

US judge weighs JPMorgan's \$290 million settlement with Epstein accusers

NEW YORK, Nov 9 (Reuters) - A U.S. judge is weighing final approval of JPMorgan Chase's (JPM.N) \$290 million settlement with women who said Jeffrey Epstein abused them, and that the largest U.S. bank turned a blind eye to the late financier's sex trafficking.

At a hearing in Manhattan federal court on Thursday, U.S. District Judge Jed Rakoff appeared skeptical of an objection to the settlement by 16 U.S. states and Washington D.C., which said it could limit their ability to seek damages arising from sex trafficking by Epstein and his associates.

James Grayson, a lawyer for New Mexico, said in court the state has an ongoing investigation into the matter, without providing further details. Epstein owned a ranch in New Mexico, where some women have said he abused them.

Grayson said he was concerned JPMorgan could seek to block claims states may bring in the future.

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