

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

SOUTHERN DIVISION

October 2007 Grand Jury

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

V.

HENRY T. NICHOLAS, III, and
WILLIAM J. RUEHLE,

Defendants.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

SA CR 08 - 00139

INDICTMENT

[18 U.S.C. § 371: Conspiracy; 18 U.S.C. § 1348: Securities Fraud; 18 U.S.C. § 1350(c)(1): False Certification of Financial Reports; 15 U.S.C. §§ 78m(a)(2), 78ff, and 17 C.F.R. §§ 240.12b-20, 240.13a-13: False Statements in Reports Filed with the SEC; 15 U.S.C. §§ 78m(b)(2)(B), 78ff and 17 C.F.R. § 240.13b2-2: Lying to Accountants; 15 U.S.C. §§ 78m(b)(2)(A), 78m(b)(5), 78ff, and 17 C.F.R. § 240.13b2-1: Falsification of Corporate Books and Records; 18 U.S.C. §§ 1341, 1343, 1346: Honest Services Mail and Wire Fraud; and 18 U.S.C. § 2: Aiding and Abetting and Causing an Act To Be Done]

UNDER SEAL

The Grand Jury charges:

COUNT ONE

[18 U.S.C. § 371]

[Conspiracy]

I. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

A. Defendants and Co-conspirators

- 1. At all times relevant to this Indictment, Broadcom
 Corporation ("Broadcom") was a corporation organized under the laws
 of the State of California and headquartered in Irvine, California,
 within the Central District of California. Broadcom's common stock
 was listed on the NASDAQ National Market under the symbol "BRCM."
- 2. Defendant DR. HENRY T. NICHOLAS, III, ("NICHOLAS") was Broadcom's co-founder. Beginning in or before 1998 and continuing until he left the company in January 2003, NICHOLAS was Broadcom's Chief Executive Officer ("CEO"). Beginning in or before 1998 and continuing until in or around May 2003, NICHOLAS was co-chairman of the board of directors at Broadcom. While he was Broadcom's CEO, NICHOLAS was a corporate officer governed by Section 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (a "Section 16 officer").
- 3. At all times relevant to this Indictment, defendant WILLIAM J. RUEHLE ("RUEHLE") was Broadcom's Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"), Assistant Corporate Secretary, and a Section 16 officer.
- 4. At all times relevant to this Indictment, unindicted co-conspirator H.S. was Broadcom's co-founder, Chief Technical Officer, and a Section 16 officer. H.S. was co-chairman of Broadcom's board of directors beginning in or before 1998 and continuing to in or around May 2003, when he became the sole chairman of the board.

5. At all times relevant to this Indictment, co-conspirator Nancy Tullos ("Tullos") was Broadcom's Vice-President of Human Resources.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

6. As Section 16 officers and, in the case of NICHOLAS, a member of the board of directors, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE occupied positions of trust and confidence at Broadcom and owed a duty to provide honest services to Broadcom and all of its shareholders. This duty included, among other things, obligations to be honest with Broadcom's shareholders and board of directors and to avoid self-dealing.

B. Broadcom's Use of Stock Options to Increase Compensation

- Stock options give employees the right to buy a share of 7. stock on a future date at a set price, known as the "exercise" or "strike" price. Typically, when a company grants stock options to an employee, the employee cannot exercise the options until they The "vesting period" is the period of time over which all options granted would vest and become exercisable. When the holder of an option exercises it, he or she purchases the stock from the company at the predetermined exercise price. Options that have an exercise price equal to the price at which the stock currently is trading in the market (the stock's fair market value) are commonly referred to as being "at-the-money." Options that have an exercise price below the current trading price are commonly referred to as being "in-the-money." Options that have an exercise price higher than the current trading price are commonly referred to as being "underwater."
- 8. Broadcom designed computer chips that it would usually outsource for manufacture and then sell to its customers. To design

these computer chips, Broadcom hired and retained highly skilled engineers, many with advanced and specialized degrees. Hiring and retaining these skilled engineers was critical to Broadcom's business model. Broadcom paid less cash compensation than its competitors did for these engineers. Instead, to attract and retain these employees, Broadcom offered them more stock options than did its competitors. As such, stock option grants were central to Broadcom's compensation philosophy and its hiring and retention of employees.

C. Broadcom's Shareholder-Approved Options Granting Policies

- 9. In or around early 1998, Broadcom's board of directors and shareholders approved Broadcom's stock option plan. The stock option plan became effective in 1998, and was later amended by the shareholders to increase the number of options available to be granted. The stock option plan authorized two separate committees of Broadcom's board of directors to grant stock options. One committee, known as the Compensation Committee, had "sole and exclusive authority" to grant options to Section 16 officers. This committee was to be composed of independent non-employee directors. The other committee, known as the Option Committee, was responsible for granting options to all Broadcom employees who were not Section 16 officers.
- 10. The board of directors placed two independent directors on the Compensation Committee and placed defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. on the Option Committee. NICHOLAS and H.S., as officers and employees of Broadcom, were not eligible to serve on the Compensation Committee and had no authority to grant options to Section 16 officers.

D. Reporting Requirements And Accounting Principles

- 11. As a company whose stock was publicly traded and registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") pursuant to Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Broadcom was required to comply with federal laws, regulations, and rules governing the purchase and sale of publicly traded stock and the public reporting of information about the company. These laws, regulations, and rules are designed to protect members of the investing public by, among other things, ensuring that a company's financial information is accurately recorded and disclosed to the public.
- 12. Broadcom was required to file with the SEC quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, annual reports on Form 10-K, and proxy statements. These reports were required to include financial statements that accurately presented the company's financial condition and results of its business operations.
- 13. Under the federal securities laws, Broadcom was required to have an outside auditor conduct an annual audit of Broadcom's financial statements. At all times relevant to this Indictment, Broadcom's outside auditor was Ernst & Young ("EY"). As Broadcom's outside auditor, EY conducted annual audits and quarterly reviews of Broadcom's financial statements, and assisted Broadcom in preparing its quarterly and annual filings with the SEC. As part of EY's quarterly reviews and annual audits, EY's auditors regularly reviewed Broadcom's books and records.
- 14. In accounting for stock option grants to its employees, Broadcom was not required to, and did not, recognize any compensation expenses for option grants made "at-the-money," that

is, with an exercise price equal to the fair market value of the stock on the grant date. On the other hand, Broadcom was required to recognize compensation expenses for option grants made "in-the-money," that is, with an exercise price below the fair market value on the date of the grant. Similarly, when Broadcom lowered the strike price of options already granted, it was required to recognize compensation expenses. Broadcom was required to report option-related compensation expenses as a charge against earnings. Such charges reduce Broadcom's publicly reported net income on its financial statements.

E. Overview of Fraudulent Scheme

1 |

- 15. Beginning in or around 1999 and continuing until at least in or around 2005, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE (collectively "defendants"), together with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, engaged in a fraudulent scheme and conspiracy to disguise, conceal, understate, and mischaracterize compensation expenses Broadcom was required to recognize in connection with its stock options. In particular:
- a. Defendants and their co-conspirators backdated stock option grants by selecting option grant dates in the past when the stock had a price lower than the current market price. Defendants and their co-conspirators falsely claimed to Broadcom's auditors and shareholders that the option grants were made "as of" the earlier date so that the strike price appeared to be set at fair market value on the date of the grant. (Hereinafter referred to as "backdated options").
- b. When Broadcom's stock price declined over time, defendants and their co-conspirators caused previously-granted

options to be repriced. Defendants and their co-conspirators pretended the earlier grants and subsequent repricing had not occurred, falsely claiming to Broadcom's auditors and shareholders that the option grants were made, for the first time, "as of" the repricing date. (Hereinafter referred to as "repriced options").

- c. As a result of these fraudulent and deceptive practices and others, defendants and their co-conspirators caused Broadcom to grant tens of millions of backdated in-the-money and repriced options to Broadcom employees and Section 16 officers without publicly reporting the required compensation expense. To facilitate this scheme, defendants and their co-conspirators falsely claimed to Broadcom's investors and auditors that these options were not backdated or repriced, and were granted in real-time and at-the-money.
- d. By fraudulently backdating and repricing option grants, defendants and their co-conspirators deceived Broadcom's shareholders, potential shareholders, and auditors as to the nature and amount Broadcom truly was compensating its employees and officers.
- 16. During the time period of the fraudulent scheme, defendant NICHOLAS sold more than \$1 billion of his Broadcom stock. As part of the scheme, defendant RUEHLE was granted Broadcom options that were millions of dollars in-the-money at the time of their grant.
- 17. As a consequence of defendants' fraudulent scheme, in or around January 2007, Broadcom restated its financial reports for 1998 to 2005, to recognize, for the first time, over \$2.2 billion in additional stock-based compensation expense.

б

II. OBJECTS OF THE CONSPIRACY

- 18. Beginning on a date unknown to the Grand Jury but as early as in or around January 1999, and continuing to at least in or around 2005, within the Central District of California and elsewhere, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, together with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, knowingly combined, conspired, and agreed to commit the following offenses:
- a. securities fraud, by knowingly and willfully, directly and indirectly, in connection with the purchase and sale of Broadcom securities, (1) employing a device, scheme, and artifice to defraud; (2) making and causing others to make untrue statements of material fact, and omitting and causing others to omit to state material facts necessary in order to make statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading; and (3) engaging in acts, practices, and courses of business that operated and would operate as a fraud and deceit upon the purchasers or Broadcom securities, and using the means and instrumentalities of interstate commerce in furtherance of such acts and omissions, in violation of Title 15, United States Code, Sections 78j(b) and 78ff, and Title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 240.10b-5;
- b. filing false reports with the SEC, by knowingly and willfully making untrue, false, and misleading statements of material fact in annual reports on SEC Form 10-K, quarterly reports on SEC Form 10-Q, and proxy statements, which were required to be filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the rules and regulations thereunder, in violation of Title 15, United States Code, Sections 78m(a)(2), 78n, and 78ff, and Title 17, Code of

```
Federal Regulations, Sections 240.12b-20, 240.13a-1, 240.13a-13, and
1
    240.14a-9;
2
                   accounting fraud, by knowingly and willfully
3
    falsifying Broadcom's books and records, in violation of Title 15,
4
   United States Code, Sections 78m(b)(2)(A), 78m(b)(5), and 78ff, and
5
    Title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 240.13b2-1;
 6
              d.
                   lying to Broadcom's outside auditor, EY, by knowingly
 7
    and willfully making and causing to be made materially false and
8
   misleading statements to EY in connection with its audits of
9
   Broadcom's financial statements and the preparation of the annual
10
    reports required to be filed with the SEC on Forms 10-K and
11
    quarterly reports required to be filed with the SEC on Forms 10-Q,
12
    in violation of Title 15, United States Code, Sections 78m(b)(2)(B)
13
    and 78ff, and Title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, Section
14
15
    240.13b2-2; and
       _e. honest services mail and wire fraud, by using the
16
    United States Postal Service or commercial interstate carrier and
17
18
    interstate wires to knowingly and intentionally deprive Broadcom and
    its shareholders of the honest services of defendants by
19
    transferring shareholder value and granting backdated and repriced
20
    in-the-money options to defendant RUEHLE and others, which was not
21
    disclosed as required to Broadcom's shareholders, in violation of
22
    Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1341, 1343, 1346, and 2.
23
   ///
24
   ///
25
   111
26
27
   ///
```

28

///

III. MANNER AND MEANS OF THE CONSPIRACY

19. The objects of the conspiracy were carried out, and were to be carried out, in part, as follows:

A. General Fraudulent Options Practices From 1999 to 2002

- 20. Defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, set strike prices for option grants by looking at the past closing prices of Broadcom's stock and selecting a price lower than the current stock price. Defendants and others then granted in-the-money options with these lower strike prices. To make it appear that these in-the-money grants were made at-the-money, defendants and others falsely claimed that the Option Committee met on these past dates and granted at-the-money options. In particular:
- a. Defendant RUEHLE had a subordinate send him a list of the past closing prices for Broadcom's stock, typically closing prices on Fridays, the day the Option Committee ordinarily was supposed to meet;
- b. Defendant RUEHLE selected a favorable past date and stock price from the list that was provided to him;
- c. Defendant RUEHLE directed a subordinate to create fraudulent corporate records for the signature of the Option Committee members memorializing the grant; and
- d. the fraudulent corporate records were signed by defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. as the Option Committee.
- 21. Defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, also repriced options to more favorable strike prices without taking required compensation expenses.
- 22. Defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, circumvented Broadcom's Compensation

Committee to backdate and reprice options without obtaining the Compensation Committee's contemporaneous permission. Because Broadcom's Compensation Committee was unwilling to backdate and reprice options, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others determined the numbers of options to grant to Section 16 officers, selected the grant dates after the fact based on favorable strike prices, and caused the Compensation Committee members to be provided with corporate documents fraudulently reflecting that the Compensation Committee had authorized the grants "as of" the retroactively selected grant dates.

- 23. Defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, circumvented Broadcom's option plan and fraudulently concealed and mischaracterized expenses relating to option grants made to newly hired Broadcom employees by falsely making it appear that the employees were hired to work at a company that Broadcom was acquiring.
- 24. Using the procedures described above, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, knowingly created and caused to be created fraudulent corporate records that made it appear as though Broadcom's Option Committee had met and granted non-repriced, at-the-money, options on March 5, 1999, April 23, 1999, May 7, 1999, May 14, 1999, May 25, 1999, May 28, 1999, June 1, 1999, June 4, 1999, September 30, 1999, October 22, 1999, December 3, 1999, December 10, 1999, December 17, 1999, December 23, 1999, January 28, 2000, March 1, 2000, April 14, 2000, June 16, 2000, June 23, 2000, July 28, 2000, December, 21, 2000, October 1, 2001, October 19, 2001, December 24, 2001, July 3, 2002,

August 5, 2002, October 18, 2002, November 8, 2002, and December 27, 2002.

25. Using the procedures described above, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, knowingly created and caused to be created fraudulent corporate records that made it appear as though Broadcom's Compensation Committee had met and granted at-the-money options on October 19, 2001, December 24, 2001, and August 5, 2002.

B. Specific Fraudulent Option Practices in 1999

1. The M.N. New Hire Grant

- 26. On or about May 26, 1999, H.S. emailed co-conspirator Tullos and another Broadcom senior executive asking whether Broadcom should make an offer of employment to engineer M.N. On or about May 27, 1999, Tullos responded, informing H.S. she was going to set up an interview between M.N. and defendant NICHOLAS.
- 27. In or around June 1999, after interviewing M.N., defendant NICHOLAS hired M.N. and agreed with M.N. that he would receive a grant of options with a strike price of \$88.375, equal to Broadcom's closing stock price on May 25, 1999.
- 28. In or around July 1999, after he began working for Broadcom, M.N. discovered that his new hire options were shown by Broadcom's online option system as having a grant date of Friday, May 28, 1999, with a strike price of \$95.75, the closing stock price on that day.
- 29. On or about July 15, 1999, M.N. sent an email to complain about his option's strike price. M.N. demanded that the strike price for his new hire options be altered to reflect the more

favorable May 25, 1999 grant date and strike price, in accordance with his agreement with defendant NICHOLAS.

1.7

- 30. On or about July 15, 1999, a Broadcom employee responsible for documenting options emailed a number of Broadcom executives, including defendant RUEHLE and Tullos, that RUEHLE had instructed that M.N.'s "5/28 grant date is not to be changed" because options were granted "only as of the Friday close for employees who began work that week. We do not single out individuals to be granted options on their hire dates."
- 31. On or after July 19, 1999, after further discussion between defendant RUEHLE, Tullos, and others, RUEHLE and others repriced M.N.'s new hire options to reflect the earlier and more favorable grant date of May 25, 1999 with a strike price of \$88.375, the closing stock price on that day.
- 32. On or after July 19, 1999, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed Broadcom corporate records fraudulently reflecting that the new hire grant of 120,000 options to M.N. had been made on May 25, 1999, with a strike price of \$88.375. In fact, these options were granted by NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others after May 25, 1999, and were in-the-money at the time of their actual grant as well as when they were repriced. With respect to this backdated, in-the-money, and repriced grant, despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses.

2. The Maverick, Epigram, and Armedia "Top Up" Grants

33. Broadcom grew by acquiring other companies that had developed, or were developing, technology of interest to Broadcom.

It was important for Broadcom to retain the senior executives of the

companies it acquired. To accomplish this, Broadcom granted its options to senior executives and other employees of the acquired companies who became Broadcom employees. These grants of options were referred to as "top up" grants because they were intended to make the equity positions of employees who came to Broadcom through acquisitions comparable to those of existing Broadcom employees of the same level. Defendant NICHOLAS personally determined the number of top up options Broadcom granted to senior executives of most companies Broadcom acquired.

- 34. In or around the end of May 1999, Broadcom acquired companies named "Maverick," "Epigram," and "Armedia." After Broadcom acquired Maverick, Epigram, and Armedia, it made top up grants of Broadcom options to employees of those companies who became Broadcom employees.
- 35. As of June 18, 1999, defendant NICHOLAS still had not approved the top up options that Broadcom was going to grant to former Maverick, Epigram, and Armedia employees.
- 36. On or after June 18, 1999, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed corporate records reflecting a June 1, 1999, grant of 3,279,428 options, all with a strike price of \$93.0625, Broadcom's closing stock price on that day. This grant included the top up grants for former Armedia, Epigram, and Maverick employees. These top up grants purportedly made at-the-money on June 1, 1999, were, in fact, backdated by NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others, and were in-the-money at the time they were granted. With respect to these backdated in-the-money grants, despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS,

RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses.

3. The Altocom and Hot Haus "Top Up" Grants

- 37. On or about August 31, 1999, Broadcom completed its acquisition of companies called "Altocom" and "Hot Haus." On or about September 8, 1999, defendant RUEHLE told a subordinate responsible for documenting options that the Option Committee had met on September 2, 1999, and granted top up options to former Hot Haus and Altocom employees
- 38. After September 8, 1999, Broadcom's share price fell. On or about October 6, 1999, defendant RUEHLE informed a subordinate responsible for documenting options that the Option Committee had "met and approved" option grants, which included the top up grants to former Hot Haus and Altocom employees, "effective" September 30, 1999, with a strike price corresponding to Broadcom's closing price on September 30, 1999, which was the lowest closing price of the third quarter of 1999.
- 39. Although defendant RUEHLE backdated the grant to October 6, 1999, NICHOLAS had still not determined the number of top up options that Broadcom was going to grant to former Altocom and Hothaus employees.
- 40. On or after October 7, 1999, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed corporate records reflecting a September 30, 1999, grant of 1,605,127 options, all with a strike price of \$109, Broadcom's closing price on that day. This grant included the top up grants for former Altocom and Hot Haus employees. These top up grants purportedly made on September 30, 1999, were, in fact, backdated NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others, had been repriced, and were in-the-

money at the time they were granted. With respect to these backdated, repriced in-the-money grants, despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses.

4. The October 22, 1999 Special Grant

1.4

1.7

- 41. On October 22, 1999, Broadcom's share price closed at \$113.25. On November 4, 1999, Broadcom's share price closed at \$150.63. On December 31, 1999, the end of the quarter and the end of Broadcom's fiscal year, Broadcom's closing share price was \$272.38 more than double the October 22, 1999 closing price.
- 42. On or about November 4, 1999, defendant RUEHLE determined that October 22, 1999, would be the claimed grant date for an option grant, due to the low closing price on that date. Because October 22, 1999, was such a favorable strike price, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and H.S. continued to increase the number of options purportedly granted on October 22, 1999, into the next year.
- 43. On or about January 10, 2000, defendant RUEHLE provided defendant NICHOLAS with a spreadsheet of the option positions of Broadcom's "directors & above" so that NICHOLAS could grant them additional options at the favorable October 22, 1999 strike price.

 RUEHLE cautioned NICHOLAS that he had to "act quickly" if he wished to make additional grants at this favorable strike price.
- 44. On or after January 10, 2000, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed corporate records reflecting an October 22, 1999, grant of 1,362,600 options, all with a strike price \$113.25, Broadcom's closing stock price on that day. Some or all of the options purportedly granted on this date were, in fact, granted by NICHOLAS,

RUEHLE and others after that date, and were in-the-money at the time of their actual grant. With respect to these in-the-money grants, despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses.

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

5. The Preparation and Filing of a Materially False 10-K

- On or about January 18, 2000, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, made representations to EY in connection with Broadcom's 1999 audit and NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others represented and caused to be represented to EY that Broadcom had "no material transactions that have not been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial statements" and that Broadcom's financial statements were in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles. NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others also represented and caused to be represented to EY that Broadcom had "no material weaknesses in internal control" and that there was "no fraud involving management or employees who have significant roles in internal control." fact, as NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others knew, these representations were false and materially misleading in that NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others had caused options to be granted in-the-money by retroactively selecting grant dates, had repriced options after the fact to reduce their previously-designated strike prices, and had caused Broadcom to fail to recognize or report compensation expenses that should have been recognized and reported as the result of these option practices.
- 46. On or about March 30, 2000, Broadcom filed its 1999 10-K with the SEC. The SEC filing, approved by defendants NICHOLAS and

RUEHLE, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, materially understated the amount of compensation expenses that Broadcom was required to take for grants of backdated in-the-money and repriced options during 1999.

C. Specific Fraudulent Option Practices in 2000

1. The March 1, 2000 Grant

.22

- 47. On or about March 16, 2000, defendant RUEHLE told a Broadcom employee responsible for documenting options that he was going to wait to see what Broadcom's closing stock price would be on March 17, 2000, and that if Broadcom's closing stock price on March 17, 2000, was higher than the closing price on March 1, 2000, then Broadcom would select an options grant date of March 1, 2000.
- 48. Broadcom's closing stock price on March 17, 2000, was higher than the closing price on March 1, 2000.
- 49. On or after March 17, 2000, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed corporate records reflecting a March 1, 2000 grant of 3,134,564 options, all with a strike price of \$206, Broadcom's closing stock price on that day. Some or all of the options purportedly granted on this date were, in fact, granted by NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others, after that date, and were in-the-money at the time of their actual grant. With respect to these backdated in-the-money grants, despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses.

2. The May 26, 2000 Focal Grant

50. In 2000, Broadcom changed its procedure for granting options to existing employees. Instead of granting options to existing employees on the anniversary dates of their hire, Broadcom

adopted what was known as a "focal" grant process under which Broadcom granted options to all existing employees at the same time based on their performance.

2.

. 6

28]

- 51. Broadcom's first company-wide focal grant of options was purportedly made on May 26, 2000. This grant ultimately included 7,098,811 options granted to employees by the Option Committee and 550,000 options granted to section 16 officers by the Compensation Committee. All of these options were granted with a strike price of \$118.375, which was Broadcom's closing stock price on May 26, 2000.
- 52. During the summer of 2000, EY expressed concerns to Broadcom that the May 26, 2000 grant was not properly handled.
- 53. Defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE were alerted to EY's concerns and informed that Broadcom might have to take a \$700 million compensation charge for the May 26, 2000 grant. RUEHLE informed NICHOLAS that he was not "about to let that happen" and instructed his finance staff that Broadcom had to "win this one" with EY.
- 54. In order to "win this one" with EY, defendant RUEHLE and others at Broadcom falsely told EY that on May 26, 2000, Broadcom's Option Committee had (a) authorized a fixed number of options to be granted and (b) approved a "program" or "plan" establishing a set "Guideline Matrix" by which individual employees were subsequently granted specific numbers of these available options based on a formula.
- 55. To support these false claims to EY, RUEHLE directed his finance staff to create a set of false documents that purported to provide contemporaneous evidence of the May 26, 2000 grant, as well as the purported "program" or "plan." These false documents

included false minutes of an Option Committee meeting that purportedly took place on May 26, 2000, and approved a grant of 7 million options and a "Guideline Matrix" for distributing these options to individual employees, as well as other false documents.

3. The Pivotal "Top Up" Grant

- 56. On or about July 10, 2000, defendant RUEHLE informed a subordinate that the grant date for a portion of the top up grants connected with Broadcom's acquisition of a company called "Pivotal" would be June 1, 2000, with a strike price of \$144.63, the closing stock price for Broadcom on that date. Defendant NICHOLAS, however, instructed Tullos that four key Pivotal executives were to be issued options with a grant date of May 26, 2000, and a strike price of \$118.37, the closing stock price for Broadcom on that date.
- 57. A Broadcom employee responsible for documenting options raised concerns with defendant RUEHLE and others that a May 26, 2000 grant date for the four Pivotal executives would be problematic because it pre-dated the acquisition of Pivotal.
- 58. On or about July 13, 2000, defendant RUEHLE caused Broadcom to abandon the June 1, 2000 grant date, and instead issue these four Pivotal executives options with a June 16, 2000 grant date, and a strike price of \$144.00, Broadcom's closing stock price on that date.
- 59. Because the June 16, 2000 strike price was inferior to the May 26, 2000 strike price the Pivotal executives expected, defendant NICHOLAS agreed to make up the difference by granting additional inthe-money options to these four executives backdated to the June 16, 2000, strike price.

60. On or after July 16, 2000, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed corporate records reflecting a June 16, 2000, grant of 2,173,650 options, all with a strike price of \$144, Broadcom's closing stock price on that day. This grant included the top up grants for former Pivotal employees. These top up grants purportedly made on June 16, 2000, were, in fact, backdated by NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others, and were in-the-money at the time they were granted. With respect to these backdated in-the-money options, despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses.

4. The U.E. Grant

- 61. On or after September 18, 2000, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed corporate records reflecting a July 28, 2000, grant of 725,400 options, all with a strike price of \$213.063, Broadcom's closing price on that day. These grants were backdated by NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others and were already in-the-money at the time they were made. With respect to these backdated in-the-money grants, despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses.
- 62. The options purportedly granted on July 28, 2000, originally included 35,000 new hire options issued to U.E. On July 28, 2000, U.E. was not yet employed by Broadcom. Broadcom was required to recognize compensation expense for options granted to non-employees like U.E., whether or not they were made at-the-money.
- 63. By December 2000, Broadcom's share price had declined over thirty percent since July, leaving options with a July 28, 2000

strike price "underwater." At the request of other Broadcom executives, after the end of 2000, defendant RUEHLE and others removed U.E. from the July 28, 2000 grant of options and added him to the December 21, 2000 grant of options so that his options would be in-the-money. Despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, at RUEHLE's direction, Broadcom took no compensation expense for granting U.E. in-the-money and repriced options.

5. The M.N. Payoff

- 64. In late October 2000, Broadcom terminated M.N.'s employment. According to the terms of M.N.'s option agreement, the termination of his employment caused his Broadcom options to cease to vest.
- defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, with a draft complaint that alleged, among other things, that Broadcom backdated M.N.'s employment documents to enable it to issue him in-the-money options, concealed from EY its practice of backdating and issuing in-the-money options, artificially inflated its earnings by backdating and issuing in-the-money options without taking compensation expenses, and failed to disclose this information in its periodic filings with the SEC.
- 66. On or about January 17, 2001, after receiving this draft complaint, defendant NICHOLAS met personally with M.N. at a hotel in Orange County. NICHOLAS pleaded with M.N. not to come forward with his allegations, and offered to have Broadcom vest approximately 85% of M.N.'s outstanding options. At the time of the meeting with

2.0

- NICHOLAS, this settlement offer was worth over \$7 million dollars to M.N.
- 67. M.N. accepted defendant NICHOLAS's offer and agreed to keep his allegations of backdating and issuing in-the-money options, as well as the other allegations in his draft complaint, confidential.
- 68. Defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, did not disclose M.N.'s allegations regarding backdating and issuance of inthe-money options to EY or to Broadcom's outside directors.

6. The K.V. Hiring Grant

- 69. On or about August 6, 2000, Broadcom entered into an agreement to acquire a company called Newport Communications, located in Newport Beach, California.
- 70. In or around this same time period, Broadcom was seeking to hire a Chief Information Officer ("CIO"), a senior position at Broadcom. Defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE interviewed K.V. for the position and decided to hire him. To induce K.V. into accepting Broadcom's employment offer, RUEHLE offered K.V. options that were approximately \$10 million in-the-money. K.V. accepted the offer and came to work at Broadcom in September 2000.
- 71. Defendant RUEHLE and others created and caused to be created false documents stating that K.V. had been hired as an employee of Newport Communications, when in truth and in fact, as RUEHLE and others knew, K.V. was hired solely to be the CIO at Broadcom and never worked at Newport Communications. In connection with K.V.'s purported hiring by Newport Communications, RUEHLE and others caused Newport Communications to grant K.V. 600,000 Newport Communications stock options, which ultimately converted to in-the-

money Broadcom options once the companies merged. At the time Broadcom completed its acquisition of Newport Communications, K.V.'s options converted to Broadcom options that were approximately \$10 million in-the-money.

- 72. When Broadcom converted the outstanding Newport
 Communications options, such as the options issued to K.V., to
 Broadcom options, Broadcom took a one-time acquisition-related
 compensation expense for the amount the Newport options were in-themoney at the time the acquisition closed. Acquisition-related
 expenses, in contrast to expenses relating to hiring and retaining
 employees, were non-recurring, and discounted by some investors and
 analysts.
- 73. Defendant RUEHLE and others knew that falsely claiming that K.V. was hired by Newport Communications, and then causing Newport Communications, instead of Broadcom, to grant him options, would circumvent Broadcom's shareholder-approved option plan and would fraudulently recharacterize compensation expense from those options as a non-recurring acquisition expense.

7. The Preparation and Filing of a Materially False 10-K

74. On or about March 30, 2001, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, made representations to EY in connection with Broadcom's 2000 audit and 10-K. NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others falsely told EY that Broadcom had "no material transactions that have not been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial statements" and that Broadcom's financials were in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles. NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others also falsely represented to EY that Broadcom had "no material weaknesses in internal control" and that there was "no

fraud involving management or employees who have significant roles in internal control." In fact, as NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others knew, these representations were false and materially misleading in that NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others had caused options to be granted in-the-money by retroactively selecting grant dates, had repriced options to reduce their strike prices, had fraudulently issued an employee hired by Broadcom options in a company acquired by Broadcom despite the fact that this employee had never been hired by or worked for that acquired company, and had caused Broadcom to fail to recognize or report compensation expenses that should have been recognized and reported as the result of these option practices.

1:6

75. On or about April 2, 2001, Broadcom filed its 10-K with the SEC for 2000. The SEC filing, approved by defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, materially understated the amount of compensation expenses that Broadcom was required to take for grants of in-the-money, repriced, and otherwise fraudulent options during 2000.

D. Specific Fraudulent Option Practices in 2001

1. The Abandoned January 2, 2001, "Top Up" Grant and "Double-Up and Cancel" Proposal

- 76. By late 2000 and into 2001, Broadcom's stock price was in decline. This decline left many Broadcom employees with options that were underwater. As a result, certain employees whose options no longer provided an incentive to remain at Broadcom considered leaving their positions at Broadcom.
- 77. On or about January 29, 2001, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, agreed to provide a top up grant to many of those Broadcom employees whose options were underwater. The top up

grant was to be backdated to January 2, 2001, which had a more favorable strike price (\$76.12) than January 29, 2001 (\$110.25).

- 78. In addition to doing a top up grant, defendant NICHOLAS wished to provide special compensation to certain senior managers whose options were underwater. NICHOLAS directed Tullos to identify candidates for a "double-up and cancel" of options, wherein executives would be granted additional Broadcom options in exchange for an undocumented, oral side agreement that they would not exercise certain options that had already been granted. The agreement was to be undocumented so that EY did not learn of it and force Broadcom to recognize a compensation expense for constructively repricing the options the executives agreed not to exercise.
- 79. On or about January 30, 2001, defendant RUEHLE instructed Tullos to inform defendant NICHOLAS that the "double-up and cancel" proposal was not a good idea. RUEHLE stated: "If we get too cute E&Y will blow the whistle on our whole program." RUEHLE expressed his concern over the possibility that an executive might disclose or threaten to disclose the undocumented side agreement necessary to accomplish the "double-up and cancel" program, stating: "in the unlikely event we have someone in our midst with [M.N.]-like tendencies, we're screwed." RUEHLE instructed Tullos to convey to NICHOLAS his "serious reservations about killing the golden goose."
- 80. Broadcom then abandoned the "double-up and cancel" proposal.
- 81. Throughout February 2001, Broadcom's stock price continued to decline, in mid-February reaching a price below the January 2, 2001, price. As a result, in mid-February 2001, defendant RUEHLE

abandoned the plan for doing a top up grant backdated to January 2, 2001.

2. The June 24, 2001 Grant and Tender Offer

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

- Faced with a stock price that continued to decline, 82. defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, continued to search for a way to address the issue of underwater options. Ultimately, after consulting with both EY and accounting firm Arthur Andersen to determine that Broadcom would not be required to recognize compensation expenses as a result, NICHOLAS and RUEHLE decided that Broadcom would conduct a tender offer. The tender offer allowed employees to elect to tender their existing options to Broadcom in exchange for the promise that Broadcom would grant them the same number of options between six months and a day and seven months later with a strike price set at Broadcom's closing share price on the date they received their new options. Because the tendering employees would bear the market risk that during the six to seven month period between their tender and the subsequent grant Broadcom's shares could either continue to decline in price (resulting in their new options having a more favorable strike price) or might increase in price (resulting in their new options having a less favorable strike price), the tender and subsequent grant was not considered a repricing and would not require Broadcom to recognize compensation expenses.
- 83. In conjunction with the June 24, 2001 tender offer, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE determined that Broadcom would conduct a focal grant of options that employees could then either tender or retain. Employees who elected not to tender would receive a supplemental grant of options. This grant was made "as of"

Sunday, June 24, 2001 with a strike price of \$33.83, the closing price on the previous Friday, June 22, 2001.

- 84. As of the end of August 2001, defendant NICHOLAS had not yet determined the option grants for employees who reported to him who were supposed to receive the June 22, 2001 strike price. On August 24, 2001, Tullos told NICHOLAS, "We are totally out of time for shareholder services to hold the \$33.83 stock price for the focal grants to your staff . . ." NICHOLAS wanted more time to make his determination, and asked Tullos if Broadcom could set aside options and later determine the specific employees to receive those options. Tullos responded: "Bill R. left me voice mail that we cannot hold aside an aggregate number of options with the optionees to be defined later. So I really need the CABU (a business unit reporting directly to NICHOLAS) and Executive staff numbers if they are going to be included in the June 22nd grant at \$33.68. We have not had a Friday since June 22nd where the stock has closed lower."
- 85. By mid-September 2001, defendant NICHOLAS still had not determined which employees who reported to him would be granted options with the June 22, 2001 strike price. Broadcom's stock price had continued to decline and had reached a price below the June 22, 2001 strike price. As a result, NICHOLAS abandoned the plan for granting these employees options with the June 22, 2001 strike price.

3. The October 1, 2001 Grant

86. By October 1, 2001, after continuing to decline, Broadcom's stock price hit \$18.77, which was Broadcom's lowest stock price during all of 2001.

....1.6

87. On November 1, 2001, a senior Broadcom executive who reported to defendant NICHOLAS wrote him to complain that he had "never seen anything from you on focal grants." NICHOLAS responded, falsely claiming that the Option Committee had met and granted options on October 1, 2001: "I had shares set aside to be granted, however, since I saw the stock going down, and, since I knew you were not going to exercise the regrant option, I decided to keep our 'powder dry.' The stock option committee met on October 1st, the first day of this quarter. Our stock closed at \$18.77 on that day. I need to check my notes to see what was granted to You, Ed, and Jack."

- 88. In fact, no grants were granted by the Option Committee on October 1, 2001, as defendant NICHOLAS falsely claimed. On November 12, 2001, H.S. advised NICHOLAS and Tullos that "we are about to do some additional stock grants for key people" and requested that Tullos provide him with "the spreadsheet you are working on for Nick as soon as it is ready." (At Broadcom, NICHOLAS was often referred to as "Nick.") The spreadsheet to which H.S. referred was a spreadsheet showing proposed grants to the employees for which NICHOLAS was responsible, which included "Ed" and "Jack," two of the individuals referenced in NICHOLAS's November 1, 2001 email.

 Thereafter, on November 28, 2001, Tullos advised RUEHLE that she and H.S. "spent 4.5 hours on his jet last night working on the option grants while flying to Delaware. We spent another hour on the tarmac, but we finished!".
- 89. On November 14, 2001, Tullos had advised defendant
 NICHOLAS that she had "unofficially 'reserved' 2M options, including
 focal grants for your direct reports" to be granted with an October

1, 2001 strike price. On November 30, 2001, however, RUEHLE advised NICHOLAS that he add one million additional shares to the October 1, 2001 grant, stating "It's ok to go to 3M shares for the option grants."

- 90. Throughout November and December 2001, defendant RUEHLE, H.S., Tullos, and others continued to work on determining which employees would be granted options with the October 1, 2001 strike price, and how many options each of these employees would receive. They also continued to seek NICHOLAS's approval for their various proposals, which were set forth in spreadsheets. In an email sent on December 27, 2001, and copied to H.S. and RUEHLE, Tullos advised NICHOLAS that "Bill said today that tomorrow (Friday, the 28th) is the absolute deadline to get these options granted at the \$18.77 strike price."
- 91. Defendant NICHOLAS did not approve the proposals for October 1, 2001 grants provided to him by H.S. and Tullos until January 2002. On January 1, 2002, Tullos advised RUEHLE that NICHOLAS "called me on Saturday night [and] promised me that he would send me the final 10/1 list by today. I guess we still have a few hours!!" NICHOLAS provided Tullos with the promised list on January 2, 2002, in an email, copied to H.S., with the subject line "I found my old share grant spreadsheet from before October" which falsely stated, "Attached is the spreadsheet that I developed at the option meeting months ago." In fact, the attached spreadsheet could not have been created "before October" as NICHOLAS claimed. The attached spreadsheet also increased the total number of options to be granted to slightly in excess of 3 million and added new grantees.

92. After receiving defendant NICHOLAS's revisions to the October 1, 2001 grant, H.S. met with NICHOLAS and they made additional changes to the list. H.S. then forwarded the purportedly "Final option grant list" for the October 1, 2001 grants to Tullos as an attachment to an email dated January 2, 2002, that was copied to RUEHLE and NICHOLAS.

- After receiving the revised list from H.S., Tullos had additional questions that were resolved in a telephone call with defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. on January 7, 2002. Thereafter, on January 23, 2002, Tullos circulated to NICHOLAS and H.S. the final list of options to be granted with an October 1, 2001, strike price. In this email, Tullos falsely stated, "Nick, I wanted to confirm that I did find the attached option spreadsheets that you sent to me a few months ago. Bill Ruehle is also aware that I found these." In fact, as NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, H.S., and Tullos knew, the attached spreadsheets were modifications to the spreadsheets that Tullos had been discussing and modifying with NICHOLAS and H.S. throughout In fact, between the beginning of December 2001 and January 2002. 2002 and January 23, 2002, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others added hundreds of thousands options, backdating them to an October 1, 2001 grant date and corresponding strike price.
- 94. Defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed corporate records fraudulently reflecting a grant of 5,624,080 options as of October 1, 2001, with a strike price of \$18.77, Broadcom's closing price on that day and its lowest closing price during 2001. Significant numbers of these options purportedly granted on October 1, 2001, were, in fact, backdated by NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others, and were in-the-money at the time they were granted. With respect to these

backdated in-the-money grants, despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses.

4. The October 19, 2001 Grant

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

- 95. As described above, in early 2002, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, were debating what dates, with their corresponding strike prices, should be used for option grants in the prior year. This debate included the dates and strike prices to be used for grants to Section 16 officers. These grants, unlike other grants that Broadcom made, would have their grant date, strike price, and other information publically disclosed.
- The debate over options to be granted to Section 16 officers focused in part on where these officers should receive grants at the June 24, 2001 focal grant strike price afforded most employees (\$33.68), the much more favorable October 1, 2001 strike price given to a shorter list of favored employees (\$18.77), or somewhere in between. On or about January 3, 2002, Tullos sent an email to defendant RUEHLE, H.S., and others regarding the appropriate price for the Compensation Committee grant to nontendering Section 16 officers. Section 16 officers who tendered were not eligible for an option grant until at least December 24, Tullos wrote: "Just spoke with Nick. He does NOT want to grant above market options on October 1st. He would like to find another opportunistic date, say \$25.55 on 10/5 or \$29.25 on 10/19. He does not see a need to get as close to the \$33.68 number as I do. He is clearly not as sensitive to the employee reaction as I am and I can't really speak to outside shareholder reaction."

- 97. On or about January 3, 2002, H.S. responded, in an email to defendant RUEHLE, Tullos, and others: "OK, then go with the 10/19 price."
- 98. Between January 4, 2002, and January 23, 2002, Tullos circulated to defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. for approval a series of spreadsheets reflecting the options to be granted to Section 16 officers with the October 19, 2001 strike price. Tullos's January 23, 2002 email falsely represented that she had found spreadsheets, including one addressing the October 19, 2001 grant to Section 16 officers, that NICHOLAS sent to her "a few months ago." In fact, as NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, H.S., Tullos, and others knew, the attached spreadsheet addressing the October 19, 2001 grant to Section 16 officers was a modification of the spreadsheets that Tullos had been discussing and modifying with NICHOLAS and H.S. throughout January 2002.
- Section 16 officers were to be approved by the Compensation

 Committee, which consisted of two independent directors. In July

 2001, one of the two members of the Compensation Committee died. As

 of November 4, 2001, no one had yet been appointed to replace the

 deceased Compensation Committee member. On November 4, 2001,

 defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, H.S., and Tullos were sent an email

 reminding them that "The Comp Ctte has exclusive jurisdiction for

 option grants to Section 16 officers. Accordingly, we cannot make

 those grants until it is in a position to act." The replacement

 member for the Compensation Committee necessary to enable it to act

 was not formally appointed until some time after January 3, 2002.

100. Defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, caused false corporate documents to be provided to Broadcom's Compensation

Committee reflecting a grant of 450,000 options to three Section 16 officers "as of" October 19, 2001 with a strike price of \$29.25,

Broadcom's closing price on that day. These options purportedly granted on October 19, 2001 by the Compensation Committee, were, in fact, granted by NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others, and ultimately approved by the Compensation Committee, after October 19, 2001, and were in-the-money at the time they were granted and approved. With respect to these in-the-money grants, despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS,

RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses.

5. The December 24, 2001 Grant and Tender Offer Re-Grant

- 101. Under the terms of the tender offer, December 24, 2001, was the first day that Broadcom was permitted to grant options to employees, including Section 16 officers, who had tendered their options back to Broadcom. The last day for granting options to tendering employees was January 31, 2002.
- 102. Defendant RUEHLE and others were told that if grants to tendering employees were made in December 2001, EY would have to be advised of the grants by January 5, 2002. If grants to tendering employees were made in January 2002, Broadcom anticipated that EY would require notice that the grants had been made within five to seven business days of the grants.
- 103. On December 24, 2001, Broadcom's closing stock price was \$39.75. After December 24, 2001, Broadcom's stock price increased, with the result that December 24, 2001, had the lowest closing stock

price within the window for granting options to tendering employees but before year's end.

1.8

104. As of January 1, 2002, no grants to tendering employees had been made. On that date, Tullos sent an email to defendant NICHOLAS, with a copy to defendant RUEHLE, which stated: "Nick, I just got an email from Bill. He said that the deadline for grabbing the 12/24 stock price for the cancel and re-grant program is Jan 5th. The 12/24 closing price was \$39.75." That same date, H.S. sent an email to NICHOLAS and Tullos that "we will be repricing the cancelled grants very shortly."

105. By January 4, 2002, the options cancelled as part of the tender offer had not yet been regranted. Defendant RUEHLE sent an email to defendant NICHOLAS, H.S., Tullos, and others, in which he stated: "I VERY strongly recommend that these options be priced as of Dec 24 (\$39 & change). The absolute drop dead date for this decision is Friday Jan 4. If there are no objections I would like to go ahead and price as of that date. Under the terms of the [tender offer] we have until Jan 31 to price. Given the recent market performance, I think we should grab the Dec 24 price. If we wait beyond Friday we will have missed the deadline and will be subject to market risk."

106. On January 4, 2002, H.S. responded to defendants RUEHLE and NICHOLAS, Tullos, and others: "I agree. We may not see the \$39.75 price again before Jan 31. It would be far too risky to wait and see."

107. On January 13, 2002, H.S. advised Tullos that he had not yet "reviewed the New Grant list for those that cancelled yet with Nick. Hold off on putting it officially in place." On January 21,

2002, Tullos was still waiting for defendant NICHOLAS to provide defendant RUEHLE with a list of which employees should receive which numbers of options.

108. Defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, caused false corporate documents to be provided to Broadcom's Compensation Committee reflecting a grant of 800,000 options to three Section 16 officers not eligible for an October grant, including RUEHLE, "as of" December 24, 2001 with a strike price of \$39.75, Broadcom's closing stock price on that day. These options purportedly granted on December 24, 2001, were, in fact, granted by NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others, and ultimately approved by the Compensation Committee, after December 24, 2001, and were in-the-money at the time they were granted and approved. In particular, the options granted to RUEHLE were more than \$2 million in-the-money at the time they were granted. With respect to these in-the-money grants, despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses.

fraudulently reflecting a grant of 25,573,971 options on December 24, 2001, with a strike price of \$39.75, Broadcom's closing stock price on that day. Significant numbers of these options purportedly granted on December 24, 2001, were, in fact, backdated by NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others, and were in-the-money at the time they were granted. Despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses for these grants.

_16

6. The Preparation and Filing of a Materially False 10-K

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

110. On or about March 15, 2002, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, made representations to EY in connection with Broadcom's 2001 audit and 10-K. NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others, falsely told EY that Broadcom had "no material transactions that have not been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial statements" and that Broadcom's financials were in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles. RUEHLE, and others, also falsely represented to EY that Broadcom had "no material weaknesses in internal control" and that there was "no fraud involving management or employees who have significant roles in internal control." In fact, as NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others knew, these representations were false and materially misleading in that NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others had caused options to be granted in-the-money by retroactively selecting grant dates, and had caused Broadcom to fail to recognize or report compensation expenses that should have been recognized and reported as the result of these inthe-money grants.

111. On or about March 19, 2002, Broadcom filed its 10-K with the SEC for 2001. The SEC filing, approved by defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, materially understated the amount of compensation expenses that Broadcom was required to take for the inthe-money grants of options in 2001.

E. Fraudulent Option Practices in 2002

1. The July 3, 2002 Double-Focal Grant

112. By the summer of 2002, a large number of Broadcom employee options were underwater because Broadcom's stock price had lost most of its value. These underwater options, coupled with the low-cash

compensation, created concerns among Broadcom's senior managers about employee morale and retention.

1 |

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

113. To assist in remedying these problems, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, decided to double the size of the 2002 focal grant in lieu of Broadcom granting focal options in 2003 (hereinafter referred to as the "double focal"). Defendants and others wanted to make this larger grant to take advantage of what they believed to be Broadcom's low stock price at the time. addition to granting more shares, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE and others wanted employees to be able to redeem a portion of the double focal options To achieve this goal, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others agreed for cash. that a portion of the options granted in the double focal would vest immediately so that recipients of the option grant would be able to immediately redeem their options for cash. To assure the options could be redeemed for cash, defendants and others backdated the double focal to be in-the-money at the time of the grant.

114. On or about July 16, 2002, defendant RUEHLE, H.S., and Tullos met to discuss whether Broadcom would conduct a double focal grant. At this meeting, RUEHLE instructed Tullos not to communicate anything in writing about the backdated double focal grant, in order to avoid a trail of unfavorable dates.

115. Defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed corporate records fraudulently reflecting a July 3, 2002 grant of 31,562,475 options with a strike price of \$15.74, Broadcom's closing stock price on that date. A portion of this grant immediately vested to its recipients. Significant numbers of these options purportedly granted on July 3, 2002, were, in fact, backdated by NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others, and were in-the-money at the time they were

granted. Despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses for these grants.

2. The August 5, 2002 Double-Focal Grant

- 116. Defendant NICHOLAS continued to make modifications to the options to be granted to employees who reported to him, including officers and Section 16 officers, until well after July 3, 2002. As a result of the delay, defendant RUEHLE determined that they could no longer take advantage of the July 3, 2002 grant date and strike price for these grants.
- 117. On or about July 27 and 28, 2002, defendant NICHOLAS completed his revisions to the options to be granted to Section 16 officers. Tullos then sought Compensation Committee approval for the grants. On July 29, 2002, when Broadcom's stock price closed at \$19.11, Tullos sent an email to NICHOLAS and the two members of the Compensation Committee requesting that they "confirm that the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors has met and approved the attached Section 16 Officer Grants."
- 118. On July 30, 2002, one of the two members of the Compensation Committee sent an email to defendant NICHOLAS and Tullos indicating his approval of the Section 16 officer grants.

 The other Compensation Committee member was on an Alaskan cruise, was not in contact with Broadcom, and did not approve the Section 16 officer grants at this time.
- others that she had received approval from only one member of the Compensation Committee. Tullos asked whether she could "submit these as having been approved last Friday." On Friday, July 26,

2002, Broadcom's closing stock price was \$17.38, a more favorable strike price than the \$19.11 closing stock price on Monday, July 29, 2002; the \$19.65 closing stock price on Tuesday, July 30, 2002; or the \$18.76 closing stock price on Wednesday, July 31, 2002.

120. On July 31, 2002, defendant RUEHLE emailed Tullos that his "understanding is that the comp committee approved them as of last Friday." Moving the grant date back to Friday, July 26, 2002, from Monday, July 29, 2002, would have put the value of the options RUEHLE was to be granted \$519,000 in-the-money.

121. On or after July 31, 2002, defendant NICHOLAS continued to make changes to the number of options to be granted to employees who reported to him. In the meantime, Broadcom's stock price continued to decline, and on August 5, 2002, hit a closing price of \$15.74, the same as the July 3, 2002 closing price. Defendant RUEHLE therefore again moved the grant date, this time to August 5, 2002. By doing so, RUEHLE put his options \$1,011,000 in-the-money compared to the July 29, 2002, price.

122. Defendant NICHOLAS and others continued to make changes and additions to the August 5, 2002 grant, but the time to do so was limited by EY's demand that Broadcom provide it with "all resolutions of the Option and Compensation Committees adopted through the date of their rep letter to us (it will either be dated today or Mon.) In connection with the filing of our forthcoming 10-Q." EY's demand required that all changes be completed by August 9, 2002, or August 12, 2002. On August 8, 2002, NICHOLAS increased the size August 5, 2002 Option Committee grant, falsely characterizing this increase as errors made by Tullos.

123. Defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, caused false corporate documents to be provided to Broadcom's Compensation Committee reflecting a grant of 850,000 options to Section 16 officers "as of" August 5, 2002, with a strike price of \$15.74, Broadcom's closing stock price on that day. This grant included stock options for RUEHLE. These options purportedly granted on August 5, 2002, were, in fact, twice repriced and approved by the Compensation Committee after August 5, 2002. With respect to these repriced grants, despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses.

5.

124. Defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed corporate records fraudulently reflecting a grant of 2,112,262 options as of August 5, 2002, with a strike price of \$15.74, Broadcom's closing price on that day. Significant numbers of these options purportedly granted on August 5, 2002, were, in fact, backdated by NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others, and were in-the-money at the time they were granted. With respect to these in-the-money grants, despite rules requiring the recognition and reporting of compensation expenses, NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, and others caused Broadcom not to recognize or report compensation expenses.

125. On or about August 14, 2002, Broadcom filed its 10-Q for the quarter ending June 30, 2002. In this filing's "subsequent events" section Broadcom falsely claimed that the July 3 and August 5 focal grants were made at "the fair market value on the date of grant." This 10-Q was signed by defendant RUEHLE and was certified by defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE as being true and correct under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act enacted on July 30, 2002.

126. On or about November 14, 2002, Broadcom filed its 10-Q for the quarter ending September 30, 2002. In this filing, Broadcom again falsely claimed that the July 3 and August 5 focal grants were made at "the fair market value on the date of grant." This 10-Q was certified under the Sarbanes-Oxley Act as true and correct by both defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE.

3. The Preparation and Filing of a Materially False 10-K

127. On or about January 23, 2003, defendant RUEHLE and others made representations to EY in connection with Broadcom's 2002 audit RUEHLE and others falsely told EY that Broadcom had "no material transactions that have not been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial statements" and that Broadcom's financials were in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles. RUEHLE and others also falsely represented to EY that Broadcom had "no material weaknesses in internal control" and that there was "no fraud involving management of employees who have significant roles in internal control." In fact, as RUEHLE and others knew, these representations were false and materially misleading in that defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, had caused options to be granted in-the-money by retroactively selecting grant dates, had repriced options, and had caused Broadcom to fail to recognize or report compensation expenses that should have been recognized and reported as the result of these options practices.

128. On or about March 31, 2003, Broadcom filed its 10-K with the SEC for 2002. The SEC filing, approved by defendant RUEHLE and others, materially understated the amount of expense that Broadcom was required to take for the in-the-money grants. This 10-K was

certified as true and correct by RUEHLE pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act.

F. Fraudulent 2003 and 2004 10-Ks

- over the vesting period of the options, the fraudulent backdating of in-the-money options by defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, resulted in Broadcom materially understating compensation expense in the years after Broadcom ceased backdating stock-options.
- 130. On or about March 15, 2004, Broadcom filed its 10-K for 2003. The SEC filing, approved by defendant RUEHLE and others, materially understated the amount of expense that Broadcom was required to take for the in-the-money and repriced grants.
- 131. On or about March 1, 2005, Broadcom filed its 10-K for 2004. The SEC filing, approved by defendant RUEHLE and others, materially understated the amount of expense that Broadcom was required to take for the in-the-money and repriced grants.

IV. OVERT ACTS

132. In furtherance of the conspiracy, and to accomplish its objects, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, together with coconspirators known and unknown to the Grand Jury, committed and caused others to commit the following overt acts, among others, in the Central District of California, and elsewhere:

OVERT ACT NO. 1: On or about May 4, 1999, defendant RUEHLE instructed a subordinate to hold off setting Broadcom option grants for April 1999 until Broadcom was due for another filing with the SEC.

1 |

OVERT ACT NO. 2: In or after May 1999, defendant NICHOLAS and 1 | H.S. signed a corporate record called a "unanimous written consent" 2 ("UWC") dated "as of" April 23, 1999. 3 OVERT ACT NO. 3: On or about June 23, 1999, Tullos instructed a 4 subordinate to delete an email relating to the date and price of 5 options to be granted to M.N. 6 OVERT ACT NO. 4: In or after July 1999, defendant NICHOLAS and 7 H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" May 25, 1999. 8 OVERT ACT NO. 5: In or after July 1999, defendant NICHOLAS and . 9 H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" June 1, 1999.. 10 OVERT ACT NO. 6: In or after July 1999, defendant NICHOLAS and 11 H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" June 4, 1999. 12 OVERT ACT NO. 7: In or after October 1999, defendant NICHOLAS 13 and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" September 30, 1999. 14 OVERT ACT NO. 8: On or after November 4, 1999, defendant RUEHLE 15 directed that Broadcom employee E.S. be added to the list to receive 16 a grant of options with the October 22, 1999 strike price. 17 OVERT ACT NO. 9: On or about November 18, 1999, defendant 18 RUEHLE directed that Tullos and Broadcom employee G.J. be granted 19 additional options with the October 22, 1999 strike price. 20 OVERT ACT NO. 10: On or after January 10, 2000, defendant 21 NICHOLAS handwrote his approvals of grants to several Broadcom employees of additional options with the October 22, 1999 strike 23 price. 24 OVERT ACT NO. 11: On or after January 10, 2000, defendant 25 NICHOLAS and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" October 22, 1999. 26 OVERT ACT NO. 12: On or about March 1, 2000, in connection with 27 Broadcom's acquisition of a company known as "Blue Steel,"

defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE falsely represented to EY that the options Broadcom had granted "from January 1, 2000 to March 1, 2000" were "granted at the fair market value of the Company's common stock at the date of grant."

OVERT ACT NO. 13: On or about March 16, 2000, defendant RUEHLE told a subordinate that he would like to wait until the end of the day on Friday, March 17, 2000, to make a decision on whether to grant options on March 1, 2001. RUEHLE explained that if the Broadcom's stock price was higher at the close of the day on March 17, 2000 than it was at the close of the day on March 1, 2000, then the March 1, 2000 grant date would be selected.

OVERT ACT NO. 14: On or after March 17, 2000, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" March 1, 2000.

OVERT ACT NO. 15: On or about March 30, 2000, defendants
NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, caused to be filed with the SEC
Broadcom's 10-K for the year 1999, which understated compensation
expenses related to stock options.

OVERT ACT NO. 16: On or about April 18, 2000, in response to an inquiry whether the Option Committee "met to approve any grants" on either April 7 or April 14, defendant RUEHLE sent an email to Tullos and others stating, "I think the option committee probably met last Friday. When do I have to let you know for sure?"

OVERT ACT NO. 17: In or after May 2000, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" April 14, 2000.

OVERT ACT NO. 18: On or about May 31, 2000, in a representation letter provided in connection with Broadcom's acquisition of a company known as "Pivotal," defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE falsely represented to EY that the options Broadcom had granted "from

January 1, 2000 to May 31, 2000" were "granted at the fair market value of the Company's common stock at the date of grant."

OVERT ACT NO. 19: On or after July 16, 2000, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" June 16, 2000.

OVERT ACT NO. 20: On or about July 20, 2000, defendant RUEHLE sent an email to defendant NICHOLAS in which he asked NICHOLAS to make a final decision regarding grants of options with a May 26, 2000 strike price to Section 16 officers and executives. To encourage NICHOLAS to quickly make a decision, RUEHLE wrote: "We need to give to E&Y a list of approved option grants for the 5/26 focal reviews. They are making noises that we will have to take a compensation hit for the difference between the 5/26 price (\$118) and the current price because we have not yet 'completed' the grants. This would result in a charge of over \$700M! Obviously we are not about to let this happen."

OVERT ACT NO. 21: On or about July 24, 2000, defendant RUEHLE falsely claimed to EY that on May 26, 2000, Broadcom had authorized the grant of a fixed number of options constituting its initial focal grant.

OVERT ACT NO. 22: On or about July 25, 2000, defendant RUEHLE caused a subordinate to create false corporate minutes of a May 26, 2000 Option Committee meeting that included approval of a fixed number of options to be granted with a May 26, 2000 strike price and a "Guideline Matrix" for allocating these options to individual employees.

OVERT ACT NO. 23: On or about August 15, 2000, regarding a final decision on grants of options with a May 26, 2000 strike price to Section 16 officers, defendant RUEHLE sent defendant NICHOLAS an

email stating: "You keep threatening to give this to me. You said there was some additional information you needed. What is it? We are going to lose our opportunity to price at \$118 if we don't get this in!"

OVERT ACT NO. 24: On or about August 21, 2000, H.S. sent to defendant NICHOLAS and Tullos an email commenting on NICHOLAS's proposals for grants of options with a May 26, 2000 strike price to Section 16 officers and executives.

OVERT ACT NO. 25: On or about August 22, 2000, defendant NICHOLAS sent to defendant RUEHLE, H.S., and Tullos, an email setting out the final determination of grants of options with a May 26, 2000 strike price to Section 16 officers and executives under NICHOLAS's direct supervision, falsely stating, "These are the grants that were made many months ago. Sorry for the poor record keeping."

OVERT ACT NO. 26: On or about September 11, 2000, defendant RUEHLE received from a subordinate an email setting forth a list of closing prices for Broadcom's stock on Fridays from July 7 through September 8, 2000, with the request that RUEHLE, "Please advise if the Option Committee met and approved option grants on any of these dates."

OVERT ACT NO. 27: On or after September 13, 2000, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" July 28, 2000.

OVERT ACT NO. 28: On or after December 20, 2000, defendant RUEHLE directed his subordinates to remove U.E. from the July 28, 2000 grant of options so that U.E. could be granted options with a more favorable strike price.

1 | NICHOLAS met with M.N. to discuss M.N.'s allegations regarding 2 Broadcom's employment and options granting practices, including 3 M.N.'s allegation that "[Broadcom] has engaged in a pattern and 4 practice of falsifying the dates on employment contracts with the 5 intent of taking advantage of fluctuations in stock and option 6 7 prices to provide compensation to employees in the form of artificially priced options rather than pay salaries in the form of 8 cash to artificially inflate [Broadcom] earnings and then failed to 9 report such transactions in its 10Q, 10K or any other public 10 disclosure filings with the United States Securities and Exchange 11

Commission and concealed such transactions from its auditors." 12 OVERT ACT NO. 30: On or about January 29, 2001, defendant 13 NICHOLAS directed Tullos to identify candidates for a "double-up and ... 14

cancel" of options.

OVERT ACT NO. 31: On or about January 30, 2001, defendant RUEHLE sent an email to Tullos explaining, "The more I think about the 'double-up and cancel' alternative the less I like it. get too cute E&Y will blow the whistle on our whole program. And in the unlikely event we learn we have someone in our midst with [M.N.] -like tendencies, we're screwed."

OVERT ACT NO. 29: On or about January 17, 2001, defendant

OVERT ACT NO. 32: On or about January 30, 2001, defendant RUEHLE sent an email to Tullos instructing her to convey to defendant NICHOLAS his "serious reservations about killing the golden goose."

OVERT ACT NO. 33: On or about April 2, 2001, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, caused to be filed with the SEC

28

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

Broadcom's 10-K for the year 2000, which understated Broadcom's compensation expenses related to stock options.

OVERT ACT NO. 34: On or about November 30, 2001, defendant RUEHLE informed defendant NICHOLAS that it was acceptable to increase the number of options granted with the October 1, 2001 strike price of \$18.77 from approximately two million to approximately three million.

OVERT ACT NO. 35: On or about December 10, 2001, Tullos sent an email to defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and H.S., attaching a spreadsheet of proposed stock option grants with the October 1, 2001 strike price of \$18.77, entitled "18.77 Proposal_v.2.xls." In her email, Tullos explained: "[H.S.] and I met for several hours and went through the detailed employee option list that I gave you. We came up with the attached list as a proposal to you."

OVERT ACT NO. 36: On or about December 13, 2001, Tullos sent an email to defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and H.S., attaching a revised spreadsheet of proposed stock option grants with the October 1, 2001 strike price of \$18.77, entitled "18.77 Proposal_v.3.xls."

In her email, Tullos explained: "Attached is version 3 of the report sent earlier this week. I added two more names ([H.] and [H.]). We are still just short of the 2M [million]."

OVERT ACT NO. 37: On or about December 19, 2001, Tullos sent an email to defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and H.S., attaching a revised spreadsheet of proposed stock option grants with the October 1, 2001 strike price of \$18.77, entitled "18.77 Proposal_v.4.xls."

In her email, Tullos explained: "We need to lock these in ASAP."

OVERT ACT NO. 38: On or about December 21, 2001, Tullos sent an email to defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and H.S., attaching a

revised spreadsheet of proposed stock option grants with the October 1, 2001 strike price of \$18.77, entitled "18.77 Proposal_v.5.xls". In the email, Tullos explained: "Attached is the latest version (#5) of the \$18.77 stock option proposal. The change to this list includes the addition of [N.S.]."

OVERT ACT NO. 39: On or about January 1, 2002, Tullos sent an email to defendant NICHOLAS, with a copy to defendant RUEHLE, in which she stated: I just got an email from Bill. He said that the deadline for grabbing the 12/24 stock price for the cancel and regrant program is Jan 5th. The 12/24 closing price was \$39.75. [¶] Any update on the \$18.77 list?"

OVERT ACT NO. 40: On or about January 2, 2002, defendant NICHOLAS sent an email to Tullos and H.S., which had the subject title, "I found my old share grant spreadsheet from before October," to which was attached a spreadsheet entitled "Nick's Final Grant Proposal.xls," and in which NICHOLAS falsely claimed that the attached spreadsheet was "the spreadsheet I developed at the option meeting months ago."

OVERT ACT NO. 41: On or about January 3, 2002, Tullos sent an email to defendant RUEHLE, H.S., and others explaining that defendant NICHOLAS did not want to grant options for Section 16 officers at the October 1, 2001 strike price and "would like to find another opportunistic date, say \$25.55 on 10/5 or \$29.25 on 10/19."

OVERT ACT NO. 42: On or about January 3, 2002, H.S. sent an email to defendant RUEHLE, Tullos, and others, responding to Tullos's earlier email, which was titled "RE: Section 16 Grants," and which stated: "OK, then go with the 10/19 price."

OVERT ACT NO. 43: On or about January 4, 2002, defendant RUEHLE sent an email to defendant NICHOLAS, H.S., Tullos, and others regarding the "Pricing of Cancel & Regrant Options," in which he stated, "I VERY strongly recommend that these options be priced as of Dec 24 (\$39 & change). The absolute drop dead date for this decision is Friday, Jan 4."

OVERT ACT NO. 44: On or about January 4, 2002, H.S. sent an email to defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, Tullos, and others, responding to RUEHLE's recommendation for using the December 24, 2001 grant date, stating, "I agree. We may not see the \$39.75 price again before Jan 31. It would be far too risky to wait and see."

OVERT ACT NO. 45: On or about January 9, 2002, defendant RUEHLE authorized Broadcom to file with the SEC a Form 8-K that falsely claimed that employees who tendered their options were regranted options on December 24, 2001.

OVERT ACT NO. 46: On or about January 22, 2002, Tullos sent defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. an email to which were attached the following: a revised spreadsheet of proposed stock option grants with the October 1, 2001 strike price of \$18.77, entitled "18.77 Proposal_v.6.xls"; a spreadsheet of proposed stock option grants to Section 16 officers with the October 19, 2001 strike price of \$29.25, entitled "\$29.25 Grants.xls"; and a spreadsheet of proposed stock option grants to those who had tendered options with the December 24, 2001 strike price of \$39.75, entitled "\$39.75 Grants.xls."

OVERT ACT NO. 47: On or about January 23, 2002, Tullos sent defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. an email to which were attached the following: a revised spreadsheet of proposed stock option grants

with the October 1, 2001 strike price of \$18.77, entitled "18.77 Proposal_v.7.xls"; a revised spreadsheet of proposed stock option grants to Section 16 officers with the October 19, 2001 strike price of \$29.25, entitled "\$29.25 Grants_v.2.xls"; and a revised spreadsheet of proposed stock option grants to those who had tendered options with the December 24, 2001 strike price of \$39.75, entitled "\$39.75 Grants_v.2.xls." In the email, Tullos falsely stated: "I wanted to confirm that I did find the attached option spreadsheets that you sent to me a few months ago. Bill Ruehle is also aware that I found these."

OVERT ACT NO. 48: On or after January 23, 2002, defendant

12 NICHOLAS and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" October 1, 2001.

OVERT ACT NO. 49: On or after January 23, 2002, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" December 24, 2001.

OVERT ACT NO. 50: On or about March 19, 2002, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, caused to be filed with the SEC Broadcom's 10-K for the year 2001, which understated Broadcom's compensation expenses related to stock options.

OVERT ACT NO. 51: On or about March 25, 2002, defendants
NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, caused to be filed with the SEC a
proxy statement that falsely claimed to Broadcom's shareholders that
the Compensation Committee, as opposed to NICHOLAS, RUEHLE, H.S.,
and others, were granting options to Section 16 officers.

OVERT ACT NO. 52: On or before May 17, 2002, defendants
NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, determined that May 11, 2002, would
be the grant date for Broadcom's 2002 focal grant, with a strike
price corresponding to the closing price on that date.

1 |

28]

OVERT ACT NO. 53: On or about May 23, 2002, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, abandoned the May 11, 2002 grant date.

OVERT ACT NO. 54: On or about July 16, 2002, defendant RUEHLE, H.S., and Tullos met to discuss a double focal grant.

OVERT ACT NO. 55: On or after July 16, 2002, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" July 3, 2002.

OVERT ACT NO. 56: On or about July 31, 2002, after learning that one of the two Compensation Committee members had, on July 30, 2002, approved a grant to Section 16 officers with a July 29, 2002 grant date, defendant RUEHLE directed Tullos to move the grant date back to July 26, 2002, a date that had a more favorable closing price.

OVERT ACT NO. 57: On or about August 5, 2002, defendant RUEHLE cancelled the July 26, 2002 Compensation Committee grant and moved it to August 5, 2002, which had a more favorable strike price.

OVERT ACT NO. 58: On or after August 12, 2002, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" August 5, 2002.

OVERT ACT NO. 59: On or after August 12, 2002, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others, caused the two members of the Compensation Committee to execute a UWC dated "as of" August 5, 2002.

OVERT ACT NO. 60: On or about August 14, 2002, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE caused to be filed with the SEC a form 10-Q that falsely claimed that Broadcom's July 3, 2002, and August 5, 2002, option grants were made at fair market value on the date of grant.

OVERT ACT NO. 61: On or about November 14, 2002, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE caused to be filed with the SEC a form 10-Q that

falsely claimed that Broadcom's July 3, 2002, and August 5, 2002, option grants were made at fair market value on the date of grant.

OVERT ACT NO. 62: In or after November 2002, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" October 18, 2002.

OVERT ACT NO. 63: In or after January 2003, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" November 8, 2002.

OVERT ACT NO. 64: In or after January 2003, defendant NICHOLAS and H.S. signed a UWC dated "as of" December 27, 2002.

OVERT ACT NO. 65: On or about March 31, 2003, defendant RUEHLE and others caused to be filed with the SEC Broadcom's 10-K for the year 2002, which understated Broadcom's compensation expenses related to stock options.

OVERT ACT NO. 66: On or about March 15, 2004, defendant RUEHLE and others caused to be filed with the SEC Broadcom's 10-K for the year 2003, which understated Broadcom's compensation expenses related to stock options.

OVERT ACT NO. 67: On or about March 1, 2005, defendant RUEHLE and others caused to be filed with the SEC Broadcom's 10-K for the year 2004, which understated Broadcom's compensation expenses related to stock options.

1.2

COUNT TWO

2	[18	}	U.S.	C.	§	1348]	

[Securities Fraud]

133. Paragraphs 1 through 131 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated by reference as though set forth here in full.

134. Beginning no later than on or about July 30, 2002, and continuing until at least on or about March 1, 2005, in Orange County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, together with others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, aiding and abetting each other, knowingly and with the intent to defraud, devised, executed, and participated in a scheme to defraud as to material matters and to obtain money and property by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, and the concealment and non-disclosure of material facts, in connection with the purchase and sale of Broadcom stock.

COUNTS THREE THROUGH SEVEN

[18 U.S.C. §§ 1350 (c)(1) and 2]

[False Certification of Financial Reports]

135. Paragraphs 1 through 131 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated by reference as though set forth here in full.

136. On or about the dates set forth below, in Orange County, within the Central District of California and elsewhere, the defendants set forth below, aiding and abetting each other, falsely certified that the form set forth below that was filed with the SEC fairly presented, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of Broadcom, when in truth and in fact,

defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE knew the form set forth below was false in the following material respects:

COUNT	DEFENDANT	DATE	FORM	FALSE REPRESENTATION
THREE	NICHOLAS RUEHLE	8/14/2002	2002 Second Quarter 10-Q	1) 10-Q understated Broadcom's stock-based compensation expense; and 2) 10-Q claimed that the strike prices for Broadcom's July 3, 2002 and August 5, 2002 option grants were set at fair market value on the day of the grant.

1	COUNT	DEFENDANT	DATE	FORM	FALSE REPRESENTATION
2	FOUR NICHOLAS		11/14/2002	2002 Third	1) 10-Q understated Broadcom's stock-based
3				Quarter 10-Q	compensation expense; and 2) 10-Q claimed that the
4	:				strike prices for Broadcom's July 3, 2002 and August 5, 2002 option
5					grants were set at fair market value on the day of
6					the grant. 3) Sarbanes-Oxley
7			,		certification claimed Broadcom disclosed "any
8					fraud, whether or not material, that involves
10	ł				management or other employees who have a
11		Į.			significant role in the registrant's internal
					controls."
. 12	FIVE	RUEHLE	3/31/2003	2002	1) 10-K understated Broadcom's stock-based
13				10-K	compensation expense; and 2) Sarbanes-Oxley
14					certification claimed Broadcom disclosed "any
15					fraud, whether or not material, that involves
16					management or other employees who have a
17					significant role in the registrant's internal
18					controls."
19	SIX	RUEHLE	3/15/04	2003 10-K	10-K understated Broadcom's stock-based
20		1			compensation expense.
21	SEVEN	RUEHLE	3/1/05	2004 10-k	10-K understated Broadcom's stock-based
22	1	1	1	1	compensation expense.

COUNT EIGHT

[15 U.S.C. §§ 78m(a)(2) and 78ff; 17 C.F.R. §§ 240.12b-20 and 240.13a-13; and 18 U.S.C. § 2]

[False Statements in Reports Filed with the SEC]

137. Paragraphs 1 through 125 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated by reference as though set forth here in full.

138. On or about August 14, 2002, in Orange County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, aiding and abetting each other, knowingly and willfully made and caused to be made materially false and misleading statements, and omitted and caused to be omitted material facts necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which the statements were made, not misleading, in a report and document that was required to be filed with the SEC, namely, Broadcom's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the second quarter of 2002.

139. Specifically, in relation to options to purchase Broadcom stock purportedly granted on July 3, 2002, and August 5, 2002, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE caused Broadcom's Form 10-Q quarterly report to state that the "weighted average exercise price per share for the options is \$15.74, the fair market value on the date of grant," when, in truth and in fact, as defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE knew, \$15.74 was not the average strike price on the date of the actual grants of these options.

COUNT NINE

[15 U.S.C. §§ 78m(a)(2) and 78ff; 17 C.F.R. §§ 240.12b-20 and 240.13a-13; and 18 U.S.C. § 2]

[False Statements in Reports Filed with the SEC]

140. Paragraphs 1 through 126 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated by reference as though set forth here in full.

141. On or about November 14, 2002, in Orange County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, aiding and abetting each other, knowingly and willfully made and caused to be made materially false and misleading statements, and omitted and caused to be omitted material facts necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which the statements were made, not misleading, in a report and document that was required to be filed with the SEC, namely, Broadcom's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the third quarter of 2002.

142. Specifically, in relation to options to purchase Broadcom stock purportedly granted on July 3, 2002, and August 5, 2002, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE caused Broadcom's Form 10-Q quarterly report to state that the "weighted average exercise price per share for the options is \$15.74, the fair market value on the date of grant," when, in truth and in fact, as defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE knew, \$15.74 was not the average strike price on the date of the actual grants of these options.

COUNTS TEN THROUGH TWELVE

[15 U.S.C. §§ 78m(b)(2)(B) and 78ff;

17 C.F.R. § 240.13b2-2; and 18 U.S.C. § 2]

[Lying to Accountants]

143. Paragraphs 1 through 127 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated by reference as though set forth here in full.

144. On or about the dates listed below, in Orange County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, the following defendants, acting as officers of Broadcom, aiding and abetting each other, knowingly and willfully, directly and indirectly, made and caused others to make the following materially false and misleading statements to EY, and omitted to state and caused others to omit to state to EY, material facts necessary in order to make statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading, in connection with EY's review, examination, and audits of the financial statements of Broadcom:

l

COUNT	DEFENDANT	DATE	False and Misleading Statements
TEN	NICHOLAS RUEHLE	8/13/2002	1) "All material transactions have been properly recorded in the accounting records underlying the financial statements." 2) Broadcom's financial statements were in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles.

1	COUNT	DEFENDANT	DATE	False and Misleading Statements
2	ELEVEN	NICHOLAS	11/14/2002	1) "All material transactions
3		RUEHLE		have been properly recorded in the accounting records
4				underlying the financial statements."
5				2) Broadcom's financial statements were in compliance with generally accepted
6				accounting principles.
7	TWELVE	RUEHLE	1/23/2003	1) Broadcom had "no material transactions that have not been
8				properly recorded in the
9				accounting records underlying the financial statements." 2) Broadcom's financial
10				statements were in compliance with generally accepted
11				accounting principles. 3) Broadcom had "no material
12	}			weaknesses in internal control."
13				4) There was "no fraud involving management of employees who have significant roles in internal
14				control."
15				

COUNTS THIRTEEN THROUGH SEVENTEEN

145. Paragraphs 1 through 126 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated by reference as though set forth here in full.

146. On or after the dates listed below, in Orange County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, aiding and abetting each other, knowingly and willfully, directly and indirectly, falsified and caused others to falsify books, records, and accounts that Broadcom was required to make and keep, and that were required, in reasonable detail, to accurately and fairly reflect the transactions of Broadcom. Specifically, on or after the dates listed below, defendants knowingly and willfully caused to be created UWCs which claimed that Broadcom's Option Committee or Compensation Committee granted on options on the date contained on the UWC when, in truth and in fact, as defendants knew, the Broadcom's Option Committee or Compensation Committee did not take action on the dates identified on the UWC:

COUNT	DATE	UWC DATE	UWC TYPE
THIRTEEN	August 12, 2002	August 5, 2002	Option Committee
FOURTEEN	August 12, 2002	August 5, 2002	Compensation Committee
FIFTEEN	November 2002	October 18, 2002	Option Committee
SIXTEEN	January 2003	November 8, 2002	Option Committee
SEVENTEEN	January 2003	December 27, 2002	Option Committee

COUNT EIGHTEEN

[18 U.S.C. §§ 1341, 1346, and 2]

[Honest Services Mail Fraud]

147. Paragraphs 1 through 125 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated by reference as though set forth here in full.

148. Beginning in at least in or around 2001 and continuing until at least 2003, in Orange County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, aiding and abetting each other, knowingly and with intent to defraud, devised, participated in, and executed a scheme to defraud Broadcom's shareholders and its board of directors of their right to honest services by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, and the concealment of material facts.

149. On or about the date set forth below, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, for the purpose of executing and attempting to execute the above-described scheme to defraud, caused the following item to be placed in an authorized depository for mail matter to be sent and delivered by the United States Postal Service or to be deposited with and delivered by a commercial interstate carrier, according to the directions thereon:

COUNT	DATE	MAILING
EIGHTEEN		SEC Form 4, sent from Irvine, California, to Washington, DC

COUNTS NINETEEN THROUGH TWENTY-ONE

[18 U.S.C. §§ 1343, 1346, and 2]

[Honest Services Wire Fraud]

150. Paragraphs 1 through 128 of this Indictment are realleged and incorporated by reference as though set forth in full.

until at least 2003, in Orange County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, and others known and unknown to the Grand Jury, aiding and abetting each other, knowingly and with intent to defraud, devised, participated in, and executed a scheme to defraud Broadcom's shareholders and its board of directors of their right to honest services by means of materially false and fraudulent pretenses, representations, and promises, and the concealment of material facts.

152. On or about the dates set forth below, in Orange County, within the Central District of California, and elsewhere, defendants NICHOLAS and RUEHLE, for the purpose of executing and attempting to execute the above-described scheme to defraud, caused the following to be transmitted by means of wire communication in interstate commerce:

WIRING DATE COUNT Wiring of a Broadcom Form 8-K from 11/14/2002 NINETEEN Irvine, California, to the SEC in Virginia Wiring of a preliminary Broadcom proxy 3/27/2003 TWENTY statement from California to the SEC in Virginia

1	COUNT	DATE	WIRING		
2	TWENTY-ONE	4/17/2003	Wiring of a Broadcom California to the SEC	proxy statement in Virginia.	from
3		<u> </u>			
4					
5	÷		A TRUE BILL		
6				·	
7			Foreperson		
8					•
9			•		•
10	THOMAS P. O' United State		·		
11	GEORGE_SCA	ARDONA			
12	Chief Assist	ant United S	tates Attorney		
13	CHRISTINE C.	. EWELL nited States	Attorney		
14	Chief, Crim	inal Division			
15	PLA C	· ani			
16	ROBB C. ADK	INS			
17	Assistant Un Chief, Soutl	nited States hern Division	Attorney 1		
18	ANDREW STOL		7		
19	Assistant U	nited States	Accorney		
20		•			
21					
22					
23					
24					
25					
26					
27					