			FILED 05-10-2023 CIRCUIT COURT DANE COUNTY, WI
1	STATE OF WISCONS	SIN CIRCUIT COURT Branch 8	DA NG 18C VOON 122
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3	LEONARD POZNER,		
4	Pì	laintiff,	
5	VS.	Case No. 1	8 CV 3122
6	JAMES FETZER, et	t al.,	
7	·	efendants.	
8			
9	(PROCEEDINGS	WERE HELD VIA ZOOM VIDEO CO	NFERENCE)
10	DATE:	March 17, 2023	
11	DATE.	Halen 17, 2025	
12	BEFORE:	The Honorable FRANK D.	REMINGTON
13	DDOCEEDINGS.	Carriahment Hearing	
14	PROCEEDINGS:	Garnishment Hearing	
15	APPEARANCES:	RANDY J. PFLUM and EMIL	
16		FEINSTEIN, Attorneys at Quarles & Brady, Madiso	n,
17		Wisconsin, and JACOB S. The Zimmerman Firm, St.	Paul,
18		Minnesota, appeared on I the Plaintiff.	oehalf of
19		JAMES FETZER, Defendant	, appeared
20		pro se.	
21		JANICE FETZER also appe	ared.
22			
23			
24			
25		ANN M. ALBERT, RMR, CRR Court Reporter	

1	PROCEEDINGS
2	THE COURT: This is 18 CV 3122, Leonard Pozner
3	versus James Fetzer. I see Mr. and Mrs. Fetzer here
4	both appearing by Zoom. May I have the appearance for
5	the remaining people on this call?
6	MR. PFLUM: Good morning, your Honor. Attorney
7	Randy Pflum of Quarles & Brady appears on behalf of
8	plaintiff Leonard Pozner.
9	MS. DAVENPORT: Good morning, your Honor.
10	Andrea Davenport appears on behalf of State Bank of
11	Cross Plains.
12	MS. FEINSTEIN: Good morning, your Honor.
13	Attorney Emily Feinstein, and I'll also from
14	Quarles & Brady also on behalf of the plaintiff, and
15	I'll also make an appearance for Attorney Jacob
16	Zimmerman, who's also here on behalf of plaintiff.
17	THE COURT: Welcome, everyone. Thank you, Ms.
18	Davenport, for logging in. I don't think let's
19	see. Mr. Pflum, are you going to do most of the
20	talking?
21	MR. PFLUM: Yes, your Honor.
22	THE COURT: I don't think that the State Bank of
23	Cross Plains is really an issue in this because the
24	amount of money is below \$5,000. The focus of today's
25	hearing and the objection of the creditor to the

debtor's answer was on the UW Credit Union where
apparently the retirement funds and Social Security
funds are deposited. Is that right, Mr. Pflum?
MR. PFLUM: Yes, your Honor.
THE COURT: Do we need Ms. Davenport? I'm sure
she's got a million things to do on St. Patrick's Day.
MS. DAVENPORT: Yes, your Honor. I don't need
to stay on. I was joining out of an abundance of
caution. But my understanding was the same. So I
certainly don't need to delay the proceedings or
distract anybody if my client is not gonna come up at
all today.
THE COURT: You are welcome to stay on. It's an
open and public proceeding. But you're certainly
welcome to take your leave. Nobody, I think my
understanding is that neither party well,
Mr. Fetzer, do you want the State Bank of Cross Plains
to remain in this hearing?
MR. FETZER: No. That's fine, your Honor. Not
involved.
THE COURT: Do you agree, Mr. Pflum?
MR. PFLUM: Yes, your Honor. I agree.
THE COURT: Thanks, Ms. Davenport. You can stay
or go, whatever you choose.
MS. DAVENPORT: Thanks, everyone. Have a great

day. I'll log off.

2 THE COURT: All right. So let me just recap 3 where we are here this morning on this matter.

The plaintiff, we'll call the creditor, is seeking funds from the defendant, the debtor, and it is seeking funds through the garnishment proceedings set forth in Wisconsin Statutes as to three accounts. Two of those accounts are not germane to the hearing this morning, the creditor not objecting to the debtor's answer.

The question for the Court this morning is what to do, if anything, with the debtor's answer with regard to the funds in the UW Credit Union. I understand the issue is actually fairly clear and I believe undisputed.

Mr. Pflum, I did research. This is not an area in which I'm intimately familiar, but I have concluded the following legal principles. And you can correct me if I'm wrong.

It is, I believe, generally accepted, if not undisputed, that Social Security money to an individual is not subject to garnishment. Do you agree?

MR. PFLUM: Yes, your Honor. We would agree on that point.

his GiveSendGo account, which I believe is Dr. Fetzer's legal defense donation account, it appears that he's received approximately \$17,865.

THE COURT: How about we make -- Mr. Pflum, I

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understand the burden is on the debtor, but in the interest of real expediency, rather than -- hear from Ms. Fetzer, who Mr. -- Dr. Fetzer says is most knowledgeable about the monies. I think a succinct set of questions will get right to the heart of the matter, if you're willing.

Ms. Fetzer, would you please raise your right hand.

Do you solemnly swear the testimony you're about to give will be the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

MS. FETZER: I do.

THE COURT: Ms. Fetzer, I'm gonna allow Mr.

Pflum to ask you a set of questions. And I just want
to give you background.

I think everyone is in agreement Social Security funds are not subject to garnishment. It appears that the UW Credit Union is a depository for more than Social Security funds. It appears. We don't know for sure. That's the purpose of today's hearing. Or any other source of funds. Mr. Pflum is gonna ask you some questions that will allow him and the Court to more accurately define the exemptions available under the law for you and your husband in the UW Credit Union account. I'll let him ask you some questions.

1	You can answer them to the best of your ability, fine.
2	And then I'll let you tell me what additional
3	information you would like me to consider on the
4	question.
5	The ultimate question on this hearing is whether
6	I should allow or overrule the objection and allow
7	this creditor to take monies out of the UW Credit
8	Union account.
9	Go ahead, Mr. Pflum, with your
10	direct-examination to Ms. Fetzer.
11	Ms. Fetzer, could you state your full name,
12	please.
13	MS. FETZER: Janice Elaine Fetzer.
14	THE COURT: All right. Mr. Pflum.
15	MR. PFLUM: Good morning. Thank you, your
16	Honor.
17	JANICE ELAINE FETZER,
18	called as a witness, having been first duly
19	sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
20	DIRECT-EXAMINATION BY MR. PFLUM:
21	Q Good morning, Mrs. Fetzer. Thank you for appearing
22	today in today's thank you for appearing this
23	morning in today's hearing.
24	Do you remember back, you and I, we had I took
25	your supplemental exam with Dr. Fetzer I believe in

1 March of 2020, which seems to be a long time ago now. 2 Are you -- are you aware of your husband's legal defense fund with GiveSendGo? 3 I know he has one. 4 Α 5 And how are those monies paid to Dr. Fetzer? Q 6 Α He receives through the mail. People send him a 7 check. MR. FETZER: If I might interject, State Bank of 8 9 Cross Plains is the recipient, your Honor. 10 THE COURT: Dr. Fetzer, this is your wife's turn 11 here this morning, and she's the one that's going to 12 talk. And if you want to testify later, you'll have 13 that opportunity. But let her speak. 14 MS. FETZER: I know he has an account. People send him a check, and he will deposit it in that 15 16 account. But I have -- he takes care of that completely by himself. I don't do anything with that 17 18 account. 19 THE COURT: Okay. Dr. Fetzer -- Dr. Fetzer, no 20 whispering to your wife in her ear. She's doing the 21 best she can to answer the questions. 22 Go ahead, Mr. Pflum. 23 MR. PFLUM: Thank you, your Honor. 24 Q Have you -- do you know where the funds for that legal

defense fund were made? Do you know where he --

- 1 A The State Bank of Cross Plains, I believe.
- 2 Q Do you know when he receives those monies?
- 3 A When?
- 4 Q When. Yes.
- 5 A Whenever anyone sends him a check.
- 6 Q Have you ever performed accounting of the funds
- 7 deposited in the State Bank of Cross Plains?
- 8 A I keep a record of the people who send him money.
- 9 Q And do you know how those funds were spent?
- 10 A He uses them for his legal defense. He pays the
- lawyer and he pays to do his filings.
- 12 Q But he's -- he currently doesn't have an attorney
- right now; correct?
- 14 A He has -- he has an attorney, but we've not been going
- to him, his past attorney.
- 16 Q Has Dr. Fetzer -- since Dr. Fetzer is primarily
- involved with handling the GiveSendGo, we'll just call
- it the legal defense fund, are you aware of any
- deposit of those funds in the UW Credit Union
- accounts, account or accounts?
- 21 A The only time anything from that account has gone into
- the UW account is he has a lot of expenses for the
- lawsuit. And he -- the legal defense fund has no
- 24 credit card or debit card. It only has a checking
- 25 account. So when he's done xeroxing to send filings

- or he's paid, you know, all this kind of stuff, he
- 2 puts it on our credit card. And then some of the time
- 3 he has paid me back out of the defense fund to pay for
- 4 the stuff for the case. Only for the case.
- 5 Q How much?
- 6 A I can give you different times that he's given me
- 7 money.
- 8 Q Yes. Please do.
- 9 A Okay. I've just done the taxes. And all the expenses
- that he has done for the year come out to \$3,239.25.
- Now, he has given me -- he gave me -- one time he
- 12 gave me \$391.05.
- 13 Q Do you know when that was?
- 14 A Um, May 6th.
- 15 Q Of 2022?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q And then so do you deposit -- so when Dr. Fetzer gives
- 18 you -- gave you the \$391.50, what did you do with that
- money? Did you deposit it?
- 20 A I put it in -- I put it in the retirement account
- 21 because that's the account that I pay my UW credit
- card bill out of.
- 23 Q So is it -- am I understanding -- so is it fair to say
- that, yes, certain funds of the legal defense fund has
- 25 trickled into the UW Credit account?

- A Money he has owed me to pay for the our UW credit card
 he has given me back, and I have paid that money to
 the credit union account.
- Q Do you deposit any other funds into the UW Credit
 Union account?
- 6 Α Well, any funds I have for -- all I -- okay. 7 money we get to live on is some retirement money of \$1,700 a month and our Social Security. Now, I put 8 9 other money -- I put a federal tax return I put in the 10 account. My daughter and I go to Costco, and I have a 11 card; she doesn't. When I -- when she puts it on my 12 card, she writes me a check. I deposit that. I 13 deposit money from our retirement minimum distribution 14 account. And then my one daughter sent me birthday money, and I put that in my account. Mainly tax 15 16 returns, that kind of stuff. No -- we -- no other 17 income to go into those two accounts. And Jim gives 18 me -- he pays me back what he has spent for the legal 19 defense that he has put on our credit card so that I 20 can use it to pay off the credit card. Otherwise, I 21 wouldn't be able to pay off the credit card very 22 easily.
- Q Can you tell us exactly how much he has paid for the legal defense?
- 25 A To me?

- 1 Q Overall, either to you or, if you know -- if you know,
- 2 overall, and then I'll ask a follow-up question to
- 3 you.
- So do you know how much he has paid his attorneys
- 5 out of the legal defense?
- 6 A No, I don't. I don't do that account. I have nothing
- 7 to do with it. He takes care of it completely. I
- 8 have -- I have just the amounts he has given me to pay
- 9 me back for, like, FedEx. He spent -- several times
- 10 he xeroxed and sends through FedEx, and he puts it on
- 11 the credit card, and then he gives me the money so I
- can pay the credit card bill.
- 13 I gave you the \$391.
- 14 Q And that's -- that's --
- 15 A That's not the only one.
- 16 Q Can you please -- yes. Can you tell us exactly how
- 17 much Dr. Fetzer has paid you --
- 18 A Okay.
- 19 Q -- for the legal defense, not this year, I mean over
- 20 the course of the -- since he has opened it?
- 21 A Oh, okay. I have another one for September 2nd of
- 22 2022 was \$94.96. And then 12-1 of 2022 he gave me
- \$1,000. That was -- I have all the FedEx bills that
- he gave me to pay for.
- Let's see. I'm trying to find -- okay. He did

- give me from another account that he -- I deposited in
- 2 3 -- March 3rd of 2022, he gave me \$180, which was
- 3 also FedEx. I believe those are the only ones he gave
- 4 me out of the three -- I guess there were three of
- 5 them or four of 'em that he gave me to pay for the --
- for his legal stuff.
- 7 Q Thank you. Circling back, you said tax returns get
- 8 deposited into that account as well. How much was
- 9 your tax return?
- 10 A My tax return? Ah, let's see. Wisconsin, \$1,486.
- And federal I think we had to pay \$521. We didn't get
- any money back on that one, on the federal.
- 13 Q And sorry. I know I'm jumping around, Ms. Fetzer, and
- 14 I apologize. Has Dr. Fetzer paid you back for any
- other expenses that you have deposited in the UW
- 16 Credit Union account?
- 17 A Yes. He did pay me back for a computer that he
- bought, a laptop computer. It was \$1,400.
- 19 Q Okay.
- 20 A And I think -- I think that's -- that's all.
- 21 Q Okay.
- 22 A I wrote down everything that -- all the deposits I
- have made that was not retirement money or Social
- 24 Security money, and those are the ones that Jim paid
- 25 me for. Nothing else.

- 1 Q And what's -- what's the total? I mean, what's the
- grand, I guess the end, you know, end total of the
- 3 monies that Dr. Fetzer has paid you that are -- that
- 4 you've deposited into the UW Credit Union account that
- is not -- that is not Social Security money-related?
- 6 A I'm sorry. I don't understand. You mean of the total
- 7 I gave you just now?
- 8 Q Yes. Did you --
- 9 A I haven't totaled it. I just wrote it out on my
- paper.
- 11 Q Okay.
- 12 A So it was \$391.94, \$1,400 for the computer, and \$180
- for xeroxing also. So I have, you know, the
- 14 retirement account and then the Social Security
- account, the two accounts, and we have no other
- accounts.
- 17 Q So you said that you get approximately \$1,700 from
- 18 retirement?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Is that from -- is that money from a 401k that then
- 21 gets deposited into your -- into this account, into
- the UW account?
- 23 A It's an IRA, I believe.
- 24 Q Okay. But the UW Credit -- the UW Credit Union
- account that you deposit the \$1,700 into, that is not

- 1 an IRA?
- 2 A I believe it was. He had a retirement -- well, I'm
- 3 not sure. We had a retirement account through
- 4 TIAA-CREF, and we transferred some of it, most of it,
- 5 into Schwab, and it was -- I think it was an IRA,
- 6 before tax, money that was in his account before he
- 7 paid federal and paid any taxes on it. So anything
- 8 taken out we pay taxes on.
- 9 Q So you have an IRA -- to your knowledge, you have an
- 10 IRA account at Schwab?
- 11 A Yes. I think it's an IRA.
- 12 Q And that's separate -- that is entirely from the --
- from your UW Credit Union account?
- 14 A Yes. Schwab -- Schwab sends us a check the first of
- every month for \$1,700. We live on that with Social
- 16 Security.
- 17 Q And then looking solely at the UW Credit Union
- account, I believe there's 11,700-some-odd dollars in
- 19 there?
- 20 A No. I can give you the exact amount.
- 21 Q We're -- particularly for this hearing, we are
- concerned with once a garnishment is filed, it's like
- a snapshot of your account, and this garnishment would
- be subject to that \$11,700 that UW Credit Union filed
- an answer on.

1	А	Okay. Well, we don't have that we don't have that
2		amount in now.
3	Q	Okay.
4	А	I think we have about \$8,000, maybe, a little over
5		\$8,000. Our garage door went out, had to get a new
6		garage door opener for \$500. My dishwasher went out
7		the same day. I had a \$600 dishwasher.
8		THE COURT: Welcome to the joys of home
9		ownership, Ms. Fetzer. We're less concerned with your
LO		bills like the rest of us.
L1		Any other questions, Mr. Pflum?
L2		MR. PFLUM: No, your Honor. No, your Honor.
L3		Not at this time.
L 4		THE COURT: Seems to me that the whole purpose
L5		of this inquiry, Mr. Pflum, is to determine whether
L 6		the nonexempt funds are fairly traceable in the UW
L7		Credit Union. I'm not sure they are. What is your
L8		position, now having heard from Ms. Fetzer as to
L 9		monies? I do know I think I was unaware that
20		there's now an additional account from Schwab that's
21		not the subject of this garnishment proceeding. What
22		are you asking me to do, if anything, this morning?
2.3		MR. PFLUM: Your Honor, what we would like is

the account history for the UW Credit Union account that we can review it -- so that we can review it to

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1	determine, yes, this is all Social Security subject to
2	the exemption whereby we would remove, we would lift
3	our objection.
4	But according to Dr according to Ms.
5	Fetzer's testimony today, it appears that these
6	that these funds are pretty are regularly
7	commingled with other payments that she receives from
8	Dr. Fetzer, payments that she receives as a
9	reimbursement from her daughter, tax returns that get
10	deposited into the UW Credit
11	THE COURT: Okay. So you want her bank records
12	from UW Credit Union.
13	MR. PFLUM: Yes, your Honor.
14	THE COURT: For what period of time?
15	MR. PFLUM: We would ask 30 days. For what
16	period of time as a look-back?
17	THE COURT: Right.
18	MR. PFLUM: Six months from six months of
19	bank records.
20	THE COURT: Ms. Fetzer, so the purpose of
21	today's hearing is to determine, they were asking me
22	to basically take part of your UW Credit Union
23	account.
24	Here's what I know so far. In the UW Credit
25	Union account, you have Social Security monies going

in. You have monies that transferred over from State
Bank of Cross Plains. And then you have this monthly
distribution of the Schwab account.

Well, I think you've established, it's undisputed, these funds are all commingled. Whether they're fairly traceable, the term "fairly traceable" means, like, we want to protect the integrity and sanctity of your Social Security funds because the creditors can't take those. The question is is whether in almost a forensic look-back, the Court or the creditor would be able to determine, or how would it determine that what money is going into your account are fairly traceable. The burden would rest on you.

The creditor says for purposes of today's hearing, all they want now is 30 days back on your UW -- what did you say?

MR. PFLUM: So sorry, your Honor. If I -sorry, your Honor. If we could have all of 2022
payment -- deposit history for the UW Credit Union
account, and we would have -- we would get 30 days to
review all those deposits -- deposit history, and then
perhaps we could set this hearing -- if I may, perhaps
we could set this hearing over, and we would -- by
that set-over date we would either withdraw our

1	objection or say, your Honor, here are the here are
2	the funds we believe are subject to our garnishment.
3	THE COURT: Did you ask the Fetzers for these
4	documents in connection with a supplemental
5	examination?
6	MR. PFLUM: We did, your Honor. But that was
7	thee years ago.
8	THE COURT: Well, I'm not sure under the
9	garnishment laws, we sort of, once we grab 'em by sort
10	of the pants leg we can hang on to 'em. I mean, I
11	think you have the right to ask for this information
12	in a supplemental examination and then with that
13	information commence another garnishment proceedings.
14	Ms. Fetzer, do you do you still because I
15	have money in the UW Credit Union. Most of it's
16	electronic. Do you get these records from UW Credit
17	Union on paper still?
18	MS. FETZER: Yes, I do. I do have two accounts.
19	The retirement money goes into a separate account from
20	the Social Security money. I do not have them
21	commingled, those two.
22	THE COURT: Okay. I did not know that. Did you
23	know that, Mr. Pflum?
24	MR. PFLUM: No, I did not know that, your Honor.

MS. FETZER: I have -- I have the \$1,700 goes

1	into one account and the Social Security money goes
2	into a different account. So I have two accounts. I
3	keep the retirement money separate from the Social
4	Security money. We were told to do that when we got
5	the lawsuit against Jim.
6	THE COURT: So in the retirement account, that's
7	the account that you deposit your Schwab monthly
8	payments?
9	MS. FETZER: Yes.
10	THE COURT: Is the only money going into that
11	account the monthly payment from Schwab?
12	MS. FETZER: As far as income, yes. I put in
13	money from my daughter. I mean, what am I gonna do
14	with it when she pays me a check? Do I need a third
15	account?
16	THE COURT: Well, again, the question in
17	garnishment, Ms. Fetzer, so you understand, is we're
18	trying to trace money to make sure nobody's taking
19	your Social Security funds. So far, I don't know what
20	the answer is, but and there's nothing wrong with
21	commingling. Everybody does that. The question is is
22	whether in a retrospective analysis we can figure out
23	how to what money is coming from where and into
24	what account.
25	Mr. Pflum, I think well, first of all, Ms.

1 Fetzer --2 MS. FETZER: Yes. 3 THE COURT: -- well, actually, Mr. Pflum, I'm not sure you really need the bank records for the, 4 5 well, I'll call it the commingled UW Credit Union 6 account. I think if in fact Ms. Fetzer deposits the 7 Schwab in a separate, distinct account, certainly then we're not worried about commingling the Social 8 9 Security money. And I don't know that you have that 10 information from the UW Credit Union. Did they 11 disclose that they had two separate accounts? 12 MR. PFLUM: I don't believe -- let me just 13 quickly pull up their answer, your Honor. 14 They said that they have a savings and checking too, and then they don't provide any other information 15 16 other than that they're holding gross assets, gross value of assets of \$11,305.72. And then UW Credit 17 18 Union says that there is an exemption of \$11,798. But 19 once again, we -- our position is that those -- that 20 that exemption, while that may apply, we think that, 21 you know, as I argued before, as I argued earlier, we 22 believe those funds, that there's commingling with 23 those funds that may be --24 THE COURT: Mr. Pflum -- I'm sorry to rush you;

I do have a 9:30 -- what are you asking me to do this

1	morning?
2	MR. PFLUM: Once again, your Honor, we would
3	like Dr. Fetzer we would like the bank records for
4	the UW Credit Union account so that we can review them
5	and either, again, withdraw either withdraw our
6	objection to the answer
7	THE COURT: Fine. Ms. Fetzer, this is I'm
8	not gonna make any decision today. If you are
9	willing, Ms. Fetzer, would you please make a photocopy
10	of your UW Credit Union bank statements. Now, those
11	statements should have all your accounts, maybe two
12	accounts or three accounts.
13	MS. FETZER: It has two. It has both.
14	THE COURT: Could you then please make a copy of
15	the last, let's say, 12 months starting with the most
16	recent account, so not all of 2022, but just give me
17	if they come monthly, give me the last 12 that you
18	have, not give me, but send those to Mr. Pflum.
19	MS. FETZER: I will. But now, on my bank
20	statement, when the bank sends 'em, it just gives a
21	deposit of so much money. It doesn't say where it's
22	from.

Pflum -- Ms. Fetzer, please provide those to Mr. Pflum

THE COURT: Don't worry about it. That's

Mr. Pflum's problem to interpret that. Then Mr.

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1	in the next two weeks. Today is the 17th. I'm gonna
2	ask that you send those to him no later than the end
3	of the month, March 31st.
4	MS. FETZER: Okay.
5	THE COURT: I'm gonna then continue this
6	hearing. Mr. Pflum, then after you receive these
7	statements, I'm gonna ask you within the next 30 days
8	thereafter to apprise the Court what, if anything, you
9	want me to do, either reconvene and then continue the
10	examination to determine whether the funds are fairly
11	traceable out of the specific account or not, or
12	whether the plaintiff wants to sort of start over,
13	regroup and come back with a new garnishment with a
14	little bit better information.
15	MR. PFLUM: Thank you, your Honor.
16	THE COURT: I won't schedule anything today.
17	We'll wait and see after Mr. and Mrs. Fetzer, after
18	the after Mr. Pflum gets these records what the
19	plaintiff wants to do next.
20	Thank you very much for coming this morning.
21	MR. PFLUM: Thank you, your Honor.
22	THE COURT: We're adjourned.
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ss:

I, ANN M. ALBERT, Court Reporter, do hereby certify that I reported in stenographic machine shorthand the hearing held in the above-entitled matter before the Honorable FRANK D. REMINGTON, on the 17th day of March, 2023, and that the foregoing is an accurate and complete transcript of my shorthand notes and the whole thereof.

Dated this 10th day of May, 2023.

Ann M Albert Court Reporter

7Electronically signed by:

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