

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  
First Witness Statement of Hannah Louise Field  
Dated 1 December 2023  
Exhibits HLF1 – HLF13

**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**

**Defendants**

**Claim No. IL-2022-000069  
(the "BTC Core Claim")**

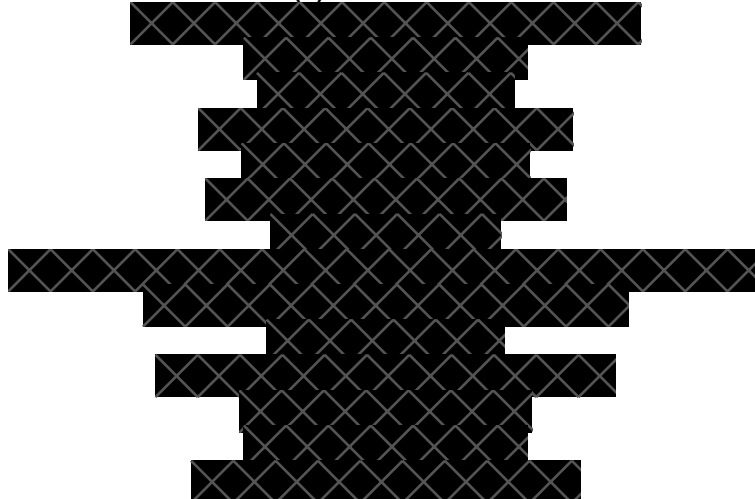
**BETWEEN:**

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

**Claimants**

**- and -**

**(1) BTC CORE**



- (16) BLOCK, INC.**
- (17) SPIRAL BTC, INC.**
- (18) SQUAREUP EUROPE LTD**
- (19) BLOCKSTREAM CORPORATION INC.**
- (20) CHAINCODE LABS, INC**
- (21) COINBASE GLOBA INC.**
- (22) CB PAYMENTS, LTD**
- (23) COINBASE EUROPE LIMITED**
- (24) COINBASE INC.**
- (25) CRYPTO OPEN PATENT ALLIANCE**
- (26) SQUAREUP INTERNATIONAL LIMITED**

**Defendants**

---

**FIRST WITNESS STATEMENT OF HANNAH LOUISE FIELD**

---

1. I am a partner in the firm of Shoosmiths LLP ("**Shoosmiths**"), solicitors for the Defendant ("**Dr Wright**") in the proceedings (the "**Proceedings**") brought by COPA (the "**Claimant**") against Dr Wright. As of 6 October 2023, I am one of the partners who has conduct of these Proceedings on behalf of the Defendant and I am duly authorised by the Defendant to make this witness statement on his behalf.
2. Except where I state otherwise, the facts and matters to which I refer in this witness statement are within my own knowledge, acquired during the conduct of this matter, and are true. Where I make a statement based upon a matter of information or belief, I indicate that this is the case and state the source of that information or belief.
3. There is now produced and shown to me a bundle marked "**HLF**" to which I shall refer in this witness statement.
4. I make this witness statement in support of the Dr Wright's application for permission pursuant to CPR Practice Direction 57AB, §12.5 to rely on certain additional documents (including documents from recently discovered hard drives (the "**Hard Drives**") that he has already disclosed), for confidentiality restrictions to be placed on disclosure and inspection of certain documents, and for adjournment under CPR Rule 3.1(2)(b) of the trial listed to begin on 15 January 2024, and for an order for directions to the adjourned trial in the form of the draft Order enclosed to the Application Notice (which includes providing for a postponement of the deadline for serving witness statements of fact in reply (currently 1 December 2023)) (the "**Application**").
5. Where I refer below to the documents on which Dr Wright seeks permission to rely, my explanation of the nature and significance of those documents is based on instructions provided to me by Dr Wright and is true to the best of my information, knowledge and belief. This applies in particular to the facts and matters stated by me in paragraphs 18, 19.1, 19.2, 25 to 35 below and Schedule 1 (pages 1-8 HLF).

## **Background**

6. Shoosmiths only became the legal representatives on record for Dr Wright, for these proceedings, on 6 October 2023. Therefore, some of the issues surrounding the Hard Drives predate Shoosmiths' instruction. Those matters are addressed principally in Dr Wright's Fifth Witness Statement ("**Wright 5**") served in support of this Application. Where I refer to matters that predate Shoosmiths' instruction, I explain what the source of my knowledge is.

7. In accordance with the Directions Order of Master Clark dated 2 September 2022 (**Exhibit HLF1**, pages 1-18 HLF), the parties gave extended disclosure on 31 January 2023. Dr Wright's e-discovery provider for these Proceedings is KLDDiscovery ("**KLD**"), whose involvement predates my firm's instruction. KLD use a platform called Relativity for the purpose of the disclosure exercise ("**Relativity**").
8. Following disclosure, and as explained in Wright 5, Dr Wright discovered two hard drives in his home office that had not been included as part of the initial document retention and disclosure exercise carried out by AlixPartners in February 2019. Dr Wright has provided, in Wright 5, a detailed explanation of why those hard drives (or any parts thereof) were not previously included in his disclosure.
9. The relevant hard drives are:
  - 9.1. a Samsung T1 USB SSD (serial number A665403GAYNC52S) ("the Samsung Drive"); and
  - 9.2. a MyDigitalSSD OTG USB SSD (serial number 700001662137051115) ("the MyDigital Drive").
10. I understand from Wright 5 that KLD visited Dr Wright's home on 20 September 2023 and took an image of each of the Hard Drives. On 10 October 2023, KLD uploaded the Hard Drives to Relativity, from which it could be observed that:
  - 10.1. The Samsung Drive contained 151,945 documents;
  - 10.2. A disk image file named "BDOPC.raw" within the Samsung Drive (the "**BDO Image**"), contained 89,111 documents; and
  - 10.3. The MyDigital Drive contained 117,002 documents.
  - 10.4. The total number of documents on the Hard Drives was 268,947 documents.
11. On the same day, KLD applied the agreed search terms listed in the Disclosure Review Document to the 268,947 documents on the Hard Drives. This revealed that:
  - 11.1. The Samsung Drive (including the BDO image) contained 41,853 responsive documents; and
  - 11.2. The MyDigital Drive contained 12,941 responsive documents.
12. On 11 October 2023, Shoosmiths wrote to Bird & Bird LLP ("**Bird & Bird**") conveying the above responsive document figures and proposing alternative search terms

(**Exhibit HLF2**, pages 19-36 HLF). KLD then applied those alternative search terms to the 268,947 documents on the Hard Drives, producing the following results:

- 12.1. The Samsung Drive (including the BDO image) contained 2,159 responsive documents; and
  - 12.2. The MyDigital Drive contained 4,143 responsive documents.
13. On 23 October 2023, Shoosmiths wrote to Bird & Bird proposing the additional keyword searches to narrow the pool of potentially relevant documents further and attaching an annex of all the keywords used to date (**Exhibit HLF3**, pages 37-42 HLF). When subsequently applied in combination with those proposed in Shoosmiths' 11 October letter, this produced the following results:
- 13.1. The Samsung Drive (including the BDO image) contained approximately 2,455 responsive documents; and
  - 13.2. The MyDigital Drive contained approximately 4,668 responsive documents.
14. By letter dated 25 October 2023 (**Exhibit HLF4**, pages 43-51 HLF), Shoosmiths provided the Claimant with an initial 93 documents from the Hard Drives that Dr Wright considered to be particularly relevant to his case.
15. On 3 November 2023, Shoosmiths finished its review of the documents referred to at paragraph 13 above. On 8 November 2023, Dr Wright disclosed (pursuant to the Defendant's ongoing disclosure obligations) a total of 486 documents, which included the 93 documents provided to the Claimant on 25 October 2023 (**Exhibit HLF5**, pages 52-53 HLF).
16. On 10 November 2023, Shoosmiths wrote to Bird & Bird (2nd letter) regarding what material the Hard Drives contain and why it was not disclosed earlier (**Exhibit HLF6**, pages 54-59 HLF).
17. On 15 November 2023, KLD informed Shoosmiths that they had not processed a section of the MyDigital Drive. Following this information, Shoosmiths investigated with KLD the circumstances of the image not having been processed. On 21 November 2023, KLD clarified to Shoosmiths that this was due to a software error and that some of the files from the MyDigital Drive had not been unlocked successfully. KLD further advised that the error had only come to their attention when they produced a processing report as part of their protocol. KLD deduplicated the further documents and applied the search terms, this returned 4,884 additional documents for Shoosmiths

to review. The search terms applied are annexed to Shoosmiths' letter to Bird & Bird dated 23 October 2023 (**Exhibit HLF3**). This review has been undertaken and returned 352 documents which were disclosed to Bird & Bird on 28 November 2023.

18. On 27 November 2023, Shoosmiths wrote to Bird & Bird requesting, among other matters, consent pursuant to CPR PD 57AD, §12.5 for Dr Wright to be permitted to rely on 97 documents found in, and disclosed from, the Hard Drives (the "**97 Documents**"), as well as certain other documents which I describe in the paragraph immediately below (the "**27 November Letter**") (**Exhibit HLF7**, pages 60-81 HLF). The same letter set out the impact of such reliance (if permitted) on the procedural timetable, and the need to adjourn the trial. It also asked for comments from Bird & Bird on Dr Wright's proposed adjournment of the trial and further associated revisions to the procedural timetable.
19. As explained in the 27 November Letter, in the course of considering the additional disclosure from the Hard Drives and ongoing preparation of Dr Wright's case for trial, several other disclosure issues have come to my firm's attention. These include the following:
  - 19.1. Further documents have come to my firm's attention which appear to be versions of Dr Wright's assignment on "*Documentary Credits under the UCP 500*" (already disclosed as ID\_000395, which the Claimant alleges to have been backdated (**Exhibit HLF8**, pages **82-106 HLF**). Specifically, Dr Wright identified two other versions of this assignment, which appear on their face to date from 31 August 2007 and 12 October 2007, respectively (**Exhibit HLF9**, pages **107-128 HLF**). According to Dr Wright, the latter version of this assignment was submitted by him for evaluation as to inclusion in the WebJCLI (**Exhibit HLF10**, pages **129-171 HLF**). Copies of these documents (the "**Documentary Credits Assignment Documents**") were provided to Bird & Bird with the 27 November Letter. My firm stated in that letter that it was not able to explain why these documents were not disclosed by Dr Wright's former legal representatives. Further investigation of the treatment of these documents on KLD's Relativity platform since that letter indicates that the documents were reviewed for disclosure prior to the date for Extended Disclosure but were not disclosed because they were incorrectly coded as privileged or not relevant during the review conducted by Dr Wright's former legal representatives, Ontier LLP ("**Ontier**").

19.2. There are also a number of LaTeX documents in Dr Wright's control, in addition to those found on the Hard Drives which he had not previously disclosed. As to this:

19.2.1. I am informed by Dr Wright that these documents are currently hosted on a web-based application known as Overleaf, which operates as an online LaTeX editor.

19.2.2. A basic understanding of the nature of LaTeX is relevant to a number of issues in this Application, and I enclose a copy of a short section titled "An introduction to LaTeX" from the website [www.latex-project.org/about](http://www.latex-project.org/about), which explains the basic function of LaTeX [HLFX##]. Dr Wright informs me that LaTeX is a document preparation system that allows a person to write in plain text, and include coded instructions with that text; this text (the LaTeX code) can later be compiled using appropriate software into an output format, for example a PDF or Word document. To take a simple example, Dr Wright informs me that the plain text "`\textbf{words in bold}`" in LaTeX when compiled would produce an output of "words in bold". However, Dr Wright also informs me that LaTeX can also be used to create very complex documents, and is often used for the production of scientific papers.

19.2.3. I am informed by Dr Wright that LaTeX code hosted on Overleaf does not have a metadata date. According to Dr Wright, code hosted on Overleaf (or sections of it) can be exported as a separate file, or the code can be compiled into an output document (for example, a Word or PDF file), and that output file can then be exported as a separate file, but in each case the exported file will have metadata indicating that it was created on the date it was compiled and exported (irrespective of when the underlying LaTeX code was written).

19.2.4. Dr Wright informs me that files hosted on his Overleaf account were not reviewed for disclosure by his former solicitors, Ontier, because they were considered to fall outside the date ranges for searches specified in his Disclosure Review Document. Dr Wright informs me that Ontier took the view that documents compiled and exported from Overleaf after 31 August 2019 (the latest date range for disclosure of

documents in this case) were not disclosable for this reason. Dr Wright does not know why Ontier did not consider the underlying LaTeX code to be disclosable notwithstanding that it cannot be dated.

19.2.5. Notwithstanding this, I recognise that at least some of the material in Dr Wright's control on Overleaf is (or may be) relevant to the Identity Issue and therefore disclosable. Dr Wright instructs me that the only relevant or potentially relevant material hosted on his Overleaf account is the material in a folder entitled 'Bitcoin' (the "Bitcoin Folder"), and that the other material hosted on Dr Wright's Overleaf account relates to academic and personal interests post-dating 2020 that are not relevant to these proceedings.

19.2.6. I am informed by Dr Wright that the Bitcoin Folder contains certain LaTeX files which, when the code contained on them is compiled in Overleaf (or another LaTeX compiler), produce a copy of the Bitcoin White Paper (the "White Paper LaTeX Files"). Dr Wright instructs me that the versions of the White Paper produced in this way are materially identical to the Bitcoin White Paper published by Satoshi Nakamoto.

20. Bird & Bird responded on behalf of the Claimant in their second letter of 29 November 2023 (**Exhibit HLF11, pages 172-178 HLF**), refusing Dr Wright consent to rely on these additional documents, and indicating that Dr Wright should issue an application for permission by 1 December 2023 if he wished to rely on the documents. Later, on the same day, Macfarlanes wrote on behalf of the Bitcoin Developers to refuse consent in similar terms (**Exhibit HLF12, pages 179-182 HLF**).

#### **Permission to rely on additional disclosure**

21. The 97 Documents, the Documentary Credits Assignment Documents and the White Paper LaTeX Files (together the "**Paragraph 12.5 Documents**") were not disclosed at the time required for Extended Disclosure in accordance with the Directions Order. Accordingly, in the absence of the consent of the other parties, Dr Wright requires the permission of the Court to rely on these documents, pursuant to CPR PD 57AD, §12.5.

22. Dr Wright explains the reasons why the 97 Documents were not previously disclosed in Wright 5. I have explained above, based on Dr Wright's instructions, why the



Documentary Credits Assignment Documents and the White Paper LaTeX Files were not previously disclosed.

23. I understand that in considering Dr Wright's application to rely upon the Paragraph 12.5 Documents, the Court will take into account the importance of the documents to the proceedings and whether the opposing parties can fairly deal with them at trial. I address each of these matters below.

### **The importance of the Paragraph 12.5 Documents**

#### The 97 Documents

24. Each of the 97 Documents was stored on the Samsung Drive. All but 2 of those 97 Documents were stored within the BDO Image.
25. In relation to the 95 documents stored within the BDO Image, it is potentially significant that the BDO Image appears on its face to have been created on 31 October 2007 (I am informed by KLD that this is the "creation date" stored in the image metadata). Dr Wright instructs me (and explains in Wright 5) that the files contained in the BDO Image date up to 31 October 2007, and that he has not edited or amended any documents in the BDO Image since 31 October 2007 (although note the contents of paragraph 26 below). If that is correct, then the 95 Documents are at least very strong evidence that Dr Wright is Satoshi Nakamoto, as is clear from their nature and contents. I set out at Schedule 1 to this Witness Statement an explanation of the relevance of these documents in tabular form, based on information provided by Dr Wright, which proceeds on the basis that the documents in the BDO Image were not modified since 31 October 2007. It is impractical to exhibit the 97 Documents to my witness statement. I have instead in Schedule 1 identified each document by its disclosure number. My firm will liaise with the other parties to seek to agree an appropriate sample of the 97 Documents to be included in the hearing bundle for the Application.
26. Given the considerable demands already placed on Dr Placks, and in the interests of time, my firm has obtained a memorandum from Stroz Friedberg Ltd ("**Stroz Friedberg**"), acting as consultants on behalf of Dr Wright, on the metadata appearing on the Samsung Drive and the BDO Image. A copy of Stroz Friedberg's memorandum dated 30 November 2023 is at (**Exhibit HLF13, pages 183-187 HLF**). As noted by Dr Wright in Wright 5, there are a number of data points identified by Stroz Friedberg that require further investigation. Dr Wright recognises that these matters will need to be

addressed by the parties' forensic experts when considering the provenance of the Hard Drives (as I explain further in paragraph 40.2 below).

#### The White Paper LaTeX Files

27. I explained at paragraph 19.2.6 above that the White Paper LaTeX Files, when compiled in Overleaf, my firm is instructed produces a copy of the Bitcoin White Paper which Dr Wright states is in the same form as the version published by Satoshi Nakamoto. The significance of this arises from the fact that, according to Dr Wright, it is practically infeasible for a person to "reverse-engineer" the LaTeX code for the Bitcoin White Paper from its published form. In other words, the LaTeX code in Dr Wright's possession uniquely codes for the Bitcoin White Paper, but the Bitcoin White Paper cannot be the source for that code.
28. Dr Wright has explained to my firm that it is practically infeasible to reverse engineer the LaTeX code from the published Bitcoin White Paper for two reasons.
29. First, Dr Wright has previously explained in his Fourth Witness Statement (at §6.c.i) that he drafted the Bitcoin White Paper using LaTeX. He also informs me that in drafting the text of the Bitcoin White Paper using LaTeX, he used instructions for non-standard formatting (for example, coding for differences in the size of the spaces between words) in effect as a form of digital watermark. As a result, according to Dr Wright, any attempt to recreate the code from the published White Paper would be very unlikely to result in code that could then be compiled into a precise replica of the White Paper (for example, software that used text recognition to convert a PDF of the White Paper into LaTeX code would produce code for text with standard spacing between words, rather than the variable and bespoke spacing in fact present in the published form of the Bitcoin White Paper).
30. Second, Dr Wright informs my firm that it would be particularly difficult to reverse engineer the LaTeX code for the images in the Bitcoin White Paper because such code would produce images that did not match the exact parameters of the images in the White Paper (for example, as to the precise location and angle of lines and arrows).
31. In this regard, Dr Wright has explained to my firm that in the 15 years since the Bitcoin White Paper was published, many people have tried to replicate it precisely without success.

32. I appreciate that Dr Wright's position as I summarise above will need to be addressed in expert evidence. However, if Dr Wright is correct as to the technical position, then Dr Wright would be in possession of LaTeX code that could only have been written by someone that drafted the Bitcoin White Paper, and this would be powerful evidence that Dr Wright is Satoshi Nakamoto.
33. Dr Wright has explained to my firm that the importance of the White Paper LaTeX Files is independent of the dates of the files recorded in their metadata. This is because these files are, on Dr Wright's instruction, unique, such that the mere possession of them is evidence of authorship of the White Paper.
34. The White Paper LaTeX Files are therefore of the highest possible importance for the trial of the Identity Issue, and that issue cannot fairly be determined unless Dr Wright is entitled to rely on these documents and have his case on the significance of these documents addressed in expert evidence.

#### Documentary Credits Assignment Documents

35. I explained the relevance of the Documentary Credits Assignment Documents at paragraph 20.1 above. Dr Wright wishes to rely on these versions of his assignment "*Documentary Credits under the UCP 500*" as being authentically dated from 2007 to rebut the allegation advanced by the Claimant that the already disclosed version of this document (ID\_000395) was backdated to 2007 by forgery. Given the seriousness of the allegation made by the Claimant, and the potential for these documents to answer that allegation, fairness requires that Dr Wright be permitted to rely on them.

#### **Dealing fairly with the Paragraph 12.5 Documents at trial**

36. I do not know the Claimant's and the Bitcoin Developers' position on whether they could in principle properly deal with the Paragraph 12.5 Documents within the existing trial timetable.
37. However, I do not consider that Dr Wright can properly and fairly present his case in relation to the Paragraph 12.5 Documents while maintaining the existing procedural timetable leading to a trial beginning on 15 January 2024. This is not least because, as explained below, expert evidence is required in relation to the Paragraph 12.5 Documents. Further, and as also explained below, there are a number of other reasons why a short adjournment to the trial date is, unfortunately, necessary.

38. In those circumstances, if the Court is prepared to adjourn the trial, as sought by the Application, then there is no reason why it could not give directions that ensure the Claimant and the Bitcoin Developers are able properly to deal with the Paragraph 12.5 Documents at the adjourned trial.

#### **Adjournment and other directions**

39. If Dr Wright is permitted to rely on the Paragraph 12.5 Documents, my firm believes that expert evidence will be required on the following matters that are not currently topics addressed by the parties' existing experts:

39.1. The authenticity of the White Paper LaTeX Files and some at least of the 97 Documents and Documentary Credits Assignment Documents;

39.2. The provenance of the Hard Drives, including the date(s) on which the BDO image on the Samsung hard drive was captured and accessed prior Dr Wright's discovery of the Hard Drives during September 2023; and

39.3. The significance of the White Paper LaTeX files, how precisely they reproduce the Bitcoin White Paper and the extent to which (if at all) source code capable of compiling a precise replica of the published version of the Bitcoin White Paper can be reverse-engineered.

40. My firm anticipates that the first two categories above will be capable of being addressed by the parties' existing experts on forensic document analysis, though they will of course need time to consider the issues and prepare reports. Having spoken to Dr Placks, Dr Wright's expert on forensic document analysis, he could not realistically produce a report on those matters before 12 January 2024.

41. The third category of expert evidence referred to above, concerning the significance of the White Paper LaTeX Files, is not on its face a matter of forensic document analysis, and so my firm anticipates that it will fall outside the expertise of both parties' experts on forensic document analysis (and for his part, Dr Placks has confirmed that it is not a matter he is qualified to opine on). My firm is presently investigating who might be a suitable expert in this field, but any such person would need time to consider the White Paper LaTeX Files and the Bitcoin White Paper, and produce a report of their findings. That is an exercise that could take some considerable time.

42. Furthermore, the need to obtain further expert evidence (and instruct a new expert in a new discipline) arises at a time when Dr Wright is already facing an insurmountable burden in properly preparing his evidence and case within the existing timetable:
- 42.1. The Schedule of forgery allegations attached to the Claimant's RRRAPOC (the "Forgery Schedule") was served on 30 October 2023. It runs to 102 pages and contains detailed factual, opinion and expert forensic allegations concerning each of the 50 documents alleged by the Claimant to have been forged.
- 42.2. As foreshadowed by Dr Wright at the hearing before Mellor J on 12 October 2023, responding to the new allegations of forgery made by the Claimant in the Forgery Schedule is a very substantial exercise that has placed an additional heavy burden on Dr Wright at a time when there has been a considerable amount of other work to be done to meet the directions to trial.
- 42.3. The documents that the Claimant asserts to be forgeries include 21 documents that are not relied upon by Dr Wright as Reliance Documents and have not been addressed by Dr Placks, in his expert report dated 23 October 2023 ("**Dr Placks' Report**"). Dr Placks only had 7 weeks to respond to Mr Madden's first report ("**Mr Madden's First Report**"), which runs to over 1,000 pages including Appendices. By contrast, Mr Madden had approximately 5 calendar months in which to prepare his First Report. Dr Placks had no practical option in the time available to him but to focus on the Reliance Documents analysed in Mr Madden's First Report.
- 42.4. Fairness requires that Dr Placks be given a proper opportunity to address the 21 non-Reliance Documents that are now alleged by the Claimant to be forgeries. However, Dr Placks is currently working on the experts' joint statement as well as having to consider Mr Madden's Reply Report. Mr Madden's Reply Report (which was served on 17 November 2023 and runs to 172 pages including Appendices) raises yet further allegations to which Dr Placks will need to respond, but which Dr Placks has had limited time to consider. These include new allegations of forgery and/or manipulation concerning:
- 42.4.1. Dr Wright's Chain of Custody table (Appendix PM43 to Mr Madden's Reply Report);
- 42.4.2. Dr Wright's documents related to the Bitcoin White Paper (Appendix PM44 to Mr Madden's Reply Report);

42.4.3. matters arising out of Dr Wright's 4th witness statement, including new allegations of forgery relating to videos showing Dr Wright accessing the Anonymous Speech account through which he established the satoshi@anonymopusspeech.com and satoshi@vistomail.com email accounts during 2008 (Appendix PM45 to Mr Madden's Reply Report).

43. As already explained, Dr Placks cannot complete the exercises required of him any earlier than 12 January 2024.

44. Dr Wright is also required to file any responsive witness statement by 4pm on 1 December 2023. This is entirely unrealistic in light of the volume, complexity and seriousness of the allegations to which Dr Wright needs to respond, the burden of doing so having been exacerbated by the piecemeal manner in which the Claimant has introduced its allegations of forgery against Dr Wright. As to this:

44.1. As explained above, the Forgery Schedule makes 50 individual allegations of forgery and runs to 102 pages of allegations, but also frequently cross-refers to and relies on Mr Madden's First Report, which itself runs to over 1,000 pages including Appendices. Many of the allegations are technical in nature, and require investigation in order to understand and respond to. As already noted, Professor Madden produced his report over a 5-month period.

44.2. Dr Wright will also need to consider, investigate and respond to the new allegations of forgery made in Mr Madden's Reply Report, which is described above.

44.3. The process of Dr Wright preparing his reply evidence is also inevitably being impacted by the other demands on his time in these proceedings. Dr Wright is an individual and is the only person able to consider and give instructions on all the issues arising, not least in connection with the newly discovered documents, the large volume of correspondence passing between the parties and the demands of preparing for a trial that is due to start next month.

44.4. Given the seriousness of the allegations being asserted in the Forgery Schedule and in Mr Madden's Reply Report, Dr Wright should be afforded an opportunity properly to respond.

45. In the light of the developments set out above, Dr Wright cannot fairly or realistically meet the current deadlines for service of his reply witness statements of fact or

completion of expert evidence on forensic document analysis. Further time is required to:

- 45.1. enable Dr Wright to address the Claimant's forgery allegations,
  - 45.2. enable him to disclose the further documents identified in paragraph 19.2 above and
  - 45.3. enable the parties to produce the further expert evidence identified in paragraph 39 above.
46. My firm believes that the service of reply witness statements of fact and completion of expert evidence on forensic document analysis needs to be postponed until at least 12 January 2024 and recognise that this will inevitably require an adjustment to the start date of the trial. However, the additional matters identified above (i.e., provision of further disclosure by Dr Wright, preparation and service of reply witness statements and preparation and service of further expert evidence) could be completed in time for the trial to start on 19 February 2024.
47. Proposed revised directions to trial are attached to the Application Notice. These provide for:
- 47.1. Service of factual witness statements and simultaneous exchange of further expert evidence on 12 January 2024;
  - 47.2. Completion of the joint expert process by 2 February 2024;
  - 47.3. Filing of agreed trial bundles by 7 February 2024;
  - 47.4. Filing and exchange of skeleton arguments for trial by 12 February 2024;
  - 47.5. The trial to start on 19 February 2024, with two days of oral openings;
  - 47.6. Three days of judicial pre-reading from 21 to 23 February 2024;
  - 47.7. Factual evidence from 26 February to 11 March 2024;
  - 47.8. Expert evidence from 12 to 27 March 2024 (concluding the last day of the Hilary Term);
  - 47.9. Preparation of written closing submissions from 9 to 12 April 2024; and
  - 47.10. Oral closing submissions from 15 to 18 April 2024

### **Confidentiality Restrictions**

48. I should point out that Dr Wright has yet to disclose the White Paper LaTeX Files but wishes to do so as promptly as possible. However, disclosure of those files raises serious confidentiality concerns. In particular, as explained above, the evidential value of the White Paper LaTeX Files on Dr Wright's case lies in their unique nature (i.e., the fact that on Dr Wright's case, only he has possession of them and that this puts him in the unique position of being able to compile an exact replica of the Bitcoin White Paper published by Satoshi Nakamoto).
49. Dr Wright is understandably concerned that if the White Paper LaTeX Files were disseminated, their evidential value would be diminished as anyone that possessed them would also be able to compile an exact replica of the Bitcoin White Paper.
50. It follows that these documents should be treated with particular care and covered by suitable restrictions on their use and dissemination over and above the collateral undertaking ordinarily applying to documents disclosed in the course of proceedings. My firm has already sent to Bird & Bird, as an enclosure to its 27 November Letter, those restrictions which Dr Wright considers to be necessary and appropriate in the circumstances of this case. These are set out in a draft order enclosed with the Application.
51. In its second letter of 29 November 2023, Bird & Bird argued that such restrictions are unnecessary because the Bitcoin White Paper has been in the public domain since 2008 and "*anyone can very simply recreate its terms*". This position, however, fails to appreciate the difference between possession of the published version of the White Paper (which is freely and publicly available) and possession of the LaTeX code that can be compiled into the published form of the White Paper. As explained above, the White Paper LaTeX Files are, on Dr Wright's case, the unique example of the latter.
52. Given the sensitivity of the White Paper LaTeX Files, it is fair and reasonable that additional care be taken to mitigate the risk of their dissemination. There is nothing unusual in my experience in highly sensitive and confidential documents being protected by additional restrictions in this way. Specifically, the restrictions sought by Dr Wright seek to limit access to the White Paper LaTeX Files to named individuals who would give a confidentiality undertaking to the Court and agree to maintain certain minimum security standards when storing the documents, and agree to destroy the documents after the conclusion of these proceedings, in an entirely orthodox way (and Dr Wright suggests that the Claimant and the Bitcoin Developers should indicate, in the first instance, which individuals should be granted access).

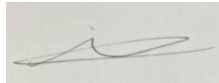


53. It is plainly imperative that Dr Wright disclose the White Paper LaTeX Files as soon as possible, and it is regrettable in this context that the Claimant and the Bitcoin Developers have refused to agree sensible confidentiality restrictions in order to facilitate that disclosure.

**Statement of Truth**

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: Hannah Louise Field

Dated: 1 December 2023

