right. Other than Mr. Ruff, do you recall
- 24 having conveyed any portion of your conversation with
- 25 Mr. Blumenthal to anyone else?

- 1 A I don't recall doing that. I don't recall that,
- Q Okay. Did you make any efforts to -- again, the
- 3 conversation with Mr. Blumenthal concerned a conversation in
- 4 had had with the President and including, I'm assuming,
- 5 information the President told him, correct?
- A Other than saying that Mr. Blumenthal in our
- 7 conversation would have related a conversation or a part of a
- 8 conversation, I don't want to go more into the substance than
- 9 that.

13

15

- 10 Q All right. Did you make any effort to verify the
- 11 information that Mr. Blumenthal provided you?
- 12 A No, I did not.
 - O You did not ask the President whether in fact what
- 14 Mr. Blumenthal said he said was in fact what he said?
 - A I did not ask the President.
- 16 O Did Mr. Blumenthal on that occasion or any other
- 17 occasion relate to you a conversation he had had with the
- 18 First Lady with respect to Monica Lewinsky?
- 19 A I do not believe he did. He may have said that he
- 20 had had such a conversation, though I'm not even certain of
- 21 that, but I have no recollection of him telling me the
- 22 substance of that conversation.
- 23 O Okay. Is your recollection of his referencing that
- 24 during the same conversation that we've been talking about,
- 25 the three-minute conversation?

Page 3∠

- A I'm not even sure he did do it. And, no, I don't
- 2 have a memory that it was in the same conversation.
- 3 Q Now, with respect to the assertion of privilege on
- 4 this conversation, has the President directed you to asser-
- 5 executive privilege with respect to this conversation?
- 6 A I have received authority from Mr. Ruff to assert
- 7 executive privilege over this conversation or over such
- 8 conversations.
- 9 Q All right. When you say you received authority
- 10 from Mr. Ruff, do you understand -- what is your
- 11 understanding with respect to the President's having
- 12 instructed Mr. Ruff to instruct you?
- 13 A Well, my understanding is that the President of the
- 14 United States has authorized Mr. Ruff to assert executive
- 15 privilege and then Mr. Ruff instructs me depending on the
- 16 application and the specifics of conversations whether or not
- 17 to assert that privilege. But my conversation was with
- 18 Mr. Ruff.

23

- 19 Q All right. You're familiar, are you not, with the
- 20 previous assertion of executive privilege by Mr. Lindsey m
- 21 connection with this grand jury investigation?
- 22 A I'm somewhat familiar with that.
 - Q Okay. You're aware, are you not, that the
- 24 President determined not to proceed with the invocation of
- 25 executive privilege with respect to Mr. Lindsey in recent

1 litigation?

A I'm aware that we made a determination not to 3 appeal a decision by the district court with respect to 4 executive privilege.

Q Had you appealed that, this issue would have been 6 previously litigated and disposed of by now, correct?

A Mr. Apperson, I don't -- maybe I'm incorrect but I 8 don't think in the grand jury we ought to be arguing a point 9 of law. I think that that's probably more germane for the 10 chief judge and so I don't feel equipped nor do I think this 11 is the proper forum for us to be arguing law. And I'm 12 actually not -- I'm not sure that that's correct.

13 Q Tell me your views of why you don't think it's 14 correct.

15 A I just don't think it's appropriate for me here to 16 argue the law. I think what is appropriate is as a 17 stakeholder, it is the President's privilege, of course.

18 If I'm instructed by the counsel to the President 19 to assert privilege over a communication that I was a part 20 of, it's obviously my duty to do that. And I think to the 21 same degree that you have argued that I am not a party of the 22 Lindsey matter and I come before you now, this is the first 23 time you've asked me about this conversation, and I think I'm 24 duty bound to follow through on the directions I've received

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Q Okay. So let me get back to my question. Are you 2 familiar with Mr. McCurry's statement to the press that the

3 President has instructed Mr. Kendall to work with Mr. Starr's 4 office in assuring that the grand jury gets the information

5 it needs?

A I am, Mr. Apperson. I'm familiar with the respect 7 that the President is making the extraordinary step of making

8 himself available to this grand jury and I'm sure you can ask

9 the President of the United States if you choose to about his

conversation with Mr. Blumenthal. And, indeed, I suspect

that you can ask or could have asked Mr. Blumenthal about 12 that very same conversation.

13 So the mere fact that we are crafting some role 14 for lawyers to give advice and to try to protect that I

15 don't believe is inconsistent with any proclamations that

16 Mr. McCurry has made. Indeed, I think that the President making himself available to your office speaks volumes about

18 the fact that he in fact is doing exactly what Mr. McCurry

stated he would do.

20 Q So it's your understanding that Mr. McCurry's 21 statement is limited to the President's willingness to

22 testify before the grand jury and nothing further? A No, I don't think that's accurate. Indeed, I

24 believe that even prior to coming to there grand jury today 25 we informed you that I was prepared to speak about a whole

25 from the counsel to the President.

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Q Okay. You're familiar, are you not, with 2 Mr. McCurry's statements to the press at a recent press

3 conference wherein he indicated the President had instructed

4 Mr. Kendall to work with Mr. Starr's office to assure that

5 the grand jury gets the information it needs?

A I am familiar with that. I'm also familiar, 7 Mr. Apperson, that in the decision that you just prevailed in

8 with Judge Randolph that Judge Randolph has now given

9 direction as to the circuit court's position as to what we 10 should do, the attorneys should do, in the event that we

11 believe at the White House that we have communications that

12 are rightfully subject to privilege, given that we do have a

13 constitutional obligation to advise the President in his 14 official capacity.

15 It's my understanding and, again, I don't profess 16 to be expert in this, that Judge Randolph has directed us 17 that in the event that we have such a concern that the proper 18 vehicle for that is executive privilege. What I am

19 attempting to do here is to follow Judge Randolph's direction 20 in the decision and that's what I am doing.

21 Q Okay. You work for the President, not Judge 22 Randolph, correct?

23 A Is that a real question?

24 Q Yes, sir.

A I do not work for Judge Randolph. That is correct.

1 host of communications that I think we rightfully could claim

2 were privileged. I think we're doing that.

In fact, most of this document contains

4 communications that we previously claimed were privileged

5 that I am now prepared to tell this grand jury about. But

6 there must be, in my view, since you're asking my opinion, at

7 least a narrow group of conversations that in these

8 remarkable times a lawyer can have, a White House lawyer can

9 have, either with the President or the most senior staff.

10 And it's an attempt to both cooperate with this office as

much as we can, your office, but also craft the most narrow

area where we can at least continue to advise the President

13 and his advisors, that we're seeking to do.

14 So, frankly, Mr. Apperson, I do think we're trying 15 to be as cooperative as we can without completely abandoning 16 what I think are our very important responsibilities.

17 BY MR. BENNETT:

Q Mr. Breuer, Mr. Apperson asked you about whether you were aware that the White House had decided to drop 20 executive privilege claims in earlier litigation. Is that

21 correct?

22 A He asked me -- that's correct, Mr. Bennett, In the 23 Bruce Lindsey litigation, a decision was made not to appeal 24 the executive privilege decision of Judge Johnson.

Q All right. And when was that decision made in

Page 40

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1 connection - where was it in the litigation when that

- 2 decision was made?
- 3. A I believe -- you probably know the answer better
- 4 than L but I believe it was after Judge Johnson made her
- 5 decision. After Judge Johnson made her decision. After
- 6 Judge Johnson had made her decision, but prior to the time
- 7 that, obviously, we had to file briefs in the Court of
- 8 Appeals. That's the best of my memory.
- 9 Q All right. And is it not correct that that issue
- 10 was dropped on appeal at the same time consideration was
- 11 being given whether to expedite the matter to the Supreme
- 12 Court and effectively skip the Court of Appeals as a panel
- 13 which would consider this?
- 14 A Well, I don't think we ever anticipated skipping
- 15 the Court of Appeals. I think -- I think you all filed a
- 16 petition for certiorari before judgment, so it was our view,
- 17 and I speak generally, our view that we thought that the
- 18 Court of Appeals should address all the issues.
- 19 So I'm not familiar when you made your decision.
- 20 but obviously at the same time you were making your decision
- 21 about skipping the Court of Appeals, we obviously were making
- 22 decisions as well.
- 23 Q Were you aware that the effect of dropping
- 24 the executive privilege claim that you were asserting in
- 25 the litigation would have the additional benefit from

- 1 Ruff, the lawyer with whom I work. I think I try to deal
 - 2 with my adversaries and my colleagues in a good faith manner.
 - 3 I believe I have so here.
 - 4 I do think, Mr. Bennett, that as opposed to sort of
 - 5 challenging that that there is a very real issue. I think
 - 6 Judge Randolph in his decision claimed that executive
 - 7 privilege is now the proper vehicle.
 - 8 Obviously, at the time you made your decision to
 - 9 move for certiorari before judgment and we made our decision
 - 10 not to pursue executive privilege in the context of Bruce
 - 11 Lindsey, prior to that none of us had the benefit at least
 - 12 we in our decision, obviously, did not have the benefit, nor
 - 13 did you at the time, of Judge Randolph's decision.
 - 14 I think Judge Randolph says that there is an area
 - 15 out there for us to explore. I think that the counsel to the
 - 16 President has decided that that's a very important thing to
 - 17 do so that we can have direction. So, frankly, that future
 - 18 presidents and future counsels to the President will know
 - 19 exactly what they are and not permitted to do.
 - 20 And I assure you that, you know, this is a very
 - 21 good faith attempt and at the right moment, obviously, you
 - 22 will make your arguments and we will make our arguments in
 - 23 front of the chief judge.
 - 24 Q Well, you're not suggesting that you were totally
 - 25 bereft of judicial authority on the question of executive

- 1 your perspective, if you will, of making it less likely
- 2 that the Supreme Court would accept the matter expedited
- 3 treatment?
- 4 A I'm not sure I was aware of that. I also want to
- 5 be very careful that you're not asking me about internal
- 6 lawyer discussions within the White House about our strategy,
- 7 about our appellate strategy or our appeals. I mean, to the
- 8 degree I or my colleagues discussed this would be discussions
- 9 among lawyers and, frankly, Mr. Bennett, I'm not sure it
- 10 would be factually relevant to this grand jury. It's the
- 11 discussion of lawyers.
- 12 Q I'm not really asking about your strategy. What
- 13 I'm really asking about is your good faith, the good faith of
- 14 you and your colleagues, in pursuing a matter, asserting
- 15 privileges through the district court and at such time as we
- 16 were in a posture where the matter could be taken straight to
- 17 the Supreme Court, you and your colleagues chose to drop one
- 18 of those claims, the very matter that you're now reasserting.
- 19 A I'm --
- 20 Q So this is really designed to assess your good
- 21 faith because I think that's something the court would want
- 22 to know about.
- 23 A Well, I'm happy to address it. I'd like to say,
- 24 given that you've raised that, that I'm very proud of my
- 25 reputation and my good faith and I'm very proud of Chuck

- 1 privilege. You've got the Nixon case and In Re Sealed Case,
- 2 and the commentary by Judge Randolph expanded on that,
- 3 correct?
- 4 A Mr. Bennett, I mean, I don't -- this is your grand
- 5 jury, not mine. I mean, I was a prosecutor, too, and I never
- 6 argued legal issues in front of a grand jury. There are
- 7 opinions, there are many opinions, frankly, that asserted
- 8 that there is a governmental attorney-client privilege.
- 9 All I can tell you sincerely is that I believe,
- 10 Mr. Ruff believes, and there are many who believe, both in
- 11 the public sector and within the White House, that there must
- 12 be an area when your office is going to provide a report to
- 13 the Congress, a report that can be used for potential
- 14 impeachment proceedings, that the President of the United
- 15 States, like anyone else, is entitled to advice and that that
- 16 advice in an impeachment proceeding which is an official
- 17 proceeding ought to come from his official lawyers; that we
- 18 must do that, that we have a responsibility to do that. And
- 19 in attempting to do that, we are trying to carve out an area
- 20 where we can provide that kind of advice to the President.
- 21 I don't think anyone objectively can say that I
- 22 don't come here today willing to tell you about conversations
- 23 that lawyers typically never talk about, but we are
- 24 attempting to figure out an area where we can protect and the
- 25 conversation Mr. Apperson asked me about is such a one and I

I am claiming the privilege on behalf of the President in good 2 faith.

O What I'm asking you, sir, is why did your office

4 opt to assert the privilege, drop it when the effect of

5 leaving it as an active matter would permit expedited

6 treatment by the Supreme Court, the ruling on the remaining

7 part of that, that is, the attorney-client privilege, led to

8 a judicial ruling, and now you come back in and assert

9 executive privilege again?

A Without characterizing - again, with my

11 understanding that I don't think that this is the proper

12 forum for this inquiry and without in any way purporting

13 that my answer should replace the briefing that I think

14 is the proper means by which you should make your

15 arguments and we should make our arguments, I would suggest

16 that the most salient difference is that Judge Randolph has

17 explicitly stated in his opinion that -- we thought

18 attorney-client privilege, and continue to believe, is the

19 right -- that attorney-client privilege exists in this

20 setting.

Judge Randolph has suggested, it seems to me, if 21

22 I have read the opinion correctly, that attorney-client

23 privilege for these very conversations is not necessarily --

24 or is not the correct privilege, but rather it is executive

25 privilege.

19

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I come to you today knowing full well that the 2 President of the United States is going to testify before

3 you; that we have made the senior advisors to the President

4 available to you; and that I as a lawyer and my colleagues

5 are trying to craft that very narrow area. And so with

6 respect to these areas, it seems to me, given Judge

7 Randolph's decision, the appropriate response for us is to

8 assert executive privilege and, as I think the opinion of the

9 court yesterday suggested, attorney-client as well.

10 BY MR. APPERSON:

11 Q Let me follow up. We made reference earlier in

12 your testimony to the March 9, 1998 statement and you

13 characterized that previously as a written attempt to set

14 forth conversations and contacts that you had had with a

15 number of persons about which you were at that time asserting

16 executive privilege and attorney-client privilege and other

17 privileges as set out in that document, correct?

A Yes. Essentially, that's correct.

Q All right. And many of those, a number of those

20 conversations or contacts over which you were then asserting

21 privilege concerned contacts you had with attorneys for

22 witnesses who had been called or appeared before the grand

23 jury in this investigation, correct?

A Yes. Or else witnesses who may have been contacted

25 and interviewed or just witnesses in general. But your

1 general description is correct. Yes.

Q All right. And at the time when you filed the

3 statement, you were then asserting the privilege similar to

4 what you're doing today in the grand jury, correct?

A Well, I think at that time, and I still believe,

6 candidly, these conversations are subject to privilege, we

7 have just decided, I think, with respect to some of these, in

8 a gesture to show our willingness to provide information that

I was discussing, but, yes.

10 The idea here was for me to provide to you all the 11 conversations at that time that I could remember in a good

12 faith attempt so that we would realize that we had a legal

13 issue at stake, but that factually you sort of had -- sort of

14 an outline of the kinds of communications that I had had.

O Okay. I appreciate that. And let me just confirm 16 on the record, have you confirm on the record, you informed

17 me before coming in here and your attorney, I don't know if

18 he had told me or you did directly --

19 A I think we both did.

20 Q Okay. But essentially with respect to those

21 conversations, that is, conversations with attorneys for the

22 witnesses as you set out in this document, that despite the

23 previous assertion of privilege, you were no longer asserting

24 the privilege with respect to those conversations and that

25 you would be prepared to answer questions with respect to

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1 them, correct?

A Right. That's correct. I told you that if you

3 were to ask me questions about these conversations today, in

4 an effort to move this forward, I would answer those

5 questions.

Q Okay. So clearly the ability to not assert a

privilege is a discretionary one with the President with

8 respect to all the conversations that you set out in this

document and, indeed, the conversation that we talked about

10 today, correct?

11 A Yes. I think what we've attempted to do is to

12 provide you as much information as we can without totally

13 destroying any role for White House counsel.

14 In doing that, we've made a determination that we 15 would provide conversations that I or other lawyers may

16 have had with lawyers for third parties, but that the

17 most core thing a lawyer can do is to help advise the

18 people who work at the institution that he represents, and

19 so that I would not disclose today conversations I had

20 with White House employees, conversations that I had with my

21 colleagues in the counsel's office or conversations with the

22 President of the United States, but if you take those away, I

23 was prepared to answer any questions you had about any other

24 conversations.

25

And so that is the goal and why I and my lawyer

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Page 4

1 made that representation to you prior to my walking into the 2 grand jury today.

- 3 MR. APPERSON: Okay.
- 4 MR. KAVANAUGH: Could I clarify one point?
- 5 THE WITNESS: Sure.
- 6 BY MR. KAVANAUGH:
- 7 Q The President's private lawyers, where do they fit 8 in?
- 9 A I will not -- conversations that I had with the 10 President's personal lawyers, I will claim privilege over.
- 11 Q Both privileges?
- 12 A Both privileges.
- 13 BY MR. APPERSON:
- 14 Q You're aware, Mr. Breuer, of previous presidents
- 15 not asserting executive privilege though they may have done 16 so?
- 17 A I am not a presidential historian. I think there's
- 18 been a lot of, frankly, misrepresentation, not necessarily
- 19 intentionally, about what other presidents have done. Some
- 20 presidents have provided materials, others haven't.
- In many contexts, not to be self-serving, this
- 22 administration has provided records to your office,
- 22 administration has provided records to your office
- 23 Mr. Apperson, and to others that I'm not aware any
- 24 administration ever provided to any other prosecutors
- 25 before.

o the 1 in some cases that did occur.

- I'm aware also, Mr. Apperson, that in the Bush
- 3 administration the counsel to President Bush decided not to
- 4 turn over diaries that President Bush had.
- So it's not so clear to me, the answer to your 6 question.
- 7 Q All right. Let's move on. Are you aware of
- 8 efforts by the White House counsel's office to meet, talk and
- 9 debrief witnesses after their testimony before the grand jury 10 in this investigation?
- 11 A I'm aware that, for instance, in my case, that
- 12 though I have rarely done it in the last months, very rarely,
- 13 that I have spoken, for instance, in my case, to a number of
- 14 lawyers, the vast majority of which, virtually all of which,
- 15 are incorporated in this document you've had since March,
- 16 where for the most part if I were to generalize I've had what
- 17 I'd call fairly brief discussions with the lawyers about what
- 18 their clients either said in the grand jury or their client's
- 19 involvement in the grand jury. So I actually don't want to
- 20 subscribe to the term "debrief."
- 21 I was in private practice and there if one is a
- 22 lawyer in private practice often you really take very
- 23 detailed notes or really ask many, many questions of another
- 24 lawyer, as you may know. Certainly I have not done that. I
- 25 have clearly talked with lawyers but I haven't extensively

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- So I want to be clear that when you ask me that question there isn't some sort of suggestion that we are
- 3 taking an unreasonable position. I actually believe we've
- 4 provided a remarkable amount of information to you.
- 5 Q Well, what I'm trying to -- I was following up,
- 6 frankly, on your statement that you're attempting not to --
- 7 by the invocation of the privilege, you are attempting not to
- 8 destroy any role of the counsel's office and its relationship
- 9 to the President and what I wanted to ask you about is are
- 10 you aware of previous times by this president or other
- 11 presidents when in fact a privilege might have been asserted,
- 12 in fact, could properly have been asserted, and yet was not.
- 13 And that did not destroy the relationship with counsel.
- 14 A You know, I'm not -- I mean, I know in the Nixon
- 15 era that the Watergate prosecutor did not ask any questions
- 16 of the lawyers, as far as I know. And, again, I don't
- 17 profess to be a historian and I'm not quite sure that this,
- 18 again, an appropriate discussion for the grand jury, but you
- 19 can ask what you want.
- 20 I think that under, for instance, in the Nixon era,
- 21 that the Watergate prosecutor did not ask questions of the
- 22 lawyers and the White House counsel, did not call them in,
- 23 did not try to get the privileged communications. In fact,
- 24 I'm fairly confident of that given from what I have read and
- 25 from some of my conversations. And I'm aware that probably 25

1 debriefed.

- 2 And I'm not aware -- I'm aware of other lawyers who
- 3 have talked to people, but candidly I'm not aware of the
- 4 extent to which their conversations have gone with those
- 5 lawyers.
- Q Okay. I had asked you about witnesses, though I
 appreciate your --
- 8 A Oh, I'm sorry. I apologize.
- Q That's all right. I appreciate your -- I'll get
- 10 you back to it. It's all right.
 - A All right.
- 12 Q I appreciate your answer with respect to lawyers.
- 13 Let's stick to that for a minute.
- 14 A Okay.
- 15 Q What has been the practice of persons in the White
- 16 House counsel's office in contacting lawyers or talking with
- 17 lawyers who represent witnesses in this investigation, the
- 18 grand jury investigation?
- 19 A I wouldn't say there was a practice. Can I speak
- 20 about me since I know about me the best?
- 21 Q Well, let's start with that. That's fine.
- 22 A Because that is really what I mean, what I have
- 23 done is a combination of things. More often than not, what
- 24 would happen is I will get a phone call from a lawyer saying
- 25 "I represent Ms. Jones or Mr. Smith, a White House person."

1 That's one scenario.

And "Ms. Jones or Mr. Smith has been contacted by

3 the Office of the Independent Counsel, is testifying or has

4 testified already," that would be one scenario.

5 Another scenario could be that Ms. Smith or

6 Mr. Jones came to me and said, "Lanny, I've been contacted or

7 an FBI agent called me, you know, what are my rights, can you

8 help me find a lawyer, do I need a lawyer," some scenario

9 like that.

10 And then either I would make a call to a lawyer or

11 I would somehow help that person find a lawyer and then more

12 often than not that lawyer would naturally give me a call and

13 then we would have a comparable conversation to the first one

14 I had.

On rare occasions, but I can't exclude it, I would

16 see on CNN or learn that a witness has testified or is about

17 to testify and if it's a White House person, I might call up

18 that person and discuss things with them.

19 Again, it would be more often than not, pretty

20 brief, and more often than not it would be talking generally,

21 sort of - maybe an outline of what the person - whatever

22 the person knows about this matter. It would be rare, if

23 ever, that I've had, you know, sort of a full debriefing.

That's my experience, with candidly the proviso

25 that I think is very important, that since I provided this

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I document to you and I assumed that one day I would be here,

2 I've done far less of that. I've done it very rarely.

3 So I'd say since the beginning of March, I

4 personally have had very few such conversations.

Q All right. And that's based on a conscious

6 decision not to do it? Is that correct?

A Yes. It's based on what I think is a very

8 unfortunate turn of events because what it has done is it has

9 provided me - it has been very difficult for me to advise

10 people at the White House for whom, as I hope you can

11 imagine, being contacted by an agent or coming to the grand

12 jury can be a very traumatic experience.

13 It has sort of handicapped my ability in the first

14 instance to talk to them because I have thought that I might

15 have to tell them whatever I told these people and usually --

16 that I would have to relay that to you and I think most

17 people want to have a privileged communication with a lawyer.

18 and so it has been a somewhat conscious decision.

19 And also, candidly, events have so in this case

20 gotten -- well, I won't say out of hand, there would be no

21 way that one person could keep a handle on it and the news

22 was so way ahead that if I just watch CNN or read the

23 newspapers I was able to follow it well enough.

24 Q Okay. Let me ask you about -- you mentioned that

25 there would be times when persons in the White House would

L and to the state of the state

I come to you and say "I need a lawyer, can you help me get a

2 lawyer." Were there ever times when you approached persons

3 in the White House and said, "I think you need a lawyer." or

4 something to the effect that "If you need a lawyer, come see

5 mc"?

A First of all, I think that would be entirely

7 appropriate, I want to begin. I don't remember such times.

8 I'm not saying it didn't happen, but sitting here -- if you

9 want, I can try to look through this document. I don't think

10 that occurred.

I guess the only thing I did do, and it's reflected

12 here, is early on, without giving you the substance, I was

13 asked by the head of the Legislative Affairs office where

14 Ms. Lewinsky worked that the young people in that office were

15 very upset and nervous and were being called by the press and

16 others and I was asked by the head of the legislative office

17 if I could come and speak for a couple of minutes to her

18 office. And early on, maybe in late January, I did that.

To office. Find carry on, maybe in law familiary, I did tha

I spoke to those people, it was at the request of

20 the head of the Legislative Affairs office, but it wasn't as

21 if those individual members of the Legislative Affairs office

22 had contacted me first. I essentially went there and spoke

23 to them, sort of in a large group. And I think that that's

24 actually maybe referenced here, though.

Q Okay. I won't hold you to that.

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Q But you're asserting the privilege with respect to 3 what you told that group of employees?

A I am. I am. Because of the category it falls

5 into. Again, that would be -- I would have provided to those

6 people legal advice and so I would make a claim of executive

7 privilege and attorney-client privilege as to the

8 conversation I had with the members of the Legislative

9 Affairs office.

A Okay.

10 Q All right. The persons that would come to you in

11 the instance that you first described, where they would come

12 to you and say, "Lanny, I need a lawyer, can you help me or

13 refer me to somebody," in that context, what would you

14 normally do?

15 A Well, without telling you the substance, I would do

16 a combination of probably telling people what are their

17 rights under such a circumstance.

18 Q I don't mean to cut you off, but, I'm sorry, when

19 you say you would tell them their rights, I thought -- I was

20 asking you about the circumstance where they would come to

21 you and say, "Lanny, I need a lawyer, can you help me get

22 one."

23 A Well, I mean, your scenario, I mean, more often

24 than not, someone might say, "I need a lawyer, can you help

25 me get one; do I need a lawyer; can you, Lanny, represent

10

Page 53

Page 55

1 me." I mean, there's sort of — most people have sort
2 of amalgam, a combination of questions in that situation.
3 You know a young person might come and say

You know, a young person might come and say,

"I've been contacted," "My mother has recommended this

lawyer; do you know this lawyer?" Or, "Lanny, can you

represent me in this situation?" Or, you know, "Should

I get a lawyer?" Any combination of those kinds of

questions.

9 Q Okay. In those circumstances, when persons would 10 ask you, "Can you represent me," what do you tell them? 11 A I say that I think I -- well, in the generic,

12 without revealing -- well, in general, my view of this is,
13 without talking about any particular conversation, is that I
14 think -- and I think I've said this to your office, I think I
15 ought to be able to help them and I think I ought to
16 represent them, because I don't think people in the White
17 House should have to incur the expense or the trauma of

Is getting their own lawyers.

I probably say that I wish I could represent them

in this capacity, but that your office has taken a position

that the White House counsel's office can't represent them in

these matters and so as a practical matter I cannot represent

them. And I -- in their individual capacity.
 BY MR. KAVANAUGH;

BY MR. KAVANAUGH:
Q Even if you were a corporate counsel, you couldn't

But you're absolutely right, the holder of the privilege ultimately in that setting, again, is the corporation or the control group of the corporation.

But much of this is done, as you may know, based on a practicality of how you put things. And one of the things I try to do in my job, candidly, is try to at least give some people some level of comfort, given that for most people being contacted or being a subject or being involved in this

9 kind of an investigation is very new and intimidating.

BY MR. APPERSON:

11 Q Those persons who sought a referral a lawyer or 12 obtaining a lawyer, what would be your practice with respect 13 to contacting a lawyer or identifying a lawyer? You tell me 14 what you normally do.

A In general, what I do, I was just thinking, I want
 to make sure I'm not inadvertently waiving anything. In
 general, what I will do is a combination.

Again, Mr. Apperson, it takes every form. It takes severy form from someone will come to me with a list of lawyers, maybe I've heard of one, maybe I haven't.

Maybe I'll -- or a person will have no lawyer and it may be either I'll call a lawyer to see if they're interested. I mean, in a case as high profile as this, something that often happens is lawyers will call up and will say to me or other of my colleagues, "You know, if you need."

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1 represent the corporation in their individual capacity, isn't 2 that right?

A No, but in many corporate settings what I would be
able to do if I were the in-house counsel is represent them
as a member of the corporation if I didn't think that they
had a conflicting interest, I could represent them in an
initial series of interviews and often in corporate
investigations by prosecutors corporate counsel is able to
represent the employees because many prosecutors' offices, I
think, recognize that it is an extraordinary burden on
calling on people to hire their own lawyers.

So even though I wouldn't necessarily represent them in their individual capacity, but mere witnesses I might be able to do that. At least as a practical matter --

15 Q Of course, in that situation, the individual has no 16 control over the assertion of privilege, right? So the 17 information is given without an assurance of confidentiality, 18 the same as here, isn't that right?

I help, please feel free to give me a call. I'd like to get 2 involved."

Frankly, they might say something like that. They
might say, candidly, that they think what your office is
doing is dreadful and they want to help as much as they can
and can they represent someone and to keep them in mind.

And I sort of in the back of my mind know a number

8 of the lawyers in Washington who are involved in these kinds 9 of matters. I had done some of this work when I was at my 10 prior law firm. And so I do a combination of calling them up 11 and seeing if -- calling the lawyers up and seeing if they 12 would be interested in representing a White House person.

13 Q Okay. You maintain a list of the lawyers that 14 would call you and say "Get me on the list," or "Keep me in 15 mind"?

A No, I don't keep a list. I do have — I mean, what
I do keep usually so that I don't look silly is sort of a
ls list of some — I handle a lot of investigations. I handle
the congressional investigations, I handle a number of the
other independent counsels, and so what I often do is I will
know or will write down a lawyer and maybe have his or her
client's name next to it. If that made any sense.

Does that make sense? Do you understand what I'm saying? I have like a piece of paper, but it wouldn't just be this case, it would be, you know, John Smith and it will

1

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1 say, you know. Jane Doe represents him. Something like that,

- 2 Q Okay. I guess I'm asking about before you even got
- 3 to the assignment or the matching up of the client to the
- 4 lawyer.
- 5 A No, I don't have an existing list of lawyers that I 6 choose from. I don't have that.
- 7 Q All right. But is it fair to say that the lawyers
- 8 who have called you, as you indicated, and said what this
- 9 office is doing is horrendous and if I can represent
- 10 someone --
- 11 A That's I'm not saying --
- 12 O I understand.
- 13 A Okav.
- 14 Q Okay. Are those among those persons that you would
- 15 call when a witness said, "I need a lawyer"?
- 16 A Right. If you were in private practice and you
- 17 called me and said you would like to represent someone next
- 18 time and I had some sense that this is the kind -- either --
- 19 you're a capable lawyer, I would remember that, and that if
- 20 someone in three weeks or six weeks came by and said, "Can
- 21 you recommend a lawyer?" and I had a sense that you had the 21
- 22 right sensitivity, that you could handle this and you weren't
- 22 1 1 4 4 1 --- 11-1-1-- 51 --- 11-1
- 23 maybe just a tax lawyer and had no sense of how to handle
- 24 this case, I would probably call you up and say, "Jay, you
- 25 know, Mary Smith has just asked -- has been contacted, would 25

If you said yes, I would probably then call Mary

3 Smith, I'd say to Mary Smith that Jay Apperson is interested

4 in representing people, you may want to give Jay Apperson a 5 phone call and more likely than not she would call you or you

Q All right. You're aware the D.C. Bar has a lawyer

A I am very vaguely aware of that. I have never used

6 would call her. And that's basically how it's done.

- A I do know Wendy White,
- Q Okay. Who is Wendy White?
- 3 A She is a former colleague of mine, actually.
- 4 When I first joined the White House counsel's office, she
- 5 was a member of the counsel's office. She's now a lawyer
- 6 at a Washington, D.C. law firm and represents Ashley Raines.
- 7 Q Okay. Do you know how Ms. White came to represent
- 8 Ms. Raines?
- 9 A I do know the answer to that.
- 10 Q Can you tell us how that came about?
- 11 A Well, I don't believe I can because I think to do
- 12 that would force me to reveal a conversation that I've had
- 13 with Ms. Raines. Since Ms. Raines is a White House employee
- 14 and I would have had a conversation with her in my capacity
- 15 as special counsel, I think my discussion with Ms. Raines
- 16 would be protected, given that she was seeking advice, it
- 17 would be protected by both the attorney-client privilege and
- 18 executive privilege.
- 9 Q Okay. Let's at least identify, if we can, the
- 20 conversation to which you're referring.
 - 1 A Right. Well, I assume -- I'm sorry --
- 22 Q With respect to your discussion with Ms. Raines of
- 23 legal representation, when did you have such conversation?
- 24 Or first have such conversation, if there are a number?
 - A Right. I think that -- I probably, just so we can

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Page :

- 1 define them, had two or three conversations with Ms. Raines
- 2 in the late part of January, some time after -- I remember it
- 3 as being fairly early on after this case became public, so
- 4 maybe the week after the 21st, which I think was the day that
- 5 this matter became public. So still in January, late
- 6 January.
- 7 Q Okay. And what were the circumstances of your
- 8 having the conversation at that time with her?
- 9 A Well, I had -- I -- well, what I will tell you
- 10 is -- when you say "circumstances," I will tell you sort of
- 11 where I was and how long to define it, but I won't go into
- 12 the substance, of course.
- 13 I had either one or two phone conversations with
- 14 Ms. Raines initially.
- 15 Q Let me stop you. I'm sorry.
- 16 A Sure.
- 17 Q Did she call you or did you call her?
- 18 A I called her. I called her. I was given a
- 19 request -- she called the counsel's office, as I remember,
- 20 for advice.
- 21 Q Do you know who in the counsel's office she called?
- 22 A I don't know. I don't know if it was Ms. Mills, it
- 23 may have been.
- 24 Q All right, sir.
 - A It may have been Ms. Mills. I think I was asked

10 it.

9

8 referral service, correct?

- 11 Q Okay.
- 12 A I'm not sure I know anyone who has ever used it in
- 13 any of the work I've done since coming to Washington in 1989,
- 14 but you may be right that they have one.

1 you consider speaking with her?"

- 15 Q I'm sorry, what bars are you a member of?
- 16 A New York and Washington. I don't know, but I don't
- 17 think very many lawyers practically, day to day, when they're
- 18 asked for recommendations, use the D.C. Bar referral service,
- 19 but I could be wrong.
- 20 Q Do you know Ashley Raines?
- 21 A I do know Ashley Raines.
- 22 Q Okay. Who is Ashley Raines?
- 23 A She is a young woman in the White House, I believe
- 24 she now works in the Office of Administration.
- 25 Q And do you know Wendy White?

Page 61 Page 63 1 to call her back. I called her, it was in the evening. I Ms. White had informed me that she had already met with Ms. 2 I spoke to her, I think, twice that evening. The first 2 Raines. 3 conversation -- these are very rough estimates. I think two And then, Mr. Apperson, I think I may have had a 4 times, maybe only once, Mr. Apperson. And I don't know if 4 couple of conversations with Ms. White and they all meld 5 it's in there. 5 together, so I could try to give you the substance, but what Q And "there," you're talking about the statement we 6 I can't do particularly well is tell you what Ms. White would 7 were referring to before. 7 have told me on any particular day. And if I could ask you

A Yes. Do you have it here? Because that would be 9 helpful, if you could tell me the page you're on. If it's 10 here.

Q Which do you want, the Ashley Raines or --A Yes. The one that -- well, you're asking me about 13 Ashley Raines.

Q Page 8.

A Yes. This is -- I think I'm right. That's --

16 that's -- okay. So I -- I think I had two brief

17 conversations with Ms. Raines on a particular evening.

18 I don't think they lasted particularly long, maybe ten

19 minutes and five minutes. Those are rough estimates. And

20 then I believe -- and she and I were the only ones on the

21 conversation. And then I believe the next day she came to my

22 office.

2 estimate

I think the next day she came to my office and I 24 think we had one subsequent -- we had a conversation in my 25 office, also maybe ten or fifteen minutes. I don't want to

1 just read what this says, but that would be my rough

8 to tell me what page you're looking at? Q I'm sorry. Yes. Page 13. 10 A Okay. Thanks. Right. Okay. I don't remember all 11 of these different conversations, but I think in general I 12 can remember what Ms. White has told me, without telling

13 which order of the conversation it occurred, if that makes 14 sense.

15 Q Yes, sir.

16 A Do you want me to try to do that?

17 Q If you would.

18 A Okay. I recall Ms. White telling me that

19 Ms. Raines and she had met; that Ashley Raines, who I didn't

20 know, and Monica Lewinsky had been friendly; that at the time

21 that Monica Lewinsky was here, here meaning at the White

22 House, they had, you know, been friendly and maybe had

23 exchanged e-mails and that their relationship had continued.

24 And by that point, there had been a lot of news 25 articles. I think Ms. White told me that Ms. Raines had been

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1 in -- that what Ms. Raines -- I'm trying to think of how she

2 said it because she didn't say it directly, but she said

3 something to the effect that I understood to mean that Monica

4 Lewinsky had told Ashley Raines that Monica Lewinsky had had

5 a relationship with the President, but I think the way she

6 said it was more like what she'll say is consistent with what

7 you've read in the newspaper about the relationship, that she

8 had heard from Monica -- what she heard from Monica was

9 consistent with what you've read in the newspaper.

Q Okay. Let me ask you this. All of your

11 conversations with Ms. White were telephone conversations?

A Yes. They were all telephone conversations.

Q All right. Did she call you or did you call her?

14 Ms. White. On these occasions.

A I don't remember. I suspect a combination of the 16 two. I'm often not at my desk, so I may have called her, she 17 may have called me and I may have called her back. I'm sure

18 I would have called her at least in some of them, I suspect 19 she would have called me. I think we're talking about four

20 calls, about, three or four calls total. And I think

21 probably I made a couple and she made a couple.

Q Okay. You indicated -22

23 A Again, to the best of my memory. 24

25 the conversations and it sounds as though it was likely the

Q Okay. You indicated that during at least one of

10 12 13

O Okav. A Which I think is about what I would have said in 5 March. Q All right. Did you thereafter -- after your first 7 conversation -- let me ask this. Thereafter, did you have a 8 conversation with Wendy White concerning Ms. Raines? A I certainly didn't have a conversation - I 10 certainly would not have had a conversation with Ms. White 11 about this matter until after Ms. Raines came to my office. 12 So not after the phone conversations. The first conversation I would have had with 14 Ms. White, and I don't really remember when that was, I don't 15 think it was that day, in a couple of days, I think it was 16 after Ms. Raines came to my office. Q Okay. And what's your best recollection of how 18 soon after she came to your office, Ms. Raines, did you have 19 the conversation with Ms. White? 20 A A couple of days later. Q All right, sir. And what was your conversation 21 22 with Ms. White? 23 A Ms. White -- and that's the kind of conversation I 24 will disclose. Ms. White, I think, told me that Ms. Raines

Page 6-

25 had gotten her name from someone: that I believe by that time

Page 65 Page 67 1 have, or if Wendy White just in the conversation said. 1 first conversation that she mentioned to you, Ms. White 2 mentioned to you, that someone had given her name to 2 "Here's the story." 3 Ms. Raines. Again, she said relatively little. I want to be A Yes. 4 clear about that. She did not give me a full debriefing. I 5 think I've already - when I described to you what she said. Q Right? Did you give her name to Ms. Raines? A Well, I can't - I mean, only by indirection, I 6 that's sort of my most salient memory of it. 7 can't - oh, did I give Wendy White - I did not give Wendy Q Okay. Why did she provide this information to you? 8 White Ms. Raines' name. I did not do that. I can tell you A I don't know why she provided it to me, other than 9 by my conversation with Wendy White, I did not give Wendy 9 I think she thought that given that I was one of the lawyers 10 White Ashley Raines' name. 10 working on this matter, given that on the first or second day 11 Q Okay. I guess I'm asking you if you gave 11 the articles were already saying that this was a possible 12 Ms. Raines Wendy White's -12 issue for impeachment, given that most lawyers in town assume 13 that in a matter like that that the White House counsel has a 13 A Right. And I guess I can't answer that, given that 14 I'm trying to preserve the substance of conversation, so I 14 role, and that obviously one of the ways you advise your 15 think you might make a natural conclusion of that, but I 15 client is by having facts, I can only conclude that that 16 really, truly believe that I'm going to try as best I can to 16 would be the reason, or one of the major reasons, she would 17 preserve the communications I have with White House employees provide me with that information. 18 and over the substance of them assert the attorney-client 18 O Okay. Did you disabuse her of any of that? 19 privilege and executive privilege. I don't think I can 19 A Well, first of all --20 20 answer that specific question. O Her assumptions --Q Did Ms. White indicate to you in your first 21 21 A First of all, she and I never had this 22 telephone call who had given Ms. Raines Ms. White's name? 22 conversation. You've asked me to go into her mind, which I 23 A I don't remember that she did. 23 can't, so we didn't have this conversation. I'm surmising 24 Q Was Wendy White on your list of persons who had 24 based on your question. Not only would I not disabuse her of 25 called and asked to be considered for referrals? 25 it, it's the view I hold today. Page 66 Page 68 A I don't have a list of those people. I just sort Q Did you ever thereafter talk to Ms. Raines 2 of remember. The only list I have is once Ashley Raines is 2 directly? 3 represented by Wendy White, I might have on a piece of paper A No, other than to say hello. I think her office is 4 so that I remember when I get phone calls Wendy White and 4 in the Old Executive Office Building near mine and I've said 5 Ashley's name is next to it, but I don't have a list of 5 hello, but I never had a substantive conversation with her 6 people who have called me. 6 again. Q Okay. Did you seek to do so at any time? Wendy White had, though, I should say, represented 8 people in other investigations involving the White House. I A No. 9 think she represented people, for instance, in the campaign Q Are you aware of whether anyone in the White House 10 finance inquiry, so it didn't surprise me that Wendy White 10 counsel's office sought to do so? 11 would be one of those people in Washington who would be 11 A I'm unaware of that. 12 willing to represent somebody in this investigation. Q After your conversations with Ms. White where she 13 Q All right. The conversations that you had with 13 provided the information as you've testified, did you 14 Ms. White as you've outlined here, is that information that 14 thereafter pass on that information to anyone else in the 15 you had asked her to provide you? 15 White House, including persons in the White House counsel's A You know, it's -- again, these are conversations. 16 office? 16 17 You know, I -- they would have been a combination of me sort 17 A I am not at liberty, I don't think, to tell you 18 of asking and Wendy White offering. I mean, I think in most 18 about conversations that I've had with other members. Q Okay. We'll get there, but let me just establish 19 contexts, lawyers will often call whether it's the corporate 20 counsel, in this case the White House counsel, when they have 20 if there is such a conversation --21 someone who works at the White House or someone who is A About this issue --22 related in some way to the people at the White House, to say, Q -- and you can, you know, put on the record for 23 "Look, my client and I met and, you know, here's what be or 23 your purposes what privilege you want to assert over it. And

24 I'm asking you now --

A Right. I'm just trying to make sure I'm not

And I don't remember if I asked - I may very well

24 she has to say about this matter."

25

Page 69 I waiving by even answering that question. I'm just trying I was in the room with Bruce Lindsey, and I'm 2 referring to the document I've prepared because, candidly, I 2 to --3 think my memory back in March is probably a little bit better O Okav. While you're thinking of doing that, I would 3 4 respectfully suggest that's the only way we can have a record 4 than my memory today. I believe Paul Begala, Mike McCurry. 5 Sidney Blumenthal, Mark Neshus, and Rahm Emanuel, I think. 5 that allows the judge to deal with this in any proper 6 attended. And Ann Lewis attended that particular meeting. 6 fashion. 7 7 So it would have been a meeting with lawyers and the most A Can I just take one moment and step outside? 8 senior advisors to the President in the Oval Office. 8 MR. APPERSON: Surely. 9 THE WITNESS: It will take literally one minute. 9 I suspect, though I don't know, that some of those 10 senior advisors have testified and could have testified about 10 MR. APPERSON: Surely. 11 THE WITNESS: I just want to -11 the substance of this meeting and presumably you're going to THE FOREPERSON: Actually, why don't we incorporate 12 call the President of the United States and he, too, can, but 12 13 this into a 15-minute break, returning at ten minutes before 13 I will assert executive privilege and attorney-client 14 three. 14 privilege over the substance of the meeting from my 15 THE WITNESS: Okay. 15 perspective and to the degree - well, I'm going to do that. 16 (Witness excused. Witness recalled.) 16 With respect to that communication. 17 THE FOREPERSON: Mr. Breuer, I'd like to remind you 17 Q When was your next communication with the 18 President? 18 that you are still under oath. 19 19 A Approximately -- well, I have the order -- I may THE WITNESS: I remember. Thank you. 20 MR. BENNETT: We have a quorum and there are no 20 have the order of which went first but I can probably 21 remember --21 unauthorized persons present? Q Just for the record, that's because the order on 22 THE FOREPERSON: That is correct. 22 23 BY MR. KAVANAUGH: 23 your document is out of order?

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1 of the United States on the evening after the state of the

1 the White House was to gather facts about events that we are

Q Mr. Breuer, as you know, we are conducting a

25 factual investigation and one of the roles you performed in

2 investigating. As you know, if you have knowledge of facts,

3 of involvement or knowledge of witnesses to this

4 investigation, that, of course, could be critical to this

5 investigation.

24

And so I'm going to ask you, with that in mind, 6

7 I'm going to ask you a few questions about your conversations

8 with possible witnesses in this investigation about the

9 events we're investigating.

10 I want to begin by asking about your conversations

11 with people about the nature of the relationship between

12 President Clinton and Monica Lewinsky.

13 Have you ever discussed that relationship with the

14 President?

A I have had perhaps four to six conversations with

16 the President of the United States about what I'll call in

17 general the issue of Monica Lewinsky since January 21, 1998.

18 Approximately that number of communications.

19 Q Can you tell us the circumstances of those

20 conversations?

A I can. I remember -- I had one conversation with

22 the President with a group of people with me in the Oval

23 Office on or about January 31st or February 1st. It was a

24 meeting in anticipation of the President meeting with Prime

25 Minister Blair of England.

25 right. I did have a very brief discussion with the President

A Right. And I'm not quite sure why anymore. That's

2 union address. The President addressed the nation on the

3 state of the union soon after this event. The document

4 reflects January 27th and I have no reason to think that's

5 the wrong date.

And after his address to the nation, I saw him up

7 in his residence where there was sort of party in his bonor.

8 And at some point in that evening. I spoke to him for maybe

9 two or three minutes.

10 Q What did he say during that conversation?

11 A I won't reveal that on the basis that I'm the

12 special counsel to the President and he would speak to me in

13 my capacity as counsel and I'll assert both the

14 attorney-client privilege and executive privilege over the

15 substance of that two or three-minute conversation between me

16 and the President.

Q And that communication was in furtherance of your

18 official duties at the White House?

19 A It would be. It would have been in connection

20 with my official duties at the White House, in that,

21 Mr. Kavanaugh, the President of the United States has no

22 independent relationship with me other than as the special

23 counsel at the White House.

24 O When was your next communication with the President

25 about the Lewinsky matter?

11

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A Immediately prior to the time, I think, that the

- 2 President had a press conference with Prime Minister Blair,
- 3 I and other members of the counsel's office joined the
- 4 President in the cabinet room, where a number of his
- 5 advisors, I think, were present and obviously the part of the
- 6 meeting that I attended would have been with respect to
- 7 issues that could arise with respect to this event and
- 8 obviously we were aware that your office was investigating
- 9 the President with respect to the Monica Lewinsky affair, we
- 10 knew that there was already talk of impeachment proceedings,
- 11 obviously one of the factors in impeachment proceedings is
- 12 public opinion, the merits, and we were speaking to the
- 13 President about what were the questions, what issues might
- 14 arise, given the frenzied nature of the press inquiries at
- 15 that point.
- 16 And it would have been in that capacity that I and
- 17 Chuck Ruff, the counsel to the President, and I believe
- 18 Cheryl Mills would have met with the President at that time.
- 19 Q What did the President say during that meeting
- 20 about the nature of his relationship with Monica Lewinsky, if
- 21 anything?

1

- 22 A I am -- and I'm glad you said "if anything," but
- 23 I'm not going to answer the substance of that communication
- 24 between the President and the counsel's office based on the
- 25 attorney-client privilege and executive privilege.

- A I am not going to answer the substance of anything
 - 2 that was discussed in that conversation which was -- the
 - 3 point of which was to give the President advice as to whether
 - 4 or not he should assert executive privilege and what his
 - 5 determination would be on that. I'm going to claim
 - 6 executive privilege and attorney-client privilege as to the
 - substance of that discussion with the President.
 - Q As to the -- moving back to the January 27th
 - communication in the residence, did you repeat the substance
 - 10 of your conversation with the President to anyone else?
 - A I did not.
 - 12 Q As to the January 31 or February 1 meeting in the
 - 13 Oval Office, did you repeat the substance of that
 - 14 conversation to anyone else, to your knowledge?
 - 15 A I did not. To the best of my recollection, which
 - 16 is -- I should say for all of these answers, to the best of
 - 17 my recollection, I did not.
 - Q And each of these communications that you've
 - 19 described were part of your official functions at the White
 - 20 House? Is that correct?
 - 21 A That's correct. They all -- I mean, I was in each
 - 22 of those settings because I'm the special counsel to the
 - 23 President. I would not have been in any of those meetings
 - 24 nor would I have had any conversations with the President nor
 - 25 had I ever met the President prior to the time that I became

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- Again, our goal is to carve out what we can so we 1 special counsel.
- 2 can provide counsel to the President, given the possibility
- 3 of impeachment hearings and given that the President of the 4 United States will make himself available, you've called
- 5 senior advisors already, it seems there are other ways that
- 6 if you need to you can find out this information, but through
- 7 me at this point, I won't provide that information and will
- 8 claim executive privilege and attorney-client privilege.
- Q As to that meeting, did you repeat the substance of 10 the conversation to anyone else?
- 11 A I did not.
- 12 Q When was your next communication with the President 13 about the Lewinsky matter?
- A We met in the residence, "we" being Chuck Ruff,
- 15 Cheryl Mills, Bruce Lindsey and Neil Eggleston, who is the
- 16 lawyer who is representing the Office of the President in the 17 privilege litigation that we have had with your office. And
- 18 that was in the residence of the President on February 18,
- 19 1998. And that -- the general issue there was whether or not
- 20 we should assert executive privilege and whether the 21 President of the United States would authorize us to assert
- 22 executive privilege. And that was a discussion only among

25 about the nature of his relationship with Monica Lewinsky?

- 23 lawyers and the President.
- Q In that conversation, what did the President say

- Q As to all four of those communications, you're
- 3 claiming executive privilege and attorney-client privilege?
- 4 Is that correct?
- A That's correct, Mr. Kavanaugh.
- Q And have you had any communications with the
- 7 President since then in which the nature of the relationship
- 8 with Monica Lewinsky might have been discussed?
- A Well, just so the record is clear, I am at
- 10 least -- so that I'm not parsing it, I am assuming you're
- 11 talking about the Lewinsky matter in general, without any
- 12 understanding that any relationship would have been
- 13 discussed, but obviously there are many manifestations given
- 14 the level of press and congressional and interest by you.
- I've had -- I've probably -- one or -- probably one
- 16 other conversation in which -- I think one other, I may have
- 17 forgotten. I believe only one other conversation dealing
- 18 with the Monica Lewinsky affair.
- 19 Q When was that?
 - A I don't know exactly. I think it was probably --
- 21 and this is a very rough estimate. I think it was probably
- 22 late May, early June.

20

- 23 Q Who else was present for that conversation?
- 24 A The President and I, Paul Begala, I think Doug
- 25 Sosnik. I believe that's everyone who was present.

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- O And what was the purpose of that meeting?
- 2 A It was for me to speak with the President briefly
- 3 about the matter, in part given that the President was going
- 4 to be going to a public event later that day and for me to
- 5 son of apprise him of what new issues had arisen in the
- 5 Soft of apprise finit of what new issues had arisen in the
- 6 public or had arisen that he might be confronted in one way
- 7 or another with.

1

- 8 Q What public event?
- 9 A I don't remember. The President has public events
- 10 every single day and, candidly --
- 11 Q Okay. It sounded like there was some kind of
- 12 specific one you had in mind.
- 13 A No. I mean, it would have been whatever event was
- 14 occurring later that day or the next day.
- 15 Q And what developments were you describing to the
- 16 President?
- 17 A I don't -- well, I mean, I can't answer that
- 18 because that would reveal the substance of my communication 18
- 19 with the President and I would assert attorney-client
- 20 privilege and principally executive privilege on that
- 21 communication as I believe the Court of Appeals has directed.
- 22 Q And to sum up, has the President ever described the
- 23 nature of his relationship with Monica Lewinsky to you?
- 24 A And I guess to sum up, not to be flip, but just so
- 25 it's clear, whether he has or he hasn't, I will not reveal

- 1 Q As a general matter, in preparing for what you
 - 2 might say today, is there any communication that would be
 - 3 attorney-client privileged but not executive privileged?
 - 4 A Well, as of today, as I go to you, and, again, it's
 - 5 a vacuum, so I think the best way for us and, as you know,
 - 6 from what I said to you outside, I would welcome the
 - 7 opportunity to answer as many questions as I can of you today
 - 8 and then again if you would like tomorrow so we can bring
 - 9 this to closure and I can tell you everything I can. I think
 - 10 that based on the decision of the Court of Appeals, any
 - 11 communication that I would have thought protected previously
 - 12 by attorney-client privilege that the appropriate privilege
 - 13 to claim is executive privilege and so I'm doing that.
 - 14 I think based on the rulings of yesterday by the
 - 15 court in sort of directing the procedure that we should
 - 16 follow today, I also am claiming attorney-client privilege as
 - 17 to those. So that's a long winded answer saying I think in
 - 18 the abstract I'm claiming both as to communications.
 - 19 Q Have you ever discussed with Mr. Kendall the
 - 20 relationship between the President and Monica Lewinsky?
 - A Without saying whether I have or not, I am not going to reveal my communications with Mr. Kendall based on
 - 23 executive privilege and attorney-client privilege.
 - 24 Q And for the record, my understanding, and you can
 - 25 correct me if I'm wrong, is that you talk with Mr. Kendall on

- 1 the substance of my communications with the President of the
- 2 United States, in that any conversation I had with the
- 3 President was in my capacity as special counsel and I believe
- 4 I have an ethical and legal duty not to disclose those
- 5 communications in light of the impending impeachment
- 6 proceedings that are possibly going to occur and will claim
- 7 executive privilege and attorney-client privilege over those
- 8 communications.
- 9 Q Has your office made a determination whether you 10 would represent the President in impeachment proceedings?
- 11 A I won't reveal what deliberations we have or
- 12 haven't made in the eventuality that that would occur.
- O What is your understanding of whether your
- 14 conversations with the President would be privileged in
- 15 congressional proceedings?
- 16 A I think for me to reveal that would be to reveal my
- 17 attorney-client work product and I don't think that it would
- 18 be appropriate for me to disclose in the grand jury the legal
- 19 conclusions that I and my colleagues may or may not have
- 20 drawn with respect to that. I think that's an issue of law,
- 21 not an issue of fact.
- I don't think this would be the proper forum to
- 23 discuss that, so I would claim executive privilege,
- 24 attorney-client privilege and, indeed, with respect to this
- 25 question, attorney work product.

- 1 a regular basis.
- 2 A Yes. I do. Again, when I say "I," it's typically
- 3 in a larger group of lawyers, but in helping to assist the
- 4 President in this affair and to represent him in his official
- 5 capacity, there are communications between Mr. Kendall and
- 6 Ms. Seligman, who is a colleague of Mr. Kendall's, and
- 7 members of the counsel's office.
- / incliners of the counsel's office.
- 8 Q Now, are those communications in your official
- 9 capacity at the White House?
- A They are. I wouldn't be a part of them if I were
- 11 not the special counsel to the President and I'm exclusively
- 12 a part of it in my official capacity.
- 13 Q Have you ever discussed with Ms. Seligman, who is 14 another of the President's private lawyers, the relationship
- 15 between the President and Monica Lewinsky?
- 16 A Without saying whether I have or not, I believe
- 17 that that communication is privileged based on executive
- 18 privilege and attorney-client privilege and particularly in
- 19 light of the fact that the President of the United States is
- 20 making himself available, which I think is fairly
- 21 extraordinary, and this senior advisors have been made
- 22 available, I think there are many ways for you to determine
- 23 what relationship, if any, the President had with
- 24 Ms. Lewinsky without intruding on what I would think is the
- 25 most sacrosanct and important conversations which are those

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13

- 1 among the President's lawyers in anticipation of possible
- 2 impeachment proceedings.
- Q Just to follow up on that, hypothetically if a
- 4 witness testified one way in the grand jury and told you,
- 5 described the facts to you another way, would you admit that
- 6 that's relevant information to the grand jury?
- A I am unaware of any yes. I am unaware well,
- 8 let me back up for a minute. I am unaware of any wrongdoing.
- 9 I don't want to answer a hypothetical question about what
- 10 would or would not be relevant.
- I think given the extent of the communications I'm 11
- 12 willing to testify about, I think it's a little ironic that
- 13 we're spending more of our session today talking about the
- 14 conversations I'm not willing to tell you about as opposed
- 15 to the fact that I'm willing to tell you about all the
- 16 conversations here and, as you know, what I would like to
- 17 do is make the record clear that there are many things
- 18 I've done, the majority of which I'm more than willing to
- 19 tell you about and would like to tell you about and I
- 20 would wish that we don't spend the whole day talking about
- 21 the few things I'm not willing to tell you about based on
- 22 privilege.
- 23 Again, I'd like to tell you what I can and the we
- 24 can see how narrow the few conversations are that I won't
- 25 tell you about based on privilege.
- Page 82 Q In your experience as a prosecutor, if you were
- 2 investigating a conversation that two people had that was
- 3 relevant, would you accept one person's version of the
- 4 conversation without questioning the other?
- A I have never in my experience as a prosecutor -
- 6 I'd like to think I was a fairly thorough prosecutor. I
- 7 never in my experience as a prosecutor ever asked a lawyer,
- 8 either an official lawyer or personal lawyer, to reveal their
- 9 communications with their client. Never. I never asked
- 10 about that at all.
- Q The question was whether if two people were 11
- 12 involved in a conversation and one of them testified to it,
- 13 would it be relevant to question the other person?
 - A Right. And if their senior advisors or
- 15 non-lawyers, I would say, even though I think you could claim
- 16 privilege, the answer is there were many cases I had where
- 17 presumably the witnesses or targets of my investigations may
- 18 have said things to their lawyers.
- I never once -- and I don't pretend to have had a
- 20 case like this case which is, obviously, an unprecedented
- 21 case given the media attention, I never once asked a lawyer
- 22 to reveal a communication that he or she had with his or her
- 23 client, whether or not I thought that that communication
- 24 might be relevant. And I certainly never -
 - Q Did a corporation ever waive privilege in any

- 1 investigation you've ever heard of or been involved in?
- A Well, that's a very different issue, Mr. Kavanaugh.
- Q Yes or no would be --
- A Well, I can't answer it -- I'm happy to answer
- 5 it -- first of all, if we're going to answer, for the benefit
- 6 of the grand jurors, issues of law which, again, I have
- 7 never, candidly, been a part of in any grand jury that I've
- Q Just -- when you're giving speeches, I want to
- 10 challenge some of the legal conclusions that you're making
- 11 because I don't think your experience is consistent with the
- 12 legal conclusions that you're making.
 - A Well, I am --
- Q And I want to question that. 14
- 15 A Well, to the degree I'm giving speeches, I
- 16 apologize; but to the degree you're asking me about these
- 17 legal issues, at least -- and obviously you're able to frame
- 18 the questions to build the record you want, obviously I can't
- 19 ask you questions.
- 20 The only ability that I have to create the record
- 21 here that I would like so that a judge or someone can see our
- 22 point of view is for me obviously not only to answer your
- 23 question but to try to put it in context. I think you know
- 24 that.
- 25 Q I understand. I understand. But I'm just trying

- 1 to question your experience. Why don't we move back to the 2 facts.
- Have you ever discussed, again, with Mr. Kantor the
- 4 relationship between the President and Monica Lewinsky?
- A Without disclosing whether I have or not, the 6 conversations that I have had with Mr. Kantor, who is one of
- 7 the personal lawyers of the President, I believe are
- 8 privileged and my communications with Mr. Kantor I believe
- 9 are protected by executive privilege and by attorney-client 10 privilege.
- Q Have you ever discussed with Mr. Ruff the nature of 11
- 12 the relationship between the President and Monica Lewinsky?
- A Without disclosing whether I have or not, obviously
- 14 I have discussed the Monica Lewinsky affair with Mr. Ruff in
- 15 its broadest context, but I won't disclose my communications
- 16 with Mr. Ruff about that based on executive privilege and
- 17 attorney-client privilege.
- Q Have you discussed with Cheryl Mills the nature of 19 the relationship between the President and Monica Lewinsky?
- A And with respect, again, with Ms. Mills, without
- 21 stating whether I have or not, obviously in the broadest
- 22 way of talking about Monica Lewinsky, we've been present
- 23 at the same meetings, I won't disclose my communications
- 24 with Ms. Mills as well based on executive privilege and 25 attorney-client privilege.

Page &

- O Maybe I can short circuit your answers with a few
- 2 of the remaining people on the list but -
- A And I'm happy to give you the category of the
- 4 people that I'm asserting the privilege over because I think
- 5 you know it, and basically --
- Q Okay. Let me go through specifics.
- A Sure. Okay.
- Q And then we'll summarize with categories. With
- 9 Bruce Lindsey?
- A Same thing. Bruce Lindsey's the deputy counsel and
- 11 to the degree such conversations occurred -- and, again, a
- 12 lot of this is a very abstract discussion in the way we're
- 13 doing it, but I would not disclose communications that I've
- 14 had with Bruce Lindsey about the Monica Lewinsky affair -
- 15 and by "affair" I mean that --
- Q Have you had such communications with Bruce 16
- 17 Lindsey?
- 18 A Well, he has obviously participated in those
- 19 conference calls and matters like that, so obviously this
- 20 matter has arisen. With respect to this matter, I would
- 21 assert executive privilege and attorney-client privilege.
- 22 And I know I'm being a little nervous here but when I refer
- 23 to "the Monica Lewinsky affair," what I really mean is
- 24 "Monica Lewinsky matter." I just want to be clear in my use
- 25 of the word.

- I don't know if I've read -- one of the real
 - 2 problems I now have. Mr. Kavanaugh, is that it's a little
 - 3 hard for me now to separate what I've read in the newspapers
 - 4 from my conversation that Larry Wechsler had.
 - He may have said at the time or I may have since
 - 6 read it that the President had said something to Betty Currie
 - such as, you know, "When Monica was here, you were with us."
 - 8 or "We weren't alone," or something to that effect. And,
 - 9 again, I think he said it, but I'm really genuinely not
 - 10 positive whether he said that or whether I read it.
 - That Betty Currie, to whatever those questions
 - 12 were, the few, said yes, agreed with the President, but then
 - 13 Wechsler offered that -- but that Betty was not -- even
 - 14 though she said yes, she really remembered it differently.
 - 15 BY MR. KAVANAUGH:
 - 16 Q Did Wechsler say what Betty Currie had said about
 - 17 how she understood -- what she understood to be the
 - 18 President's intent?
 - 19 A No, he did not. As far as I recall he did not say
 - 20 and she understood the President's intent to be such, as best
 - 21 I can remember.
 - 22 Q Did Wechsler say what Betty Currie's reaction to
 - 23 this conversation had been?
 - 24 A Again, it's hard to remember. I don't -- he may
 - 25 have said, and I want to stress may, that she was that it

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- Q Have you ever communicated with Betty Currie about
- 2 her role or knowledge of the Monica Lewinsky matter?
- A I have not.
- Q Have you ever communicated with her personal
- 5 attorney?

16

- A I have.
- O Can you tell us about those conversations?
- A I think there's been one conversation. I think
- 9 early on, Larry Wechsler, and I'm fairly confident it will be
- 10 in this document, came to the White House and met with Cheryl
- 11 Mills, Chuck Ruff and me. I don't recall Bruce Lindsey being 12 there.
- 13 It's somewhere in here, I can't find it. You may 14 want to direct me to it.
- 15 MR. BENNETT: Page 11.
 - THE WITNESS: Thank you. Thanks, Mr. Bennett.
- 17 Right. And he described, as best as I recall, that
- 18 Betty Currie remembered obviously remembered knowing
- 19 Monica Lewinsky; that she remembered that after the
- 20 President's deposition that the President had contacted her:
- 21 had asked her to come in; had made certain and he wasn't
- 22 very specific, as I remember, made certain conclusory
- 23 statements, the President had, to Betty Currie, questions,
- 24 what I would call almost leading questions where you almost
- 25 are expecting a yes or a no answer.

- 1 was a stressful conversation for her.
- Q Why was it stressful?
- 3 A I think it was stressful. I mean, he didn't say,
- 4 so I would be guessing. I took it -- and, again, I'm very
- 5 nervous about my answers because it's very hard for me to
- 6 divorce what I've read, because there's been so much written.
- 7 from what he said.
- 8 I took it that -- I remember leaving with the clear
- 9 impression that Wechsler believed that Betty Currie agreed
- 10 with certain statements and voiced agreement, but was
- 11 thinking that the answers really were different than what she 12 was saying.
- 13 Q Did Wechsler say why she had voiced agreement?
- 14 A I don't recall him saying that. No.
- 15 Q Did Wechsler say whether Mrs. Currie had talked to
- 16 the President again after that about those questions and
- 17 answers?

24

- 18 A I don't remember. I don't believe he did, at least
- 19 not -- I mean, I don't believe he did. At least while I was
- 20 there and I think I was there the whole time he was there.
- 21 Q Did you communicate the substance of this meeting
- 22 with Mr. Wechsler to anyone else?
- A No, I did not. 23
 - BY MR. BENNETT:
 - Q You've indicated at page 11 of your statement that

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- 1 you believe the meeting occurred, this meeting involving
- 2 Larry Wechsler, Cheryl Mills, Chuck Ruff and yourself, during
- 3 the last week of January or the first week of February and
- 4 lasted about 20 minutes. Is that correct?
- 5 A That is correct.
- 6 Q Is that simply your best recollection? Is there
- 7 any other way to pinpoint that day?
- 8 A There isn't from me. I mean, as you know, one way
- 9 you could do it conceivably is you could arguably get the
- 10 WAVE records and figure out when Larry Wechsler came and that
- 11 would be the best way to determine it.
- 12 This would have been when I did this exercise in
- 13 early March, I think I based it on my best memory. I
- 14 certainly did not go back to WAVE records or anything like
- 15 that. That would probably be the best way to know if I have
- 16 the right date or not.
- 17 Q You indicated that it's harder for you to
- 18 distinguish now between what you recall and what you've since
- 19 read.
- 20 A Right.
- 21 Q Do you recall whether at the time you had the
- 22 meeting with Mr. Wechsler that you're referring to in
- 23 paragraph I on page 11 whether Betty Currie had already
- 24 appeared before the grand jury at that time or not?
- 25 A I don't. You know, I don't. I was about to say I

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- 1 don't think so, but I'm not -- I simply have lost track of
- 2 when witnesses first started appearing before you. I'm
- 3 not -- I still don't think she appeared before your grand
- 4 jury, but I'm not certain of that.
- 5 Q So that if we had a date and suggested to you that
- 6 her first appearance would have been in the last week of
- 7 January, that would tell you that rather than early February,
- 8 it would have been in the last week of January, if that were
- 9 correct?
- 10 A If it were correct, but I'm not -- I would say to
- 11 you that the very best way to do it is to find out when Larry
- 12 Wechsler was here because I genuinely -- though I -- for some
- 13 reason, I did say, you know, I'm slightly -- I slightly
- 14 believe it was before she testified. I'm genuinely not sure
- 15 of it.
- And so I don't feel comfortable -- unlike when we talked about Blumenthal earlier, knowing when Betty Currie
- 18 testified isn't doing a lot for helping me figure out if it
- to destrict isn't doing a for for helping me rigure out it it
- 19 was the last week of January or the first week of February,
- 20 or even if those two weeks might be a little off.
- 21 Q All right. Do you recall there being a period of
- 22 time in which Mrs. Currie was away from her job at the White
- 23 House?
- A I had heard that. I don't have a lot of day-to-day
- 25 contact with Betty Currie, so I do remember hearing that, but

- 1 I would not have noticed that because I'm not around the Oval
- 2 Office that much except when I'm meeting with the President,
- 3 so I remember hearing that she had been away, but I
- 4 personally didn't -- I didn't have a personal knowledge of
- 5 that. And I don't know -- I don't know if my meeting was
- 6 before or after she was away.
- 7 Q So if this meeting occurred while she was away, you
- 8 have no present recollection of that?
- 9 A Not only do I not have a present recollection, but
- 10 I'm not sure I would have known that, because I'm not sure I
- 11 was aware that she was present. I remember hearing or
- 12 news -- we were getting press requests, is Betty Currie away,
- 13 and I think at some point I learned, though to this day I'm
- 14 not positive of it, that there was a period of time she was
- 15 away.

20

21

- In other words, it could be, though I doubt it,
- 17 that she was away during that time and came in. But she
- 18 wasn't in that meeting, frankly, as I think of it, so I don't
- 19 even know if she was at work that day.
 - BY MR. KAVANAUGH:
 - Q Did Mr. Wechsler discuss gifts that had been
- 22 exchanged between the President and Monica Lewinsky?
- 23 A Briefly. Briefly. He said, as I recall, and,
- 24 again, it's getting very hard to divorce what I've read in
- 25 the press from what he said, that Lewinsky had given certain

- 1 gifts to Betty Currie.
 - Q That's all he said?
 - 3 A I'm sure he said more.
 - Q Do you remember anything else he said?
 - 5 A I don't, actually. I mean, I don't. I mean, I --
 - 6 I don't know if he said which gifts.
 - Q Did you ask how this had come about?
 - 8 A I didn't ask any questions, I don't think. I just
 - 9 listened, frankly. I don't remember a lot of questions being
 - 10 asked at all. I certainly didn't ask how this had come
 - 11 about. I was just listening to what Wechsler had to say.
 - 12 Q Just on a legal position and maybe your answer will 13 be that this is a legal argument, but why with Mr. Wechsler
 - 14 do you testify as to what you told you and not with Mr.
 - 15 Kendall?
 - 15 Kendall?
 - 6 A Because -- well, it is a legal issue. I mean, it
 - 17 is a legal issue, so I don't -- I want to let, obviously,
 - 18 Mr. Eggleston make the legal argument. I think the reality
 - 19 is that in the climate we're in, what I said earlier is
 - 20 really true. We're trying to carve out what we can to
 - 21 preserve some ability for the White House counsel to have
 - 22 privileged communications with the President and those
 - 23 closest with the President like his counsel in anticipation
 - of impeachment proceedings and for the future.
 On the other hand, we're very sensitive that this

1 is an investigation that is trying to get to the bottom of

- 2 various matters and in one of the very difficult choices that
- 3 was made, we're providing you this information.
- Q Does Mrs. Currie know that you're testifying as to
- 5 what her lawyer told you?
- A I have no idea. I mean, I my conversation has
- 7 been I have not spoken to Ms. Currie about this matter at
- 8 all substantively and I have no idea whether she's aware of
- 9 it. If she is, it's not through me.
- 10 Q Is it your policy to check with the witnesses
- 11 before you disclose the communications that you've received
- 12 from their lawyers?
- 13 A Well, it depends. I have never before disclosed
- 14 such communications. We have not been a part of the joint
- 15 defense agreement with any of the lawyers for any of the
- 17 O So you don't check, I guess. Is that the answer?
- 18 A I haven't today. That's correct.
- 19 Q In general, have you checked?
- 20 A I haven't ever before confronted a situation by any
- 21 prosecutor or any office that has asked me to do what I'm
- 22 doing right now, so I don't have a policy.
- 23 Q Do you check with witnesses before disclosing their
- 24 communications? Does your office check with witnesses before
- 25 disclosing their communications?

- 1 can remember, from Bill Hundley. And I think Hundley
- 2 essentially would have told me something like when his client

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- was testifying before the grand jury. He may have said son
- summary comment like, you know -- he may have -- I mean,
- again, it's hard to divorce what he told me and what I read.
- He may have said something to the effect that what
- Vernon Jordan did was nothing more than -- for Monica
- 8 Lewinsky in helping her find a job was no more than what
- 9 Vernon does for a lot of people. But I don't remember really
- 10 anything other than maybe a comment like that about Vernon
- 11 Jordan's knowledge or participation in any of this.
- 12 Q Did he call you in both instances?
- 13 A I think it probably was a combination of him
- 14 calling me and me calling him back. I think I may have
- 15 called him back and forth. I think it was more, candidly,
- 16 Hundley thinking that I or someone in the White House
- 17 should know that his client was going to testify in the
- 18 grand jury.

19

- Q Have you communicated with Mr. Bennett, Bob
- 20 Bennett, about the Lewinsky matter?
- 21 A Bob Bennett participates in some of those calls, so
- 22 yes, I have.
- 23 Q And has he described to you the nature of the
- 24 relationship between the President and Monica Lewinsky?
 - A And given Bob Bennett's position as personal

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- A Again, I'm not sure I have ever had to do this --
- 2 well --
- 3 Q The question is does your office check.
- A Well, if we've ever done it before, we would not
- 5 have checked because --
- Q Well, the White House has done it dozens of times
- 7 over the last couple years with lawyers testifying as to what
- 8 witnesses told them and my question is --
- A I don't think we have -- I don't think there is an
- 10 absolute policy.
- 11 Q Okay. Have you communicated with Mr. Jordan,
- 12 Vernon Jordan, about the relationship between the President
- 13 and Monica Lewinsky?
- 14 A No, I have not.
- 15 Q Have you communicated with his private lawyers?
- 16 A I have spoken with his private lawyers a couple of
- 17 times.
- 18 Q Have they told you -- well, why don't you describe
- 19 those conversations first.
- A They have been very brief. I've talked to Bill
- 21 Hundley early on a couple of times. To the best of my
- 22 recollection --
- 23 Q Page 10, I believe.
- 24 A Yes. I mean, this sort of corroborates that. I
- 25 mean, I had two, I guess, very brief discussions, as best I

- 1 counsel to the lawyer, I'm trying to narrow it but still
- 2 preserve something, I would claim executive privilege and
- 3 attorney-client privilege as to conversations with Bob
- 4 Bennett.
- Q Have you communicated with Mrs. Clinton about this
- 6 matter at all?
- A Never.
- Q Never have at all about anything or just about this
- 9 matter?
- 10 A I've never spoken to Mrs. Clinton about anything
- 11 related to the Monica Lewinsky affair.
- 12 Q With respect to the questions I asked you about the
- 13 people you've dealt with, the people who I listed, does the
- 14 same answer apply with respect to the subject matter of the
- 15 gifts that might have been exchanged between the President
- 16 and Monica Lewinsky?
- 17 A If anything with respect to gifts had come up at
- 18 all, I mean, I guess -- my answer is I won't reveal the
- 19 substance of those conversations, regardless of whether gifts 20 were or were not discussed.
 - Q So beyond describing it as the Lewinsky matter,
- 22 you're not going to parse out whether gifts were raised in a
- 23 particular conversation?
- 24 A If you're asking me about conversations that I've 25 had with the President, with the President's personal

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1 lawyers, with members of the counsel's office, or the most

2 senior advisors, I won't parse out the substance of those

3 communications.

4 Q Just to, for the record, ask a further question,

5 have you talked to the group of people I have previously

6 listed about the President's conversation with Mrs. Currie on

7 January 18th? Just for the record, you described the

8 conversation you had with Mr. Wechsler. I'm talking about

9 the other people.

A Yes. I did not discuss -- when Chuck Ruff, Cheryl

11 Mills and I heard what Larry Wechsler had to say, I have

12 never shared that with anyone.

13 Q Have you ever discussed the subject matter of the

14 President's conversation with Mrs. Currie on January 18th

15 with the President?

16 A I'm sorry, can you repeat that?

17 Q Have you discussed the substance of the President's

18 conversation with Mrs. Currie on January 18th with anyone?

19 With the President.

20 A The one thing I should say, without going into the

21 substance, I may have mentioned this issue to either Chuck

22 Ruff or one of my colleagues, Cheryl Mills, either Chuck Ruff

23 or Cheryl Mills. I may have done that. I'm really not sure.

24 I can't exclude that possibility. I'm not really remembering

25 it, but that may have come up in a conversation over the last

1 been relatively little factually based.

I can't exclude over six months having -- I don't

3 remember speaking with Bob Bennett about the Lewinsky

4 affidavit. I don't remember doing that. I can't exclude it.

5 I want to be clear and I don't want to waive conversations by

6 saying it.

7 Similarly, even previously when you asked me about

8 the gifts, I mean, most of the conversations I have are not

9 that fact-based. I'm not saying I didn't, but I don't have

10 any clear recollections of that. So to the degree you're

11 sort of trolling, and I don't mean that in a pejorative sense

12 for really a lot of factual issues here, I don't think it's

13 going to be so fact-based, if that's of any help to you.

14 BY MR. KAVANAUGH:

15 Q Just so you understand where we're coming from,

16 we're conducting a factual investigation.

17 A I understand.

Q And obviously what would be most relevant are the

19 factual nuggets that you may have gathered from witnesses or

20 their attorneys.

18

A I guess what I'm saying is you'd be shocked at how

22 little factual information I truly have. I guess that's what

23 I'm trying to convey.

Q Well, that's helpful to know and, in fact, if that's true, then perhaps the privilege assertions are

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l six months.

6

Q Have you discussed the circumstances of

3 Ms. Lewinsky's affidavit with Mr. Bennett?

A Can I take literally one minute? I will run in and

5 run out so no one has to -- let me just check something.

(The witness was excused to confer with counsel.)

MR. BENNETT: We're back on the record and we have

8 no unauthorized persons present.

9 THE FOREPERSON: Yes.

MR. BENNETT: And we have a quorum.

11 THE FOREPERSON: And we have a quorum.

12 Mr. Breuer, you are still under oath.

13 THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.

Can you repeat your last question, Mr. Kavanaugh?

15 I think it was about -- was it Bob Bennett and the talking 16 points? Is that --

16 points: is that -

17 MR. KAVANAUGH: Ms. Lewinsky's affidavit.

18 THE WITNESS: Okay. I do not - I want the record

19 to be as clear as we can and I'm not trying to waive anything

20 and it's very difficult here trying to figure out what I can

21 say and cannot say.

22 Virtually all of the conversations that I have had,

23 whether it's with personal counsel or the Office of the

24 President counsel, have been more either legal strategy or
 25 sort of talking more strategic issues and they have actually

1 unnecessary.

A But that's exactly why we have to at least be able

3 to talk some -- I have to have some ability to talk to

4 Mr. Ruff and others strategically about things and that's why

5 I think we're trying to give you lots of ways of figuring out

6 the facts from lots of different witnesses.

Q Just to continue, the strategy is interesting but

8 not what this grand jury is particularly focused on. We are

9 focused on trying to get to the facts from people like

10 yourself and other lawyers who may have gathered facts and11 you never know who might have a critical conversation with a

12 kev witness.

13 A I guess I'm trying to represent to you in good

14 faith that the overwhelming majority of the communications

15 i'm talking to you about that I don't want to discuss are not

16 factually based or have very little in the way of facts and

17 are over issues like strategy that you say the grand jury is

18 less interested in.

19 Q Have you ever discussed the President's deposition,

20 his civil deposition in the Jones case, with the President?

21 A Never.

22 Q Have you discussed that deposition with

23 Mr. Bennett?

24 A Well, first, I should say I had absolutely nothing

25 to do with the Paula Jones case at all until January 21, when

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1 the Lewinsky matter occurred. I may have had -- I don't

2 remember.

I may have had brief conversations with Bob Bennett 4 on some level about the deposition after the Lewinsky matter 5 occurred, talking a little bit about it, but I'm not certain

6 of that. I can't exclude that possibility.

Q What did be say about it?

A I have no -- I don't have a distinct memory of such

9 conversations. I'm just not comfortable excluding that

10 possibility. If it occurred it would have been very minor,

11 very brief conversations. And, candidly, fairly superficial.

12 Q Did he ever discuss with you that something said in

13 the deposition in the Jones case was troubling to him or

14 bothersome to him?

A I don't want to waive anything here, but I'm not 15 16 aware of anything like that, of Bob ever saying anything like

17 that to me.

18 Q Have you discussed with the President's personal

19 attorneys, meaning Mr. Kendall, Ms. Seligman, Mr. Bennett or

20 any of his associates or partners --

21 A Or Mickey Kantor.

22 Q -- or Mickey Kantor how Ms. Lewinsky came to

23 receive or search for jobs at Revlon?

A Without waiving anything, I have no memory of that

25 at all, other than maybe when it was in the press, in the

l argument.

O You understand, and I gather Mr. Ruff understands.

3 that the assertion of privilege can prevent the disclosure of

4 exculpatory information as well as inculpatory information.

5 Is that correct?

A I understand that any privilege can prevent some 7 relevant information to an inquiry from going forward. Here

8 I think because - in virtually every setting, I think there

9 are both for you alternate means of getting it and by

10 providing you that information it corrodes the ability of

11 lawyers to talk with the President and help represent him in

12 his official capacity. We have to draw some line and that's

13 what I'm trying to do.

14 Q You said earlier that you wanted to summarize the 15 categories for which you would assert privilege today. Maybe

16 it would be helpful if you did that.

17 A Although I've aiready probably answered more than I

18 want to on some of these, I basically said that I would

19 testify to all of my involvement here, my role as special

20 counsel in this matter, but I would not testify as to

21 conversations with the President of the United States.

22 conversations with the personal attorneys for the President

23 of the United States, conversations with my colleagues in the

24 counsel's office of the President, conversations with senior

25 advisors.

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1 public press, somebody may have commented on the article. I

2 remember no substantive discussion dealing with that issue.

Q Did any of those persons ever indicate what the

4 President's knowledge of Ms. Lewinsky's job search was?

A I know it won't do me any good, I see we're

6 breaking at 4:15, it was my hope that we could tell Judge

7 Johnson that I was prepared to answer a lot of your questions

8 about the issues I was, but I see we're going to spend all

9 day talking about the few categories of questions that I

10 won't answer.

11 Your question was about the job search generally. 12 I'm really getting nervous by you going through this litany,

13 you will sort of by negative inference sort of get into the

14 entire substance of our conversations. I'm not sure how to

15 both suggest to you that a lot of these things haven't

16 occurred without giving you the full substance of what I'm

17 trying to protect.

18 So without -- so we don't have too many negative

19 fragments here, I'm going to not answer any more about the

20 job search or about the conversations in general so we can

21 preserve it and claim executive privilege and attorney-client 22 privilege, but I would ask you to understand, not to put any

23 undue importance about that with respect to this particular

24 question but just as you and I are sitting here trying to

25 protect the record so that I'm not waiving this entire

I think that's all the categories that I suggested

2 prior. I think that that summarizes it. And, again, I would

3 welcome the opportunity so we could move this forward if

4 there are other questions you have other than building a

5 record on privilege, I'm happy to address them if you want.

Q Your conversations with White House employees, what

7 is the position on that?

A Oh, that's another one. That's exactly right.

9 For instance, Ashley Raines, which you asked me about before.

10 On a White House employee seeking advice, I have made a claim

11 of privilege with respect to that. That's exactly right.

12 Thank you.

13

BY MR. APPERSON:

14 Q May I follow up just very briefly on your

15 suggestion to counsel that your frustration at being asked

16 about the privileged matters which you are not prepared to

17 testify about, to the exclusion of getting to those areas

18 where you are prepared to testify? Do you recall your

19 testimony?

20 A I do.

21 Q You recognize, don't you, the awkward nature of

22 inquiring about an event? For example, we went through

23 before the break the sequence of events regarding Ashley

Raines and her attorney, Ms. White, and it makes it

25 difficult, you recognize, do you not, for you to be able to

1 provide essentially half that story that you're willing to

- 2 provide and yet not provide the other half of the story, and
- 3 so it takes it out of sequence, both for the grand jurors and
- 4 for us? Do you recognize the awkward nature of that?
- A I recognize that I've provided you now with what
- 6 Ashley Raines' lawyer told me. I recognize that you have an
- 7 opportunity to call Ashley Raines. I recognize that you
- 8 issue subpoenas to the White House all the time and I am
- 9 responsible with other members of the counsel's office to
- 10 provide this grand jury that information.

You look to me to be a lawyer when you want that 11

- 12 information and I try as best as I can to provide all the
- 13 documents and materials to you.
- I recognize that and I'm attempting to give you 14
- 15 information, but I wish you would try to recognize that there
- 16 is something left to the counsel's office where we're trying
- 17 to perform our duty and so instead of just simply saying,
- 18 "Lanny Breuer, give us all the documents you have, talk to 19 people at the White House and come on in and tell us every
- 20 fact about everything you know, whether it's a lot or a
- 21 little, even if there are other ways to get that
- 22 information," I wish you could try to also appreciate the
- 23 quandary that I'm in.
- I think on some level you know I'm very sincerely 24
- 25 sort of trying to deal with -- we're trying to deal with

- I that against what it does to the institution of the counsel's
- 2 office by forcing me to disclose it.
- 3 It's purely an institutional concern. I don't
- 4 believe I'm giving you snippets. I don't believe that the
- 5 information that I'm not giving you is going to really make a
- 6 material difference to your investigation and I think I'm
- 7 simply in a good faith manner, as the counsel's office.
- 8 attempting to bridge our obligations and needs with yours.
 - Q And so I assume the answer is no to my question.
- A Right. The answer is no. 10
- 11 BY MR. KAVANAUGH:
- 12 O You're aware, are you, that Ms. Sherburne who
- 13 preceded you as special counsel provided notes of her
- 14 interviews with dozens of White House witnesses to the grand
- 15 jury? Are you aware of that?
- 16 A I hold all of you in deep regard. I really think
- 17 that this inquiry in front of this grand jury is remarkably a
- 18 absurd, that we are having an inquiry over what my
- predecessors have done in a prior investigation. I'm aware
- 20 that there is a lot of litigation about what to turn over or
- 21 not to turn over
- 22 We have -- in prior instances, certain information
- 23 was turned over. That's correct. Other information wasn't
- 24 and I'm also aware that Ms. Sherburne was strongly against
- 25 doing that. I think you are as well.

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- 1 that. And a little bit of this, I think, has become since
- 2 you've asked my opinion here in this exercise as we sort of 2 asked you questions that could be remarkably helpful --
- 3 cat up time --
- Q I've asked you if you recognized the awkward --
- 5 A I --
- 6 Q Excuse me. I'm sorry.
- 7 A I apologize.
- 8 Q I've asked you and I'm happy for you to say what
- 9 you've said --
- 10 A I apologize.
- 11 O I think you've said it a number of times and I
- 12 think the grand jurors understand and appreciate your
- 13 position, as do we, but my question really is do you
- 14 appreciate, do you recognize the awkward nature of taking
- 15 testimony when you are only willing to provide essentially
- 16 little snippets of events and not willing to provide other
- 17 snippets of events of which you are aware of?
- 18 A You know, I just don't accept that
- 19 characterization. I think my conversation with Ashley
- 20 Raines, and this document reflects it was very short, we're
- 21 talking a period of minutes, I think you could probably from
- 22 your own experience make a determination deep down about
- 23 how remarkably valuable to your investigation my brief
- 24 conversation with a young woman who works in the White House,

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25 how really valuable that would be for a few minutes and weigh

- Q Just on the characterization of absurd, we just
- A I don't mean that --
- Q -- to the people in the room, which is did you
- 5 discuss with the President the nature of his relationship
- 6 with Monica Lewinsky and if you answer that question, maybe
- 7 we wouldn't need to ask all these other questions.
- A But presumably --
- Q But you won't answer that question, so for you to
- 10 characterize this as absurd is somewhat unfair.
- 11 A I apologize.
- 12 O So I'll state that for the record.
- A It's warm and I'm getting tired. I did not mean to 13
- 14 be rude by calling it absurd. I don't believe, Mr.
- 15 Kavanaugh, that you would particularly want people to know
- 16 about the communications you and Mr. Bennett have in your
- 17 office.
- 18 I think you would find it difficult if people are
- 19 trying to get that information from you. All I'm simply
- 20 trying to do is to identify certain narrow communications
- 21 that I think are privileged and, moreover, I'm aware that you
- 22 will have an opportunity in less than two weeks to inquire of
- 23 the President of the United States. You could call 40 or 50
- 24 or 60 witnesses to attest to this, I'm simply saying with 25 respect to the lawyers in this matter, that you ought to at