DAN ASKINS 3/3/2016

21 (Pages 81 to 84)

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81
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       the activity, what was going on.
                                                                             the Coast Guard coming to look and see this, knowing
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          A. Yes. It was an accurate representation of
                                                                             that we -- Noble -- we, Noble, had had prior issues
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 3
       the -- I mean, I don't want to say it's not a huge
                                                                             with this.
       deal, but it's -- it is a tank we're not supposed
                                                                               Q. A prior issue is a guilty plea in federal
                                                                      5
       to --
                                                                             court in Alaska, right?
                                                                               A. Yes. And Department of Justice probation, I
         Q. Right.
          A. -- pump out.
                                                                             believe.
 8
          Q. And I'm not -- I just want to make sure I
                                                                               Q. Right. So what was your concern?
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                                                                      9
       know what's going on.
                                                                               A. It was more just the strategy question, like,
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                                                                     10
          A. Okay.
                                                                             Jed -- Vaclac Jedlicka is a former Coast Guard
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                                                                     11
          Q. In your -- in your mind, was -- what was
                                                                             inspector, so I really felt that he would give good
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                                                                     12
       placed -- what was recorded, noting your comment about
                                                                             insight on how best to approach it with the Coast
                                                                     13
13
       the date, but the action, was it a -- an accurate
                                                                             Guard because it's a delicate question. On the one
14
       recording of an improper action?
                                                                     14
                                                                             hand, you don't want the Coast Guard to focus on this,
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                                                                     15
          A. Yes.
                                                                             but on the other hand, it's not something you ever
                                                                     16
16
                MS. HALEVY: And just for the record, he
                                                                             want to hide from the Coast Guard. You always want to
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17
       said time and date. I think your question just
                                                                             be absolutely honest. So it's just a delicate issue,
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18
       mentioned date.
                                                                             and -- and me, as captain on board, I felt that it
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                MR. ROSENBERG: Well -- okay.
                                                                             would be best if I had a -- a consensus from both my
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                                                                     20
         Q. (BY MR. ROSENBERG) I mean --
                                                                             supervisor and the DPA on how best to approach it.
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                                                                     21
                                                                               Q. All right. You just said something that --
          A. It's kind of the same thing, right?
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                                                                     22
          Q. Right. And I'm not even talking about -- I
                                                                             that caught my attention. You don't want to hide
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                                                                     23
       wasn't asking about the time or date. I tried to put
                                                                             something from the Coast Guard, but you want to do
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                                                                     24
                                                                             what? I'm --
       that to the side.
                                                                     25
25
                                                                               A. Decide how best to present an issue.
          A. Sorry.
                                                            82
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         Q. I just want to make -- and I'm not going to
                                                                               Q. All right. Well -- all right. What was it
                                                                      2
 2
       ask it again. I think you answered about what was
                                                                             that had to be presented? Was it this entry in this
 3
       actually recorded.
                                                                             oil record book?
         A. Okav.
                                                                               A. Yes.
         Q. Okay. So Hawkins sends you this e-mail on
                                                                               Q. Okay. And you wanted guidance from Jed as to
                                                                      6
 6
       February 9th at 6:41 p.m. asking you, "Did you get the
                                                                             how to handle the situation with the Coast Guard?
       guidance you needed from Jed regarding U.S. Coast
                                                                               A. Yes.
 8
       Guard inspection," right?
                                                                               Q. It seems to me, from what you just said --
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                                                                      9
         A. Yes.
                                                                             and I want you to correct me if I'm wrong. I don't
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                                                                     10
         Q. What guidance did he -- did you need?
                                                                             want to put words in your mouth. All right? It seems
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11
                                                                             to me that with your knowledge of the -- the guilty
         A. We had had a few conversations regarding the
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       best way to handle this procedural violation with the
                                                                             plea and the Department of Justice issue, that the
                                                                     13
13
       upcoming Coast Guard inspection.
                                                                             most -- that the safest approach would have been just
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                                                                     14
         Q. Right.
                                                                             tell the Coast Guard what was going on, right?
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                                                                     15
         A. I was a relatively new captain, and seeing as
                                                                                     MS. HALEVY: Objection; form.
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                                                                     16
                                                                               A. Safest --
       this was kind of a -- the oil record books potentially
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                                                                     17
                                                                               Q. (BY MR. ROSENBERG) Is that right?
       can be very touchy subjects with the Coast Guard. I
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                                                                     18
       know industry wide that several companies have faced
                                                                               A. -- in terms of what?
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                                                                               Q. Can't get into any trouble.
       sanction because of entries and discharges.
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20
         Q. Well, one company is named Noble, right?
                                                                               A. Okay.
21
                                                                     21
         A. One company is named Noble.
                                                                               Q. Right?
                                                                     22
22
         Q. And that was 64 days before this, yes?
                                                                               A. Possibly. But I think that for us, chain of
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                                                                     23
         A. Yes.
                                                                             command was very important. You -- I was keeping my
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                                                                     24
         Q. Get in some big trouble?
                                                                             supervisor and the DPA in the loop and asking their
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                                                                     25
         A. Yes. So obviously, that concerned me with
                                                                             advice on how to approach it, and when it ended up
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