

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT

Wednesday, April 4, 2018

TAKEN AT
Missouri State Capitol
201 West Capitol Avenue
Room B-22
Jefferson City, Missouri

MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Jay Barnes, Chairman
Don Phillips, Vice-Chairman
Gina Mitten, Ranking Minority Member
Jeanie Lauer
Kevin Austin
Shawn Rhoads
Tommie Pierson, Jr.

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A P P E A R A N C E S

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4 TESTIFYING WITNESS JACK NEYENS

5
ALSO PRESENT:
6 Alixandra Hallen, Minority Counsel; Alex Curchin,
7 Legislative Counsel to the Speaker of the House of
Representatives; and Bryan Scheiderer, Legislative Analyst.

E X H I B I T S

10 Exhibit No. 15 (previously marked)
11 Memorandum of Understanding 51

12 Exhibit No. 19 (previously marked)
13 E-mail dated April 24, 2014 at 10:59 a.m.
14 from Eric Greitens to TMC Staff 38

15
16
17 Exhibit No. 22 (newly marked)
18 E-mail dated August 16, 2016 62

E X H I B I T I N S T R U C T I O N S :

21
22 Exhibits are not attached to transcript; retained by
23 Committee.

I N D E X

1 Page
2
3
4 Roll Call by Counselor Hallen 4
5 Jack Neyens sworn 5
6 Questions by Chairman Barnes 5
7 Questions by Representative Phillips 26
8 Questions by Representative Mitten 27
9 Questions by Representative Lauer 33
10 Questions by Representative Austin 49
11 Questions by Representative Pierson 50
12 Further Question by Chairman Barnes 52
13 Further Question by Representative Lauer 58
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

P R O C E E D I N G S

1
2 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Call to order this meeting of
3 the House Special Committee On Investigative Oversight.
4 Madam Secretary, will you call the roll?
5 COUNSELOR HALLEN: Barnes?
6 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Here.
7 COUNSELOR HALLEN: Phillips?
8 REPRESENTATIVE PHILLIPS: Here.
9 COUNSELOR HALLEN: Mitten?
10 REPRESENTATIVE MITTEN: Here.
11 COUNSELOR HALLEN: Lauer?
12 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: Here.
13 COUNSELOR HALLEN: Rhoads?
14 REPRESENTATIVE RHOADS: Here.
15 COUNSELOR HALLEN: Austin?
16 REPRESENTATIVE AUSTIN: Here.
17 COUNSELOR HALLEN: Pierson, Jr.?
18 REPRESENTATIVE PIERSON: Here.
19 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Seven being present. We have
20 more than a quorum. We have everyone here.
21 Mr. Neyens, thank you for being here this
22 afternoon.
23 MR. NEYENS: Uh-huh.
24 CHAIRMAN BARNES: I trust that you got in okay?
25 MR. NEYENS: No problem at all.

1 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Okay. We're going to start by
2 administering the oath.

3 MR. NEYENS: Okay.

4 CHAIRMAN BARNES: If you can raise your right
5 hand?

6 MR. NEYENS: Okay.

7 JACK NEYENS, having been sworn in by the Chairman,
8 testified as follows:

9 QUESTIONS BY MR. BARNES:

10 Q. Mr. Neyens, can you state your name?

11 A. **Jack Neyens, N-e-y-e-n-s.**

12 Q. And, Mr. Neyens, have you ever given testimony in
13 a deposition or any other sort of legal proceeding before?

14 A. **No, I have not.**

15 Q. Okay. So let me give you just some short ground
16 rules here. This is not a deposition, but it's a lot like
17 one.

18 The first rule is that when you answer a
19 question, you have to use yes or no and actually say the
20 words rather than shaking your head --

21 A. **Gotcha.**

22 Q. -- one way or the other; do you understand that?

23 A. **Yes.**

24 Q. Okay. That's always a good test of what in
25 fact -- if you understand what the rule is.

1 A. **Yeah.**

2 Q. If any of us ask a question that is confusing to
3 you or you don't understand, please just ask us to stop and
4 restate the question. Because there is not much sense in
5 us asking a question and getting an answer from you if you
6 don't understand the question; do you understand that?

7 A. **Yes.**

8 Q. And finally, if you need to stop for any reason,
9 just let us know and we'll take a break.

10 A. **Gotcha.**

11 Q. Okay. Mr. Neyens, what is your current
12 occupation?

13 A. **I am semi-retired. I do some financial
14 consulting with non-profits.**

15 Q. How long have you known Eric Greitens?

16 A. **I have known him since May of 2011.**

17 Q. And what was the circumstances in which you came
18 to know him?

19 A. **I met him as I interviewed for the position of
20 vice president or finance, CFO of Mission Continues.**

21 Q. Where did you work prior to that period of time?

22 A. **I worked -- well, I worked in Kansas City with a
23 commodity trading elevator operator company.**

24 **And then prior to that I was CFO of the Jewish
25 Federation of St. Louis for six and a half years.**

1 Q. And how long did you work for the elevator
2 company?

3 A. **Three years.**

4 Q. And that was in Kansas City you said?

5 A. **Yes. Yes, sir.**

6 Q. So you moved across the state for that?

7 A. **Yes, sir.**

8 Q. And then moved back to St. Louis?

9 A. **Yes, sir.**

10 Q. A big move. And is the Jewish Federation of
11 St. Louis, that's a nonprofit; is that correct?

12 A. **Yes. Yes. Uh-huh. It's a rather large
13 nonprofit.**

14 Q. Okay. So moving back -- going back to The
15 Mission Continues, was that part of a desire for you to get
16 back to the nonprofit sector, or was it a wish to get back
17 to St. Louis?

18 A. **Well, I actually moved back and then started
19 looking for a position. And I had read Eric's book. And I
20 also was just looking for another -- a position in a
21 nonprofit community, and I understood that they had an
22 opening, so I submitted my resume' and went through the
23 interview process.**

24 Q. And what was the approximate date you were hired?

25 A. **May of '11, I believe.**

1 Q. Okay.

2 A. **Right. Right. Plus or minus a day.**

3 Q. I understand. And what did you say your title
4 was at the organization?

5 A. **It was vice president of finance and operations
6 slash CFO.**

7 Q. And did that remain your title for as long as you
8 were there?

9 A. **Yes.**

10 Q. Okay. And how long did you work there?

11 A. **I retired -- officially I retired in December of
12 2016.**

13 Q. And when you stopped working there, would you say
14 that was an amicable split with the organization?

15 A. **Right. I was -- yes. I was at that age --**

16 Q. Okay.

17 A. **-- I'm sorry to say.**

18 Q. And now you say you're semi-retired, and so
19 you -- correct -- tell me what that means, to be
20 semi-retired.

21 A. **Well, I -- semi-retired means that, you know, I'm
22 willing to take on short-term jobs or positions that will,
23 you know, be -- that will be not full-time.**

24 Q. Projects with an end date, is that a good way to
25 say it?

1 A. I would say that, except the project I'm just
2 finishing up is 15 months old.

3 Q. Okay.

4 A. So -- but that would be my goal, to help
5 transition as an organization wants to hire a new CFO, or,
6 you know, they've had turnover or whatever, or they have a
7 problem.

8 Like, where I am finishing up my work at is
9 St. Louis DDR, which is the Developmental Disability
10 Resources. And they went through some serious issues about
11 15, 16 months ago.

12 And so I came in with another gentleman that was
13 the -- took -- was interim ED, executive director, and
14 helped to get them reorganized, helped them get
15 straightened out along the path to where they're now viable
16 again.

17 Q. Okay. So you've got 12 years experience with
18 sort of the same role with nonprofits just that you've
19 recounted here. Prior to that experience, did you have
20 additional work for nonprofits and that type of role?

21 A. I was the -- and don't ask me the years, okay.
22 That's what you get into when you talk to an older person.
23 There's too many years.

24 But I was the -- I was the CFO of the American
25 Soybean Association for almost four years, a little less

1 than four years.

2 Q. And that is another nonprofit?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Okay. So this is something that you've made a
5 career out of certainly?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Okay.

8 A. I've had a lot of experience in the nonprofit
9 community.

10 Q. What were your daily job duties as CFO for The
11 Mission Continues?

12 A. The Mission Continues -- actually I wrote an
13 intro, so I'll just go look at that page.

14 Q. Yeah, that's fine.

15 A. I was basically -- you've got to remember with a
16 small nonprofit, you carry many hats. And I was in charge
17 of the accounting, human resources, the IT area, employee
18 benefits.

19 I handled most legal issues that would come up,
20 as far as working with the lawyers. We didn't have very
21 many, but occasionally you would have an issue come up, and
22 that included also registering the organization in various
23 states and stuff.

24 I worked with -- in just general office
25 management, and whatever else needed to be done that would

1 fall under my experience.

2 Q. Did you work with Mr. Greitens on a regular
3 basis?

4 A. I did while he was there, yes. I reported
5 directly to him.

6 Q. Can you describe how the organization operated
7 from your perspective as the CFO?

8 A. It -- very efficiently. We were -- when I joined
9 the organization in 2011, they were on the crux of really
10 starting to grow.

11 Mr. Greitens had secured -- they were in the --
12 they had just secured some -- a donor. A three-year
13 commitment from a major donor to help develop an
14 infrastructure so that his idea, concept that he was
15 working along could really be put into a growth mode and
16 grow.

17 Q. If I remember correctly, there was one year where
18 there was a jump from somewhere around 1.5 or 2 million
19 dollars in revenue to 7 million dollars in revenue?

20 A. Right. And that's correct.

21 Q. Was that in '11 when you came on?

22 A. It was -- yes, it was, '11. It was either '11 or
23 '12. It was right around that time frame, correct, because
24 we had several -- actually it was '12, I believe.

25 Because '11 we had the commitment from a major

1 New York firm that was -- that gave us, I think, about
2 right at -- they gave us a three -- a little over a
3 3 million dollar commitment over a three-year period, but a
4 lot of it was front-end loaded. So then we had to -- so
5 each year we got less, so we had to learn how to live on --
6 you know, replace that money.

7 Q. So more or less an infrastructure grant for the
8 organization?

9 A. That's exactly right, yes. And at that point
10 Eric had -- we were right at 15 people when I joined the
11 organization. And really there was -- you know, this is a
12 good while ago, so it was right in that area.

13 And over the course of the next couple years we
14 grew to 30. And when I left we were a little over -- right
15 at 60 people.

16 Q. And were -- were the financial aspects of The
17 Mission Continues audited while you were CFO?

18 A. We were audited by a regional accounting firm,
19 Brown Smith Wallace. And they not only -- they performed
20 our audit, and then they also filed our 990 tax return for
21 us.

22 They were -- they were -- we were -- as a growing
23 organization, but we -- during that course of time of those
24 audits, we never had a -- we never had an adjustment entry
25 as far as even, you know, an auditor's adjustment, which is

1 unusual for a small nonprofit growing quickly.
 2 Because, you know, and part of that was we worked
 3 with them as a partnership. When we had -- we had unusual
 4 transactions sometimes come up, and instead of -- instead
 5 of just winging it and based on what I thought or based on
 6 what, you know, our staff thought, we would talk to the
 7 Brown Smith Wallace, their tax people or their audit people
 8 and figure out the best way to handle it.

9 A good example is one year a donor gave us a
 10 car. It wasn't just a car. It was like a collector's car,
 11 like -- I can't remember what it was. It was like a Camaro
 12 or something like that. It was redone and it was -- we --
 13 and our intent was it would -- they gave it to us, but it
 14 would immediately be auctioned in Las Vegas with one of
 15 those -- one of those firms that do that stuff.

16 So we had to work -- you know, I've never done
 17 that, and, you know, if I had, I still think I would have
 18 talked to experts, but we talked to them about how do we
 19 handle this transaction, because it was also legal and tax
 20 on what we could do.

21 So they helped -- we worked with them together to
 22 gear the transaction so that it would, you know, be handled
 23 properly and the ownership would change properly.

24 You know, it was just a very -- and that's the
 25 types of things we would do. If we had new items or new

1 things, we would talk to them about it versus waiting until
 2 the end of the year and hope we -- you know, and then have
 3 them say, you know, what's this, or you should have done it
 4 this way.

5 You know, they're our auditors. Let's do it --
 6 let's work with them. We didn't -- you know, and that was
 7 one of the monitors that -- and actually that's what kind
 8 of impressed me when I interviewed with Eric. He said, we
 9 do things right, and we spend our money -- monitor it
 10 closely. We watch our money closely. And if we make a
 11 mistake, we fix it.

12 That was kind of like, you know, his mantra of
 13 how he wants to run this organization. And so it just
 14 makes sense to do it that way.

15 Q. Let me ask you this: Did The Mission Continues,
 16 to your knowledge, ever purchase any of Mr. Greitens'
 17 books?

18 A. Not that I'm aware of.

19 Q. Okay. And as CFO, if there was a large book
 20 purchase, would that have eventually come across your desk?

21 A. I would have seen the payables. I would have
 22 probably seen the check issued, yes.

23 Q. Okay.

24 A. But I -- I -- I can't remember doing that. I do
 25 know that I think he did give books to donors, but I don't

1 believe we ever purchased any from him.

2 Q. Okay.

3 A. I'm sure we didn't quite honestly.

4 Q. And that's consistent with what others have told
 5 us, so your recollection --

6 A. Okay.

7 Q. -- I do believe seems to me is correct, but we
 8 want to make sure to ask other witnesses --

9 A. Okay.

10 Q. -- some of the same sorts of questions.

11 One previous witness testified that -- well, did
 12 you have any interaction with The Greitens Group?

13 A. We -- they were -- when I first joined the
 14 organization, or when -- yeah, they had an office that when
 15 we came in the hallway, we would go by their office as we
 16 entered our office, okay, so it was kind of like adjoined
 17 our office. And so in that regard, yes.

18 And then to keep everything in arm's length as
 19 things grew, we had -- we had an agreement, an operating
 20 agreement with The Greitens Group that -- that would --
 21 we -- we charged them for -- I think there were a couple of
 22 years this went on, where they paid us for some of the
 23 shared services, which included his administrative
 24 assistant, a portion of her salary and benefits.

25 Q. Do you recall, prior to the signing of that

1 Memorandum of Understanding, which was, I believe, December
 2 of 2012, what proportion of Krystal Taylor's salary that
 3 The Mission Continues was paying?

4 A. I believe that in that agreement that we were
 5 looking at -- and I'm really -- this is really digging
 6 back, but I believe we were talking 25 percent.

7 Q. And do you -- when you say we're talking
 8 25 percent, is that your understanding of the MOU?

9 A. Yes, that is. And I believe it was 25 percent
 10 of -- or the makeup of the money that was 25 percent of her
 11 salary and benefits. That's the way I remember it anyway.

12 Q. Do you recall, prior to that, in 2011 what the
 13 percentage of Ms. Taylor's salary was being paid by The
 14 Mission Continues versus The Greitens Group?

15 A. I do not. And I'm not sure that -- I -- I -- as
 16 I said, that was when I was coming on. And I don't
 17 remember if in 2011, and looking back 2010, if there was
 18 any shared.

19 I can't tell you that for sure, but I know that
 20 when I was there was when it was decided we would have this
 21 operating agreement going forward.

22 Q. Okay. Ms. Taylor -- I believe it was
 23 Ms. Taylor -- described to us, and others, the process of
 24 travel for Mr. Greitens.

25 And that would be The Greitens Group would book a

1 speech somewhere, and then they would get together with
2 people from The Mission Continues to maximize his time and
3 be as efficient as possibly?

4 And that when he was on the road to, say, Dallas,
5 that they would organize a meeting with The Mission
6 Continues donor in Dallas, correct?

7 **A. Uh-huh.**

8 **Q.** As far as you can recall, is that an accurate
9 assessment of how his travel typically worked?

10 **A. That's very accurate, yes.**

11 **Q.** Okay. In your experience with nonprofits, is
12 that a typical arrangement for a leader of the organization
13 to arrange private events and then to schedule the
14 nonprofits event sort of on top of the private event?

15 **A. Well, it is maximizing expenses. It's maximizing
16 his time. Eric was a very, you know, public figure as far
17 as in the nonprofit community and the donor community, so,
18 yeah, that would make sense.**

19 **Q.** It made sense in your experience with the other
20 nonprofits? I mean, did you have a similar experience in
21 other nonprofits?

22 **A. Not -- no, I did not. Except for the American
23 Soybean Association, because that was more of a --
24 throughout -- we had -- we had an off-- not office, but we
25 had farmers in all 50 states, all of the soybean growing**

1 **states, so we would have things like that, but not nearly
2 like we did with The Mission Continues.**

3 **Q.** Not the travel? Well, I guess the difference
4 here is that with the CEO of the American Soybean
5 Association, did he have a private business at the same
6 time?

7 **A. No.**

8 **Q.** Okay. And the Jewish Federation, the president
9 while you were there, did they have a private business at
10 the same time?

11 **A. The executive director did not. Of course the
12 president was a volunteer position, so . . .**

13 **Q.** Okay. So the president in that case was not
14 paid?

15 **A. Yeah. Exactly.**

16 **Q.** And the executive director was paid?

17 **A. That's correct.**

18 **Q.** And did they have a side -- another job, a
19 private job at the time that they traveled and then
20 would --

21 **A. No. That is -- I mean, you know, just -- well,
22 you've got to remember the Jewish Federation is really an
23 organization that's centered in St. Louis for the St. Louis
24 community.**

25 **The ED did a lot of travel, but it was more to**

1 **support Jewish organizations, or a meeting of all the
2 federations in the country together, things like that. But
3 that's the only kind of travel they had.**

4 **Q.** Yeah. Much different type of organization,
5 because like you said, that is a regional organization?

6 **A. Yes.**

7 **Q.** To your knowledge, what would happen in that sort
8 of -- I'll call it dual-purpose trip -- when there is a
9 private speech followed by a Mission Continues donor, to
10 your knowledge, was what the typical expensing arrangement
11 when there was a dual-purpose trip?

12 **A. Typically the way I remember it is that The
13 Greitens Group paid most of his expenses, okay, because,
14 you know, that's -- that's -- Eric just tried to use that
15 opportunity to meet with donors for The Mission Continues
16 when he was on these speeches, is the way I understood it.**

17 **Q.** Okay. Thank you for that. Sorry. I'm looking
18 at my notes here.

19 When you were at The Mission Continues, did you
20 have any contact with -- direct contact with donors?

21 **A. Yeah, some. I wasn't in the fundraising area,
22 but I attended events. We had orientations where I would
23 attend and some of our donors would come out that were in
24 that city.**

25 **You know, our gala, I would meet with donors.**

1 **And sometimes donors would come into the office a lot of
2 times too, so I had those interactions.**

3 **That wasn't my primary focus, but they always --
4 when they were around us, they liked to talk to me, because
5 donors always want to know how the money is being taken
6 care of. You know, they want to feel comfortable that
7 things are done right.**

8 **Q.** So would you describe that as more as
9 happenstance when you -- when you met with donors rather
10 than sort of a frequent planned event for you?

11 **A. That's correct. It was happenstance.**

12 **Q.** But also not infrequent?

13 **A. That's correct, yes.**

14 **Q.** Okay. So I'm just trying to figure out and get a
15 clear -- that you didn't go out and say, hey, every Friday
16 I'm going to call these donors and do A, B and C?

17 **A. No. No, I didn't.**

18 **Q.** But instead, anytime a donor, particularly a big
19 donors, would want to talk to you, you would be willing to
20 talk to them?

21 **A. I would be very available. Or potential big
22 donors I would be very available. And that's another thing
23 about an organization the size of The Mission Continues,
24 you know, it's not completely departmentalized, because
25 we're just not big enough.**

1 You know, we were not big enough at that time
2 to -- you know, to have every segment, you know, so you did
3 crossover some, that's correct.

4 Q. Were you part of the thank-you team for donors?

5 A. Yeah.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. I didn't like that, but yes.

8 Q. Okay.

9 A. Yeah. Now, that was something we were
10 required -- that was a planned event.

11 Q. That was a frequent thing, but you were given
12 your list of thank-you calls to make and --

13 A. Yes. That was a planned event, okay.

14 Q. Okay. Did you -- do you recall signing a
15 nondisclosure agreement when you worked for The Mission
16 Continues?

17 A. Yes, I believe I did. I know all of our board
18 members were required to. Because that was one thing, we
19 had them update them every year to -- you know, but I -- I
20 think I did.

21 Q. Okay. And did you have access to lists of The
22 Mission Continues donors?

23 A. I guess I could have had. You know, I didn't
24 work with donors in that manner. I would get a list of the
25 ten people or twenty that I had to call. I mean, I could

1 have gotten into the database and pulled out the
2 information.

3 Q. Did you do that?

4 A. No.

5 Q. Okay. Have you violated your nondisclosure
6 agreement in any way since leaving The Mission Continues?

7 A. No.

8 Q. You've not used the donor list or a list of any
9 information --

10 A. No.

11 Q. -- you had from The Mission Continues for any
12 other purpose?

13 A. No. I probably have talked to a few of the
14 donors, but that was because I knew them personally. They
15 were on my phone list. You know, they were in my contact
16 list.

17 Q. In your own personal phone?

18 A. That's right, yes.

19 Q. Okay. Did you have any involvement with the
20 Campaign For Governor?

21 A. I attended some of the events from the
22 perspective of I would go hear Eric speak, and that's
23 about -- that's about it. I didn't go out and campaign for
24 him. I didn't --

25 Q. You weren't officially involved in raising money

1 for the campaign?

2 A. Not a -- no.

3 Q. You didn't call banks?

4 A. No.

5 Q. If you didn't like making thank-you cards, I can
6 assure you you didn't like the callbacks. I don't think
7 there are any of the people in here who have done them like
8 the callbacks. I'm not sure any of us like doing the
9 callbacks.

10 A. Yeah. So, no, I didn't do that at all. No.

11 Q. Okay. And did anyone from the Greitens campaign
12 ever contact you for any purpose relating to campaign
13 issues?

14 A. Not for campaign issues, no.

15 Q. For other issues?

16 A. The only time is there was some questions about
17 the historical 990s and Eric's salary or the monies. And
18 so I looked at those for them to show them. You know,
19 because it's all public information.

20 It's not like anything is hidden, but I just
21 helped them see the seven or eight years Eric was there
22 what the annual -- what his draws were, of which the first
23 two years he drew zero, and another year he only drew -- he
24 drew very -- his draws were nominal compared to what he was
25 doing.

1 Q. So you were sort of a decipherer of what the 990
2 meant to certain people on the campaign --

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. -- and helped them answer questions?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Okay.

7 A. And that -- which would be a natural thing for
8 them to ask me.

9 Q. And I don't know that we've asked any questions
10 of other witnesses about this, but I want to get this on
11 the record. Do you recall a contract with
12 Fleishman-Hillard?

13 A. Yes. Uh-huh.

14 Q. Okay. And approximate dates of that contract?

15 A. I believe it was around -- we used -- well,
16 actually I think -- I think The Mission Continues still
17 uses them.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. And I know they did well after Eric left, but we
20 used them in 2000-- I believe it was '13 and '14. You
21 know, I -- I -- but we used them for like -- since
22 around -- I start in '11 -- since 2012.

23 Now, we used them some more than other years, but
24 we used them to re-brand -- we were re-branding the
25 organization, okay?

1 Q. And was that part of the ramp up due to the
2 increased fundraising you were able to do?

3 A. Yes, it was. And we were also at that point in
4 time -- we were -- you know, we were going from -- we
5 changed our logo. They helped us design our new
6 catch-phrase.

7 We originally were a -- not a charity, a
8 challenge. You know, something along those lines. And
9 then we moved on to a different tag line. We changed our
10 logo. They helped develop a new logo. They really helped
11 us re-brand the organization, okay?

12 They worked on our mission statement. They
13 worked on every aspect of the organization.

14 Q. And the purpose of that contract was for -- was
15 organizational, not individual to Mr. Greitens, correct?

16 A. Had nothing to do -- had nothing to do with Eric
17 at all. It had strictly to do with the re-branding of the
18 organization and our growth forward, and occasionally we
19 would have a PR issue and we would ask them to help us,
20 how we would Wordsmyth, what our response was or something,
21 but it was strictly -- it was always related to the
22 organization.

23 Q. Thank you. Thank you for being here today. So
24 now this is where it's definitely not like a deposition,
25 because there are seven of us.

1 So our vice chairman is going to ask questions,
2 our ranking members are going to ask questions, and then
3 we're going to go in order of legislative seniority. And
4 they're all -- everybody is all branched out over here.

5 CHAIRMAN BARNES: So Representative?

6 QUESTIONS BY REPRESENTATIVE PHILLIPS:

7 Q. State Representative Don Phillips from District
8 138, Kimberling City, which is down near Table Rock Lake.

9 In the time that you became acquainted with
10 Governor Greitens, would you say that your personal
11 relationship with him is -- would you call him a friend?

12 A. You know, he's an acquaintance. I wouldn't say
13 necessarily he's a friend. Like when he comes to
14 St. Louis, he doesn't call me and say, hey, Jack, let's go
15 get a beer. I mean, he doesn't drink, but let's go meet
16 for coffee or something, no. No. You know, it was
17 basically a professional relationship, I would say?

18 Q. In the time that you've known him, would you
19 characterize him as honest and trustworthy from what you've
20 seen?

21 A. Most assuredly, yes.

22 Q. And that was his reputation amongst others?

23 A. That was basically, as I said earlier, he
24 believed in doing things right, and he stressed that. And
25 he -- he would hold everybody else to a high standard, and

1 he held himself to a high standard.

2 Q. Okay. Did it surprise you personally when the
3 news broke of -- concerning his extramarital affair?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Did it had change your opinion of him?

6 A. No. It gave me -- you know, I had concerns, but,
7 you know, who of us -- you know, I don't know the
8 circumstances of, you know, if he and his wife have
9 reconciled the issue. It's none of my business, you know.
10 I still got to look at him as the person, what else he
11 does.

12 Q. Fair enough. Did you ever observe or hear,
13 within the workplace, of Mr. Greitens conducting himself in
14 any way other than professional and business-like?

15 A. No, sir.

16 Q. Thank you.

17 REPRESENTATIVE PHILLIPS: That's all I've got,
18 Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Representative Mitten?

20 QUESTIONS BY REPRESENTATIVE MITTEN:

21 Q. Hi. I'm Gina Mitten from St. Louis.

22 A. Hi.

23 Q. Thank you for being here.

24 A. Uh-huh.

25 Q. Hopefully this will go pretty quick.

1 Representative Barnes asked you some questions about
2 25 percent of salary was being paid by somebody, and I
3 don't think that the record is actually very clear on that.

4 So when you talked about, I think it was
5 25 percent of -- I believe we were talking about Krystal
6 Taylor's salary.

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Was it 25 percent being paid by The Mission
9 Continues or The Greitens Group, or can you just sort of
10 explain to us how that works?

11 A. It was -- it was paid by The Greitens Group.

12 Q. Okay.

13 A. She was our -- The Mission Continues' employee,
14 so it was kind of like a shared -- shared salary.

15 Q. Okay. So The Mission Continues paid for all of
16 Krystal Taylor's expenses, her salary, her -- whatever,
17 health or those kinds of benefits?

18 I don't know if there was a 401-K or something
19 like that going on, but parking, all of the expenses
20 related to Krystal Taylor's salary was paid for by The
21 Mission Continues?

22 A. Yes. As they were by all other employees.

23 Q. Right.

24 A. She was treated no different than anybody else.

25 Q. And then The Greitens Group was then reimbursing

1 The Mission Continues 25 percent of all of those costs?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Okay. And they also -- like, how did that work
4 for sort of general office equipment and that kind of
5 thing?

6 For instance it's my understanding that, you
7 know, Krystal Taylor and Lyndsey Hodges shared an office.
8 I'm assuming, again, that all of that was paid for by The
9 Mission Continues or -- they shared space?

10 A. They shared space, and honestly she didn't
11 always -- you know, who they shared with is separate,
12 because one reason I'm hesitant like this is she -- then we
13 moved her next to -- and she shared space with Greg Favre,
14 who was Eric's assistant, and that was -- so that was a
15 different office.

16 Q. Right.

17 A. Let's just say -- can we just say office space?

18 Q. Right.

19 A. She had a portion of the office space.

20 Q. Okay. So she had a desk somewhere --

21 A. Exactly.

22 Q. -- wherever that might be?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Okay. And was The Greitens Group also
25 reimbursing you for office space?

1 A. Yeah. We -- for Krystal, yes. We -- we -- we
2 got -- there was a percentage of, and I'm really talking --
3 because that wasn't a big deal or a big thing.

4 Q. Right.

5 A. So -- but there was a portion of that expense
6 allocated to them also. And that was part of the
7 agreement. We came up with the -- and, you know, the same
8 thing. And part of the agreement was to cover, like, if we
9 had a copier, we had a printer that Krystal used.

10 Q. Right.

11 A. Okay. That shared service like that.

12 Q. Right. I understand that. You know, regardless
13 of the size of the organization it seems to me the
14 nitpicking over copying is never a good idea.

15 A. That's right.

16 Q. It doesn't intender cooperation and consensus for
17 the building, let's put it that way.

18 You indicated that you had worked for other
19 nonprofits, did you -- have -- was -- at -- let me get this
20 out. I'm not on my game this week.

21 So did you ever do -- or what was your
22 involvement in doing fundraising for any nonprofits before
23 you came to The Mission Continues?

24 A. Very similar to what I did with The Mission
25 Continues. I'm a -- I don't know. How do you say it? I'm

1 a bank guy.

2 Q. Right.

3 A. I go to the banks and ask them for money. I run
4 inside the office, but, you know -- glad-handing, you know,
5 asking -- I'm not real good at, but I -- when I have to
6 compliment the fundraisers, I'm very good at that, because
7 I have credibility. But, man, don't send me in the door by
8 myself.

9 Q. Sort of a team player when it comes to that, but
10 absolutely not directing the ship?

11 A. Exactly.

12 Q. Okay. And then you -- just to make sure your
13 testimony is clear. You did not directly work with donor
14 lists at The Mission Continues --

15 A. No.

16 Q. -- with the exception of your thank-you calls?

17 A. That's correct.

18 Q. Okay.

19 A. The only thing I -- you know, of course by the
20 accounting department money coming in and going out, so you
21 see those names. And then the filings that you do at the
22 end of year in various states that you fundraise in, but
23 that's not individualized, that's more, you know --

24 Q. This is how much we raised from all of our
25 donors, and I'm -- did you use some sort of computer

1 software to do that, like an Excel or another proprietary
2 software?

3 A. To do the registration?

4 Q. To do the filings and whatnot?

5 A. We would -- we would -- we would gather
6 information. We work with the fundraising area. They
7 would provide us information.

8 And then we worked with another organization
9 called The Affinity Group that specialized in registering
10 nonprofits in various states.

11 Q. Okay.

12 A. Because that -- you don't want to get involved in
13 that.

14 Q. Right.

15 A. Okay.

16 Q. Note to self. I'll keep that in mind.

17 In your work for nonprofits throughout your
18 career, were you ever aware of your employers purchasing
19 donor lists?

20 A. No.

21 Q. Okay. So you're not aware of The Greitens
22 Group -- excuse me -- The Mission Continues ever purchasing
23 a donor list?

24 A. Not aware, no.

25 Q. Okay. I don't have any other questions. Thank

1 you.

2 **A. Uh-huh.**

3 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Representative Lauer?

4 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

5 QUESTIONS BY REPRESENTATIVE LAUER:

6 Q. And thank you again for being here, and I want to
7 thank you also for your approaching -- having a
8 conversation with us today. That is very helpful.

9 I am Jeanie Lauer from the Kansas City area, Blue
10 Springs, and I have random questions, so we'll just kind of
11 hop around.

12 **A. Okay.**

13 Q. So you have worked obviously with
14 not-for-profits, and was it your responsibility to complete
15 the yearly filings for the not-for-profits that you worked
16 with?

17 **A. By yearly filings, you mean with the various
18 states?**

19 Q. Correct.

20 **A. Yes and no. And I'll tell you.**

21 Q. Okay.

22 **A. We -- as I mentioned a minute ago, we would
23 obtain information from our fundraising area, and then we
24 would start asse-- we worked with an organization called
25 The Affinity Group in Colorado. That was their business**

1 was registering organizations in various states.

2 So we provided that information, the data, and
3 the information on The Mission Continues, you know, the
4 board of directors, all the administrative stuff, and then
5 the dollars that were raised in various states. And then
6 they would formally file the -- do the filings for us.

7 Q. Okay. But you were very familiar with
8 not-for-profit status and the requirements and regulations
9 associated with that?

10 **A. Sure. Yes, ma'am.**

11 Q. And was there any time during your work with The
12 Mission Continues that there was any concern about the
13 status of not-for-profit being jeopardized?

14 **A. No.**

15 Q. Okay. So you've -- that was just very clear that
16 we were -- you were in alignment with IRS code and
17 everybody else?

18 **A. I can't remember ever a discussion like that.**

19 Q. Okay.

20 **A. Okay?**

21 Q. Sure. And so you've worked for a for-profit as
22 well as with the not-for-profit. So you're familiar
23 certainly in a for-profit industry on client lists?

24 **A. Right. Yes.**

25 Q. And I would assume that the elevator that you

1 worked with would want to protect their client list that
2 they do business with?

3 **A. Yes and no. I mean, yes, but the client lists --
4 all elevators in a region use the same client list, you
5 know, work with the same clients, so there's not a -- it's
6 not privileged, you know, what I mean?**

7 Q. Sure.

8 **A. It's not confidential information that anyone
9 else couldn't come up with. The elevator next door could
10 have a --**

11 Q. Okay.

12 **A. Because it's all based on market price.**

13 Q. Sure. And so there's a lot of common
14 denominators as to who would be engaged in that?

15 **A. Yes.**

16 Q. And what about for the not-for-profits? What
17 about donor lists and things like that?

18 **A. I mean, the Jewish Federation had a huge list of
19 donors. I mean, I never looked at it. You know, what were
20 good for -- you know, once again though, that was a cause.
21 And, you know, you -- basically it was a cause of the
22 Jewish community.**

23 And that was where probably 95 percent of the
24 donors, you know, individual and the companies, were of
25 that religion or supported that religion. So, you know,

1 I'm not sure what else I can say on that.

2 Q. Okay. So obviously not-for-profits have an asset
3 list. They still do balances sheets and all those sorts of
4 things --

5 **A. Uh-huh.**

6 Q. -- that any organization would do?

7 Were there any points where the not-for-profits
8 that you worked with list your donor list as an asset?

9 **A. No. No, ma'am. The only thing that would be on
10 our financial statements related to donors would be in
11 total like if we had pledge receivable, or if we had a
12 commitment from the organization, we would --**

13 Say ABC company had signed an agreement to give
14 us -- to pay us \$100,000 year one for the next three years,
15 we would recognize that as a discounted amount as a
16 receivable on our books, okay?

17 Q. Okay.

18 **A. And then we would -- I don't know if you're
19 familiar with accounting in a nonprofit, but you have
20 restricted and unrestricted.**

21 Q. Right.

22 **A. And we would restrict part of it. But anyway,
23 that's how we would handle it.**

24 Q. Okay. So it was really based on a
25 commitment-cash basis?

1 A. Yes.
2 Q. Okay. And so who was the guardian of the list of
3 donors at The Mission Continues?

4 A. You know, honestly, I don't know for sure. I
5 would assume it's in the fundraising area. Once again, I
6 didn't necessarily -- I didn't go over there and say, can I
7 have the list of all of our donors?

8 I didn't need it. That wasn't something that
9 really was part of my job. Well, everything is my job,
10 but, you know, it wasn't part of my responsibility to
11 know -- to look at that individual list.

12 Q. Okay. So there was really no one
13 organizationally that said in my role I am responsible for
14 maintaining, obtaining the donor list?

15 A. I mean, I would say it was in the fundraising
16 area.

17 Q. Okay.

18 A. That's -- for an individual, a particular
19 individual, I couldn't tell you. You mentioned, you know,
20 Lyndsey. You know, those people worked there and that's
21 what they would do.

22 Q. Okay. While you were working with The Mission
23 Continues, what discussions might Eric have had or shared
24 with you or others regarding his future plans?

25 A. You know, he was very tight-lipped about that,

1 because he didn't want to compromise the organization or
2 compromise what his thoughts were.

3 Because, you know, I think that, you know, he --
4 he wasn't sure, okay? And if he -- I will say this: He
5 did take a leave of absence from the organization for, I
6 can't remember how long, but it was -- during that time
7 frame I think that's when he did a lot of soul searching to
8 decide what he wanted to do.

9 Q. About what time frame was that?

10 A. I shouldn't have brought it up.

11 Q. Thank you for doing it, but --

12 (EXHIBIT NO. 19 WAS PREVIOUSLY MARKED FOR
13 IDENTIFICATION.)

14 CHAIRMAN BARNES: If I show you Exhibit 19, which
15 is a letter that Mr. Greitens sent to all the stuff that
16 was sent on April 24th, 2019 (sic) and says I'm --

17 REPRESENTATIVE MITTEN: Not '19.

18 CHAIRMAN BARNES: I'm sorry. Exhibit 19, but he
19 sent it in 2014. I think the first sentence says something
20 to the fact of it's good to be back. Here is the decision
21 I've made. Does that refresh your recollection as to the
22 time frame?

23 THE WITNESS: Yes, it does. It was right around
24 that time. And he -- I don't know if it says it here, but
25 he remained on the Board for a while. And then at a point

1 in time he resigned from the Board too, because that's when
2 he was officially going to announce that he was going to
3 seek public office.

4 BY REPRESENTATIVE LAUER:

5 Q. So when he resigned from the Board, is that when
6 he took a leave of absence?

7 A. No. He took a leave of absence -- he took a
8 leave of absence to determine -- to both finish a book, and
9 then also to kind of, you know, get his thoughts together
10 on what his next move was.

11 Because I would say that at this point he had The
12 Mission Continues on the right path. He had a management
13 team in place that was very strong, and, you know, was
14 capable of, you know, carrying the mantra, carrying the
15 torch.

16 Eric is a very -- he has a lot of plans in his
17 life, and, you know, this was --

18 Q. So did he -- I'm trying to narrow this down, but
19 did he take a leave of absence while he was the CEO of The
20 Mission Continues?

21 A. No. He was no longer a CEO.

22 Q. Was he on the Board?

23 A. He was CEO and he took a leave of absence, and
24 when he came back, I believe he just remained -- he was --
25 he came back to be on the Board.

1 Q. Okay.

2 A. But he did not -- he was not running the
3 day-to-day operations anymore.

4 Q. Okay. So that was that transition period where
5 that happened?

6 A. Uh-huh.

7 Q. And to what degree were you involved in that
8 whole transition first from CEO to the Board?

9 A. Well, he was already on the Board.

10 Q. Right.

11 A. But just basically when he announced it. I was
12 not involved in any discussion as to what he should do or
13 not do. I mean, this was, you know, very guarded.

14 Q. Okay. And what about from the Board to Greitens
15 Group, discussions about that?

16 A. Once again, when he announced, he had talked to,
17 I think, a couple of the Board members. And I only found
18 out about it -- you know, I found out about it as basically
19 everybody else did.

20 Q. Okay. Are you still consulting with TMC?

21 A. No. No, ma'am.

22 Q. Okay. When was your last date of doing that?

23 A. Well, I worked for them -- I officially retired
24 December 2016.

25 Q. Okay. And let's go back to your role in the

1 finance accounting position at The Mission Continues.
2 You've indicated that there were some shared expenses with
3 payroll and so forth.

4 **A. Uh-huh.**

5 Q. Was there, for lack of a better word, an invoice
6 or something given to you as documentation as to how to
7 split the expenses that you would know what you would pay
8 and what another group would pay?

9 **A. I don't have the agreement in front of me, but if
10 I remember correctly, we just agreed -- we did a
11 calculation to determine how much the monthly fee would be,
12 and we didn't adjust the fee every month, I don't believe.**

13 Q. Okay. So it was just a standard, agreed upon
14 rate?

15 **A. Yeah. I believe that's what the agreement said.
16 And once again, you know -- I'm -- there wasn't a lot of
17 money in it. I didn't think about -- it's been a long
18 time.**

19 Q. Sure. All right. Not-for-profits are rated by a
20 large group of raters?

21 **A. Uh-huh.**

22 Q. And during the period of time you were with The
23 Mission Continues, what was the rating that you were given?

24 **A. We were given -- well, Charity Navigator -- and I
25 will never forget this -- gave us a 97 one year instead of**

1 100. And the reason being is we were so fast to get things
2 done -- remember I said --

3 Q. Yeah.

4 **A. -- okay, that we actually -- the finance
5 committee approved the 990, okay, and we filed it, and then
6 we gave it to the Board. And just as a prec-- but the
7 process is to get the 100, you've got to give it to the
8 Board first.**

9 Q. Oh.

10 **A. So after that we -- you know, and it wasn't -- it
11 was just -- and actually our auditors didn't -- you know,
12 we -- they called Charity Navigator to argue about it with
13 them. From thence forward it's always been 100 from what I
14 know.**

15 Q. Okay.

16 **A. So it's always been the highest ratings. And we
17 were also -- the Better Business Bureau gave us the Golden
18 Torch award. So, you know, once again, Eric stressed doing
19 things right.**

20 Q. Okay.

21 **A. He stressed, you know, no, no, no, no give here
22 on those type of things.**

23 Q. Okay. And so when the information came out
24 regarding the use of the donor list by the campaign
25 committee, was -- and you were not there at that point, is

1 that right, or you were?

2 **A. I left December 2000-- when it came out in the
3 news or when it came out?**

4 Q. Uh-huh.

5 **A. No, I was no longer there.**

6 Q. Okay. Were you involved in any of the ethics
7 questioning or --

8 **A. No.**

9 Q. -- sharing information?

10 **A. No.**

11 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Can I clarify?

12 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: Sure.

13 CHAIRMAN BARNES: You mean Missouri Ethics
14 Commission?

15 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: Missouri Ethics

16 Commission. I'm sorry.

17 THE WITNESS: No. I was not involved in any of
18 those discussions. I would like to say one thing about
19 that is: Eric grew the organization from zero, okay?

20 He, people, donors, corporations, individuals,
21 foundations migrate. They were attracted to him. They
22 migrated to him as he spoke around the country, as he met
23 them and stuff.

24 I would venture to say that he probably
25 personally knew a major percentage of all the donors and

1 had their contact information. And by all the donors, I
2 mean above a certain level, you know. You know, that he
3 could have had in his phone, in his business cards. He
4 could have created a list that would be very close to
5 whatever list you're talking about.

6 BY REPRESENTATIVE LAUER:

7 Q. Okay.

8 **A. Okay? Because he just -- he was the
9 organization. Even after we hired a fund-- a chief
10 fundraiser, they still wanted to see Eric, so he was the
11 contact guy.**

12 Q. It sounds like he was very charismatic; would you
13 agree with that?

14 **A. Super charismatic, yes.**

15 Q. Okay.

16 **A. And he's a gifted speaker. He's -- he's -- he
17 comes off as a very -- you know, I should say comes -- he
18 was very sincere and very dedicated to The Mission
19 Continues.**

20 Q. Okay.

21 **A. As I said, the first two years he didn't even
22 draw a salary. He slept on the floor sometimes in the
23 office. He was a very -- you know, he had a mission.**

24 Q. Uh-huh. And was that character trait of being
25 charismatic, was that something that was demonstrated with

1 the donors, with staff, with anywhere he went would you
2 say?

3 **A. Yes. He had a very loyal staff. He -- donors,**
4 **you know, I mean, they just wanted to see him. They wanted**
5 **to talk to him.**

6 Q. So he would just draw people to him?

7 **A. Yes, he would.**

8 Q. Okay.

9 **A. And he would give a lot of speeches or**
10 **presentations, and it's amazing the people that would come**
11 **up to him afterwards and would say, I want to talk to you**
12 **more. I would like to spend some time with you. I mean,**
13 **he was --**

14 Q. It sounds as though the donors and everybody else
15 might have been as drawn to him as they were to The Mission
16 Continues?

17 **A. I can't speak for them, but I would say that a**
18 **lot of them probably were. The reason they donated to The**
19 **Mission Continues was him.**

20 Q. Okay. I want to go back to the ratings by
21 Charity Navigator and so forth. In your experience with
22 not-for-profits and having had great ratings consistently
23 all across, given that there was this issue with the
24 Missouri Ethics Commission in regards to the use of the
25 donor list, how would that have impacted the ratings of the

1 not-for-profit?

2 **A. My understanding is right now that they have not**
3 **changed the -- and this is current.**

4 Q. Sure.

5 **A. I understand they have not changed the rating,**
6 **they just made a note that there is an investigation going**
7 **on or something like that.**

8 Q. Okay.

9 **A. So, you know -- but I can't -- I really can't**
10 **answer how they would handle that or what they would say,**
11 **because it really -- you know, I don't know.**

12 Q. Okay.

13 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Let me back up and clarify
14 that.

15 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: Okay.

16 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Sorry about that.

17 Your understanding is you don't have any contact
18 with The Mission Continues today?

19 THE WITNESS: No. No, I don't, but I do have --
20 I can get on Charity Navigator.

21 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Okay. So this is based on your
22 reading of Charity Navigator?

23 THE WITNESS: Exactly. Yes.

24 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Okay.

25 THE WITNESS: It has nothing to do with -- I have

1 had no contact whatsoever.

2 CHAIRMAN BARNES: No inside knowledge?

3 THE WITNESS: None whatsoever. Sorry. I didn't
4 mean to talk too much.

5 CHAIRMAN BARNES: That's fine. No, you're fine.
6 I just wanted to make sure we got the basis of that.

7 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: I appreciate that. Thank
8 you.

9 BY REPRESENTATIVE LAUER:

10 Q. And so having that note, again, in your
11 experience and seeing that on Charity Navigator, what would
12 be the impact of that on a not-for-profit?

13 **A. I think it would be a -- I would want to take a**
14 **wait and see what really has transpired. I mean, because,**
15 **you know, it's very questionable, and there's --**

16 **You know, I -- I -- I -- I think that individual**
17 **organizations would probably -- each of them look at it**
18 **differently, so I really can't tell. I can't answer that.**

19 Q. That's fair. I appreciate that. Just a couple
20 more questions.

21 What was your interaction with the Board
22 specifically?

23 **A. When I was there, I attended almost every board**
24 **meeting, okay?**

25 Q. Uh-huh.

1 **A. After Eric left, Mr. Kympton decided that he**
2 **didn't need senior staff at board meetings, so he kind of**
3 **changed the scope of things a little bit.**

4 **So from that point forward I would get the**
5 **minutes and I would read them, you know, because we had to**
6 **for the audit and stuff, but I wasn't as involved.**

7 **While Mr. Greitens was there and up until he**
8 **formally left the Board, I would attend most meetings.**

9 Q. Okay. And then one last question: You were
10 talking about people would ask about the history of the
11 990s that they would have questions?

12 **A. Uh-huh.**

13 Q. What type of questions would they inquire of?

14 **A. Well, the specific thing I was talking about is**
15 **in a 990 there is a list of the highest paid employees in**
16 **the organization. And that's the point I was -- that's the**
17 **part I was addressing.**

18 Q. I see.

19 **A. Okay. Other questions come up. Anybody that can**
20 **read a 990 is pretty smart. I can't. I mean, they are**
21 **very confusing to look at.**

22 Q. Sure.

23 **A. But they're almost too thorough is the problem.**

24 Q. Okay. So mostly it was salary information that
25 was being looked at by them?

1 **A. Yes.**
 2 Q. Thank you very much.
 3 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: And thank you, Mr. Chair.
 4 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Representative Austin?
 5 REPRESENTATIVE AUSTIN: Mr. Chair, Thank you.
 6 QUESTIONS BY REPRESENTATIVE AUSTIN:
 7 Q. Kevin Austin. I'm from Springfield. I'm not
 8 going to rehash what you have already testified to, but I
 9 can't help but notice -- I wasn't trying to eavesdrop or
 10 look over your shoulder, but you have brought documents
 11 with you?
 12 **A. No. No. This is just if I had an opportunity.**
 13 **I've never done this before.**
 14 Q. Okay.
 15 **A. So I -- you know, on TV you always get a chance**
 16 **to give your opening statement, so I was ready.**
 17 Q. Okay. If the Chair wants you to read that, we'll
 18 leave that up him. Thank you. No questions.
 19 **A. Okay.**
 20 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Representative Rhoads?
 21 REPRESENTATIVE RHOADS: I don't have any
 22 questions.
 23 CHAIRMAN BARNES: He's like an angel on my
 24 shoulder here.
 25 REPRESENTATIVE RHOADS: I'll decline to comment.

1 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Okay. That --
 2 REPRESENTATIVE MITTEN: Representative Pierson.
 3 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Representative Pierson?
 4 REPRESENTATIVE PIERSON, JR.: Thank you for
 5 acknowledging the youngest in legislative age.
 6 QUESTIONS BY REPRESENTATIVE PIERSON, JR.:
 7 Q. I'm Tommie Pierson, Jr. I'm from St. Louis
 8 County. Thank you for being here, Mr. Neyens.
 9 Did you have a counterpart that did your role in
 10 The Greitens Group?
 11 **A. No. The Greitens Group was very small. They had**
 12 **a gentleman that basically went out and booked his**
 13 **speeches, his appearances and kind of managed his little**
 14 **office.**
 15 **And then he had, I believe, one other, like, an**
 16 **accounting-type clerk, you know, that paid the checks, that**
 17 **did the invoicing. And, you know, once again, it was**
 18 **basically a two-person office. And I think at one point**
 19 **they hired a third person for a while, but that was all**
 20 **that they had.**
 21 **So the counterpart would have probably been, you**
 22 **know, much lower level because it was a QuickBooks thing.**
 23 Q. Another person who wore a lot of hats?
 24 **A. Yes. And it was small. It was so small that you**
 25 **probably could have actually done it on a piece of paper**

1 **and pencil if you wanted to.**
 2 Q. And to your knowledge the only reimbursement that
 3 The Greitens Group paid to The Mission Continues was for
 4 Krystal Taylor's salary?
 5 **A. And some shared -- and some -- you know, some,**
 6 **like, the rent.**
 7 Q. Okay.
 8 **A. You know, I think there is a number in there for**
 9 **office supplies.**
 10 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Representative, I was a little
 11 slow when Representative Lauer was asking these questions.
 12 I have got a document that could help refresh the witness'
 13 recollection.
 14 REPRESENTATIVE PIERSON: Go ahead.
 15 (EXHIBIT NO. 15 WAS PREVIOUSLY MARKED FOR
 16 IDENTIFICATION.)
 17 CHAIRMAN BARNES: This is the Memorandum of
 18 Understanding. And then I believe you might have signed
 19 that somewhere, but I'm not -- and then here is the Exhibit
 20 A as to costs.
 21 REPRESENTATIVE AUSTIN: So that's Exhibit 15?
 22 CHAIRMAN BARNES: That's correct. I've handed
 23 the witness what's been marked as Exhibit 15 from previous
 24 testimony to refresh his recollection about the Memorandum
 25 of Understanding.

1 REPRESENTATIVE AUSTIN: And Exhibit A, is that an
 2 exhibit to Exhibit 15?
 3 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Exhibit A is an exhibit to
 4 Exhibit 15 marked by the parties who entered into the
 5 Memorandum of Understanding.
 6 THE WITNESS: Right. I do remember this. That's
 7 the 600 bucks I was -- \$635 I was talking about.
 8 CHAIRMAN BARNES: I apologize. I was a little
 9 bit slow to pull that up. It could have helped earlier.
 10 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: That's okay.
 11 BY REPRESENTATIVE PIERSON:
 12 Q. So you've worked with the Jewish Federation of
 13 St. Louis previous to coming over to The Mission Continues?
 14 **A. Uh-huh.**
 15 Q. Just knowing Eric's faith, was there anything
 16 asked of you to perhaps bring in any donors from the Jewish
 17 Federation of St. Louis?
 18 **A. No.**
 19 Q. Okay. I don't have anything. Thank you.
 20 REPRESENTATIVE PIERSON: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
 21 FURTHER QUESTIONS BY CHAIRMAN BARNES:
 22 Q. Two additional followups.
 23 **A. Okay.**
 24 Q. Maybe three. The Exhibit 19, which you've had
 25 the opportunity to review about when Mr. Greitens came back

1 from sabbatical that triggered the transition, did you take
2 part in any transition planning for The Mission Continues
3 organization?

4 A. Not -- by transition you mean how we would handle
5 with Eric leaving?

6 Q. How to get from Eric being there to Eric not
7 being there?

8 A. Not -- no. Basically Eric recommended to the
9 Board that Spencer Kympton take on the role of president.
10 And the Board discussed it and determined that that would
11 be the best trans-- would be the thing to do.

12 Q. And as far as the plan of how the organization
13 was going to get from Point A to Point B in just as strong
14 a shape as it was at the beginning, did you have a role in
15 that or were you just generally aware of those -- of those
16 plans?

17 A. You've got to remember that Eric, strategically,
18 is a very planned out person, okay? And the growth of The
19 Mission Continues after Eric left was geared around -- he
20 was the genesis of the idea that has created a lot of the
21 new growth, which was service platoons.

22 Okay. That's something that we, as a management
23 team, developed -- actually worked with Fleishman-Hillard a
24 little bit on it too. We developed that the next thing
25 after our fellowship program, which a fellowship program

1 was a six-month program where we would select anywhere from
2 60 to 80 veterans four times a year and they would be in
3 this fellowship program for approximately six months.

4 We would -- our goal was to help them transition
5 back to citizenship. And by that I mean a lot of times
6 they would be sitting in the family basement, you know,
7 PTSD, a lot of different things wrong. And our goal was to
8 get them either back in school to secure a job or, you
9 know, back in life, okay?

10 And what we figured was, this was an intensive
11 plan, and there were a lot of veterans coming back that
12 really were in school and did have jobs, but they still
13 were having transition problems because they missed their
14 camaraderie of what they were doing. They missed doing
15 things for their community and giving back.

16 So we developed this concept of platoons, service
17 platoons. And it was an all volunteer-type group. We
18 started out with 12 in different cities, and then we -- you
19 know, when I left we were at about 60 I believe around the
20 different cities in the country.

21 So your touch then is -- a platoon could be 25 to
22 60 vets. They would do service projects. They would meet.
23 They would -- so the touch got bigger that way.

24 Eric was the genesis of that thought. We took it
25 and ran with it, okay? And, you know, so the transition

1 plan was let's execute what we got.

2 You know, let's continue doing a good fellowship
3 program, but let's move into this new area that Eric had
4 developed, helped developed.

5 And as far as the transition -- normally you
6 think of transition as to who is going to do what after
7 someone is gone, but we had a pretty strong group of
8 leaders.

9 You know, Spencer was a natural, I guess, to take
10 that role. I think he had some issues with Eric in a way
11 that, you know -- you're talking about this guy can walk in
12 a room and everybody wants to talk to him. You talk about
13 this guy that I'm talking to you as a donor and they say,
14 how is Eric, or where is Eric, can we talk to Eric?

15 You know, it plays on the ego, okay? And I think
16 that in that regard there was some issues, but anyway
17 that's --

18 Q. Okay. You are the first witness, I believe, who
19 appeared without counsel. And there were a lot of
20 witnesses we didn't think needed counsel, but showed up
21 with counsel anyway.

22 A. Are you saying I needed one?

23 Q. No.

24 A. I'm worried now.

25 Q. You did not need -- you certainly did not need

1 counsel. We appreciate your candor and your forthrightness
2 with the Committee.

3 Representative Austin noted you had a prepared
4 statement. Did you prepare that statement?

5 Let me put it this way, if you want to submit
6 that to us, you can. That's perfectly fine.

7 If you don't, you don't have to, and that's fine.
8 If you are going to submit it, I need to ask the question:
9 Did you prepare it by yourself exclusively, or did you have
10 any help preparing it?

11 A. I prepared it my myself.

12 Q. Okay. Exclusively?

13 A. Exclusively.

14 Q. Okay. And did you have any conversations with
15 anyone else before you came here to speak today?

16 A. No. I will say this: I did meet with -- the
17 reason I came here was I -- I -- Eric asked me to talk to
18 Ed Dowd and his group and just see if there was anything I
19 could add or help or say. So I met with them, and they
20 thought it would be a really good idea for me to meet with
21 you people.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. It's mainly to clarify some things or answer
24 questions, because I was on the inside. I was there for a
25 long time. I was there after Eric left, but I have no --

1 you know, I have no skin in this game at all now. I don't

2 work there. I don't -- you know, I -- I -- I --

3 Q. Did you have a lengthy conversation with
4 Mr. Greitens?

5 A. No. It was very short.

6 Q. Okay. And your meeting with his lawyers, was
7 that a lengthy meeting?

8 A. Lawyers, they are never -- it was -- no, it
9 was --

10 Q. That's a fair assessment. I'm one of them.
11 That's a fair assessment.

12 A. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to insult you. It was
13 about a little over an hour.

14 Q. Kind of like here, they're asking you questions?

15 A. Yeah. They were just asking questions, one, to
16 clarify things they were wondering about; and, two, just to
17 see what my knowledge level was and what could I add to
18 this whole process.

19 Q. And then, of course, they asked you the question:
20 Would you be willing to speak to this, that or the
21 Committee, and you said yes, and that's how we got
22 connected?

23 A. Exactly. That's correct. He said that. He
24 asked me if I would be willing to.

25 And I said, I'm not really a speaker, but if I

1 can sit down, I'm happy to talk to anybody.

2 Q. Good enough. This conference room is more like a
3 conversation than anything else.

4 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Representative Lauer?

5 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

6 FURTHER QUESTIONS BY REPRESENTATIVE LAUER:

7 Q. I want to go back. You said something in just
8 the dialog that just happened that Eric was a very
9 strategic person and that he liked to have things planned
10 out; is that right?

11 A. He planned things out, okay? Yes. Yes. He --
12 he -- he -- he didn't go into -- you know, I guess it's
13 kind of like going into battle. You just don't randomly
14 run in there. He had a plan of building his business --

15 Q. Okay.

16 A. -- building his organization.

17 Q. And was that his day-to-day nature, to be that
18 way, from what you've seen?

19 A. Yes, it was, but he also expected people that
20 were involved in that plan to follow their -- to follow
21 what was their responsibility. And he didn't come back and
22 check on you every day.

23 You know, he developed a plan, like, all right,
24 Jack, you're going to do this. Spencer, you're going to do
25 that. You know, this is your area of responsibility, then

1 we would -- he would regularly check-in or talk about where
2 we were in the process.

3 Q. Okay. Did you have any opportunity to observe
4 him being impulsive?

5 A. No.

6 Q. Okay. Thank you.

7 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.

8 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Any further questioning?

9 REPRESENTATIVE AUSTIN: So are you going to
10 submit that or not?

11 THE WITNESS: If you would like me to?

12 CHAIRMAN BARNES: The thing you should know is --

13 REPRESENTATIVE AUSTIN: It becomes an exhibit and
14 then it's public.

15 CHAIRMAN BARNES: If it becomes an exhibit, it
16 will be a part of the report. So we'll leave it up to you.

17 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: Unless there is something
18 you just want to share there that we haven't covered?

19 THE WITNESS: Let me read it real quick.

20 CHAIRMAN BARNES: That may be easier. If there
21 is something -- because we've asked the questions. If
22 there is something we haven't asked or that you haven't had
23 the opportunity to share that you wish to do so, that's
24 probably the better way to do this.

25 THE WITNESS: Thank you. I think you guys really

1 hit most of the things. I think one thing -- and you
2 mentioned this a little bit with the salaries and stuff --
3 that, you know, the Board pressured Eric, or wanted Eric to
4 take a salary. They wanted him to be --

5 And even after he started taking a salary -- I
6 told you we went through this growth -- he was the third
7 highest paid employee in the organization.

8 Now, you know, if he was in it to take money out
9 of the organization or do something like that, I think he
10 would probably be the highest paid by far, okay?

11 So, you know, and salaries were driven -- were
12 driven by the Board. I mean, they had to approve, like,
13 his salary and -- but he -- he hired -- you know, he hired
14 people to -- paid them more than himself. I think that --
15 I think that says something you need to think about too.

16 And he -- we -- one thing I mentioned in here is
17 we had an annual gala, and Eric, even if he didn't -- could
18 have -- didn't have to, but he always -- he always
19 purchased a table for his family to attend the gala.

20 You know, that's out of his pocket. He was -- he
21 donated a decent amount of money to The Mission Continues
22 every year.

23 So you take that away from his salary too, so he
24 was dedicated, okay? He truly loved the organization.

25 I think we've touched on everything that we --

1 that I had thought about that I wanted to make sure we
2 said, so I don't see why I need to submit this then.

3 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Okay. Thank you. We really
4 appreciate you being willing to come down here and working
5 with us on schedule, because I know you had a bunch of
6 other things going on and being able to fit this in.

7 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: Absolutely.

8 CHAIRMAN BARNES: We really appreciate it. We're
9 going to excuse you so we can talk about other committee
10 business.

11 THE WITNESS: Okay.

12 (A BREAK WAS TAKEN.)

13 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Back from a break. I want the
14 Committee to be aware that we received an extra set of
15 e-mails from August of 2016. It's an e-mail from Spencer
16 Kympton to Austin Chambers and a response about use of
17 Mission Continues intellectual property in the campaign.

18 Those -- everyone should have a copy now. They
19 are upstairs. I would like to mark that as an exhibit and
20 enter it into the record. Everyone has been looking at the
21 draft report.

22 I have taken Lyndsey Hodges' testimony and
23 incorporated some new paragraphs of the report, kind of
24 like we're reinventing the wheel on this draft. And then I
25 will do the same as soon as we have a transcript of this

1 one.

2 (AN OFF-THE-RECORD DISCUSSION WAS HELD.)

3 (EXHIBIT NO. 22 WAS MARKED FOR IDENTIFICATION.)

4 CHAIRMAN BARNES: We need to vote to close
5 tomorrow's meeting, which is on adjournment.

6 All those in favor will vote yes.

7 Mr. Secretary, please call the roll.

8 SECRETARY CURCHIN: Barnes?

9 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Aye.

10 SECRETARY CURCHIN: Phillips?

11 REPRESENTATIVE PHILLIPS: Aye.

12 SECRETARY CURCHIN: Mitten?

13 REPRESENTATIVE MITTEN: Aye.

14 SECRETARY CURCHIN: Lauer?

15 REPRESENTATIVE LAUER: Aye.

16 SECRETARY CURCHIN: Austin?

17 REPRESENTATIVE AUSTIN: Aye.

18 SECRETARY CURCHIN: Rhoads?

19 REPRESENTATIVE RHOADS: Aye.

20 SECRETARY CURCHIN: Pierson, Jr.?

21 REPRESENTATIVE PIERSON: Aye.

22 CHAIRMAN BARNES: Seven ayes and zero nos. We
23 have voted to close tomorrow afternoon's hearing of this
24 Committee.

25 We actually have a hearing room tomorrow and it

1 will be in Room 5.

2 Any further business of the Committee?

3 This will conclude today's hearing of the House
4 Special Committee On Investigative Oversight.

5 That's it.

6 (END OF PROCEEDINGS.)

1 C E R T I F I C A T E

2
3 I, Shelly L. Stewart, Certified Court Reporter, within and
4 for the State of Missouri, do hereby certify that I was
5 personally present at the proceedings had in the
6 above-entitled cause at the time and place set forth in the
7 caption sheet hereof; that I then and there took down in
8 Stenotype the proceedings had and produced with
9 computer-aided transcription and that the foregoing is a
10 full, true and correct transcript of such Stenotype notes
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13 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand on this
14 5th day of April 2018.

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