

Made on behalf of the Claimant in the Coinbase Claim, Kraken Claim and BTC Core Claim
Made on behalf of Defendant in the COPA Claim
Seventh Witness Statement Dr Craig Steven Wright
Dated 11 December 2023

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
BUSINESS AND PROPERTY COURTS OF ENGLAND AND WALES
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LIST (ChD)**

**Claim No. IL-2021-000019
(the "COPA Claim")**

BETWEEN:

CRYPTO OPEN PATENT ALLIANCE

Claimant

- and -

DR CRAIG STEVEN WRIGHT

Defendant

**Claim No. IL-2022-000035
(the "Coinbase Claim")**

BETWEEN:

**(1) DR CRAIG STEVEN WRIGHT
(2) WRIGHT INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENTS LIMITED**

Claimants

- and -

**(1) COINBASE GLOBAL, INC.
(2) CB PAYMENTS, LTD
(3) COINBASE EUROPE LIMITED
(4) COINBASE, INC.**

Defendants

**Claim No. IL-2022-000036
(the "Kraken Claim")**

BETWEEN:

**(1) DR CRAIG STEVEN WRIGHT
(2) WRIGHT INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENTS LIMITED**

Claimants

- and -

**(1) PAYWARD, INC.
(2) PAYWARD LTD.
(3) PAYWARD VENTURES, INC**

I, DR CRAIG STEVEN WRIGHT [REDACTED] WILL SAY AS FOLLOWS:

1. Unless otherwise stated, the facts and matters set out in this witness statement are within my own personal knowledge and recollection and I believe them to be true. Where the facts and matters are not within my own knowledge, they are based on the documents or other sources I mention below and are believed by me to be true, the best of my knowledge and belief. Nothing stated in this witness statement waives legal professional privilege over communications between myself and my current solicitors, Shoosmiths LLP or between me and any of my former legal representatives.
2. I make this witness statement in response to the Eighteenth Witness Statement of Philip Nathan Sherrell ("**Sherrell 18**") which was served on 7 December 2023 in response to my application, dated 1 December 2023, to rely on certain documents and to adjourn the joint trial.
3. In this witness statement, I respond to Mr Sherrell's evidence regarding three tweets that Christen Ager-Hanssen posted in September and October 2023, which Mr Sherrell believes undermine the evidential value of the documents that I have sought permission to rely on. In doing so, I adopt the relevant headings within Sherrell 18, and the defined terms used in my Fifth Witness Statement. Except where otherwise stated, references to paragraph numbers below are to paragraphs of Sherrell 18.

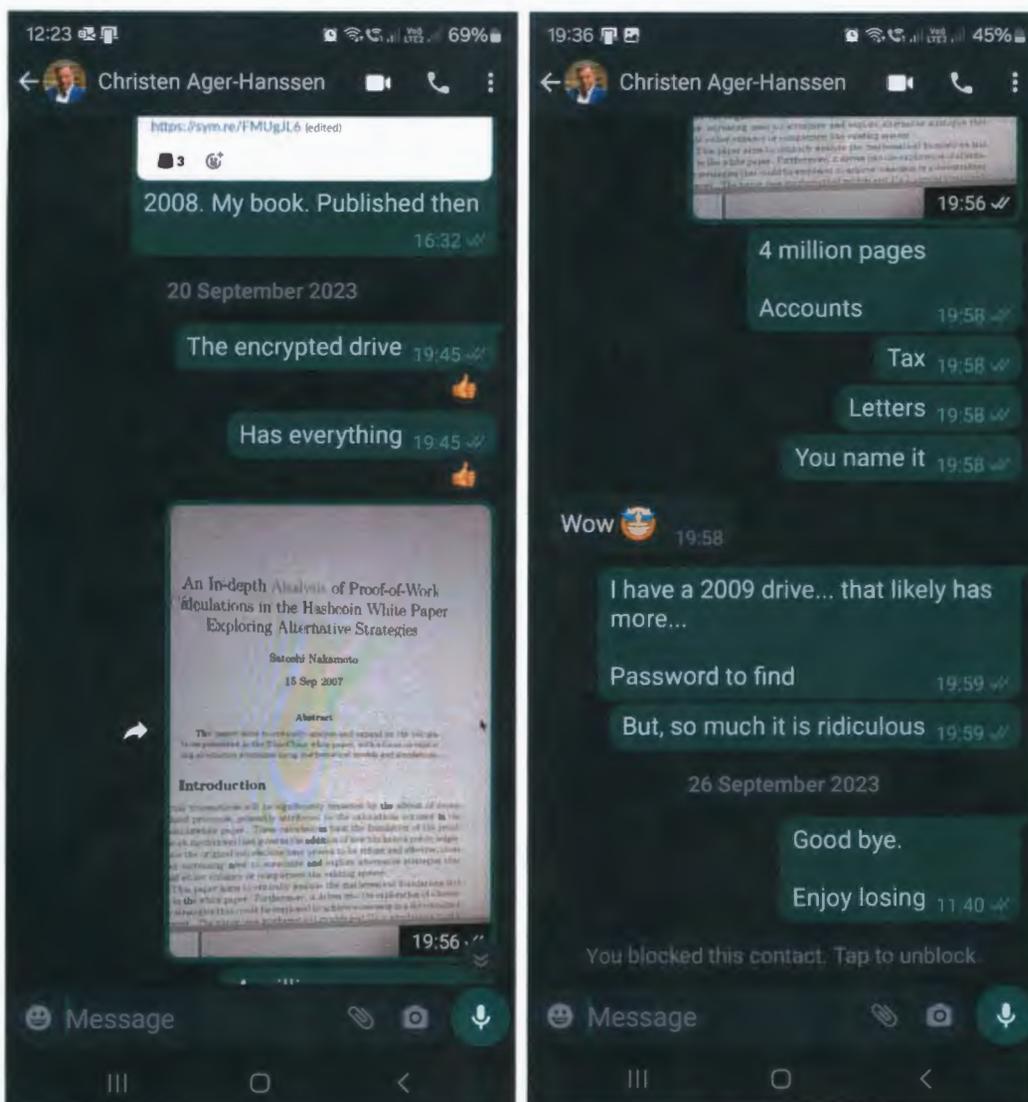
The "4 million pages" Tweet

4. Mr Sherrell begins with a tweet made by Mr Ager-Hanssen on 5 October 2023, which contains two alleged screenshots of WhatsApp exchanges between me and Mr Ager-Hanssen¹. At that time, Mr Ager-Hanssen had recently been dismissed as Group CEO of nChain UK Ltd (as explained in my Third Witness Statement dated 19 October 2023).
5. Mr Sherrell states (at paragraph 32) that the relevant exchanges took place on two dates and that "*The first date is 5 September 2023 and the second date is 26 September 2023*"². The date of the first exchange is incorrect. That exchange actually occurred on 20 September 2023, commencing at 19:45. I have reviewed my WhatsApp conversations with Mr Ager-Hanssen and have set out below two screenshots of an exchange I had with him on that date, which I have made on my mobile phone. As can

¹ Sherrell 18 paragraphs 31 to 42

² Sherrell 18 paragraphs 32

be seen from those screenshots, I did send the messages shown in the first screenshot attached to Mr Ager-Hanssen's 5 October tweet, but did so on 20 September 2023, not (as alleged by Mr Sherrell) on 5 September 2023.



6. For context, as I explained in my Fifth Witness Statement, 20 September 2023 was the date on which KLD had imaged the Hard Drives after I found them in a drawer in my home office and realised that they may not have been previously imaged for disclosure purposes. Therefore, Mr Sherrell is wrong to suggest, whether on the basis of Mr Ager-Hanssen's tweets or otherwise, that I had access to the Hard Drives on 5 September 2023.
7. The screenshots shown at paragraph 32 of Sherrell 18 appear to have been manipulated. For example, they do not include WhatsApp ticks (indicating if a message

has at least been sent), which are a fundamental feature of WhatsApp. I also note that in that same screenshot there is reference to a missed call at 10:41, which I did not make.

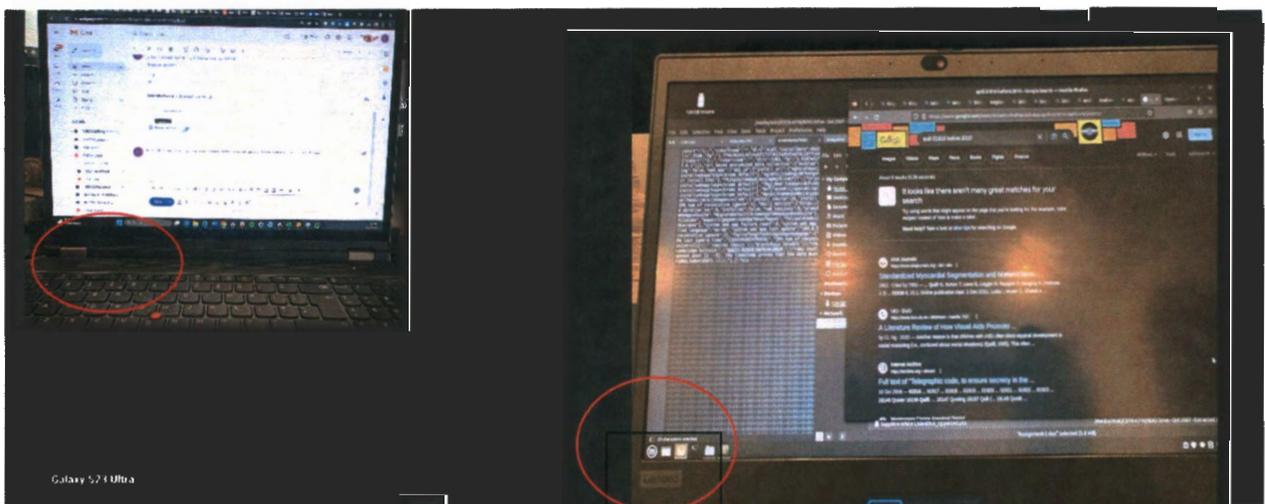
8. For completeness, I note that Mr Sherrell states (at paragraph 42) that Mr Ager-Hassen “left NChain”. As explained above, Mr Ager-Hanssen was in fact dismissed, in part because of his theft of intellectual property and fabrication of documents and I believe there are ongoing legal proceedings concerning a variety of claims made against him by nChain.
9. As to paragraph 34 to 38 of Sherrell 18, I note that I sent to Mr Ager-Hanssen a photograph, taken using my mobile phone, of my computer screen which was running and displaying Overleaf (the Cloud based LaTeX compiling programme) in a browser. The image included in the WhatsApp conversation referred to above is of the right-hand side of the Overleaf page, which showed a compiled version (i.e., the output) of the relevant code entered on the left hand-side of that page. However, I never downloaded that output compiled version, so there was no corresponding PDF document for me to disclose.

The “Biggest Fake Ever” Tweet

10. At paragraphs 43-64, Mr Sherrell comments on another tweet dated 5 October 2023 from Mr Ager-Hanssen. The first screenshot attached to that tweet is a privileged email dated 25 September 2023 from me to Travers Smith LLP, my former solicitors. Mr Ager-Hanssen had no authority to disclose that communication. I note, however, that the e-mail post-dates my discovery of the Hard Drives on 15 September 2023 and their imaging by KLD on 20 September 2023.
11. The second image in this tweet is of an exchange between Mr Ager-Hanssen and Stefan Matthews, apparently concerning 3 photographs of a laptop screen. Mr Sherrell states at paragraph 49 that “*several of the same screenshots*” have been provided by me and exhibited to my Third Witness Statement as CSW4, and that I have commented on them at paragraph 18 of that statement. From this, Mr Sherrell states that (1) the screenshots in Mr Ager-Hanssen’s tweet were taken from my own Wright International Investments UK Ltd laptop; (2) these show my own browsing history; (3) I have already stated that such history dates from after 1 September 2023 (i.e. after Madden 1); and (4) the screenshots display files, including my search history, accessed from within the

BDO drive itself; and (5) as a result, my account and description of the BDO Image does not appear accurate.

12. As I explained at paragraph 18 of my Third Witness Statement, I believe that Mr Ager-Hanssen was involved in the illegal access and compromise of my computer network and I filed a police report regarding the same on 25 September 2023. Contrary to paragraph 49 of Sherrell 18, I did not state in that same paragraph of my Third Witness Statement that the relevant “screenshots” were of my own laptop, only that Mr Ager-Hanssen had obtained access to my browsing history on my laptop by unauthorised means. Although I do recognise the browsing history shown on Mr Ager-Hanssen’s tweeted photographs to show the browsing history from my Lenovo ThinkPad laptop, the laptop on which the relevant files are shown in Mr Ager-Hanssen’s photographs appears to be running a Linux operating system running a Mozilla web browser. I do not use these. Rather I use Windows 11 on my Lenovo ThinkPad laptop and conduct searches using Microsoft Edge. My Lenovo ThinkPad laptop has a bespoke build and does not have the Lenovo label, contrary to the one shown in Mr Ager-Hanssen’s photos. The images shown by Mr Ager-Hanssen show my Microsoft Edge/Windows browsing history being reviewed on a Laptop running Linux. To demonstrate this difference, I have attached below a photograph of my Lenovo laptop (left) alongside the relevant “screenshot” from Mr Ager-Hanssen’s tweet (right).



13. As I have stated above, I believe that Mr Ager-Hanssen has remotely accessed my laptop and captured information from it which he has then used to generate the displays on the laptop shown in his images.

14. As regards Mr Sherrell's allegation that my search history was saved on the BDO Image, none of the relevant searches in fact exist on that Image. I do not know precisely why the screenshots in Mr Ager-Hanssen's tweets might suggest this, but I wish to note the following:

14.1. After KLD's imaging of the Samsung drive on 20 September 2023, I took an image of the Samsung drive at around 6pm the same day. I mounted and searched this drive as a read-only file system at around 7pm. I found an image of the BDO drive which I then mounted on my Lenovo laptop as a read-only file system.

14.2. As stated above, I believe Mr Ager-Hanssen had remote access to that laptop. Mr Ager-Hanssen could therefore have found the BDO Image that I had mounted onto it and copied all or parts of that image, allowing him to generate the photographs shown in Mr Sherrell's statement.

The "faketoshi" Tweet

15. In relation to the 'report' about which Mr Ager-Hanssen tweeted on 30 September 2023, I did not commission any such report, know nothing about it and cannot assist the Court about the circumstances in which it was produced or who produced it. If the report exists, I have never seen a copy and do not have a copy in my possession or control. As Mr Sherrell recognises at paragraph 67, the full context of the report referred to is not known and conclusions cannot therefore be drawn from it.

16. As I have explained in my Sixth Witness Statement in the Tulip Trading proceedings, I accessed the website shown in the browsing extract appearing in this tweet as part of my research in response to Mr Madden's expert report. The page in issue relates to a question from seven and a half years ago. It was not me who asked the question but another individual. I accessed the site shown in this browsing history because it references a number of academic papers that have analysed the Bitcoin White Paper. One of these is related to an Aston University paper that did an analysis of my original White Paper in 2014. This analysis demonstrated that the bitcoin White Paper was written in LaTeX.

<u>Statement of Truth</u>

I believe the facts stated in this witness statement are true. I understand that proceedings for contempt of court may be brought against anyone who makes, or causes to be made, a false statement in a document verified by a statement of truth without an honest belief in its truth.

Signed:

Name:

Dated:


CRIG S. WRIGHT
11 Dec 2