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IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, )  
 )  
Plaintiff, ) CR 08-1324  
 )  
VS. ) EXCERPT OF PROCEEDINGS  
 )  
SHOLOM RUBASHKIN, ) **Testimony of:**  
 ) **Leah Rubashkin**  
 )  
Defendant. )

APPEARANCES:

ATTORNEYS CHARLES J. WILLIAMS, PETER E. DEEGAN,  
JR., AND MATTHEW J. COLE, Assistant U.S. Attorneys,  
Suite 400, 401 First Street S.E., Cedar Rapids,  
Iowa 52401, appeared on behalf of the United  
States.

ATTORNEYS GUY R. COOK AND ADAM D. ZENOR, of the  
firm of Grefe & Sidney, 500 East Court Avenue,  
Suite 200, Des Moines, Iowa 50309,

AND

ATTORNEY F. MONTGOMERY BROWN, of the firm of  
Brown & Scott, 1001 Office Park Road, Suite 108,  
West Des Moines, Iowa 50265, appeared on behalf of  
Sholom Rubashkin.

EXCERPT OF JURY TRIAL PROCEEDINGS,

held before the Hon. Linda R. Reade on the 3rd day  
of November, 2009, at 400 S. Phillips Avenue, Sioux  
Falls, South Dakota, commencing at 8:09 a.m.

Patrice A. Murray, CSR, RPR, RMR, FCRR  
United States District Court  
4200 C Street S.W.  
Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404  
(319) 286-2324

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1 (The following is an excerpt from the  
 2 jury trial proceedings.)  
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 10  
 11  
 12 MR. COOK: Thank you, Your Honor. We  
 13 would call Leah Rubashkin to the stand.  
 14 THE COURT: Mrs. Rubashkin.  
 15 THE WITNESS: Yes.  
 16 LEAH RUBASHKIN,  
 17 called as a witness, being first duly sworn or  
 18 affirmed, was examined and testified as follows:  
 19 DIRECT EXAMINATION  
 20 BY MR. COOK:  
 21 Q. Good afternoon.  
 22 A. Hello.  
 23 Q. Pull yourself up close to the microphone so  
 24 everyone can hear your voice.  
 25 A. Okay.

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1 Q. State your name for the record, please.  
 2 A. My name is Leah Rubashkin. You probably  
 3 already know how to spell Rubashkin already, so I  
 4 won't spell it.  
 5 Q. You are married to the fellow over here,  
 6 Sholom Rubashkin?  
 7 A. Twenty-eight years.  
 8 Q. And let's get some information about your  
 9 background. Where were you born and reared?  
 10 A. I was raised in Brooklyn, New York, Long  
 11 Island area.  
 12 Q. And tell us about your education before  
 13 getting married.  
 14 A. Okay. I went to elementary school where I  
 15 grew up, in Long Beach, New York. It was a public  
 16 school until seventh grade. At that point, my  
 17 family was looking into its Jewish roots, and so I  
 18 changed over to a Jewish school, where I continued  
 19 my high school, in Brooklyn, New York. And went on  
 20 to go for a year of teaching seminary, where I was  
 21 trained to be an early childhood teacher.  
 22 Q. So you have some teacher training or some  
 23 teacher experience?  
 24 A. Yeah.  
 25 Q. When did you first meet Sholom Rubashkin?

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1 A. It was towards the end of that year that I  
 2 was going to the teaching seminary that we met.  
 3 Q. He was at the same seminary?  
 4 A. No. Actually, we have different educational  
 5 systems, the boys and the girls, so he was at his  
 6 and I was at mine.  
 7 Q. Yes, I knew that. I should have recognized  
 8 that. But it was during that teaching training  
 9 that you met Sholom Rubashkin?  
 10 A. Yeah, towards the end of that year.  
 11 Q. And that would have been approximately when?  
 12 A. It was -- it was towards the end of the year.  
 13 I remember that it was right after finals, and I  
 14 was happy that that was over before we, you know,  
 15 started dating.  
 16 Q. Okay. Can you give us a guess as to what  
 17 year that was?  
 18 A. Let's see, I want to say '86 -- no, one  
 19 second. Let me think a second.  
 20 Sorry. No, it was '81.  
 21 Q. '81. Okay. And you said you've been married  
 22 twenty-eight years?  
 23 A. Yes.  
 24 Q. So that year you were married was when?  
 25 A. '81.

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1 Q. And let's just cover relatively briefly, if  
 2 we can, then, you're married and what sort of work  
 3 is your husband involved in in the early years of  
 4 your marriage?  
 5 A. Well, like typical couples in our community,  
 6 we started off, the first year, he was learning in  
 7 what we call kollel, which is an after-marriage  
 8 learning program, basically, just for a year. And  
 9 generally the parents of both sides support the  
 10 couple while that year is taking place.  
 11 Q. Did there come a time, then, in the course of  
 12 your marriage when you moved to Atlanta?  
 13 A. Yes.  
 14 Q. And why did you move to Atlanta?  
 15 A. Well, our aspiration and what we really  
 16 wanted to do as far as with our lives was to teach  
 17 Jewish people about their Judaism and their roots.  
 18 Like I said, my family earlier in my childhood had  
 19 that opportunity to learn about their roots and we  
 20 wanted to give others that same opportunity.  
 21 Q. All right. And so when you're in Atlanta,  
 22 approximately what year is this?  
 23 A. I would say it was in '86, trying to gauge  
 24 things by birthdays and positioning of my family,  
 25 so --

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1 Q. All right. And what sort of employment or  
 2 work is Sholom doing while he's in Atlanta?  
 3 A. Basically, he's an outreach rabbi, which  
 4 means that he is hired by the rabbi that's there to  
 5 do outreach programs, adult education, run day camp  
 6 there, do children's programs, a gamut of things to  
 7 help the local Jewish community to learn more about  
 8 the traditions.  
 9 Q. You, of course, know Aaron Rubashkin?  
 10 A. Yes.  
 11 Q. He's your father-in-law?  
 12 A. Yes.  
 13 Q. And your mother-in-law's name is?  
 14 A. Rivka.  
 15 Q. Rivka.  
 16 And is it fair to say that while you were  
 17 nearing the end of your time in Atlanta, you knew  
 18 that Aaron Rubashkin was involved with starting a  
 19 packing plant?  
 20 A. Oh, yeah, we were reminded of that, that we  
 21 were in one place and this was all going on, yeah.  
 22 Q. And so while the plant was beginning its  
 23 life, you and Sholom were not in Postville?  
 24 A. No, no, we were in Atlanta.  
 25 Q. What happens after the rabbi work that Sholom

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1 was doing in Atlanta? Where do you go next?  
 2 A. Well, we went back to New York. We were  
 3 hoping to find a different location to do the same  
 4 type of work. And we were living in Brooklyn at  
 5 the time.  
 6 Q. What sort of work did Sholom do while you  
 7 were in New York?  
 8 A. I believe at that time he was helping out in  
 9 the butcher store.  
 10 Q. Was there any time during the years in  
 11 New York when he also worked at his mother's  
 12 restaurant?  
 13 A. Yeah, Sholom was kind of like a firefighter;  
 14 wherever the fire was, that's where he went. And  
 15 so throughout his different job descriptions, he's  
 16 gone to different places. And at that time, he --  
 17 there was a woman in the restaurant that used to  
 18 help my mother-in-law, and she had retired, and so  
 19 there was nobody really helping her in the store,  
 20 and so Sholom jumped in and started mixing the  
 21 potato salad.  
 22 Q. Does there come a time then when the various  
 23 jobs that he's tending to in New York change?  
 24 A. Within that time period?  
 25 Q. Yes.

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1 A. Well, I think he did some time in the  
 2 restaurant, and then he also did some time helping  
 3 out in the butcher store. And then he also did --  
 4 during the summers, went up and down to the  
 5 Catskills, which is like a three-hour drive, to  
 6 bring meat to the kosher consumers that went for  
 7 the summer up there.  
 8 Q. And at some point, then, do you and Sholom  
 9 leave the New York area?  
 10 A. Well, yeah, after -- after it's been, I don't  
 11 know, almost a year that we're in New York, the  
 12 children were in school there, and it became  
 13 evident that they needed help at Agri out in  
 14 Postville. And Sholom got a new -- a new  
 15 perspective of the necessity of kosher food all  
 16 over the country since we lived in Atlanta and we  
 17 saw how important it was for people to have access  
 18 to kosher food. You know, when you're in New York,  
 19 you just go into a butcher store and you just buy  
 20 it and it's not a big deal. But when you're out in  
 21 these other cities, you see the need for that kind  
 22 of thing.  
 23 And he looked at that -- being that we  
 24 weren't going on this educational route that we  
 25 really wanted to go on, he saw that as a way of

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1 helping, in that way, Jewish customers throughout  
 2 the country, that they would be able to get kosher  
 3 food -- kosher meat that way through helping out in  
 4 the plant.  
 5 Q. All right. Now, around this time, you  
 6 understood that your brother-in-law Heshy was  
 7 already working at the plant --  
 8 A. Yeah.  
 9 Q. -- in Postville?  
 10 And so as a result, did you move to the  
 11 Midwest?  
 12 A. Yes. Well, because we already had a couple  
 13 of kids, we weren't able to move directly to  
 14 Postville because there's no Jewish community  
 15 there, so we went to the closest Jewish community,  
 16 which was St. Paul, Minnesota, which is a  
 17 three-hour trip by car, and we basically settled  
 18 there.  
 19 Q. Okay. Let's fast-forward then to the move to  
 20 the Midwest.  
 21 You're living in the Twin City area or  
 22 St. Paul?  
 23 A. Yeah.  
 24 Q. And what is Sholom doing by way of his work?  
 25 A. Well, he was -- he was working in Agri,

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1 commuting back and forth for the weekends and once  
 2 or twice during the week, depending on the weather  
 3 and the ability for him to get away. He was doing  
 4 work in the plant. I don't know. There was a  
 5 bunch of different managers there then. I'm not  
 6 exactly sure what he was actually doing.  
 7 Q. Do you know, did he ever actually work on the  
 8 line?  
 9 A. Yeah, actually, that was his first -- his  
 10 first project, was -- like I said before, being  
 11 that he knew the necessity for getting kosher meat  
 12 out there, he was working on a retail pack, retail  
 13 packaging that would be able to go out to these  
 14 different small communities.  
 15 MR. COLE: Excuse me, Your Honor, it's  
 16 become narrative.  
 17 MR. COOK: I'll ask another question,  
 18 Your Honor.  
 19 THE COURT: Very fine, thank you.  
 20 Q. What can you tell us about your knowledge of  
 21 his involvement in the kosher certification of the  
 22 plant?  
 23 A. Well, he dealt with some of the rabbis, you  
 24 know, the head rabbis. When they would have  
 25 different concerns, he would be there to help

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1 facilitate that in some way.  
 2 Q. All right. Well, let's move forward then.  
 3 Did there come a time when you and Sholom and your  
 4 family actually moved to Postville?  
 5 A. Yes.  
 6 Q. And when was that?  
 7 A. That was about three years later. It was in,  
 8 I want to say, let's see, '93.  
 9 Q. And why do you move to Postville?  
 10 A. Well, it just became evident that this was  
 11 just impossible to keep going, with the three hours  
 12 each way and the fact that I was almost like a  
 13 single mom, because he was away most of the time.  
 14 And at that point, I think that there were a couple  
 15 of people that were just fed up with that kind of  
 16 lifestyle and were willing to move down and make a  
 17 go of starting a community.  
 18 Q. And where do you live when you first come to  
 19 Postville?  
 20 A. Just one of the houses that was available.  
 21 It was actually a little bit cramped quarters for  
 22 us, being that we already had a sizable family. It  
 23 was like a three-bedroom house with one bathroom  
 24 and -- just a house in town.  
 25 Q. We've heard some testimony about your, I

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1 think it was, quote, large home in Postville. Is  
 2 that a home you eventually came to move into?  
 3 A. Well, basically, we could not find a house  
 4 that was a size that would accommodate our family.  
 5 So basically, what we did was we ordered a  
 6 panelized home, which is a prefab home, and had --  
 7 and it was put down and we ended up moving into  
 8 that.  
 9 Q. And we can sort of fast forward. That home,  
 10 was there later an addition put on the home?  
 11 A. Yes, yes. After raising most of the kids  
 12 there and having a couple of them married already,  
 13 we put on an addition.  
 14 Q. And just very briefly, tell us what this  
 15 addition was and its purpose.  
 16 A. Okay. It was twofold. Basically, we had  
 17 always made a lot of community gatherings in our  
 18 house. We always made every Saturday night a  
 19 community thing in our basement, and the community  
 20 was growing. We were involved in a lot of  
 21 different -- either the Jewish community or even  
 22 the general community had different functions in  
 23 the house, whether it was for our, you know, just  
 24 social reasons, or business reasons, or whatever it  
 25 was. So that was one aspect of why we felt we

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1 needed that space.  
 2 And at the same time that we built that  
 3 big room, we also put in a couple of bedrooms for  
 4 our children. As they got married, we realized we  
 5 can't just stuff all the boys in one room and all  
 6 the girls in the other room, but actually needed  
 7 rooms for the couples of our children -- our  
 8 children who had gotten married.  
 9 Q. How many children do you have, ma'am?  
 10 A. Ten.  
 11 Q. And I'll show you what we've marked in this  
 12 record as Defendant's Exhibit 6516. Do you  
 13 recognize that as a photograph, at least showing  
 14 part of that room, the hall that you talked about?  
 15 A. Yeah, that's a picture of Sholom with my son,  
 16 together with a group of boys that had gathered in  
 17 our house for a -- one of the Saturday night  
 18 parties.  
 19 Q. One of the communal meetings that you talked  
 20 about?  
 21 A. Yes, yes. Some of people are here actually  
 22 that are in that photo.  
 23 MR. COOK: We'd offer Defendant Exhibit  
 24 6516.  
 25 MR. COLE: No objection, Your Honor.

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1 THE COURT: Received.  
 2 (Whereupon, Exhibit 6516 was received.)  
 3 Q. (By Mr. Cook) And now that we have this  
 4 photograph in evidence, can you identify where  
 5 Sholom is in this photograph? Where is he located?  
 6 A. He's right here. I don't know if this thing  
 7 is working. Yeah.  
 8 Q. In the center?  
 9 A. Yes.  
 10 Q. And you mentioned that this was not an  
 11 untypical gathering in your home of the Jewish  
 12 community in Postville?  
 13 A. No. It's been happening for about fifteen  
 14 years every single Saturday night.  
 15 Q. Let's -- let's talk about that for a moment,  
 16 this -- the Sabbath's on Friday through Saturday?  
 17 A. Right.  
 18 Q. What happens on a Sabbath?  
 19 A. Well, actually, we like to refer to the  
 20 Sabbath as like an oasis in time; that it's just a  
 21 time when you're free from all your worries,  
 22 financial worries, or domestic worries, or whatever  
 23 you're busy with in your life. It seems to be a  
 24 time when you can reconnect with your family and  
 25 your spirituality.

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1 Q. And that, as we've heard, is controlled by  
 2 when the sun goes down --  
 3 A. Yeah.  
 4 Q. -- on Friday and on Saturday?  
 5 A. Right.  
 6 Q. Do you own any ownership in Agriprocessors,  
 7 Incorporated?  
 8 A. No.  
 9 Q. Have you ever?  
 10 A. No.  
 11 Q. When you came to Postville in 1993, based on  
 12 your knowledge, who was operating the plant?  
 13 A. Well, at that time, Donald Hunt was very  
 14 involved. I'm not sure if Bob Ball was still  
 15 around in the plant, but when he was there, he was  
 16 also very involved in the plant.  
 17 Q. And you mentioned -- strike that.  
 18 The plant, of course, as the jury's  
 19 heard, had a number of rabbis and their families to  
 20 create the kosher meat and poultry?  
 21 A. Yes.  
 22 Q. And there were needs that these folks had in  
 23 terms of schooling and religious services?  
 24 A. Yes.  
 25 Q. What involvement did you have in the

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1 establishment of that infrastructure?  
 2 A. Well, initially, when we came to Postville,  
 3 we were kind of like homeschooling our kids until  
 4 it became big enough to actually put a real school  
 5 together. I was involved; my sister-in-law, Basya,  
 6 Heshy's wife. And we basically took care of the  
 7 school and tried to make it run as close to a real  
 8 school as we could.  
 9 Q. And through those efforts, was -- did a  
 10 school actually come into being?  
 11 A. Oh, yeah.  
 12 Q. Tell us about that school.  
 13 A. Well, in the peak of Agri's production, when  
 14 they needed a lot of rabbis in town, we had about a  
 15 hundred families, Jewish families. And there were  
 16 somewhere between 150 to 200 kids. At that point,  
 17 I wasn't really directly involved. I had other  
 18 duties with my family that I needed to tend to, so  
 19 I wasn't as involved as I was initially with the  
 20 school.  
 21 Q. If we fast-forward then, does the school grow  
 22 in size and student body?  
 23 A. Yes.  
 24 Q. If we take it up to, say, April of 2008, what  
 25 is the size of the school or schools?

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1 A. Well, I would say the elementary school at  
 2 that point was probably over 200 kids, and then we  
 3 had like a high school program, which probably had  
 4 about -- at that time, I don't know what the  
 5 percentage would be, but there was quite a few  
 6 people coming in from out of town to be part of  
 7 that school.  
 8 Q. You mean people that were unrelated to  
 9 working at Agriprocessors but wanted their  
 10 children --  
 11 A. Yeah --  
 12 Q. -- educated there?  
 13 A. -- exactly. The school had gotten such a  
 14 reputation, and the area was so -- was so -- so  
 15 ripe for really educating the kids, that quite a  
 16 few families took advantage of that, coupled with  
 17 the fact that since the school was subsidized from  
 18 Agri, the tuition that was charged was a lot lower  
 19 than a typical school.  
 20 Q. All right. In addition to the Jewish  
 21 schools, what other infrastructure developed in  
 22 Postville?  
 23 A. Well, initially there was the synagogue, the  
 24 place of worship, you know, that was from the  
 25 beginning. Since -- even though the rabbis were

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1 commuting, they still needed a place of worship,  
 2 and that continued to grow and expand throughout  
 3 the times that Agri expanded. There's also a  
 4 ritual bath part of our laws that we have to keep.  
 5 We need that for our observances.  
 6 There's also the store, which is a major  
 7 necessity. You know, kosher products don't just  
 8 include meat, and, therefore, the things that  
 9 needed kosher supervision besides the meat needed  
 10 to be brought in from different places, so the  
 11 store was a big necessity for our community.  
 12 Q. What role, if any, did Sholom have at the  
 13 school?  
 14 A. Well, I don't know if he had a direct role.  
 15 His whole pet project was this community. It was  
 16 like a big driving force in his life, to create  
 17 this community, because typically, a slaughterhouse  
 18 in the kosher world meant that the rabbis working  
 19 in this plant had to be away from their families,  
 20 and so Sholom felt an importance to building this  
 21 Jewish community alongside of -- as the plant was  
 22 growing, because we could create a situation where  
 23 the workers had a peace of mind of being with their  
 24 families, and so that was something that he was  
 25 always concerned about.

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1 Q. Let me just go back for just a second  
 2 regarding your knowledge of Sholom's education. Do  
 3 you know what his formal education level is?  
 4 A. Well, typically, in the Jewish world, there's  
 5 not a big stress on the secular studies. They go  
 6 to a certain level, and then they continue with the  
 7 Judaic studies, so I would say it was at low  
 8 elementary level.  
 9 Q. Okay. In terms of formal education?  
 10 A. Right, in the secular studies.  
 11 Q. And then what sort of training do you  
 12 understand that he has, rabbinical training or  
 13 religious training?  
 14 A. Well, I believe that he followed the typical  
 15 course of a young Hasidic man, which would be to go  
 16 through elementary school, high school, rabbinical  
 17 training. There's also a year where the young men  
 18 go out and they do like an exchange program, where  
 19 they go out to different either foreign countries  
 20 or different places throughout America and it's  
 21 kind of like a combination of learning and  
 22 teaching.  
 23 Q. Okay. Does -- in your experience and  
 24 training, does Sholom have any formal business  
 25 training or accounting training?

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1 A. No.  
 2 Q. We heard some testimony by your father-in-law  
 3 regarding meetings that would occur at your home.  
 4 We talked about some regarding community meetings.  
 5 What type of meetings related to Agriprocessors's  
 6 business would take place at your home?  
 7 A. Different meetings that maybe -- if there  
 8 would be visitors that they would want to speak to,  
 9 you know, together with the different managers and  
 10 family members, they would happen in our house, you  
 11 know, whenever it was, you know, was scheduled.  
 12 When there are different functions that the plant  
 13 made and the plant had an interest of making, that  
 14 would be done in our home.  
 15 Q. Okay. You mentioned the kosher store. Did  
 16 you have any involvement in the kosher store?  
 17 A. Besides being a good customer, not really.  
 18 Q. Before I forget, let me show you some  
 19 exhibits here. We marked 6004L-1, 6004L-2,  
 20 6004L-3, 6004L-4, 6004L-5, 6004L-6. Do you  
 21 recognize those as --  
 22 A. Yes.  
 23 Q. Pictures of what?  
 24 A. This series is -- they are pictures of our  
 25 school and the playground that's -- that's there.

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1 There's also -- the other one, that's the -- that's  
 2 our synagogue, our house of worship; and also the  
 3 place where the high school has their classes.  
 4 Q. And do those fairly and accurately represent  
 5 images of the school that you've described?  
 6 A. Well, I'd probably take some more pictures of  
 7 the building. It shows a very small area, but,  
 8 yeah, that's it.  
 9 MR. COOK: Your Honor, we'd offer  
 10 6004L-6, L-5, L-3, L-2, and L-1.  
 11 MR. COLE: Are you offering L-4?  
 12 MR. COOK: It's the same as the other  
 13 one.  
 14 MR. COLE: Oh, no objection, Your Honor.  
 15 THE COURT: Received.  
 16 (Whereupon, Exhibits 6004L-1, 6004L-2,  
 17 6004L-3, 6004L-5, and 6004L-6 were received.)  
 18 Q. (By Mr. Cook) Does Postville have a slogan,  
 19 the town?  
 20 A. Postville?  
 21 MR. COLE: Objection, relevance.  
 22 A. "Hometown to the world."  
 23 THE COURT: The answer came in. I would  
 24 have overruled the objection, and that's fine.  
 25 Q. Ms. Rubashkin, is there some activities that



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1 you were involved with in the community, something  
 2 called "Taste of Postville"?  
 3 A. Yes.  
 4 Q. What is Taste of Postville?  
 5 A. Taste of Postville lasted for a couple of  
 6 years. Basically, it celebrated diversity of  
 7 Postville. There was a certain committee that was  
 8 set up to run the program. And basically, what  
 9 they tried to do was get different people from the  
 10 different groups to set up booths and get  
 11 entertainment that depicted their culture and their  
 12 way of life.  
 13 Q. And what was your role in the Taste of  
 14 Postville?  
 15 A. Well, basically, I used to help them try to  
 16 get entertainment from -- from the Jewish world to  
 17 come out to Postville and perform for the  
 18 different -- for people that came to the Taste of  
 19 Postville.  
 20 Q. And the Taste of Postville was designed to do  
 21 what? What was its purpose?  
 22 A. Well, I think it was designed to encourage a  
 23 bond of unity within Postville itself and show the  
 24 beauty of the different cultures living together.  
 25 Q. Let me show you a series of photographs that

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1 begin with Defendant Exhibit 6003D through 6003P.  
 2 And take a moment to look at those.  
 3 A. Okay.  
 4 Q. And have you had a chance to look at those?  
 5 A. Yes.  
 6 Q. And are those photographs or -- strike that.  
 7 Those are color and black and white  
 8 photographs that depict various scenes from the  
 9 Taste of Postville?  
 10 A. Correct.  
 11 MR. COOK: Your Honor, we'd offer  
 12 Exhibits 6003D through 6003P.  
 13 THE COURT: Are you saying D as in "dog"  
 14 or B as in "boy"?  
 15 MR. COOK: D as in "dog," Your Honor.  
 16 THE COURT: Okay.  
 17 MR. COLE: As to D, Your Honor, just  
 18 hearsay, 401 through 403. No objection to the rest  
 19 of the exhibits.  
 20 THE COURT: Mr. Cook, would it be  
 21 possible for me to look at the one that was  
 22 objected to?  
 23 MR. COOK: Look at D, is that what you're  
 24 asking?  
 25 THE COURT: Yes.

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1 MR. COOK: Sorry, Your Honor.  
 2 THE COURT: Overruled. They'll all come  
 3 in.  
 4 MR. COOK: Thank you.  
 5 (Whereupon, Exhibits 6003D through 6003P  
 6 were received.)  
 7 Q. (By Mr. Cook) Was your husband, Sholom,  
 8 involved in the Taste of Postville as well?  
 9 A. Basically in the same capacity. Maybe they  
 10 asked for donations of meat, but, you know, he was  
 11 involved maybe with taking calls from people  
 12 looking for entertainment that Agri would end up  
 13 sponsoring.  
 14 Q. And looking at Exhibit 6003D, is that a  
 15 picture of Sholom in one of these photographs?  
 16 A. Yes, that is.  
 17 Q. And I'm sorry, I overlooked one of these  
 18 photographs of the school. And we have some others  
 19 that are the interior, but I don't want to take the  
 20 time to look for those right now.  
 21 6537, is that another picture of the  
 22 school at a different time of year?  
 23 A. Yes, it is.  
 24 Q. And this is the elementary school?  
 25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. Does it fairly depict the school at a  
 2 different time of year?  
 3 A. Yes.  
 4 MR. COOK: We'd offer 6537, Your Honor.  
 5 MR. COLE: 65 --  
 6 MR. COOK: 6537.  
 7 MR. COLE: No objection, Your Honor.  
 8 THE COURT: Received.  
 9 (Whereupon, Exhibit 6537 was received.)  
 10 Q. (By Mr. Cook) All right. Ma'am, let's talk  
 11 about your understanding of your husband's work at  
 12 the plant.  
 13 What do you understand he did at the  
 14 plant?  
 15 A. Well, he was very involved. He did a lot of  
 16 different things. It depended on what was on the  
 17 front burner at the time. He was busy with a lot  
 18 of different projects, depending on what was  
 19 happening, whether it was legal issues, or  
 20 environmental issues, or just attack issues, I  
 21 don't know --  
 22 Q. Did you really -- did you know what his job  
 23 was?  
 24 A. Well, I -- he was a big juggler in my eyes.  
 25 I mean, he juggled a lot of different things, and

200	<p>1 was always busy with the thing that needed to be 2 dealt with now.</p> <p>3 Q. And can you describe for us his personality? 4 A. He's a very warm, giving, caring person, 5 who's loyal and dedicated. Has a tremendous amount 6 of respect for his parents and for his religious 7 life, very outgoing. People generally gravitate to 8 him because he's a people person.</p> <p>9 Q. We've heard some testimony, it was a while 10 ago, by a witness that described him as hyper? 11 A. You could say that. Actually, my children 12 have gotten that from him, so, yeah.</p> <p>13 Q. So that condition is something normal? 14 A. Yeah. That's just Sholom, yes, exactly.</p> <p>15 Q. All right. Let's fast-forward, if we can, 16 ma'am, to May of 2008.</p> <p>17        There was a raid at the plant? 18 A. Yes.</p> <p>19 Q. Where were you when that happened? 20 A. Well, actually, I was on my way to Rochester, 21 Minnesota. One of my children had a dentist 22 appointment, and I needed to take him in. And I 23 actually found out from another son of mine, who 24 was at that time going to the Yeshiva, the high 25 school, and he called in a big panic about</p>	202	<p>1 A. They must have been between -- over a period 2 of, like, four months, maybe even longer, anywhere 3 between thirty to forty boys that came to help out 4 in the plant, and they would stay in our house in 5 the basement, also in that addition, and worked in 6 the plant.</p> <p>7 Q. Did there come a time after the raid when 8 your home was searched? 9 A. Yeah.</p> <p>10 Q. Were you there when that occurred? 11 A. No.</p> <p>12 Q. Where were you when the search occurred? 13 A. Well, it happened the first -- the same day 14 that they took Sholom to -- to Cedar Rapids, to 15 be -- whatever the term is, I don't know, to be 16 brought in, and my son and I followed. It was 17 Friday -- Friday morning, and we were hoping that 18 they would do whatever they needed to do and we 19 would bring him home. And we learned through -- I 20 don't know if it was on our way back or at -- at 21 whatever point it was, that a group of agents, 22 special agents, were sent to our house to search 23 the home, and we were not home.</p> <p>24 Q. Was there more than one search of your home? 25 A. I don't believe so.</p>
201	<p>1 helicopters and tons of cars, and just the panic 2 that was -- that was in the town.</p> <p>3 Q. Did -- I take it you eventually returned to 4 Postville after the raid? 5 A. Yeah, that night, I came back. Afternoon 6 maybe even.</p> <p>7 Q. And as a consequence of the raid, did you 8 have other family members or workers at your home? 9 A. Yeah. What would happen was, being that the 10 plant was so understaffed, we had a large influx of 11 young men from all across the country coming to 12 help the plant keep going, because it's not just a 13 plant that could just close down because the Jewish 14 community relies on the plant for the kosher food, 15 the kosher meat.</p> <p>16        MR. COLE: Objection, Your Honor. This 17 has become nonresponsive. 18        MR. COOK: It has.</p> <p>19 A. I'm sorry.</p> <p>20 Q. That's all right. It's my fault. I should 21 be asking you more specific questions.</p> <p>22        After the raid, were there workers or 23 family members that came to your home? 24 A. Yes.</p> <p>25 Q. And who came to your home?</p>	203	<p>1 Q. Now, did Sholom have a -- an office or a desk 2 or a place that he worked at the house -- 3 A. Yes.</p> <p>4 Q. -- to do Agri work? 5 A. Sorry, yeah.</p> <p>6 Q. And is it fair to say he really never was 7 away from work unless it was the Sabbath? 8 A. Never. I used to complain about his 9 homework.</p> <p>10 Q. I want to ask you about his work, not only at 11 the plant but away from Postville. Were there 12 occasions where he would leave Postville on 13 business for Agri? 14 A. Yes.</p> <p>15 Q. And do you know what those business trips 16 were related to or why he was leaving? 17 A. Well, many times it was to try to raise funds 18 to help with the plant, because there was always a 19 cash crunch there. And then sometimes it was to 20 look into different special projects that he was 21 working on or different litigation that was going 22 on at the time.</p> <p>23 Q. Okay. I want to shift gears, if I can, and 24 speak about some specific dates as it relates to 25 when he may have been in Postville and not in</p>

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204	<p>1 Postville.</p> <p>2 A. Okay.</p> <p>3 Q. And do you recall a trip in December of 2007</p> <p>4 to Israel?</p> <p>5 A. Yes.</p> <p>6 Q. And what was the purpose of that trip?</p> <p>7 A. Well, my daughter was learning in seminary</p> <p>8 there, same type of teaching seminary, and she was</p> <p>9 away from home for that year and so we decided to</p> <p>10 go and visit her.</p> <p>11 Q. Okay. So --</p> <p>12 THE COURT: Just a minute. What are you</p> <p>13 showing her?</p> <p>14 MR. COOK: This is our filing with the</p> <p>15 Court, Your Honor. I can keep it with me at the</p> <p>16 podium.</p> <p>17 THE COURT: Yes, unless she needs help.</p> <p>18 It looks like she knows what --</p> <p>19 MR. COOK: Thank you, Your Honor.</p> <p>20 Q. Do you recall approximately when the trip to</p> <p>21 Israel was?</p> <p>22 A. Yes, I remember very well, because it was</p> <p>23 during the Christmas season. A lot of non-Jews</p> <p>24 were there. So it was a couple days before then,</p> <p>25 and I think the whole trip was, I don't know, maybe</p>
205	<p>1 a week, maybe a little longer.</p> <p>2 Q. Okay. And when you say the Christmas season,</p> <p>3 around the 25th of --</p> <p>4 A. Of December, yeah.</p> <p>5 Q. A week in that time period?</p> <p>6 A. Yes. I think we were there a couple days</p> <p>7 before that and stayed a couple days after that.</p> <p>8 Q. Do you recall trips that your husband would</p> <p>9 take to New York City for business-related matters?</p> <p>10 A. Yes.</p> <p>11 Q. And can you give us any specific dates, for</p> <p>12 example, in 2008 when he went to New York?</p> <p>13 A. I don't remember specific dates, but I know</p> <p>14 that was in the summer. He went for an extended</p> <p>15 time. I would say it was at the end of June for</p> <p>16 quite a while.</p> <p>17 Q. June of 2008?</p> <p>18 A. Yeah.</p> <p>19 Q. After the raid?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. And do you know why he was in New York?</p> <p>22 A. Yes, it was to help raise funds and get money</p> <p>23 together so that they could keep the plant going.</p> <p>24 Q. Do you have any memory of a time when he was</p> <p>25 also in New York in the fall of 2008?</p>
206	<p>1 A. The fall of 2008, in New York?</p> <p>2 Q. Yes.</p> <p>3 A. I don't know exact dates, but I would venture</p> <p>4 to say it was after the holiday season.</p> <p>5 Q. And the holiday season in the Jewish calendar</p> <p>6 is when?</p> <p>7 A. September, October; the beginning of October.</p> <p>8 Sometimes it goes into the beginning of October.</p> <p>9 Q. So it would have been after that period of</p> <p>10 time, your best recollection?</p> <p>11 A. Yes, yes.</p> <p>12 Q. And do you know why he would have been there</p> <p>13 in that time period in October after the Jewish</p> <p>14 holiday, in New York?</p> <p>15 A. I would think that it was for the same</p> <p>16 reason, to try to get people together that were</p> <p>17 willing to either invest in the plant or to loan</p> <p>18 money.</p> <p>19 Q. Do you recall a trip that he took to Denver?</p> <p>20 A. Yes.</p> <p>21 Q. And could you give us the month of when he</p> <p>22 took that trip to Denver?</p> <p>23 A. I was actually with him when we went to</p> <p>24 Denver. Talking about like in '08?</p> <p>25 Q. Yes, ma'am.</p>
207	<p>1 A. We went to visit a -- a meat facility.</p> <p>2 Q. Do you know what month that was?</p> <p>3 A. I'm trying to think. I -- maybe it was late</p> <p>4 fall, November.</p> <p>5 Q. And I don't want to confuse you here, but I</p> <p>6 want to go back a little bit to the first part of</p> <p>7 2008.</p> <p>8 A. Okay.</p> <p>9 Q. Do you recall a time when your husband was</p> <p>10 gone to Florida in the early part of 2008?</p> <p>11 A. Yes.</p> <p>12 Q. When was that?</p> <p>13 A. That was -- I believe it was maybe the</p> <p>14 weekend of the 25th, I believe, the end of January.</p> <p>15 Q. And was there also -- strike that.</p> <p>16 Do you have a son that lives in Florida?</p> <p>17 A. Yes.</p> <p>18 Q. What's his name?</p> <p>19 A. His name is Shmuly.</p> <p>20 Q. And were there any occasions in 2008 when you</p> <p>21 or your husband went to visit Shmuly in Florida?</p> <p>22 A. Yes, yes. He had a baby. We went to the</p> <p>23 circumcision. And it was actually not a very easy</p> <p>24 time to get away because it was after the raid.</p> <p>25 And I just said, Sholom, we're going, and we went.</p>

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<p>1 Q. And can you tell us approximately when that</p> <p>2 was or precisely when that was?</p> <p>3 A. That was in June, maybe towards the -- in the</p> <p>4 middle of June.</p> <p>5 Q. Again, jumping around a little bit, do you</p> <p>6 recall a trip that your husband took to Toronto,</p> <p>7 Canada, in the fall of 2008?</p> <p>8 A. Yes, I do.</p> <p>9 Q. Do you know what that trip was for?</p> <p>10 A. That trip was dual-purpose. He had a friend</p> <p>11 that had helped the plant in the past many times,</p> <p>12 and he wasn't feeling well, so he went to visit</p> <p>13 him. And at the same time, he was hoping to get</p> <p>14 some additional help for the plant.</p> <p>15 Q. And can you tell us approximately when that</p> <p>16 trip was?</p> <p>17 A. Again, that trip was after the holiday, right</p> <p>18 after the Jewish holiday, which happens in the</p> <p>19 fall. I want to say the first week in October.</p> <p>20 Q. Now, other than these specific examples of</p> <p>21 when your husband was gone, were there other</p> <p>22 occasions when he was gone from Postville on Agri</p> <p>23 business?</p> <p>24 A. There was many times he was away, like we</p> <p>25 said before, to help get money for the plant and</p>	<p>1 different problems that are unique to Israel as far</p> <p>2 as different therapies and things that,</p> <p>3 unfortunately, families sometimes need out there</p> <p>4 because of their living situation, whatever.</p> <p>5 Q. Well, let's -- let's talk specifically about</p> <p>6 your family's lifestyle. I want to focus in on,</p> <p>7 say, for example, May of 2008.</p> <p>8 A. Okay.</p> <p>9 Q. Before the raid.</p> <p>10 A. Okay.</p> <p>11 Q. How many cars did you have?</p> <p>12 A. Working at one time?</p> <p>13 Q. Yes, ma'am.</p> <p>14 A. Two.</p> <p>15 Q. And what -- if you can describe them, do you</p> <p>16 know what models they were, what years they were?</p> <p>17 A. One was, I think, an '04 Suburban. And the</p> <p>18 other one was a present that I got for Sholom. I</p> <p>19 believe it was an '05 Rendezvous, maybe even '04.</p> <p>20 I'm not sure.</p> <p>21 Q. And a Rendezvous, is that a minivan?</p> <p>22 A. It's not quite a minivan. It's a Buick</p> <p>23 Rendezvous. It's around the same size as a</p> <p>24 minivan, a different shape, so --</p> <p>25 Q. Any other cars?</p>
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<p>1 just different projects that he was working on.</p> <p>2 Q. Now I want to shift gears. There's been some</p> <p>3 testimony in this record from a couple of witnesses</p> <p>4 regarding an analysis of an account where moneys</p> <p>5 were going to charity. Do you have any personal</p> <p>6 knowledge about that?</p> <p>7 A. Yes.</p> <p>8 Q. And the entities that were described -- I</p> <p>9 don't want to mispronounce the name, the one that</p> <p>10 helps needy folks.</p> <p>11 A. Right.</p> <p>12 Q. Can you give us that name again, please?</p> <p>13 A. I believe it's Yad -- Yad L'Yeled Meyuchad,</p> <p>14 which means a hand to special children.</p> <p>15 Q. And there was another entity that is related</p> <p>16 to the Chabad movement. What is the name of that</p> <p>17 charity?</p> <p>18 A. Colel Chabad are you referring to?</p> <p>19 Q. Yes, ma'am. What is the nature of that</p> <p>20 charity, Colel Chabad?</p> <p>21 A. Well, that charity has been a favorite in the</p> <p>22 family for generations. Basically, it is an</p> <p>23 organization that helps families in Israel with</p> <p>24 their just basic needs of -- helping out with food.</p> <p>25 And they do different programs to help with</p>	<p>1 A. During that time, no.</p> <p>2 Q. And other than the trips that we've discussed</p> <p>3 here, did you and your husband take frequent trips?</p> <p>4 A. Well, we often went to family get-togethers,</p> <p>5 like weddings that happened throughout the family,</p> <p>6 big occasions. Like, I remember during that time</p> <p>7 there was a big birthday party for my father-in-law</p> <p>8 that we tried to get as many family members as</p> <p>9 possible together. Then there was the Colel Chabad</p> <p>10 dinners that we went to.</p> <p>11 Q. And maybe I didn't ask the question very</p> <p>12 well. Did you take any vacations to any exotic</p> <p>13 locations?</p> <p>14 A. Oh, not unless it was really tied to the</p> <p>15 business. Like occasionally when Sholom had a</p> <p>16 seminar somewhere, he'd ask me if I want to come,</p> <p>17 but nothing besides that.</p> <p>18 Q. And how many years have you lived in</p> <p>19 Postville now?</p> <p>20 A. We've lived -- actually lived in Postville</p> <p>21 about thirteen years. No, maybe sixteen years.</p> <p>22 I'm sorry.</p> <p>23 Q. And how would you characterize your lifestyle</p> <p>24 in comparison to other families in Postville?</p> <p>25 A. Well, we always try to keep a low profile.</p>

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<p style="text-align: right;">212</p> <p>1 That was in line with how Sholom was raised, that  2 even though you may have a little bit more than  3 someone else, it wasn't necessarily for you to  4 splash it and use it for material things, but  5 rather, to help other people. So we always try to  6 downplay whatever we had and always tried, instead  7 of buying the fanciest car, to buy something that  8 was, you know, functional and not in everybody's  9 face.  10 Q. Now, the work that you were doing in  11 Postville involved what?  12 A. Well, there's a point that I worked part-time  13 in school. I shouldn't say worked; I should say  14 volunteered. I never got paid for any work I did  15 in school. It was just -- the whole community was  16 just a family endeavor that was furthering Agri and  17 everything that belonged to it. And then there  18 were other things that I did that I don't know if  19 you want me to talk about those.  20 Q. Okay. Well, I'll ask some specific  21 questions. Let me shift gears to another topic.  22 How did Sholom get along with his  23 brother, Heshy?  24 A. Well, they were brothers, so in the personal  25 sense, you know, they got along; but in business,</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">214</p> <p>1 was very in touch with the different people that  2 ran the plant; and that Toby was the controller who  3 worked together with Heshy, Sholom, Chaim Abrahams,  4 anybody else that had any important position in the  5 plant.  6 And then it went down to different plant  7 managers. There's Gary Norris, a Mark Halbe, just  8 different people that worked under them.  9 Q. Did you ever work at the plant?  10 A. No.  11 Q. Do you have other family members who work at  12 the plant?  13 A. Yes.  14 Q. Tell us their names, please.  15 A. Well, besides my brother-in-law Heshy, there  16 is my brother-in-law Yossi Gourarie, who is busy  17 with the chickens. There is my nephew, Sholom  18 Rubashkin, who is a lot of times referred to as  19 Sholom, Jr. There are my two sons.  20 Q. There's more than one Sholom Rubashkin?  21 A. There is more than one.  22 Q. I'm sorry, I interrupted.  23 A. There's also my son, Getzel, worked for a  24 while in the plant; and my son, Meir, worked for a  25 while in the plant.</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">213</p> <p>1 they had totally different approaches.  2 Q. And what understanding, if any, did you have  3 regarding Toby Bensasson's position at the plant?  4 A. My understanding was that he was the  5 controller of the plant, that a lot of the  6 information that was either given to other people  7 or that he needed -- a lot of the information that  8 was given to other people was through him. He  9 interacted with a lot of the people that they dealt  10 with in the plant and in different areas.  11 Q. Did you have any understanding of the  12 corporate hierarchy or chain of command in the  13 plant?  14 MR. COLE: Objection, Your Honor,  15 foundation.  16 THE COURT: I think that's exactly what  17 we're getting at here. Overruled.  18 You may answer if you know.  19 A. Thank you.  20 A general understanding, you know. I  21 don't know if I could go down the ladder, but I had  22 a general understanding.  23 Q. Okay. What was your general understanding?  24 A. My general understanding was that my  25 father-in-law was the owner of the plant; that he</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">215</p> <p>1 Q. There's been some testimony by a witness that  2 your husband was occasionally driven or picked up  3 from work. Do you know why that would occur?  4 A. My husband had a habit of making people feel  5 very comfortable, whether they were rabbis coming  6 for a couple of weeks to help out during a busy  7 season or if it was families that were just, you  8 know, moving in. And often he would lend out his  9 car to those people so that they would be able to  10 transit -- have easy transport from wherever they  11 were to the plant, or whatever they needed to do,  12 they would have access to a car.  13 THE COURT: Will you let me know when  14 you're at a good stopping point.  15 MR. COOK: This will be fine, Your Honor.  16 THE COURT: All right. Members of the  17 jury, let's take our afternoon recess. We'll be at  18 recess until three o'clock. Please remember the  19 admonitions of the Court, and we'll see you then.  20 (Whereupon, a brief recess was taken.)  21 THE COURT: We're ready to continue in  22 the case of United States of America versus Sholom  23 Rubashkin, 08-1324. And when we left off,  24 Mrs. Rubashkin was on the stand. She's still under  25 oath.</p>

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1 And Mr. Cook, you may proceed, sir.  
 2 MR. COOK: Thank you, Your Honor.  
 3 Q. (By Mr. Cook) Mrs. Rubashkin, I've had a  
 4 chance to get a little more organized with my  
 5 pictures over the break here, so I want to show you  
 6 a couple more here.  
 7 A. Sure.  
 8 Q. I hand you what we've marked in this record  
 9 for identification purposes as Defendant Exhibits  
 10 6545B, as in "boy," -1, -2, -4, -5, -3, -6.  
 11 Do you recognize those pictures as to the  
 12 location that they depict?  
 13 A. Yes.  
 14 Q. What are those pictures?  
 15 A. Those are some of the classrooms inside the  
 16 school.  
 17 Q. And that's the school for the smaller  
 18 children?  
 19 A. Yes.  
 20 MR. COOK: Your Honor, we'd offer  
 21 Defendant Exhibits 6545B, as in "boy," -1, -2, -3,  
 22 -4, -5, and -6.  
 23 MR. COLE: No objection, Your Honor.  
 24 THE COURT: Received.  
 25 (Whereupon, Exhibits 6545B-1, 6545B-2,

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1 6545B-3, 6545B-4, 6545B-5, and 6545B-6 were  
 2 received.)  
 3 Q. (By Mr. Cook) And I'm going to show you what  
 4 we have marked in this record as Exhibit 6010A for  
 5 purposes of identification.  
 6 Do you recognize those as a photograph of  
 7 you and your husband and family members?  
 8 A. Yes.  
 9 MR. COOK: We would offer Defendant's  
 10 Exhibit 6010A.  
 11 MR. COLE: No objection, Your Honor.  
 12 THE COURT: Received.  
 13 (Whereupon, Exhibit 6010A was received.)  
 14 Q. (By Mr. Cook) A few more questions about the  
 15 plant and your knowledge, ma'am.  
 16 A. Okay.  
 17 Q. What knowledge, if any, do you have about the  
 18 plant's expansion and growth over the years?  
 19 A. They did a tremendous amount of growth. It  
 20 was growing by leaps and bounds at all times.  
 21 Q. And what knowledge, if any, do you have  
 22 regarding professional persons being hired in the  
 23 management structure?  
 24 A. None.  
 25 Q. And, I'm sorry, I may have asked you this.

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1 Who did you understand to be the ultimate  
 2 decision-maker when it came to significant matters  
 3 at the plant?  
 4 A. My father-in-law.  
 5 Q. Mr. Aaron Rubashkin?  
 6 A. Yes.  
 7 Q. You told us about Sholom's work and his work  
 8 at home. Can you give us -- can you describe for  
 9 us what Sholom's daily routine would be?  
 10 A. Well, basically, got up very early, between  
 11 4:30 and 5, and he had a certain amount of time  
 12 that he spent on his prayers in the morning. It  
 13 was probably until about 7:30, 8. Then he would go  
 14 off to the plant. His prayers were either done at  
 15 home or in the synagogue. He went off to the plant  
 16 and would start his day. And then, except for the  
 17 brief times that I would bring him lunch or  
 18 something during the day, I didn't see him until  
 19 later that evening. And depending on the time of  
 20 year, when sunset was, he would have to say the  
 21 afternoon prayer; sometimes it was at home, like if  
 22 it was in the summer months, or at work, if it was  
 23 in the winter months. And eat supper, spend a  
 24 little time with the kids, and get busy with his  
 25 homework.

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1 Q. All right. Let's talk about the homework, if  
 2 we can, for a moment.  
 3 A. Okay.  
 4 Q. Were you finished?  
 5 A. Yeah, yeah.  
 6 Q. Please don't take this the wrong way.  
 7 A. Okay.  
 8 Q. Would Sholom have some of his homework spread  
 9 around the house?  
 10 A. Yeah, quite often, either all over the dining  
 11 room table or on the coffee tables or -- all over,  
 12 yeah.  
 13 Q. Papers everywhere?  
 14 A. Basically, yeah.  
 15 Q. And what knowledge, if any, do you have of  
 16 Sholom Rubashkin destroying or hiding records after  
 17 May 12 --  
 18 A. None.  
 19 Q. -- 2008?  
 20 A. None.  
 21 Q. Finally, ma'am, there's been some testimony,  
 22 several witnesses ago, about some silver coins that  
 23 your husband was purchasing with the assistance of  
 24 a person at the plant. Do you recall that?  
 25 A. Yeah.

220	<p>1 Q. And I want to show you what we've marked for 2 identification purposes in this record as Defendant 3 Exhibit 6536. Do you recognize that photograph? 4 A. Yes, that's the Rebbe. 5 Q. And that photograph depicts -- strike that. 6 That's a photograph taken of a wall in 7 your home? 8 A. Yes. 9 Q. And who is the person depicted in the 10 photograph? 11 A. He is the world Jewish leader. His name is 12 Rebbe Schneerson. 13 Q. Sometimes referred to as the Rebbe? 14 A. Right. 15 MR. COOK: Your Honor, we offer Defendant 16 Exhibit 6536. 17 MR. COLE: No objection. 18 THE COURT: Received. 19 (Whereupon, Exhibit 6536 was received.) 20 Q. (By Mr. Cook) And it might be a little hard 21 to see on this blowup here, but what do you 22 understand that Rebbe is doing in the photograph? 23 A. He's holding some coins. 24 Q. And do silver coins have significance with 25 respect to religious matters in the Chabad</p>	222	<p>1 THE COURT: Cross-examination. 2 MR. COLE: No thank you, Your Honor. 3 THE COURT: All right. Thank you, ma'am. 4 You may step down. 5 THE WITNESS: Thank you. 6 MR. COOK: Your Honor, that concludes our 7 witnesses for today. We do have some offers of 8 proof to make. 9 THE COURT: All right. Members of the 10 jury, we've finished early today. We're going to 11 let you go home. The lawyers and I still have 12 quite a bit of work to do, and we continue to do 13 work to get the case ready to submit to you. And 14 so we'll pick it up again tomorrow at nine a.m. 15 Please remember the admonitions of the Court, and 16 we'll see you bright and early tomorrow, nine 17 o'clock. 18 (Whereupon, the jury exited the 19 courtroom.) 20 THE COURT: Outside the presence of the 21 jury in United States of America versus Sholom 22 Rubashkin, Case Number 8-1324. 23 And, Mr. Cook, did you want 24 Mrs. Rubashkin to return to the stand? 25 MR. COOK: Yes, Your Honor, for some</p>
221	<p>1 movement? 2 A. Yes, not only in the Chabad movement, but in 3 Orthodox Jewry. 4 Q. And is it fair to say that Sholom then would 5 have silver coins as part of those religious 6 activities? 7 A. Yes. 8 Q. Now, you keep those coins in your home? 9 A. Yeah. 10 Q. And we've heard some testimony that those 11 coins were not shipped to your home. Do you have 12 an understanding as to why they would not be 13 shipped to your home? 14 A. Yeah. Well, one of our children is very 15 mischievous, and he specifically likes to go 16 through the mail and it creates difficulties many 17 times, because I'll find bills all over the place. 18 And if he sees a box, it's right away opened. And 19 so anything that's of value, we try to either send 20 to someone else or send it to Agri, directly there, 21 and Sholom will bring it home. 22 Q. Thank you very much for your testimony. 23 MR. COOK: No further questions at this 24 time. 25 THE WITNESS: Thank you.</p>	223	<p>1 brief offer-of-proof testimony. 2 THE COURT: All right. Mrs. Rubashkin, 3 you can come forward. And you're still under oath, 4 ma'am. 5 LEAH RUBASHKIN, 6 called as a witness, being previously sworn or 7 affirmed, was examined and testified as follows: 8 DIRECT EXAMINATION (OFFER OF PROOF) 9 BY MR. COOK: 10 Q. Mrs. Rubashkin, in addition to the religious 11 events that would occur at your home and this hall 12 that you described, would your home also be the 13 site of events hosting politicians that have been 14 to the plant or who were touring the plant? 15 A. Yes. 16 Q. And could you tell us some of the politicians 17 that have been to your home? 18 A. Jim Nussle was at our home. We had Senator 19 Grassley at our home. The wife of presidential 20 candidate Mitt Romney was in our home. Then we had 21 some local people in our home also, local 22 politicians. 23 Q. Let me hand you what we've marked for 24 identification purposes as Defendant's Exhibit 25 6001D, as in "dog," through 6001M, as in "Mary."</p>

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<p>224</p> <p>1 Do you recognize those as photographs from a visit                  2 by Mr. Nussle, Congressman Nussle, to your home?                  3 A. Yes.                  4 Q. And I'll hand you what we have marked for                  5 identification purposes as Defendant Exhibit 6009.                  6 Do you recognize that as a photograph of your                  7 father-in-law?                  8 A. Yes, yeah. Chuck Grassley and my                  9 father-in-law.                  10 Q. Your father-in-law and Chuck Grassley?                  11 A. Yes.                  12 Q. And Defendant Exhibit 6016 -- strike that.                  13 That's not a picture at your home, is it?                  14 A. Nope.                  15 MR. COOK: We'd offer for offer-of-proof                  16 purposes, Your Honor, Defendant Exhibit 6009 and                  17 6001D, as in "dog," through 6001M, as in "Mary,"                  18 for this record.                  19 MR. COLE: For the offer of proof, Your                  20 Honor, the objections would incorporate what we've                  21 done in our motion in limine, as well as 401, 402,                  22 and 403.                  23 THE COURT: All right. Thank you.                  24 Q. Ma'am, I'll hand you what we've marked in                  25 this record as Defendant Exhibit 6016. Do you</p>	<p>226</p> <p>1 MR. COOK: We'd offer for the                  2 offer-of-proof purposes in this record, Your Honor,                  3 Defendant Exhibit 6020A.                  4 MR. COLE: We would have the same                  5 objections, Your Honor, as well as this goes to                  6 collateral matters. It's from 1998.                  7 MR. COOK: Thank you. That concludes the                  8 offer, Your Honor. Thank you.                  9 THE COURT: All right. And                  10 Mrs. Rubashkin, you may step down. Thank you.                  11 THE WITNESS: Thank you so much.                  12                  13                  14                  15                  16                  17                  18                  19                  20                  21                  22                  23                  24                  25</p>
<p>225</p> <p>1 recognize this as a news photograph of Mr. --                  2 Governor Branstad touring the plant?                  3 A. Yes.                  4 Q. And do you recall that this relates to                  5 expansions and growth of the plant and the                  6 governor's support for that?                  7 A. Yes.                  8 MR. COOK: We'd offer for offer-of-proof                  9 purposes in this record Defendant Exhibit 6016.                  10 MR. COLE: We would have the same                  11 objection, Your Honor, as well as relevance, as                  12 this was in 1991.                  13 Q. Ma'am, I hand you what we've marked in this                  14 record as Defendant Exhibit 6020A. Do you                  15 recognize -- have you seen this letter before?                  16 A. Yes. We actually have a framed version of                  17 this letter, probably the original.                  18 Q. And what do you understand this letter to be?                  19 A. Basically, it's a letter from the governor,                  20 Terry Branstad, to Rabbi Duchman, who is the head                  21 of Colel Chabad, that was written in honor of --                  22 for the occasion of a dinner at which Sholom,                  23 myself and Heshy and Basya was honored, and it                  24 basically goes to say how the Rubashkin family had                  25 an impact on Northeast Iowa.</p>	<p>227</p> <p>1 CERTIFICATE                  2 I, Patrice A. Murray, a Certified Shorthand                  3 Reporter of the State of Iowa, do hereby certify                  4 that at the time and place heretofore indicated, a                  5 jury trial was held before the Honorable Linda R.                  6 Reade; that I reported in shorthand the proceedings                  7 of said jury trial, reduced the same to print to                  8 the best of my ability by means of                  9 computer-assisted transcription under my direction                  10 and supervision, and that the foregoing transcript                  11 is a true record of all proceedings had on the                  12 taking of said jury trial at the above time and                  13 place.                  14 I further certify that I am not related to                  15 or employed by any of the parties to this action,                  16 and further, that I am not a relative or employee                  17 of any attorney or counsel employed by the parties                  18 hereto or financially interested in the action.                  19 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand                  20 this 7th day of May, 2010.                  21                  22                  23                  24                  25</p> <p>/s/ Patrice A. Murray                  Patrice A. Murray, CSR, RPR, RMR, FCRR                  United States District Court, NDIA                  4200 C Street S.W.                  Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404</p>

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