

J4QHDaw4

Sood - Direct

1 requested money from you again?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And on that occasion, did you pay him?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. All right. We'll come back to that a little later.

6 Now, Mr. Sood, during this time period when Christian  
7 Dawkins was still working at ASM sports, did he introduce you  
8 to any other college coaches in addition to Lamont Evans?

9 A. Emanuel Richardson.

10 Q. Where did Emanuel Richardson work?

11 A. University of Arizona.

12 Q. Where did your first meeting with Emanuel Richardson occur?

13 A. In Las Vegas.

14 Q. Why were you in Las Vegas at that time?

15 A. I was there for a basketball tournament.

16 (Continued on next page)

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J4Q9DAW5

Sood - Direct

1 Q. Where did you meet Emanuel Richardson in Las Vegas?

2 A. I believe it was in a lounge I believe at the MGM Hotel.

3 Q. Before the meeting what did Dawkins tell you, if anything,  
4 about Emanuel Richardson?

5 A. A good friend. He had a good relationship with him. He's  
6 known him for a while. And he was an assistant coach at a top  
7 elite college program.

8 Q. When you say "elite college program," what do you mean by  
9 that?

10 A. Top three in the country.

11 Q. Was Dawkins present for the meeting with Richardson?

12 A. No.

13 Q. At the time were you interested in meeting with Richardson?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Why?

16 A. Access to hopefully some of his top players.

17 Q. Mr. Sood, can you just generally describe what happened  
18 during your first meeting with Emanuel Richardson?

19 A. Just it was an introductory meeting. We told him what we  
20 did, the things that we did for athletes, our services, he  
21 shared --

22 Q. Mr. Sood you said, "what we did." Was anyone else present  
23 besides you and Mr. Richardson?

24 A. Yes. My assistant was there.

25 Q. Please continue.

J4Q9DAW5

Sood - Direct

1 A. So we just kind of exchanged ideas what we did. He told us  
2 about the -- his recruiting strategy, his relationship with  
3 Christian and it was a short meeting but that was just an  
4 introductory meeting.

5 Q. After you met with Emanuel Richardson in Las Vegas did  
6 there come a point when soon after that when you reached out to  
7 him again?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. How did you do that?

10 A. By phonecall.

11 Q. What prompted you to reach out to Emanuel Richardson at  
12 that time?

13 A. Just wanted to follow up, tell him thank you for taking the  
14 time to meet with me.

15 Q. At that time did you have any interest in developing a  
16 relationship with Mr. Richardson?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Why?

19 A. Again because he had access to potentially some high level  
20 players that may be entering the NBA.

21 MR. SOLOWIEJCZYK: At this time, your Honor, the  
22 government would offer pursuant to the authenticity stipulation  
23 Government Exhibit 201 and the corresponding transcript,  
24 Government Exhibit 201T.

25 THE COURT: Any objection?

J4Q9DAW5

Sood - Direct

1 MR. HANEY: No objection, your Honor. Thank you.

2 THE COURT: 201 and 201T will be received.

3 (Government's Exhibits 201 and 201T received in  
4 evidence)

5 MR. SOLOWIEJCZYK: This is a call on April 24, 2017  
6 between Munish Sood and Emanuel Richardson. Before we play the  
7 call.

8 Q. Mr. Sood, at this time were you aware that your phonecalls  
9 were being recorded?

10 A. No.

11 MR. SOLOWIEJCZYK: We can go ahead, Ms. Bustillo.

12 (Audio played)

13 Q. Mr. Sood, I just want to ask you a couple of questions of  
14 some of the things that you and Mr. Richardson said during that  
15 call. If you could go back to page three and focus your  
16 attention on line 8. You said, "You know, we're happy to be  
17 supportive in any way we can."

18 What did you mean by "happy to be supportive,"  
19 Mr. Sood?

20 A. The resources like money that he may need in order to help  
21 him to continue to recruit.

22 Q. Recruit what?

23 A. Players.

24 Q. And then you went on to say, this is a couple of lines down  
25 from that, "you know, my goal is you know a lot of -- you have

J4Q9DAW5

Sood - Direct

1 a lot of young talent coming."

2 Mr. Sood, why were you mentioning young talent at that  
3 point?

4 A. Because they were projected to have top -- a top five pick  
5 potentially coming in the draft and we wanted to see if we can  
6 get a meeting or access to that player.

7 Q. And then you went on to say, Mr. Sood, a couple lines down  
8 from that, at line 15, "And you know as you get more  
9 comfortable with me and my team my hope is we can continue to,  
10 you know, build a long-term relationship."

11 Mr. Sood were you, in fact, interested at that time in  
12 building a long-term relationship with Emanuel Richardson?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Why was that?

15 A. Because he worked for a great program and they're always  
16 going to have access to good players.

17 Q. What was your impression of Richardson's response to this?

18 A. That, you know, that he was open to working with me or us.

19 Q. At page 4, this was Mr. Richardson speaking. And I'm  
20 looking specifically at lines 7 and 8.

21 He said to you, "I'm going to honor, I'm going to  
22 respect and I'm gonna over-deliver and under-promise."

23 Did you understand what he meant when he said this?

24 A. I believe he was stating that if we're helping him with  
25 money to recruit that he's going to deliver hopefully one or

J4Q9DAW5

Sood - Direct

1 two players to us.

2 Q. Then finally, Mr. Sood, you said, a couple lines down from  
3 that, line 10, "You know, you're always being asked for stuff.  
4 You're always being looked at from all different types of  
5 people."

6 What did you mean by that, Mr. Sood?

7 A. That, you know, him as a coach, he's always being  
8 approached, from my understanding was with players and their  
9 families for money and then also from a regulatory perspective  
10 he has the NCAA to I guess also monitoring him.

11 Q. Now, Mr. Sood, I want to direct your attention to the  
12 timeframe of May of 2017.

13 A. OK.

14 Q. Did there come a time when Christian Dawkins informed you  
15 that he was leaving ASM Sports?

16 A. Yes.

17 MR. SOLOWIEJCZYK: Your Honor, at this time the  
18 government would like to offer a stipulation.

19 THE COURT: Very well.

20 MR. SOLOWIEJCZYK: Government Exhibit 1905. I'm going  
21 to skip the preamble.

22 THE COURT: OK.

23 MR. SOLOWIEJCZYK: If called to testify, a  
24 representative of the National Basketball Player's Association,  
25 the NBPA, would testify that: