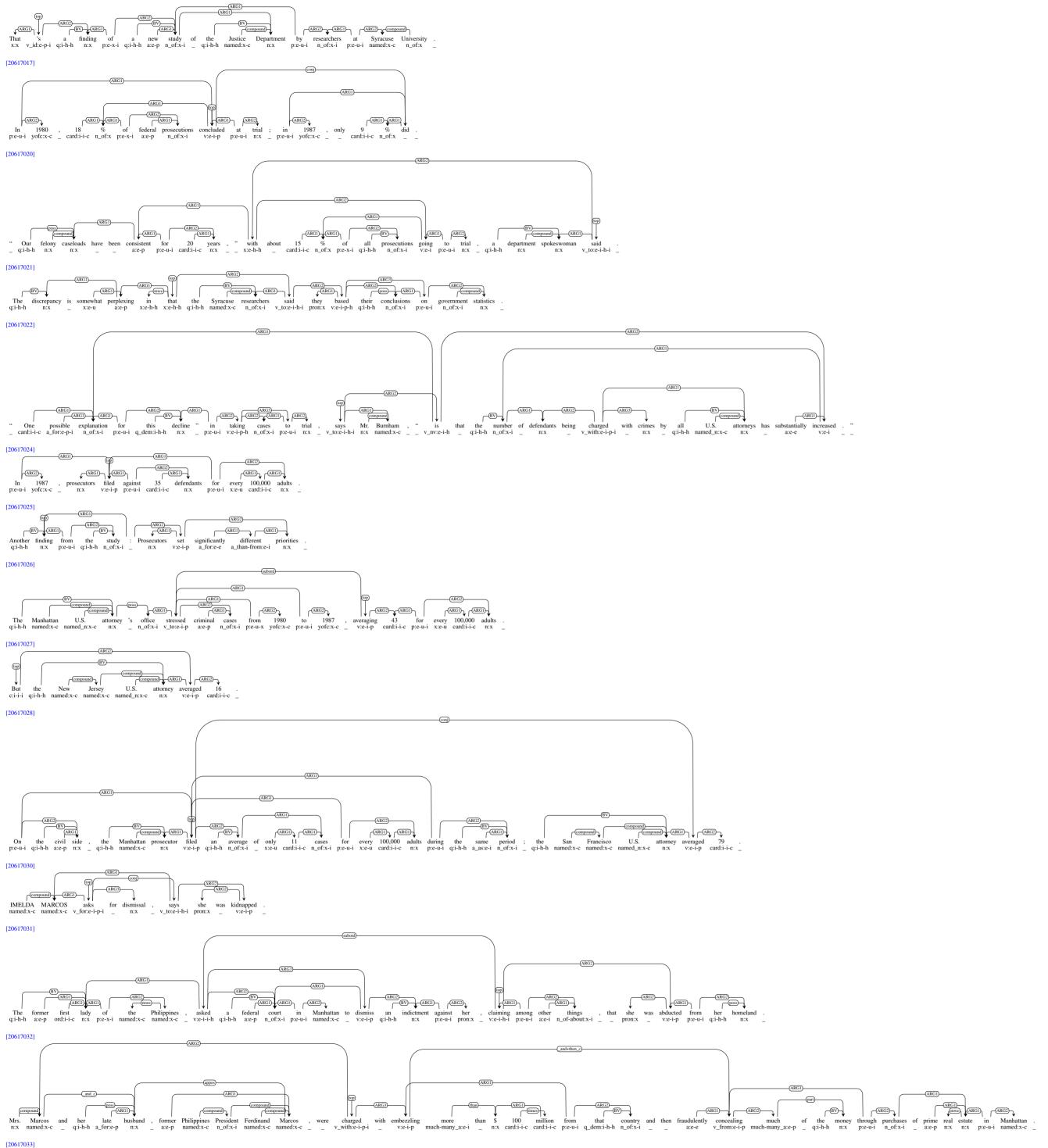
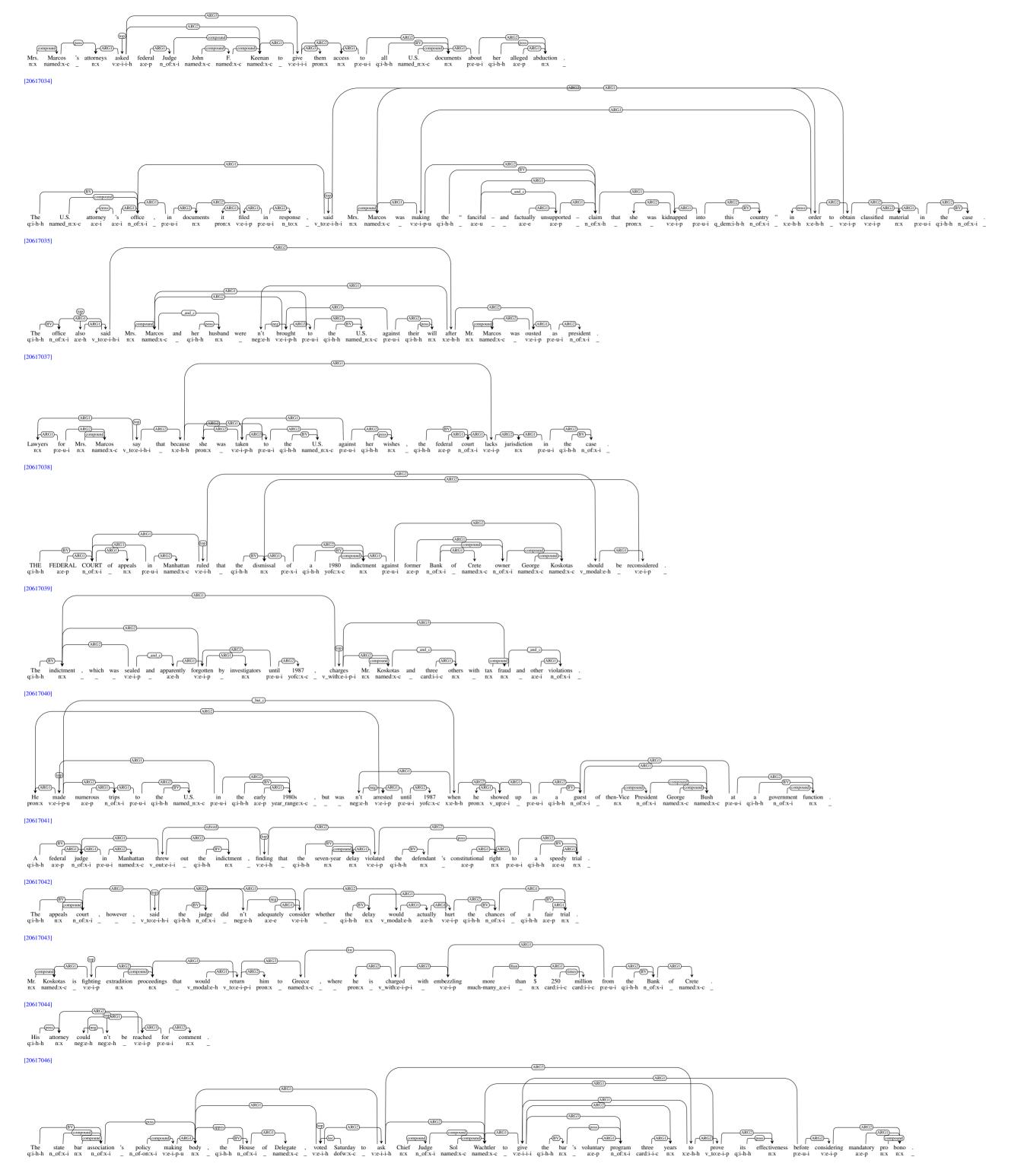
Document 0617 General Motors Corp. 's general counsel hopes to cut the number of outside law firms the auto maker uses from about 700 named:x-c named: 700 to 200 within two years card:i-i-c pre-u-i card:i-i-c n:x compound ARG1 trimmed about 40 firms from its approved local counsel list , Mr. Pearce says v.e-i-p x:e-u card:i-i-c n:x p:e-u-i q:i-h-h v:e-i-p a:e-p n:x n_of:x-i n:x named:x-c v_to:e-i-h-i GM 's first in-house litigation group in May with four lawyers , all former assistant U.S. attorneys with extensive trial experience named:x-c _ ord:i-i-c a:e-p n:x n_of:x p:e-u-i mofy:x-c p:e-u-i card:i-i-c n:x _ q:i-h-h a:e-p n:x named_n:x-c n:x p:e-u-i a:e-p n:x n_with:x WARGI ARG2 Among the types of cases the in-house litigators handle are disputes involving companies doing business with GM and product-related actions , including one in which a driver is suing GM for damages resulting from an accident p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n_of-n:x-i _ n_of:x-i _ v:e-i-p _ n:x _ v:e-i ARGI) ARGI res – the way a vehicle is welded has a lot to do with its durability – q:i-h-h n_of:x-h q:i-h-h n:x _ v:e-i-p v:e-i-i q:i-h-h n:x _ v:e-i-p-h p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n:x to develop more uniform welding procedures x:e-h-h v_cause:e-i-p much-many_a:e-i n:x v:e-i-p n:x (ARG1) (ARG2) The lawyers also monitor suits to identify specific automobile parts that cause the biggest legal problems q:i-h-h n:x a:e-h v:e-i-p n_of:x-i x:e-h-h v:e-i-p a_to:e-p-i n:x n:x _ v:e-i-p q:i-h-h a:e-i a:e-p n_of:x-i [20617011] Mr. Pearce says law firms with the best chance of retaining or winning business with GM n:x named:x-c v_to:e-i-h-i n:x n:x p:e-u-i q:i-h-h a_at-for-of:e-i n_of:x-i _ v:e-i-p _ v:e-i-p _ n:x p:e-u-i named:x-c be (1-arg) This does n't necessarily mean larger firms have an advantage; Mr. Pearce said GM works with a number of smaller firms it regards highly x:x _ neg-e-h a:e-h v_to:e-i-h-i a:e-i n:x v:e-i-i q:i-h-h n:x _ n:x named:x-c v_to:e-i-h-i named:x-c v:e-i-p p:e-u-i q:i-h-h n_of:x-i _ a:e-i n:x pron:x v_as:e-i-p a:e-e [20617013] GM 's legal staff by eliminating all titles and establishing several new functions are-p n.cf. z - ace-p n.cf. z p:e-u-i v_from:e-i-p q:i-h-h n.cf.x-i - v:e-i-p are-p n:x - v:e-i-p are-p n:x - v:e-i-p q:h-h n.cf.x - v:e-i-p q:i-h-h n.cf.x - v:e-i-p q:h-h n.cf.x - v:e-i-p q:h FEDERAL PROSECUTORS are concluding fewer criminal cases with trials a:e-p n.:x _ v:e-i-p a:e-i a:e-p n_of:x-i p:e-u-i n:x _

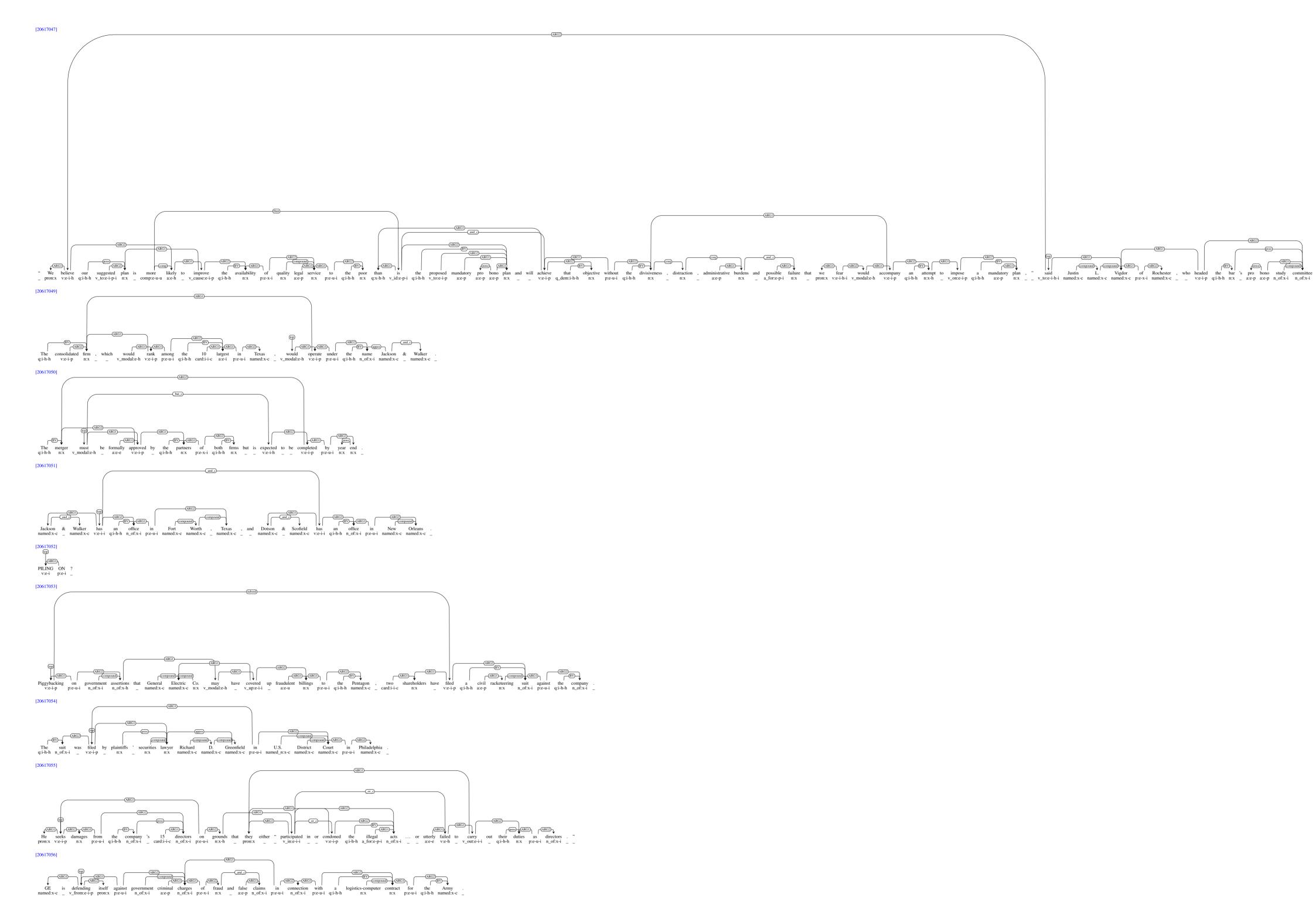
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