

14-0826(L)  
Chevron Corp. v. Donziger

1 UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS

2 FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT

3 -----

4 August Term, 2014

5 (Argued: April 20, 2015

Decided: August 8, 2016)

6 Final briefs submitted June 1, 2015

7 Docket Nos. 14-0826(L), 14-0832(C)

8 \_\_\_\_\_  
9 CHEVRON CORPORATION,

10 Plaintiff-Appellee,

11 - v. -

12 STEVEN DONZIGER, THE LAW OFFICES OF STEVEN R. DONZIGER, DONZIGER  
13 & ASSOCIATES, PLLC, HUGO GERARDO CAMACHO NARANJO, JAVIER  
14 PIAGUAJE PAYAGUAJE,

15 Defendants-Appellants,

16 STRATUS CONSULTING, INC., DOUGLAS BELTMAN, ANN MAEST,

17 Defendants-Counter-Claimants,

18 Pablo Fajardo Mendoza, Luis Yanza, Frente De Defensa De La Amazonia aka Amazon  
19 Defense Front, Selva Viva Selviva CIA, LTDA, Maria Aguinda Salazar, Carlos Grefa  
20 Huatatocha, Catalina Antonia Aguinda Salazar, Lidia Alexandra Aguinda Aguinda, Patricio  
21 Alberto Chimbo Yumbo, Clide Ramiro Aguinda Aguinda, Luis Armando Chimbo Yumbo,  
22 Beatriz Mercedes Grefa Tanguila, Lucio Enrique Grefa Tanguila, Patricio Wilson Aguinda  
23 Aguinda, Celia Irene Viveros Cusangua, Francisco Matias Alvarado Yumbo, Francisco  
24 Alvarado Yumbo, Olga Gloria Grefa Cerda, Lorenzo José Alvarado Yumbo, Narcisa Aida  
25 Tanguila Narváez, Bertha Antonia Yumbo Tanguila, Gloria Lucrecia Tanguila Grefa,  
26 Francisco Victor Tanguila Grefa, Rosa Teresa Chimbo Tanguila, José Gabriel Revelo  
27 Llore, María Clelia Reascos Revelo, María Magdalena Rodríguez Barcenés, José Miguel

1 Ipiales Chicaiza, Heleodoro Pataron Guaraca, Luisa Delia Tanguila Narváez, Lourdes  
2 Beatriz Chimbo Tanguila, María Hortencia Viveros Cusangua, Segundo Angel Amanta  
3 Milán, Octavio Ismael Córdova Huanca, Elias Roberto Piyahuaje Payahuaje, Daniel Carlos  
4 Lusitande Yaiguaje, Benancio Fredy Chimbo Grefa, Guillermo Vicente Payaguaje  
5 Lusitande, Delfín Leonidas Payaguaje Payaguaje, Alfredo Donald Payaguaje Payaguaje,  
6 Teodoro Gonzalo Piaguaje Payaguaje, Miguel Mario Payaguaje Payaguaje, Fermin  
7 Piaguaje Payaguaje, Reinaldo Lusitande Yaiguaje, Luis Agustín Payaguaje Piaguaje,  
8 Emilio Martín Lusitande Yaiguaje, Simon Lusitande Yaiguaje, Armando Wilfrido Piaguaje  
9 Payaguaje, Angel Justino Piaguaje Lucitante,

10 Defendants,

11 ANDREW WOODS, LAURA J. GARR, H5,

12 Respondents.\*  
13

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14 Before: KEARSE, PARKER, and WESLEY, Circuit Judges.

15 Appeals from a judgment of the United States District Court for the Southern District  
16 of New York, Lewis A. Kaplan, Judge, principally (1) enjoining defendants-appellants from seeking  
17 to enforce in the United States an \$8.646 billion Ecuadorian judgment against plaintiff-appellee  
18 Chevron Corporation, and (2) imposing a constructive trust for Chevron's benefit on any property  
19 defendants-appellants have received or may receive anywhere in the world that is traceable to the  
20 Ecuadorian judgment or its enforcement. The district court found, following a bench trial, that the  
21 Ecuadorian judgment had been procured through, inter alia, defendants' bribery, coercion, and fraud,  
22 warranting relief against defendants Steven Donziger and his law firm under the Racketeer Influenced  
23 and Corrupt Organizations Act, 18 U.S.C. §§ 1961-1968, and against all defendants-appellants under  
24 New York common law. See 974 F.Supp.2d 362 (2014). Appellants challenge the district court's  
25 judgment principally on grounds of Article III standing, international comity, judicial estoppel, lack

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\* The Clerk of Court is directed to amend the official caption to conform with the above.

1 of legal authority for the granting of equitable relief, and/or lack of personal jurisdiction over  
2 defendants other than Donziger and his firm. Noting, inter alia, that appellants do not challenge the  
3 sufficiency of the evidence to support the district court's factual findings, that the Ecuadorian  
4 appellate courts declined to hear and resolve the above charges of corruption and expressly preserved  
5 the parties' rights to litigate those charges in United States courts, and that the district court's judgment  
6 has imposed in personam restrictions on the appellants without disturbing the Ecuadorian judgment,  
7 we find no basis for overturning the judgment of the district court.

8 Affirmed.

9 THEODORE B. OLSON, Washington, D.C. (Randy M. Mastro,  
10 Andrea E. Neuman, Caitlin J. Halligan, Gibson, Dunn &  
11 Crutcher, New York, New York, William E. Thomson, Gibson,  
12 Dunn & Crutcher, Los Angeles, California, on the brief), for  
13 Plaintiff-Appellee.

14  
15 DEEPAK GUPTA, Washington, D.C. (Gregory A. Beck, Jonathan E.  
16 Taylor, Gupta Beck, Washington, D.C.; Justin Marceau, John  
17 Campbell, Denver, Colorado, on the brief), for Defendants-  
18 Appellants Steven Donziger, The Law Offices of Steven R.  
19 Donziger, and Donziger & Associates, PLLC.

20  
21 BURT NEUBORNE, New York, New York, for Defendants-  
22 Appellants Hugo Gerardo Camacho Naranjo and Javier  
23 Piaguaje Payaguaje.

24 Winston & Strawn, Washington, D.C. (Eric W. Bloom, Lauren B.  
25 Schuttloffel, Eric M. Goldstein, Nassim H. Hooshmandnia, of  
26 counsel), filed a brief for Amicus Curiae The Republic of  
27 Ecuador, in support of neither party.

28 Gross Belsky Alonso, San Francisco, California (Jonathan Moore,  
29 Terry Gross, Adam C. Belsky, Monique Alonso, San  
30 Francisco, California; Thomas Bennigson, Public Good Law  
31 Center, Berkeley, California, of counsel), filed a brief for  
32 Amici Curiae Amnesty International, Amazon Watch, 350 Bay  
33 Area, Center for Environmental Health, CT Citizen Action  
34 Group, Food and Water Watch, Friends of the Earth, Global

1 Exchange, The Global Initiative for Economic, Social and  
2 Cultural Rights, Greenaction for Health and Environmental  
3 Justice, The International Accountability Project, Justice in  
4 Nigeria Now!, Marin Interfaith Task Force on the Americas,  
5 Media Alliance, Pachamama Alliance, Rainforest Action  
6 Network, Rights Action and Sunflower Alliance, in support of  
7 Defendants-Appellants.

8 Donald K. Anton, Canberra, Australia, filed a brief for Amici Curiae  
9 International Law Professors, in support of Defendants-  
10 Appellants.

11 G. Robert Blakey, Paradise Valley, Arizona, filed a brief as Amicus  
12 Curiae, in support of Plaintiff-Appellee.

13 Christopher J. Walker, Columbus, Ohio (Kate Comerford Todd, Tyler  
14 R. Green, U.S. Chamber Litigation Center, Inc., Washington,  
15 D.C., of counsel), filed a brief for Amicus Curiae Chamber of  
16 Commerce of the United States of America, in support of  
17 Plaintiff-Appellee.

18 Faegre Bakers Daniels, Minneapolis, Minnesota (Aaron D. Van Oort,  
19 Jeffrey P. Justman, of counsel), filed a brief for Amici Curiae  
20 Keith S. Rosenn, Francisco Reyes, and Raul Nunez Ojeda, in  
21 support of Plaintiff-Appellee.

22 Holwell, Shuster & Goldberg, New York, New York (Richard J.  
23 Holwell, of counsel), filed a brief for Amici Curiae Human  
24 Rights and Anti-Corruption Jurists, in partial support of  
25 Plaintiff-Appellee.

26 Richard A. Samp, Washington, D.C. (Cory L. Andrews, Washington  
27 Legal Foundation, of counsel), filed a brief for Amicus Curiae  
28 Washington Legal Foundation, in support of Plaintiff-Appellee.

29 Roger P. Alford, Notre Dame, Indiana, filed a brief for Amici Curiae  
30 Business Roundtable and International Law Scholars, in  
31 support of Plaintiff-Appellee.  
32

33 Jesse P. Levine, New York, New York (William B. Shipley, Genthod,  
34 Switzerland, of counsel), filed a brief for Amici Curiae Richard  
35 Janda, Juan C. Pinto, and Carolina Cruz Vinaccia, in support of  
36 Defendants-Appellants.

1 Richard L. Herz, Washington, D.C. (Marco B. Simons, Jonathan G.  
2 Kaufman, Michelle Harrison, Benjamin Hoffman, of counsel),  
3 filed a brief for Amicus Curiae EarthRights International, in  
4 support of Defendants-Appellants.

5 G. Elaine Wood, New York, New York, filed a brief for Amicus  
6 Curiae Legal Momentum, in support of Plaintiff-Appellee.

7 Schwarcz, Rimberg, Boyd & Rader, Los Angeles, California (K. Lee  
8 Crawford-Boyd, Los Angeles, California; Judith Kimerling,  
9 New York, New York, of counsel), filed a brief for Amici  
10 Curiae Proposed Huaorani Intervenors, in partial support of  
11 Defendants-Appellants.

1 KEARSE, Circuit Judge:

2 Defendants-appellants Steven Donziger, Donziger & Associates, PLLC, and the Law  
3 Offices of Steven R. Donziger (collectively the "Donziger Firm" or "Firm"), and defendants-  
4 appellants Hugo Gerardo Camacho Naranjo ("Camacho") and Javier Piaguaje Payaguaje ("Piaguaje"),  
5 appeal from a judgment of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York,  
6 Lewis A. Kaplan, Judge, granting certain relief against them in favor of plaintiff-appellee Chevron  
7 Corporation ("Chevron"), in connection with an \$8.646 billion judgment obtained against Chevron  
8 in Ecuador ("Ecuadorian Judgment"), by several dozen named plaintiffs from Ecuador's Lago Agrio  
9 area (the "Lago Agrio Plaintiffs" or "LAPs") represented by the Donziger Firm, for environmental  
10 damage in connection with 1960s-1990s oil exploration activities in Ecuador by Texaco, Inc.  
11 ("Texaco"), whose stock was later acquired by Chevron. The district court's judgment, entered after  
12 a bench trial, principally (1) enjoins defendants-appellants from seeking to enforce the Ecuadorian  
13 Judgment in any court in the United States, and (2) imposes a constructive trust for Chevron's benefit  
14 on any property defendants-appellants have received or may receive anywhere in the world that is  
15 traceable to the Ecuadorian Judgment or its enforcement, based on the court's findings that the  
16 Ecuadorian Judgment was procured through, inter alia, defendants' bribery, coercion, and fraud,  
17 warranting relief against Steven Donziger ("Donziger") and his Firm under the Racketeer Influenced  
18 and Corrupt Organizations Act ("RICO"), 18 U.S.C. §§ 1961-1968, and against all defendants-  
19 appellants under New York common law. See Chevron v. Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d 362 (S.D.N.Y.  
20 2014) ("Donziger"). Without challenging the sufficiency of the evidence to support any of those  
21 factual findings, defendants-appellants challenge the district court's judgment, arguing principally that  
22 the action should have been dismissed on the ground that Chevron lacks Article III standing, and/or

1 that the judgment should be reversed on the grounds, inter alia, that it violates principles of  
2 international comity and judicial estoppel, exceeds any legal authorization for equitable relief, and  
3 was entered without personal jurisdiction over defendants other than Donziger and his Firm. For the  
4 reasons that follow, including the absence of challenges to the district court's factual findings, the  
5 express disclaimers by the Ecuadorian appellate courts of their own jurisdiction to "hear and resolve"  
6 the above charges of corruption, "preserving the parties' rights" to pursue those charges in actions in  
7 the United States (Ecuadorian intermediate appellate court clarification order dated January 13, 2012,  
8 at 4; see also Opinion of Ecuadorian National Court of Justice at 120 ("preserving the rights and  
9 actions of the parties" in "acknowledge[ment of] the lack o[f] jurisdiction to decide whether or not  
10 there has been procedural fraud")), and the district court's confinement of its injunction to a grant of  
11 in personam relief against the three defendants-appellants without disturbing the Ecuadorian  
12 judgment, we find no basis for dismissal or reversal, and we affirm the judgment of the district court.

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I.   BACKGROUND

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This appeal is the latest chapter in the litigation against Chevron by residents of the Oriente region of Ecuador, which includes the canton of Lago Agrio, with respect to oil-exploration-related activities in that region from the 1960s into the 1990s by Texaco, whose stock was acquired by Chevron in 2001. In 1964, the Republic of Ecuador ("ROE") had granted to a joint venture--which was then 50%-owned by a subsidiary of Texaco dubbed "TexPet"--a concession to explore for and produce oil in the Oriente (the "Concession"). In the 1970s, Ecuador's state-owned oil company, now known as PetroEcuador, acquired at first a minority, and then a majority, interest in the joint venture. TexPet was the operator of the Concession until the early 1990s. In late 1989, PetroEcuador took over operation of the Trans-Ecuadoran Pipeline, see Jota v. Texaco, Inc., 157 F.3d 153, 156 n.4 (2d Cir. 1998) ("Jota"); in mid-1990, PetroEcuador took over operation of the Concession drilling operations as well, see id.; Aguinda v. Texaco, Inc., 303 F.3d 470, 473 (2d Cir. 2002) ("Aguinda"). In mid-1992, when the Concession expired, TexPet's interest in the joint venture reverted to PetroEcuador, leaving PetroEcuador as the sole owner and operator of the venture. See Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 386.

1 In connection with the termination of TexPet's Ecuadorian operations, TexPet  
2 and Texaco in 1993 entered into a Memorandum of Understanding [MOU]  
3 with the ROE that provided that TexPet would be released from any potential  
4 claim for environmental harm once TexPet performed an agreed-upon  
5 remediation in the area in which it had operated. In the Spring of 1995, the  
6 parties executed a Settlement Agreement and Scope of Work agreement (the  
7 "Settlement Agreement") that laid out specific tasks TexPet was required to  
8 complete before its remediation and wind down were complete, whereupon it  
9 would be entitled to a release. From 1995 through 1998, ROE inspectors  
10 issued 52 actas in which they confirmed TexPet's completion of each task.  
11 The final acta--the 52nd Certificate--was issued in September 1998 and stated  
12 that TexPet had complied with its obligations under the Settlement Agreement.  
13 The final release was signed on September 30, 1998. It stated that TexPet had  
14 fully performed its obligations under the MOU and Settlement Agreement and  
15 that TexPet was released from all potential claims by the ROE and  
16 PetroEcuador.

17 Id. at 386-87 (footnotes omitted) (emphases added).

18 In the meantime, a group of Oriente residents, represented by New York City lawyer  
19 Donziger, among others, commenced a class action against Texaco in the Southern District of New  
20 York in 1993, seeking billions of dollars in damages, as well as certain equitable relief within  
21 Ecuador, for alleged environmental damage in Ecuador and injury to the health of the plaintiffs, see  
22 Aguinda, 303 F.3d at 473-74. Thus began this conflict, which "must be among the most extensively  
23 [chronicled] in the history of the American federal judiciary." Chevron Corp. v. Naranjo, 667 F.3d  
24 232, 234 (2d Cir.) ("Naranjo"), cert. denied, 133 S.Ct. 423 (2012); see id. at 234 n.1 (noting that an  
25 "underinclusive Westlaw search for Chevron or Texaco & Ecuador & 'Lago Agrio' yield[ed] fifty-six  
26 results, all of which deal directly with this litigation"); see, e.g., Jota, 157 F.3d 153 (vacating an  
27 unconditional forum non conveniens dismissal of class actions brought against Texaco in New York  
28 by, respectively, the Aguinda Oriente residents in 1993 and residents of Peru in 1994); Aguinda, 303  
29 F.3d 470 (approving a forum non conveniens dismissal of the Oriente residents' 1993 New York

1 action against Texaco, conditioned on Texaco's agreement to submit to personal jurisdiction and  
2 waive certain statute of limitations defenses in Ecuador); Chevron Corp. v. Berlinger, 629 F.3d 297  
3 (2d Cir. 2011) (requiring filmmaker, whom Donziger had commissioned to make a documentary film  
4 about his Ecuadorian case, to turn over to Chevron hundreds of hours of outtakes, some of which had  
5 initially been aired--showing, inter alia, Donziger discussing his litigation strategy and disparaging  
6 the Ecuadorian judiciary--but were later deleted at Donziger's insistence); Republic of Ecuador v.  
7 Chevron Corp., 638 F.3d 384 (2d Cir. 2011) ("Republic of Ecuador") (affirming refusal to stay treaty-  
8 based arbitration proceeding commenced by Chevron in 2009 alleging, inter alia, ROE's breach of the  
9 1993 Settlement Agreement with TexPet and Texaco and the 1998 release); Chevron Corp. v.  
10 Republic of Ecuador, 795 F.3d 200 (D.C. Cir. 2015) (affirming confirmation of an arbitration award  
11 of approximately \$96 million in favor of Chevron against ROE in a proceeding commenced by  
12 Chevron in 2006 for failure to resolve in a timely fashion lawsuits by TexPet against ROE), cert.  
13 denied, 136 S. Ct. 2410 (2016).

14 In 2003, following the affirmance of a forum non conveniens dismissal of the Aguinda  
15 case, the Lago Agrio Plaintiffs--Camacho, Piaguaje, and 46 other named plaintiffs residing in or near  
16 Lago Agrio--represented by the Donziger Firm, sued Chevron in Ecuador, seeking to hold it  
17 responsible for extensive environmental damage allegedly caused by Texaco in the area covered by  
18 the Concession (the "Lago Agrio Litigation" or "Lago Agrio Chevron case"). The action was brought  
19 for the benefit of some 30,000 indigenous residents of the area, and the complaint requested that any  
20 money awarded for performance of the requested remediation--plus an additional 10%--be paid to the  
21 Frente de la Defensa de la Amazonia ("ADF") for its use in performing ordered remediation. See

1 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 391-92. Thus, the LAPs sought to have "any and all sums recovered" in  
2 the action controlled by the ADF. Id. at 392. The ADF was formed in 1993 by Donziger and Luis  
3 Yanza, his closest friend in Ecuador, to support the Aguinda litigation; the ADF was controlled by  
4 Donziger and Yanza. See, e.g., id. at 398-99.

5 In February 2011, the trial court in Ecuador entered a judgment in favor of the LAPs  
6 awarding \$8.646 billion in compensatory damages, plus \$8.646 billion in punitive damages unless  
7 Chevron issued an apology, for a total of \$17.292 billion ("Lago Agrio Judgment" or "Initial  
8 Judgment" or "Judgment"). The punitive damages aspect of the award was eventually eliminated on  
9 appeal (see Part I.E.2. below), leaving the judgment against Chevron, as modified, at \$8.646 billion  
10 (the Ecuadorian Judgment).

11 The present action was commenced by Chevron in 2011 against Donziger, his Firm,  
12 and the named Lago Agrio Plaintiffs, including Camacho and Piaguaje (referred to in the district court  
13 and this opinion as the "LAP Representatives"), alleging that the LAPs procured the Lago Agrio  
14 Judgment by a variety of unethical, corrupt, and illegal means, including: making secret payments  
15 to industry experts who would submit pro-LAPs opinions to the court while pretending to be neutral;  
16 announcing multi-billion-dollar remediation cost estimates while knowing them to be without  
17 scientific basis; persuading an expert to sign blank pages that were then submitted to the court with  
18 opinions he did not authorize; employing extortion to coerce an Ecuadorian judge to curtail  
19 inspections of alleged contamination sites after the experts began to find pro-Chevron conditions at  
20 other such sites; using the same extortionate means to coerce that judge to appoint, as a supposedly  
21 neutral expert court adviser, an expert who was bribed to submit--as his own opinion--a report written

1 by the LAPs; and providing ex parte to another judge--or to whoever wrote the \$17.292 billion Lago  
2 Agrio Judgment--material that is not part of the record for inclusion in that judgment.

3 Chevron originally sought damages and a global injunction forbidding enforcement  
4 of the Lago Agrio Judgment. Initially, the district court bifurcated the case and granted Chevron's  
5 request for a global preliminary injunction, citing New York's Uniform Foreign Country Money-  
6 Judgments Recognition Act (the "Recognition Act"), N.Y. C.P.L.R. §§ 5301-5309 (McKinney 2008).  
7 That injunction was reversed by this Court in Naranjo, on the ground that the Recognition Act allows  
8 a judgment debtor to challenge a foreign judgment's validity only defensively, in response to an  
9 attempted enforcement. See 667 F.3d at 240. We declined to address other issues in this action, such  
10 as claims of lack of personal jurisdiction and "the parties' various charges and counter-charges  
11 regarding the Ecuadorian legal system and their adversaries' conduct of this litigation." Id. at 247  
12 n.17.

13 After our decision in Naranjo, Chevron waived its claims for damages, and the case  
14 was tried to the court without a jury.

15 A. The Scope of the Trial in the Present Case

16 The judgment now on appeal was entered after a seven-week trial at which the  
17 evidence included live testimony from more than 30 witnesses, 25 of whom were called by Chevron;  
18 deposition testimony of 22 witnesses, all presented by Chevron; and more than 4,000 documents. As  
19 is common practice in nonjury cases in federal court in the Southern District of New York, "the direct  
20 testimony of most witnesses was taken in the form of written statements, the truth of which was

1 affirmed on the witness stand. The witnesses so testifying then were tendered for cross-examination,  
2 redirect, and any subsequent questioning as usual." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 546. The exhibits  
3 included emails among Donziger and members of the LAPs' litigation team; scenes or outtakes from  
4 "Crude," the documentary film that had been commissioned by Donziger, in which, inter alia,  
5 Donziger made disparaging remarks about the Ecuadorian judiciary; and portions of a personal  
6 notebook maintained by Donziger during the Lago Agrio Litigation, in which he recorded, inter alia,  
7 his thoughts, concerns, aspirations, and strategies (the "Donziger Notebook").

8           The issues in the present case concerned the conduct of--not the environmental issues  
9 in--the Lago Agrio Litigation. Before making its findings of specific facts as to the issues in this case,  
10 the court stated:

11           The Court assumes that there is pollution in the Orienté. On that  
12 assumption, Texaco and perhaps even Chevron--though it never drilled for oil  
13 in Ecuador--might bear some responsibility. In any case, improvement of  
14 conditions for the residents of the Orienté appears to be both desirable and  
15 overdue. . . .

16           The issue here is not what happened in the Orienté more than twenty  
17 years ago and who, if anyone, now is responsible for any wrongs then done.  
18 It instead is whether a court decision was procured by corrupt means,  
19 regardless of whether the cause was just. An innocent defendant is no more  
20 entitled to submit false evidence, to coopt and pay off a court-appointed  
21 expert, or to coerce or bribe a judge or jury than a guilty one. So even if  
22 Donziger and his clients had a just cause--and the Court expresses no opinion  
23 on that--they were not entitled to corrupt the process to achieve their goal.

24           Justice is not served by inflicting injustice. The ends do not justify the  
25 means. There is no "Robin Hood" defense to illegal and wrongful conduct.  
26 And the defendants' "this-is-the-way-it-is-done-in-Ecuador" excuses--actually  
27 a remarkable insult to the people of Ecuador--do not help them. The wrongful  
28 actions of Donziger and his Ecuadorian legal team would be offensive to the  
29 laws of any nation that aspires to the rule of law, including Ecuador--and they  
30 knew it. Indeed, one Ecuadorian legal team member, in a moment of panicky

1 candor, admitted that if documents exposing just part of what they had done  
2 were to come to light, "apart from destroying the proceeding, all of us, your  
3 attorneys, might go to jail."

4 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 385-86 (quoting March 30, 2010 email from LAPs' attorney Julio Prieto  
5 to Donziger, Yanza, and LAPs' attorneys Pablo Fajardo Mendoza ("Fajardo"), and Juan Pablo Sáenz  
6 (emphases added)).

7 The district court found that throughout the Lago Agrio Chevron case, Donziger  
8 controlled all important aspects of the case, see Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 396, 398, as he, inter alia,  
9 "supervised the Ecuadorian legal team, . . . reviewed their court filings, directed the legal strategy, and  
10 coordinated the work between the lawyers in Ecuador and the scientists, experts, lawyers, litigation  
11 funders, politicians, and media consultants throughout the world," id. at 397. Although much of the  
12 Lago Agrio Litigation was funded by Philadelphia attorney Joseph Kohn, Donziger "made tactical  
13 and strategic decisions," and "largely . . . controlled the money." Id. at 388-89, 398; see also id. at 396  
14 (the Ecuadorian lawyers "often referred to [Donziger] as the 'cabeza,' or head, of the team" (quoting  
15 Donziger Notebook)). Donziger described himself as "the 'lead lawyer,'" the "person primarily  
16 responsible for putting [the LAP] team together and supervising it," the person who had the "primary  
17 obligation" to "run the case on a day to day basis," and the person who "was 'at the epicenter of the  
18 legal, political, and media activity surrounding the case both in Ecuador and in the U.S.'" Donziger,  
19 974 F.Supp.2d at 531 (quoting a Donziger November 9, 2009 email to Kohn, and a Donziger proposal  
20 to author a book).



1 B. Specific Findings by the District Court as to Donziger's Acts

2 The court made extensive factual findings as to the acts undertaken by Donziger to  
3 procure the Lago Agrio Judgment, including the following. None of them is disputed.

4 1. Donziger Attempts To Intimidate Chevron Into Settling by Trumpeting a Huge  
5 Remediation Cost Estimate Based Only on "SWAG"

6 The initial phase of the Lago Agrio proceedings was to involve "judicial inspections"  
7 to establish the level of contamination at various oil exploration sites throughout the Concession area  
8 under the supervision of the judge. The court appointed experts nominated and paid by each side,  
9 who were to take samples under judicial supervision, send the samples to a laboratory for testing and  
10 analysis, and then submit to the court written reports of their respective findings and conclusions. The  
11 court also appointed experts, known as "settling experts," who, although ultimately paid by the  
12 parties, were neutral and not nominated by the parties; the settling experts attended the judicial  
13 inspections and were to resolve any disputes between the reports of the two sides' experts. See  
14 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 411-12.

15 Soon after the Lago Agrio Litigation was commenced, Donziger hired David Russell,  
16 an environmental engineer, to generate an initial estimate of the total cost of remediation for all  
17 polluted sites. Donziger hoped for an astronomic estimate that would have an in terrorem effect,  
18 impelling Chevron to agree to a settlement. See, e.g., id. at 406 & n.166. At Donziger's direction,  
19 Russell went to the Oriente in the fall of 2003 to work on his damages estimate. However, Russell's  
20 site inspections were anything but complete or thorough.

1 First, although there were more than 100 oil pits that were to be subjected to judicial  
2 inspection, Russell visited only about 45. He made his estimate of the total cost of remediation based  
3 on extrapolations from what he observed at the sites he visited. But even at the sites he did visit, he  
4 did not analyze any soil or water samples. Indeed, "his visits to some of those sites, he acknowledged  
5 at trial, were no more searching than driving past them at 40 or 50 miles per hour." *Id.* at 406.

6 Second, notwithstanding the facts that the ROE-owned PetroEcuador had long been  
7 a member of the oil-exploration and production joint venture with TexPet--and indeed was the  
8 majority owner of the venture from the mid-1970s until mid-1992, when it became the sole owner,  
9 see id. at 386--Donziger instructed Russell to make his cost calculations on "the assumption that  
10 Texaco was fully liable for all of the contamination in the region, even that caused by PetroEcuador  
11 after it took over operation of the [venture's] properties when TexPet left in 1992," *id.* at 406 (footnote  
12 omitted). In part, Donziger's desire to have Chevron alone held liable for all environmental damage  
13 to the region stemmed from a reluctance to attribute any such blame to an instrumentality of the ROE;  
14 but he also had an incentive that was purely monetary: The LAPs had "entered into an agreement  
15 with the ROE and PetroEcuador pursuant to which [the LAPs] were obliged to reduce the amount of  
16 any judgment they might obtain against Texaco by the amount of any contribution judgment that  
17 Texaco might obtain against the ROE and PetroEcuador." *Id.* at 414-15. "The LAPs therefore had  
18 an interest in obtaining a judgment that Chevron was entirely responsible for any and all pollution  
19 liability and remediation responsibility." *Id.* at 415 (emphases added).

20 In his report to the LAPs' team, Russell estimated the cost of remediation at \$6 billion;  
21 but he made clear to Donziger and the other members of the LAPs' team that that cost projection was

1 very rough, and he cautioned "the team not to 'rush to judgment' based on a 'guesstimate.'" Id. at 406  
2 (quoting December 12, 2004 email chain with Russell, Donziger, and other LAPs' team members).  
3 Russell informed them that "due to 'the amount of unknowns and the lack of information [he] had with  
4 regard to not only levels of contamination but the extent of those levels of contamination[']'. . . . his  
5 estimates were 'best guesses based upon a week of looking at the sites, without any scientific data.'"  
6 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 406 (quoting testimony of Russell and December 12, 2004 email chain  
7 with Russell, Donziger, and other LAPs' team members (emphasis ours)). Russell testified that as a  
8 consequence, his \$6 billion remediation cost estimate was "'SWAG,' an acronym for a 'scientific  
9 wild ass guess.'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 406 (quoting testimony of Russell).

10 Nonetheless, "Donziger and his public relations operation avidly used Russell's  
11 \$6 billion [SWAG] figure in the media to generate leverage despite the fact that they knew that it  
12 could not withstand serious analysis." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 407. Russell's "explicit" warning  
13 "to Donziger that [Russell's] cost estimate had been 'wildly inaccurate and that it should not be used'  
14 . . . . did not stop Donziger and his public relations team from using the number, over Russell's  
15 protests, to pressure Chevron through the media." Id. (quoting testimony of Russell (emphasis ours)).

16 Donziger drafted a letter that ultimately was sent by Amazon Watch, a  
17 nongovernmental entity that supported Donziger and the LAPs, to the Securities and Exchange  
18 Commission ("SEC"). The letter "promoted Russell's SWAG remediation estimate"--despite Russell's  
19 disclaimer--and "asserted also that Chevron had creat[ed] toxic contamination over 30 times larger  
20 than the Exxon Valdez," Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 408 (internal quotation marks omitted), despite  
21 advice from scientists on the LAPs' team that that figure was "vastly exaggerated," id. at 408 n.185.

1 The letter urged the SEC to investigate Chevron's alleged failure to disclose its alleged potential  
2 liability. Donziger's references to the Exxon Valdez and statements about the cost of remediation  
3 "relied upon estimates and comparisons that he knew were false or the truth of which he seriously  
4 doubted." Id. at 582 (emphasis added); see also id. at 409 (Donziger admitted in an email to his team  
5 that he felt that the SEC investigation he sought was "bogus." (quoting July 12, 2006 email from  
6 Donziger to LAPs' team members)).

7 2. Donziger Causes a Change to Less Probative Tests When the LAPs' Experts Find  
8 Pollution that Likely Was Not Caused by Texaco

9 Consistent with Donziger's insistence that Russell operate on the assumption that all  
10 environmental damage had been caused by Texaco, Donziger also sought to cease certain tests that  
11 were producing evidence to the contrary. In late 2004, Russell met in New York with Donziger and  
12 other leaders of the LAPs' legal team and reported that scientists at the site inspections were in fact  
13 "finding BTEX, which is benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene; and GRO, which is gasoline  
14 range organics," and that those findings were "much more indicative of contamination from  
15 PetroEcuador rather than Texaco because these compounds are volatile and degrade quickly in [a] hot,  
16 wet, warm environment such as in the jungle." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 415 (quoting Russell  
17 testimony (emphases ours)). Texaco had not operated in the Concession area since more than a  
18 decade earlier.

19 Following this report, Russell and his team of scientists, at the request of Donziger and  
20 other LAPs' team members, "stopped analyzing for [BTEX and GRO]" because their presence  
21 suggested "more recent contamination," implicating "PetroEcuador rather than Texaco." Donziger,

1 974 F.Supp.2d at 415 (quoting Russell testimony and Russell November 4, 2004 email to Donziger  
2 and others). They "'instead substitut[ed] a less reliable measure[,] which was total petroleum  
3 hydrocarbons,' or TPH," and used methods that could give "'a false positive"' and that "were unable  
4 to distinguish between TPH attributable to recent activity and activity that occurred a considerable  
5 period earlier." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 415 (quoting testimony of Russell).

6 3. Donziger Knowingly Submits to the Court Reports that Falsify a LAPs' Expert's  
7 Conclusions

8 In 2004, Donziger and Russell nominated industrial hygienist Charles Calmbacher to  
9 serve as the LAPs' judicial inspection expert. See Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 412. Calmbacher  
10 served in that capacity at the first four judicial inspection sites; he was eventually fired by Donziger  
11 after falling ill and failing to meet deadlines set by Donziger and the LAPs' team. However,  
12 Calmbacher insisted that he would write his "perito"--i.e., expert--report to the court for the  
13 inspections in which he had participated because he had an obligation to do so. Calmbacher noted  
14 that

15 "it is highly unusual for a perito [expert] to allow others to contribute to the  
16 writing of a report. Comments or review is acceptable, but the perito's opinion  
17 and findings are final. I therefore have and feel no obligation to allow your  
18 team of textile engineers and associated cron[i]les to review or edit my reports.  
19 I am assured, as perito of the court, that I am completely within my rights to  
20 write and submit my report independent of [t]hose who have nominated me for  
21 appointment as perito. My sole obligation is to tell the truth, as I see it, to the  
22 court, no matter the consequences for either party."

23 Id. at 413 (quoting Calmbacher October 24, 2004 email to Donziger and Russell (emphases ours)).

1           Thereafter, Calmbacher prepared two reports. The LAPs' lawyers in Ecuador edited  
2 them, and Calmbacher signed those edited versions because he "agreed with the conclusions reached"  
3 and had "no problem signing [them] because that's what [he] felt." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 413  
4 (quoting Calmbacher deposition). However, "those reports were not the reports that the LAP team  
5 eventually filed." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 413.

6           Calmbacher testified that:

7           "[w]hat happened after that . . . was they asked me to initial some [blank]  
8 papers on the corner so [the report] could be printed on that because it had to  
9 be initialed. I said, no, I don't think so. David [Russell] implored . . . me to do  
10 that, that it was honest, it was fair, it was okay. So I did it. I think it was about  
11 30 pages. And I FedEx'd it down . . . I overnighted it. That was the last I've  
12 heard on the project."

13 Id. (quoting Calmbacher deposition testimony (emphases ours)); see also Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d  
14 at 413 n.229 (noting evidence that Donziger was threatening not to pay Calmbacher for the work he  
15 had performed if he did not sign, and that "Russell sent an email to Donziger on March 1, 2005"  
16 stating "that he had 'communicated [Donziger's] threat to Calmbacher,' and that Russell had 'also  
17 advised him that it was in his interest to comply by signing the documents and sending them to  
18 [Donziger].'" (quoting Russell March 1, 2005 email to Donziger)).

19           On February 14 and March 8, 2005, respectively, the LAP team  
20 submitted to the Lago Agrio court what purported to be the reports of their  
21 nominated expert for the judicial inspections of the Shushufindi 48 and Sacha  
22 94 sites. They bore the signatures and initials of, and purported to have been  
23 written by, Dr. Calmbacher. The reports found that "highly toxic chemicals"  
24 contaminated the area and that TexPet's remediation was "inadequate or  
25 insufficient." When shown these reports at a deposition several years later,  
26 however, Dr. Calmbacher testified: "I did not reach these conclusions and I did  
27 not write this report."

28 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 414 (footnotes omitted) (quoting Judicial Inspection Report for Sacha  
29 Well 94 and Calmbacher deposition (emphasis ours)).

1 Calmbacher had "never concluded that TexPet had failed to remediate any site or that  
2 any site posed a health or environmental risk." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 414 (footnote omitted)  
3 (emphasis added). The submitted "reports were not the reports he wrote and did not reflect his  
4 views." Id. "Thus, someone on the LAP team used the blank pages Calmbacher had initialed and his  
5 signature pages to submit over his name two reports that contained conclusions he did not reach. . . .  
6 [S]omeone on the LAP Ecuadorian legal team revised his draft reports, printed them on the blank  
7 pages that Dr. Calmbacher initialed, and filed them with knowledge of the falsity." Id. (emphasis  
8 added).

9 4. Donziger Secretly Hires Industry Experts To Offer Their Supposedly Neutral  
10 Monitoring Services to the Court, But To Disagree With Any Pro-Chevron Findings

11 An inspection site called Sacha-53 was of particular interest to the LAPs because  
12 Texaco had performed remediation on it pursuant to its Settlement Agreement with the ROE, and  
13 Donziger had expected the test results would provide "'the first definitive scientific proof in the case  
14 to put the lie to their claim they remediated.'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 416 (quoting Donziger  
15 November 11, 2004 email to other members of the LAPs' team). When Donziger learned, however,  
16 "that the settling experts' conclusions with respect to Sacha-53 would not be favorable to the LAPs,"  
17 he attempted to insert "outwardly credible," supposedly neutral experts into the process, in order to  
18 undermine the settling experts' anticipated conclusion. Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 416. He recruited  
19 two new experts: Gustavo Pinto, the president of the Association of Geological, Mining, Petroleum  
20 and Environmental Engineers of Ecuador, and Ramiro Fernando Reyes Cisneros ("Reyes"), an  
21 Ecuadorian petroleum and environmental engineer. Donziger secretly paid Pinto and Reyes--an  
22 amount he characterized as modest but which he admitted may have been \$50,000--to pose as

1 "independent monitors" and to criticize the settling experts' anticipated Sacha-53 conclusions, without  
2 disclosing to Chevron or the court that the LAPs were paying them. See id. at 416-19.

3 In addition to that fee, it was agreed that these experts could receive a bonus if the  
4 LAPs won the case, see id. at 417. Donziger elaborated that the LAPs were "not paying for time, but  
5 for value," id. at 418 (quoting Donziger Notebook). "Donziger well understood that the arrangement  
6 was improper"; he termed it his "bargain with the devil." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 417 (quoting  
7 Donziger Notebook (emphasis in Donziger)).

8 Donziger's efforts in this regard proved futile. Judge Germán Yáñez, who presided  
9 over the Lago Agrio case from January 2006 until October 2007, declined to appoint monitors.

10 5. Donziger, Anticipating Additional Pro-Chevron Testing Results, Coerces then-  
11 Presiding Judge Yáñez To Cancel Most of the Remaining Site Inspections

12 The report on Sacha-53 filed by five settling experts in February 2006--of which the  
13 LAPs' team apparently had an advance copy (see Plaintiff's Exhibit ("PX") 1530 (Pinto and Reyes  
14 January 17, 2006 letter to Lago Agrio court, referring to settling experts' report "dated Feb. 1, 2006"))  
15 --stated that "Texaco had fully remediated" that site. Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 418. "Donziger  
16 characterized the report as 'disastrous' for the LAPs' team." Id. (quoting Donziger Notebook).

17 Donziger promptly attempted to have Pinto and Reyes, the would-be monitors he had  
18 paid (see Part I.B.4 above), submit to the court a report of their own "establish[ing]" that the settling  
19 experts were wrong and were biased in favor of Chevron, and that the settling experts' report should  
20 be disregarded. Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 418-19 (quoting Reyes declaration, the accuracy of which  
21 Reyes attested to at his deposition, see Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 416 n.247). However, the report  
22 Pinto and Reyes drafted ultimately concluded that the settling experts' report was sufficient to allow



1 the court to reach its own conclusion, and Donziger instructed them not to file it with the court. See  
2 id. at 419.

3 Sacha-53 was the first site as to which the court requested a report from the settling  
4 experts. Seeking to reduce the risk of additional findings unfavorable to the LAPs, Donziger  
5 requested that the court cancel 26 of the remaining judicial inspections, characterizing them as  
6 unnecessary. Judge Yáñez denied the request.

7 However, the LAPs then moved to forgo virtually all the remaining inspections,  
8 claiming that the evidence of contamination was clear and abundant; and after further communications  
9 from the LAPs' team, Judge Yáñez decided to cancel most of the remaining planned judicial  
10 inspections, leaving to be performed only four that the LAPs wanted pursued. His decision came  
11 about as follows.

12 Donziger and the LAP team knew that Judge Yáñez was in a weakened  
13 state. He recently had been accused of "trading jobs for sex in the court" and  
14 was worried about his reputation and perhaps career. They were determined  
15 to use that to their advantage.

16 Id. at 421 (footnote omitted) (quoting Donziger July 26, 2006 email to Kohn).

17 Fajardo, a relatively recent law graduate whom Donziger had made the LAPs' lead  
18 Ecuadorian trial counsel, informed Donziger that there was a belief at the court that the Lago Agrio  
19 Plaintiffs were behind the sexual harassment complaint against Judge Yáñez. Both Fajardo and  
20 Donziger's close friend Yanza felt that that belief--though it was erroneous--could be used to the  
21 LAPs' advantage. Donziger described his response to this information in his Notebook as follows:

22 "At [this] pt I launched into my familiar lecture about how the only way the  
23 court will respect us is if they fear us--and that the only way they will fear us  
24 is if they think we have . . . control over their careers, their jobs, their  
25 reputations--that is to say, their ability to earn a livelihood."

26 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 421 (quoting Donziger Notebook (emphasis in Donziger)). Donziger

1 decided to exploit the belief that the LAPs were the source of the sexual harassment complaint:  
2 "[T]he LAP team 'wrote up a complaint against Yánez, but never filed it, while letting him know we  
3 might file it if he does not adhere to the law and what we need.'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 421  
4 (quoting Donziger Notebook).

5 Donziger explained in an email to Kohn that Fajardo then met with the judge,  
6 who "said he is going to accept our request to withdraw the rest of the  
7 inspections save the four we still want to do. . . . The judge also . . . wants to  
8 forestall the filing of a complaint against him by us, which we have prepared  
9 but not yet filed."

10 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 421 (quoting Donziger July 26, 2006 email to Kohn). Thus, "Donziger  
11 knowingly was complicit both in the preparation of a misconduct complaint against Judge Yánez and  
12 in threatening the judge with the filing of the complaint unless the judge did what the LAPs[] wished  
13 him to do." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 421 n.295.

14 Faced with this coercion, Judge Yánez granted the request to cancel the  
15 LAPs' remaining judicial inspections. Donziger and Fajardo succeeded also  
16 in convincing the judge that he should "fear" the LAP team.

17 Id. at 422 (footnote omitted) (quoting Donziger Notebook (emphasis added)); see, e.g., Donziger, 974  
18 F.Supp.2d at 558 (noting "clear and convincing evidence[] that Fajardo and Donziger coerced Judge  
19 Yánez to allow the LAPs to terminate their remaining judicial inspections").

20 After Judge Yánez issued the order [canceling the remaining inspections],  
21 Donziger on September 13, 2006, wrote that the judge "told Luis [Yanza] that  
22 we needed to back him now as he fights for survival on the court. So instead  
23 of a strong judge who sees the validity of the case, we now might have a weak  
24 judge who wants to rule correctly [i.e., for the LAPs] for all the wrong,  
25 personal reasons."

26 Id. at 422 (quoting Donziger Notebook (emphases ours)).

1           6.       Donziger Coerces Judge Yáñez To Appoint a "Global" Expert--Cabrera--Who  
2           "[W]ould [T]otally [P]lay [B]all With" the LAPs

3                       Donziger had initially been opposed to there being "a single global expert" to advise  
4 the court in the Lago Agrio Chevron case, Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 420, the "[b]ottom line  
5 problem" being his fear that "we will have no control over [him]," id. at 422 (quoting Donziger  
6 Notebook).

7                       But the coercion of Judge Yáñez eliminated that "bottom line problem."  
8 Donziger had found himself with "a weak judge who wants to rule correctly  
9 for all the wrong, personal reasons," among them the fear that the LAPs would  
10 file their judicial misconduct complaint against him at a time when he least  
11 could withstand it. Donziger therefore expected to be able to select and to  
12 control the global expert. That is exactly what then took place.

13       Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 422 (footnote omitted) (quoting Donziger Notebook).

14                       With these pieces in place, Donziger and the LAP team moved on to  
15 finding a compliant global expert. The idea was that the global expert--just  
16 like the "monitoring" experts, Reyes and Pinto, who ultimately had not been  
17 appointed--in fact would work for the LAPs but would appear to be  
18 independent and neutral. This required Donziger to find someone who, in  
19 Donziger's own words, would "totally play ball with" him.

20       Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 422 (quoting Donziger Notebook (emphasis ours)).

21                       Donziger's leading candidate, initially, was Reyes, with whom Donziger was familiar  
22 from the Sacha-53 events, despite the fact that Reyes had written a book on oil exploration's  
23 environmental impacts in Ecuador, in which he "had 'advocated for joint responsibility between the  
24 Ecuadoran government and Texaco,'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 423 n.309 (quoting declaration of  
25 Reyes). Donziger, Fajardo, and Yanza, interviewing Reyes in 2006,

26                       "explained to [Reyes] that having a single expert to carry out a global  
27 assessment was important to the plaintiffs because they acknowledged that the  
28 judicial inspection process had not yielded data to support their claims of  
29 contamination. They also said they believed it would be easier to manage a  
30 single expert than many."

1 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 422 (quoting declaration of Reyes (emphasis ours)). "[D]etermined to  
2 ensure that Reyes would 'totally play ball with us and let us take the lead while projecting the image  
3 that he is working for the court,'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 423 (quoting Donziger Notebook  
4 (emphasis in Donziger)), Donziger "reminded Reyes that, as the global expert, he would 'need . . .  
5 to state that Chevron was the only party responsible for environmental damages and the harm to the  
6 local community," Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 423 (quoting declaration of Reyes (emphasis ours)).

7 "Donziger told Reyes 'that if he did this he likely would never work in the oil industry  
8 again in Ecuador, at least for an American company, but that he could be a national hero and have a  
9 job the rest of his life being involved in the clean-up,'" since "Donziger . . . expected to be able to  
10 deliver[ ]long-term, remunerative employment paid for by the ADF," which was "controlled by  
11 Donziger and Yanza," and was what "[t]he Lago Agrio complaint identified . . . as the entity to which  
12 the LAPs wanted any recovery money paid." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 423 (quoting Donziger  
13 Notebook (emphasis in Donziger)).

14 Reyes agreed, and Fajardo and Yanza tried to persuade Judge Yáñez to appoint Reyes  
15 as the global expert. Judge Yáñez balked, however, because both sides had previously agreed that  
16 the court's global expert would be one of the experts already appointed by the court. As a result, the  
17 LAPs' team shifted focus to José Echeverría and Richard Cabrera Stalin Vega ("Cabrera"), both of  
18 whom previously had been designated as settling experts.

19 Of the two, Donziger's choice was Cabrera. In interviewing Cabrera and "giv[ing] him  
20 the 'hard sell,'" Donziger explained to him the same fundamental conditions and cautions, and gave  
21 "the same implicit promise of lifetime work on the remediation to Cabrera that he had made  
22 previously to Reyes. . . . Cabrera agreed to the plan." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 424. The LAPs'  
23 team continued to meet ex parte with Judge Yáñez to have him choose Cabrera as the global expert,

1 and by some time in February they were sure he would appoint Cabrera. See, e.g., id. at 558 (noting  
2 "clear and convincing evidence[] that Fajardo and Donziger coerced Judge Yáñez . . . to appoint a  
3 global expert, and to designate their hand-picked choice, Richard Cabrera, for that position").

4 On March 3, 2007, Donziger, Fajardo, and Yanza called the entire LAPs' team together  
5 for a meeting.

6 The purpose of the meeting, as will appear in more detail, was to plan the  
7 global expert report. So sure were Donziger and Fajardo of Cabrera's  
8 appointment that the supposedly independent and impartial Cabrera . . . w[as]  
9 present.

10 Id. at 425 (emphases added). Donziger allowed this meeting to be filmed for the documentary  
11 "Crude," and he

12 explained the importance of the meeting to the Crude camera even before the  
13 meeting began:

14 Today is . . . a very important day 'cause we're meeting with . . . our  
15 team of Ecuadorian technical people and our American consultants . . .  
16 to figure out how to . . . pull all that information together for the final  
17 report we're gonna submit to the court, that is gonna ask for damages  
18 that'll very likely be in the multiple billions of dollars.

19 Id. (quoting March 3, 2007 "Crude" film clip (emphases in Donziger)). Those present at the meeting  
20 included Reyes and Ann Maest, a scientist who was working with the LAPs and who worked also for  
21 the Boulder, Colorado-based environmental consulting firm, Stratus Consulting ("Stratus"). Parts of  
22 the meeting itself were filmed:

23 Yanza began by introducing the participants and setting out the general  
24 agenda. He introduced Cabrera to the full team for the first time. Fajardo . . .  
25 explain[ed] that, while Cabrera was likely to be appointed the global expert,  
26 "the work isn't going to be the expert[']s." . . . Fajardo [stated] "what the  
27 expert is going to do is state his criteria, alright? And sign the report and  
28 review it. But all of us, all together, have to contribute to the report." Maest  
29 commented, "But . . . [.] not Chevron," which provoked laughter. The video  
30 clips of the meeting ended with Donziger commenting, they could "jack this  
31 thing up to \$30 billion in one day."

1 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 425-26 (footnotes omitted) (quoting March 3, 2007 "Crude" film clips  
2 (emphases ours)). Thus,

3 "[a]t the [March 3] meeting, Mr. Fajardo, Mr. Yanza and Mr. Donziger  
4 dropped any pretense that Mr. Cabrera would act independently in writing an  
5 expert report that would be technically sound and executed according to  
6 professional standards. On the contrary, it was obvious that the plaintiffs had  
7 already predetermined the findings of the global assessment, that they  
8 themselves would write a report that would support their claim for billions of  
9 dollars against Chevron and would simply put Mr. Cabrera's name on it. The  
10 purpose of the meeting was to establish all the conditions for controlling and  
11 managing the expert's work, in secret, in accordance to the plaintiffs' interests."

12 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 426 (quoting declaration of Reyes (emphases ours)).

13 Donziger met again on March 4, 2007 with some of his American experts, and parts  
14 of this meeting too were filmed. One of the experts commented that having Cabrera at the March 3  
15 meeting had seemed bizarre. "Donziger quickly told him not to talk about that and told the film crew  
16 'that was off the record . . . .' Thus, right from the start, Donziger evidenced his intent that the intimate  
17 relationship he had forged with Cabrera would not be allowed to see the light of day." Donziger, 974  
18 F.Supp.2d at 426 (footnote omitted) (quoting March 4, 2007 "Crude" film clip (emphasis ours)).

19 7. Donziger and the LAPs Plan the Cabrera Report and Begin To Pay Him Secretly

20 Cabrera was not sworn in as the court's global expert until June 2007. But following  
21 the March 3 and 4 meetings, the LAPs' team prepared a "work plan that supposedly was to be done  
22 by Cabrera," and "Fajardo sent the initial draft to Donziger for his approval" on March 21. Donziger,  
23 974 F.Supp.2d at 427. The plan

24 laid out all of the required tasks including such things as the selection of sites  
25 to be studied, field work, drafting of the report, and its submission to the court.  
26 It assigned responsibility for each item, in most cases to members of the LAP  
27 team or their hired consultants. Cabrera was allotted responsibility for  
28 relatively little.

1 Id. The plan provided for the initial draft of the Cabrera report to be prepared in conjunction with  
2 LAPs' personnel and be reviewed by the LAPs' lawyers. "[T]he work plan was submitted to Donziger,  
3 who led the entire effort." Id. at 427 n.342. "Donziger . . . instructed all those associated with the  
4 preparation of the Cabrera Report to keep their work highly confidential." Id. at 427.

5           Knowing in advance that Cabrera was to be sworn in as the global expert, the LAPs'  
6 team had, in April, begun secretly giving him money--in addition to the court-ordered payments he  
7 would receive, see id. at 428, 431-32--despite the fact that "experts are prohibited under Ecuadorian  
8 law from requir[ing] or receiv[ing] anything of value, whether directly or indirectly, from the parties  
9 in the case," id. at 434 (internal quotation marks omitted); see id. ("[a]nyone who bribes a[n] . . .  
10 expert . . . or who knowingly uses false . . . experts in a court proceeding . . . will be punished as guilty  
11 of false testimony or perjury." (quoting Ecuador Crim. Code Art. 359)). In June, Donziger and his  
12 team set up a new and secret bank account through which they could pay Cabrera surreptitiously. See  
13 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 428, 432. In July, "believ[ing] that supporting Cabrera in every way was  
14 necessary to maintaining the 'control' over him upon which Donziger insisted," the LAPs also "entered  
15 into a contract with Cabrera, provided him with a secretary ([the girlfriend of LAPs' attorney Prieto]),  
16 . . . and provided other support" including "life insurance." Id. at 435.

17           Less than two weeks later, after Chevron questioned Cabrera's independence, Cabrera  
18 represented to the Lago Agrio court, "I do not have any relation or agreements with the plaintiff, and  
19 it seems to me to be an insult against me that I should be linked with the attorneys of the plaintiffs."  
20 Id. at 447 (quoting Cabrera July 23, 2007 letter to Lago Agrio court); see also Donziger, 974  
21 F.Supp.2d at 447 & n.488 (describing Cabrera's repeated denials of connections with the LAPs). The  
22 LAPs' lawyers themselves termed Chevron's challenges to Cabrera's independence "baseless." Id.  
23 at 447-48 (internal quotation marks omitted).

1           The money the LAPs paid Cabrera secretly was initially sent to Yanza's personal  
2 account so that he could open a new account in someone else's name--although Donziger worried  
3 about having any of the money pass through Yanza's account. Eventually a preexisting ADF account  
4 was repurposed to serve as the secret account. See id. at 432.

5           Between August 2007 and February 2009, Donziger had Kohn make three  
6 separate payments totaling \$120,000 via wire transfer to the secret account.  
7 A large portion of this money was paid to Cabrera via direct account-to-  
8 account transfers at Banco Pichincha.

9           Id. at 432-33 (footnote omitted). "[A]t least part of the[se payments] were made as part of even more  
10 extensive efforts to ensure that Cabrera 'would totally play ball with' the LAPs and with other U.S.  
11 consultants whom the LAPs had hired to draft the report Cabrera would file under his name." Id.  
12 at 434-35.

13           8.       Donziger and the LAPs' Team Control Cabrera's "Work," While Denying Any Contact  
14                   or Involvement

15           The LAPs' team "also supported and controlled [Cabrera's] work in the field."  
16 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 435. Cabrera began his field work in July 2007. After being sworn in  
17 in June, he had

18                   submitted what purported to be his work plan to the court. While this was  
19                   more abbreviated than the detailed March 21 plan initially prepared by the  
20                   LAP team, it too in fact had been written by the LAP team. It listed categories  
21                   of experts who would assist in collecting samples in the field and analyzing  
22                   data--all of whom secretly would be named by the LAP team.

23           Id. at 430 (footnotes omitted) (emphases added). At the ensuing inspections,

24                   when Cabrera took samples at various sites . . . the[ Chevron attorneys]  
25                   observed what seemed to them to be collaboration and familiarity between  
26                   Cabrera--the supposedly independent global expert--and the LAP team. In  
27                   addition, unlike the Lago Agrio Plaintiffs' representatives, Chevron lawyers



1                   and . . . technical team members were often blocked from observing up close  
2                   Cabrera's inspections.

3                   Id. at 431 (footnote and internal quotation marks omitted). When Chevron repeatedly complained to  
4                   the court, the court "merely reminded Cabrera 'that [Cabrera] is an auxiliary to the Court for purposes  
5                   of providing to the process and to the Court scientific elements for determining the truth' and asserted  
6                   that '[t]he transparency of the expert's work will be ensured.'" Id. (quoting October 3, 2007 Lago  
7                   Agrio court order).

8                                 Chevron had reason to be suspicious of Cabrera's field work, which  
9                                 was anything but transparent. Among other things, Donziger later admitted  
10                                that the LAP team "had [also] been involved in Mr. Cabrera's site selection"  
11                                and his "sampling protocols." Indeed, he conceded that he could not recall a  
12                                single site Cabrera sampled that the LAPs had not "recommended" to him.

13                   Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 431 (footnote omitted) (quoting Donziger deposition and trial testimony  
14                   (emphases ours)). "[T]he LAP team had chosen the sites which Cabrera was to visit and, when the  
15                   team's funds began to run low, sought to limit the number of sites even further. All the while, the  
16                   LAPs knew," as Donziger told his team, "that--for the samples [Cabrera] did collect--they could  
17                   simply 'change the focus of the data at [their] offices.'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 436 (quoting  
18                   Donziger July 17, 2007 email to Yanza and Fajardo (emphasis ours)).

19                                 The "team" of Ecuadorian technical people and American consultants to which  
20                                 Donziger referred in the March 3, 2007 meeting shown in the "Crude" film clips included consultants  
21                                 and scientists who were hired to perform technical work supposedly to be done by Cabrera and to  
22                                 write the report that Cabrera would file under his name. For example, one "supposedly independent  
23                                 expert on Cabrera's supposedly independent technical team" was an employee of "an environmental  
24                                 consulting firm Kohn and Donziger had hired and paid to develop a potable water report." Donziger,  
25                                 974 F.Supp.2d at 436. That employee wrote what ultimately became an appendix to the Cabrera

1 Report. The fact that the LAPs' team had hired and was paying his employer was not disclosed to the  
2 Lago Agrio court. See id.

3 Other members of the LAPs' team, including Douglas Beltman, were employees of  
4 Stratus, which had signed a retention agreement with Kohn in August 2007 to write Cabrera's report  
5 to the court. "The agreement specified that Stratus would provide regular updates on the progress of  
6 [its] work with Mr. Steven Donziger via phone or email," and "[t]hroughout the rest of 2007 and early  
7 2008, Beltman, Maest, and others at Stratus consulted with Donziger and worked on preparing the  
8 damages assessment." Id. at 440 (internal quotation marks omitted).

9 In the meantime, Donziger was asking Mark Quarles, another "of the outside  
10 consultants hired by the LAPs to, among other things, work on the global expert report supposedly  
11 done by Cabrera," to submit in related litigation a declaration that would assert, "**if true: Mr.**  
12 **Cabrera has at all times acted independently from both the plaintiffs and the defendant. At no**  
13 **time has Mr. Cabrera entertained suggestions or even met with plaintiffs or their**  
14 **representatives regarding his current work plan.**" Id. at 438 (quoting Donziger September 16,  
15 2007 email to Quarles (bolding in email) (italics ours)). Donziger's "inclusion of the words 'if true'  
16 were nothing more than a misguided attempt to cover himself," because

17 Donziger . . . knew that the statements he proposed that Quarles make in his  
18 declaration would have been false. Among other things, Donziger had been  
19 at the March 3, 2007 meeting with Cabrera and others at which the LAPs laid  
20 out the plan they had prepared. Donziger knew also that the LAPs controlled  
21 Cabrera's site selections and that Cabrera in all other respects was "totally  
22 playing ball" with the LAPs.

23 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 438

1           9.       The LAPs' Consultant, Stratus, Writes Cabrera's Report

2                       The report that Cabrera submitted to the court ("Cabrera Report") was not written by  
3 Cabrera. "It was written almost entirely by Stratus and others working at the direction of Stratus and  
4 Donziger." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 442.

5                       [I]t was "the general idea" "that Stratus would draft the report in a form that  
6 it could be submitted directly to the Ecuadorian court by Mr. Cabrera." In  
7 January 2008, Beltman sent a first draft of an outline of the Cabrera Report to  
8 Donziger and Maest for their comments. In February 2008--six weeks before  
9 Cabrera's report was to be filed--Maest and Beltman traveled to Ecuador to  
10 meet with Cabrera, Donziger, and other members of the LAPs' team. Beltman  
11 wrote to the Stratus team in Boulder that

12                       . . . . We have to write, over the next 2 to 3 weeks, probably the single  
13 most important technical document for the case. The document will  
14 pull together all of the work over the last 15 or so years on the case and  
15 make recommendations for the court to consider in making its  
16 judgment. We (the case attorneys, the case team in Quito, and Stratus)  
17 have put together a very ambitious outline for this report. The people  
18 in the Quito office are working on some parts, and we're working on  
19 others.

20                       The report to which he referred, of course, was the one that Cabrera  
21 would submit to the Lago Agrio court. At Donziger's direction, Stratus wrote  
22 its portions in the first person as though they were written by Cabrera.  
23 Beltman emailed that draft to Donziger on February 27, 2008, and continued  
24 to work on it through March. Other members of the Stratus team worked at  
25 Beltman's direction and drafted portions of the annexes that would accompany  
26 Cabrera's report, often collaborating with members of the LAPs' Ecuadorian  
27 team in doing so. All of the portions of the report that Stratus prepared were  
28 in English, were written in Cabrera's voice, and later were translated into  
29 Spanish for submission to the court.

30       Id. at 440-41 (footnotes omitted) (quoting Donziger deposition and Beltman February 22, 2008 email  
31 to Stratus employees (emphases ours)).

32                       There was "no evidence that Cabrera himself ever" reviewed the report thoroughly,  
33 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 443; "Cabrera 'adopted pretty much verbatim what had been provided to

1 him' by Stratus," id. at 442 n.463 (quoting Donziger deposition testimony). However, "Donziger  
2 reviewed and commented on every aspect of the Cabrera Report and its annexes before they were  
3 filed," Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 443; he "had the final word on every annex and every piece of the  
4 report," id. at 440.

5 The Cabrera Report was submitted to the Lago Agrio court on April 1, 2008.

6 The last draft of the Cabrera Report was saved on the morning of  
7 March 30, 2008. . . . On April 1, 2008, Donziger downloaded the final version  
8 of the report from a secret email account Fajardo had created for him.

9 Later that day, Cabrera--accompanied by the LAPs, their supporters,  
10 and members of the press--walked into the Lago Agrio court and filed the  
11 report he claimed to have written. It consisted of an executive summary and  
12 21 annexes and set the amount of damages at \$16.3 billion. It stated that  
13 "[t]his report was prepared by the Expert Richard Stalin Cabrera Vega for  
14 purposes of providing professional technical assistance to the Nueva Loja  
15 Superior Court of Justice . . . [.]"

16 Id. at 442 (footnotes omitted) (quoting Cabrera Report (emphases ours)).

17 Thereafter, in statements to the press, the LAPs' team emphasized Cabrera's supposed  
18 neutrality:

19 Two weeks after the report was filed, Fajardo gave a press conference,  
20 with Donziger at his side, in which he stated that "what scares Chevron the  
21 most, is that this independent, court-appointed expert, who doesn't . . . respond  
22 to either side of the case has determined that to repair this damage it will be  
23 between seven billion and sixteen billion dollars." Donziger and the plaintiffs'  
24 team falsely stressed Cabrera's "independen[ce]" to maximize the leverage on  
25 Chevron, although they well knew that the claim of independence was a lie.

26 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 443 (footnotes omitted) (quoting April 14, 2008 "Crude" film clip of press  
27 conference, and April 16, 2008 press release (emphases ours)).

1           10.     Donziger Has Stratus Fabricate Objections To Be Submitted By the LAPs to the  
2                     Cabrera Report that Stratus Wrote For the LAPs

3                     In order to enhance the false image of Cabrera's independence, Stratus proceeded, as  
4 instructed by Donziger, to prepare objections to the Cabrera Report for submission to the court by the  
5 LAPs. The goal was to create the impression that the LAPs "w[ere] dissatisfied with the Report and  
6 that Cabrera had not gone far enough in assessing damages--notwithstanding the fact that the LAP  
7 team, including Stratus, itself had written it." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 444. Thus, "having written  
8 the bulk of the Cabrera Report, Stratus began preparing to . . . respond to it on behalf of the LAPs as  
9 if the Cabrera Report actually had been written by Cabrera . . . ." Id. at 443.

10                    "The plan was to maximize the deception. . . . Fajardo wrote to the [LAPs'] team the  
11 day after the Report was filed," urging them to respond to inquiries as he had, i.e., to say that the  
12 report is a "good report," and "includes an item for recovery, but" does "not go[] far enough," and  
13 "we are not happy . . . . I think it is good to maintain a uniform line, PLEASE, WE ARE NOT  
14 HAPPY." Id. at 444 (quoting Fajardo April 2, 2008 email to LAPs' team (emphasis ours)). "This  
15 appearance of dissatisfaction with the Cabrera Report was important because it supported the false  
16 pretense that Cabrera had acted independently." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 444.

17                    Cabrera himself later echoed this pretense. He wrote to the Court stating, inter alia,

18                    "I am an honest man with nothing to hide, and my conduct as an expert in this  
19 case has been as professional, impartial and objective as possible, as can be  
20 seen from my expert report. The fact that neither of the two parties is fully  
21 satisfied with my report is clear evidence of my impartiality. . . ."

22                    Id. at 445 (quoting Cabrera October 8, 2008 letter to the Lago Agrio court (emphasis ours)).

23                    This of course was blatantly false and misleading. . . . Stratus' criticism of its  
24 own work product that had been submitted over Cabrera's name[ ]was intended

1 to feed the false impression that Cabrera had been independent. That was a  
2 key part of Donziger's strategy.

3 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 445.

4 Cabrera reiterated his claim of independence in response to objections by Chevron.  
5 He disputed Chevron's criticisms, saying, inter alia, that everything was "'objective, and deeply  
6 impartial. . . . The entire expert investigation procedure was completed by me personally." Id.  
7 (quoting Cabrera February 5, 2009 letter to the Lago Agrio court (first emphasis ours; second  
8 emphasis in Donziger)).

9 The submission of supposed objections by the LAPs also provided a basis on which  
10 Cabrera could increase his damages assessment, and he did so. His November 2008 supplemental  
11 report, in which he purported to respond to the comments and questions submitted by the LAPs,  
12 "added another \$11 billion to the initial damages assessment in the Cabrera Report. This report, just  
13 like the one it was supplementing, had been written by Stratus and the LAP team." Donziger, 974  
14 F.Supp.2d at 445 (footnote omitted); see, e.g., id. at 457 ("under the instruction and supervision of Mr.  
15 Donziger," Stratus, having "essentially . . . ghostwritten the Cabrera report, then . . . act[ed] as experts  
16 for the plaintiffs [and] wrote comments to their own work, and then wrote the Cabrera report's  
17 responses to their own comments" (internal quotation marks omitted)).

18 11. When "Crude" Is Released and Chevron Gets Discovery Revealing the LAPs-Cabrera  
19 Collaboration, Donziger Hires New Consultants To "Cleanse" the Cabrera Report

20 "Crude," the documentary by filmmaker Joseph Berlinger, commissioned by Donziger  
21 and featuring him quite prominently, was first released in January 2009. Donziger had given the film

1 crew expansive access to himself, his team, and some of its activities for nearly three years. See  
2 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 453. "One scene showed Dr. Carlos Beristain--a member of Cabrera's  
3 supposedly neutral staff--working directly with the LAPs and their lawyers, including Donziger." Id.  
4 at 454. Donziger, having received an advance copy in December 2008, asked Berlinger to

5 delete the Beristain images and other material. Fajardo made the same request  
6 to [Berlinger's cameraman] Bonfiglio, emphasizing that if the scene with  
7 Beristain were left in the film, "the entire case will simply fall apart on us. . . .  
8 Those two guys [Beristain and Adolfo Maldonado, another supposed neutral]  
9 must not appear in the documentary at all! Please, remove them from it. It  
10 really isn't much, but it can complicate the entire case for us."

11 Id. (footnote omitted) (quoting Fajardo December 25, 2008 email to Bonfiglio (emphases ours)).

12 Berlinger and Bonfiglio initially did not comply, and at a film festival in January 2009  
13 the film was shown with the Beristain scene. See Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 454. When Fajardo  
14 persisted, however,

15 explain[ing] that the images were "so serious that we could lose everything[.]"  
16 Berlinger ultimately removed the Beristain images from the scene, and they  
17 were not included in the version released on DVD. They were left, however,  
18 in the version of the film that streamed over Netflix. Someone at Chevron  
19 noticed.

20 Id. (footnotes omitted) (quoting Fajardo January 22, 2009 email to Bonfiglio (first emphasis in  
21 Donziger; other emphases ours)).

22 The deleted images appeared to confirm Chevron's suspicion that Cabrera had been  
23 neither neutral nor independent. Chevron began to initiate § 1782 discovery proceedings in the  
24 United States, see 28 U.S.C. § 1782 (authorizing orders for testimony or document production for use  
25 in a proceeding in a foreign tribunal). First, in federal court in Denver, Colorado, it sought discovery  
26 of Stratus's communications with the LAPs' team, pointing out that there were similarities between,

1 on one hand, the Cabrera Report, and on the other hand, papers published by Stratus employees and  
2 documents produced by Stratus in a mediation proceeding. Chevron argued that discovery was  
3 material to the questions of whether Cabrera had written his own report and whether the LAPs had  
4 been involved.

5 LAPs' attorney Prieto urged Donziger not to let the Stratus-related emails be disclosed,  
6 stressing that it was "'NOT acceptable for the correspondence, the e-mails, between Stratus'" and  
7 members of the LAPs' team "'to be divulged"; Prieto said

8 "the effects are potentially devastating in Ecuador (apart from destroying the  
9 proceeding, all of us, your attorneys, might go to jail) . . . ."

10 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 461 (quoting Prieto March 30, 2010 email to Donziger, Fajardo, Yanza,  
11 and Sáenz (emphasis ours)). Donziger's efforts notwithstanding, the federal court in Colorado granted  
12 Chevron's request for discovery.

13 Soon thereafter, Chevron also brought a § 1782 proceeding against Berlinger for  
14 discovery of outtakes from "Crude"--in particular, for footage of Cabrera and members of his team  
15 working directly with members of the LAPs' team. The LAPs opposed, characterizing the Beristain  
16 meeting with Donziger as "'innocuous'" and "'of no relevance to anything,'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d  
17 at 464 (quoting LAPs' Memorandum of Law in Opposition to an Application for a § 1782 Order To  
18 Conduct Discovery), in contrast to the desperate efforts made by Donziger and Fajardo to have such  
19 scenes removed because "the images were 'so serious that we could lose everything,'" Donziger, 974  
20 F.Supp.2d at 454 (quoting Fajardo January 22, 2009 email to Bonfiglio (emphasis in Donziger)).  
21 Discovery was granted, and Berlinger produced more than 600 hours of raw footage.



1 To guard against the possibility that the court-ordered disclosures might lead to the  
2 Cabrera Report's being discredited or stricken, the LAPs' team devised a plan to "cleanse" the Cabrera  
3 Report by having new experts "repackage" that report, proffering alternative grounds for the damages  
4 evaluation. Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 461. To gain time for implementation of that process, the  
5 LAPs sought to delay production of the Stratus-related emails by moving for a protective order on the  
6 ground of attorney-client privilege. In support of the motion, they submitted a declaration by Fajardo  
7 ("Fajardo Declaration") that was "highly misleading." Id. at 462. It acknowledged that the LAPs had  
8 delivered materials to Cabrera, but

9 [i]t failed to mention that Fajardo, with Donziger's approval, had threatened the  
10 judge with a misconduct complaint unless the judge agreed to their demands  
11 to cancel the LAPs' remaining judicial inspections. . . . [I]t did not mention the  
12 March 3, 2007 meeting at which the LAPs laid out the plan for Cabrera's  
13 Report and indicated, in Cabrera's presence, that the work would be done by  
14 them. Nor did it reveal that Stratus and the LAPs' counsel in fact had written  
15 most of the Cabrera Report. . . . The declaration similarly neglected to report  
16 that the LAP[s] "chang[ed] the focus of [Cabrera's] data at [their] offices."  
17 And it, of course, failed to disclose that the LAPs had made secret payments  
18 to Cabrera outside the court process.

19 Id. at 462-63 (footnote omitted) (quoting Donziger July 17, 2007 email to Yanza and Fajardo  
20 (emphases ours)).

21 A subsequent petition filed by Fajardo in the Lago Agrio court ("Fajardo Petition"),  
22 requesting permission to submit supplementary information to assist the court in assessing global  
23 damages, disclosed a bit more than the Fajardo Declaration, as it admitted that the LAPs had given  
24 Cabrera proposed factual findings and economic valuations as to environmental and other damage  
25 caused by Texaco. The Fajardo Petition was later filed multiple times in United States courts, with  
26 the LAPs representing that it "'fully disclosed' their relationship with Cabrera." Donziger, 974  
27 F.Supp.2d at 464. But the Fajardo Petition too

1 was deceptive. There was no disclosure of the fact that Cabrera was  
2 handpicked by Donziger because he would cooperate with the LAPs, that the  
3 report was planned and written by the LAPs and Stratus, and that Cabrera  
4 "play[ed] ball" by simply affixing his name to it, acting all the while under the  
5 false pretense--fostered by the LAPs--that the report was Cabrera's  
6 independent work.

7 Id. at 463-64 (emphases added).

8 The Fajardo Petition in the Lago Agrio court was granted, and the LAPs submitted  
9 seven "cleansing" reports on September 16, 2010, at least some of which had been reviewed and  
10 commented upon by Donziger. See id. at 480. The experts who prepared those reports had not been  
11 informed that the Cabrera Report had in fact, without the court's knowledge, been written by Stratus,  
12 working for the LAPs, and the new experts treated the Cabrera Report with deference. See id.  
13 at 480-81. Indeed, some of the reports relied on it directly.

14 12. The District Court's Summary

15 The district court summarized the fraudulent provenance of Cabrera's reports to the  
16 Lago Agrio court as follows:

17 In the last analysis, the facts concerning the Cabrera Report are crystal  
18 clear. The remaining LAP judicial inspections were cancelled, the global  
19 expert proposal adopted, and Cabrera appointed in consequence of the  
20 coercion of and pressure placed upon Judge Yáñez. As Donziger admitted in  
21 a Crude outtake, Judge Yáñez "never would have done [that] had we not really  
22 pushed him."

23 Cabrera was not even remotely independent. He was recruited by  
24 Donziger. He was paid under the table out of a secret account above and  
25 beyond the legitimate court-approved payments. He was promised work on  
26 the remediation for life if the LAPs won. The LAPs gave him an office and  
27 life insurance, as well as a secretary who was a girlfriend of one of the LAP  
28 team members. Stratus and, to some extent others, wrote the overwhelming  
29 bulk of his report and his responses to Chevron's objections, as well as to the  
30 deceitful comments Stratus had written on its own report. And, in accordance

1                   with Donziger's plan to ratchet up the pressure on Chevron with a supposedly  
2                   independent recommendation that Chevron be hit with a multibillion dollar  
3                   judgment, he repeatedly lied to the court concerning his independence and his  
4                   supposed authorship of the report.

5                   Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 446 (footnote omitted) (quoting June 13, 2007 "Crude" film clip  
6                   (emphases ours)). Donziger

7                   had chosen Cabrera for the global expert position because Cabrera would  
8                   cooperate with the LAPs. He and Fajardo procured his appointment by  
9                   coercing Judge Yáñez. They had caused Stratus to write all or most of his  
10                  report and then falsely passed that report off--both to the court and to the world  
11                  press--as the independent work of a neutral, court-selected expert.

12                  Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 459 n.563. "Donziger was the architect of all that occurred with respect  
13                  to the Cabrera Report," id. at 447 n.484; "[h]e knew at all times that his actions were wrongful and  
14                  illegal," id. at 448; and "he had no illusions about the impropriety of what he and his colleagues had  
15                  done," id. at 459 n.563. "In sum, Donziger knew at every step that what he and the LAP team did  
16                  with Cabrera was wrong, deceptive, and illegal." Id. at 460.

17                  C.        The February 14, 2011 Lago Agrio Judgment

18                  Largely because of the Ecuador court's system of assigning cases to judges for limited  
19                  periods of time, a total of six judges presided over the Lago Agrio Chevron case from the time it was  
20                  filed in 2003 until the Judgment was entered in 2011. Three of them figure prominently in the present  
21                  case; two of them testified at trial. When the case was filed in May 2003, it was assigned to then-  
22                  Judge Alberto Guerra Bastidas ("Guerra"), and he presided over it until January 2004; Guerra, who  
23                  was removed from the bench in May 2008 because of misconduct, became an important witness at  
24                  trial in the present case. From January 2006 until October 2007, Judge Yáñez, as discussed in Parts  
25                  I.B.4.-I.B.6. above, was presiding. Nicolás Zambrano was a judge from July 2008 until he was

1 removed from the bench for misconduct in February 2012. Zambrano first presided over the Lago  
2 Agrio Chevron case for a four-month term beginning in September 2009; he again presided over the  
3 litigation beginning in October 2010 and issued the \$17.292 billion Judgment in February 2011.

4 The Lago Agrio Judgment awarded the LAPs \$8.646 billion in damages for at least  
5 seven categories of injury, including harm to the environment and human health, and another  
6 \$8.646 billion unless Chevron issued a public apology within 15 days. See Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d  
7 at 481. In addition,

8 the Judgment ordered that the LAPs establish a trust for the benefit of the ADF  
9 "or the person or persons that it designates" and that Chevron pay the damages  
10 awarded to that trust. It directed that the trust's board of directors be made up  
11 of the "representatives of the Defense Front," i.e., the ADF, and provided that  
12 the board would choose the contractors who would perform the remediation.  
13 Thus, the Judgment did exactly what the complaint had asked--it put the ADF  
14 in complete control of any proceeds of the Judgment.

15 Id. at 481-82 (footnotes omitted) (quoting Lago Agrio Judgment (emphasis added)).

16 In explaining the Judgment, the court "professed to disclaim reliance on the Cabrera  
17 Report." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 481. It stated that it had "'not considered the conclusions  
18 presented by the experts in their reports, because they contradict each other despite the fact that they  
19 refer to the same reality.'" Id. (quoting Lago Agrio Judgment). The court also noted some of  
20 Chevron's charges of misconduct on the part of Donziger but said they were not attributable to the  
21 LAPs because the LAPs had not granted Donziger a formal power of attorney. See Donziger, 974  
22 F.Supp.2d at 481.

23 Chevron issued no apology. Instead, it filed a motion for clarification  
24 and expansion of the Judgment three days after it was issued. It requested  
25 further explanation of several of the Judgment's conclusions . . . . It questioned  
26 also the Judgment's award of punitive damages, "which are not defined in the  
27 Ecuadorian legal system," and were "completely identical to the items  
28 indicated in the Cabrera Report," which the Judgment purported to exclude  
29 from its consideration.

1 Id. at 482 (footnote omitted) (quoting Chevron motion (emphasis ours)).

2                   The Lago Agrio court issued a clarification order on March 4, 2011.  
3                   It held inter alia . . . that "the Court decided to refrain entirely from relying  
4                   on Expert Cabrera's report when rendering judgment. . . . [T]he report had NO  
5                   bearing on the decision. So even if there was fraud, it could not cause any  
6                   harm to" Chevron.

7 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 482 (footnote omitted) (quoting Judgment Clarification Order (emphases  
8 ours)).

9 D. Findings by the District Court as to the Sources and Authorship of the Lago Agrio Judgment

10                   Zambrano, who was the judge presiding over the case when the Lago Agrio Judgment  
11                   was issued, testified in the present action that he had written the single-spaced, 188-page Lago Agrio  
12                   Judgment without any assistance from anyone other than an 18-year-old typist to whom he dictated  
13                   the entire decision. The Judgment and the clarification order stated that the court had not relied on  
14                   the Cabrera Report. And Zambrano testified that he relied only on evidence in the record. The  
15                   district court found that each of these representations was false.

16 1. The Lago Agrio Judgment Drew Heavily on the Cabrera Report

17                   Notwithstanding the disclaimers in the Lago Agrio Judgment and clarification order,  
18                   the district court found that the principal aspects of that Judgment were drawn from the Cabrera  
19                   Report. For example, of the \$8.646 billion awarded for, inter alia, harm to the environment and  
20                   human health, \$5.4 billion was awarded for remediation of soil at "'880 [waste] pits'" in the  
21                   Concession area, supposedly "'proven through aerial photographs'" in "'the record,'" Donziger, 974  
22                   F.Supp.2d at 682 n.53 (quoting Lago Agrio Judgment). However, an expert witness opined that it  
23                   would have been exceedingly difficult for the Judgment's author to glean that exact number of pits

1 from those aerial photographs because the black and white images were "of such low resolution that  
2 it would have been 'difficult for even an experienced photogrammetrist to identify and map pits,' much  
3 less someone with no special training or equipment." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 684 (footnote  
4 omitted) (quoting expert trial testimony). (See also Part I.D.2. below re Zambrano's lack of assistance  
5 and lack of civil-case experience.) Indeed, enhanced resolution of some of the photographs in the  
6 Lago Agrio record revealed that some of what were identified by the Lago Agrio decision as waste  
7 pits were in fact "trees, above-ground tanks, and other objects." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 684 n.65.  
8 Thus, the district court found that, given the quality of the aerial photographs in the record, it was  
9 "impossible" that those photographs were the source of the Lago Agrio Judgment's conclusion that  
10 remediation was required in 880 pits. Id. at 685.

11 The Cabrera Report, on the other hand, provided a source for exactly 880 pits: It  
12 targeted 916 pits for remediation (the number that appeared "in a spreadsheet produced by Stratus,  
13 upon which [the relevant Cabrera Report chart] likely was based"). Id. at 683 n.58, 684. But 36 of  
14 those pits "either had been operated by PetroEcuador," rather than Texaco, or had shown "no impact  
15 and for [them], therefore, no remediation was necessary. With those pits excluded, the net pit count  
16 in the Cabrera Report was 880." Id. at 684 (footnote and internal quotation marks omitted (emphases  
17 ours)). The district court noted that the LAPs had been desperate to "cleanse" the Cabrera Report and  
18 had submitted seven purportedly supplementary expert reports; yet in support of pit count, their  
19 penultimate alegato--or written summation--to the Lago Agrio court used the Cabrera Report's 916  
20 figure and cited nothing other than the Cabrera Report. The district court thus found that it was  
21 "impossible that the pit count in the Judgment came from anything but the Cabrera Report." Id.  
22 at 685.

1           As another example, the Lago Agrio Judgment awarded \$150 million for potable water  
2 damage. The Cabrera Report had recommended in that category an award of \$428 million; the report  
3 of a Chevron expert cited in the Judgment characterized the Cabrera Report as recommending an  
4 award of \$430 million and criticized the recommendation as grossly exaggerated. The Lago Agrio  
5 court agreed that the Cabrera Report's recommendation was too high, as it found that only 35% of the  
6 people in the Concession area lacked potable water. The district court inferred that the author of the  
7 Lago Agrio decision simply took 35% of \$430 million, which came to \$150,500,000, and rounded it  
8 to an even \$150 million. Noting that no other evidentiary basis for the \$150 million award was cited  
9 in the Judgment, the district court found that "the figure awarded was derived directly from the  
10 . . . recommendation contained in the Cabrera Report." *Id.* at 686.

11           The district court also found that the Lago Agrio Judgment relied on the Cabrera  
12 Report by relying on one of the supplemental "cleansing" reports submitted by the LAPs, authored  
13 by Dr. Lawrence Barnthouse, to award \$200 million for restoration of flora and fauna in the  
14 Concession area. This flowed from "the Judgment[']s recogni[tion] that 'Dr. Barnthouse testified that  
15 he reviewed expert Cabrera's report, but did not prepare a damage report himself.'" *Id.* (quoting Lago  
16 Agrio Judgment).

17           Thus, the Court found that a total of \$5.75 billion of the \$8.646 billion non-punitive  
18 damages awarded was based on the Cabrera Report:

19                   In sum, the Court finds that the Judgment, although it . . . purported not  
20 to rely on the Cabrera Report, did so rely at least (1) for the pit count--which  
21 drove its largest damages award [**\$5.4 billion**], (2) for the potable water  
22 damages award [**\$150 million**], and (3) by virtue of its reliance on the  
23 Barnthouse report [**\$200 million**]. The Court thus finds that the Cabrera  
24 Report was material to the Judgment at least in those respects, which  
25 collectively were very important indeed.

26           Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 688.

1           2.     Then-Presiding Judge Zambrano Did Not Write the Lago Agrio Judgment

2           The district court also found that "Zambrano did not write the Judgment, at least in any  
3 material part." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 482. Zambrano, a judge on the Lago Agrio court only  
4 since July 30, 2008, had been a prosecutor but had had little experience in civil matters. When  
5 Zambrano arrived on the court, Guerra had been removed from the bench for misconduct, see id.  
6 at 505, and "[h]e and Guerra entered into an agreement by which Zambrano paid Guerra \$1,000 per  
7 month to assist Zambrano in drafting his 'writs and rulings' in civil cases," id. (quoting Guerra trial  
8 testimony).

9           Zambrano first presided over the Lago Agrio Chevron case for a four-month period  
10 beginning in September 2009. Zambrano "admitted . . . that 'Guerra helped [him] with the drafting  
11 of orders in [Zambrano's] cases,'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 506 (quoting Zambrano trial testimony).  
12 Although Zambrano testified that the arrangement did not include the Chevron case, see Donziger,  
13 974 F.Supp.2d at 506--and the district court did not find that the LAPs had an arrangement with  
14 Zambrano during that first period in which Zambrano presided, see id. at 513--the court found that  
15 "the LAPs, with Donziger's authorization, paid Guerra during this period to ghostwrite Zambrano's  
16 orders on the Chevron case and to do so to their advantage," id. at 513 n.983 (emphases added). (See  
17 Part I.D.4. below.)

18           Zambrano began his second period of presiding over the Lago Agrio Chevron case in  
19 October 2010, and he issued the Judgment four months later. In a declaration submitted to the district  
20 court in the present action before the start of trial, "Zambrano stated: 'I confirm that I am the only  
21 author of the judgment that I issued on February 14, 2011 . . . . I did not receive support or assistance  
22 from Dr. Alberto Guerra or from any other person . . . .'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 485 (quoting  
23 Zambrano March 28, 2013 declaration (emphasis in Donziger)).



1           The district court found it difficult to credit this claim, both logistically and  
 2           substantively. To begin with, the court had substantial doubts that Zambrano had been able, in four  
 3           months, to review the more than 200,000 pages of documents in the record and write the 188-page,  
 4           single-spaced Judgment without any help from any other person. The Judgment was "of considerable  
 5           complexity [and] purport[ed] to rely on innumerable pieces of evidence, many of them lengthy  
 6           documents themselves." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 487. Indeed, Zambrano's categorical statement  
 7           that he had received no help from anyone was subsequently altered twice. First, after Guerra testified  
 8           at trial that Zambrano had in fact had the daughter of a friend type court orders, Zambrano stated that  
 9           he had received typing assistance on the Lago Agrio Judgment from a Ms. Calva, an 18-year-old who  
 10          was not an employee of the court and whom Zambrano personally paid \$15 a day.

11           The court also found it difficult to credit Zambrano's "adamant" testimony that he had  
 12          dictated the entire decision to Calva and "'never show[ed] Ms. Calva any document,'" id. at 486  
 13          (quoting Zambrano trial testimony), from which she could type complicated strings of alphanumeric  
 14          sequences with dashes, periods, semicolons, and odd parentheses, such as the following:

15                   "3142 y 466 en Auca 1 en AU01-PIT1-SD2-SU2-R(220-240 cm)--sv y AU01-  
 16                   A1-SD1-SU1-R(60-100cm)--sv; 2450 y 876 en Cononaco 6 en CON6-A2-  
 17                   SE1 --sv y CON6-PIT1-SD1-DU1-R(160-260cm)--sv;  
 18                   154.152,73.6325,70.4021 en Shushufindi 18, en SSF18-A1-SU2-R(O.Om)--sv,  
 19                   SSF18-PIT2-SD1-SU1-R(1.5-2.0m)--sv; y SSF18-A1-SU1-R(0.0 m)--sv,"

20          Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 486 (quoting Lago Agrio Judgment). "Even assuming that Zambrano  
 21          actually prepared the Judgment, as he claims, he certainly would not have dictated these pre-existing  
 22          documents to Ms. Calva rather than giving them to her with markings indicating exactly what he  
 23          wanted her to copy." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 486-87.

1           Second, after initially "testif[y]ing at trial] that 'nobody helped [him] do the research  
2 [he] needed to do to write and author the judgment,'" id. at 485-86 (quoting Zambrano trial testimony),  
3 Zambrano slightly modified that representation as well. "[W]hen he later was asked how he had  
4 found [the] French, British, Australian, and American authorities that were cited in the Judgment,"  
5 Zambrano said that Calva "'would look for a specific subject,'" and "'she would print them out so that  
6 I would read them later.'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 486 (quoting Zambrano trial testimony). The  
7 court refused to credit this testimony, however, noting that

8           there was no credible explanation of how Calva, as Zambrano claimed, found  
9 French, British, Australian, and American legal authorities on the Internet  
10 given that there is no evidence that she had any legal training or spoke French  
11 or English,

12 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 486; and there was no explanation as to how Zambrano himself would  
13 have been able to understand those decisions, given that he had "no legal training in the common  
14 law," had "very little experience with civil matters in Ecuador," and "reads neither French nor  
15 English," id.

16           More importantly, the district court found it difficult to reconcile Zambrano's claim  
17 that he had written the Judgment himself, and without any substantive assistance, with his responses  
18 to basic questions about the substance of the decision. Among other things, Zambrano could not  
19 recall "the identity of a substance that the Judgment described as the most powerful carcinogenic  
20 agent it considered," i.e., benzene, id. at 484. Nor could he recall the name of the "substance for the  
21 presence of which the Judgment awarded \$5 billion." Id. That substance was TPH, a term that  
22 appeared in the Judgment more than 35 times. "But when Zambrano was asked at his deposition what  
23 TPH stands for" (it stands for total petroleum hydrocarbons) "he testified that 'it pertains to

1 hydrocarbons, but I don't recall exactly." Id. (quoting Zambrano trial testimony). In addition, the  
2 English word "workover" appeared in the Judgment twice; but "Zambrano testified that he does not  
3 speak English, did not know what 'workover' means, and could not explain why the word was in the  
4 Judgment," Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 484 (footnotes omitted) (quoting Zambrano trial testimony).  
5 Zambrano also could not recall "the source of the most important statistical data" used in the  
6 Judgment, or "the theory of causation on which the Judgment relied." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d  
7 at 484.

8 In light of Zambrano's "astonishing[] unfamiliar[ity] with important aspects of [the  
9 Judgment's] contents," along with the "evasive[ness] and internal[] inconsisten[cies]" in his trial  
10 testimony and the differences between his trial testimony and "his deposition just days before," the  
11 district court found that "Zambrano did not write the Judgment issued under his name." Id. at 491.

12 3. The Lago Agrio Judgment Was Written by the LAPs

13 Having found that Zambrano did not write the Lago Agrio Judgment, the district court  
14 found--based in part on comparisons of the Judgment against internal LAPs' documents, which were  
15 produced in discovery in the present action but were nowhere to be found in the Lago Agrio Chevron  
16 case record--that the Lago Agrio Judgment had been written by the team representing the LAPs.

17 a. The Judgment Copied Documents That Were Not in the Court Record but  
18 Were LAPs' Internal Documents

19 The district court noted that the record in the Lago Agrio Litigation consisted of the  
20 documents duly filed with the clerk of court; that "[c]onsideration of any other materials, including  
21 any materials provided to a judge or court official informally or ex parte, would have been improper

1 under Ecuadorian law"; and that Zambrano testified that "he considered only documents that were in  
2 the court record." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 492. Nonetheless, there were parts of the Lago Agrio  
3 Judgment that had no foundation in the court record.

4 Those parts were present, however, in internal LAPs' documents:

5 [P]ortions of eight documents produced by defendants in discovery--[LAPs']  
6 internal work product--appear in haec verba or in substance in the Judgment  
7 that Zambrano claims to have written himself. These documents appear  
8 nowhere in the Lago Agrio court record.

9 Id. (footnote omitted) (emphases added); see id. at 483 ("overwhelming and unrefuted evidence  
10 establish[es] that portions of at least eight of the LAP team's internal work product documents" that  
11 "never were filed with the Lago Agrio court or made part of the official case record" "appear verbatim  
12 or in substance in the Judgment"); id. at 651-81 (showing comparisons).

13 Parts of six of those eight LAPs' internal documents produced in discovery in the  
14 present action--a memorandum, an expert report, index summaries, a Fajardo email, and a LAPs'  
15 alegato draft--"appear verbatim or in substance on 30 pages of the Judgment." Id. at 492. Expert  
16 witnesses, whose testimony the district court credited, made "side-by-side comparisons" of these  
17 unfiled LAPs' internal documents against passages in the Lago Agrio Judgment and found numerous  
18 strings of identical or virtually identical text that were not explainable either as set phrases or by  
19 chance. Id. at 493 (internal quotation marks omitted). They noted "39 examples of plagiarized text  
20 from the[se six pieces of the] Ecuadorian plaintiffs' unfiled work product that appear[] in the [Lago  
21 Agrio] Judgment." Id. (internal quotation marks omitted).

22 The district court noted that some of the copied text was "on important issues,  
23 including the question whether Chevron could be held liable for alleged pre-acquisition torts of

1 Texaco." Id. It found that "[t]here is no plausible explanation for their presence in the Judgment  
2 except that whoever wrote the Judgment copied parts of them." Id. (emphasis added).

3 A seventh LAPs' internal document, a 2009 memorandum written for the LAPs' team  
4 by one of its interns named Moodie, was also used in the Lago Agrio Judgment, which replicated  
5 certain of the memorandum's errors, inapposite doctrines, and inaccurate attributions. For example,  
6 the Lago Agrio Judgment's causation analysis relied on a common-law "'substantial factor' test" that  
7 is used in California, a reliance that is a puzzlement since Ecuador is a civil-law country and since that  
8 test "is outdated and generally applied only in asbestos cases." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 493-94.  
9 The "substantial factor" test, however, was a subject of Moodie's memorandum, see id., and the  
10 Moodie memorandum and the Lago Agrio Judgment "contain identical strings" of language, id.  
11 at 494. "Nothing in the Moodie Memo," however, "appears anywhere in the Lago Agrio Record."  
12 Id. at 495.

13 In addition, both the Judgment and Moodie's memorandum discuss the concept that  
14 causation can be established by a process of inference from provable facts in combination, even if  
15 each item of proof individually does not show more than a possibility, a proposition that is well  
16 established throughout the common-law world and that is "usually attributed . . . to the American text,  
17 Wigmore on Evidence 3rd Edition, paragraph 2497." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 495 (internal  
18 quotation marks omitted). But, peculiarly, the Lago Agrio Judgment attributed that proposition to  
19 Australian law--as had Moodie's memorandum. See id. American and Australian expert witnesses  
20 also identified other errors that are "common to both the Moodie Memo and the Judgment." Id. The  
21 district court noted that

1           [t]he fundamental point . . . is not that the Judgment came to mistaken or odd  
2           conclusions about the law of the United States or Australia. It instead is that  
3           both the Moodie Memo and the Judgment made the same mistakes in  
4           characterizing them. Nothing in the Moodie Memo appears anywhere in the  
5           Lago Agrio Record. Thus, the likelihood that the Judgment independently  
6           would contain exactly the same errors in characterizations as appear in the  
7           Moodie Memo is almost zero. The Court finds that parts of the Moodie Memo  
8           were copied into and paraphrased in the Judgment.

9           Id. (footnote omitted) (emphases added).

10           The eighth LAPs' internal document used in the Lago Agrio Judgment was an internal  
11           database maintained by defendant Selva Viva Selviva CIA, LTDA ("Selva Viva"), an entity formed  
12           by Donziger and Yanza in 2004 as a funding vehicle for the Lago Agrio Litigation, see id. at 399. The  
13           record in the Lago Agrio court contained the laboratory test results of samples taken from the judicial  
14           inspection sites (the "Filed Lab Results"). The Lago Agrio Judgment purported to discuss these  
15           reported results; but there were several notable differences between the Filed Lab Results and the  
16           Judgment, differences traceable to the database maintained by Selva Viva, which was "a series of  
17           spreadsheets that were produced to Chevron in discovery, but not filed with the Lago Agrio court,"  
18           id. at 495.

19           One indication that the Judgment relied on Selva Viva materials is the form of its  
20           citations to sample results, each of which consists of a series of letters and numbers, with many such  
21           citations in the Judgment "end[ing] with the suffix '--sv' or '--tx.'" Not one of the Filed Lab Results  
22           contained an '--sv' or '--tx' suffix but the Selva Viva Database did." Id. at 496 (footnote omitted)  
23           (emphasis added). In addition, the Judgment's formatting--including the use of dashes and  
24           underscoring and the placement of parentheses--in various naming conventions differed from that  
25           used in the Filed Lab Results, but matched the formatting used in the Selva Viva database. See id.

1           Moreover, reliance by the authors of the Judgment on the Selva Viva materials resulted  
2 in a variety of substantive errors. For example, although the Filed Lab Results correctly identified  
3 one of Chevron's experts, Fernando Morales, as the submitter of a particular sample result, the  
4 Judgment misidentified the Chevron expert who submitted that sample result as John Connor. The  
5 Selva Viva materials likewise misidentified Fernando Morales as John Connor. See id. at 498.

6           More importantly, reliance on the Selva Viva materials led to serious errors in the  
7 Judgment's findings as to the presence or concentrations of injurious substances in the inspection-site  
8 samples. For example, where a test did not reveal the presence of the subject substance, the Filed Lab  
9 Results generally reported the result by using a less-than symbol (" $<$ ") followed by a number that  
10 indicated the minimum concentration of that substance that could be detected by the particular  
11 equipment and testing method being used. Thus, " $<$ " before a number meant that the number was the  
12 minimum detectable level and that the test revealed less than that level. See generally Donziger, 974  
13 F.Supp.2d at 497. The Judgment found that "alarming levels of mercury have been found in the  
14 Sacha, Shushufindi and Lago Agrio fields, where we found several samples reaching 7 mg/kg." and  
15 it attributed those findings to samplings taken by two of "the experts . . . in the judicial inspection[s]  
16 at" those three sites. Id. at 496-97 (quoting Lago Agrio Judgment (emphases ours)).

17           In fact, however, the Filed Lab Results did not report that mercury levels  
18 reached 7 mg/kg in these samples. They reported levels of " $<7$ "--i.e., no  
19 detectable mercury--for every one of them.

20 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 497 (emphases added).

21           The source of the Judgment's error in finding elevated mercury levels was its use of  
22 the Selva Viva database, which

1                    separated the "<" sign from the following value by placing each in its own  
2                    column. The column containing the "<" sign was labeled "flag." The author  
3                    or authors of the Judgment thus used the Selva Viva Database rather than the  
4                    Filed Lab Results, ignored or did not understand the "flag" column, and  
5                    wrongly reported each of these test results as showing a concentration of  
6                    mercury of 7 mg/kg.

7                    Id. (emphases added).

8                    Another error in the Judgment traceable to its use of the Selva Viva materials was its  
9                    finding that the concentration of a certain injurious compound, allegedly found at some specific sites,  
10                   was "'3142 mg/kg,'" i.e., "milligrams per kilogram." Id. (quoting Lago Agrio Judgment (emphases  
11                   in Donziger)); see also Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 497 n.874 ("A milligram is one-thousandth of a  
12                   gram. A concentration of one milligram is one one-thousandth of a gram per 1,000 grams of sample."  
13                   (emphases added)). The Selva Viva database reported at least some of its test results in milligrams  
14                   per kilogram. See id. at 497-98. The Filed Lab Results for these samples, however, reported their  
15                   findings in "micrograms per kilogram," i.e., in millionths of a gram per kilogram, id. at 497 (emphasis  
16                   in original). Therefore, while the Judgment found that the substance's "'3142 mg/kg.'" concentration  
17                   "'exceed[ed] any standard of reasonable tolerance,'" see id. (quoting Lago Agrio Judgment (emphasis  
18                   in Donziger)), its finding of 3,142 "milligrams" per kilogram was 1,000 times the concentration  
19                   reported in the Filed Lab Results. "Thus, the Judgment could not have obtained the results it reported  
20                   from the Filed Lab Results. It had to have copied them from the Selva Viva Database . . . ."  
21                   Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 497.

22                   The district court noted that in analyzing these aspects of the Lago Agrio Judgment,  
23                   it was not reviewing the substantive merits of the Judgment.

24                   The point is that these particular characteristics of the Judgment are  
25                   inconsistent with the evidence in the Lago Agrio record upon which the



1 Judgment purportedly relied, but appear in the Selva Viva Database, which is  
2 not in that record. This goes directly to the question of the authorship of the  
3 Judgment. At least in these respects, the Judgment was copied from LAP  
4 material outside the record, and Zambrano's testimony was untrue.

5 Id. at 498.

6 b. The LAPs' Team Prepared the Judgment, Beginning Work on It as Early as  
7 mid-2009

8 As described in Part I.B.11. above, in the wake of the January 2009 public showing  
9 of "Crude" containing a scene in which members of the LAPs' team were conferring with one of  
10 Cabrera's scientists, a scene that Fajardo implored the filmmaker to delete because it could cause the  
11 LAPs to "lose everything," Donziger and the LAPs' team were anxious not only to have the judgment  
12 be in their favor but also to have it not rely to any great extent on the Cabrera Report. They needed  
13 to control the content of the judgment. However, it is unlawful under Ecuadorian law for parties to  
14 submit proposed judgments to a court.

15 In mid-2009, Fajardo gave a LAPs' team intern named "Parker" a research assignment  
16 for our legal alegato and the judgment, but without him knowing what he is doing." Donziger, 974  
17 F.Supp.2d at 500 (quoting Fajardo June 5, 2009 email to Donziger (emphases ours)). Fajardo's  
18 ensuing email to Donziger was more circumspect, as it referred to the LAPs' alegato, followed by  
19 "and" and an ellipsis. See Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 500 (citing Fajardo June 18, 2009 email to  
20 Donziger that attached a recent court decision that Fajardo stated would "'serve us well for our alegato  
21 and . . ." (ellipsis in email) (emphasis ours)). The district court found these emails

22 suggestive. The distinction drawn between the alegato--i.e., the written  
23 closing argument in an Ecuadorian litigation--and the judgment in the email  
24 about Parker indicates that Fajardo's reference to "the judgment" meant exactly  
25 what it said. Parker was to do research for preparation of a judgment, but was  
26 not to be told the purpose of the assignment. Moreover, defendants have  
27 advanced no reason why it was important to keep Parker in the dark, save for

1                   the logical inference that he really was working on a judgment that could not  
2                   properly have been submitted to the Lago Agrio court. Likewise, the  
3                   strategically placed ellipsis at the end of the quoted sentence from the June 18  
4                   email implies that Fajardo knew that Donziger would know from the June 5  
5                   email that the ellipsis referred to the judgment.

6                   Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 500 (footnote omitted) (emphases added).

7                   By early to mid-2010, even as their newly hired scientists worked toward "cleansing"  
8                   the Cabrera Report, id. at 500 n.893, 501, Donziger and the LAPs "were deeply concerned" that the  
9                   Lago Agrio court might rule against them because it "discredited [the Cabrera Report] as the work  
10                  of the LAPs' consultants, Stratus," or that that "court, even assuming it ruled in their favor, might rely  
11                  on the Cabrera Report if left to its own devices," which could "discredit" its decision, id. at 500. And  
12                  by later in 2010,

13                   the LAPs' Cabrera Report problem had grown even more acute . . . . [T]he  
14                   Denver lawyers had withdrawn as counsel upon their discovery of what had  
15                   transpired among Donziger, Stratus, and the LAPs. The LAPs' last-ditch effort  
16                   to stop the production of the Stratus documents had failed. The Second Circuit  
17                   had directed Berlinger to produce substantially all of the Crude out takes, so  
18                   that material either had been or was about to be produced. This Court had  
19                   directed Donziger to produce extensive material and to submit to a deposition  
20                   in a Section 1782 proceeding. Other Section 1782 proceedings had been or  
21                   were being filed around the country. Hopes of suppressing the facts that  
22                   Cabrera had been neither impartial nor independent and that Stratus had  
23                   written all or much of his report had been dashed.

24                   Id. at 502 (footnotes omitted) (emphases added). "There could have been no better way to ensure that  
25                   the Lago Agrio court would not rely on the Cabrera Report than for the LAPs to draft the decision  
26                   themselves." Id. at 501.

27                   In addition, Kohn withdrew his financial support for the Lago Agrio Litigation in 2010  
28                   and the LAPs were attempting to raise new financing. One problem in attracting new investors--and  
29                   in preserving the prospects of reward for the LAPs and their team--was a perceived ambiguity in  
30                   Ecuador's Environmental Management Act ("EMA"), Article 43 of which could require the judge in

1 an action such as the Lago Agrio Chevron case to order the defendant to pay the damages to the  
2 community directly affected and to order the defendant to pay the plaintiffs only ten percent of the  
3 value of damages. See id. at 528.

4 Writing the decision precisely as they wished and securing Zambrano's  
5 signature on it would have solved or, at least gone far toward solving, both the  
6 Cabrera Report and Article 43 problems. The disclaimer of reliance on the  
7 Cabrera Report offered the best hope for the first. Obtaining a judgment  
8 providing that all of the damages would be payable to the ADF, as the  
9 Judgment ultimately did, would have eliminated the EMA Article 43 concern.

10 Id. (emphasis in original). Plainly there was no lack of opportunity for the LAPs to have the judgment  
11 written as they wished. "The LAPs previously had availed themselves of Guerra's ghostwriting efforts  
12 when Zambrano was on the case for the first time." Id. (See Part I.D.4.a. below.)

13 The district court also found that "[t]he probability that the LAPs drafted the judgment  
14 draws strength" from the way in which Donziger equivocated when asked the question in his  
15 deposition:

16 "Q. Did the Lago Agrio plaintiff team at any time develop a proposed  
17 judgment for the Lago Agrio case?

18 A. I don't believe so. I don't know. It is possible."

19 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 501 (quoting Donziger deposition testimony). Thus,

20 Donziger, almost in the same breath, testified that he (1) believed that the  
21 LAPs had not prepared a proposed judgment, (2) did not know whether they  
22 had prepared a proposed judgment, and (3) thought it possible that they had  
23 prepared a proposed judgment. But this deposition took place only five  
24 months after the Judgment was issued. Chevron already had suggested that the  
25 Judgment, like the Cabrera Report, had been ghostwritten by the LAPs, or at  
26 least that the judge received "secret assistance" from the plaintiffs' team in  
27 writing it. So Chevron's suggestion that the LAPs had ghostwritten the  
28 Judgment, the Court finds, was in Donziger's mind when this deposition was  
29 taken. Given his lead role in the litigation and the emails discussed above, it  
30 is most unlikely that he did not know whether the LAPs had prepared a  
31 proposed judgment. If they had not, the easy and truthful answer would have  
32 been that they had not done so. Period. Indeed, the fact that Donziger

1                    obfuscated--that he quickly changed his answer to this very simple question  
2                    from "I don't believe so" to "I don't know" to "[i]t is possible"--suggests that  
3                    Donziger knew quite a bit more than he was willing to say and that he did not  
4                    say what he knew because it would have been damaging.

5                    Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 501 (footnote omitted) (quoting Donziger deposition testimony (emphases  
6                    ours)).

7                    In all the circumstances, the district court found "that the LAPs wrote the Judgment  
8                    in its entirety or in major part and that Zambrano made little or no contribution apart from his  
9                    signature and perhaps some light editing designed to make it read more like other decisions he had  
10                    signed in this and other cases." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 502.

11                    4.                    The LAPs Bribe Zambrano To Sign the Judgment They Wrote

12                    The district court found that the LAPs bribed Zambrano to allow them to write the  
13                    Judgment in the Lago Agrio Chevron case (or "Chevron case") and that this bribe was facilitated by  
14                    Guerra. Guerra so testified at trial. Although the district court did not credit all of Guerra's testimony  
15                    as to the relationship between Zambrano and the LAPs, see, e.g., Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 503  
16                    (noting "substantial credibility issues with respect to the testimony of Guerra, Zambrano, and  
17                    Donziger"); id. at 505 ("all three of . . . these witnesses testified in ways that, if believed, would  
18                    advance their own interests, economic and personal"), it found ample circumstantial evidence to  
19                    support its conclusion that "Guerra told the truth regarding the bribe and the essential fact as to who  
20                    wrote the Judgment," and "that the LAPs bribed Zambrano and wrote the Judgment in their favor,"  
21                    id. at 526.

1 a. The Relationships Among Guerra, Zambrano, and the LAPs

2 Many of Zambrano's decisions in civil cases were written by someone other than  
3 Zambrano. "Zambrano admitted that he and Guerra had a close relationship that continued after  
4 Guerra was removed from the court and after Zambrano became a judge" in mid-2008. Donziger, 974  
5 F.Supp.2d at 506 (footnote omitted). In an "arrangement [that] began in late 2008 or early 2009 . . .  
6 before there was any immediate prospect of Zambrano being assigned the Chevron case," id. at 507,  
7 "Guerra drafted court decisions in civil cases over which Zambrano presided," id. at 503. "Zambrano  
8 paid him for his ghostwriting services," id.; see also id. at 506 (noting that with respect to the period  
9 "December 22, 2010 through November 28, 2011," the hard drive on Guerra's computer contained  
10 "drafts of 105 rulings issued by the Lago Agrio court in cases unrelated to the Chevron case . . . . At  
11 least 101 of the 105 draft rulings were issued by then judge Zambrano or in cases assigned to him.").

12 During Zambrano's first tenure as presider over the Chevron case, which began in  
13 October 2009, Guerra also ghostwrote several orders for Zambrano in the Chevron case. A forensic  
14 examination of the hard drive on Guerra's computer revealed "nine drafts of orders that Zambrano  
15 issued in the Lago Agrio Chevron case between October 21, 2009 and February 17, 2010." Id. at 509.  
16 Guerra testified that during that first period of Zambrano's presiding over the Chevron case, he had  
17 struck the ghostwriting deal with Fajardo and Donziger, and for those decisions he was being paid by  
18 the LAPs. His agreement with the LAPs was evidenced by communications among Donziger,  
19 Fajardo, and other members of the LAPs' team beginning in mid-September 2009, which, using  
20 codes--as was their custom, see id. at 428, 510 n.960--referred to Guerra as the "puppeteer" and to  
21 Zambrano as the "puppet." Id. at 510 (quoting Fajardo September 15, 2009 email to Donziger,  
22 Prieto, Yanza, and others re "PUPPETEER" stating, inter alia, "The puppeteer is pulling the string

1 and the puppet is returning the package"; "it's pretty safe that there won't be anything to worry about"  
2 (emphasis ours)).

3 The ghostwriting deal between Guerra and the LAPs' team was further confirmed by  
4 bank records and additional emails. See, e.g., Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 509-10 (describing  
5 "Guerra's account statements and deposit slips confirm[ing] that in each of October, November, and  
6 December 2009, and February 2010, \$1,000 was deposited into Guerra's [bank] account," two of those  
7 four deposits being made by a person identified by Donziger as "an employee of Selva Viva at the  
8 time each deposit was made"); id. at 510-11 & nn.964-966 (noting a Fajardo October 27, 2009 email  
9 to Donziger and Yanza stating that "[t]he puppeteer won't move his puppet unless the audience pays  
10 him something," an October 29, 2009 withdrawal of \$1,000 from a Selva Viva bank account, and a  
11 deposit of that amount on the same day into Guerra's bank account); id. at 511 (noting a November  
12 26, 2009 withdrawal of \$1,000 from a Selva Viva bank account, a November 27, 2009 deposit of  
13 \$1,000 into Guerra's bank account, and a Yanza November 27, 2009 email to Donziger stating that  
14 "the budget is higher in relation to the previous months, since we are paying the puppeteer").

15 b. Zambrano's Agreement With the LAPs

16 By September 2010, Zambrano and Guerra knew that the Chevron case would be  
17 reassigned to Zambrano. Guerra, who had maintained contact with the LAPs' team, sent Donziger  
18 a message that discussed another matter, but that "closed with the statement that he would 'support  
19 the matter of Pablo Fajardo so it will come out soon and well." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 514  
20 (quoting Guerra September 5, 2010 email to Donziger (emphasis ours)).

21 Guerra testified that the only business Guerra then had with Fajardo was the  
22 Lago Agrio [Chevron] case . . . . Thus, his message was an assurance to

1 Donziger that he would continue to assist the LAPs with respect to the case so  
2 that it would "come out soon and well."

3 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 514 (quoting Guerra trial testimony). "Donziger did not reply to Guerra  
4 directly, but Fajardo later told Guerra that Donziger had received the email and was looking into the  
5 matter." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 514.

6 In the meantime, at Zambrano's request, Guerra pursued the prospect of a deal with  
7 Chevron, viewed as the deepest pocket. He asked an intermediary to propose to Chevron's attorneys  
8 that Chevron write the final judgment in the case in exchange for payment to Zambrano and Guerra.  
9 The intermediary informed Guerra that the attorneys had declined. See id.

10 Zambrano . . . then suggested that Guerra approach the LAPs' representative  
11 with essentially the same proposition--"that they could obtain a verdict in their  
12 favor, in exchange for a payment of at least USD \$500,000 to Mr. Zambrano;  
13 and for whatever amount [Guerra] could negotiate or agree to for [him]self."  
14 Guerra then took the offer to Fajardo, who allegedly was enthusiastic but said  
15 that he had to discuss it with Donziger. Days later, Guerra said, he received  
16 a call from Fajardo, who asked him to a meeting with himself, Donziger, and  
17 Yanza.

18 Id. (footnotes omitted) (quoting Guerra trial testimony (emphases ours)).

19 At the ensuing meeting, Guerra summarized the proposal and, in response to questions,  
20 Guerra assured Donziger that he could trust Zambrano to rule in the LAPs' favor if the payment were  
21 made. Although Donziger appeared interested in the deal, he ultimately replied that the LAPs did  
22 not then have that sum of money. See Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 514. Some time later, however,

23 Zambrano informed Guerra that he had been in direct contact with Fajardo and  
24 that "the Plaintiffs' representatives had agreed to pay him USD \$500,000 from  
25 whatever money they were to collect from the judgment, in exchange for  
26 allowing them to write the judgment in the Plaintiffs' favor."

27 Id. at 515 (quoting Guerra trial testimony). Zambrano promised to share some of that money with  
28 Guerra. See Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 515; id. at 558 (noting "clear and convincing evidence that

1 Zambrano was corrupted by Donziger and the LAPs," as "Fajardo--with Donziger's approval--agreed  
2 to pay Zambrano \$500,000 out of proceeds of the Judgment in exchange for Zambrano deciding the  
3 Lago Agrio case in the LAPs' favor and signing a decision provided by the LAPs").

4 c. The LAPs-Written Judgment, Lightly Edited by Guerra

5 Guerra testified that about two weeks before the Judgment was issued in February  
6 2011, he went to Zambrano's apartment where he met with Zambrano and Fajardo. "Zambrano gave  
7 [Guerra] a draft of the judgment so that [Guerra] could revise it." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 515  
8 (quoting Guerra trial testimony). Zambrano "told Guerra that the LAPs' attorneys had written the  
9 judgment and delivered it to him, and it was then Guerra's job to 'work on the document to fine-tune  
10 and polish it so it would have a more legal framework.'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 515 (quoting  
11 Guerra trial testimony).

12 Guerra proceeded to work on the draft judgment in Zambrano's apartment for several  
13 hours over the course of two days.

14 Guerra's edits were minor, involving mainly spelling and punctuation. When  
15 he was through, he returned the document to Zambrano on the laptop. The  
16 document was "not too different from the one that the Plaintiffs lawyers had  
17 given to Mr. Zambrano."

18 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 516 (footnotes omitted) (quoting Guerra trial testimony (emphasis ours)).

19 The district court credited this testimony by Guerra as to the events in 2010-2011 and  
20 found that "Guerra told the truth regarding the bribe and the essential fact" that the LAPs wrote the  
21 Judgment in their favor. Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 526.



1 E. The Ecuadorian Appellate Proceedings

2 1. Appeals to an Appellate Panel

3 Both sides filed appeals from the \$17.292 billion Lago Agrio Judgment, along with  
4 various motions, which were heard by an appellate panel consisting of three judges from the trial court  
5 ("Appeal Division" or "Division") selected by the provincial judicial counsel. Chevron, although it  
6 did not yet have Guerra's input (see Part I.D. above), argued, inter alia, that the Judgment had been  
7 fraudulently procured because the LAPs apparently had secretly assisted in the writing of the  
8 Judgment. Chevron had received some of the LAPs' internal files in the § 1782 proceedings in the  
9 United States, and it submitted an affidavit of an expert that identified overlaps between parts of the  
10 Judgment and the LAPs' internal Selva Viva database. Chevron also argued that the Judgment had  
11 likely been written by someone other than Zambrano, given that the record in the case was  
12 approximately 200,000 pages, and "only weeks before" the Judgment was filed Zambrano had stated  
13 that "he still had a quarter of the . . . record left to review." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 536 (internal  
14 quotation marks omitted).

15 The LAPs, in their appeal, argued that the damages award should have been higher.  
16 They also argued that Chevron had planted the Selva Viva content in the Judgment, and they urged  
17 the court to deal with Chevron's fraud charges in order to avoid any adverse inferences if the court,  
18 on that issue, were to remain silent. See id. at 535-36.

19 In an Opinion dated January 3, 2012, the Appeal Division affirmed the Judgment. The  
20 Division "acknowledged that the Judgment incorrectly had reported some of the data samples," but  
21 it "concluded that the errors were immaterial to the Judgment's damages award," and it "did not  
22 attempt to re-calculate the damages based on the correct figures," Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 537;

1 rather, the panel "concluded simply that the judge had considered all of the evidence--not each piece  
2 individually--to arrive at the total damages award," id. at 537-38 (emphasis in original). (See Appeal  
3 Division Opinion at 12 ("the [trial] judge . . . has not assessed each sample and its results separately,  
4 as if they described isolated facts . . .").) (See also Parts II.A.2. and II.D.1. below.)

5 The Appeal Division noted that there had been some errors in the Judgment's findings  
6 as to quantities of pollutants but stated that they did not "affect the opinion of the judgment." (Appeal  
7 Division Opinion at 11.) It concluded that, aside from the error in finding a high level of mercury,  
8 which the Appeal Division was disregarding, "the rest of the judgment of February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011, in all  
9 its parts, is ratified, including the award of measures of moral reparation or their alternative." (Id.  
10 at 16.)

11 The Appeal Division made no modifications to any of the damages calculations that  
12 resulted in the \$8.646 billion award, including the \$5.4 billion component for remediation of soil at  
13 the "880 [waste] pits" referred to in the Judgment. The district court found, based on the expert  
14 testimony and the low-resolution aerial photographs in the Lago Agrio record, that the source for the  
15 number 880 must have been the Cabrera Report (see Part I.D.1 above). The Appeal Division neither  
16 made any findings with regard to this major component of the damages award nor stated that the  
17 Division did not rely on the Cabrera Report.

18 Nor did the Appeal Division address the "overlap between the Judgment and the LAPs'  
19 unfiled work product" or explain why information in the Judgment differed from the filed sampling  
20 data. Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 537. The Appeal Division stated:

21 Mention is also made of fraud and corruption of plaintiffs, counsel and  
22 representatives, a matter to which this Division should not refer at all, except  
23 to let it be emphasized that the same accusations are pending resolution before  
24 authorities of the United States of America due to a complaint that has been  
25 filed by the very defendant here, Chevron, under what is known as the RICO

1           act, and this Division has no competence to rule on the conduct of counsel,  
2           experts or other officials or administrators and auxiliaries of justice, if that  
3           were the case.

4           (Appeal Division Opinion at 10 (emphases added).) Thus, the Appeal Division did not deal with  
5           Chevron's argument that "the overlap in general and . . . the errors and other idiosyncracies common  
6           to the Judgment and the unfiled LAP documents" were not simply factual errors but were "evidence  
7           that the LAPs had written or secretly had a hand in writing the Judgment," which would have been  
8           improper under Ecuadorian law. Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 538.

9           The LAPs asked the Appeal Division to clarify the extent to which it had addressed  
10          Chevron's claims of fraud. In response, the court issued an order on January 13, 2012 ("Appeal  
11          Division Clarification Order" or "Clarification Order") stating that "it was not its responsibility to hear  
12          and resolve proceedings that correspond to another jurisdiction," id. at 538-39 (internal quotation  
13          marks omitted). The Clarification Order stated, inter alia:

14                   This is a civil proceeding in which the Division does not find evidence of  
15                   "fraud" by the plaintiffs or their representatives, such that, as has been said, it  
16                   stays out of these accusations, preserving the parties' rights to present formal  
17                   complaint to the Ecuadorian criminal authorities or to continue the course of  
18                   the actions that have been filed in the United States of America.

19          (Appeal Division Clarification Order at 4 (emphasis added).)

20           2.       Appeal to the Ecuadorian National Court of Justice

21           Chevron then appealed to the Ecuadorian National Court of Justice (or "National  
22          Court"), arguing that the Judgment should be nullified for a variety of reasons, including, inter alia,  
23          the submission of reports fraudulently attributed to Calmbacher, the illegal activity regarding Cabrera,  
24          and the ghostwriting of the Judgment. See Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 539. The National Court, "a  
25          court of cassation" which "reviews only the legal arguments and does not re-examine the facts," id.,

1 affirmed the decision of the Appeal Division with respect to all aspects of the Initial Judgment except  
2 the punitive damages award. Noting that "punitive damages are not contemplated under Ecuadorian  
3 law" (Opinion of Ecuadorian National Court of Justice at 222), the National Court reduced the Lago  
4 Agrio Judgment against Chevron to \$8.646 billion (the Ecuadorian Judgment), see Donziger, 974  
5 F.Supp.2d at 540.

6 As to Chevron's arguments that the Lago Agrio Judgment should be annulled, the  
7 National Court's opinion emphasized that "[t]he cassation appeal is an extraordinary appeal granted  
8 to the losing party so that the Cassation Court may annul not every unfair judgment, but only those  
9 in which their own specific unfairness has been proved to have been founded on a wrongful  
10 interpretation of the law." (Opinion of Ecuadorian National Court of Justice at 97.) It deemed the  
11 allegations that the LAPs had fraudulently submitted expert reports purportedly by Calmbacher, which  
12 Calmbacher had neither written nor approved, to be beyond the scope of cassation review, stating that  
13 Chevron had failed to identify "'which legal rule ha[d] been supposedly infringed.'" Donziger, 974  
14 F.Supp.2d at 539 (quoting Opinion of Ecuadorian National Court of Justice at 97).

15 As to Chevron's contention that the LAPs had ghostwritten the Cabrera Report, the  
16 National Court "accepted the trial court's statement that it had not relied on the Cabrera Report" and  
17 concluded that the Appeal Division had properly weighed the remaining evidence in reaching its  
18 decision. Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 539-40. The National Court itself, as a court of cassation, did  
19 not review the trial record.

20 The National Court also stated that the Appeal Division's Clarification Order was not  
21 inconsistent with the Division's original opinion disclaiming competence to rule on the conduct of  
22 counsel, or judicial experts or officials:

1 In determining in a sufficient and clear manner that there was no procedural  
2 fraud in these proceedings, in the opinion of the Appeals Court, does not mean  
3 that the order issued on January 3, 2012 is inconsistent with the judgment  
4 rendered on January 13, 2012; it is clear that, by preserving the rights and  
5 actions of the parties, the court acknowledges the lack of] jurisdiction to  
6 decide whether or not there has been procedural fraud.

7 (Opinion of Ecuadorian National Court of Justice at 120 (emphasis added).)

8 F. The LAPs' Strategies To Enforce the Judgment

9 In 2010, Donziger had hired the law firm of Patton Boggs to lead the LAPs'  
10 enforcement effort for the favorable judgment he was expecting. Patton Boggs had outlined a  
11 strategy, dubbed "Invictus," of getting "attachment[s] of Chevron's assets" and "attacking Chevron  
12 on multiple fronts--in the United States and abroad." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 475, 541 (internal  
13 quotation marks omitted). The Invictus strategy included "identify[ing] Chevron-related  
14 entities--such as subsidiaries and joint ventures--and target[ing] them with enforcement actions also."  
15 Id. at 476-77 (internal quotation marks omitted).

16 Once the Lago Agrio Judgment was entered and affirmed, the LAPs obtained orders  
17 in Ecuador "attach[ing] Chevron's intellectual property rights in Ecuador, funds going into or leaving  
18 Ecuador to Chevron's bank accounts abroad, and [the] \$96 million arbitration award issued against  
19 the Republic of Ecuador." Id. at 542. They also brought enforcement actions in Argentina, Brazil,  
20 and Canada. The district court found that the LAPs intend to seek enforcement "in the United States  
21 when they conclude that it is tactically advantageous to do so." Id. at 541.

1 G. The Final Judgment in the Present Action

2 The district court concluded that Donziger and the LAPs' team of attorneys, investors,  
3 experts, and consultants constituted a RICO enterprise, and that Donziger had conducted the affairs  
4 of that enterprise in a pattern of racketeering activity. (See Part II.D. below.) Having found that  
5 Donziger "and the Ecuadorian lawyers he led," in representing the LAPs, "corrupted the Lago Agrio  
6 case" by, inter alia,

7 ■ "submitt[ing] fraudulent evidence,"

8 ■ "coerc[ing] one judge" to use a single, "supposedly impartial, 'global expert' to  
9 make an overall damages assessment" for the judge,

10 ■ "hand-pick[ing]" and illegally "pa[y]ing" an expert who would "'totally play ball'  
11 with the LAPs" in making such a damages assessment for the judge,

12 ■ coercing that judge to appoint Donziger's "hand-picked" expert as the court's  
13 "'global expert,'"

14 ■ "pa[y]ing a Colorado consulting firm secretly to write all or most of the global  
15 expert's report,"

16 ■ "falsely present[ing] the report as the work of the court-appointed and supposedly  
17 impartial expert,"

18 ■ fraudulently having the Colorado firm write supposed criticisms by the LAPs of the  
19 expert's report that that firm had written for the LAPs, to cause it to appear that the expert was  
20 impartial and his report neutral, rather than, as in fact it was, written by agents of the LAPs,

21 ■ telling "half-truths or worse to U.S. courts in attempts to prevent exposure of that  
22 and other wrongdoing,"

23 ■ having "the LAP team wr[i]te the Lago Agrio court's Judgment themselves,"

24 ■ and "promis[ing] \$500,000 to the [then-presiding] Ecuadorian judge" in exchange  
25 for his agreement "to rule in the[ LAPs'] favor and sign their judgment,"

26 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 384; see id. at 443-45, the district court concluded that "[i]f ever there  
27 were a case warranting equitable relief with respect to a judgment procured by fraud, this is it," id.  
28 at 384.

1           The court noted that "fraud in its procurement is an ancient basis for enjoining  
2 enforcement of or granting other equitable relief with respect to a judgment where other requisites of  
3 the exercise of equitable power are present," *id.* at 557. It concluded that as a result of the fraudulent,  
4 coercive, and corrupt acts orchestrated by Donziger, Chevron was entitled to equitable relief--under  
5 RICO against Donziger (*see* Part II.D. below), and under New York common law against Donziger,  
6 Camacho, and Piaguaje (*see* Part II.E. below)--to prevent Donziger and the LAP Representatives from  
7 profiting from their frauds and corruption, *see Donziger*, 974 F.Supp.2d at 639.

8           The district court rejected arguments by Donziger and the LAP Representatives that  
9 the effects of any fraud or corruption in the trial court had been eliminated by the appellate reviews  
10 of the Lago Agrio Judgment. The court stated, *inter alia*, that as the Ecuadorian appellate courts had  
11 declined to resolve Chevron's fraud and ghostwriting allegations, the appellate decisions did not break  
12 the causal chain between the Lago Agrio Judgment produced by Donziger's fraud, bribery, and other  
13 corrupt practices and the injury the Ecuadorian Judgment causes to Chevron. *See id.* at 606-08.

14           Defendants also contended "that the coercion of Judge Yáñez was immaterial because,"  
15 they argued, "the Cabrera Report played no role in the ultimate decision." *Id.* at 558. The court found  
16 their premise fallacious, having determined, *inter alia*, "that the Cabrera Report in fact was relied upon  
17 by the author or authors of the Judgment and that it played an important role in holding Chevron liable  
18 to the extent of more than \$8 billion," most relevantly in the fact that the Cabrera Report was the  
19 source "for the count of 880 pits, which was an essential predicate to more than \$5 billion of the  
20 damage award," *id.* at 559.

21           The district court also rejected arguments that, as a matter of comity, it could not award  
22 Chevron relief from the Lago Agrio Judgment. The court reasoned as follows:

23                           Comity and respect for other nations are important. But comity does  
24                           not command blind acquiescence in injustice, least of all acquiescence within

1 the bounds of our own nation. Courts of equity long have granted relief  
2 against fraudulent judgments entered in other states and, though less  
3 frequently, other countries. Moreover, the United States has important  
4 interests here. The misconduct at issue was planned, supervised, financed and  
5 executed in important (but not all) respects by Americans in the United States  
6 in order to extract money from a U.S. victim.

7 That said, considerations of comity and the avoidance of any  
8 misunderstanding have shaped the relief sought here. Chevron no longer  
9 seeks, and this Court does not grant, an injunction barring enforcement of the  
10 Lago Agrio Judgment anywhere in the world. What this Court does do is to  
11 prevent Donziger and the two LAP Representatives, who are subject to this  
12 Court's personal jurisdiction, from profiting in any way from the egregious  
13 fraud that occurred here. That is quite a different matter. Indeed, the LAP  
14 Representatives' lawyer recently conceded before the Second Circuit that the  
15 defendants "would not have a problem" with "the alternative relief that  
16 [Chevron] would be seeking, such as enjoining the person who paid the bribe  
17 from benefitting from it," assuming that the judge was bribed. Defendants thus  
18 have acknowledged the propriety of equitable relief to prevent individuals  
19 subject to the Court's jurisdiction from benefitting from misdeeds for which  
20 they are responsible. And while the Court does enjoin enforcement of the  
21 Judgment by these defendants in the United States, that limited injunction  
22 raises no issues of comity or international relations. It is the prerogative of  
23 American courts to determine whether foreign judgments may be enforced in  
24 this country.

25 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 384-85 (footnote omitted) (quoting transcript in Naranjo v. Chevron  
26 Corp., No. 13-772 (2d Cir. Sept. 26, 2013) (oral argument of mandamus petition seeking vacatur of  
27 district court's refusals to allow defendants to withdraw defenses of collateral estoppel (emphases  
28 ours))).

29 The court noted that as a court of equity it has the power to "command persons  
30 properly before it to cease or perform acts," whether inside or "outside its territorial jurisdiction,"  
31 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 556 (internal quotation marks omitted (emphasis ours)), including the  
32 power to "enjoin those parties from enforcing, or afford other equitable relief with respect to, a  
33 judgment of another state or another nation," id. at 556-57. Such an equitable in personam remedy  
34 "seek[s] to deprive" the person enjoined "of the benefit of the judgment by enjoining [its] enforcement



1 . . . . on the ground that the rights acquired cannot be retained in good conscience"; but "[t]he remedy  
2 in equity does not assail the court in which the judgment was rendered . . . ." Id. at 556 n.1268  
3 (internal quotation marks omitted).

4 In order to ensure that Donziger and the LAP Representatives "never benefit[] in any  
5 material way from the Judgment in the Lago Agrio case," id. at 641, the district court determined that  
6 three types of relief for Chevron were appropriate: a constructive trust, disgorgement, and an  
7 injunction. Accordingly, the final judgment, defining Donziger and the Donziger Firm as "Donziger,"

8 imposes a constructive trust for the benefit of Chevron on all property, whether  
9 personal or real, tangible or intangible, vested or contingent, that Donziger has  
10 received, or hereafter may receive, directly or indirectly, or to which Donziger  
11 now has, or hereafter obtains, any right, title or interest, directly or indirectly,  
12 that is traceable to the [Ecuadorian] Judgment or the enforcement of the  
13 [Ecuadorian] Judgment anywhere in the world including, without limitation,  
14 all rights to any contingent fee under the Retainer Agreement and all stock in  
15 Amazonia. Donziger shall transfer and forthwith assign to Chevron all such  
16 property that he now has or hereafter may obtain.

17 Judgment as to Donziger Defendants and Defendants Camacho and Piaguaje ¶ 1 ("District Court  
18 Judgment"); see id. ¶ 7.2 (defining "Amazonia" to refer to "Amazonia Recovery Limited"); see also  
19 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 528 n.1110 ("Amazonia Recovery Limited" is a company created by  
20 Donziger and the LAPs in 2012 to distribute proceeds from the Lago Agrio Judgment). The District  
21 Court Judgment imposes a similar constructive trust against the LAP Representatives. See District  
22 Court Judgment ¶ 2.

23 The District Court Judgment also enjoins Donziger and the LAP Representatives from,  
24 inter alia, "[f]iling or prosecuting any action for recognition or enforcement of the [Ecuadorian]  
25 Judgment" or "seeking the seizure or attachment of assets based on the [Ecuadorian] Judgment . . .  
26 in any court in the United States," id. ¶ 4.1, and from "monetiz[ing]" the Lago Agrio Judgment by,

1 for example, "selling, assigning, [or] pledging . . . any interest" in it, id. ¶ 5. It also provides,  
2 however, that

3 [n]otwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Judgment, nothing herein  
4 enjoins, restrains or otherwise prohibits Donziger, the LAP Representatives,  
5 or any of them, from (a) filing or prosecuting any action for recognition or  
6 enforcement of the Judgment or any New Judgment . . . in courts outside the  
7 United States; or (b) litigating this action or any appeal of any order or  
8 judgment issued in this action.

9 Id. ¶ 6 (emphases added).

10 The district court pointed out that its final judgment would merely "prevent Donziger  
11 and the LAP Representatives from profiting from the [Ecuadorian] Judgment or seeking to enforce  
12 it in this country," Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 639, i.e., the judgment "prevents the three defendants  
13 who appeared at trial--over whom [the district court] has personal jurisdiction--from profiting from  
14 their fraud," id. at 644 (emphases added). "The decision in the Lago Agrio case was obtained by  
15 corrupt means. The defendants here may not be allowed to benefit from that in any way. The order  
16 entered today will prevent them from doing so." Id.

17 II. DISCUSSION

18 On appeal, Donziger, his Firm, and/or the LAP Representatives contend principally  
19 that the district court's judgment should be vacated and the case dismissed for lack of federal  
20 jurisdiction on the ground that Chevron lacks Article III standing; that Chevron, in light of positions  
21 taken in earlier litigation, is estopped from challenging any Ecuadorian judgment; that the equitable  
22 relief granted by the district court was foreclosed by our decision in Naranjo and, in any event, is

1 unauthorized by RICO or common law; and that the district court's judgment violates principles of  
2 international comity. The LAP Representatives also argue that the district court lacked personal  
3 jurisdiction over any defendant other than Donziger and his Firm, and that any corrupt conduct by  
4 Donziger in Ecuador should not be attributed to the LAPs. For the reasons that follow, we are  
5 unpersuaded, and we affirm the judgment of the district court.

6 A. Challenges to Federal Jurisdiction

7 Donziger contends that this action should be dismissed for lack of federal jurisdiction  
8 on the ground that Chevron lacks Article III standing, arguing principally that the decisions of the  
9 Ecuadorian appellate courts eliminated any causal connection between Chevron's injuries and the  
10 LAPs' team's misconduct in the Lago Agrio trial-level proceedings, and that Chevron failed in the  
11 present action to demonstrate any concrete injuries that could be redressed by the district court. For  
12 the reasons that follow, we conclude that, whether viewed as challenges to standing or as contentions  
13 of mootness, these challenges to federal jurisdiction are without merit.

14 1. Article III Standing

15 "The concept of [Article III] standing" is part of "the constitutional limitation of  
16 federal-court jurisdiction to actual cases or controversies." Simon v. Eastern Kentucky Welfare  
17 Rights Organization, 426 U.S. 26, 37 (1976); see, e.g., Susan B. Anthony List v. Driehaus, 134 S. Ct.  
18 2334, 2341 (2014); Davis v. Federal Election Commission, 554 U.S. 724, 732 (2008); Lujan v.  
19 Defenders of Wildlife, 504 U.S. 555, 559-60 (1992); Warth v. Seldin, 422 U.S. 490, 498-99 (1975).

20 [T]he irreducible constitutional minimum of standing contains three elements.  
21 First, the plaintiff must have suffered an injury in fact--an invasion of a legally

1           protected interest which is (a) concrete and particularized . . . and (b) actual or  
2           imminent, not conjectural or hypothetical . . . . Second, there must be a causal  
3           connection between the injury and the conduct complained of--the injury has  
4           to be fairly . . . trace[able] to the challenged action of the defendant, and not  
5           . . . th[e] result [of] the independent action of some third party not before the  
6           court. . . . Third, it must be likely, as opposed to merely speculative, that the  
7           injury will be redressed by a favorable decision.

8           Lujan, 504 U.S. at 560-61 (internal quotation marks omitted). Any monetary loss suffered by the  
9           plaintiff satisfies the injury-in-fact element, see, e.g., Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc. v.  
10          United States Food & Drug Administration, 710 F.3d 71, 85 (2d Cir. 2013); and a liability, including  
11          a contingent liability, may be a cognizable legal injury, see, e.g., Clinton v. City of New York, 524  
12          U.S. 417, 430-31 (1998); E.M. v. New York City Department of Education, 758 F.3d 442, 457 (2d  
13          Cir. 2014); Denney v. Deutsche Bank AG, 443 F.3d 253, 265-66 (2d Cir. 2006). And as indicated,  
14          the requisite "injury in fact" need not have been already "actualized. A party facing prospective injury  
15          has standing to sue where the threatened injury is real, immediate, and direct." Davis, 554 U.S.  
16          at 734. The requirement can be met by showing an actual injury or through an "allegation of future  
17          injury . . . if the threatened injury is certainly impending, or there is a substantial risk that the harm  
18          will occur." Susan B. Anthony List, 134 S. Ct. at 2341 (internal quotation marks omitted).

19                 The traceability requirement for Article III standing means that "the plaintiff must  
20          demonstrate a causal nexus between the defendant's conduct and the injury." Rothstein v. UBS AG,  
21          708 F.3d 82, 91 (2d Cir. 2013) (internal quotation marks omitted). The fact that the defendant's  
22          conduct may be only an "indirect[]" cause is "not necessarily fatal to standing," Simon, 426 U.S. at 44;  
23          see, e.g., Warth, 422 U.S. at 505. A defendant's conduct that injures a plaintiff but does so only after  
24          intervening conduct by another person, may suffice for Article III standing. See Rothstein v. UBS  
25          AG, 708 F.3d at 92. The traceability requirement focuses on whether the asserted injury could have

1 been a consequence of the actions of the defendant rather than being attributable to the "independent"  
2 acts of some other person not before the court. Lujan, 504 U.S. at 560 (quoting Simon, 426 U.S.  
3 at 41-42).

4 The redressability requirement focuses on whether a plaintiff "personally would benefit  
5 in a tangible way from the court's intervention," Warth, 422 U.S. at 508, *i.e.*, whether "the plaintiff  
6 has shown an injury to himself that is likely to be redressed by a favorable decision," Simon, 426 U.S.  
7 at 38; *see, e.g., Village of Arlington Heights v. Metropolitan Housing Development Corp.*, 429 U.S.  
8 252, 260-62 (1977); Warth, 422 U.S. at 498-99. A plaintiff "satisfies the redressability requirement  
9 when he shows that a favorable decision will relieve a discrete injury to himself. He need not show  
10 that a favorable decision will relieve his every injury." Larson v. Valente, 456 U.S. 228, 244 n.15  
11 (1982) (emphasis in original).

12 Although the case-or-controversy prerequisite to federal jurisdiction means that "an  
13 actual controversy must be extant at all stages of review, not merely at the time the complaint is  
14 filed," Davis, 554 U.S. at 733 (quoting Arizonans for Official English v. Arizona, 520 U.S. 43, 67  
15 (1997)), and, as discussed in Part II.A.2. below, a case becomes "moot," and beyond federal  
16 jurisdiction, if there ceases to be an actual controversy, *see, e.g., Chafin v. Chafin*, 133 S. Ct. 1017,  
17 1023 (2013), "the standing inquiry remains focused on whether the party invoking jurisdiction had  
18 the requisite stake in the outcome when the suit was filed," Davis, 554 U.S. at 734 (emphasis added).

19 Chevron clearly met the requirements for Article III standing when it commenced the  
20 present action. Donziger's principal challenge to Chevron's "standing"--*i.e.*, his argument that the  
21 decisions of the Ecuadorian appellate courts eliminated any causal connection between Chevron's  
22 injuries and defendants' misconduct in the Lago Agrio trial-level proceedings--is inapplicable because

1 when Chevron commenced the present action on February 1, 2011, none of the supposedly curative  
2 decisions had yet been rendered. The decisions of the Ecuadorian appellate courts were issued in  
3 2012 and 2013.

4 Although the Lago Agrio Judgment itself was not entered until February 14, 2011,  
5 Chevron's February 1 complaint ("Complaint") adequately pleaded an imminent threat to its business  
6 and property by reason of the fraudulent and corrupt conduct of Donziger and other defendants. By  
7 the time Chevron commenced this action, it had, through the § 1782 proceedings (see Part I.B.11.  
8 above), obtained copies of numerous internal communications among Donziger and other members  
9 of the LAPs' team, including the consultants at Stratus (who had written--and objected to and  
10 responded to their own objections to--the Cabrera Report), as well as hundreds of hours of outtakes  
11 from the "Crude" documentary showing, inter alia, collaboration between Cabrera and the LAPs.  
12 Chevron's Complaint asserted RICO claims against Donziger, his Firm, Fajardo, Yanza, the main  
13 Stratus consultants, and others, and asserted common-law claims against all defendants, including  
14 claims of fraud and unjust enrichment. The Complaint included detailed allegations of most of the  
15 facts eventually found proven by the district court, discussed in Part I.B. above, as to, inter alia: the  
16 submission by the LAPs to the Lago Agrio trial court of fabricated inspection reports in the name of  
17 Calmbacher, who had neither written nor approved them; the coercion of one Ecuadorian judge to  
18 discontinue inspections of allegedly polluted sites and to appoint Cabrera as the court's global expert  
19 with respect to the overall damages assessment; the secret payments to Cabrera to have him claim  
20 impartiality and claim sole authorship of his report although it was written by the LAPs' consultants;  
21 and the repeated announcements of burgeoning estimates of damages the LAPs were irresponsibly  
22 predicting would be imposed on Chevron, starting at \$6 billion without scientific foundation and

1 rising to \$27 billion or even \$113.5 billion. (See Complaint ¶¶ 3, 92-99, 100-112, 113-151, 158,  
2 163-175, 299.)

3 Stating that on December 17, 2010, the Lago Agrio trial court had entered an order  
4 formally closing the evidence, thereby authorizing the court to enter judgment without further notice  
5 to the parties, and that the LAPs had filed their final alegato on January 17, 2011, the February 1  
6 Complaint alleged that "a judgment that finds Chevron liable and awards damages appears to be  
7 imminent . . . ." (Id. ¶ 295.) The Complaint alleged that the defendants were "already . . . planning  
8 to seek immediate enforcement of the impending Ecuadorian judgment in U.S. and foreign courts, and  
9 to extort a payment from Chevron by using the Ecuadorian judgment to threaten seizure of Chevron's  
10 assets and those of its subsidiaries," quoting Patton Boggs's "Invictus" strategy statements (a) that  
11 "[i]f and when an enforceable judgment is entered in Ecuador, Plaintiffs' Team expects to be engaged  
12 quickly, if not immediately, on multiple enforcement fronts--in the United States and abroad"  
13 (id. ¶ 296), and (b) that "[c]onsistent with their aggressive approach, Plaintiffs' Team will look for  
14 ways to proceed against Chevron on a pre-judgment basis, largely as a means of attaining a favorable  
15 settlement at an early stage. Various laws and procedures within and outside the United States may  
16 permit attachment of Chevron's assets prior to successful recognition of the Ecuadorian judgment"  
17 (id. ¶ 299).

18 The Complaint quoted Donziger as saying that "[i]f we get a judgment out of the trial  
19 court, we're coming back immediately,--soon as we can,--to get that judgment enforced. We are not  
20 waiting for the appeals process.' . . . 'This could end up being one of the biggest forced asset seizures  
21 in history and it could have a significant disruptive impact on the company's operations.' . . . 'At the  
22 end of the day, it might be a situation where a U.S. court enforces the judgment and the marshals have

1 to go to Chevron and seize their assets.'" (Id. ¶ 297.) The Complaint also quoted Donziger's  
2 statement of his "intention . . . to 'take legal fees we can earn from this case and, do more cases like  
3 this in different places with, you know, the same team, if possible.'" (Id. ¶ 300.)

4 The Complaint alleged that

5 [t]he impending judgment of the Lago Agrio court, procured by the  
6 RICO Defendants' and their co-conspirators' fraud--in addition to related  
7 attachment and enforcement efforts and the specter of immediate liability,  
8 which according to the RICO Defendants and their co-conspirators, may be as  
9 high as \$113.5 billion--threatens to disrupt Chevron's business operations,  
10 sully its reputation, and otherwise cause Chevron to suffer irreparable harm.

11 (Id. ¶ 299.) In addition to a request for treble damages and attorneys' fees on the RICO claims, the  
12 Complaint requested, with respect to most of the asserted causes of action,

13 a preliminary and permanent injunction that enjoins Defendants, their  
14 assignees, and anyone else acting in concert with them . . . from commencing,  
15 prosecuting, or advancing in any way--directly or indirectly--any attempt to  
16 recognize or enforce any Lago Agrio judgment in any court, tribunal, or  
17 administrative agency in any jurisdiction, in the United States or abroad,  
18 including any attempt to attach or seize any Chevron or Chevron subsidiary's  
19 or co-venturer's assets, whether pre-judgment or otherwise, until this Court  
20 determines the merits and enters judgment on Chevron's claims against the  
21 Defendants in this action.

22 (Id. ¶¶ 343, 366, 373, 383; see id. ¶¶ 351, 359, 377, 397.)

23 In sum, there can be no doubt that Chevron had standing to initiate the present action.

24 Its initial Complaint alleged numerous corrupt and fraudulent acts on the part of Donziger and other  
25 defendants that were expressly designed to extract money from Chevron, either through the entry of  
26 a judgment against it by the Lago Agrio court or through a settlement. The Complaint plausibly  
27 alleged facts from which it could be inferred that a judgment imposing liability on Chevron would be  
28 traceable to the corrupt and fraudulent conduct of those defendants; it plausibly alleged facts from  
29 which it could be inferred that such a judgment was imminent. And plainly the injunctive relief



1 requested would have protected Chevron against the enforcement of such a judgment. All of the  
2 elements of standing were met at the outset of the case.

3 The district court properly denied appellants' motions to dismiss this action for lack  
4 of standing. It correctly viewed the issue raised--the purported cleansing of any taint from the Lago  
5 Agrio Judgment by the Appeal Division's affirmance in 2012--as one of mootness.

6 2. Mootness: The Break-in-Causation Theory

7 The question of standing "bears close affinity" to the question of "mootness," which  
8 is "whether the occasion for judicial intervention persists." Warth, 422 U.S. at 499 n.10 (emphasis  
9 added). The principle that a federal court "lacks jurisdiction to consider the merits of a moot case is  
10 a branch of the constitutional command that the judicial power extends only to cases or  
11 controversies." Powell v. McCormack, 395 U.S. 486, 496 n.7 (1969). A case is moot when "the  
12 parties lack a legally cognizable interest in the outcome," City of Erie v. Pap's A.M., 529 U.S. 277,  
13 287 (2000) (internal quotation marks omitted); "a case 'becomes moot only when it is impossible for  
14 a court to grant any effectual relief whatever to the prevailing party,'" Chafin, 133 S. Ct. at 1023  
15 (quoting Knox v. Service Employees International Union, Local 1000, 132 S. Ct. 2277, 2287 (2012)  
16 (emphases ours)). "[A]s long as the parties have a concrete interest, however small, in the outcome  
17 of the litigation, the case is not moot." Knox, 132 S. Ct. at 2287 (internal quotation marks omitted).  
18 "Where one of the several issues presented becomes moot, the remaining live issues supply the  
19 constitutional requirement of a case or controversy." Powell, 395 U.S. at 497.

20 Donziger's contention that there is no longer a live controversy as to the conduct of the  
21 LAPs' legal team, on the theory that the Ecuadorian appellate decisions eliminated the causal

1 connection between their corrupt conduct at the trial level and the \$8.646 billion Ecuadorian Judgment  
2 against Chevron, is untenable. It is well established that

3 [b]efore one may be deprived of a protected interest, whether in a criminal or  
4 civil setting, see Marshall v. Jerrico, Inc., 446 U.S. 238, 242, and n. 2 (1980),  
5 one is entitled as a matter of due process of law to an adjudicator who is not  
6 in a situation "which would offer a possible temptation to the average man as  
7 a judge . . . which might lead him not to hold the balance nice, clear and true."

8 Concrete Pipe & Products of California, Inc. v. Construction Laborers Pension Trust for Southern  
9 California, 508 U.S. 602, 617-18 (1993) ("Concrete Pipe") (quoting Ward v. Village of Monroeville,  
10 409 U.S. 57, 60 (1972) (quoting Tumey v. Ohio, 273 U.S. 510, 532 (1927) (emphasis ours))). A  
11 pecuniary interest in the outcome of a case plainly provides such a temptation. See, e.g., Ward, 409  
12 U.S. at 60; Tumey, 273 U.S. at 523; cf. id. at 535 ("[n]o matter what the evidence [i]s against [a  
13 defendant, it] ha[s] the right to have an impartial judge"); United States v. Manton, 107 F.2d 834, 846  
14 (2d Cir. 1939) ("Judicial action, whether just or unjust, right or wrong, is not for sale; . . . the judge  
15 must be perfectly and completely independent with nothing to influence or control him but God and  
16 his conscience." (internal quotation marks omitted)), cert. denied, 309 U.S. 664 (1940). "[D]ue  
17 process requires a 'neutral and detached judge in the first instance.'" Concrete Pipe, 508 U.S. at 617  
18 (quoting Ward, 409 U.S. at 62). "Even appeal and a trial de novo [at the appellate level] will not cure  
19 a failure to provide a neutral and detached adjudicator." Concrete Pipe, 508 U.S. at 618; see Ward,  
20 409 U.S. at 61.

21 The circumstances of the instant case present no reason to deviate from these  
22 principles. Notwithstanding Donziger's repeated characterization of the Appeal Division's affirmance  
23 of the Lago Agrio Judgment as a "substitute judgment," the fact remains that the Division did not alter  
24 the Lago Agrio Judgment at all. The only change in the Judgment entered by Judge Zambrano was

1 made by the Ecuadorian National Court, which vacated the punitive damages award; and the National  
2 Court made clear that its role as a cassation court was to concern itself only with the law, not with the  
3 record. The fact that the extant \$8.646 billion award of compensatory damages against Chevron  
4 affirmed by the Appeal Division is traceable to the decision of then-Judge Zambrano, is plain from  
5 the opinion of the Appeal Division itself. In its 16-page opinion, less than one-third of which dealt  
6 with the merits of the LAPs' claims against Chevron, the Division, without stating any factual findings  
7 of its own, expressly approved Judge Zambrano's approach and conclusions. It stated, inter alia, that

8 the judge in his judgment has not assessed each sample and its results  
9 separately, as if they described isolated facts, but instead it is the collection of  
10 information coming from various sources that undoubtedly has created in the  
11 trial judge the conviction of the existence of damage, allowing him at the same  
12 time to have a minimal margin of error in applying the interpretation method  
13 of sound discretion to assess scientific evidence. . . . In the present case, the  
14 trial court has complied with the provision [that evidence must be assessed as  
15 a whole], since, evaluating the evidence collectively, it refers to each item of  
16 evidence. Moreover, the method of interpretation--the interpersonal, psychic  
17 form or mechanism--is not subject to strict limits in any concrete, express legal  
18 rule that can be considered violated; it is indeed a mental form that leads to the  
19 assessment, where human elements such as experience, logical rules, and even  
20 some knowledge of ranks of human psychology play a role; this is how legal  
21 doctrine and its most distinguished exponents put it forth. . . . The rules of  
22 sound judgment are above all rules of proper human understanding. . . . The  
23 Division considers that the analysis of civil liability, clear in the lower  
24 judgment, is the appropriate one for the procedural situation under analysis,  
25 since this is a case of strict civil liability, because it is dealing with activities  
26 that, carried out as the defendant's business purpose, imply risk in and of  
27 themselves; or, as may be stated, merely engaging in the action entails great  
28 risk. The analysis of the relationship between damage and cause in the  
29 Ecuadorian Amazon is sound and derives from the examination of the items  
30 of evidence that exist in the record. . . . Then, the damages to the environment  
31 are legally proved and considering the causal relationship between the result  
32 of damage, and the action of the operations of the then Texpet, the Division  
33 does not find reasons to modify what was ordered in the lower court's  
34 judgment and states that it is appropriate to confirm the monetary amounts  
35 established as proportions of compensation and indemnization.

36 (Appeal Division Opinion at 12-13 (internal quotation marks omitted (emphases added)).) It

1 continued:

2 As the lower court explains, and this ruling affirms, sound judgment as a form  
3 of intelligence in judicial activity allows for reasonable conclusions by putting  
4 forth the facts that serve as background; nothing is arbitrary pursuant to this  
5 process of mental certainty. The appealed judgment, since it is an opinion that  
6 was served in the first instance, and the subsequent amplification, proposes a  
7 detailed appraisal of all the body of evidence and finds the existence of  
8 environmental damages legally proved. The Division considers the lower  
9 court's appraisal in this part to be coherent and of good legal-logical judgment,  
10 because it stems from the body of evidence presented in the trial to which the  
11 trial court referred precisely. As regards standards for monetary appraisal, it  
12 can be seen, and affirmed, that the trial judge has not picked economic  
13 opinions or parameters that appear from the trial--and it would not have been  
14 strange at all for him to do so-- , nor has he considered them as a means of  
15 proof for reaching a decision; the trial judge's judgment establishes amounts  
16 different from those established or stated by the parties in defense of their  
17 interests.

18 (Id. at 13 (emphases added).)

19 The Appeal Division concluded that as to Chevron's appeal, any errors were harmless;  
20 it found merit

21 only in the part that refers to the presence of mercury in the concession area,  
22 since there was an error in the assessment of the evidence with respect to this  
23 element in the lower court, and therefore its significance is left aside in this  
24 ruling. Considering that this error is not capable of influencing the final  
25 decision, the rest of the judgment of February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011, in all its parts, is  
26 ratified . . . .

27 (Id. at 16 (emphases added).)

28 In sum, as stated by the Appeal Division in the above passages, "the [trial] judge in his  
29 judgment [did] not assess[] each sample and its results separately, as if they described isolated facts";  
30 rather he made a "discretion[ary] . . . assess[ment of the] scientific evidence." His "method of  
31 interpretation" was "the interpersonal, psychic form or mechanism," which "is not subject to strict  
32 limits in any concrete, express legal rule." His "judgment establishe[d] amounts different from those

1 established or stated by the parties in defense of their interests." And, in his "monetary appraisal, . . .  
2 the trial judge [did] not pick[] economic opinions or parameters that appear from the trial." The  
3 record in the present case reveals a parade of corrupt actions by the LAPs' legal team, including  
4 coercion, fraud, and bribery, culminating in the promise to Judge Zambrano of \$500,000 from a  
5 judgment in favor of the LAPs. The Appeal Division's Opinion provides no basis for an inference that  
6 the Lago Agrio Judgment was not the result of those corrupt acts, given its description of Judge  
7 Zambrano as having reached his decision without "assess[ing]" discrete "facts," without following  
8 "concrete, express legal rule[s]," and without "consider[ing]" the "economic opinions or parameters  
9 that appear from the trial." And given that the Appeal Division in its opinion (a) sets out no findings  
10 or damages assessments or calculations of its own, (b) approves Judge Zambrano's approach as  
11 "sound," "appropriate," and presenting "no[] . . . reasons to modify what was ordered in the lower  
12 court's judgment," and (c) "ratifie[s]" Judge Zambrano's award "in all its parts," we conclude that  
13 Chevron's \$8.646 billion judgment debt, as approved by the Appeal Division, is clearly traceable to  
14 the LAPs' legal team's corrupt conduct.

15 Donziger's contention that Chevron has not met the requirement that it show injury is  
16 meritless. The threat of injury to Chevron, sufficiently imminent when this action was commenced,  
17 soon ripened into actual injury. Less than two weeks after Chevron initiated the present action, then-  
18 Judge Zambrano entered the \$17.292 billion Lago Agrio Judgment, imposing on Chevron a judgment  
19 debt of \$8.646 billion in compensatory damages plus \$8.646 billion in punitive damages. The  
20 \$8.646 billion debt for compensatory damages remains extant.

21 Donziger's additional arguments that Chevron's case became moot when this Court  
22 ruled in Naranjo that the Recognition Act does not authorize an affirmative attack on a foreign

1 judgment as to which there has yet been no attempted enforcement in New York (see Donziger brief  
2 on appeal at 84-93), or that the case became moot when Chevron withdrew its claim for money  
3 damages and pursued only equitable relief, which Donziger contends is not authorized by RICO (see  
4 id. at 116-19), are also untenable. An argument that claims mootness based on a challenge to "the  
5 legal availability of a certain kind of relief--confuses mootness with the merits." Chafin, 133 S. Ct.  
6 at 1024; cf. Monsanto Co. v. Geertson Seed Farms, 561 U.S. 139, 151 n.1 (2010) ("The question  
7 whether [a plaintiff is] entitled to the relief that [it] seek[s] goes to the merits, not to standing.").

8 Nor is there merit in Donziger's contention that, in light of Chevron's withdrawal of  
9 its claim for money damages, its injury is not redressable. The injury to Chevron may not be fully  
10 compensable, but the equitable restrictions permissibly imposed by the district court (see Parts II.D.,  
11 II.E., and II.H. below) provide some relief.

12 In sum, finding no merit in appellants' standing or mootness arguments, we reject the  
13 contention that the present action should have been dismissed for lack of federal jurisdiction.

#### 14 B. The Judicial Estoppel Contention

15 In 1999, after a group of Ecuadorian plaintiffs, who were substantially the same as the  
16 LAPs, had brought the Aguinda action against Texaco in the Southern District of New York, Texaco  
17 sought dismissal of the suit on the ground of forum non conveniens, arguing that the action belonged  
18 in Ecuador. In so moving, Texaco offered "'to satisfy any judgments in plaintiffs' favor, reserving its  
19 right to contest their validity only in the limited circumstances permitted by New York's Recognition  
20 of Foreign Country Money Judgments Act.'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 631 n.1753 (quoting Texaco  
21 memorandum submitted to the Aguinda district court); see Republic of Ecuador, 638 F.3d at 389

1 (citing the same language). Donziger and the LAP Representatives contend that in light of that  
2 representation, principles of judicial estoppel bar Chevron from contending that the competence or  
3 integrity of the Ecuadorian judiciary is institutionally flawed or from challenging any Ecuadorian  
4 judgment against it. Given the record in this case, we do not reach any contentions as to the  
5 Ecuadorian judiciary in general. Focusing squarely on the conduct of the LAPs' legal team in the  
6 Lago Agrio Litigation itself, we cannot agree that judicial estoppel is applicable.

7 [J]udicial estoppel[] "generally prevents a party from prevailing in one phase  
8 of a case on an argument and then relying on a contradictory argument to  
9 prevail in another phase." Pegram v. Herdrich, 530 U.S. 211, 227, n. 8 (2000);  
10 see 18 Moore's Federal Practice § 134.30, p. 134-62 (3d ed. 2000) ("The  
11 doctrine of judicial estoppel prevents a party from asserting a claim in a legal  
12 proceeding that is inconsistent with a claim taken by that party in a previous  
13 proceeding"); 18 C. Wright, A. Miller, & E. Cooper, Federal Practice and  
14 Procedure § 4477, p. 782 (1981) (hereinafter Wright) ("absent any good  
15 explanation, a party should not be allowed to gain an advantage by litigation  
16 on one theory, and then seek an inconsistent advantage by pursuing an  
17 incompatible theory").

18 New Hampshire v. Maine, 532 U.S. 742, 749 (2001) (emphasis added). Noting that "[t]he  
19 circumstances under which judicial estoppel may appropriately be invoked are probably not reducible  
20 to any general formulation of principle," the Supreme Court observed that

21 several factors typically inform the decision whether to apply the doctrine in  
22 a particular case: First, a party's later position must be clearly inconsistent  
23 with its earlier position. . . . Second, courts regularly inquire whether the party  
24 has succeeded in persuading a court to accept that party's earlier position, so  
25 that judicial acceptance of an inconsistent position in a later proceeding would  
26 create the perception that either the first or the second court was misled . . . .  
27 Absent success in a prior proceeding, a party's later inconsistent position  
28 introduces no risk of inconsistent court determinations, . . . and thus poses little  
29 threat to judicial integrity. . . . A third consideration is whether the party  
30 seeking to assert an inconsistent position would derive an unfair advantage or  
31 impose an unfair detriment on the opposing party if not estopped. . . .  
32 [J]udicial estoppel forbids use of intentional self-contradiction . . . as a means  
33 of obtaining unfair advantage . . . .

34 New Hampshire, 532 U.S. at 750-51 (internal quotation marks omitted (emphases ours)). The

1 Supreme Court applied these factors to the case before it, see id. at 751-55, without establishing them  
2 as "inflexible prerequisites or [as] an exhaustive formula for determining the applicability of judicial  
3 estoppel," id. at 751.

4 Our Court "has consistently limited the application of judicial estoppel to situations  
5 where a party both takes a position that is inconsistent with one taken in a prior proceeding, and has  
6 had that earlier position adopted by the tribunal to which it was advanced," applying it only in  
7 "situations where the risk of inconsistent results with its impact on judicial integrity is certain."  
8 Uzdavines v. Weeks Marine, Inc., 418 F.3d 138, 148 (2d Cir. 2005) ("Uzdavines") (internal quotation  
9 marks omitted) (citing cases). We do not apply judicial estoppel where "the statements at issue do  
10 not present an irreconcilable conflict." Rodal v. Anesthesia Group of Onondaga, P.C., 369 F.3d 113,  
11 119 (2d Cir. 2004).

12 We have expressed some question as to whether the standard of review for a ruling on  
13 judicial estoppel should be de novo or abuse of discretion. See, e.g., Intellivision v. Microsoft Corp.,  
14 484 F. App'x 616, 618 & n.1 (2d Cir. 2012) (noting that seven of our Sister Circuits review for abuse  
15 of discretion); Uzdavines, 418 F.3d at 143 (applying de novo review in denying a petition for review);  
16 see also New Hampshire, 532 U.S. at 750 (describing "judicial estoppel [a]s an equitable doctrine  
17 invoked by a court at its discretion" (internal quotation marks omitted)). In this case, however, the  
18 choice between the two standards is immaterial, for under either, the doctrine is inapplicable because  
19 Chevron's suit is not inconsistent with the prior Texaco representation.

20 The prior Texaco representation was at issue in Republic of Ecuador, 638 F.3d 384,  
21 in which the LAPs sought to stay a treaty-based arbitration commenced by Chevron. In the  
22 arbitration, Chevron alleged, inter alia, that the ROE "had improperly interfered in the Lago Agrio  
23 litigation" in breach of (a) its 1995 settlement agreement with Texaco that specified the remediation



1 work to be done in the Concession area, and (b) its 1998 release of Texaco from all potential claims  
2 by the ROE and PetroEcuador after ROE inspectors had confirmed Texaco's satisfactory completion  
3 of that work. Republic of Ecuador, 638 F.3d at 388, 390; see Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 386-87.  
4 The LAPs argued that in light of Texaco's offer to satisfy Ecuadorian judgments, such an arbitration  
5 proceeding was barred by judicial estoppel. We rejected that contention because there was

6 no conflict between Texaco's promises to the district court and Chevron's  
7 initiation of a contemporaneous challenge to Ecuador's conduct with respect  
8 to the Lago Agrio litigation. Texaco expressly conditioned its promises on a  
9 reservation of its rights under New York's Recognition of Foreign Country  
10 Money Judgments Act. See N.Y. C.P.L.R. 5304. Chevron has thus reserved  
11 its right to challenge any judgment issued in Lago Agrio on the grounds that  
12 the Ecuadorian judicial system "does not provide impartial tribunals or  
13 procedures compatible with the requirements of due process of law," that the  
14 judgment itself "was obtained by fraud," or that "the proceeding in [Lago  
15 Agrio] was contrary to an agreement between the parties." Id. Nothing in that  
16 reservation of rights purports to restrict the kind of forum or type of  
17 proceeding in which Chevron can raise those defenses. Nor did Texaco  
18 promise to wait until after a judgment was issued to challenge the fairness of  
19 the Lago Agrio litigation. Having reserved the rights conferred by N.Y.  
20 C.P.L.R. 5304, Chevron remains free to enforce them whenever and wherever  
21 it chooses, limited only by the scope of the statute and the availability of a  
22 forum prepared to address its claims.

23 Republic of Ecuador, 638 F.3d at 396-97 (footnote omitted) (emphases ours); see also id. at 397-98  
24 ("Chevron can raise . . . due process claims in [the] arbitration without contravening Texaco's prior  
25 positions in the district court.").

26 Although in Republic of Ecuador we also referred to "New York's Recognition of  
27 Foreign Country Money Judgments Act . . . [a]s the sole reserved route for Chevron to challenge any  
28 final judgment resulting from the Lago Agrio litigation, provid[ing] only limited ways to attack a  
29 judgment based on a prior agreement," id. at 399, we went on to say that it was unnecessary in that  
30 case to resolve "entirely hypothetical conflicts," and that especially "[g]iven the extent and fluidity

1 of this dispute, we do not suggest that the possibilities discussed above are the only moves that the  
2 parties can or will make, nor do we express any views on how a court should respond to these  
3 potential arguments," *id.* at 399 & n.11.

4 As noted in Republic of Ecuador, the Texaco representation "reserved [Chevron's] right  
5 to challenge any judgment issued in Lago Agrio on the grounds . . . that the judgment itself was  
6 obtained by fraud." *Id.* at 397 (internal quotation marks omitted). And we noted that Texaco's  
7 promise itself did not "restrict the kind of forum or type of proceeding in which Chevron can raise  
8 those defenses," *id.* Thus, there is no inconsistency between the conditional representation by Texaco  
9 and the claims of Chevron in the present action that it has been injured by the entry of a judgment  
10 procured by means of the fraudulent and corrupt conduct of the LAPs.

11 Accordingly, we have no need here to reach any question as to the institutional  
12 adequacy of the Ecuadorian judicial system. There is no error in the district court's finding that  
13 neither the condition placed on Texaco's forum non conveniens agreement nor this Court's comments  
14 in any of our prior opinions obligated Chevron not to challenge a judgment which "the LAPs wrote,"  
15 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 502, and which the sitting Ecuadorian judge "signed . . . as part of the  
16 quid pro quo for the promise of \$500,000," *id.* at 534-35.

17 C. Naranjo

18 Donziger and the LAP Representatives also contend that the district court's judgment  
19 against them was foreclosed by this Court's ruling in Naranjo, 667 F.3d 232. (See, e.g., Donziger  
20 brief on appeal at 68 ("[t]his Court has already held that '[t]here is no legal basis for the injunction that

1 Chevron seeks.' Naranjo, 667 F.3d at 242" (emphasis ours)); LAP Representatives brief on appeal  
2 at 84 ("the passage of the New York Recognition Act, as construed in Naranjo[,] . . . barr[ed] the  
3 issuance of prospective injunctive relief against the enforcement of a foreign money judgment".)  
4 These arguments misread Naranjo, which dealt with only one of Chevron's claims: the request for  
5 a global injunction under New York's Recognition Act. We expressly disclaimed consideration of  
6 Chevron's other claims.

7 The Recognition Act (see also Part II.E. below) governs the "[r]ecognition and  
8 enforcement" of foreign money judgments. See N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 5303. Subject to several exceptions,  
9 it provides that a foreign country judgment "is conclusive between the parties to the extent that it  
10 grants or denies recovery of a sum of money," id., and declares such judgments to be enforceable by  
11 several means, see id.

12 Chevron's Amended Complaint asserted, inter alia, RICO claims against Donziger, his  
13 Firm, Fajardo, and Yanza, and asserted common-law claims against all defendants, including claims  
14 of fraud and unjust enrichment. In Count 9 of the Amended Complaint, Chevron sought, under the  
15 Recognition Act, a declaratory judgment that the Lago Agrio Judgment was invalid and an injunction  
16 against any attempt by the ADF (which is controlled by Donziger and Yanza) or the LAPs to enforce  
17 that judgment anywhere in the world, "argu[ing] that the Ecuadorian judiciary [wa]s so captured by  
18 political interests as to be incapable of producing a judgment that the New York courts can enforce."  
19 Naranjo, 667 F.3d at 238. The district court granted Chevron's motion for a preliminary injunction  
20 on that basis, and it severed the Count 9 claim from Chevron's other claims in order to expedite trial  
21 as to the validity of the Ecuadorian judgment.

1 In Naranjo--the appeal from the preliminary injunction--we vacated the injunction on  
2 the ground that the Recognition Act, while allowing certain defenses against an attempt to enforce a  
3 foreign judgment, did not authorize a judgment debtor to attack a foreign judgment affirmatively:

4 Whatever the merits of Chevron's complaints about the Ecuadorian  
5 courts, . . . the procedural device it has chosen to present those claims is simply  
6 unavailable: The Recognition Act nowhere authorizes a court to declare a  
7 foreign judgment unenforceable on the preemptive suit of a putative judgment-  
8 debtor. The structure of the Act is clear. The sections on which Chevron  
9 relies provide exceptions from the circumstances in which a holder of a foreign  
10 judgment can obtain enforcement of that judgment in New York; they do not  
11 create an affirmative cause of action to declare foreign judgments void and  
12 enjoin their enforcement.

13 Id. at 240 (emphases added).

14 Nothing in the language, history, or purposes of the Act suggests that it creates  
15 causes of action by which disappointed litigants in foreign cases can ask a New  
16 York court to restrain efforts to enforce those foreign judgments against them,  
17 or to preempt the courts of other countries from making their own decisions  
18 about the enforceability of such judgments.

19 Id. at 243 (emphasis added); see also id. at 242 ("There is thus no legal basis for the injunction that  
20 Chevron seeks, and, on these facts, there will be no such basis until judgment-creditors affirmatively  
21 seek to enforce their judgment in a court governed by New York or similar law." (emphasis added)).

22 Our Naranjo opinion also expressed concerns that if the Recognition Act were  
23 interpreted to authorize an injunction against enforcement of a foreign judgment anywhere in the  
24 world, it would implicate principles of international comity. See id. at 242-44. We concluded,  
25 however, that "New York undertook to act as a responsible participant in an international system of  
26 justice--not to set up its courts as a transnational arbiter to dictate to the entire world which judgments  
27 are entitled to respect and which countries' courts are to be treated as international pariahs." Id.  
28 at 242. Thus, we stated that

29 [w]e need not address here whether and how international comity

1 concerns would affect a hypothetical effort by a state to vest its courts with the  
2 authority to issue so radical an injunction. There is no such statutory  
3 authorization, for New York has authorized no such relief. To resolve the  
4 dispute before us, we need only address whether the statutory scheme  
5 announced by New York's Recognition Act allows the district court to declare  
6 the Ecuadorian judgment non-recognizable, or to enjoin plaintiffs from seeking  
7 to enforce that judgment. Because we find that it does not, the injunction  
8 collapses before we reach issues of international comity.

9 Id. at 244 (emphases added).

10 In light of our interpretation of the Recognition Act and of the fact that there had been  
11 no attempt to enforce the Lago Agrio Judgment in New York, there was "nothing further to be  
12 addressed on remand with respect to the severed claim." Naranjo, 667 F.3d at 239 n.11. We thus  
13 remanded Count 9 to the district court with instructions to dismiss Chevron's claim for declaratory  
14 and injunctive relief under the Recognition Act. See id. at 247.

15 Our conclusion that the declaratory judgment claim must be dismissed made it  
16 unnecessary for us to reach any of the "roughly a dozen [other] arguments" made by Donziger and  
17 the LAPs with respect to that claim. Id. at 239. Chevron's other claims were not before us, and we  
18 did not address them, stating, "[w]e decide only those issues that relate to the severed declaratory  
19 judgment claim and the district court's rulings thereon," id. at 238 n.8, and noting that there would  
20 "continu[e to be] separate proceedings between these parties on other causes of action before the same  
21 district court judge," id. at 239 n.11.

22 In sum, the Naranjo decision held simply that "the Recognition Act does not authorize  
23 a court to declare a foreign judgment null and void for all purposes in all countries, or to issue  
24 injunctions preventing parties to foreign litigation from acting abroad to present issues to foreign  
25 courts." Id. at 245 (emphases added). Other arguments were "either rendered moot by [that]  
26 disposition . . . or . . . pertain[ed] to litigation that [wa]s not properly before us." Id. at 246. We

1 "express[ed] no views on the merits of the parties' various charges and counter-charges regarding the  
2 Ecuadorian legal system and their adversaries' conduct of this litigation, which may be addressed as  
3 relevant in other litigation before the district court or elsewhere." Id. at 247 n.17.

4 Accordingly, Naranjo did not foreclose consideration of the validity of Chevron's  
5 remaining claims under RICO and New York common law or of the appropriateness of relief other  
6 than a declaratory judgment under the Recognition Act or a global injunction against enforcement of  
7 the Lago Agrio Judgment.

8 D. The RICO-Based Rulings Against Donziger

9 Chevron asserted RICO claims against Donziger and others (not including the LAPs),  
10 alleging that, in orchestrating the frauds, extortions, and bribes leading to the entry of the  
11 \$17.292 billion Lago Agrio Judgment, Donziger conducted the affairs of an enterprise through a  
12 pattern of racketeering activity, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1962(c), and conspired to do so, in  
13 violation of § 1962(d). Section 1964 of RICO (quoted more fully in subpart 2 of this Part II.D.)  
14 provides in part that the federal courts have "jurisdiction to prevent and restrain violations of section  
15 1962 of this chapter by . . . imposing reasonable restrictions on the future activities . . . of any person,"  
16 18 U.S.C. § 1964(a) (emphases added), and that "[a]ny person injured in his business or property by  
17 reason of a violation of section 1962 . . . may sue therefor . . . and shall recover threefold the damages  
18 he sustains and the cost of the suit, including a reasonable attorney's fee," id. § 1964(c). Although  
19 Chevron withdrew its request for damages, it sought equitable relief under RICO for its injuries  
20 resulting from Donziger's violations of §§ 1962(c) and (d). The district court, noting that either  
21 damages or equitable relief under RICO "are available only to those persons injured by reason of the  
22 defendant's predicate acts" and that the predicate acts must be "both the factual and the proximate

1 cause of the injury," Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 601 (internal quotation marks omitted), found that  
2 Chevron had established all of the elements of its RICO claims.

3 The court found that there was a RICO "enterprise" consisting of "the LAP team and  
4 its affiliates," which included

5 Donziger, . . . the U.S. and Ecuadorian lawyers, including Kohn[ and] Patton  
6 Boggs . . . , Yanza, the ADF, and Selva Viva, . . . the investors who gave  
7 money to finance the operation, usually in exchange for shares of any  
8 recovery, . . . the LAPs' public relations, media, and lobbying arms, [and] . . .  
9 the LAPs' technical people, including Stratus, Beltman, Maest, Russell,  
10 Calmbacher, . . . [and] Quarles.

11 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 576. Although not finding that each member of the enterprise committed  
12 acts of racketeering activity, the court found that these persons or entities were "associated in fact for  
13 the common purpose of pursuing the recovery of money from Chevron via the Lago Agrio litigation,  
14 whether by settlement or by enforceable judgment, coupled with the exertion of pressure on Chevron  
15 to pay." Id.

16 The district court found that Donziger had committed--and conspired with at least  
17 Fajardo and Yanza to commit--numerous indictable acts that fell within the RICO definition of  
18 racketeering activity in 18 U.S.C. § 1961(1), see, e.g., Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 576-99, 601,  
19 including **extortion** in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1951 (affecting interstate or foreign commerce "in any  
20 way or degree," by "the obtaining of property from another, with his consent, induced by wrongful  
21 use of actual or threatened force, violence, or fear, or under color of official right" or "attempt[ing]"  
22 to do so); **wire fraud** in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1343 (communicating or foreseeably causing  
23 communication "by means of wire . . . in interstate or foreign commerce," of "writings," etc., in  
24 furtherance of a "scheme or artifice to defraud, or [to] obtain[] money or property" by way of "false  
25 or fraudulent pretenses, representations, or promises"); **money laundering** in violation of 18 U.S.C.

1 § 1956 (transmitting or transferring funds "from a place in the United States to or through a place  
 2 outside the United States . . . with the intent to promote the carrying on of specified unlawful activity,"  
 3 defined to include "activity constituting an offense listed in section 1961(1) of [18 U.S.C.]");  
 4 **obstruction of justice** in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 1503 ("corruptly . . . endeavor[ing] to influence,  
 5 obstruct, or impede, the due administration of justice" in "any court of the United States"); and  
 6 **violations of the Travel Act**, 18 U.S.C. § 1952 (using "any facility in interstate or foreign commerce"  
 7 in furtherance of, or with the intent to promote unlawful activity such as "bribery . . . in violation of  
 8 the laws . . . of the United States," including the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act ("FCPA"), which  
 9 makes it unlawful for a United States citizen or national to, inter alia, "offer, pay[,], [or] promise to  
 10 pay . . . any money, or . . . anything of value to . . . any foreign official for purposes of . . . influencing  
 11 any act or decision of such foreign official," 15 U.S.C. § 78dd-2(a)). The district court found that

12 [a]mong the predicate acts that Chevron has proved are (1) multiple  
 13 extortionate acts including, among others, (a) the ghostwriting of the Judgment  
 14 and the promise of \$500,000 to Zambrano for signing it, and (b) the  
 15 ghostwriting of the Cabrera Report upon which the author(s) of the Judgment  
 16 relied for the pit count that underlies more than \$5 billion of the damages  
 17 award, as well as the false portrayal of Cabrera as a neutral, impartial and  
 18 independent expert, and the payments and other inducements to Cabrera to  
 19 ensure that he "played ball," (2) multiple acts of wire fraud in furtherance of  
 20 fraudulent schemes with respect to all of the foregoing, (3) money laundering  
 21 to promote racketeering acts, including with respect to the ghostwriting of the  
 22 Cabrera Report by Stratus and payments to Cabrera, and (4) violations of the  
 23 Travel Act to facilitate violations of the anti-bribery provision of the FCPA by  
 24 payments to Cabrera.

25 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 601 (emphases added). In addition, referring to the findings described  
 26 in Part I.B.11. above, the court found that

27 Donziger and the LAPs' U.S. counsel submitted the deliberately misleading  
 28 Fajardo Declaration first to the court in Denver and then to many other courts  
 29 throughout the country, including this one. The LAPs' American lawyers--  
 30 including Donziger--were involved in drafting the declaration. They debated  
 31 extensively the extent to which it would reveal the truth about the LAPs'



1 "contacts" with Cabrera. And they decided that Fajardo rather than Donziger  
2 should sign it for fear that Donziger, a U.S. resident and thus subject to  
3 compulsory process, would be deposed.FN1470 Finally, the declaration, as  
4 discussed earlier, was misleading at best.

5 FN1470. PX 1316 (May 3, 2010 Email from [Patton Boggs  
6 partner] E. Westenberger to others) ("This is why we struggled with  
7 who would sign the declaration. If Steve [Donziger] signs, he will  
8 most certainly be deposed. Same for any other counsel in the US. We  
9 figured that with [Fajardo], they likely would not slow down the  
10 process by deposing him.").

11 Donziger's conduct with respect to the Fajardo Declaration was  
12 obstruction of justice, plain and simple. The declaration was drafted while the  
13 Stratus Section 1782 proceeding was pending, as Donziger was acutely aware.  
14 Its purpose--in Donziger's words--was to "prevent Stratus' role relative to the  
15 Cabrera report from coming out." Donziger was involved in the  
16 communications as to what it would and would not say. He knew that it was  
17 false or misleading. His conduct was intended to "impede . . . the due  
18 administration of justice," and it fell squarely within the federal obstruction of  
19 justice statute.

20 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 594 & n.1470 (other footnotes omitted) (quoting Donziger deposition  
21 testimony and 18 U.S.C. § 1503 (emphases ours)).

22 The district court noted that "[n]umerous emails were sent in furtherance of these  
23 schemes." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 590 n.1443. It found that many of the wires at issue were  
24 interstate; and a number were sent to or from the United States--for example, the emails from Stratus's  
25 Beltman to Donziger, Fajardo, and others, with respect to Stratus's ghostwriting of the Cabrera Report,  
26 see id. at 590 & n.1443. The dozens of emails referred to in Part I of this opinion are but a small  
27 percentage of those in the trial record; with regard to the preparation of the Cabrera Report alone,  
28 "Donziger and Stratus personnel exchanged hundreds of emails," id. at 440 & n.439. And moneys  
29 funding the LAPs' team's corrupt activities were wired, for example, from Gibraltar to New York to  
30 Ecuador. See id. at 591-92. The court found that

1 the fact that certain of Donziger's wrongful efforts to force Chevron to pay  
2 took place in Ecuador is of no moment. While Donziger's activities in Ecuador  
3 were important, they in many respects were merely tools. Regardless of where  
4 the conduct creating the threat took place, the plan was hatched and run from  
5 the United States and its object was a multi-billion dollar payment from  
6 Chevron, a U.S. based company.

7 Id. at 588.

8 [T]he evidence at trial established that Donziger, a New York lawyer and  
9 resident, here formulated and conducted a scheme to victimize a U.S. company  
10 through a pattern of racketeering. That pattern included substantial conduct  
11 in the United States--e.g., the bulk of Donziger's overall supervision of the  
12 entire operation; much of Donziger's fund raising activity; the ghostwriting of  
13 the Cabrera Report, which occurred mainly in Boulder, Colorado, and was  
14 supervised by Donziger from New York; much of the pressure and lobbying  
15 campaign designed to injure Chevron's reputation and impact its bottom line  
16 and its stock price, a campaign micromanaged by Donziger that employed  
17 many U.S. public relations advisors and lobbyists; the making of Crude by a  
18 New York-based and recruited film maker; and the improper efforts to ward  
19 off discovery through U.S. courts of what really had taken place with Cabrera,  
20 Stratus, and the LAPs. Much of the funding came principally from Kohn in  
21 Philadelphia and Burford [Capital, a litigation finance firm], which operated  
22 at least partly in the United States. Absent the U.S. activity, there would have  
23 been no scheme. Even had there been one, it would have been doomed to  
24 failure, without that activity.

25 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 574.

26 The district court found that these acts constituted a pattern of racketeering activity  
27 within the meaning of 18 U.S.C. § 1961(5) (requiring at least two acts of racketeering activity  
28 occurring within 10 years of each other). Donziger's acts of wire fraud, bribery, obstruction of justice,  
29 and money laundering were committed as part of an at-least "five-year effort to extort and defraud  
30 Chevron" into paying a huge sum of money; and it was likely that the "demonstrate[d] criminal  
31 activity . . . w[ould] continue into the future," especially "in view of the defendants' failure thus far  
32 to achieve their goal." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 599.

33 There is no challenge to the sufficiency of the evidence to support any of these  
34 findings.

1 Donziger makes other challenges to the district court's granting of relief to Chevron  
2 under RICO. In addition to arguing that the District Court Judgment should be set aside on  
3 international comity grounds (which we reject for the reasons set out in Part II.F. below), he contends  
4 that Chevron failed to establish a quantifiable, redressable injury, and that proximate causation was  
5 lacking by reason of the intervention of the Ecuadorian appellate decisions between the racketeering-  
6 activity-induced initial Lago Agrio Judgment and Chevron's \$8.646 billion judgment debt; and he  
7 argues that RICO does not authorize the granting of equitable relief to private plaintiffs. We reject  
8 each contention.

9 1. RICO Injury and Causation

10 After Donziger promised Judge Zambrano \$500,000 from the proceeds of a judgment  
11 in favor of the LAPs, Judge Zambrano entered the Lago Agrio Judgment, which had been written by  
12 the LAPs' team, against Chevron for \$8.646 billion in damages (plus \$8.646 billion in punitive  
13 damages, which was thereafter eliminated by the National Court because Ecuadorian law does not  
14 authorize the imposition of punitive damages). Thus, Chevron has an \$8.646 billion judgment debt.  
15 The imposition of a wrongful debt constitutes an injury to one's business or property.

16 After the Ecuadorian Appeal Division affirmed that Judgment, attachments were  
17 placed on Chevron assets, including its intellectual property rights in Ecuador, which the district court  
18 found are worth between \$15 and \$30 million. Attachments were also placed on the funds in  
19 Chevron's Ecuadorian bank accounts, and on the approximately \$96 million Chevron had been  
20 awarded in arbitration against the ROE. The LAPs also brought enforcement actions in Argentina,  
21 Brazil, and Canada. Donziger's contention that Chevron has suffered no injury from these

1 attachments, on the ground that the assets have not yet been transferred, is frivolous. The nature of  
2 an attachment is to prevent the asset's owner from using or disposing of his property as he wishes.  
3 That incursion into the owner's property rights constitutes injury. There is no serious question that  
4 Chevron has suffered injury in its business or property.

5 The district court also permissibly found that Chevron's legal fees--those already  
6 expended to uncover Donziger's wrongful conduct and those being spent and soon-to-be-spent to  
7 defend against enforcement proceedings--constituted further injury to Chevron. See Donziger, 974  
8 F.Supp.2d at 553, 638. "[L]egal fees may constitute RICO damages when they are proximately  
9 caused by a RICO violation." Stochastic Decisions, Inc. v. DiDomenico, 995 F.2d 1158, 1167 (2d  
10 Cir.), cert denied, 510 U.S. 945 (1993).

11 Donziger, under his retainer agreement with the LAPs, "is entitled to be paid (a) 6.3  
12 percent of all amounts collected in respect of the Lago Agrio litigation, plus (b) any arrearages in his  
13 monthly retainer, plus (c) reimbursement for expenses." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 602 (footnotes  
14 omitted). Thus, if the \$8.646 billion Ecuadorian Judgment debt is collected, Donziger is to be paid  
15 \$544,698,000, plus arrearages and expenses. The district court found that

16 [a]ll of the property that Donziger now has and which he hereafter may  
17 receive as a result of the Judgment are and will be the products of the  
18 Judgment obtained in consequence of his predicate acts of racketeering. To  
19 the extent he has been enriched by property taken from Chevron, Chevron has  
20 lost that property as a proximate consequence of those predicate acts.  
21 Moreover, to the extent the Judgment is enforced in the future, Donziger will  
22 be enriched further at Chevron's expense to the extent of 6.3 percent of the  
23 property thus obtained.

24 Id. (emphases added). The procurement of such moneys from a RICO plaintiff through acts of  
25 racketeering activity constitutes injury to the plaintiff's property.

1           Although Donziger also contends that any injury to Chevron from the Judgment cannot  
2 be redressed, the constructive trust that the District Court Judgment imposes on Donziger for the  
3 benefit of Chevron, requiring that he pay to Chevron all sums he has received or will receive that are  
4 traceable to the Lago Agrio Judgment, provides partial compensation. The fact that Chevron will not  
5 be compensated fully does not provide a basis for Donziger to retain proceeds from the Judgment that  
6 resulted from his corrupt conduct.

7           We find no greater merit in Donziger's contention that his racketeering activity was  
8 not the proximate cause of Chevron's injury on the theory that the Ecuadorian appellate decisions  
9 broke the causal chain. Although Donziger repeatedly refers to the decision of the Appeal Division  
10 as a "substitute judgment of the appellate court" (Donziger brief on appeal at 68; see also id. at 2, 4,  
11 38, 72, 73, 99), "substitute" is a label unsupported by substance. The fact is that the Appeal Division,  
12 aside from acknowledging an error with respect to mercury levels (and finding it harmless), did not  
13 alter the Lago Agrio Judgment in any way.

14           Nor is there any finding in the Appeal Division's Opinion to show that the Division's  
15 own examination of the record led it--independently--to find Chevron liable for the sums awarded in  
16 the Lago Agrio Judgment. The Division noted that there were more than 220,000 pages of documents  
17 in the Lago Agrio Litigation record (see Appeal Division Opinion at 2); in reviewing Judge  
18 Zambrano's decision, the Division wrote a 16-page opinion--much of which was devoted to rejecting  
19 the arguments of Chevron that it was not subject to suit in Ecuador. Only some five pages of the  
20 opinion were devoted to the merits of the action, and only one of them refers to any specific part of  
21 the record (see id. at 11 (collecting 16 pages of the 220,000-page record)). Aside from  
22 acknowledging, on that page, some of the errors in the Judgment, which it found harmless, the  
23 Division stated no findings of its own.

1           Instead, most of that five-page section of the Appeal Division's opinion, much of which  
2 is quoted in Part II.A.2. above, extensively described the manner in which Judge Zambrano  
3 adjudicated the case (see Appeal Division Opinion at 10-13), and approved his approach and his  
4 decision as an exercise of "sound discretion" and an application of "coherent and . . . good legal-  
5 logical judgment" in reaching "reasonable conclusions" (id. at 12-13). Thus, "[t]he Division  
6 consider[ed]" that Judge Zambrano's "analysis . . . [wa]s the appropriate one" (id. at 12); the Division  
7 "d[id] not find reasons to modify what was ordered in the lower court's judgment" (id. at 12-13); the  
8 Division found it "appropriate to confirm the monetary amounts established as proportions of  
9 compensation and indemnization" (id. at 13); and except for acknowledging (and finding harmless)  
10 Judge Zambrano's error with respect to mercury levels, the Division "ratified" Judge Zambrano's  
11 decision "in all its parts" (id. at 16).

12           The district court concluded that the decision of the Appeal Division was "not truly  
13 the 'independent action[] of [a] third . . . part[y],'" Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 601 (quoting Hemi  
14 Group, LLC v. City of New York, 559 U.S. 1, 15 (2010)), and that it therefore did not break the chain  
15 of causation between the racketeering activity of the LAPs' team and Chevron's existing \$8.646 billion  
16 judgment debt. We see no error in that conclusion, given the contents and focus of the Appeal  
17 Division's own opinion.

18           2.     The Availability of Equitable Relief Under RICO

19           Donziger contends that the District Court Judgment against him should be overturned  
20 on the ground that RICO does not authorize the granting of equitable relief to a private plaintiff. We  
21 disagree.

1           Neither the Supreme Court nor this Court has decided the question of whether RICO  
2 authorizes a court to award equitable relief to a private plaintiff. See, e.g., RJR Nabisco, Inc. v.  
3 European Community, 136 S. Ct. 2090, 2111 n.13 (2016); Scheidler v. National Organization for  
4 Women, Inc., 537 U.S. 393, 411 (2003) ("NOW II"); Trane Co. v. O'Connor Securities, 718 F.2d 26,  
5 28-29 (2d Cir. 1983) (expressing doubt as to the availability of such relief to RICO private plaintiffs).  
6 Of the two federal Courts of Appeals that have decided the issue, the Seventh Circuit has found such  
7 relief authorized, see National Organization for Women, Inc. v. Scheidler, 267 F.3d 687, 695 (7th Cir.  
8 2001) ("NOW I"), reversed on other grounds, 537 U.S. 393 (2003), and the Ninth Circuit has found  
9 it unauthorized, see Religious Technology Center v. Wollersheim, 796 F.2d 1076, 1088-89 (9th Cir.  
10 1986), cert. denied, 479 U.S. 1103 (1987). Other Circuits that have addressed the issue obiter have  
11 expressed divergent views. See, e.g., NOW I, 267 F.3d at 695 (collecting cases). We conclude that  
12 a federal court is authorized to grant equitable relief to a private plaintiff who has proven injury to its  
13 business or property by reason of a defendant's violation of § 1962, largely for the reasons stated by  
14 the Seventh Circuit opinion in NOW I.

15           The three relevant subsections of RICO § 1964 provide as follows:

16           (a) The district courts of the United States shall have jurisdiction to  
17 prevent and restrain violations of section 1962 of this chapter by issuing  
18 appropriate orders, including, but not limited to: ordering any person to divest  
19 himself of any interest, direct or indirect, in any enterprise; [or] imposing  
20 reasonable restrictions on the future activities . . . of any person, . . . making  
21 due provision for the rights of innocent persons.

22           (b) The Attorney General may institute proceedings under this section.  
23 Pending final determination thereof, the court may at any time enter such  
24 restraining orders or prohibitions, or take such other actions . . . as it shall  
25 deem proper.

26           (c) Any person injured in his business or property by reason of a  
27 violation of section 1962 of this chapter may sue therefor in any appropriate

1 United States district court and shall recover threefold the damages he sustains  
2 and the cost of the suit, including a reasonable attorney's fee . . . .

3 18 U.S.C. § 1964 (emphases added).

4 We read subsection (a) of § 1964 as expansively authorizing federal courts to exercise  
5 their traditional equity powers:

6 "When Congress entrusts to an equity court the enforcement of prohibitions  
7 contained in a regulatory enactment, it must be taken to have acted cognizant  
8 of the historic power of equity to provide complete relief in light of the  
9 statutory purposes. As . . . long ago recognized, 'there is inherent in the Courts  
10 of Equity a jurisdiction to . . . give effect to the policy of the legislature.' Clark  
11 v. Smith, 38 U.S. (13 Pet.) 195, 203, 10 L.Ed. 123."

12 United States v. Sasso, 215 F.3d 283, 289 (2d Cir. 2000) (quoting Mitchell v. Robert DeMario  
13 Jewelry, Inc., 361 U.S. 288, 291-92 (1960)). Accordingly, "unless a statute expressly, 'or by a  
14 necessary and inescapable inference, restricts the court's jurisdiction in equity,' we will infer that 'all  
15 the inherent equitable powers of the District Court are available for the proper and complete exercise  
16 of that jurisdiction.'" United States v. Sasso, 215 F.3d at 289 (quoting Porter v. Warner Holding Co.,  
17 328 U.S. 395, 398 (1946)); cf. De Beers Consolidated Mines, Ltd. v. United States, 325 U.S. 212,  
18 218-19 (1945) (reasoning that Sherman Act's grant of jurisdiction "to prevent and restrain violations  
19 of th[at] act" carried with it "power . . . traditionally exercised by courts of equity" (internal quotation  
20 marks omitted)).

21 As we read § 1964, subsection (a) gives the federal courts jurisdiction to hear RICO  
22 claims and sets out general remedies, including injunctive relief; subsection (b) makes it clear that the  
23 court, on the application of the Attorney General, has authority to grant temporary injunctive relief  
24 even before there is a final adjudication; and subsection (c) provides a private right of action for any  
25 person injured in his business or property by reason of a violation of § 1962. We agree with the



1 Seventh Circuit's view that subsection (a) is not simply a jurisdictional section but rather is a section  
2 that "grant[s] district courts authority to hear RICO claims and then . . . spell[s] out a non-exclusive  
3 list of the remedies district courts are empowered to provide in such cases." NOW I, 267 F.3d at 697.  
4 Subsection (a) itself neither states that any category of persons may not obtain relief that is within the  
5 powers granted to the federal courts nor specifies the persons in whose favor the courts are authorized  
6 to exercise the powers there granted. In our view, this means that Congress did not intend to limit the  
7 court's subsection (a) authority by reference to the identity or nature of the plaintiff.

8           The limitations as to who may obtain certain other types of relief are, as we interpret  
9 § 1964, spelled out in subsections (b) and (c). Thus, because subsection (b) states that "[t]he Attorney  
10 General" may seek restraining orders "[p]ending [a] final" adjudication, we view such interim relief  
11 as available only to the United States, not to a private person.

12           In contrast, we interpret § 1964(c) as not authorizing awards of treble damages or  
13 attorneys' fees to the United States. Subsection (c) allows awards of that type of relief to a "person,"  
14 a term defined as "any individual or entity capable of holding a legal or beneficial interest in  
15 property," 18 U.S.C. § 1961(3). And while the United States is capable of owning property, the term  
16 "person" in RICO is used in § 1964 to apply both to potential plaintiffs (subsection (c)) and to  
17 potential defendants (subsection (a)). As there is no indication that that word was meant to have  
18 differing meanings in the same section, and as there is no indication that Congress intended RICO to  
19 waive the United States's sovereign immunity--as would be required for the United States to be a  
20 defendant--we have concluded that the United States does not come within the RICO definition of  
21 "person." See United States v. Bonanno Organized Crime Family of La Cosa Nostra, 879 F.2d 20,  
22 21-27 (2d Cir. 1989) (affirming dismissal of the government's action brought under § 1964(c)). Thus,

1 subsection (c) excludes the federal government from those to whom a court may award treble damages  
2 and attorneys' fees.

3 While subsections (b) and (c) limit the categories of plaintiffs to which the relief they  
4 respectively specify may be granted, we do not interpret those subsections as limiting the authorized  
5 relief to the types they mention, *i.e.*, as excluding relief that the federal courts are authorized to grant  
6 under subsection (a). To read the subsections after subsection (a) as limiting the nature of the relief  
7 that may be granted to the persons identified in those subsequent subsections would mean that  
8 although the Attorney General can be granted an injunction "[p]ending" the final adjudication of the  
9 case, she could not get any other relief such as a permanent injunction. The most sensible reading of  
10 subsection (b), in our view, is that the interim relief identified in that subsection is available only to  
11 the United States, which is relief in addition to that which it may be granted under subsection (a). By  
12 parity of reasoning, we read subsection (c) as meaning that only a "person" may sue for money  
13 damages, but that that right is in addition to the relief that the court has power to grant under  
14 subsection (a). As the Seventh Circuit stated, the sentence in subsection (b) that

15 "[t]he Attorney General may institute proceedings under this section" is . . . the  
16 equivalent of the first clause in § 1964(c), which says "[a]ny person injured in  
17 his business or property by reason of a violation of section 1962 of this chapter  
18 may sue therefor in any appropriate United States district court[ ]. . . ." Neither one addresses what remedy the plaintiff may seek.[] Given that the  
19 government's authority to seek injunctions comes from the combination of the  
20 grant of a right of action to the Attorney General in § 1964(b) and the grant of  
21 district court authority to enter injunctions in § 1964(a), we see no reason not  
22 to conclude, by parity of reasoning, that private parties can also seek  
23 injunctions under the combination of grants in §§ 1964(a) and (c).  
24

25 NOW I, 267 F.3d at 697 (quoting 18 U.S.C. §§ 1964(b) and (c)).

26 As the NOW I decision noted, the interpretation of § 1964 as authorizing the grant of  
27 equitable relief to private plaintiffs is consistent with Congress's intent "to 'encourag[e] civil litigation

1 to supplement Government efforts to deter and penalize the . . . prohibited practices. The object of  
2 civil RICO is thus not merely to compensate victims but to turn them into prosecutors, "private  
3 attorneys general," dedicated to eliminating racketeering activity." NOW I, 267 F.3d at 698 (quoting  
4 Rotella v. Wood, 528 U.S. 549, 557 (2000)); cf. Sedima, S.P.R.L. v. Imrex Co., 473 U.S. 479, 492  
5 n.10 (1985) ("Indeed, if Congress' liberal-construction mandate is to be applied anywhere, it is in  
6 § 1964, where RICO's remedial purposes are most evident.").

7 In sum, under the reading of the statute that we find most logical, subsection (a) of  
8 § 1964

9 grants the district courts jurisdiction to hear RICO claims and also sets out  
10 general remedies, including injunctive relief, that all plaintiffs authorized to  
11 bring suit may seek. Section 1964(b) makes it clear that the statute is to be  
12 publicly enforced by the Attorney General and it specifies additional remedies,  
13 all in the nature of interim relief, that the government may seek. Section  
14 1964(c) similarly adds to the scope of § 1964(a), but this time for private  
15 plaintiffs.

16 NOW I, 267 F.3d at 696 (emphases added).

17 Given this interpretation, we reject Donziger's contention that equitable relief is not  
18 available to Chevron under RICO.

19 Nor can we agree that such relief is unavailable because the amount that the  
20 Ecuadorian Judgment will actually cost Chevron is unsure. Statements that a RICO private plaintiff  
21 cannot recover without showing an injury that is "quantifiable," see McLaughlin v. American Tobacco  
22 Co., 522 F.3d 215, 227 (2d Cir. 2008), are relevant in cases in which the plaintiff seeks treble  
23 damages, for in order for the court to "treble" an amount, the factfinder must first know the amount;  
24 but such statements generally focus on whether the cause of action has accrued. See, e.g., Bankers  
25 Trust Co. v. Rhoades, 859 F.2d 1096, 1106 (2d Cir. 1988) (finding § 1964(c) damages claim unripe

1 because "it is impossible to determine the amount of damages that would be necessary to make  
2 plaintiff whole" "until it suffers the injury" (emphasis added)), cert denied, 490 U.S. 1007 (1989).  
3 Similarly, the occurrence of the injury is the focus of statements that the private plaintiff in a RICO  
4 action must show injury that is "clear and definite." E.g., First Nationwide Bank v. Gelt Funding  
5 Corp., 27 F.3d 763, 768 (2d Cir. 1994), cert denied, 513 U.S. 1079 (1995). But Chevron's injury is  
6 in part its liability on an \$8.646 billion judgment obtained through a pattern of racketeering activity;  
7 that injury, affecting its net worth, is clear and definite. The inability to predict whether that entire  
8 amount will be collected from Chevron does not affect the amount of the liability imposed. And the  
9 difficulty in calculating the amount of money damages that would be needed to redress the entire loss  
10 is a common basis for the granting of equitable relief. See, e.g., Register.com, Inc. v. Verio, Inc., 356  
11 F.3d 393, 404 (2d Cir. 2004).

12 In sum, we reject Donziger's contention that RICO does not authorize the granting of  
13 equitable relief to a private plaintiff that has proven injury to its business or property by reason of a  
14 defendant's violation of § 1962.

15 E. The Availability of Equitable Relief Under New York Common Law

16 Chevron did not assert RICO claims against the LAPs, and the district court based its  
17 grant of equitable relief against the LAP Representatives--for procurement of the Judgment by means  
18 of fraud--on principles of common law. The court also based the relief it granted against Donziger  
19 on that common-law theory as well as on RICO. Donziger and the LAP Representatives contend that  
20 the district court lacked authority to grant such relief under common law, arguing that New York's  
21 adoption of the Recognition Act supplanted the common-law cause of action for relief from a

1 judgment procured by fraud, and that even if the common-law cause of action survives, Chevron  
 2 should not have been granted equitable relief because adequate relief at law was available. We are  
 3 unpersuaded.

4 While there is a strong interest in the finality of judgments, such that assertions of  
 5 fraud that are intrinsic to the claim that led to entry of a judgment may be entertained only by direct  
 6 appeal or by motion to vacate made to the court that rendered the judgment, see, e.g., N.Y. C.P.L.R.  
 7 § 5015, D. Siegel, Practice Commentaries; Crouse v. McVickar, 207 N.Y. 213, 100 N.E. 697 (1912);  
 8 Vinokur v. Penny Lane Owners Corp., 269 A.D.2d 226, 703 N.Y.S.2d 35 (1st Dep't 2000), New York  
 9 common law has long recognized that equitable relief may be granted to a person victimized by the  
 10 procurement of a judgment through fraud that is extrinsic to the gravamen of the cause of action, see,  
 11 e.g., Ward v. Town of Southfield, 102 N.Y. 287, 292-93, 6 N.E. 660, 661 (1886) ("Ward"); Gray v.  
 12 Richmond Bicycle Co., 167 N.Y. 348, 355, 60 N.E. 663, 665 (1901) ("Gray").

13 Courts of equity have general jurisdiction to grant relief against fraud,  
 14 and to set aside all deeds, contracts and other instruments obtained by  
 15 fraudulent practices; and the jurisdiction of the court to grant such relief  
 16 extends not only to voluntary contracts inter partes, but also to judgments and  
 17 decrees of courts.

18 Ward, 102 N.Y. at 292, 6 N.E. at 661 (emphases added); see, e.g., McDonald v. McDonald, 228 A.D.  
 19 341, 343, 239 N.Y.S. 533, 535 (1st Dep't 1930) ("A court will annul or restrain the enforcement of  
 20 a judgment obtained by fraud either between the parties, or upon the court.").

21 Such equitable in personam relief may be granted by a court that has jurisdiction of  
 22 the parties, even though the fraudulent judgment was entered in a different jurisdiction:

23 Although the courts of one country have no authority to stay proceedings in the  
 24 courts of another, they have undoubted authority to control all persons and  
 25 things within their own territorial limits. When . . . both parties to a suit in a  
 26 foreign country are residents within the territorial limits of another country, the  
 27 courts of equity in the latter country may act in personam upon those parties  
 28 and direct them by injunction to proceed no further in such suit.

1 Davis v. Cornue, 151 N.Y. 172, 179-80, 45 N.E. 449, 451 (1896) ("Davis") (internal quotation marks  
 2 omitted (emphases ours)); see, e.g., id. at 179, 45 N.E. at 451 ("a court of one state may, where it has  
 3 jurisdiction of the parties, determine the question whether a judgment between them, rendered in  
 4 another state, was obtained by fraud, and, if so, may enjoin the enforcement of it"); Gray, 167 N.Y.  
 5 at 355, 60 N.E. at 665 ("even a foreign judgment may be successfully assailed for fraud in its  
 6 procurement" (internal quotation marks omitted)); McDonald, 228 A.D. at 344, 239 N.Y.S. at 536  
 7 ("The rule is that a judgment rendered in our own, or a sister State, or in a foreign country, may be  
 8 attacked collaterally for want of jurisdiction, or for fraud on the court, or between the parties to the  
 9 action."); Trebilcox v. McAlpine, 17 N.Y.S. 221, 223 (3d Dep't 1891) ("Trebilcox") ("when the  
 10 plaintiff in a judgment fraudulently obtained in one state comes into another to enforce the same, the  
 11 courts of the latter state may redress the fraud according to the system of practice prevailing there,"  
 12 e.g., "by an injunction action").

13           In such a case these courts act upon an acknowledged principle of public law  
 14 in regard to jurisdiction. They do not pretend to direct or control the foreign  
 15 court, but without regard to the situation of the subject-matter of the dispute,  
 16 they consider the equities between the parties and decree in personam  
 17 according to those equities and enforce obedience to their decrees by process  
 18 in personam. . . . This is the acknowledged rule in England and in this country  
 19 . . . .

20 Davis, 151 N.Y. at 180, 45 N.E. at 451 (internal quotation marks omitted (emphasis ours)).

21           We do not see that enactment of the Recognition Act overruled this line of cases.  
 22 "New York ha[d] traditionally been a generous forum in which to enforce judgments for money  
 23 damages rendered by foreign courts," and its adoption of the Recognition Act "was designed," in part,  
 24 "to codify and clarify existing case law on the subject." CIBC Mellon Trust Co. v. Mora Hotel Corp.  
 25 N.V., 100 N.Y.2d 215, 221, 762 N.Y.S.2d 5, 9 (2003). In requesting enactment of the bill that would  
 26 become the Recognition Act by incorporating the "Uniform Foreign Money-Judgments Recognition

1 Act," New York's Judicial Conference stated that the goal was to gain better reciprocity for New  
2 York's judgments:

3 The basic purpose of this proposal is to procure for New York  
4 judgments in foreign countries much better reciprocal treatment at the hands  
5 of foreign courts than they now receive. The lack of recognition often  
6 accorded to New York judgments in foreign countries stems in large part from  
7 the fact that many foreign countries of civil law background do not accept  
8 decisional law as proof that New York treats foreign judgments liberally, but  
9 they rather require statutory proof of this fact. It is the opinion of experts in  
10 the field of international litigation that this codifying legislation would answer  
11 the requirements of the courts in many foreign countries and would therefore  
12 result in obtaining better treatment for New York citizens engaged in litigation  
13 abroad. . . .

14 The Uniform Act codifies, rather than reforms, existing United States  
15 decisional law respecting the recognition of foreign country judgments at a  
16 level below that presently accorded to them by New York courts.

17 New York Judicial Conference Memorandum in Support, Bill Jacket, L 1970, ch. 981, at 2 (emphases  
18 in original).

19 Nothing in the legislative history of the Recognition Act stated that its enactment was  
20 intended to abrogate the above line of common-law cases recognizing the authority of courts of equity  
21 to grant in personam relief from a judgment procured by fraud. And indeed, since the enactment of  
22 the Recognition Act in 1970, that authority has continued to be exercised. See, e.g., Tamimi v.  
23 Tamimi, 38 A.D.2d 197, 328 N.Y.S.2d 477 (2d Dep't 1972) (reversing the posttrial dismissal of an  
24 action collaterally attacking a Thai divorce judgment allegedly procured by fraud). The Tamimi court  
25 noted that

26 [i]t is a rule well settled, that every judgment may be impeached for fraud, and  
27 this applies as well to judgments of our own State, as to those of other States  
28 or foreign judgments . . . .

29 . . . .

1                   In Marine Ins. Co. of Alexandria v. Hodgson (7 Cranch [11 U.S.] 332,  
2                   336) Chief Justice MARSHALL said: "that any fact which clearly proves it to  
3                   be against conscience to execute a judgment, and of which the injured party  
4                   could not have availed himself in a Court of law; or of which he might have  
5                   availed himself at law, but was prevented by fraud or accident unmixed with  
6                   any fault or negligence in himself or his agents, will justify an application to  
7                   a Court of Chancery."

8                   Id. at 200, 328 N.Y.S.2d at 480 (other internal quotation marks omitted (emphasis ours)). In the  
9                   course of its opinion, the Tamimi court also cited such cases as Davis, Trebilcox, and Gray. We  
10                  cannot conclude that New York common law ceased, in 1970, to allow New York courts to grant  
11                  equitable in personam relief to a person victimized by a judgment procured by fraud.

12                  Nor are we persuaded that the district court erred in concluding that equitable relief  
13                  was appropriate because there was no adequate remedy at law. Although Donziger argued in the  
14                  district court that any injury from satisfaction of a monetary judgment could be remedied by an award  
15                  of money damages, the district court noted that

16                         [t]he LAP Representatives are indigenous people living in the Ecuadorian  
17                         rainforest. Both they and Donziger repeatedly have cited their lack of  
18                         resources as reasons to delay this action. Donziger's claim, in particular, is  
19                         strikingly at odds with innumerable representations to this Court concerning  
20                         his claimed lack of resources. In such circumstances, the theoretical  
21                         availability of an action [by Chevron] for damages is and always was entirely  
22                         immaterial. As Justice Scalia has written, while economic injury usually "is  
23                         not considered irreparable, . . . that is because money can usually be recovered  
24                         from the person to whom it is paid. If the expenditures cannot be recouped,  
25                         the resulting loss may be irreparable." That is this case.

26                  Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 638 (footnotes omitted) (quoting Philip Morris USA Inc. v. Scott, 131  
27                  S. Ct. 1, 4 (2010) (other internal quotation marks omitted (emphases ours))).

28                  The district court noted that "the Judgment has been enforceable in Ecuador, and  
29                  elsewhere, at least since the intermediate appellate court ruled," and "[a]ssets already have been seized  
30                  in Ecuador." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 637. The court noted that even if Chevron could pursue its



1 claims of LAPs' team corruption in Ecuador's Constitutional Court (a route never suggested by the  
2 opinions of the Ecuadorian Appeal Division or National Court, which referred only to the actions in  
3 the United States (see Part II.F. below)), "[g]iven the size of the Judgment and the comparative  
4 impecuniousness of the defendants, there is no assurance that Chevron could recoup property applied  
5 to the Judgment between now and any decision by the Constitutional Court even if it prevailed."  
6 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 637. The district court also noted that Donziger and the LAPs had, in  
7 addition, "taken extensive steps to ensure that any funds recovered are held offshore and beyond the  
8 reach either of U.S. or Ecuadorian courts." Id.

9 Nor does Chevron's right to defend against enforcement actions provide a basis for  
10 finding that it has an adequate remedy at law, given that the Donziger and Invictus strategy is to  
11 inundate Chevron with such actions, forcing it to incur sizeable legal fees. Even if Chevron prevailed  
12 in every such action, its legal expenses would likely not be recoverable from the impecunious LAPs  
13 or Donziger. See id. at 638.

14 We conclude that the district court had authority under New York common law to grant  
15 equitable relief against Donziger and the LAP Representatives over whom the court had personal  
16 jurisdiction (see Part II.G. below).

17 F. Considerations of International Comity

18 Donziger, the LAP Representatives, and several of the amici curiae contend that the  
19 District Court Judgment should be overturned on the ground that it violates principles of international  
20 comity. Indeed, Donziger argues that this is required by our opinion in Naranjo. For several reasons,  
21 we are not persuaded.

1           First, the injunction at issue in Naranjo ("Naranjo injunction") purported to enjoin  
2 Donziger and all of the LAPs, directly or indirectly, from taking any actions to enforce the Lago Agrio  
3 Judgment. In contrast, the injunction in the District Court Judgment is directed at only three persons--  
4 Donziger (including his Firm) and the two LAP Representatives over whom the district court has  
5 personal jurisdiction.

6           Second, the geographic scope of the Naranjo injunction and scope of the injunction  
7 granted in the District Court Judgment are different. The Naranjo injunction was essentially global,  
8 prohibiting actions toward enforcement of the Judgment anywhere outside of Ecuador, see, e.g.,  
9 Naranjo, 667 F.3d at 238 n.10. The geographic scope of the present District Court Judgment anti-  
10 enforcement injunction against the LAP Representatives is limited to the United States: Donziger and  
11 the LAP Representatives are enjoined from taking actions toward enforcement in courts of the United  
12 States; but "nothing []in [the District Court Judgment] enjoins, restrains or otherwise prohibits  
13 Donziger, the LAP Representatives, or any of them, from . . . filing or prosecuting any action for  
14 recognition or enforcement of the Judgment . . . in courts outside the United States . . ." District  
15 Court Judgment ¶ 6 (emphases added).

16           Thus, the present injunction, unlike the Naranjo injunction, is not global; and no part  
17 of it purports to limit in any way the conduct of any of the LAPs--the actual judgment creditors--other  
18 than the two LAP Representatives. It does not invalidate the Lago Agrio Judgment; and it does not  
19 prohibit any of the judgment creditors--including the LAP Representatives--from taking action to  
20 enforce the Judgment outside of the United States.

21           To the extent that Donziger and/or the LAP Representatives will receive or have  
22 received property from enforcement of the Lago Agrio Judgment, the District Court Judgment

1 imposes on them a constructive trust for the benefit of Chevron. It does so in order to "prevent[] the  
2 three defendants who appeared at trial--over whom [the district court] has personal jurisdiction--from  
3 profiting from their fraud." Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 644. But that is an aspect of this matter on  
4 which the Ecuadorian courts have essentially deferred to the courts of the United States:

5           The appeal from the global preliminary injunction was heard in Naranjo in September  
6 2011, and the panel promptly issued an order that vacated the injunction in its entirety and halted all  
7 proceedings on Chevron's declaratory judgment claim, stating that an opinion would follow.  
8 Thereafter, even before our Naranjo opinion was issued on January 26, 2012, the Appeal Division in  
9 Ecuador twice stated that it was beyond the Division's domain to entertain Chevron's fraud  
10 allegations. The Appeal Division in its initial Opinion on January 3, 2012, stated that the Chevron  
11 claim of "fraud and corruption" by the LAPs and their legal team was

12           a matter to which this Division should not refer at all, except to let it be  
13 emphasized that the same accusations are pending resolution before authorities  
14 of the United States of America due to a complaint that has been filed by the  
15 very defendant here, Chevron, under what is known as the RICO act, and this  
16 Division has no competence to rule on the conduct of counsel, experts or other  
17 officials or administrators and auxiliaries of justice . . . .

18 (Appeal Division Opinion at 10 (emphases added).) And in its January 13, 2012 Clarification Order,  
19 the Division similarly stated that

20           it stays out of these accusations, preserving the parties' rights . . . to continue  
21 the course of the actions that have been filed in the United States of America.

22 (Appeal Division Clarification Order at 4 (emphasis added).)

23           When the Naranjo opinion was issued, it expressed concerns as to whether the  
24 declaratory and global injunctive relief Chevron had requested would cause "friction between  
25 sovereign legal systems or improperly encroach on the domain of a state or foreign court," 667 F.3d  
26 at 245 (internal quotation marks omitted). And perhaps it would have. But no such friction or

1 encroachment should be seen in the limited, non-global equitable relief granted by the district court  
2 in its final judgment adjudicating Chevron's claims of fraud and corruption. When the Ecuadorian  
3 National Court issued its decision some 22 months after the Naranjo opinion--and after Chevron's  
4 claim for a declaratory judgment invalidating the Lago Agrio Judgment had been dismissed--the  
5 National Court endorsed the Ecuadorian Appeal Division's decisions that "preserv[ed]" Chevron's  
6 right to seek relief in the United States courts:

7                   it is clear that, by preserving the rights and actions of the parties, the court  
8                   acknowledges the lack of] jurisdiction to decide whether or not there has been  
9                   procedural fraud.

10 (Opinion of Ecuadorian National Court of Justice at 120 (emphasis added).)

11                   In these circumstances, in which the district court has, on the claims of corruption,  
12 granted equitable in personam relief that does not invalidate the Ecuadorian judgment, and in which  
13 the Ecuadorian courts have expressly disclaimed jurisdiction to address the corruption claims and  
14 stated that the matter is preserved for adjudication in the United States courts, international comity  
15 is not an obstacle to the present District Court Judgment.

16 G.     Contentions of the LAP Representatives

17                   The LAP Representatives have advanced arguments paralleling those made by  
18 Donziger, contending that the Ecuadorian appellate decisions cleansed the pro-LAPs judgment of any  
19 taint from wrongdoing by Donziger (see, e.g., LAP Representatives brief on appeal at 23, 25, 34, 49,  
20 51-52, 65), that international comity demanded that those decisions be so treated (see, e.g., id. at  
21 63-65), and that injunctive relief against them was foreclosed by this Court's decision in Naranjo (see,  
22 e.g., id. at 83-85). We reject those arguments for the reasons set out in Parts II.C.-II.F. above. In  
23 addition, the LAP Representatives seek reversal of the district court's judgment against them on the

1 grounds that the court lacked personal jurisdiction over them and that they were not responsible for  
2 wrongdoing by Donziger. They also argue that the district court judgment should be vacated because  
3 of the absence of parties the LAP Representatives term "indispensable" (LAP Representatives' brief  
4 on appeal at 78-83), to wit, (1) the other LAPs (who are named as defendants but who have defaulted),  
5 (2) indigenous Ecuadorian non-LAPs such as the Waorani (who were not parties to the Lago Agrio  
6 Litigation and whose motion to intervene in the present action the LAP Representatives opposed), and  
7 (3) the Republic of Ecuador (against which no relief in the present action was either sought or  
8 granted). None of these contentions is persuasive. Only the arguments as to lack of personal  
9 jurisdiction and lack of responsibility for the acts of Donziger warrant discussion.

10 1. Personal Jurisdiction

11 The district court rejected the LAP Representatives' personal jurisdiction defenses on  
12 two grounds. First, following noncompliance by the LAP Representatives with discovery orders to  
13 produce documents related to their contention that personal jurisdiction was lacking, the court,  
14 pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2)(A), sanctioned them by striking the personal jurisdiction defenses.  
15 See Chevron Corp. v. Donziger, 296 F.R.D. 168, 220-21 (S.D.N.Y. 2013). Second, catering to the  
16 possibility that that sanction could be overturned on appeal, the court stated that it would nonetheless  
17 receive evidence at trial on the personal jurisdiction issue and make findings on that issue, see id.  
18 at 221; following the trial, the court ruled that it would have jurisdiction over the LAP Representatives  
19 under New York's long-arm statute, N.Y. C.P.L.R. § 302(a)(1), see Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d  
20 at 617-28. The LAP Representatives contest both decisions. Finding no abuse of discretion in the  
21 district court's imposition of the sanction, we affirm the striking of the personal jurisdiction defenses,  
22 without the need to address the court's posttrial ruling.

1           In the district court, Camacho and Piaguaje had moved to dismiss the action against  
2 them for lack of personal jurisdiction, arguing that their retention of New York attorneys and their  
3 participation in litigations against Chevron in New York were insufficient to provide jurisdiction over  
4 them under the New York long-arm statutes. The district court determined that the motion involved  
5 arguments and facts that went beyond the allegations in Chevron's complaint and that discovery was  
6 needed in order to assess the defenses. The court denied the motion to dismiss, without prejudice to  
7 renewal following the completion of discovery. See generally Chevron Corp. v. Donziger, 296 F.R.D.  
8 at 199-200.

9           In June 2012, Chevron served a request on the LAP Representatives for the production  
10 of documents in the possession of their Ecuadorian lawyers and other associates, including documents  
11 relating to the LAP Representatives' personal jurisdiction defenses. The LAP Representatives  
12 objected, "lodg[ing] boilerplate objections" such as privilege and work product, but without providing  
13 the descriptions required by Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(5)(A); they also "purported to invoke Ecuadorian  
14 law, on an 'and/or' basis, [but] they failed to identify any particular Ecuadorian law or decisions said  
15 to preclude disclosure." Chevron Corp. v. Donziger, 296 F.R.D. at 187 nn.77, 79. The LAP  
16 Representatives did not object to the demand for "responsive documents in the physical possession  
17 of their Ecuadorian attorneys and allies on the ground that they lacked control over or practical ability  
18 to procure the documents from them." Id. at 187.

19           In August 2012, Chevron moved to compel production of the responsive documents.  
20 In response, the LAP Representatives made a specific argument, "for the first time," that Ecuadorian  
21 law prohibited their attorneys from releasing the documents, id.; they argued, on a group-privilege  
22 theory, that where an attorney represents a group of clients, he cannot provide to any individual client  
23 his or her own documents (or any documents belonging to the group) without the express permission

1 of every member of the group. The LAP Representatives submitted a declaration from an Ecuadorian  
2 lawyer supporting their position; Chevron submitted a declaration from an Ecuadorian lawyer who  
3 opined that their argument was erroneous. The LAP Representatives did not produce any responsive  
4 documents in the possession, custody, or control of their Ecuadorian agents or attorneys. See id.  
5 at 187-88.

6 Chevron's motion to compel remained pending until February 2013. In late January  
7 2013, the LAP Representatives informed the district court that an Ecuadorian court had granted one  
8 of the LAPs who defaulted in the present case, Octavio Ismael Córdova Huanca ("Córdova"), an  
9 injunction against the LAPs' attorneys' production of documents. This was the first information the  
10 district court received that such an injunction action had been brought. Evidence subsequently  
11 submitted to the district court revealed that the Ecuadorian injunction action had been commenced  
12 in October 2012 at the request--made to Fajardo--of United States lawyers representing the LAP  
13 Representatives. In that action, Córdova was the plaintiff, Fajardo was a defendant, and Fajardo  
14 argued in support of Córdova's request for an injunction. See generally Chevron Corp. v. Donziger,  
15 296 F.R.D. at 187-88.

16 By order dated February 11, 2013, the district court granted Chevron's motion to  
17 compel the production of documents held by the LAP Representatives' Ecuadorian attorneys and  
18 agents. With respect to all responsive documents as to which there was no claim of work product or  
19 privilege, the court ordered production by March 6, 2013. The order also instructed defendants to  
20 inform the court by February 20 whether or not they would comply with the order. "The defendants  
21 responded that they would not." Id. at 188.

1 Chevron thereafter moved pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 37 for sanctions, including  
2 contempt and default judgments, see, e.g., Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2)(A)(vi) (a "just order[] . . . . may  
3 include . . . rendering a default judgment against the disobedient party"). Following briefing and an  
4 evidentiary hearing, the district court "decline[d] to impose the harshest of these sanctions,  
5 notwithstanding defendants' obdurate and quite possibly contemptuous refusal to comply with their  
6 discovery obligations." Chevron Corp. v. Donziger, 296 F.R.D. at 220. It concluded that the less  
7 severe sanction of striking the LAP Representatives' personal jurisdiction defenses was appropriate,  
8 as it was commensurate with their noncompliance and would restore Chevron to the position it would  
9 presumably have enjoyed had the discovery orders been obeyed and the relevant documents been  
10 produced. See id. at 220-21. The court's ruling, issued on October 10, 2013, stated that the personal  
11 jurisdiction defenses asserted by the LAP Representatives would be stricken unless they produced the  
12 required documents by October 24, 2013. They did not do so; their personal jurisdiction defenses  
13 were thus stricken.

14 Rule 37(b)(2)(A) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure allows the court in which an  
15 action is pending to impose on a party who has failed to obey a discovery order a "just" sanction,  
16 which may include

17 (i) directing that the matters embraced in the order or other designated  
18 facts be taken as established for purposes of the action, as the prevailing party  
19 claims;

20 (ii) prohibiting the disobedient party from supporting or opposing  
21 designated claims or defenses, or from introducing designated matters in  
22 evidence; [or]

23 (iii) striking pleadings in whole or in part . . . .

24 Fed. R. Civ. P. 37(b)(2)(A)(i)-(iii). "Severe sanctions" may be "justified . . . when the failure to



1 comply with a court order is due to willfulness or bad faith, or is otherwise culpable." Daval Steel  
2 Products v. M/V Fakredine, 951 F.2d 1357, 1367 (2d Cir. 1991) (affirming the district court's granting  
3 of the plaintiff's claim and precluding a defendant from presenting evidence in opposition to it, in light  
4 of that defendant's "willful violation of the court's discovery order and prior obstruction of  
5 discovery").

6 In fashioning an appropriate Rule 37 sanction, the court may permissibly "presume  
7 from a party's willful failure to answer a discovery request relating to a particular issue that the facts  
8 of that issue are established against the noncompliant party." Southern New England Telephone Co.  
9 v. Global NAPs Inc., 624 F.3d 123, 147 (2d Cir. 2010). A defendant who has failed to obey a district  
10 court's order to produce information relating to his defense of lack of personal jurisdiction may  
11 properly be sanctioned by the striking of his personal jurisdiction defense. See Insurance Corp. of  
12 Ireland v. Compagnie des Bauxites de Guinee, 456 U.S. 694, 705 (1982).

13 A district court's decision to impose a sanction, and the court's selection among  
14 permissible sanctions, are reviewed for abuse of discretion. See, e.g., National Hockey League v.  
15 Metropolitan Hockey Club, Inc., 427 U.S. 639, 642 (1976). Such an abuse may consist of an error  
16 of law, a clearly erroneous finding of fact, or a decision that cannot be located within the range of  
17 permissible decisions. See, e.g., SEC v. Razmilovic, 738 F.3d 14, 25 (2d Cir. 2013), cert. denied, 134  
18 S. Ct. 1564 (2014).

19 The district court made detailed findings as to why the imposition of sanctions on the  
20 LAP Representatives in this case was appropriate, see Chevron Corp. v. Donziger, 296 F.R.D.  
21 at 207-20, including the following:

- 1 ■ "[T]he LAP Representatives' U.S. counsel--while continuously telling this Court that  
2 they had asked Fajardo for the LAPs' documents--at the same time secretly suggested  
3 to him that he initiate a lawsuit in Ecuador in an effort to foreclose that very  
4 possibility." *Id.* at 215.
- 5 ■ In that secret lawsuit, Fajardo stated to the Ecuadorian court, ""we have discussed this  
6 matter and decided to turn over the information Chevron is demanding,"" *id.* at 216  
7 (quoting *Córdova* decision (quoting Fajardo representation) (first emphasis ours,  
8 second emphasis in *Donziger*)), while contemporaneously in the present case, the LAP  
9 Representatives' United States lawyer represented to the district court, "I have asked  
10 [Ecuadorian counsel] in person for the documents, and the [Ecuadorian] lawyer has  
11 said, I can't give them to you," *Chevron Corp. v. Donziger*, 296 F.R.D. at 214 (quoting  
12 Oct. 18, 2012 hearing transcript (emphasis ours)).
- 13 ■ Although "[t]he LAP Representatives opposed Chevron's motion on the ground that  
14 [an] alleged Ecuadorian 'group secrecy' law prevented Fajardo from turning over the  
15 LAPs' documents without the express permission of all his clients," *Chevron Corp. v.*  
16 *Donziger*, 296 F.R.D. at 214, in fact "Fajardo h[eld] a broad power of attorney on  
17 behalf of all of the LAPs. . . . He thus was in a position to facilitate all of the U.S.  
18 discovery on behalf of all of them, not to mention himself, had he wished to do so. He  
19 likewise was in a position to have resisted the *Córdova* suit, both individually and on  
20 behalf of the other LAPs, had he so desired," *id.* at 215 n.284 (emphases added).
- 21 ■ Although the LAP Representatives claimed they had no control over the documents,  
22 the Fajardo Retainer Agreement stated that "The Plaintiffs' files shall be and remain  
23 the property of the Plaintiffs"; nonetheless, the LAP Representatives did not "threaten  
24 to sue or fire Fajardo for his refusal to provide them with the documents so they could  
25 comply with th[e District] Court's order." *Id.* at 217-18 & n.297 (internal quotation  
26 marks omitted).
- 27 ■ The LAP Representatives "did not inform Chevron or the Court about the [Córdova]  
28 lawsuit until they were told Fajardo had received his desired result and the injunction  
29 had been granted. . . . Even assuming that Ecuadorian law did not require notice to or  
30 joinder of Chevron on an indispensable party or other basis, the LAPs' concealment  
31 of the action, especially given the ongoing litigation in this Court concerning the  
32 production of the Ecuadorian documents, was done in bad faith." *Id.* at 215-16  
33 (emphases added).
- 34 ■ The LAP Representatives' claim that they had no control over the documents and were  
35 enjoined from producing them was finally belied as a practical matter by the fact that  
36 shortly before the start of trial, their list of planned trial exhibits included previously  
37 unproduced documents from Ecuador that "clearly were responsive to Chevron's  
38 document requests," and "likely would fall within the definition of materials the

1 production of which was barred by" the Córdova order. *Id.* at 218-19 (emphasis  
2 added).

3 In challenging the order striking their personal jurisdiction defenses, Camacho and  
4 Piaguaje argue principally (1) that they were improperly "punished . . . for their Ecuadorian lawyers'  
5 failure to respond to Chevron's discovery demands" (LAP Representatives' brief on appeal at 73); (2)  
6 that they "were not in a position to direct . . . Ecuadorian counsel[] to comply with discovery demands  
7 of which they were ignorant, and the significance of which they could not understand" (*id.* at 76-77);  
8 and (3) that the information requested "was already fully discoverable from Mr. Donziger" (*id.* at 77).

9 These arguments are meritless. Addressing them in reverse order, we note that the supposed  
10 availability of documents from Donziger is squarely contradicted by the fact that Donziger himself  
11 also refused to comply with Chevron's discovery demands, *see Chevron Corp. v. Donziger*, 296  
12 F.R.D. at 188-89. The second argument--ignorance and lack of understanding--is untenable in light  
13 of the fact that Camacho and Piaguaje were represented in the present litigation by counsel; any lack  
14 of knowledge of the discovery demands served on their United States lawyers and any failure to  
15 understand the significance of those demands is the responsibility of the LAP Representatives and the  
16 attorneys they chose to represent them. And the argument that the LAP Representatives's failure to  
17 respond was a choice by the Ecuadorian lawyers, rather than the responsibility of the LAP  
18 Representatives themselves, is belied by the district court's findings that, *inter alia*, the LAP  
19 Representatives' own agents, their United States lawyers, while representing to the district court that  
20 they had asked the Ecuadorian attorneys to provide the documents, instead had in fact asked the  
21 Ecuadorian attorneys to get an injunction forbidding production. The LAP Representatives "did not  
22 attempt meaningfully to comply with Chevron's document requests or the Court's order compelling

1 production," but "[i]nstead . . . sought a court order preventing the production," which "in and of itself  
2 is evidence of bad faith. 'Evidence that parties or targets have actively sought a prohibition against  
3 disclosure . . . may be regarded as evidence of bad faith and justification for sanctions in accordance  
4 with Subsection 2(b) [of § 442].'" Id. at 217 & n.292 (quoting Restatement (Third) of Foreign  
5 Relations Law § 442 comment h (1987)); see id. § 442(2)(b) (court may impose sanctions for  
6 deliberate concealment).

7 The LAP Representatives have not argued, or presented any basis for inferring, that  
8 any of the district court's factual findings is clearly erroneous. As we see no error of law, nor any  
9 other basis for concluding that the striking of the personal jurisdiction defenses was an abuse of  
10 discretion, we affirm that sanction substantially for the reasons stated in the district court's decision,  
11 see 296 F.R.D. at 207-21.

12 2. Responsibility of the LAPs for the Misconduct of Their Attorneys

13 The LAP Representatives contend that any misdeeds by Donziger did not provide a  
14 basis for the district court to grant relief against them, arguing that they were unaware of any  
15 misconduct, "had absolutely no control over the[ir] so-called 'agents,'" and are simply  
16 "unsophisticated client-principals following the lawyers' lead" (LAP Representatives brief on appeal  
17 at 50, 71-73; reply brief on appeal at 9). We disagree.

18 As an initial matter, there is no authority suggesting that a party ignorant of its  
19 attorney's fraudulent actions may enforce a fraudulently procured judgment. To hold otherwise would  
20 run afoul of the Supreme Court's warning that fraud "is a wrong against the institutions set up to  
21 protect and safeguard the public, institutions in which fraud cannot complacently be tolerated

1 consistently with the good order of society." Hazel-Atlas Glass Co. v. Hartford-Empire Co., 322 U.S.  
2 238, 246 (1944). Even innocent clients may not benefit from the fraud of their attorney.

3 As a general matter, a client-principal is "bound by the acts of his lawyer-agent." Link  
4 v. Wabash RR. Co., 370 U.S. 626, 634 (1962); see, e.g., Pioneer Investment Services Co. v.  
5 Brunswick Associates Limited Partnership, 507 U.S. 380, 396-97 (1993); United States v. Boyle, 469  
6 U.S. 241, 251-52 (1985). This rule rests upon "well-settled principles of agency law," Maples v.  
7 Thomas, 132 S. Ct. 912, 922 (2012) (internal quotation marks omitted). It is well established that "[a]  
8 principal is subject to liability to a third party harmed by an agent's conduct when the agent's conduct  
9 is" either "within the scope of the agent's actual authority or ratified by the principal." Restatement  
10 (Third) of Agency § 7.04 (2006) (emphasis added). A principal ratifies his or her agent's act either  
11 by "manifesting assent that the act shall affect the person's legal relations" or through "conduct that  
12 justifies a reasonable assumption that the person so consents." Id. § 4.01(2).

13 The district court found the LAP Representatives liable on the basis that they (along  
14 with the other LAPs) retained Donziger as their attorney and gave Fajardo power of attorney. See  
15 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 477-78, 566 n.1304. This finding is amply supported by the record, as  
16 the LAPs in November 2010 granted Fajardo a new power of attorney that expressly ratified all of his  
17 prior acts, direct or indirect, in pursuit of their litigation interests. With the LAPs being defined as  
18 the "Principals," the document states, in part, as follows:

19 The Principals point out that this is an expansion of the scope of the power of  
20 attorney that has been granted to the same professional previously, for which  
21 reason the Principals ratify and approve each and every one of the actions  
22 undertaken by Attorney Pablo Fajardo Mendoza in [the Lago Agrio Litigation]  
23 as well as in any other legal actions in other courts of justice, whether national  
24 or foreign; all financial or administrative acts and acts which have been carried  
25 out directly or through other persons he legally authorizes for the defense of  
26 our interests.

27 (PX 390 (Fajardo Special Power of Attorney), at 4-5 (emphases added).)

1           Given the collaborative actions of Donziger and Fajardo described in Part I above to  
2 secure the Lago Agrio Judgment for the LAP Representatives and the other LAPs, there was no error  
3 in the district court's ruling that the LAP Representatives are responsible for injury to Chevron  
4 perpetrated by Donziger in his capacity as their attorney.

5       H.     Appropriateness of the Equitable Relief Granted

6           Having concluded that the district court had authority to grant equitable relief to  
7 Chevron against Donziger and the LAP Representatives, i.e., the defendants over whom it had  
8 personal jurisdiction, and that the normal preconditions for such relief were present, we review the  
9 relief fashioned only for abuse of discretion. The inability of the court to grant Chevron complete  
10 relief is not a basis for a complaint about its granting of partial relief. "The essence of equity  
11 jurisdiction has been the power of the Chancellor to do equity and to mould each decree to the  
12 necessities of the particular case. Flexibility rather than rigidity has distinguished it." Hecht Co. v.  
13 Bowles, 321 U.S. 321, 329 (1944). "In shaping equity decrees, the trial court is vested with broad  
14 discretionary power; appellate review is correspondingly narrow." Lemon v. Kurtzman, 411 U.S. 192,  
15 200 (1973).

16           Chevron asked the district court not only for specific relief, but also, "As to All Causes  
17 of Action[,] . . . such other legal and equitable relief as the Court may deem Chevron is entitled to  
18 receive." (Amended Complaint, Prayer for Relief ¶ 11.) The relief tailored by the district court, while  
19 prohibiting Donziger and the LAP Representatives from seeking enforcement of the Ecuadorian  
20 judgment in the United States, does not invalidate the Ecuadorian judgment and does not prohibit any  
21 of the LAPs from seeking enforcement of that judgment anywhere outside of the United States. What  
22 it does is prohibit Donziger and the LAP Representatives from profiting from the corrupt conduct that

1 led to the entry of the Judgment against Chevron, by imposing on them a constructive trust for the  
2 benefit of Chevron. "[A]ssets acquired by fraud are subject to a constructive trust for the benefit of  
3 the defrauded party." SEC v. Credit Bancorp, Ltd., 290 F.3d 80, 88 (2d Cir. 2002). As the district  
4 court noted,

5                   "[a] constructive trust is the formula through which the  
6 conscience of equity finds expression. When property has been  
7 acquired in such circumstances that the holder of the legal title may not  
8 in good conscience retain the beneficial interest, equity converts him  
9 into a trustee . . . ."

10 Donziger, 974 F.Supp.2d at 639 (quoting Beatty v. Guggenheim Exploration Co., 225 N.Y. 380, 386,  
11 122 N.E. 378, 380 (1919)).

12                   Given all of the above considerations, including the Ecuadorian courts' statements  
13 deferring to the United States courts for adjudication of Chevron's allegations of corruption by the  
14 LAPs' legal team (see Part II.F. above), and the district court's unchallenged findings of fact as to the  
15 fraud, coercion, and bribery engaged in by the LAPs' team (see Parts I.B.-I.G. above), we see no abuse  
16 of discretion in the equitable in personam relief granted by the district court.

17                   CONCLUSION

18                   We have considered all of the arguments of Donziger and the LAP Representatives on  
19 this appeal and have found in them no basis for dismissal or reversal. The judgment of the district  
20 court is affirmed.