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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

MICHAEL RICHARD LYNCH and
STEPHEN KEITH CHAMBERLAIN,

Defendants.

Case No.: 3:18-cr-00577-CRB

Judge: Hon. Charles Breyer

**DEFENDANT MICHAEL RICHARD
LYNCH'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF
MOTION IN LIMINE TO EXCLUDE
OPINION TESTIMONY OF
CHRISTOPHER YELLAND**

(Lynch MIL No. 3)

Date: February 21, 2024
Time: 2:00 pm
Court: Courtroom 6 – 17th Floor
Date Filed: February 7, 2024
Trial Date: March 18, 2024

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SUMMARY OF THE ARGUMENT

The Court should preclude Christopher Yelland from providing opinion testimony regarding the accounting treatment of historical Autonomy transactions, including whether certain purchases by Autonomy were shams or had a commercial purpose, whether Autonomy's customers were creditworthy, whether transactions were linked; whether ASL or Autonomy Group should have recognized revenue on the previously referenced transactions; how transfer pricing rules applied to the ASL Restatement; and ultimately, "the adjustments in respect of improper transactions that Mr. Yelland believes should have been [made] to Autonomy [Group]'s accounts to conform with IFRS." Lynch MIL No. 3, Ex. 2 (Dkt. 294-4) at 2.

Yelland's opinions are expert testimony governed by Fed. R. Evid. 702. The government concedes that the opinions require the application of specialized knowledge, but argues that Yelland reached most (but not all) of these opinions during the post-acquisition accounting review, and that they are therefore admissible under Fed. R. Evid. 701. As Fed. R. Evid. 701 and precedent make clear, however, the application of specialized knowledge—a fact conceded by the government, Gov't Opp. Lynch MIL No. 3 (Opp) at 7, Dkt. 313, requires compliance with Fed. R. Evid. 702 and Fed. R. Crim. P. 16, which the government has not done and cannot do. Moreover, because Yelland's opinions are based on hearsay, they would not be admissible under Fed. R. Evid. 701.

The government's argument that it has sufficiently disclosed Yelland's expert testimony in compliance with Rule 16 is baseless. When moving to exclude Dr. Lynch's expert testimony (which was accompanied by far more fulsome disclosures), the government hailed the post-*Hussain* amendments to Rule 16 as transformative. Now the government claims—without citation to supporting precedent—that conclusory testimony in which Yelland refused to disclose his methodology is somehow sufficient to carry that Rule 16 burden. The government is wrong and has not complied with Rule 16.

Even if it had been properly disclosed, Yelland's testimony is inadmissible under Fed. R. Evid. 702. He has conceded (repeatedly) that he is not an expert in the applicable International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and therefore cannot testify as an expert on those

standards. In addition, while he has failed to disclose his methodology, what little is known demonstrates that his methodology fails to clear the reliability bar imposed by *Daubert* and Fed. R. Evid. 702. The government does not dispute this argument and therefore concedes that Yelland's testimony is inadmissible under Fed. R. Evid. 702.

Finally, even if Yelland's testimony was properly disclosed and passed the requirements of Fed. R. Evid. 702, it would be inadmissible because it is based on hearsay and is far more prejudicial, misleading, and confusing than probative. At bottom, Yelland would be principally summarizing hearsay from undisclosed Morgan Lewis and PwC interviews to the jury. For example, where the issue in dispute is whether Autonomy Group properly accounted for software purchases from customers separately from sales, Yelland does nothing but transmit Morgan Lewis' and PwC's argument from undisclosed interviews. Because the underlying statements are hearsay, they are inadmissible under Fed. R. Evid. 703 and 802, and because they were testimonial, reliance upon them violates the Confrontation Clause. Moreover, in light of the minimal probative value of ASL's financial statements, the grossly prejudicial nature of the testimony renders it inadmissible under Fed. R. Evid. 403.

I. Yelland's Opinion Is Not Based On or Contained Within Business Records

The government proposes to elicit several types of opinion testimony from Yelland ultimately leading to Yelland's opinion as to how Autonomy Group's financial statements would have been impacted had they been restated—even though they were never restated and the exercise is entirely hypothetical.

Yelland's opinion testimony relies upon, incorporates, and often repeats third-hand statements from Morgan Lewis lawyers, PwC investigators, and Autonomy employees that do not fit within any exception to the hearsay rule. Neither the government nor Yelland has disclosed all of the relied-upon communications or Yelland's methodology for developing the resulting opinions. However, as demonstrated by Dr. Lynch's opening motion, several emails slipped through HP's attempts to claim that those communications were privileged work product prepared in anticipation of litigation, a tacit admission of the ASL Restatement's role in HP's litigation strategy. The government does not address or dispute the significance of those

communications, most of which were not before the Court during *Hussain*.¹

In addition to Yelland’s ultimate opinion about Autonomy Group’s financial statements, the government proposes to have him repeat three of his opinions from his *Hussain* testimony: (1) that certain transactions did not have “economic substance”—an opinion formed through undisclosed “inquiries” and the subsequent application of an undisclosed methodology; (2) revenue from those transactions should not have been recognized under the IFRS and UK GAAP—it is unclear whether this opinion was formed through unqualified analysis by Yelland or pursuant to analysis by PwC, HP, or another person, and Yelland has not disclosed how he applied applicable accounting standards to such revenue recognition determinations (as required by Rule 16); and (3) some sort of transfer pricing analysis justifies extrapolating ASL adjustments to Autonomy Group, even though Yelland steadfastly refused (over the objections of HP’s auditors) to let HP perform such an analysis in real time.

Those opinions are not based on or contained within business records. Dr. Lynch’s un rebutted opening motion proves that they are instead based on litigation arguments and hearsay from Morgan Lewis and PwC that has not been fully disclosed. Dr. Lynch has been able to piece together Yelland’s reliance on Morgan Lewis and PwC to restate several of the transactions based on MLAT document productions of HP’s auditors EY, which appear to have occurred after the *Hussain* trial.

II. The Court Should Exclude Yelland’s Opinions and Multi-Layered Hearsay About the Underlying Transactions

A. Yelland’s Opinions Constitute Expert Testimony

1. Testimony Utilizing Specialized Accounting Principles and Opining on the Propriety of Accounting Treatment Are Expert Testimony

As this Court recognized in *Hussain*, whether financial reporting complied with IFRS would constitute “an expert opinion.” *Hussain* Tr. 89-90 (observing that a percipient witness’s

¹ Although he was noticed as an expert in *Hussain*, Rule 16 did not then contain its current requirement to specify the bases and methodology for each opinion in a signed disclosure. As a result, Yelland neither disclosed nor testified to the bases and methodology for each opinion. Unlike *Hussain*, the government has not noticed Yelland as an expert here.

1 explanation that he changed accounting “because it [wa]s not in compliance [with accounting
 2 standards]” would be “an expert opinion” requiring compliance with Rule 16). This is not a
 3 controversial issue. *See* Lynch MIL No. 3 at 6 n.9 (collecting seven cases recognizing that
 4 opinions about the propriety of accounting treatments constitute expert testimony). Indeed, in
 5 *United States v. Pattison*, this Court held that the opinions of percipient witness auditors about
 6 whether a company properly accounted for stock options was expert testimony. Tr. 18, No. 08-
 7 cv-4238 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 4, 2010) (Breyer, J.), Dkt. 173. The Court considered the same
 8 “autopsy” analogy advocated by the government here. Opp. at 2 (“Yelland’s Restatement was
 9 the equivalent of [an] autopsy.”). The Court did not, however, hold that such evidence was
 10 admissible, instead concluding that if an auditor who participated in a restatement wished “to
 11 say, ‘I came in . . . as the autopsy surgeon, and looked at the cadaver and found that it had this
 12 problem and that problem’ **That’s expert opinion.**” *Id.* at 19-20 (emphasis added); *accord*
 13 *United States v. White*, 492 F.3d 380, 401 (6th Cir. 2007) (“[L]ay testimony is improper where it
 14 encompasses opinions that ‘call for specialized skill or expertise’—such as a paramedic’s
 15 testimony that skull trauma caused the bruises on a victim’s face.”). It does not matter whether
 16 the auditor engaged in the review and reached the opinion “at the time.” Tr. At 19-20, *Pattison*,
 17 Dkt. 173. Instead, determining the applicability of Fed. R. Evid. 702 turns on the knowledge
 18 being applied. If a witness interprets their perceptions “by virtue of any expertise,” then they are
 19 an expert, *id.* at 18-19 (repeating that if a witness utilizes expertise in opining on his or her
 20 perceptions, “that’s expert opinion”), and must comply with Fed. R. Crim. P. 16 and Fed. R.
 21 Evid. 702.

22 The government concedes that Yelland had “specialized knowledge as a Chartered
 23 Accountant, [and that] he was applying it to his . . . percipient observations. . . .” Opp. at 7. That
 24 is the epitome of expert opinion. The distinction between expert opinion and lay opinion turns
 25 on whether “specialized knowledge” is being applied, not whether it is being applied to assumed
 26 facts or percipient observations. “[L]ay testimony ‘results from a process of reasoning familiar
 27 in everyday life,’ while expert testimony ‘results from a process of reasoning which can be
 28 mastered only by specialists in the field.’” Fed. R. Evid. 701, advisory comm. note (citation

omitted). Because the government concedes that Yelland is “applying” “specialized knowledge,” it concedes that he is offering expert testimony.

The government invokes cases discussing “particularized knowledge,” but it concedes Yelland is applying his “specialized knowledge,” not particularized knowledge. The “particularized knowledge” exception permits percipient witnesses to testify about topics ordinarily requiring specialized knowledge as long as they base their opinions solely on percipient facts, without applying specialized knowledge. Fed. R. Evid. 701, advisory comm. note. But even a witness who possesses particularized knowledge “may not offer lay testimony that is based on specialized knowledge.” *Everest Stables, Inc. v. Canani*, No. 09-cv-9446, 2011 WL 13213657, at *3 (C.D. Cal. Oct. 6, 2011) (collecting cases); Fed. R. Evid. 701(c); *see, e.g.*, Fed. R. Evid. 701 adv. comm. note (explaining that a lay witness could testify that he saw a substance that looked like blood but would have to be qualified as an expert to testify that bruising he saw was indicative of skull trauma); *United States v. Vega*, 813 F.3d 386, 393-94 (1st Cir. 2016) (holding that lay witnesses could not testify to opinions formed about Medicare rules even though the witnesses gained familiarity with the rules through their jobs); *LifeWise Master Funding v. Telebank*, 374 F.3d 917, 929 (10th Cir. 2004) (citation omitted) (holding that a CEO could not testify to his opinion about his business’s lost profits as a lay witness because “a person may testify as a lay witness only if his opinions or inferences do not require any specialized knowledge and could be reached by any ordinary person”).

In other words, where the factual basis of a witness’s opinion is particularized knowledge, but the methodology applied to that basis requires specialized knowledge, the resulting opinion is governed by Rule 702. *United States v. Figueroa-Lopez*, 125 F.3d 1241, 1247 (9th Cir. 1997) (“The mere percipience of a witness to the facts on which he wishes to tender an opinion does not trump Rule 702.”). A substantially similar circumstance arose in *Rodriguez v. Gen. Dynamics Armament & Tech Prods.*, 510 F. App’x 675 (9th Cir. 2013), where an army employee investigated the cause of a mortar accident and wrote a report summarizing his findings as part of his job. Appellee’s Br. at *15-16 (noting that he had conducted many such investigations during his 29-year army career). In addition to collecting data, taking

1 photographs, and examining the mortar tube, the employee also “attended soldier interviews”
 2 and reviewed documents including other mortar accident investigations. *Id.* at *17-18. The
 3 employee wrote a report contemporaneously memorializing his opinions, and that report was
 4 submitted to the Army. *Id.* at *19. The district court allowed him to testify to his opinions under
 5 Fed. R. Evid. 701 “on the basis that [the employee] was describing the job he had done outside
 6 the litigation process.” *Id.* at *19-20. The Ninth Circuit reversed. The Ninth Circuit held that
 7 even though the specialized knowledge was gained as part of his job, an opinion “based upon
 8 scientific and technical knowledge” is governed by Fed. R. Evid. 702, even what that knowledge
 9 is applied as part of the witness’s job. 510 F. App’x at 676 (holding that opinion testimony of
 10 percipient investigator witness could not be admitted under Fed. R. Evid. 701 because he applied
 11 specialized knowledge).

12 The government does not address the case law cited by Dr. Lynch and instead states
 13 conclusorily that Yelland’s testimony “fits well” within three cases, but each is inapposite. *See*
 14 *Opp.* at 7 (relying on *Dorn v. Burlington N. Santa Fe R.R. Co.*, 397 F.3d 1183 (9th Cir. 2005),
 15 *SEC v. Sabhlok*, 495 F. App’x 786 (9th Cir. 2012), and *Bank of China v. NBM LLC*, 359 F.3d
 16 171 (2d Cir. 2004)).² In *Dorn*, a witness was permitted to estimate the angle of a tire mark that
 17 he saw on the ground, describing his visual perception without application of specialized
 18 knowledge. 397 F.3d at 1187, 1192. In contrast to *Dorn*, the government concedes that Yelland
 19 is applying specialized knowledge. In *Bank of China*, the court held that it was an “abuse of
 20 discretion” to admit opinion testimony of a bank examiner “because [the testimony] was not
 21 based entirely on [his] perceptions” but instead included opinions based on his application of
 22 specialized experience and knowledge. 359 F.3d at 181, 183. Although the government
 23 extensively relies upon dicta stating that the witness could rely in part on his specialized
 24

25 ² The other cases cited by the government in passing are even further afield. *See United States v. Rigas*, 490 F.3d
 26 208, 222 (2d Cir. 2007) (witness testified only to the contents of documents and did not opine “regarding the
 27 appropriateness of [the] accounting treatment” and “opinion . . . was ‘not based on specialized knowledge’”); *United*
 28 *States v. Ayala-Pizarro*, 407 F.3d 25, 29 (1st Cir. 2005) (“While the 2000 amendments subject testimony falling
 within the scope of Rule 702 to heightened reliability requirements and rules governing pre-trial disclosure, Officer
 Mulero’s testimony does not trigger these additional safeguards. It required no special expertise”); *United*
States v. Beckman, 298 F.3d 788 (9th Cir. 2002) (drug smuggler testified to events he witnessed); *see also United*
States v. Oriedo, 498 F.3d 593, 602–04 (7th Cir. 2007) (approving testimony about officer’s suspicions during drug
 buy, but excluding testimony about consistency with narcotics trafficking practices).

1 knowledge, the Second Circuit clarified that dicta the next year, holding that if a percipient lay
 2 witness's opinion rests "in any way" upon specialized knowledge, "its admissibility must be
 3 determined by reference to Rule 702, not Rule 701." *United States v. Garcia*, 413 F.3d 201, 215
 4 (2d Cir. 2005) . The portion cited by the government is not good law.

5 Finally, *Sabhlok* is the same case as *Pattison*, discussed above. There, the Court
 6 prohibited auditor witnesses with percipient knowledge from opining on whether financial
 7 reporting was correct. *Pattison* Tr. 18-19; *accord Garcia*, 413 F.3d at 216 (holding that a
 8 percipient witness could not testify to opinions reached during his investigation based in part on
 9 specialized knowledge absent compliance with Rule 702). After the case was reassigned the
 10 auditors were allowed to testify to "their role" in the audit and "their personal interactions with
 11 [the] Defendant." No. 08-cv-4238, 2010 WL 2944255, at *5 (N.D. Cal. July 23, 2010). The
 12 Ninth Circuit observed that Rule 701 forbids lay opinion based on specialized knowledge, but
 13 held that the relevant testimony did not cross into that realm. 495 F. App'x at 787.

14 None of the government's cited authorities change the basic analysis: the government
 15 proposes to have Yelland apply his specialized knowledge to provide opinion testimony. That
 16 testimony must be disclosed in accord with Rule 16 and satisfy Fed. R. Evid. 702.

17 **2. If Yelland's Testimony Is Lay Testimony, Then It Is Inadmissible**
 18 **Because It Is Based In Part on Hearsay and Second-Hand**
 19 **Information**

20 A lay witness offering opinion testimony cannot "rely upon" or "convey" in any part
 21 hearsay. *United States v. Freeman*, 498 F.3d 893, 904 (9th Cir. 2007); *Everest Stables*, 2011 WL
 22 13213657, at *3-4 (explaining that lay opinion is inadmissible to the extent it is based on hearsay
 23 and collecting cases); *United States v. Dillon*, No. 07-cv-1215, 2008 WL 11357991, at *3 (C.D.
 24 Cal. Nov. 18, 2008). Although the government proposes to have Yelland testify to what he
 25 "heard" (or read), Opp. at 4, he cannot do so without providing an expert notice and complying
 26 with Fed. R. Evid. 702 and 703. For example, in *United States v. Lloyd*, the Ninth Circuit
 27 vacated a conviction because a lay witness testified to opinions based on "statements he heard"
 28 rather than first-hand knowledge. 807 F.3d 1128, 1155-57 (9th Cir. 2015). Similarly, in *James*

1 *River Insurance Co. v. Rapid Funding LLC*, the Tenth Circuit vacated a jury verdict because the
 2 district court permitted a percipient witness to testify to his opinions that were based in part an
 3 outside consultant's report. 658 F.3d 1207, 1215 (10th Cir. 2011) (emphasizing that only expert
 4 witnesses may rely on third-party statements under Fed. R. Evid. 703).

5 In *Hussain*, Yelland's opinion testimony repeatedly conveyed hearsay to the jury by
 6 referencing what he had learned from unspecified "inquiries." Dkt. 294-1. We now know that
 7 Yelland's "inquiries" relied upon interview memoranda from Morgan Lewis attorneys, attorney
 8 work product emailed by PwC, select contemporaneous email traffic, and testimonial interview
 9 statements from unnamed witnesses. Among other things, Yelland testified to hearsay
 10 statements of third-party witnesses about whether purchases had "economic substance" or
 11 purchased software was used or marketed by Autonomy, and whether resellers were involved in
 12 oral negotiations with end users. See Dkt. 294-1. If the government wishes for Yelland to
 13 provide such testimony here, then he must be noticed and qualified as an expert and all such
 14 testimony must satisfy Fed. R. Evid. 703.

15 **B. Yelland's Testimony Was Not Disclosed Under Rule 16(a)(1)(G)**

16 The government has not provided a Rule 16(a)(1)(G) disclosure of Yelland's testimony.
 17 The government argues that discovery has been sufficient to discharge its notice obligation. Not
 18 so. See, e.g., *United States v. Valdez*, No. 18-cr-608, 2019 WL 539074, at *2-3 (N.D. Cal. Feb.
 19 11, 2019) (holding that pointing to discovery is insufficient to discharge Rule 16 obligations to
 20 describe the bases and reasons for each opinion); see also *Rodriguez*, 510 F. App'x at 676
 21 (holding that expert notice requirements were not fulfilled by lay witness deposition and
 22 subpoena).

23 As stated in the government's motion to exclude Dr. Lynch's experts, the December 2022
 24 amendments to Rule 16 "significantly enhanced" expert disclosure requirements. Dkt. 298 at 6.
 25 Under the new rule, the government must disclose a "complete statement of all opinions" that
 26 Yelland will testify to, and the "bases and reasons" for each of those opinions. *Id.*; accord *id.* at
 27 14. A Rule 16(a)(1)(G) notice must be signed by the witness and disclose the basis and
 28 methodology underlying "each" opinion to which the witness will testify. See *id.* (emphasizing

1 that all of the bases of “each” adjustment must be disclosed in a timely fashion); Lynch MIL No.
2 3 § II.B.

3 The disclosure must be sufficiently specific to allow counsel “to frame a *Daubert* motion
4 (or other motion in limine), to prepare for cross examination, and to allow a possible counter-
5 expert to meet the purport of the case-in-chief testimony.” *United States v. Cervantes*, No. CR
6 12-792 YGR, 2016 WL 491599, at *1 (N.D. Cal. Feb. 9, 2016); *see e.g., Claar v. Burlington N.*
7 *R.R. Co.*, 29 F.3d 499, 502 (9th Cir. 1994) (affirming district court’s exclusion of plaintiff’s
8 experts because the repeated failure to “explain the reasoning and methods underlying their
9 conclusions” precluded the district court from determining reliability under Fed. R. Evid. 702).

10 The current specificity requirement did not exist at the time of *Hussain* case. Yelland’s
11 testimony that his opinions were based on his team’s “inquiries” was not sufficiently specific to
12 satisfy Rule 16. Neither Yelland’s testimony nor his summary charts disclosed with respect to
13 each opinion what those inquiries were, with whom he inquired, what factual basis resulted, or
14 what methodology he applied to the basis. *Compare United States v. Davis*, 514 F.3d 596, 613
15 (6th Cir. 2008) (finding that expert summary failed to adequately indicate bases of opinion
16 because “if Davis had hired a chemist, he or she would not have been able to analyze the steps
17 that led the government’s chemists to their conclusions”).³ In the UK civil proceedings, HP
18 invoked work product privilege to withhold documents. There was no Fed. R. Crim. P. 16
19 obligation to disclose (and Yelland did not voluntarily disclose) the basis and methodology for
20 each of his opinions from the U.S. case. The government’s argument that Dr. Lynch will be
21 “free to cross-examine” Yelland to learn the bases and methodologies he applied would entirely
22
23
24

25 ³ Yelland has not disclosed the materials he relied upon, but the key materials were communications from HP’s
26 lawyers and investigative auditors—much of which is still shielded by HP’s privilege assertion. If Yelland testifies
27 to any opinions, the Court must compel discovery of those materials. *See, e.g., In re SRAM Antitrust Litig.*, 257
28 F.R.D. 580, 584 (N.D. Cal. 2009) (holding that litigant violated expert disclosure requirements by failing to
specifically identify materials reviewed by experts); Tr. 3, *United States v. Pattison*, No. 08-cv-4238, Dkt. 173 (N.D.
Cal. Feb. 4, 2010) (Breyer, J.) (“[T]o the extent that any expert’s opinion is based upon undisclosed sources, it’s out.
Gone. . . . It just seems to me basically unfair to say, ‘Well, I have these opinions. Here are my reasons, but you
can’t really cross-examine me on my reasons because I won’t tell you where I got them from.’ Now, that’s a
nonstarter That’s an insurmountable problem.”). HP cannot utilize privilege as both a sword and a shield.

1 defeat the purpose of Rule 16.⁴

2 The Court should enforce its order and Rule 16. *See United States v. W.R. Grace*, 526
3 F.3d 499, 514 (9th Cir. 2008) (en banc) (upholding exclusion of government expert testimony
4 disclosed after discovery deadline); *United States v. Roybal*, 566 F.2d 1109, 1110-11 (9th Cir.
5 1977) (reversing conviction, emphasizing that disclosing testimony after discovery order resulted
6 in “unfairness and potential prejudice to the defendant” as well as “unfairness and discourtesy to
7 the trial judge”). Rule 16 entitles Dr. Lynch to *pretrial* notice of the basis and methodology for
8 each of Yelland’s opinions, and the Court set a deadline for that notice of November 8, 2023.
9 Dkt. 192 at 2. The government knew that deadline applied. It was well aware of the fact that
10 opinions applying accounting expertise are expert opinions, which is why it disclosed both Brice
11 and Yelland as experts in *Hussain*. In order to evade the heightened requirements of Rule 16
12 promulgated since *Hussain*, the government tried to evade notice in this case. The Court should
13 respond to the lack of timely notice by excluding Yelland’s testimony.

14 **C. The Government Concedes that Yelland’s Testimony Is Inadmissible Under**
15 **Fed. R. Evid. 702**

16 The government does not respond to Dr. Lynch’s argument that Yelland’s testimony fails
17 to satisfy the requirements of Rule 702. Lynch MIL No. 3 § II.C. It therefore concedes the
18 argument. *LN Mgm’t v. JPMorgan Chase Bank*, 957 F.3d 943, 950 (9th Cir. 2020) (“Failure to
19 respond meaningfully in an answering brief . . . waives any point to the contrary.”); *Ramirez v.*
20 *Ghilotti Bros. Inc.*, 941 F. Supp. 2d 1197, 1210 & n.7 (N.D. Cal. 2013) (deeming argument was
21 conceded because the defendant failed to address it in its opposition). With good reason,
22 Yelland has repeatedly conceded that he is not an expert on the accounting rules being applied,
23

24 ⁴ It is also contrary to precedent, which consistently rejects the government’s argument that discovery is sufficient to
25 excuse a lack of compliance with pre-trial notice requirements. *See, e.g., Valdez*, 2019 WL 539074, at *2-3; *United*
26 *States v. 242.93 Acres of Land*, No. 10-cv-1133, 2012 WL 579503, at *3 (S.D. Cal. Feb. 22, 2012) (holding that
27 failure of party to notice expert opinions of percipient witness precluded their admission); *Gallagher v. Holt*, No.
28 08-cv-3071, 2012 WL 3205175, at *14 (E.D. Cal. Aug. 3, 2012) (same); *see also United States v. Ornelas*, 906 F.3d
1138, 1150-51 (9th Cir. 2018) (affirming exclusion of expert testimony due to lack of timely disclosure required by
scheduling order). The lone authority cited by the government, *United States v. Alahmedalabdolkah*, does not
support the government’s position. First, that case involved notice under the previous Rule 16, and explicitly limits
its analysis to “the operative version of Rule 16.” 76 F.4th 1183, 1239 (9th Cir. 2023). Second, the government
provided three expert notices in that case disclosing the witness’s “opinions and the bases for them.” *Id.* No such
notice or disclosures have occurred here.

1 and his methodology of relying on litigation arguments from counsel and investigators and
 2 hindsight rationalization violate industry norms that demand neutrality and a focus on
 3 contemporaneous documentation. *See Therasense, Inc. v. Becton, Dickinson & Co.*, No. 04-cv-
 4 02123, 2008 WL 2323856, at *2 (N.D. Cal. May 22, 2008) (Alsup, J.) (holding that expert’s
 5 opinion based on hearsay from lawyers was inadmissible because “any opinion based on such
 6 untested and partisan foundation is not based on sufficient facts and data within the meaning of
 7 Rule 702”). Because the government bears the burden of proving that Yelland’s opinion
 8 testimony satisfies Rule 702 and it has concededly failed to carry that burden, Yelland’s
 9 testimony is inadmissible.

10 **D. The Government Does Not Meaningfully Contest that Yelland’s Testimony Is**
 11 **Inadmissible Under Fed. R. Evid. 403**

12 The government raises a two-sentence Rule 403 argument, but it fails to engage with the
 13 law or rebut any point raised by Dr. Lynch in Lynch MIL No. 3 § II.D. The government argues
 14 that Dr. Lynch’s arguments “all go [to] weight” and therefore can be raised on cross-
 15 examination. Opp. at 8. The government’s argument is nonsense. Of course, Dr. Lynch’s
 16 arguments go to weight; they would not be Rule 403 arguments if they did not do so. Rule 403
 17 is a balancing test, and *every* Rule 403 argument goes to weight. The Court’s responsibility is to
 18 weigh probative value against the risk of unfair prejudice, confusing the issues, and misleading
 19 the jury.

20 Dr. Lynch’s opening motion explained how Yelland’s testimony will be unfairly
 21 prejudicial, confusing, and potentially misleading. ASL and Autonomy Group utilized different
 22 accounting systems (only one of which Yelland had ever used before) with different revenue
 23 recognition rules. There is no guarantee that ASL applying UK GAAP and Autonomy Group
 24 applying IFRS must treat a transaction the same way.⁵ Even if one does reach the same

25
 26
 27 ⁵ For instance, the hosting transactions, which involved separate components (a software license and data hosting
 28 services), were arguably subject to different standards and potentially different accounting treatment. Under IFRS,
 it was easier and more subjective to estimate fair value of the different components of the transactions, which
 allowed up front recognition of the software license revenue. Under UK GAAP, more objective evidence of vendor
 specific objective evidence (VSOE) was required, which potentially made it harder to recognize separate
 components and could have led to ratable revenue recognition over the term of the hosting contract.

1 determination, it is not a “one-for-one” pass through analysis. Complex transfer pricing rules
2 vary for each entity consolidated into the Autonomy Group. In real time, Yelland opined that it
3 would be impossible to reliably calculate the effect of the ASL Restatement on Autonomy
4 Group’s finances. Lynch MIL No. 3 § I.A, Ex. 5, Dkt. 294-7. It is unrealistic to expect the jury
5 understand the aforementioned distinctions that prevent the conclusion that the government
6 erroneously invites. And regardless of whether the jury could understand such distinctions, the
7 ASL Restatement is a waste of time in a trial that already features abundant government
8 witnesses and exhibits.

9 The government objects only to Dr. Lynch’s position that Yelland is “unqualified,” Opp.
10 at 8, and therefore concedes the remainder of Dr. Lynch’s arguments. But the government does
11 not claim Yelland is qualified—it cannot do so because Yelland has repeatedly conceded that he
12 is not qualified to opine on the IFRS revenue recognition rules applicable to Autonomy Group.
13 Lynch MIL No. 3 § II.C. Instead, the government cites the Court’s previous note that Defendant
14 Hussain did not explain why the distinction among accounting rules mattered in terms of revenue
15 recognition. Opp. at 8. That argument is inapposite here for four reasons. First, the government
16 proposes to have Yelland testify to expert opinions about what IFRS required. It therefore bears
17 the burden of proving he is an expert; it is not Dr. Lynch’s burden to prove why his expertise
18 would or would not be relevant. Second, IAS 18.14 (the standard discussed by Brice and Taylor)
19 applies only to IFRS, not UK GAAP. A proper methodology for determining revenue
20 recognition would examine IAS 18.14, and Yelland has conceded that he is unqualified to do so.
21 Third, Rule 702 was amended after the Court’s opinion in *Hussain* to abrogate the relied-upon
22 precedent regarding qualifications being a matter of weight. The government has not proven that
23 Yelland is qualified, and he in fact is not. Fourth, the government and Dr. Lynch have each
24 provided witnesses who, unlike Yelland, have IFRS experience: Steven Brice and Greig Taylor.
25 It is cumulative and a waste of time to have Yelland testify.

26 The government does not otherwise contest Dr. Lynch’s reasoned argument, and the
27
28

1 Court should therefore grant the motion to exclude.

2 **E. Yelland’s Recitation of Hearsay Is Inadmissible Under Fed. R. Evid. 802 and**
 3 **703 and the Confrontation Clause**

4 The government does not contest Dr. Lynch’s argument that the Federal Rules of
 5 Evidence bar Yelland from testifying based upon hearsay. It says only that Yelland “should be
 6 able to explain why he took actions and what information formed the basis for his decisions,” but
 7 it does not claim that this can extend to relying upon hearsay or inadmissible evidence. Opp. at
 8 8. Moreover, the government does not cite a law, rule, or precedent that would render such
 9 evidence admissible. The government does not contest the laws, rules, and precedents cited by
 10 Dr. Lynch in Dkt. 294, and those arguments should be deemed accepted.

11 The government concedes that Yelland cannot testify based upon testimonial statements,
 12 without providing the defendant with notice and the opportunity to cross-examine the source of
 13 those testimonial statements. Opp. at 8-9. The government argues that the Confrontation Clause
 14 is nonetheless satisfied because Yelland has relied on “business records,” not testimonial
 15 statements, in reaching his opinions. Opp. at 9. Yelland’s opinions are not based on business
 16 records. Instead, Yelland’s opinions are based on third-hand versions of testimonial statements
 17 from interviewees adapted to support litigation. *See United States v. Williams*, No. 05-cr-920,
 18 2010 WL 11474588, at *5 (C.D. Cal. Aug. 13, 2010) (“Testimonial statements have been
 19 described as those made ‘in response to structured questioning in an investigative environment . .
 20 . where the declarant would reasonably expect [the] . . . responses might be used in future
 21 judicial proceedings.’” (quoting *United States v. Saget*, 377 F.3d 223, 228 (2d Cir. 2004), *suppl.*
 22 *op.* at 108 F. App’x 667 (2d Cir. 2004) (alterations in original); *Therasense*, 2008 WL 2323856,
 23 at *2 (noting that the “correct way” to offer opinions based on similar hearsay from lawyers is
 24 for the foundational witness to testify first and be cross-examined). Worse than merely relying
 25 upon testimonial hearsay, Yelland conveyed those purported testimonial statements to the jury in
 26 *Hussain* without identifying the speaker or permitting cross-examination. *See* Dkt. 294-1. That
 27 testimony violated the Confrontation Clause and should not be admitted against Dr. Lynch.
 28

CONCLUSION

For the reasons stated herein, the Court should exclude the opinion testimony of Christopher Yelland. To the extent the Court declines not to do so, it should compel the government to disclose a proper expert witness summary signed by Yelland under Rule 16(a)(1)(G), including the underlying bases and reasons for Yelland's opinions. Dr. Lynch reserves the right to seek a *Daubert* hearing depending on the content of the disclosure.

Dated: February 7, 2024

Respectfully submitted,

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