- 1 USA v. RICHARD HATCH JURY CHARGE JANUARY 25, 2006
- THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, this is
- 3 the time when it's my duty to explain to you what the
- 4 law is that applies in this case and it's your duty to
- 5 apply the law as I explain it to you. In considering
- 6 what I am about to tell you, it's important that you
- 7 consider my explanation in its entirety. In other
- 8 words, don't pick out one or two of these points and
- 9 focus on them to the exclusion of everything else. In
- order to apply the law accurately and fairly, you must
- 11 consider my explanation in its entirety and in context.
- 12 Now, as I told you at the very beginning of the
- case, the indictment in this case charges Mr. Hatch
- 14 with several different types of offenses. One type of
- offense with which he is charged is tax evasion, income
- 16 tax evasion. Another is signing a false tax return.
- 17 There are also two counts of wire fraud, four counts of
- mail fraud, and one count of bank fraud. And you'll
- 19 have the indictment with you in the jury room to refer
- 20 to in refreshing your memories as to exactly what the
- 21 charges are and what each count specifically alleges.
- 22 But let me be a little more specific as to the counts.
- 23 And, again, you can look at the indictment when you go
- 24 back into the jury room.
- 25 Count I charges that Mr. Hatch knowingly and

- 1 willfully attempted to evade a substantial amount of
- 2 income tax due for the year 2000 in violation of
- 3 Section 7201 of Title 26 of the United States Code by
- 4 filing a personal income tax return for that year that
- 5 failed to report the following amounts of taxable
- 6 income that he received during that year.
- 7 First, one million and ten thousand dollars that
- 8 he received from the Survivor Entertainment Group. And
- 9 second, \$18,708.50 that he allegedly received from the
- 10 tenants of property that Mr. Hatch owned at
- 11 21 Annandale Road in Newport, as rent. And third,
- 12 \$25,000 paid to Horizon Bound, Inc. by Chambers
- 13 Communications Corporation, which Mr. Hatch allegedly
- 14 used for personal expenses.
- 15 Count II charges that Mr. Hatch knowingly and
- 16 willfully attempted to evade a substantial amount of
- 17 income tax due for the year 2001 in violation of the
- same federal statute, by filing a personal income tax
- 19 return that failed to report several items of taxable
- 20 income for that year, and the items alleged in the
- 21 indictment that were not reported were \$326,540 paid by
- 22 Entercom Boston to Tri-Whale Enterprises, a subchapter
- 23 S-corporation in which Mr. Hatch was the sole
- shareholder; \$9,396.40 received from tenants at
- 25 21 Annandale Road as rent; \$27,074.40 being the fair

- 1 market value of a Pontiac Aztec motor vehicle received
- 2 from General Motors Corporation as additional prize for
- 3 winning the Survivor competition; \$1,000 paid to
- 4 Horizon Bound by East Boston Savings Bank, which Mr.
- 5 Hatch allegedly used for personal expenses; \$500 paid
- 6 to Horizon Bound by CAM Media & Graphics which Mr.
- 7 Hatch allegedly used for personal expenses; and \$10,000
- 8 paid to Horizon Bound by Weakest Link Productions,
- 9 Inc., again, which Mr. Hatch allegedly used for
- 10 personal expenses.
- 11 Count III of the indictment charges that Mr.
- 12 Hatch violated a different section of the United States
- Code, Section 7206 of Title 26, by filing a 2001
- 14 Chapter S income tax return on behalf of Tri-Whale
- 15 Enterprises, which, under penalty of perjury, he stated
- 16 that he believed to be correct as to every material
- 17 matter when, in fact, he knew that it failed to include
- 18 \$326,540 that Tri-Whale Enterprises received from
- 19 Entercom Boston, and that should have been reported by
- 20 Tri-Whale and passed through to Mr. Hatch on his
- 21 personal return.
- 22 Counts IV through X of the indictment charge
- various types of fraud based on allegations that
- 24 Mr. Hatch defrauded several different companies into
- 25 making -- I should say IV through IX charge that

- 1 Mr. Hatch defrauded several companies into making what
- 2 they believed were charitable contributions to Horizon
- 3 Bound when, in fact, the indictment alleges that the
- 4 money went to Mr. Hatch personally or was used by him
- 5 for personal expenses.
- 6 And Count X charges bank fraud, charges that
- 7 Mr. Hatch obtained money from the People's Credit
- 8 Union, I believe it was, based on some false and
- 9 fraudulent representations.
- 10 Now, the three types of fraud charged here, as I
- 11 think I previously mentioned, are wire fraud, that's
- 12 what's charged in Counts IX and X, and those charges
- 13 are based on allegations that Mr. Hatch sent two faxes
- 14 to NBC regarding Horizon Bound's status as a nonprofit
- 15 corporation in order to obtain a \$10,000 charitable
- 16 contribution to Horizon Bound from Weakest Link
- 17 Productions.
- 18 Counts VI through IX -- the reason there are two
- 19 Counts is there were two faxes alleged in the
- 20 indictment and each one would be a separate count of
- 21 wire fraud. Counts VI through X charge a type of fraud
- 22 called mail fraud, and they're based on allegations
- 23 that on four separate occasions the mails were used to
- 24 send checks representing charitable contributions to
- 25 Horizon Bound. These checks allegedly included a

- 1 \$25,000 contribution from Chambers Communications, a
- 2 \$500 contribution from CAM Media & Graphics, a \$1,000
- 3 contribution from East Boston Savings Bank, and the
- 4 \$10,000 contribution from Weakest Link Productions,
- 5 that's referred to in the wire fraud counts. So some
- 6 of these transactions are the subject of more than one
- 7 count because they are alleged to involve more than one
- 8 crime.
- 9 Count X, as I've indicated, charges the type of
- 10 fraud called bank fraud, and that charge is based on
- 11 allegations that one of the checks mailed to Horizon
- 12 Bound, the \$25,000 check from Chambers Communications,
- was altered by Mr. Hatch and deposited into his
- 14 personal account at People's Credit Union.
- Now, with respect to the tax charges, Mr. Hatch
- 16 claims that even if the returns that he filed were
- 17 incorrect, any failure to include items of income that
- should have been reported was not due to any willful
- 19 attempt on his part to evade taxes, but rather was due
- 20 to oversight and ignorance of the facts and/or the law.
- 21 And with respect to the fraud counts, Mr. Hatch's
- 22 contention is that the amounts received from the
- 23 companies named in the indictment, in fact, were
- 24 applied for the benefit of Horizon Bound, because they
- 25 were used to pay expenses incurred in attempting to get

- 1 Horizon Bound up and running and/or to reimburse
- 2 Mr. Hatch for expenses that he previously had incurred
- 3 for that purpose or for the purpose of promoting and
- 4 organizing Horizon Bound.
- 5 Now, there are ten counts here and you have to
- 6 base your decision -- you have to look at each count
- 7 separately, and base your decision on each count on the
- 8 charge, the elements, the things the Government has to
- 9 prove in order to convict Mr. Hatch of that particular
- 10 charge and on the evidence that relates to that charge.
- 11 The fact that you might find Mr. Hatch guilty or not
- 12 guilty of any one count, does not necessarily mean that
- 13 you should also find him guilty or not guilty on any
- other count. You have to look at each count
- 15 separately, and you have to look at what it is the
- 16 Government is required to prove as to that count and
- 17 whether the evidence does or does not establish that
- 18 the Government has proven those things beyond a
- 19 reasonable doubt.
- Now, before I explain the things that the
- 21 Government is required to prove with respect to each of
- 22 the counts in the indictment, I want to give you a
- 23 brief and very general overview of some of the tax laws
- that form the background or the backdrop for this case.
- I'm going to start with the personal income tax.

1 Generally speaking, as I'm sure you know, the amount of personal income tax that an individual owes for any 2 given year is based on the amount of income subject to 3 4 tax that that individual receives during that year minus any deductions and/or exclusions that that 5 6 individual is lawfully entitled to take in reduction of 7 the otherwise taxable income. The tax laws require individuals who may owe a tax to file a return that 9 shows the amount of income subject to tax that that 10 individual received during the year in guestion. And 11 income that is subject to tax includes a variety of 12 things. It includes cash prizes and the fair market 13 value of any property that's received as a prize, it 14 includes rental payment received for property that is 15 owned by the taxpayer, it includes salaries and compensation for any services that the taxpayer may 16 17 perform, it includes amounts obtained by the taxpayer and used to pay the taxpayer's personal expenses, and 18 19 it includes the taxpayer's share of any net income that is earned by a subchapter S-corporation in which the 20 21 taxpayer is a shareholder or a stockholder. 22 Corporations also have to file income tax returns showing the amount of income subject to tax 23 24 that they receive during the taxable year, but the

manner in which that income is taxed depends on what

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- 1 type of a corporation is involved. Corporations that
- 2 are called C-corporations -- C, refers to a section of
- 3 the Internal Revenue Code -- corporations called
- 4 C-corporations are taxed in a manner similar to a
- 5 manner in which individuals are taxed. That is to say
- 6 that they must pay a tax on their net income, which is
- 7 the total amount of income they receive subject to tax,
- 8 minus any deductions to which the corporation is
- 9 entitled during that particular year. On the other
- 10 hand, corporations called S-corporations, don't pay any
- 11 tax on their net income. Rather, their net income is
- 12 treated as income to the shareholders in the
- 13 corporation. And that's true even if the money isn't
- 14 actually distributed to the shareholders. If the
- 15 subchapter S-corporation has taxable income, net
- income, that money is treated as income of the
- 17 shareholders or passed through to the shareholders and
- it has to be reported by the shareholders on their
- 19 return. And by the same token, any net losses that are
- 20 realized by a subchapter S-corporation are treated as
- 21 net losses of the shareholders. So those net losses
- 22 pass through to the shareholders, and the shareholders
- 23 can use those net losses to offset any other income the
- shareholder may have for that year.
- Now, in this case, the evidence is that in the

- 1 year 2001, there's no dispute to this, that in the year
- 2 2001, Tri-Whale Enterprises was a subchapter
- 3 S-corporation and Mr. Hatch was its sole shareholder.
- 4 So, therefore, under the tax laws, any net income that
- 5 Tri-Whale received during the year 2001, would be
- 6 income to Mr. Hatch and, conversely, any net losses
- 7 that Tri-Whale realized or incurred during that year,
- 8 would go to Mr. Hatch and could be used on his personal
- 9 return to offset any other income that he had.
- 10 So much for the background. Let me get to the
- individual counts now, and I'll take them in the order
- in which they are listed in the indictment, starting
- with the tax evasion counts, that's Counts I and II.
- 14 Counts I and II charge Mr. Hatch with tax evasion for
- the years 2000 and 2001 respectively. Count I deals
- 16 with the year 2000. Count II deals with the year 2001.
- 17 And the indictment alleges that Mr. Hatch engaged in
- 18 tax evasion in violation of a Federal statute, which as
- 19 I said earlier, is Section 7201 of Title 26 of the
- 20 United States Code. Section 7201 provides, I'll read
- 21 you the relevant portion of the statute. It provides:
- 22 "Any person who willfully attempts in any many to evade
- or defeat any tax or the payment thereof shall be
- 24 guilty of a felony." In order to establish that
- 25 Mr. Hatch is guilty of evading taxes owed for the year

- 1 2000 or the year 2001, the Government has to prove four
- 2 things or what the law refers to as elements, with
- 3 regard to that year.
- 4 First, the Government has to prove that for that
- 5 year, Mr. Hatch owed substantially more Federal income
- 6 tax than he paid.
- 7 Second, the Government has to prove that
- 8 Mr. Hatch intended to evade or defeat the assessments
- 9 or payment of that tax.
- 10 Third, it has to show that Mr. Hatch committed
- an affirmative act in furtherance of that intent.
- 12 And fourth, the Government has to show that
- 13 Mr. Hatch acted willfully, or more specifically, the
- 14 Government has to prove that Mr. Hatch intentionally
- omitted from his return amounts that he knew were
- 16 income subject to tax, and that he did so for the
- 17 purpose of evading the payment or assessment of taxes
- 18 that he owed. The Government does not have to prove
- 19 the precise amount of tax that Mr. Hatch owed for a
- 20 given year, nor does the Government have to prove that
- 21 Mr. Hatch received or owed taxes on every single item
- 22 that is alleged in the indictment to have gone
- 23 unreported. The Government need only prove that the
- amount of tax owed by Mr. Hatch was substantial. Now,
- I can't give you a precise definition of what is meant

- 1 by the term "substantial." I can only tell you that
- 2 substantial means significant or something more than
- 3 minimal. It's up to you to decide within the context
- 4 of the facts that you heard whether any amount that
- 5 Mr. Hatch may have owed for the years in question was
- 6 substantial.
- 7 When you think of tax evasion, you should keep
- 8 in mind, too, that simple neglect or even gross
- 9 negligence in failing to pay a tax does not constitute
- 10 tax evasion. Rather, there has to be an affirmative
- 11 act of evasion. An affirmative act of evasion is a
- 12 specific act designed to evade payment of a tax that is
- due and owing. Affirmative acts of evasion may include
- 14 such things as filing a false income tax return that
- 15 substantially understates the defendant's income
- 16 subject to tax. It may include concealing amounts of
- income subject to tax by making false statements or by
- 18 altering documents.
- 19 I told you that the Government has to prove that
- 20 not only did Mr. Hatch commit an affirmative act of
- 21 evasion, but that he did so willfully. A defendant is
- deemed to have acted willfully if he acted voluntarily,
- deliberately, and with an intent to do something that
- 24 he knew was unlawful. Once again, it requires
- something more than mere negligence or even gross

- 1 negligence. People aren't convicted of crimes for
- 2 being inattentive or for being incompetent, they are
- 3 convicted on the basis of intentional acts that they
- 4 committed. The purpose of requiring proof that a
- 5 defendant acted willfully is to prevent the person from
- 6 being convicted for an act that he did not intend to
- 7 commit or the nature of which he did not understand.
- 8 In this case in order to establish that
- 9 Mr. Hatch acted willfully, the Government must prove
- 10 that Mr. Hatch filed a return that he knew omitted
- 11 amounts that the law required to be reported as income
- 12 and that he did so with the intent to evade or defeat
- 13 the assessment or payment of the tax that he owed. An
- 14 individual cannot be convicted of tax evasion for
- acting on the basis of a good faith belief that what
- 16 he's doing is lawful. And that's so even if he's
- 17 mistaken, even if he believes it's lawful, even if it
- isn't lawful, although he believes that it is. And the
- 19 Government has to prove that Mr. Hatch did not have a
- good faith belief that he was acting lawfully.
- 21 The test in determining willfulness is not what
- someone else in Mr. Hatch's position should have known
- or would have believed, but, rather, the test is what
- 24 Mr. Hatch himself actually believed regardless of
- whether or not his beliefs were reasonable. In

- determining what Mr. Hatch knew or believed and whether
- 2 he acted in good faith, you obviously can't look into
- 3 his mind, we have no way to look into a person's mind
- 4 to determine those things, but you can consider such
- 5 things as his intelligence, his experience, the
- 6 information that was presented to him or made available
- 7 to him, what he said, what he did, and the
- 8 circumstances under which he acted. In other words,
- 9 whether Mr. Hatch acted willfully or not may be
- 10 inferred from the evidence that indicates what he knew
- or believed or intended. In determining whether or not
- 12 Mr. Hatch acted willfully, you also should focus on his
- 13 knowledge or intent or belief at the time the return in
- 14 question was filed, not at some later time, but at the
- 15 time the return in question was filed. A defendant who
- 16 files a return that he knows does not include items of
- 17 taxable income and who does so with the intent to evade
- payment of the taxes that he owes, may be guilty of tax
- 19 evasion even if he later decides that he's going to pay
- 20 the taxes or makes an effort to pay them. Otherwise,
- obviously, individuals could avoid ever being convicted
- 22 of tax evasion by simply offering to pay the taxes if
- and when the individual is caught. But, nevertheless,
- despite the fact that you need to focus on Mr. Hatch's
- 25 state of mind at the time these returns were filed,

- 1 subsequent conduct on his part to attempt to pay the
- 2 taxes may be considered by you to the extent they
- 3 assist you in determining what he may have intended or
- 4 believed back at the time the returns were filed. So,
- 5 once again, the critical time, the time that you need
- 6 to focus on determining whether Mr. Hatch is guilty on
- 7 tax evasion is what did he know, believe, and intend at
- 8 the time that the returns were filed.
- 9 I'm going to move now to Count III, which is the
- 10 signing the false tax return count. Count III charges
- 11 Mr. Hatch with signing a false tax return on behalf of
- 12 Tri-Whale Enterprises for the year 2001 in violation of
- another Federal statute, which is Section 7206 of Title
- 14 26. And, again, I'll read to you the relevant portion
- of that statute. That section says, "Any person who
- 16 willfully makes and subscribes any tax return which
- 17 contains or is verified by a written declaration that
- it is made under the penalties of perjury, and which he
- 19 does not believe to be true and correct as to every
- 20 material matter, shall be guilty of a felony." Now, in
- 21 order to establish that Mr. Hatch is guilty of signing
- 22 a false tax return as charged in Count III, again,
- there are several things that the Government must
- 24 prove.
- 25 First, the Government must prove that Mr. Hatch

- 1 signed the return in question and that he did so under
- 2 penalty of perjury.
- 3 Second, it must prove that the return was false
- 4 or untrue as to a material matter.
- 5 Third, it must prove that Mr. Hatch knew the
- 6 return was false or that he did not believe that it was
- 7 true and correct as to every material matter.
- 8 And, fourth, again, it must show that Mr. Hatch
- 9 acted willfully.
- 10 Now, material matter is one that is likely to
- 11 affect the calculation of a tax due and payable or to
- 12 affect or influence the Internal Revenue Service in
- 13 monitoring and verifying an individual's tax liability.
- 14 The fact that an individual's name is signed to a tax
- 15 return is what the law calls prima facie evidence that
- 16 the document actually was signed by that individual.
- 17 And what that means is, what we mean by the term
- 18 prima facie evidence is that unless there is evidence
- 19 to the contrary, you may, but you're not required to,
- you may find that the return, in fact, was signed by
- 21 the person whose name appears to be signed. If you
- 22 find that Mr. Hatch signed the return in question, you
- 23 may, but, again, are not required to infer that
- 24 Mr. Hatch read the return and knew its contents.
- When I talked about the tax evasion charges,

- 1 Counts I and II, I explained that to act willfully,
- 2 means to act voluntarily, deliberately, and with an
- 3 intent to do something that is known to be unlawful.
- 4 In order to establish that Mr. Hatch willfully signed a
- false tax return, the Government must prove that
- 6 Mr. Hatch signed a return that he knew omitted matters
- 7 or amounts that the law required to be reported as
- 8 income, and that he did so with the knowledge that he
- 9 was violating the law and with the intent to violate
- 10 the law. As in the case of tax evasion, an individual
- 11 cannot be guilty of signing a false return if the
- 12 individual acted on the basis of a good faith belief
- 13 that what he did was lawful, even if he was mistaken.
- 14 So if Mr. Hatch signed the return with a good faith
- belief that the return was accurate, he wouldn't be
- 16 guilty of signing a false return. He would only be
- 17 guilty of the crime of signing a false return if he
- 18 knew that the return was not accurate and omitted some
- 19 item of income that should have been reported. And,
- 20 again, the issue of willfulness turns on what
- 21 Mr. Hatch's state of mind was at the time he signed the
- return, not at some other time, but at the time he
- 23 signed it. That takes care of the tax charges, Counts
- 24 I through III. I'm now going to move to the fraud
- counts that are Counts IV through X in the indictment,

- and I will discuss separately the wire fraud, mail
- fraud, and bank fraud charges. They have a great deal
- 3 in common, but they have some distinctions, so I'm
- 4 going to talk about them separately.
- 5 I'll start with wire fraud, that's Counts IV and
- 6 V. Counts IV and V of the indictment charge Mr. Hatch
- 7 with wire fraud in violation of another Federal
- 8 statute, which is Section 1343 of Title 18 of the
- 9 United States Code, and that statute reads or the
- 10 relevant portion of it says, "Whoever having devised or
- 11 intending to devise any scheme or artifice to defraud
- or for obtaining money or property by means of false or
- fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises,
- transmits or causes to be transmitted by means of wire,
- 15 radio, or television communication, in interstate or
- 16 foreign commerce, any writings, signs, signals,
- 17 pictures or sounds for the purpose of executing such
- scheme or artifice, shall be guilty of an offense
- 19 against the United States." I know that's quite a
- 20 mouthful, but in very simple terms, if you strip all
- 21 the excess verbiage out of there, what that is saying
- is that wire fraud means "use of interstate wire
- 23 communications to execute a scheme to defraud or to
- obtain money or property through false or fraudulent
- 25 pretenses, representations, or promises." And under

- 1 this statute, the offense of wire fraud may be
- 2 committed in one of two different ways, and this is
- 3 also true of the offenses of mail fraud and bank fraud,
- 4 which I'll get to later. The offense of wire fraud may
- 5 be committed in one of two ways. First, by devising a
- 6 scheme or artifice to defraud, or secondly, by devising
- 7 a scheme or artifice to obtain money or property by
- 8 means of false or fraudulent pretenses or promises. In
- 9 this case you may find Mr. Hatch guilty if the
- 10 Government proves beyond a reasonable doubt that he
- 11 committed either/or both forms of wire fraud. In order
- 12 to establish that Mr. Hatch is guilty of wire fraud
- 13 that involves a scheme to defraud, the Government has
- 14 to prove three things. First, it has to prove that
- 15 Mr. Hatch devised or participated in a scheme to
- defraud, substantially as described in the indictment.
- 17 Second, it has to prove that Mr. Hatch participated in
- that scheme knowingly, willfully, and with the specific
- 19 intent to defraud. And, third, it has to prove that
- 20 Mr. Hatch used interstate wire communications or
- 21 interstate wire communications to be used in
- 22 furtherance of that scheme. Let me explain what some
- of these terms mean.
- Well, before I get to that, let me talk about
- 25 the second way in which wire fraud may be committed.

- 1 Those are the things that the Government has to prove
- 2 in order to establish that the wire fraud was committed
- 3 in the first way. In order to establish that Mr. Hatch
- 4 is quilty of wire fraud that involves a scheme to
- 5 obtain money by means of a false or fraudulent
- 6 pretenses, representations or promises, the Government
- 7 has to prove three things, and they're very similar to
- 8 what they have to prove in order to establish wire
- 9 fraud by means of a scheme to defraud. But let me go
- 10 through the three things that they have to prove.
- 11 First, the Government has to prove that Mr. Hatch
- 12 devised or participated in a scheme to obtain money by
- false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or
- 14 promises, substantially as charged in the indictment.
- 15 Second, it has to prove that Mr. Hatch participated in
- 16 that scheme knowingly, willfully, and with a specific
- 17 intent to defraud or deceive. And, third, it has to
- 18 prove that Mr. Hatch used interstate wire
- 19 communications or caused interstate wire communication
- 20 to be used in furtherance of that scheme. Now, let me
- 21 define some of these terms. You probably have a pretty
- 22 good idea of what some of them mean, but I don't want
- you to be operating on the basis of what your pretty
- 24 good idea is. I want to explain to you exactly what
- 25 these terms mean.

1 First of all, the term fraud, fraud is a general term, and it embraces a variety of methods to cheat or 2 deceive others in order to obtain something of value 3 from them or to induce them to part with something of value. As used in the wire fraud statute, a scheme to defraud is any plan, pattern, or course of action 6 7 calculated to deprive others of something of value by deceiving them as to what they are to receive in 8 9 return. It's not necessary that the Government prove all the details of the scheme, it need only prove that 10 11 the scheme was substantially as alleged in the 12 indictment. 13 To be fraudulent, a representation, statement, 14 concealment, or a deception must be related to a 15 material fact or matter. And in the context of fraud, a material fact or matter is one that either a 16 17 reasonable and prudent person would consider important in determining his course of action, or one that the 18 19 defendant knew or should have known that the individual allegedly defrauded would have considered important in 20 21 choosing his course of action with respect to the transaction in question. So simply stated, a 22 representation, statement, or course of deception is 23 24 material if it would have a natural tendency to influence the decision of the person or entity at whom 25

- 1 it is directed.
- 2 I mentioned false pretenses or false
- 3 representations. A representation is false if it is
- 4 untrue at the time it is made. And the false
- 5 representation may consist of an affirmative statement
- 6 that's untrue or it may consist of statements of
- 7 half-truths or the concealment of material facts that
- 8 make the statement that was made misleading or
- 9 deceptive. In order to prove that Mr. Hatch is guilty
- of wire fraud, as I've told you, the Government also
- 11 has to prove that he acted knowingly and willfully.
- 12 And the defendant is considered to have acted knowingly
- if he understood the nature of what he was doing at the
- 14 time that he did it. As I've explained to you already
- in connection with the tax charges, a defendant is
- 16 considered to have acted willfully if he acted
- 17 voluntarily, deliberately, and with the specific intent
- to do something that he knew was unlawful.
- 19 I've also used the term specific intent to
- 20 defraud. To act with the specific intent to defraud,
- 21 means to act with the intent to cheat or deceive
- 22 another for the purpose of either causing some
- 23 financial loss to that other person or entity, or for
- the purpose of bringing about some financial gain to
- one's self. Therefore, again, an individual acts on

- the basis of a good faith belief that what he did was
- 2 not fraudulent, that he wasn't misleading or deceiving
- 3 anyone, that individual would not be guilty of wire
- 4 fraud, or for that matter, mail fraud or bank fraud
- 5 either.
- 6 The last element that the Government has to show
- 7 in order to convict Mr. Hatch of wire fraud is that he
- 8 used or caused to be used an interstate wire
- 9 communication. An interstate wire communications
- 10 includes things like telephone and facsimile or fax
- 11 transmissions from one state to another. In order to
- 12 prove that Mr. Hatch used interstate wire communication
- or caused them to be used, the Government is not
- 14 required to prove that he personally sent or received
- 15 anything by interstate wire communications. The
- 16 Government need only prove that Mr. Hatch caused
- 17 something to be sent by someone or to be received by
- 18 interstate wire communications, and that he did so in
- 19 furtherance of the scheme to defraud or obtain money
- 20 under false pretenses.
- Now, a defendant causes or is considered to
- 22 cause interstate wire communication to be used when the
- 23 defendant commits an act with knowledge that the use of
- 24 wire communication will follow in the ordinary course
- of business or when he commits an act under

- 1 circumstances where he should recognize that interstate
- wire communication is reasonably foreseeable. The
- 3 Government doesn't have to prove that Mr. Hatch
- 4 intended or agreed that interstate wire communications
- 5 would be used. It need only prove that either he knew
- 6 such use was likely or that it was reasonably
- 7 foreseeable at the time that he acted that interstate
- 8 wire communications would be used. Interstate wire
- 9 communications are used in furtherance of a scheme to
- 10 defraud when they are used as part of or for the
- 11 purpose of carrying out some essential step in the
- 12 scheme. The material transmitted by wire does not
- itself have to be false or fraudulent in order to
- 14 establish that interstate wire communications were used
- in furtherance of a scheme to defraud. Also, as I
- 16 think I've already mentioned, each separate use of
- 17 interstate wire communications in furtherance of a
- scheme to defraud is a separate offense, and that's why
- 19 we have two counts charging wire fraud.
- Now, as I've told you, proof that Mr. Hatch
- 21 committed either of the two types of wire fraud that
- I've mentioned, the scheme to defraud type or the
- 23 scheme to obtain money under false pretenses or by
- 24 false representations, it's sufficient to convict if he
- committed either type of wire fraud. If you find that

- 1 he committed either type of wire fraud, he would be
- 2 guilty of wire fraud, but in order to return a guilty
- 3 verdict, you must all agree, you must unanimously agree
- 4 as to which type of wire fraud you think he committed.
- 5 If you all agree that he committed both types of wire
- fraud, then he would be guilty of wire fraud. If you
- 7 all agree that he committed one type of wire fraud, he
- 8 would be guilty of that type of wire fraud. But if
- 9 some but not all of you think that he committed one
- 10 type of wire fraud, and some but not all of you think
- 11 that he committed another type of wire fraud, he can't
- 12 be convicted of wire fraud, even though all of you may
- have felt that he committed one or the other type of
- 14 wire fraud. You have to all agree either that he
- 15 committed both types of wire fraud, or all of you have
- 16 to agree as to which one type of wire fraud he
- 17 committed in order to convict him of wire fraud.
- I'm going to move to the mail fraud counts now,
- 19 and mercifully, what I'm going to tell you is very
- 20 similar to what I've told you about wire fraud. Let me
- 21 start by reading the mail fraud statute.
- 22 Counts VI through IX charge Mr. Hatch with mail
- 23 fraud in violation of Section 1341 of Title 18 of the
- 24 United States Code. This is a pretty lengthy statute,
- but I'll read it to you, and then I'll try to condense

- 1 it for you and eliminate some of the surplusage,
- 2 surplusage only in the sense that it may not apply
- 3 specifically to this case. That section says "Whoever
- 4 having devised or intending to devise any scheme or
- 5 artifice to defraud, or for obtaining money or property
- 6 by means of false or fraudulent pretenses,
- 7 representations or promises, for the purpose of
- 8 executing such scheme or artifice or attempting to do
- 9 so, places in any Post Office or authorized depository
- 10 for mail, any matter or thing whatever to be sent or
- 11 delivered by the postal service or deposits or causes
- 12 to be deposited any matter or thing whatever, to be
- 13 sent or delivered by any private or commercial
- interstate carrier or takes or receives therefrom any
- 15 such matter or thing, or knowingly causes to be
- 16 delivered by mail or such carrier according to the
- 17 direction thereon or at the place at which it is
- directed to be delivered by the person to whom it is
- 19 addressed, any such matter or thing, shall be guilty of
- 20 an offense against the United States."
- 21 Now, again, simply stated, mail fraud refers to
- 22 the use of the United States mail or a private or
- 23 interstate carrier for the delivery of mail to execute
- a scheme to defraud or to obtain money or property
- 25 through false pretenses or representations. And the

- things that the Government must prove in order to
- establish that Mr. Hatch is guilty of mail fraud are
- 3 basically the same as the things that it must prove in
- 4 order to establish that he's quilty of wire fraud,
- 5 except that mail fraud involves the use of the mails,
- 6 whereas wire fraud involves the use of interstate wire
- 7 communications. Like wire fraud, the offense of mail
- 8 fraud can be committed in either of two ways. It can
- 9 be committed by devising a scheme to defraud or it can
- 10 be committed by devising a scheme to obtain money or
- 11 property by means of false or fraudulent promises or
- 12 representations. In this case, you may find Mr. Hatch
- guilty of mail fraud if the Government proves beyond a
- 14 reasonable doubt that he committed either type of mail
- fraud, just as you could with respect to wire fraud.
- 16 And as with wire fraud, you must all agree either that
- 17 the Government has proven Mr. Hatch guilty of both
- 18 types of mail fraud or you must agree as to which type
- 19 of mail fraud the Government has proven he committed.
- 20 If you don't reach either of those agreements, then you
- 21 can't convict him of mail fraud. You can't convict him
- 22 if some but not all of you think he committed one type
- of mail fraud and some but not all of you think he
- 24 committed a different type of mail fraud.
- In order to establish that Mr. Hatch is guilty

- of mail fraud that involves a scheme to defraud, the
- 2 Government has to prove three things which, again, you
- 3 will see are virtually identical to the things that he
- 4 has to prove to show that he committed a type of wire
- 5 fraud that involves a scheme to defraud. The first
- 6 thing the Government has to show is that Mr. Hatch
- 7 devised or participated in a scheme to defraud,
- 8 substantially as charged in the indictment. Second,
- 9 that he participated knowingly, willfully, and with the
- 10 specific intent to defraud. And, third -- and this is
- 11 where the difference is between mail fraud and wire
- 12 fraud -- and, third, it has to prove that Mr. Hatch
- used the mails or caused the mails to be used in
- 14 furtherance of a scheme. By the same token, in order
- 15 to establish that Mr. Hatch is guilty of mail fraud
- 16 that involves a scheme to obtain money by means of
- 17 false or fraudulent pretenses, representations or
- 18 promises, the Government has to prove, first, that
- 19 Mr. Hatch devised or participated in a scheme to obtain
- 20 money by means of false or fraudulent pretenses,
- 21 representations, or promises. Second, that Mr. Hatch
- 22 participated in the scheme knowingly, willfully, and
- with the specific intent to defraud. And, third, that
- Mr. Hatch used the mails or caused the mails to be used
- in furtherance of that scheme.

- 1 Now, the definitions of fraud, scheme to 2 defraud, materiality, false representations, knowingly, 3 willfully, and specific intent to defraud, those definitions that I gave you in explaining the wire fraud charges also apply to the mail fraud charges. 6 I mean the same thing when I use those terms in 7 connection with the mail fraud charges as I did with the wire fraud charges. 9 Now, with respect to the mail fraud charges, use of the mails occurs when something is sent, delivered, 10 11 or received or when something is caused to be sent, delivered, or received through the United States postal 12 service or through some interstate mail carrier. As 13 14 was the case with wire fraud, use of the mails in 15 furtherance of the scheme or scheme to defraud, means use as part of or for the purpose of carrying out the 16 17 objectives of the scheme to defraud. And, again, as with wire fraud, the Government doesn't have to prove 18 that the contents of the mailings themselves were false 19 or fraudulent. The material sent through the mail 20 21 doesn't have to be itself false or fraudulent. The important thing is whether the material was sent 22
- through the mail or caused to be sent through the mail 23 24 by the defendant in furtherance of the scheme to 25 defraud. It doesn't have to be sent by the defendant.

- 1 It can be sent by someone else if the defendant causes
- 2 that person to send it, or it's reasonably foreseeable
- 3 to the defendant that the person would send it through
- 4 the mails. And, again, as with wire fraud, each use of
- 5 the mails in furtherance of a scheme is a separate
- 6 offense.
- 7 Count X is the bank fraud count. It charges
- 8 Mr. Hatch with bank fraud in violation of Section 1344
- 9 of Title 18. And I will read to you the relevant part
- of that section. That section says, "Whoever knowingly
- 11 executes or attempts to execute a scheme or artifice to
- 12 defraud a financial institution or to obtain any of the
- money under the custody or control of a financial
- institution by means of a false or fraudulent
- pretenses, representations, or promises, shall be
- 16 guilty of an offense against the United States."
- 17 Again, to put it simply, bank fraud refers to
- 18 engaging in a scheme to defraud a Federally insured
- 19 financial institution through false or fraudulent -- or
- 20 through a scheme to obtain money from the institution
- 21 through false or fraudulent pretenses, representations,
- or promises. And many of the things, almost all of the
- 23 things that the Government must prove in order to
- 24 establish that a defendant is guilty of bank fraud are
- 25 the same as the things it has to prove in order to

- 1 establish that a defendant is guilty of wire fraud or
- 2 mail fraud. But there are two exceptions, two wrinkles
- 3 to bank fraud. The first is that in the case of bank
- fraud, the Government is obviously not required to
- 5 prove that interstate wire communications or the mails
- 6 were used. There doesn't have to be any use of
- 7 interstate wire communication or the mails in order to
- 8 establish bank fraud. And the second distinction to
- 9 keep in mind is that in the case of bank fraud, unlike
- 10 wire fraud or mail fraud, the Government does have to
- 11 prove that the entity defrauded was a Federally insured
- 12 financial institution. And, again, I hate to be
- 13 repetitious, but I think I have to tell you that like
- 14 wire fraud and mail fraud, bank fraud can be committed
- in either of two ways. First, by engaging in a scheme
- 16 to defraud, or second, by engaging in a scheme to
- obtain money by means of false or fraudulent pretenses,
- 18 representations, or promises. And, once again, in this
- 19 case, you can find Mr. Hatch guilty if you're satisfied
- that the Government has proved beyond a reasonable
- 21 doubt either that he has committed both types of bank
- fraud or you all agree that he has committed one
- 23 particular type of bank fraud, but you have to all
- agree on which type of bank fraud that is.
- 25 The elements the Government has to prove in

- order to establish that Mr. Hatch is quilty of the bank
- 2 fraud that involves a scheme to defraud are very
- 3 similar to the elements they have to prove to establish
- 4 wire fraud or mail fraud that involves a scheme to
- 5 defraud. First, the Government has to prove that
- 6 Mr. Hatch engaged in a scheme to defraud, in this case
- 7 People's Credit Union, which was the institution named
- 8 in the indictment. Second, that Mr. Hatch did so
- 9 knowingly and with a specific intent to defraud. And,
- 10 third, that People's Credit Union was a Federally
- 11 insured financial institution. In order to establish
- 12 that Mr. Hatch is guilty of bank fraud that involved a
- scheme to obtain money by means of false pretenses,
- 14 representations, or promises, the Government has to
- prove essentially the same three things, the difference
- 16 being that the first thing the Government has to prove
- is that Mr. Hatch engaged in a scheme to obtain money
- under the control of People's Credit Union by means of
- 19 false or fraudulent pretenses, representations or
- 20 promises substantially as charged in the indictment.
- 21 And, once again, the definitions that I have previously
- 22 given you about fraud, scheme to defraud, materiality,
- false representation, knowingly, willfully, and
- 24 specific intent to defraud, those apply also to the
- 25 bank fraud count.

1 One thing you should keep in mind in connection with the bank fraud count is that the Government is not 2 3 required to prove that People's Credit Union itself 4 actually suffered some kind of a loss. The Government doesn't have to show that People's Credit Union was out 5 6 money in order to establish a guilt of bank fraud. 7 Government is required to prove only that Mr. Hatch 8 engaged in a scheme to induce People's Credit Union to 9 transfer money under its control to him by means of 10 false or fraudulent pretenses, representations, 11 promises. Also, keep in mind that to prove that 12 Mr. Hatch is guilty of bank fraud, the Government is 13 not required to prove that Mr. Hatch knew that People's 14 Credit Union was a Federally insured financial 15 institution. The Government need only prove that People's Credit Union actually was a Federally insured 16 17 financial institution at the time that the alleged 18 fraud was committed. 19 You'll be happy to know that I finished explaining to you what the Government has to prove in 20 21 order to convict Mr. Hatch of these various charges. 22 You should know that in order for the Government to prove guilt as to any of these charges, the Government 23 24 has to prove each and every element applicable to that charge beyond a reasonable doubt. If the Government 25

- fails to prove any one or more of those elements beyond
- 2 a reasonable doubt, then you should find Mr. Hatch not
- 3 guilty of that particular charge. Conversely, if
- 4 you're satisfied that the Government has proven each
- 5 and every one of those elements, each and every element
- 6 that relates to a particular charge beyond a reasonable
- 7 doubt, then you should find Mr. Hatch guilty of that
- 8 charge.
- 9 Now, what do I mean when I say the Government
- 10 has to prove these things beyond a reasonable doubt.
- 11 Proof beyond a reasonable doubt does not mean that the
- 12 Government has to prove these things beyond any shadow
- of a doubt or beyond any conceivable doubt. What it
- 14 means is the Government must prove these things beyond
- 15 a reasonable doubt.
- Now, what's a reasonable doubt. Well,
- 17 possibilities or even probabilities are not sufficient.
- I can't tell you exactly what a reasonable doubt is,
- 19 you have to use your good judgment and common sense in
- 20 determining whether the Government has proven these
- 21 things beyond a reasonable doubt. A reasonable doubt
- 22 may arise from the evidence that's been presented to
- you or it may arise from the lack of evidence, there's
- 24 not sufficient evidence to convince you of something.
- 25 Beyond that, I can't give you a more precise definition

- of reasonable doubt. That's something that you have to
- determine for yourself. You know what it is the
- 3 Government has to prove. You know what reasonable
- 4 means and you know what a doubt is, and it's up to you
- 5 to determine whether the Government has proven these
- 6 things beyond a reasonable doubt.
- 7 I told you you'll have the indictment with you
- 8 in the jury room, and I remind you again that the
- 9 indictment is not evidence. It doesn't prove anything.
- 10 It's not evidence of anything. All the indictment
- 11 tells you is what it is that the defendant has been
- 12 charged with, and it's up to you to decide whether the
- Government has proven those charges beyond a reasonable
- 14 doubt. I've also told you about the presumption of
- innocence, that unless and until the Government
- 16 presents evidence that satisfies you of guilt beyond a
- 17 reasonable doubt, you should presume or assume that
- 18 Mr. Hatch is not guilty. And that presumption is
- 19 sufficient to acquit him unless and the until the
- 20 Government presents evidence to the contrary. And as
- 21 I've also said, if and when you're satisfied that the
- 22 Government has presented evidence that proves him
- 23 guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, the presumption of
- 24 innocence vanishes. It's no longer operative, and you
- 25 should find him guilty if the Government has met its

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You know what it is the Government has to prove

and you know the standard of proof to apply, the beyond

a reasonable doubt standard. The next question is how

do you go about determining whether the Government has

proven these things beyond a reasonable doubt.

Well, first, as I've told you, you must base your decision solely on the evidence that has been presented during the course of the trial. And there were a couple of stipulations by the lawyers and you can consider that as well. But you are to base your decision on the evidence that was presented and not on anything else, not on any other statements the lawyers may have made, not on any past experience you might have had, not on any answers that I told you to disregard. You have to base it solely on the evidence that was presented and the exhibits that have been admitted into evidence. And in determining what the evidence is or assessing the evidence, your principal task is to assess the credibility of the witnesses, to determine how much weight you should give to the testimony of the various individuals who took the witness stand and answered questions, and in making that determination there are a number of factors that you ought to consider. One is the opportunity or lack

1 of opportunity the witness had to have observed or learned the facts that the witness related to you. 2 3 other words, was that person in a good position to have accurately seen, heard, or otherwise perceived the 5 things that the witness told you. The second factor is the witness's memory, the reliability or unreliability of the witness's memory. Even if the witness was in a 7 8 good position to have accurately perceived what it is 9 the witness said, does it seem to you that the witness 10 had an accurate recollection of what it is that the 11 witness claims to have seen or heard. Or did it seem to you that the witness's memory was flawed and 12 13 therefore the witness's testimony should be discounted. 14 A third factor is the witness's appearance on the One reason that we require individuals to come 15 in here in person and testify is that it gives you an 16 17 opportunity to observe that witness and observe their demeanor, and you can make some judgments based on your 18 19 observation as to how believable this person is. that's another factor that you can and should consider. 20 21 Another factor is the probability or improbability of 22 the witness's testimony. Just because a witness says something and nobody directly contradicts what the 23 24 witness says, doesn't mean you have to accept that testimony at face value. If what the witness says is 25

- 1 something that seems to you to be impossible or highly
- improbable, you don't have to accept that testimony
- 3 just because nobody is in a position to directly
- 4 contradict it. You can discount or disregard that
- 5 witness's testimony in that situation.
- 6 And the final thing that you may consider is
- 7 what stake the witness may have had in the outcome of
- 8 the case. Now, that doesn't mean that just because an
- 9 individual has an interest in the outcome of the case
- 10 that you should discount or even -- that you should
- 11 disregard or even discount the witness's testimony,
- 12 because by the very nature of things, witnesses in
- cases usually are people who are involved in the case.
- 14 But it certainly is a factor that you can consider to
- 15 whatever extent you think is appropriate. Keep in
- 16 mind, too, that the fact that a witness may be employed
- 17 by a Government agency or a law enforcement agency,
- does not by itself mean that you should give that
- 19 witness's testimony any greater weight or any lesser
- 20 weight than you would the testimony of someone else.
- 21 You should evaluate a witness's credibility on the
- 22 basis of your assessment of that witness as a person,
- and not on the basis of what that person's occupation
- 24 may be or what office that person may hold.
- 25 Also keep in mind that it's not the number of

- witnesses that testifies on either side of an issue
- that should be determinative but, rather, it's the
- 3 quality of the testimony. So just because there may be
- 4 two or three witnesses that testify as to A, and only
- 5 one witness testifies not A, that doesn't mean that you
- 6 should find A simply because there were more witnesses
- 7 who said A than not A. You should base your decision
- 8 on the credibility of the witnesses who testify.
- 9 In addition to the witnesses, you'll have the
- 10 exhibits with you in the jury room. You can examine
- 11 them to your heart's content. But keep in mind that
- just because an exhibit has been admitted into
- 13 evidence, doesn't mean that you have to accept
- 14 everything in the exhibit at face value any more than
- you have to accept the testimony of the witness at face
- 16 value. You should look at the exhibits in light of all
- of the evidence that's been presented and apply your
- 18 common sense and good judgment in deciding how much
- 19 weight to give those exhibits. Some of the exhibits
- that you'll have are what has been referred to as
- 21 summaries or charts. Remember there were some
- 22 witnesses who testified that they had gone through
- other exhibits, and they had compiled information from
- 24 those exhibits and put them in the form that would be
- more readily understandable, and that's perfectly

- 1 appropriate. But keep in mind that the actual
- 2 evidence, if there's any conflict that you see between
- 3 the summary of the evidence and the actual evidence
- 4 itself, the exhibits on which the summary is based, you
- 5 should base your decision on the underlying evidence
- 6 and not on the summary. The summary is an aid to you
- 7 which you may properly consider, but if you think
- 8 there's a conflict, you should base your decision on
- 9 what the actual evidence was, not on the summary of the
- 10 evidence prepared by that witness.
- 11 I've told you that you can consider only
- 12 evidence that is properly before you. That doesn't
- mean, though, that in deciding the facts that you're
- 14 strictly limited to the testimony of the witnesses and
- 15 the contents of the exhibits. In reaching your
- 16 decision, you may draw inferences or conclusions from
- 17 the evidence that has been presented, as long as the
- inferences are reasonable.
- 19 And the process of -- well, let me put it
- 20 another way. Any fact that must be proven in a case
- 21 can be proven in either of two ways. First of all, it
- 22 can be proven by direct evidence, that is to say the
- 23 testimony of a person who claims to have directly
- 24 observed the fact in question, or the presentation of
- an exhibit that is the thing itself, or it can be

proven by means of what's called circumstantial 1 evidence, which is another way of saying the fact can 2 3 be proven by establishing through direct evidence two or more facts from which the existence or nonexistence of a third fact may be reasonably inferred. Now, let me give you an example. I think it's very hard to 6 7 articulate that in a way that's readily understandable, 8 so let me give you an example that I think will 9 illustrate the point I'm trying to make. Assume that 10 on some winter night before you go to bed you look out 11 the window and the ground is bare. The next morning 12 you get up and there's a foot of snow on the ground. 13 If someone asks you whether it snowed last night, your 14 answer would probably be yes, I would think. Now, if 15 you had to come in to court and prove that it snowed last night, how would you go about doing that? Well, 16 17 you might find somebody who was awake when the snowflakes were falling. They could come in here and 18 19 testify they actually saw the snowflakes falling. would be proof by direct evidence, the direct 20 21 observation of a witness who claims to have observed 22 the snowflakes actually falling. If you couldn't find somebody who was awake when 23 24 the snowflakes were falling, you could testify as to

two facts that you personally observed. One, that

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- 1 before you went to bed the ground was bare; two, when
- 2 you woke up there was a foot of snow on the ground.
- 3 You would be proving those two facts by direct
- 4 evidence, your direct observation. And from those two
- facts, it is perfectly reasonable to infer that it
- 6 snowed last night.
- 7 Now, a word of caution here. There's a big
- 8 difference between proof by circumstantial evidence and
- 9 guessing. The former is permitted, the latter is not.
- 10 And the difference is that in order to prove something
- 11 by circumstantial evidence, the inference to be drawn
- 12 must be based on facts that are established by direct
- 13 evidence. And, two, the inference that is drawn must
- 14 be a reasonable inference from those facts. If based
- on the facts that I just gave you someone asked you if
- it was going to snow next Tuesday night, you could not
- 17 reasonably infer from those two facts, you couldn't
- 18 answer that question from those two facts. You
- 19 couldn't make a reasonable inference one way or the
- 20 other. So keep in mind that proof by circumstantial
- 21 evidence is not a license to guess or speculate. But
- 22 also keep in mind that the law makes no distinctions
- 23 between proof of a fact by direct evidence or by
- 24 circumstantial evidence. The law recognizes either
- method, but it does require in a criminal case, that

- any fact that has to be proven, must be proven beyond a
- 2 reasonable doubt, whether it's proven by direct or
- 3 circumstantial evidence.
- 4 Now, I've told you that it's up to you to decide
- 5 the facts in this case. That's not my role. And you
- 6 shouldn't interpret anything that I may have said or
- done as conveying any opinion on my part as to what the
- 8 facts are or are not. You shouldn't be concerned with
- 9 what you might think or guess might be my view of the
- 10 facts. You and you alone are ones who decide the facts
- 11 in this case. There have been times during the trial
- when attorneys have objected, when I've ruled on
- 13 objections, and sometimes may have slightly admonished
- 14 the attorneys or given the impression that I was
- admonishing, I hope I didn't do that too often, but
- 16 regardless, that should play no role in your decision.
- 17 The attorneys have a right and even a responsibility to
- object to evidence that they believe is not admissible
- 19 under our Rules of Evidence. And you shouldn't hold it
- 20 against them because they may have objected. And you
- 21 certainly shouldn't hold it against their clients, nor
- 22 should you discount the evidence if they objected and I
- 23 overruled the objections. So objections should play no
- 24 role in your decision.
- 25 Also, as you know, this case is brought in the

- 1 name of the United States of America. That does not
- 2 entitle the Government to any more consideration on
- 3 your part than the defendant. Every party who comes
- 4 into a case in this Court is entitled to the same
- 5 treatment and consideration from you regardless of who
- 6 they are.
- 7 I hope that it goes without saying that neither
- 8 bias in favor of any particular group or cause or
- 9 person or sympathy or prejudice against any particular
- 10 person or group or cause, or sympathy of any kind
- 11 should play any role whatsoever in your deliberations.
- 12 Your job is to examine the evidence that has been
- presented objectively and impartially, to determine
- 14 from that evidence what the facts are, and to apply the
- facts to the law as I have explained it to you. That's
- 16 all that either side in this case is entitled to or
- 17 should expect.
- Now, I'm going to ask the lawyers to approach
- 19 the side bar over here for a moment to give them a
- 20 chance to tell me whether they think I have misstated
- 21 anything that I've told you or whether they think I've
- 22 forgotten to tell you anything that I should have told
- you. If you'd just bear with us, please.
- 24 Counsel, would you approach the side bar.
- 25 (Bench Conference Held on the Record)

1 THE COURT: Does the Government have any

- 2 objection to the charge?
- 3 MR. VILKER: No, your Honor.
- 4 THE COURT: Does the defendant have any
- 5 objection to the charge?
- 6 MR. MINNS: Two requests I previously made, your
- 7 Honor, that the Court has already ruled on, but for the
- 8 record, we would like the jurors to be instructed on
- 9 the proliferation of statutes and regulations that
- sometimes made it difficult for the average citizen to
- 11 know and comprehend the extent of duties and
- 12 obligations imposed by tax law. We cite Cheek on that.
- We would like them to be instructed, willfulness
- 14 generally requires bad purpose or the absence of
- justifiable excuse. We cite Domanus vs. United States,
- 16 which is a Seventh Circuit case, but it followed the
- 17 Cheek decision.
- 18 MR. MacDONALD: Your Honor, on the wire fraud
- 19 instruction, you gave an instruction on the good faith
- 20 exception, the defendant acted in good faith. You did
- 21 not give that on the bank or the mail fraud. And I
- 22 would just ask you to repeat the good faith exception
- 23 that the Court gave in reference to the wire fraud.
- 24 THE COURT: Do you have any recollection as to
- 25 whether I mentioned that?

- 1 MR. REICH: I thought it was mentioned, your
- 2 Honor.
- 3 MR. MacDONALD: It wasn't.
- 4 THE COURT: Anything else?
- 5 Have you been given copies of the proposed
- 6 verdict form? The clerk will distribute those. And
- 7 after I excuse the jury, I'll check back with you to
- 8 see if you have any objections to that.
- 9 MR. MINNS: After you excuse the jury, can we
- 10 have a side bar conference?
- 11 THE COURT: After I excuse the jury?
- MR. MINNS: Yes. I don't want the press
- involved.
- 14 (Bench Conference Concluded)
- 15 THE COURT: One thing that I may have forgotten
- 16 to tell you. I know I told you in connection with the
- 17 wire fraud counts that good faith would be a defense,
- 18 that if the defendant acted in good faith, that he
- 19 couldn't be guilty of wire fraud. The same is true of
- 20 the mail fraud and the bank fraud counts. So if I
- 21 forgot to tell you that, I'm telling you now.
- Now, we've had six wonderful alternates here,
- 23 you've been very faithful and very attentive throughout
- this trial, and I want to thank you each for being so
- 25 attentive. At this time I'm going to excuse you. Your

- 1 role in this case is probably ended. I say probably
- 2 because there may be some rare situation in which an
- 3 alternate can be recalled if something happens to one
- 4 of the regular jurors during the course of
- 5 deliberations. So although I'm excusing you now, I'm
- 6 asking you to continue shielding yourself from any
- 7 outside sources of information on the case until you
- 8 learn that the jury has rendered its verdict, and to
- 9 avoid communicating with the other jurors or among
- 10 yourselves any further about the case. But I do want
- 11 to thank you very much.
- Do any of you have any personal belongings in
- 13 the jury room across the hall? I'll ask you to
- 14 retrieve those. And you are excused subject to the
- remote possibility that you may be recalled.
- 16 thank you very much.
- 17 (Alternate Jurors Excused)
- 18 THE COURT: Ladies and Gentlemen, those of you
- 19 who remain are the regular jurors in this case. And in
- 20 order to return a verdict, all twelve of you must agree
- as to what that verdict ought to be. You cannot return
- 22 a verdict of either guilty or not guilty as to any
- 23 count unless you all agree on what that verdict should
- 24 be. Now, in your deliberations you should keep in mind
- 25 two very important principles, which on the surface

- 1 seem to conflict. One is that you ought to approach
- 2 the deliberations with an open mind and you ought to be
- 3 humble enough to change your opinion if you initially
- 4 disagreed with the other jurors, but after listening
- with an open mind you become convinced that they're
- 6 correct and you are incorrect. On the other hand, you
- 7 should also keep in mind that you each have an
- 8 independent responsibility to vote for the verdict that
- 9 you believe is the correct verdict based on the law as
- 10 you understand it and on the law as I've explained it
- 11 to you and the evidence as you understand it. And you
- 12 should have the courage to stick to your convictions
- if, after listening with an open mind, you remain
- 14 convinced that you're correct, even if all of the other
- jurors should disagree with you, even if you're the
- only one.
- 17 Now, I know that those two things seem to be in
- 18 conflict, but my experience over the years has been
- that jurors usually are able to come back with
- 20 unanimous verdicts without doing violence to either of
- 21 those principles and I'm convinced that you will be
- able to do so. If you can't, we'll cross that bridge
- 23 when we get to it.
- Now, when you go into the jury room, the first
- 25 thing that you should do is select a foreperson, a

- foreman or a forelady. And that person will have
- 2 several -- three responsibilities. The first
- 3 responsibility will be to act as the moderator of the
- 4 Jury's deliberations and to see that those
- 5 deliberations are conducted in an orderly manner, and
- 6 that anyone who wishes to express an opinion has a fair
- 7 chance to do so. The second responsibility would be to
- 8 complete the verdict form, which will go into the jury
- 9 room with you in a couple of minutes. It's simply a
- 10 form that asks you to check off guilty or not guilty
- 11 with respect to each of the Counts. Complete that form
- 12 and sign it, bring it back into the courtroom after the
- jury's reached its verdict, and the clerk will take it
- 14 from you at that time.
- The third responsibility, which is one that you
- 16 may or may not have to exercise is if it should be
- 17 necessary for you to communicate with me for any
- 18 reason, the communication should be in the form of a
- 19 brief written note from the foreman or forelady telling
- 20 me what it is that your question or problem is. I
- 21 don't expect that you're going to have questions or
- 22 problems, but if you do, I'll certainly do my best to
- 23 help you if I properly can in addressing that question
- 24 or problem. Notice that I emphasize the word properly,
- 25 because there are some things that I cannot properly do

- 1 to assist you.
- 2 I've told you that you are the sole judges of
- 3 the facts, and I can't help you in deciding what the
- facts are, that's something that you have to do
- 5 yourselves. But if there's anything else that I can
- 6 help you with, I will certainly try to do so. The
- 7 request or communication should be in the form of a
- 8 note from the foreman or the forelady, give it to the
- 9 Security Officer, he'll be outside of your door, he'll
- give it to me, I'll discuss it with the attorneys, and
- I will get back to you as soon as I can with some type
- 12 of a response. It may take a little while because I
- may be occupied with other things, this is not the only
- 14 case that I have, so I may be doing something else, but
- I will get back to you as quickly as I can.
- 16 If you should have to send me a note, please
- don't indicate in the note what the status of your
- 18 deliberations is. Don't tell us you're eight to four
- 19 for this or against that. We don't want to know that.
- 20 All we want to know is what your question is or
- 21 problem.
- 22 When you go into the jury room, from here on out
- 23 your time schedule is up to you. Your hours can be
- 24 whatever you want them to be. If by the end of the day
- you haven't reached a verdict on all of the counts, you

- 1 can either stay late or you can choose to go home and
- 2 come back tomorrow and resume your deliberations then.
- 3 If you do want to stay, though, we would like to have
- 4 some advanced notice so I can make arrangements with
- 5 the staffing in the courthouse. I'll have the clerk
- 6 check with you a little later in the afternoon where
- 7 you are, whether you want to stay later or whether you
- 8 have a verdict or whether you want to come back
- 9 tomorrow. I can't think of anything else that I need
- 10 to tell you now.
- 11 Counsel, is there anything further that I need
- 12 to tell the jury?
- MR. MINNS: No, your Honor.
- MR. VILKER: No, your Honor your Honor.
- THE COURT: Okay, I'll ask the Security Officer
- 16 to come forward so the Clerk can administer the oath.
- 17 (Security Officer Sworn)
- 18 THE COURT: Ladies and Gentlemen, this case is
- 19 in your hands. You may return to the jury room to
- 20 begin your deliberations. You can bring your notebooks
- 21 with you. Please do.
- 22 (Jury Not Present)
- 23 THE COURT: Counsel, have you checked the
- 24 exhibits to be sure that everything that has been
- admitted is there and nothing is there that has not

- been admitted?
- 2 MR. VILKER: We have, your Honor.
- 3 THE COURT: Have you had an opportunity to
- 4 review the proposed verdict form?
- 5 MR. MINNS: Yes, your Honor. We have no
- 6 objection.
- 7 MR. VILKER: Looks perfect, your Honor.
- 8 THE COURT: You indicated that you wanted to
- 9 approach the side bar, Mr. Minns?
- 10 MR. MINNS: Please.
- 11 (Bench Conference Held off the Record)
- 12 THE COURT: Court will be in recess
- 13 (Jury Deliberations 2:30 4:30 P.M.)
- 14 (Jury Present)
- 15 THE COURT: Mr. Foreman, I understand the jury
- 16 would like to go home and return tomorrow morning?
- 17 JURY FOREMAN: That's correct.
- 18 THE COURT: Now, the Clerk wanted to indicate
- 19 they want to return at 9:30. That's okay with me.
- 20 Anytime from 7:30 on would be all right, so if you
- 21 wanted to come earlier, we could do that.
- 22 JURY FOREMAN: Anyone like to come earlier?
- 23 (Jury Discussion)
- JURY FOREMAN: Nine o'clock.
- 25 THE COURT: I just want to remind you, now you

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1
       should stop deliberating, and, again, don't get any
 2
       information about this case from any outside source,
       and don't resume deliberating tomorrow until I've
 3
 4
       brought you back into the courtroom, verified that
       everyone is present, and then send you back.
 5
              One thing particularly you want to avoid, if one
 6
7
       of you arrives earlier than the others, you don't want
       to start deliberating and thereby excluding the others
8
       from those deliberations. So wait until I bring you
9
10
       back in and I will tell you to resume your
       deliberations.
11
12
              See you tomorrow morning at 9:00.
13
              (Jury Excused - 4:30 P.M.)
              THE COURT: Court will be adjourned until
14
15
       tomorrow morning.
16
       (ADJOURNED 4:32 P.M.)
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