CASE NO.: 21-CV-00690 1 DEPT. NO.: 1 2 IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 3 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LYOM lectronically Filed 4 Dec 30 2021 09:31 a.m. POLYMER80, INC. 5 Elizabeth A. Brown Clerk of Supreme Court 6 Plaintiff. vs. 7 STEPHEN SISOLAK, Governor of 8 Nevada, AARON FORD, Attorney General of Nevada, GEORGE TOGLIATTI, 9 Director of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, MINDY MCKAY, 10 Administrator of the Records. Communications, and Compliance Division 11 of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, 12 Defendants. 13 NOTICE OF APPEAL 14 Notice is hereby given that Stephen Sisolak, Governor of Nevada, Aaron Ford, 15 Attorney General of Nevada, George Togliatti, Director of the Nevada Department of Public 16 Safety, Mindy McKay, Administrator of the Records, Communications, and Compliance 17 Division of the Nevada Department of Public Safety (collectively, the "State Defendants") 18 hereby appeal to the Supreme Court of Nevada from the November 23, 2021 oral order 19 granting Polymer 80, Inc. summary judgment and the "Findings of Fact, Conclusions of 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28

Law, and Order Granting Summary Judgment in Favor of Plaintiff, Polymer80, Inc." entered December 10, 2021 and notice of entry of which was served on December 13, 2021. DATED this 16th day of December 2021. AARON D. FORD Attorney General By: Steve Shevorski (Bar No. 8256) Chief Litigation Counsel 555 E. Washington Ave., Ste. 3900 Las Vegas, NV 89101 (702) 486-3420 (phone) (702) 486-3768 (facsimile) sshevorski@ag.nv.gov

AFFIRMATION

Pursuant to NRS 239B.030(4), the undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding document does not contain the Social Security number of any person.

DATED this 16th day of December, 2021.

AARON FORD

Attorney General

By: Steve Shevorski (Bar No. 8256)

Chief Litigation Counsel

Office of the Nevada Attorney General

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am an employee of the State of Nevada, Office of the Attorney General, and that on the 16th day of December, 2021, I served the foregoing document, by causing a true and correct copy thereof to be served via U.S. Mail, addressed to the following:

Brad M. Johnston Simons Hall Johnston PC 22 State Route 208 Yerington, NV 89447 Attorneys for Polymer80, Inc.

An employee/of the

Office of the Attorney General

CASE NO.: 21-CV-00690 1 DEPT. NO.: 1 2 3 IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 4 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LYON 5 POLYMER80, INC. 6 Plaintiff, 7 VS. 8 STEPHEN SISOLAK, Governor of Nevada, AARON FORD, Attorney General of 9 Nevada, GEORGE TOGLIATTI, Director of the Nevada Department of Public 10 Safety, MINDY MCKAY, Administrator of the Records, Communications, and 11 Compliance Division of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, 12 Defendants. 13 CASE APPEAL STATEMENT 14 Defendants Stephen Sisolak, Governor of Nevada, Aaron Ford, Attorney General of 15 Nevada, George Togliatti, Director of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, Mindy 16 17 McKay, Administrator of the Records, Communications, and Compliance Division of the Nevada Department of Public Safety (collectively, the "State Defendants") hereby file their 18 Case Appeal Statement pursuant to Nevada Rule of Appellate Procedure 3(f). 19 1. Name of appellant filing this case appeal statement: 20 Stephen Sisolak, Governor of Nevada, Aaron Ford, Attorney General of Nevada, 21 22 George Togliatti, Director of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, Mindy McKay, 23 Administrator of the Records, Communications, and Compliance Division of the Nevada Department of Public Safety. 24Identify the judge issuing the decision, judgment, or order appealed from: 25 Honorable John P. Schlegelmilch. 26 27 28

1	3. Identify each appellant and the name and counsel for each appellant:		
2	(a) Name of appellants		
3	Stephen Sisolak, Governor of Nevada, Aaron Ford, Attorney General of Nevada		
4	George Togliatti, Director of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, Mindy McKay		
5	Administrator of the Records, Communications, and Compliance Division of the Nevada		
6	Department of Public Safety.		
7	(b) Name and address of appellate counsel		
8	Steve Shevorski, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 8256		
9	Chief Litigation Counsel Office of the Nevada Attorney General		
10	555 E. Washington Ave., Ste. 3900 Las Vegas, NV 89101		
11	(702) 486-3420 (phone) (702) 486-3768 (facsimile)		
12	sshevorski@ag.nv.gov		
13	known, for each respondent (if the name of a respondent's appella		
14			
15	or that respondents that counsely.		
16	(a) Name of respondent		
17	Polymer80, Inc.		
18	(b) Name and address of trial counsel		
19	Respondent's appellate counsel is not known. Polymer80, Inc. was represented by		
20	the following trial counsel:		
21	Brad M. Johnston, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 8515		
22	Simons Hall Johnston PC 32 State Route 208		
23	Yerington, NV 89447 (775) 463-9500 (phone)		
24	bjohnston@shjnevada.com		
25			
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Indicate whether any attorney identified above in response to question 3 or 4 is not licensed to practice law in Nevada and, if so, whether the district court granted that attorney permission to appear under SCR 42 (attach a copy of any district court order granting such permission):

All attorneys identified above in response to questions 3 and 4 are licensed to practice law in Nevada.

6. Indicate whether appellants were represented by appointed or retained counsel in the district court.

Appellants were represented by retained counsel before the district court.

7. Indicate whether appellants were represented by appointed or retained counsel on appeal.

Appellants are represented by retained counsel on appeal.

8. Indicate whether appellant was granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis, and the date of entry of the district court order granting such leave:

None of these appellants sought or were granted leave to proceed in forma pauperis.

9. Indicate the date the proceedings commenced in the district court (e.g., date complaint, indictment, information, or petition was filed):

On June 22, 2021, the complaint was filed in the district court.

10. Provide a brief description of the nature of the action and result in the district court, including the type of judgment or order being appealed and the relief granted by the district court:

Plaintiff is a designer, developer, and seller of aftermarket gun accessories, including unfinished lower receivers or frames that can be bought as kits and assembled at home. Plaintiff brought this action to challenge Assembly Bill 286 (AB 286) of the 2021 legislative session, which was passed to attempt reducing the spread of ghost guns by applying serial number requirements to an "unfinished frame or receiver" with criminal penalties.

In its complaint and its motion for preliminary injunction, Plaintiff contended that AB 286 was unconstitutionally vague. Following briefing and argument, the district court entered an order granting preliminary injunction against Appellants with respect to enforcing Section 3.5 of AB 286, concluding that it was unconstitutionally vague as a criminal statute. Further, the district court concluded that Plaintiff sufficiently

demonstrated irreparable harm to warrant a preliminary injunction based on the inability to conduct business without the threat of criminal prosecution. Finally, the district court concluded that the public interests and the balance of hardships weigh in favor of a preliminary injunction due to the ambiguity in AB 286.

The district court denied Plaintiff's motion for preliminary injunction seeking to enjoin other aspects of AB 286. Pursuant to NRAP 3A(b)(3), Appellants appealed the district court's July 16 order as to Section 3.5 of Assembly Bill 286.

Following expedited discovery and briefing on cross motions for summary judgment, the district court issued an oral order granting summary judgment against Defendants, including a permanent injunction, against enforcement of Section 3 and 3.5 of Assembly Bill 286, after oral argument. The district court concluded that those sections of Assembly Bill 286 were unconstitutionally vague, and that Plaintiff had demonstrated the other requirements for a permanent injunction. The written "Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order Granting Summary Judgment in Favor of Plaintiff, Polymer80, Inc." were entered December 10, 2021 and notice of entry of which was served on December 13, 2021.

11. Indicate whether the case has previously been the subject of an appeal or original writ proceeding in the Supreme Court and, if so, the caption and the Supreme Court docket number of the prior proceeding:

On July 16, 2021, the district court entered a preliminary injunction against Section 3.5 of Assembly Bill 286. Defendants timely appealed the granting of a preliminary injunction on August 18, 2021. The caption for the earlier appeal was as follows:

Sisolak et al. v. Polymer80, Inc., Case No. 83385

Based on the permanent injunction and judgment entered by the district court on November 23, 2021, Defendants' appeal of the preliminary injunction is now moot.

12. Indicate whether this appeal involves child custody or visitation:

This appeal does not involve child custody or visitation.

1	13.	If this is a civil case, indicate whether this appeal involves the possibility of settlement.
2		of Sections.
3		This appeal does not involve the possibility of settlement.
4		DATED this 16th day of December 2021.
5		AARON D. FORD Attorney General
6		
7		By: Steve Shevorski (Bar No. 8256)
8		Steve Shevorski (Bar No. 8256) Chief Litigation Counsel Office of the Nevada Attorney General
9		555 E. Washington Ave., Ste. 3900 Las Vegas, NV 89101 (702) 486-3420 (phone)
10		(702) 486-3420 (phone) sshevorski@ag.nv.gov Attorneys for Defendants
11		$Attorneys\ for\ Defendants$
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AFFIRMATION

Pursuant to NRS 239B.030(4), the undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding document does not contain the Social Security number of any person.

DATED this 16th day of December, 2021.

AARON D. FORD Attorney General

By:

Steve Shevorski (Bar No. 8256) Chief Litigation Counsel

Attorneys for Defendants

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am an employee of the State of Nevada, Office of the Attorney General, and that on the 16th day of December, 2021, I served the foregoing document, by causing a true and correct copy thereof to be served via U.S. Mail, addressed to the following:

6 Brad M. Johnston Simons Hall Johnston PC 7 22 State Route 208 Yerington, NV 89447 8 Attorneys for Polymer 80, Inc.

An employee of the Office of the Attorney General

Case Summary

Aaron D. Ford Attorney General, POLYMER80, INC., STEPHEN SISOLAK, GOVERNOR OF NEVADA, GEORGE TOGLIATTI, DIRECTOR OF THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, MINDY MCKAY, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE RECORDS, COMMUNICATION, AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION OF THE NEVADA DEP

Case Number: 21-CV-00690 Agency: Third Judicial District Court

Type: Other Civil Matters

Status: Closed

Received Date: 6/22/2021 Status Date: 12/10/2021

Involvements

Primary Involvements

STEPHEN SISOLAK, GOVERNOR OF NEVADA Defendant Ford, Aaron D. Attorney General - AFORD Defendant GEORGE TOGLIATTI, DIRECTOR OF THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY Defendant MINDY MCKAY, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE RECORDS, COMMUNICATION, AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION OF THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY Defendant POLYMER80, INC. Plaintiff

Other Involvements

Doerr, Mark T. Esq. Plaintiff's Attorney

Zunino, Gregory L. Deputy Solicitor General Defendant's

Attorney

McGuire, James J. Esq. Plaintiff's Attorney Johnston, Brad M. Esq. Plaintiff's Attorney

Third Judicial District Court (21-CV-00690) Schlegelmilch, John P. - JPS Dept I - TJDC

2. NRCP ~ RELATED PARTY

Lead/Active: False

3. NRCP ~ RELATED PARTY

Lead/Active: False

4. NRCP ~ RELATED PARTY

Lead/Active: False

5. NRCP ~ RELATED PARTY

Lead/Active: False

Other Civil Matters

1. NRCP 3 ~ COMPLAINT

Lead/Active: True



Page 1 of 3 12/22/2021 9:13:03 AM

Case Status History

6/22/2021 3:33:00 PM | Open 12/10/2021 3:33:00 PM | Closed

Documents

- 6/22/2021 Verified Complaint.pdf Filed
- 6/22/2021 Summons- Issued- Aaron Ford.pdf Issued
- 6/22/2021 Summons-Issued-George Togliatti.pdf Issued
- 6/22/2021 Summons- Issued- Mindy McKay.pdf Issued
- 6/22/2021 Summons- Issued- Steve Sisolak.pdf Issued
- 6/22/2021 Civil Cover Sheet.pdf Filed
- 6/24/2021 Plaintiff's Rule 7.1 Disclosure Statement.pdf Filed
- 6/25/2021 Motion for Temporary Restraining Order and Preliminary Injunction.pdf Filed
- 6/25/2021 Notice of Entry of Order (Order filed 6-25-21).pdf Filed
- 6/25/2021 Order Shortening Time.pdf Filed
- 6/25/2021 Emergency Application of Polymer80 Inc. for Order to Show Cause or, Alternatively, pdf Filed
 - Notes: Its Motion for Order Shortening Time
- $6/30/2021\,$ Motion to Associate Counsel- James J. McGuire.pdf Filed
- 6/30/2021 Proof of Service (Summons and Complaint).pdf Filed
- 7/2/2021 Order Granting Motion to Associate Counsel- James J. McGuire.pdf Filed
- 7/6/2021 Defendants' Opposition to Application for Temporary Restraining Order.pdf Filed
- 7/12/2021 Reply Memorandum of Points and Authories in Support of Motion for Temp Restraining Order.pdf Filed
- 7/13/2021 Motion to Associate Counsel- Mark T. Doerr.pdf Filed
- 7/14/2021 Order Granting Motion to Associate Counsel- Mark T. Doerr.pdf Filed
- 7/15/2021 Security Bond Check.pdf For Court Use Only
- 7/15/2021 Notice of Posting Security.pdf Filed
- 7/15/2021 Case Management and Trial Scheduling Order.pdf Filed
- 7/16/2021 Notice of Entry of Order.pdf Filed
- 7/16/2021 Order Granting Preliminary Injunction.pdf Filed
- 7/23/2021 Transcript of Proceedings Motion for Temporary Restraining Order July 14, 2021.pdf Filed
- 8/16/2021 Appellant's Case Appeal Statement.pdf Filed
- 8/16/2021 Notice of Appeal.pdf Filed
- 8/18/2021 Defendants' Motion for Stay Pending Appeal.pdf Filed
- 8/20/2021 Receipt for Documents S.C..pdf Filed
- 8/30/2021 Memorandum of Points and Authorities in Opposition to Moiton for Stay Pending Appeal.pdf Filed
- 9/7/2021 Defendants' Reply in Support of Motion for Stay Pending Appeal.pdf Filed
- 9/16/2021 Request to Submit Defendant's Motion for Stay Pending Appeal.pdf Filed
- 9/16/2021 Proposed Order Granting Stay Pending Appeal.pdf Submitted
- 9/21/2021 Setting Memo (10-6-21).pdf Filed
- 9/27/2021 Defendants Answer to Plaintiffs Complaint.pdf Filed
- 10/12/2021 Subpoened Nonparty Nevada State Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui's Motion to Quash Subpoena.pdf Filed Notes: and for Protective Order
- 10/19/2021 Opposition of Polymer80 Inc to Motion of Assemblywoman Jauregui to Quash Subpoena.pdf Filed
- 10/19/2021 Stip & Order for Briefing and Hearing.pdf Filed
- 10/22/2021 Zoom Link -10-25-2021.pdf For Court Use Only
- 10/22/2021 COPY- Subpoenaed Nonparty Nevada State Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui's Reply in Support.pdf For Court Use Only
 - Notes: of Motion to Quash Subpoena and for Protective Order
- 10/25/2021 Letter to Court- Discovery Issues- Dated 10-25-21.pdf Filed
- 10/25/2021 Subpoenaed Assemblywoman Jaureguis Reply in Support of Motion to Quash Subpoena and for Protective Order.pdf Filed
- 11/1/2021 Transcript Status Hearing 10-25-21.pdf Filed
- 11/5/2021 Plaintiffs Pretrial Disclosures.pdf Filed
- 11/8/2021 Motion of Polymer80, Inc. for Summary Judgment (Exhibit D on FlashDrive).pdf Filed
- 11/8/2021 Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment.pdf Filed
- 11/8/2021 Defendant's Pretrial Disclosure.pdf Filed
- 11/8/2021 Polymer80 Motion for Summary Judgment Exhibit D Flash Drive\Legislative History of AB 286.pdf Filed
- 11/9/2021 Order Denying Defendants' Motion for Stay Pending Appeal.pdf Filed
- 11/18/2021 Zoom Link 11-23-2021.pdf For Court Use Only



Case Summary

11/18/2021 Memorandum of Points and Authorities of Polymer80, Inc in Opposition to Defendants Motion for Summary.pdf - Filed

Notes: Judgement an in Further Support of its Motion for Summary Judgement

11/18/2021 Stip & Order for Briefing & Hearing on Motions for Summary Judgment.pdf - Filed

11/19/2021 Plaintiff's Objection to Defendants' Pretrial Disclosures.pdf - Filed

11/19/2021 Defendants' Opposition to Polymer80s Motion for Summary Judgment.pdf - Filed

11/22/2021 Order Granting Subpoenaed Nonparty Nevada State Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui's Motion to Quash Subpoena.pdf - Filed

Notes: and for Protective Order

11/24/2021 Notice of Entry of Order Granting Sandra Jauregui's Motion to Quash.pdf - Filed Notes: Subpoena and for Protective Order

12/10/2021 Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, & Order Granting Summary Jdgmnt.pdf - Filed

12/13/2021 Notice of Entry of Order-Summary Judgment.pdf - Filed

12/20/2021 Notice of Appeal (Order Filed 12-10-2021).pdf - Filed

12/20/2021 Case Appeal Statement.pdf - Filed



Page 3 of 3 12/22/2021 9:13:03 AM

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The undersigned affirms that this document does not contain the social security number of any individual.

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LYON

POLYMER80, INC.,

Plaintiff.

VS.

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER GRANTING SUMMARY JUDGMENT IN FAVOR OF PLAINTIFF, POLYMER80, INC.

STEPHEN SISOLAK, Governor of Nevada, AARON FORD, Attorney General of Nevada, GEORGE TOGLIATTI, Director of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, MINDY MCKAY, Administrator of the Records, Communications, and Compliance Division of the Nevada Department of Public Safety.

Defendants.

This matter is before the Court upon the parties' competing Motions for Summary Judgment both filed on November 8, 2021, and duly opposed by each party on November 18, 2021. The matter was set for argument on November 23, 2021. Plaintiff was present and represented by Brad Johnston, Esq., of Simons Hall Johnston PC (via Zoom) and James J. McGuire, Esq., (pro hac vice) of Greenspoon Marder LLP, who was present in Court. The Defendants were represented by Craig A. Newby, Esq., Deputy Solicitor General, who was present in Court.

This Court, having reviewed and considered the parties' respective motions and oppositions for summary judgment, considered the exhibits thereto and arguments therein, conducted a hearing upon those motions, and heard oral argument from counsel for Polymer80 and for Defendants, and good cause appearing, makes the following FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDERS.

I

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

During the 81st legislative session, the Nevada Legislature passed Assembly Bill 286 ("AB 286"). AB 286 is -- "AN ACT relating to crimes; prohibiting persons from engaging in certain acts relating to unfinished frames or receivers under certain circumstances; ... providing penalties; and providing other matters properly relating thereto." Nevada Governor, Stephen Sisolak, signed AB 286 into law on June 7, 2021.

On June 22, 2021, Plaintiff, Polymer80, Inc. ("Polymer80"), filed this lawsuit against Defendants, Stephen Sisolak, Governor of Nevada, Aaron Ford, Attorney General of Nevada, George Togliatti, Director of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, and Mindy McKay, Administrator of the Records, Communications, and Compliance Division of the Nevada Department of Public Safety (collectively referred to as "Defendants"), alleging that Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague under the Due Process Clause of the Constitution of the State of Nevada ("Nevada Constitution"). In its Verified Complaint, Polymer80 sought a Declaration from this Court that Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 violate the Nevada Constitution and a Permanent Injunction barring enforcement of the new law.

On June 25, 2021, Polymer80 filed its *Motion for Temporary Restraining Order and Preliminary Injunction*. After briefing and a hearing, this Court, on July 16, 2021, entered its *Order Granting Preliminary Injunction*, preliminarily barring enforcement of Section 3.5 of AB 286. That Order is currently pending appeal at the Nevada Supreme Court.

¹ At that time, this Court declined to enter a Preliminary Injunction as to the enforcement of AB 286 Section 3, because that portion of the new statute would not go into effect until January 1, 2022.

Thereafter, the Court held a Case Management and Scheduling Conference on July 14, 2021, that resulted in a July 15, 2021, *Case Management and Trial Scheduling Order* setting an expedited trial date of November 30, 2021. That Order also provided that the parties could engage in discovery through November 1, 2021, and fixed November 8, 2021, as the deadline for filing dispositive motions. By so ruling, this Court wanted to, and did, afford the parties the opportunity to develop the evidentiary record to be presented upon motions for summary judgment and/or at trial.

In the ensuing months, the parties proceeded with discovery. Both Polymer80 and Defendants timely filed Motions for Summary Judgment on November 8, 2021.² Pursuant to the parties' Stipulation, this Court directed that they file their oppositions to the other side's summary judgment motion on November 18, 2021, dispense with reply briefs, and proceed to a full hearing on November 23, 2021. That hearing was held as scheduled and the Court heard substantial argument from the parties. Notably, both parties agreed at that hearing that this Court could decide this case upon the record before it at that point, and that a trial was unnecessary. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Court rendered an oral ruling granting Polymer80 summary judgment. This Order follows and memorializes that ruling.

Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the *Motion of Polymer80, Inc., for Summary Judgment* is GRANTED, and that *Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment* is DENIED, for the reasons set forth herein and on the record at the November 23, 2021, hearing.

² Before the parties filed their competing Motions for Summary Judgment, Defendants filed an appeal from this Court's *Order Granting Preliminary Injunction*. Thereafter, Defendants filed a Motion to Stay this case in this Court, arguing, among other things, that this matter presented a pure question of law that would be resolved upon their then-pending appeal. This Court denied Defendants stay, largely because the issue on appeal was not the ultimate question of whether or not AB 286 was and is unconstitutionally vague but whether or not this Court had abused its discretion in granting interim relief. Moreover, a stay would have only delayed a ruling on the constitutionality of AB 286, which would not have been in the best interests of either Plaintiff or Defendants.

CONTESTED PROVISIONS OF AB 286

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The 81st Nevada Legislature amended Chapter 202 of the Nevada Revised Statutes by adding, among others, the following provisions, which are the subject of this proceeding.

First, Section 3 of AB 286, effective as of January 1, 2022, provides as follows:

- A person shall not possess, purchase, transport or receive an unfinished frame or receiver unless:
 - (a) The person is a firearms importer or manufacturer; or
- (b) The unfinished frame or receiver is required by federal law to be imprinted with a serial number issued by a firearms importer or manufacturer and the unfinished frame or receiver has been imprinted with the serial number.
- 2. A person who violates this section:
- (a) For the first offense, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor; and
- (b) For the second or any subsequent offense is guilty of a category D felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS $193.130.^{3}$

Plainly, this provision makes it a crime to "possess, purchase, transport or receive an unfinished frame or receiver" in the State of Nevada.

Second, Section 3.5 of AB 286, which became effective on June 7, 2021, provides as follows:

- A person shall not sell, offer to sell or transfer an unfinished frame or receiver unless:
 - (a) The person is:
 - (1) A firearms importer or manufacturer; and
- (2) The recipient of the unfinished frame or receiver is a firearms importer or manufacturer; or
- (b) The unfinished frame or receiver is required by federal law to be imprinted with a serial number issued by an importer or manufacturer and the unfinished frame or receiver has been imprinted with the serial number.

³ NRS 193.130 provides that a category D felony is punishable by 1-4 years in Nevada State Prison and a fine of up to \$5,000.00.

2. A person who violates this section:

and

- (a) For the first offense, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor;
- (b) For the second or any subsequent offense is guilty of a category D felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130

This Section makes it a crime to "sell, offer to sell or transfer an unfinished frame or receiver" in the State of Nevada.

Section 6 of AB 286 amended NRS 202.253 by adding the term "[u]nfinished frame or receiver" to Nevada law and defines that term as follows:

9. "Unfinished frame or receiver" means a blank, a casting or a machined body that is intended to be turned into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm with additional machining and which has been formed or machined to the point at which most of the major machining operations have been completed to turn the blank, casting or machined body into a frame or lower receiver of a firearm even if the fire-control cavity area of the blank, casting or machined body is still completely solid and unmachined.

Polymer80 argues that Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague under the Due Process Clause of the Nevada Constitution.⁴

Ш

STANDARD ON SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Summary judgment is appropriate, where "the pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions on file, together with the affidavits, if any, show that there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and that the moving party is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law." NRCP 56(c). While this Court must construe the evidence in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party upon such a motion, the nonmoving party "bears the burden to do more than simply show that there is some metaphysical doubt as to the operative facts in order to avoid

⁴ This decision does not extend to Section 4 or 5 of AB 286 and this Court makes no judgment relating to the efficacy of those provisions.

summary judgment being entered in the moving party's favor." *Wood v. Safeway, Inc.*, 121 Nev. 724, 732 (2005) (quotations omitted). "The nonmoving party must, by affidavit or otherwise, set forth specific facts demonstrating the existence of a genuine issue for trial or have summary judgment entered against him." *Id.* And, the party opposing summary judgment cannot build a case on the "gossamer threads of whimsy, speculation, and conjecture." *Id.* (quoting *Bulbman, Inc. v. Nevada Bell*, 108 Nev. 105, 110 (1992)). Critically, the Nevada Supreme Court, as the parties have acknowledged, has held that summary judgment is appropriate with respect to, as here, a facial Due Process challenge on vagueness grounds to the constitutionality of a criminal statue. *See Flamingo Paradise Gaming, LLC v. Chanos*, 125 Nev. 502, 508-09 (2009). As explained below, there are no "genuine issues of material fact" precluding summary judgment, and this Court may properly resolve this action on summary judgment upon the record before it.

IV

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Polymer80 is a Nevada corporation headquartered in Dayton, Nevada, within Lyon County. It manufactures, designs, and distributes gun-related products, components, and after-market accessories. The legislative history reveals that AB 286 has targeted, at least partially, certain of Polymer80's business products. Defendants have also admitted as much in their Answer and in their moving papers. As set forth in the testimony of Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui:

... a Nevada based company, Polmer80, Inc., [is] one of the nation's largest manufacturers of ghost guns.

Minutes, Assembly Committee on Judiciary, p.6 (March 17, 2021). Assemblyman Wheeler stated therein:

The kit guns you called ghost guns are used by a lot of hobbyists. Under federal law, those are quite legal, so outlawing them in Nevada, as this bill tries to do, basically puts a company [Polmer80] in my district out of business. . . .

We are going to drive a company in my district out of business, but people can still buy them in Kentucky. . .

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Minutes, Assembly Committee on Judiciary, p.13-14 (March 17, 2021).⁵

STANDING OF POLMER80

In Defendants' Answer and at the Motion for Preliminary Injunction hearing, the State of Nevada contested Polymer80's standing to contest the constitutional validity of AB 286. The Defendants' have not argued a lack of standing on summary judgment. However, Polymer80 asserts in their Motion that they indeed have standing.

NRS 30.040 provides, in pertinent part:

NRS 30.040. Questions of construction or validity of . . . statutes.

1. Any person . . . whose rights, status or other legal relations are affected by a statute . . . may have determined any question of construction or validity arising under the . . . statute . . . and obtain a declaration of rights, status or other legal relations thereunder.

NRS 30.040(1). In Nevada, the issue of Standing is a question of law. Arguello v. Sunset Station. Inc., 127 Nev. 365, 368 (2011). As explained recently by the Nevada Supreme Court:

> The question of standing concerns whether the party seeking relief has a sufficient interest in the litigation. The primary purpose of this standing inquiry is to ensure the litigant will vigorously and effectively present his or her case against an adverse party. Thus, a requirement of standing is that the litigant personally suffer injury that can be fairly traced to the allegedly unconstitutional statute and which would be redressed by invalidating the statute. A general interest in the matter is normally insufficient: a party must show a personal injury.

Flor Morency v Nevada Department of Education, 137 Nev. Adv. Op. 63, p. 7, 496 P.3d 584 (Oct. 7, 2021), (Citations Omitted).

⁵ This Court notes that there are multiple references to Polmer80 in the legislative history of AB 286 all indicating the negative impact of the bill on their ability to conduct business in the State of

This Court finds that Polymer80 has standing to mount a facial vagueness challenge to the constitutionality of AB 286. Like the Plaintiffs in *Flamingo Paradise Gaming, LLC v. Chanos*, 125 Nev. 502, 508-09 (2009), Polymer80 could be subject to criminal prosecution stemming from its ongoing conduct. Polymer80's facial challenge to AB 286 is ripe for this Court's adjudication as Section 3.5 of AB 286 took effect earlier this year upon approval by the Governor and Section 3 of AB 286 takes effect January 1, 2022. Accordingly, it is ripe for this Court to determine whether or not both of those Sections of AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague under the Due Process Clause of the Nevada Constitution.

Polymer80 satisfies the requirement to show that they would "personally suffer injury that can fairly be traced to the allegedly unconstitutional statute" by facing the prospect of felony criminal prosecution each time they produce a product which allegedly falls under the purview of the statute. Further, Polymer80 would suffer significant economic loss as set forth in the Deposition testimony submitted, and uncontested by the Defendants. This, combined with the legislative history showing that the thrust of the bill was to put Polymer80 out of business, clearly establishes that, unlike any other potential litigant, Polymer80 will vigorously and effectively present the case for facial invalidity of the statute – which is Polymer80's only true redress.

This Court determines that Polymer80 will suffer irreparable harm in the absence of declaratory and/or injunctive relief, since, as under *Flamingo*, that harm exists if a Nevadan, such as Polymer80, must conduct its affairs in the wake of criminal jeopardy that fails to provide fair notice of the conduct being criminalized.⁶

⁶ The Defendants previously argued at the preliminary injunction hearing that Section 3(1)(b) would mitigate any harm as all Polymer80 would have to do is put a serial number on its products. The

B. STANDARD OF REVIEW FOR A FACIAL VAGUENESS CHALLENGE

The question before this Court is essentially whether or not AB 286 is unconstitutionally vague under the Due Process Clause of the Nevada Constitution. It is undisputed that Section 3 and Section 3.5 of AB286 are criminal statutes with penalties being elevated as high as category D felonies.

Nevada's Due Process Clause states simply that "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law." Nev. Const., Art. 1, Sec. 8(2). In Nevada, the determination of whether a statute is constitutional is a question of law. *Silvar v. Dist. Ct.*, 122 Nev. 289, 292, 129 P.3d 682, 684 (2006).

Statutes are presumed to be valid, and the challenger bears the burden of showing that a statute is unconstitutional. The court must interpret a statute in a reasonable manner, that is, [t]he words of the statute should be construed in light of the policy and spirit of the law, and the interpretation made should avoid absurd results. In reviewing a statute, it should be given [its] plain meaning and must be construed as a whole and not be read in a way that would render words or phrases superfluous or make a provision nugatory.

Flamingo Paradise Gaming v. Att'y General, 125 Nev. 502, 509 (2009). In reviewing the statute, "every reasonable construction must be resorted to, in order to save a statute from unconstitutionality." State v. Castaneda, 126 Nev. 478, 481, 245 P.3d 550, 552 (2010).

The Nevada Supreme Court has adopted a two-pronged test for determining whether a criminal statute is so impermissibly vague as to run afoul of the due process clause of the Nevada

argument was abandoned on summary judgment. Section 3(1)(b) and Section 3.5(1)(b) by their own terms only provide relief when the "unfinished" frame or receiver is "required" by federal law to be imprinted with a serial number. It is undisputed that the products produced by Polymer80 are not required by federal law to have a serial number imprinted on them.

Constitution. See, e.g., Flamingo Paradise Gaming, 125 Nev. at 510; Gallegos v. State, 123 Nev. 289, 294 (2007).

A criminal statute can be invalidated for vagueness (1) if it fails to provide a person of ordinary intelligence fair notice of what is prohibited or(2) if it is so standardless that it authorizes or encourages seriously discriminatory enforcement.

Scott v. First Jud. Dist. Ct., 131 Nev. 1015, 1021 (2015). Although both civil and criminal statutes are judged under the same test, the Nevada Supreme Court has explained:

[T]here are two approaches to a facial vagueness challenge depending on the type of statute at issue. The first approach arises under a facial challenge to a civil statute and the plaintiff must show that the statute is impermissibly vague in all of its applications. In making this showing, [a] complainant who engages in some conduct that is clearly proscribed cannot complain of the vagueness of the law as applied to the conduct of others. But, when the statute involves criminal penalties or constitutionally protected rights, the second approach involves a higher standard of whether "vagueness permeates the text.

Flamingo, 125 Nev. at 512.⁷ Where a statute imposes criminal penalties, as is the case with AB 286, the more exacting standard for Constitutionality is imposed.

Under the higher standard, the question becomes whether vagueness so permeates the text that the statute cannot meet these requirements in most applications; and thus, this standard provides for the possibility that some applications of the law would not be void, but the statute would still be invalid if void in most circumstances.

Flamingo, 125 Nev. at 507.

⁷ The Defendants have urged this Court to roll back *Flamingo* and apply the "clearly proscribed conduct" test to this criminal statute as set forth in *Sheriff of Washoe Cty v. Martin*, 99 Nev. 336, 340 (1983) (citing *Hoffman Estates v. Flipside*, *Hoffman Estate*, *Inc.*, 455 U.S. 489, 495 (1982). This Court declines to do so as *Flamingo* made clear that under the Nevada Constitution the "clearly proscribed conduct" analysis applies to vagueness challenges of civil statutes where facial vagueness challenges need to show that the law is "impermissibly vague in all its applications."

In this Court's view, AB 286, a criminal enactment, fails under both prongs for various reasons resulting in an unconstitutionally vague statute under Nevada Constitutional law. While similar, "the first prong is concerned with guiding those who may be subject to potentially vague statutes, while the second -- and more important -- prong is concerned with guiding the enforcers of statutes." *Silvar v. Dist. Ct.*, 122 Nev. 289, 293, 129 P.3d 682, 685 (2006).

C. SECTIONS 3 AND 3.5 OF AB 286 FAIL TO PROVIDE A PERSON OF ORDINARY INTELLIGENCE FAIR NOTICE OF WHAT IS PROHIBITED

Section 3 and Section 3.5 of AB 286 fail to provide a person of ordinary intelligence with fair notice of the conduct which it proscribes. The underlying purpose of this factor is to give a person "notice of the law so they can conform their conduct to its requirements." *Gallegos v. State*, 123 Nev. 289, 295 (2007). Those sections of AB 286 criminalize the possession, purchase, transport, receipt, transfer and sale of what the statute calls an "unfinished frame or receiver." While AB 286 purports to define the term "unfinished frame or receiver," that definition is as follows:

[A] blank, a casting or a machined body that is intended to be turned into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm with additional machining and which has been formed or machined to the point at which most of the major machining operations have been completed to turn the blank, casting or machined body into a frame or lower receiver of a firearm even if the fire-control cavity area of the blank, casting or machined body is still completely solid and unmachined.

This definition does not provide a person of ordinary intelligence with adequate notice of what AB 286 criminalizes.

As stated above, the crimes established in Section 3 and 3.5 are purely the result of Nevada legislative statutory enactment. The terms used in the definition of "unfinished frame or receiver" are not defined elsewhere in the statute. These terms include - blank, casting, machined body, machining, major machining operations, frame or lower receiver of a firearm, and/or fire-control cavity area.

The definition does not tell anyone when during the manufacturing process a blank, casting, or machined body (whatever those terms mean) has gone through the "major machining operations"

(whatever those are) to turn that blank, casting, or machined body into a frame or lower receiver of a firearm (whatever that may be), a person of ordinary intelligence could not proscribe their conduct to comply with the law. As a result, this Court finds that the text of AB 286 does not provide fair notice of whatever it criminalizes. To this end, this Court asked on multiple occasions during oral argument on the Motion for Summary Judgment what those terms as used in AB 286 mean. Tellingly, the Defendants could not in any manner explain their meaning(s).

This Court inquired whether or not the common law defined the terms used in AB 286, and the response that this Court received was clearly in the negative. As such, this Court cannot use the common law to decipher, clarify, or define the inherently vague terms of AB 286. This fact distinguishes this case from *State v. Castaneda*, 126 Nev. 478 (2010)(Common Law definition of indecent exposure – a common law crime), where the Nevada Supreme Court found that that the common law can provide a definition as to what conduct a statute prohibits. This Court inquired as to whether any other Nevada statutes or Nevada case law defined the terms found in AB 286 and, again, the answer was no. As a consequence, this case is also distinguishable from *Silverwing Development v. Nevada State Contractors Board*, 136 Nev. Adv. Rep. 74, 476 P.3d 461 (2020), (Commonly accepted definition of "subdivision" contained within the State's planning and zoning statutes) where the Nevada Supreme Court rejected a vagueness challenge, when Nevada law elsewhere defined an allegedly ambiguous term. Thus, neither the common law nor any other Nevada statutes or authorities define or clarify the vagueness that permeates the text of AB 286.

While portions of AB 286 incorporate certain terms that are defined in federal legislation, this Court cannot imply that the Nevada Legislature wanted to incorporate all the existing federal definitions relating to firearms or the Gun Control Act into AB 286. Here, the Nevada Legislature purposely included some federal definitions into AB 286 but, deliberately did not include others. From that fact, this Court can only conclude that the Nevada Legislature purposely did so absent some legislative declaration to the contrary. Simply put, had the Nevada Legislature wished to incorporate other federal definitions into AB 286, it knew how to do so and would have done so. It

did not. And so, this Court will not do what the Nevada Legislature deliberately declined or failed to do.⁸

In *Gallegos v. State*, 123 Nev. 289 (2007), the Nevada Supreme Court was faced with the same dilemma. In *Gallegos*, the legislature criminalized the possession of firearms by a "fugitive from justice." The legislature failed to define what the term "fugitive from justice" meant in relation to the statute. The District Court upheld the validity of the statute and applied the federal definition of "fugitive from justice" into the statute to provide meaning. The Nevada Supreme Court reversed stating:

Unlike Congress, the Nevada Legislature has not defined "fugitive from justice." By failing to adopt the federal definition of "fugitive from justice" or include any definition of that phrase. . ., the Legislature failed to provide the public with statutory notice of what that term means. It could arguably encompass a wide variety of circumstances. . . The fact that the district court, sua sponte, adopted the 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(15) definition in this case does not remedy that deficiency.

Gallegos v. State, 123 Nev. @ 294-95.

Finally, the legislative history of AB 286 does not shed any light on the undefined terms used in AB 286 nor the meaning of "unfinished frame or receiver." To the contrary, that history illustrates that the State Legislature received comments during the legislative process that AB 286 was vague, and that the definition of "unfinished frame or receiver" was particularly uncertain. Rather than address the issue through comments or revising the text of AB 286, the Nevada Legislature remained silent. Thus, the legislative history does not aid this Court in unearthing the meaning of the vague

⁸ The Defendants have proposed two separate definitions for the Court to "imply" into the statute to define what a Frame or Receiver is. Both definitions differed substantially. Federal Law (27 CFR § 478.11) defines "firearm frame or receiver" as "that part of a firearm which provides housing for the hammer, bolt or breechblock, and firing mechanism, and which is usually threaded at its forward portion to receive the barrel." The Defendants' second proposed definition comes from the Glossary of the Association of Firearm and Toolmark Examiners defining "frame or receiver" as "the finished part which is capable of being assembled with other parts to put together a firearm."

and undefined terms used in AB 286. It is noteworthy that the parties agreed that the legislative history for AB 286 gives this Court no information to determine what the Nevada Legislature meant when adopting and implementing the definition of "unfinished frame or receiver." Tellingly, not even Webster's Dictionary defines a majority of these terms.

Defendants contend that since AB 286 includes a *scienter* element, the statute is not void for vagueness. This Court finds this contention unpersuasive. The criminal acts defined in Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 do not contain a *scienter* element, as they criminalize, among other things, the possession and sale of "unfinished frames and receivers," whatever those things may actually be. And, the person possessing or selling those "unfinished frames and receivers" need not have any particular specific intent. In fact, AB 286 only and very generally employs intent in the definition of "unfinished frame or receiver," stating an "unfinished frame or receiver" is "a blank, a casting or a machined body that is *intended* to be turned into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm." The use of the word "intended" in this definition does not create the *scienter* element defendants claim to exist within Section 3 and Section 3.5 of the bill.

Here, a literal reading of the definitional statute requires that the blank, casting or machined body (all inanimate objects) be intended to be turned into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm. Nowhere in the definitional statute does it indicate who would have to have intended the unfinished frame or receiver to be transformed into a firearm. Is it the manufacturer like Polymer80? It is undisputed that it is their intent not to make a firearm. Is it the seller of a gun kit? They have no intent to make a firearm. The object itself cannot transfer specific intent to the possessor of the item.

Even if this Court were to assume an intent element was specifically meant to apply to any individual purportedly violating Section 3 and 3.5, the statute would still be unconstitutionally vague. For example, if Section 3 criminalized the possession of a blank, casting, or machined body only if the person who possessed such an item (whatever it might actually be) specifically intended to turn it into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm with additional machining, AB 286 would still be unconstitutionally vague.

In this regard, the statute is expressly conjunctive, such that the blank, casting, or machined body must: (i) be intended to be turned into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm with additional

machining, and (ii) already be formed or machined to the point at which most of the major machining operations have been completed. Yet, none of these terms are defined, nor is there any way to know when "most of the major machining operations have been completed," and then what "additional machining" must still occur and when. Accordingly, any specific intent that can be read into Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 does not salvage the statute, because, even with an intent element, AB 286 still fails to provide adequate notice as to what it specifically criminalizes.

Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 create a new crimes that do not exist under federal law or common law. Consequently, the only notice of what AB 286 criminalizes is provided in the statute itself. However, the law does not provide adequate notice of what it criminalizes, given that the definition of "unfinished frame or receiver" uses a myriad undefined terms. Moreover, the combined use of these undefined terms results in an overall failure to provide a person of ordinary intelligence with fair notice of what is criminalized. As there is no well-established or ordinary meaning to the terms used in AB 286, Section 3 and Section 3.5 are unconstitutionally vague under the Due Process Clause of the Nevada Constitution.

D. SECTIONS 3 AND 3.5 OF AB 286 ARE SO STANDARDLESS THAT IT AUTHORIZES OR ENCOURAGES SERIOUSLY DISCRIMINATORY ENFORCEMENT

This Court now turns to whether AB 286 "is so standardless that it authorizes or encourages seriously discriminatory enforcement." *Scott v. First Jud. Dist. Ct.*, 131 Nev. 1015, 1021 (2015). The Court finds that it is.

As explained by the Nevada Supreme Court:

The concern under this prong is the scope of discretion left to law enforcement officials and prosecutors. Our fear is that absent adequate guidelines, a criminal statute may permit a standardless sweep, which would allow the police, prosecutors, and juries to 'pursue their personal predilections.'

Gallegos, 125 Nev. @ 296. (Citation Omitted)

AB 286 fails to establish clear standards that law enforcement can use to determine whether the law is violated. At its most basic, there is no clear standard for law enforcement to use to

determine when an "unfinished frame or receiver" comes into existence. Unlike the federal regulatory process to determine whether a frame or lower receiver is considered a firearm under the Gun Control Act, Nevada has established no authority at all to determine when an "unfinished frame or receiver" actually comes into existence. The most any court can glean from the definition is that it is something less than a firearm and more than a block of raw material. Where on the scale in between both extremes the ill-defined "unfinished frame or receiver" lands is unknown under the law and left to the sole discretion of law enforcement and prosecutors. When does the machining process start? When does the raw material become machined and through what processes? What constitutes a "major machining operation" versus machining itself? Would the "fire-control cavity" be considered a "major machining operation" or is it excluded? What additional machining needs to be completed? It is unclear and undefined under the statute.

Nevadans would face the risk of discriminatory enforcement by police and prosecutors alike as they, in their sole discretion and without guidance, could label almost anything an "unfinished frame or receiver," if it in any way even resembles a firearm's undefined frame or lower receiver. There is no clear statutory language to bridle that discretion or to prevent state actors from pursuing their personal predilections.

Ordinary Nevada citizens are at risk of arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement of Section 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 owing to the vagueness that permeates the text of the law. Therefore, enforcement of AB 286 is standardless to such a degree that it authorizes and/or encourages arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement.

For this additional reason, the Court finds that Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague under the Nevada Constitution's Due Process Clause.

V

ORDER AND JUDGMENT

Based upon all of the foregoing, the Court finds that Section 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague, insofar as the law: (i) fails to provide a person of ordinary intelligence with fair notice of the conduct that is prohibited, and (ii) is so standardless that it authorizes and encourages seriously arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement.

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Good cause appearing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Motion of Polymer80, Inc, for Summary Judgment is GRANTED.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment is DENIED.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that a Declaratory Judgment be entered in favor of Polymer80 and against Defendants; to wit,

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, DECREED AND DECLARED that Section 3 and Section 3.5 AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague and violate the Due Process Clause of the Nevada State Constitution.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that a Permanent Injunction be entered in favor of Polymer80 and against Defendants; to wit,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the State of Nevada and Defendants, STEPHEN SISOLAK, Governor of Nevada, AARON FORD, Attorney General of Nevada, GEORGE TOGLIATTI, Director of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, MINDY MCKAY, Administrator of the Records, Communications, and Compliance Division of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, and their respective successors, officers, agents, servants, and employees and anyone acting in concert with them, individually and/or collectively, are hereby permanently enjoined from enforcing Section 3 and Section 3.5 of AB 286.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the security Polymer80 previously posted with this Court pursuant to NRCP 65(c) in the amount of \$20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) be exonerated and released to Polymer80 forthwith.

THIS IS A FINAL JUDGMENT.

DATED this 10th day of December, 2021.

1	Case No. 21-CV-00690		
2	Dept. No. I		
3	Certificate of Mailing		
4	I hereby certify that I, Andrew C. Nelson, am an employee of the Third Judicial District		
5	Court, and that on this date pursuant to NRCP 5(b), a true copy of the foregoing document was		
6	mailed at Yerington, Nevada addressed to:		
7 8	*Emailed: gzunino@ag.nv.gov Brad M. Johnston, Esq. *Emailed: bjohnston@shjnevada.com		
9			
10	James J. McGuire, Esq. *Emailed: james.mcguire@gmlaw.com		
12 13	Michael Patrick, Esq. *Emailed: michael.patrick@gmlaw.com		
14	Mark Doerr *Emailed: mark.doerr@gmlaw.com		
15 16	Craig A. Newby, Esq.		
17	*Emailed: CNewby@ag.nv.gov		
18			
19	DATED: This <u>/o</u> day of December, 2021.		
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21	Employee of Hon. John P. Schlegelmilch		
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Case No. 21-CV-00690 Dept. No. 1 The undersigned affirms that this document does not contain the social security number of any individual.

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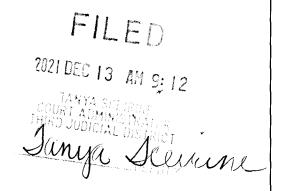
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IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LYON

POLYMER80, INC.,

Plaintiff.

VS.

STEPHEN SISOLAK, Governor of Nevada, AARON FORD, Attorney General of Nevada, GEORGE TOGLIATTI, Director of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, MINDY MCKAY, Administrator of the Records, Communications, and Compliance Division of the Nevada Department of Public Safety,

Defendants.

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER

Plaintiff Polymer80, Inc., by and through its undersigned counsel, hereby provides written notice of entry of the Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law, and Order Granting Summary Judgment in Favor of Plaintiff, Polymer80, Inc. attached hereto as Exhibit A.

Dated this 13th day of December, 2021. SIMONS HALL JOHNSTON PC

> By: _ Brad M. Johnston, Esq. Nevada Bar No. 8515 22 State Route 208

Yerington, Nevada 89447 Telephone: 775-463-9500 bjohnston@shjnevada.com

-and-

James J. McGuire (Pro Hac Vice) Mark T. Doerr (Pro Hac Vice) Greenspoon Marder LLP 590 Madison Avenue, Suite 1800 New York, New York 10022 Telephone: 212-524-5000 Facsimile: 212-524-5050 james.mcquire@gmlaw.com michael.patrick@gmlaw.com mark.doerr@gmlaw.com

Attorneys for Plaintiff Polymer80, Inc.

SIMONS HALL JOHNSTON PC 22 State Route 208 Yerington, Nevada 89447 (775) 463-9500

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Brad M. Johnston, hereby certify that on this date I caused the foregoing document to be served via U.S. Mail and electronic mail on the following:

Gregory Zunino, Deputy Solicitor General Craig Newby, Deputy Solicitor General 100 North Carson Street. Carson City, Nevada 89701 gzunino@ag.nv.gov cnewby@ag.nv.gov

DATED this 13th day of December 2021.

Brad M. Johnston

Exhibit A

FILED

Case No. 21-CV-00690

Dept. No. I

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The undersigned affirms that this document does not contain the social security number of any individual.

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Nothy Thomas

IN THE THIRD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF LYON

POLYMER80, INC.,

Plaintiff.

VS.

FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDER GRANTING SUMMARY JUDGMENT IN FAVOR OF PLAINTIFF, POLYMER80, INC.

STEPHEN SISOLAK, Governor of Nevada, AARON FORD, Attorney General of Nevada, GEORGE TOGLIATTI, Director of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, MINDY MCKAY, Administrator of the Records, Communications, and Compliance Division of the Nevada Department of Public Safety,

Defendants.

This matter is before the Court upon the parties' competing Motions for Summary Judgment both filed on November 8, 2021, and duly opposed by each party on November 18, 2021. The matter was set for argument on November 23, 2021. Plaintiff was present and represented by Brad

Johnston, Esq., of Simons Hall Johnston PC (via Zoom) and James J. McGuire, Esq., (pro hac vice)

of Greenspoon Marder LLP, who was present in Court. The Defendants were represented by Craig

A. Newby, Esq., Deputy Solicitor General, who was present in Court.

This Court, having reviewed and considered the parties' respective motions and oppositions for summary judgment, considered the exhibits thereto and arguments therein, conducted a hearing

upon those motions, and heard oral argument from counsel for Polymer80 and for Defendants, and

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good cause appearing, makes the following FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, AND ORDERS.

I

PROCEDURAL HISTORY

During the 81st legislative session, the Nevada Legislature passed Assembly Bill 286 ("AB 286"). AB 286 is -- "AN ACT relating to crimes; prohibiting persons from engaging in certain acts relating to unfinished frames or receivers under certain circumstances; ... providing penalties; and providing other matters properly relating thereto." Nevada Governor, Stephen Sisolak, signed AB 286 into law on June 7, 2021.

On June 22, 2021, Plaintiff, Polymer80, Inc. ("Polymer80"), filed this lawsuit against Defendants, Stephen Sisolak, Governor of Nevada, Aaron Ford, Attorney General of Nevada, George Togliatti, Director of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, and Mindy McKay, Administrator of the Records, Communications, and Compliance Division of the Nevada Department of Public Safety (collectively referred to as "Defendants"), alleging that Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague under the Due Process Clause of the Constitution of the State of Nevada ("Nevada Constitution"). In its Verified Complaint, Polymer80 sought a Declaration from this Court that Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 violate the Nevada Constitution and a Permanent Injunction barring enforcement of the new law.

On June 25, 2021, Polymer80 filed its Motion for Temporary Restraining Order and Preliminary Injunction. After briefing and a hearing, this Court, on July 16, 2021, entered its Order Granting Preliminary Injunction, preliminarily barring enforcement of Section 3.5 of AB 286.1 That Order is currently pending appeal at the Nevada Supreme Court.

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¹ At that time, this Court declined to enter a Preliminary Injunction as to the enforcement of AB 286 Section 3, because that portion of the new statute would not go into effect until January 1, 2022.

Thereafter, the Court held a Case Management and Scheduling Conference on July 14, 2021, that resulted in a July 15, 2021, Case Management and Trial Scheduling Order setting an expedited trial date of November 30, 2021. That Order also provided that the parties could engage in discovery through November 1, 2021, and fixed November 8, 2021, as the deadline for filing dispositive motions. By so ruling, this Court wanted to, and did, afford the parties the opportunity to develop the evidentiary record to be presented upon motions for summary judgment and/or at trial.

In the ensuing months, the parties proceeded with discovery. Both Polymer80 and Defendants timely filed Motions for Summary Judgment on November 8, 2021.² Pursuant to the parties' Stipulation, this Court directed that they file their oppositions to the other side's summary judgment motion on November 18, 2021, dispense with reply briefs, and proceed to a full hearing on November 23, 2021. That hearing was held as scheduled and the Court heard substantial argument from the parties. Notably, both parties agreed at that hearing that this Court could decide this case upon the record before it at that point, and that a trial was unnecessary. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Court rendered an oral ruling granting Polymer80 summary judgment. This Order follows and memorializes that ruling.

Accordingly,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Motion of Polymer80, Inc., for Summary Judgment is GRANTED, and that Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment is DENIED, for the reasons set forth herein and on the record at the November 23, 2021, hearing.

² Before the parties filed their competing Motions for Summary Judgment, Defendants filed an appeal from this Court's *Order Granting Preliminary Injunction*. Thereafter, Defendants filed a Motion to Stay this case in this Court, arguing, among other things, that this matter presented a pure question of law that would be resolved upon their then-pending appeal. This Court denied Defendants stay, largely because the issue on appeal was not the ultimate question of whether or not AB 286 was and is unconstitutionally vague but whether or not this Court had abused its discretion in granting interim relief. Moreover, a stay would have only delayed a ruling on the constitutionality of AB 286, which would not have been in the best interests of either Plaintiff or Defendants.

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CONTESTED PROVISIONS OF AB 286

The 81st Nevada Legislature amended Chapter 202 of the Nevada Revised Statutes by adding, among others, the following provisions, which are the subject of this proceeding.

First, Section 3 of AB 286, effective as of January 1, 2022, provides as follows:

- 1. A person shall not possess, purchase, transport or receive an unfinished frame or receiver unless:
 - (a) The person is a firearms importer or manufacturer; or
- (b) The unfinished frame or receiver is required by federal law to be imprinted with a serial number issued by a firearms importer or manufacturer and the unfinished frame or receiver has been imprinted with the serial number.
- 2. A person who violates this section:

and

- (a) For the first offense, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor;
- (b) For the second or any subsequent offense is guilty of a category D felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.3

Plainly, this provision makes it a crime to "possess, purchase, transport or receive an unfinished frame or receiver" in the State of Nevada.

Second, Section 3.5 of AB 286, which became effective on June 7, 2021, provides as follows:

- 1. A person shall not sell, offer to sell or transfer an unfinished frame or receiver unless:
 - (a) The person is:
 - (1) A firearms importer or manufacturer; and
- (2) The recipient of the unfinished frame or receiver is a firearms importer or manufacturer; or
- (b) The unfinished frame or receiver is required by federal law to be imprinted with a serial number issued by an importer or manufacturer and the unfinished frame or receiver has been imprinted with the serial number.

³ NRS 193.130 provides that a category D felony is punishable by 1-4 years in Nevada State Prison and a fine of up to \$5,000.00.

2. A person who violates this section:

(a) For the first offense, is guilty of a gross misdemeanor;

and

(b) For the second or any subsequent offense is guilty of a category D felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130

This Section makes it a crime to "sell, offer to sell or transfer an unfinished frame or receiver" in the State of Nevada.

Section 6 of AB 286 amended NRS 202.253 by adding the term "[u]nfinished frame or receiver" to Nevada law and defines that term as follows:

9. "Unfinished frame or receiver" means a blank, a casting or a machined body that is intended to be turned into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm with additional machining and which has been formed or machined to the point at which most of the major machining operations have been completed to turn the blank, casting or machined body into a frame or lower receiver of a firearm even if the fire-control cavity area of the blank, casting or machined body is still completely solid and unmachined.

Polymer80 argues that Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague under the Due Process Clause of the Nevada Constitution.⁴

III

STANDARD ON SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Summary judgment is appropriate, where "the pleadings, depositions, answers to interrogatories, and admissions on file, together with the affidavits, if any, show that there is no genuine issue as to any material fact and that the moving party is entitled to a judgment as a matter of law." NRCP 56(c). While this Court must construe the evidence in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party upon such a motion, the nonmoving party "bears the burden to do more than simply show that there is some metaphysical doubt as to the operative facts in order to avoid

⁴ This decision does not extend to Section 4 or 5 of AB 286 and this Court makes no judgment relating to the efficacy of those provisions.

summary judgment being entered in the moving party's favor." Wood v. Safeway, Inc., 121 Nev. 724, 732 (2005) (quotations omitted). "The nonmoving party must, by affidavit or otherwise, set forth specific facts demonstrating the existence of a genuine issue for trial or have summary judgment entered against him." Id. And, the party opposing summary judgment cannot build a case on the "gossamer threads of whimsy, speculation, and conjecture." Id. (quoting Bulbman, Inc. v. Nevada Bell, 108 Nev. 105, 110 (1992)). Critically, the Nevada Supreme Court, as the parties have acknowledged, has held that summary judgment is appropriate with respect to, as here, a facial Due Process challenge on vagueness grounds to the constitutionality of a criminal statue. See Flamingo Paradise Gaming, LLC v. Chanos, 125 Nev. 502, 508-09 (2009). As explained below, there are no "genuine issues of material fact" precluding summary judgment, and this Court may properly resolve this action on summary judgment upon the record before it.

IV

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Polymer80 is a Nevada corporation headquartered in Dayton, Nevada, within Lyon County. It manufactures, designs, and distributes gun-related products, components, and after-market accessories. The legislative history reveals that AB 286 has targeted, at least partially, certain of Polymer80's business products. Defendants have also admitted as much in their Answer and in their moving papers. As set forth in the testimony of Assemblywoman Sandra Jauregui:

... a Nevada based company, Polmer80, Inc., [is] one of the nation's largest manufacturers of ghost guns.

Minutes, Assembly Committee on Judiciary, p.6 (March 17, 2021). Assemblyman Wheeler stated therein:

The kit guns you called ghost guns are used by a lot of hobbyists. Under federal law, those are quite legal, so outlawing them in Nevada, as this bill tries to do, basically puts a company [Polmer80] in my district out of business. . . .

We are going to drive a company in my district out of business, but people can still buy them in Kentucky. . .

Minutes, Assembly Committee on Judiciary, p.13-14 (March 17, 2021).5

A. STANDING OF POLMER80

In Defendants' Answer and at the Motion for Preliminary Injunction hearing, the State of Nevada contested Polymer80's standing to contest the constitutional validity of AB 286. The Defendants' have not argued a lack of standing on summary judgment. However, Polymer80 asserts in their Motion that they indeed have standing.

NRS 30.040 provides, in pertinent part:

NRS 30.040. Questions of construction or validity of . . . statutes.

1. Any person . . . whose rights, status or other legal relations are affected by a statute . . . may have determined any question of construction or validity arising under the . . . statute . . . and obtain a declaration of rights, status or other legal relations thereunder.

NRS 30.040(1). In Nevada, the issue of Standing is a question of law. *Arguello v. Sunset Station*, *Inc.*, 127 Nev. 365, 368 (2011). As explained recently by the Nevada Supreme Court:

The question of standing concerns whether the party seeking relief has a sufficient interest in the litigation. The primary purpose of this standing inquiry is to ensure the litigant will vigorously and effectively present his or her case against an adverse party. Thus, a requirement of standing is that the litigant personally suffer injury that can be fairly traced to the allegedly unconstitutional statute and which would be redressed by invalidating the statute. A general interest in the matter is normally insufficient: a party must show a personal injury.

Flor Morency v Nevada Department of Education, 137 Nev. Adv. Op. 63, p. 7, 496 P.3d 584 (Oct. 7, 2021), (Citations Omitted).

⁵ This Court notes that there are multiple references to Polmer80 in the legislative history of AB 286 all indicating the negative impact of the bill on their ability to conduct business in the State of Nevada.

This Court finds that Polymer80 has standing to mount a facial vagueness challenge to the constitutionality of AB 286. Like the Plaintiffs in *Flamingo Paradise Gaming, LLC v. Chanos*, 125 Nev. 502, 508-09 (2009), Polymer80 could be subject to criminal prosecution stemming from its ongoing conduct. Polymer80's facial challenge to AB 286 is ripe for this Court's adjudication as Section 3.5 of AB 286 took effect earlier this year upon approval by the Governor and Section 3 of AB 286 takes effect January 1, 2022. Accordingly, it is ripe for this Court to determine whether or not both of those Sections of AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague under the Due Process Clause of the Nevada Constitution.

Polymer80 satisfies the requirement to show that they would "personally suffer injury that can fairly be traced to the allegedly unconstitutional statute" by facing the prospect of felony criminal prosecution each time they produce a product which allegedly falls under the purview of the statute. Further, Polymer80 would suffer significant economic loss as set forth in the Deposition testimony submitted, and uncontested by the Defendants. This, combined with the legislative history showing that the thrust of the bill was to put Polymer80 out of business, clearly establishes that, unlike any other potential litigant, Polymer80 will vigorously and effectively present the case for facial invalidity of the statute – which is Polymer80's only true redress.

This Court determines that Polymer80 will suffer irreparable harm in the absence of declaratory and/or injunctive relief, since, as under *Flamingo*, that harm exists if a Nevadan, such as Polymer80, must conduct its affairs in the wake of criminal jeopardy that fails to provide fair notice of the conduct being criminalized.⁶

⁶ The Defendants previously argued at the preliminary injunction hearing that Section 3(1)(b) would mitigate any harm as all Polymer80 would have to do is put a serial number on its products. The

B. STANDARD OF REVIEW FOR A FACIAL VAGUENESS CHALLENGE

The question before this Court is essentially whether or not AB 286 is unconstitutionally vague under the Due Process Clause of the Nevada Constitution. It is undisputed that Section 3 and Section 3.5 of AB286 are criminal statutes with penalties being elevated as high as category D felonies.

Nevada's Due Process Clause states simply that "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law." Nev. Const., Art. 1, Sec. 8(2). In Nevada, the determination of whether a statute is constitutional is a question of law. *Silvar v. Dist. Ct.*, 122 Nev. 289, 292, 129 P.3d 682, 684 (2006).

Statutes are presumed to be valid, and the challenger bears the burden of showing that a statute is unconstitutional. The court must interpret a statute in a reasonable manner, that is, [t]he words of the statute should be construed in light of the policy and spirit of the law, and the interpretation made should avoid absurd results. In reviewing a statute, it should be given [its] plain meaning and must be construed as a whole and not be read in a way that would render words or phrases superfluous or make a provision nugatory.

Flamingo Paradise Gaming v. Att'y General, 125 Nev. 502, 509 (2009). In reviewing the statute, "every reasonable construction must be resorted to, in order to save a statute from unconstitutionality." State v. Castaneda, 126 Nev. 478, 481, 245 P.3d 550, 552 (2010).

The Nevada Supreme Court has adopted a two-pronged test for determining whether a criminal statute is so impermissibly vague as to run afoul of the due process clause of the Nevada

argument was abandoned on summary judgment. Section 3(1)(b) and Section 3.5(1)(b) by their own terms only provide relief when the "unfinished" frame or receiver is "required" by federal law to be imprinted with a serial number. It is undisputed that the products produced by Polymer80 are not required by federal law to have a serial number imprinted on them.

Constitution. See, e.g., Flamingo Paradise Gaming, 125 Nev. at 510; Gallegos v. State, 123 Nev. 289, 294 (2007).

A criminal statute can be invalidated for vagueness (1) if it fails to provide a person of ordinary intelligence fair notice of what is prohibited or(2) if it is so standardless that it authorizes or encourages seriously discriminatory enforcement.

Scott v. First Jud. Dist. Ct., 131 Nev. 1015, 1021 (2015). Although both civil and criminal statutes are judged under the same test, the Nevada Supreme Court has explained:

[T]here are two approaches to a facial vagueness challenge depending on the type of statute at issue. The first approach arises under a facial challenge to a civil statute and the plaintiff must show that the statute is impermissibly vague in all of its applications. In making this showing, [a] complainant who engages in some conduct that is clearly proscribed cannot complain of the vagueness of the law as applied to the conduct of others. But, when the statute involves criminal penalties or constitutionally protected rights, the second approach involves a higher standard of whether "vagueness permeates the text.

Flamingo, 125 Nev. at 512.7 Where a statute imposes criminal penalties, as is the case with AB 286, the more exacting standard for Constitutionality is imposed.

Under the higher standard, the question becomes whether vagueness so permeates the text that the statute cannot meet these requirements in most applications; and thus, this standard provides for the possibility that some applications of the law would not be void, but the statute would still be invalid if void in most circumstances.

Flamingo, 125 Nev. at 507.

⁷ The Defendants have urged this Court to roll back *Flamingo* and apply the "clearly proscribed conduct" test to this criminal statute as set forth in *Sheriff of Washoe Cty v. Martin*, 99 Nev. 336, 340 (1983) (citing *Hoffman Estates v. Flipside, Hoffman Estate, Inc.*, 455 U.S. 489, 495 (1982). This Court declines to do so as *Flamingo* made clear that under the Nevada Constitution the "clearly proscribed conduct" analysis applies to vagueness challenges of civil statutes where facial vagueness challenges need to show that the law is "impermissibly vague in all its applications."

reasons resulting in an unconstitutionally vague statute under Nevada Constitutional law. While similar, "the first prong is concerned with guiding those who may be subject to potentially vague statutes, while the second -- and more important -- prong is concerned with guiding the enforcers of statutes." Silvar v. Dist. Ct., 122 Nev. 289, 293, 129 P.3d 682, 685 (2006).

In this Court's view, AB 286, a criminal enactment, fails under both prongs for various

C. SECTIONS 3 AND 3.5 OF AB 286 FAIL TO PROVIDE A PERSON OF ORDINARY INTELLIGENCE FAIR NOTICE OF WHAT IS PROHIBITED

Section 3 and Section 3.5 of AB 286 fail to provide a person of ordinary intelligence with fair notice of the conduct which it proscribes. The underlying purpose of this factor is to give a person "notice of the law so they can conform their conduct to its requirements." *Gallegos v. State*, 123 Nev. 289, 295 (2007). Those sections of AB 286 criminalize the possession, purchase, transport, receipt, transfer and sale of what the statute calls an "unfinished frame or receiver." While AB 286 purports to define the term "unfinished frame or receiver," that definition is as follows:

[A] blank, a casting or a machined body that is intended to be turned into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm with additional machining and which has been formed or machined to the point at which most of the major machining operations have been completed to turn the blank, casting or machined body into a frame or lower receiver of a firearm even if the fire-control cavity area of the blank, casting or machined body is still completely solid and unmachined.

This definition does not provide a person of ordinary intelligence with adequate notice of what AB 286 criminalizes.

As stated above, the crimes established in Section 3 and 3.5 are purely the result of Nevada legislative statutory enactment. The terms used in the definition of "unfinished frame or receiver" are not defined elsewhere in the statute. These terms include - blank, casting, machined body, machining, major machining operations, frame or lower receiver of a firearm, and/or fire-control cavity area.

The definition does not tell anyone when during the manufacturing process a blank, casting, or machined body (whatever those terms mean) has gone through the "major machining operations"

(whatever those are) to turn that blank, casting, or machined body into a frame or lower receiver of a firearm (whatever that may be), a person of ordinary intelligence could not proscribe their conduct to comply with the law. As a result, this Court finds that the text of AB 286 does not provide fair notice of whatever it criminalizes. To this end, this Court asked on multiple occasions during oral argument on the Motion for Summary Judgment what those terms as used in AB 286 mean. Tellingly, the Defendants could not in any manner explain their meaning(s).

This Court inquired whether or not the common law defined the terms used in AB 286, and the response that this Court received was clearly in the negative. As such, this Court cannot use the common law to decipher, clarify, or define the inherently vague terms of AB 286. This fact distinguishes this case from *State v. Castaneda*, 126 Nev. 478 (2010)(Common Law definition of indecent exposure – a common law crime), where the Nevada Supreme Court found that that the common law can provide a definition as to what conduct a statute prohibits. This Court inquired as to whether any other Nevada statutes or Nevada case law defined the terms found in AB 286 and, again, the answer was no. As a consequence, this case is also distinguishable from *Silverwing Development v. Nevada State Contractors Board*, 136 Nev. Adv. Rep. 74, 476 P.3d 461 (2020), (Commonly accepted definition of "subdivision" contained within the State's planning and zoning statutes) where the Nevada Supreme Court rejected a vagueness challenge, when Nevada law elsewhere defined an allegedly ambiguous term. Thus, neither the common law nor any other Nevada statutes or authorities define or clarify the vagueness that permeates the text of AB 286.

While portions of AB 286 incorporate certain terms that are defined in federal legislation, this Court cannot imply that the Nevada Legislature wanted to incorporate all the existing federal definitions relating to firearms or the Gun Control Act into AB 286. Here, the Nevada Legislature purposely included some federal definitions into AB 286 but, deliberately did not include others. From that fact, this Court can only conclude that the Nevada Legislature purposely did so absent some legislative declaration to the contrary. Simply put, had the Nevada Legislature wished to incorporate other federal definitions into AB 286, it knew how to do so and would have done so. It

In Gallegos v. State, 123 Nev. 289 (2007), the Nevada Supreme Court was faced with the same dilemma. In Gallegos, the legislature criminalized the possession of firearms by a "fugitive from justice." The legislature failed to define what the term "fugitive from justice" meant in relation to the statute. The District Court upheld the validity of the statute and applied the federal definition of "fugitive from justice" into the statute to provide meaning. The Nevada Supreme Court reversed stating:

Unlike Congress, the Nevada Legislature has not defined "fugitive from justice." By failing to adopt the federal definition of "fugitive from justice" or include any definition of that phrase. . ., the Legislature failed to provide the public with statutory notice of what that term means. It could arguably encompass a wide variety of circumstances. . . The fact that the district court, sua sponte, adopted the 18 U.S.C. § 921(a)(15) definition in this case does not remedy that deficiency.

Gallegos v. State, 123 Nev. @ 294-95.

Finally, the legislative history of AB 286 does not shed any light on the undefined terms used in AB 286 nor the meaning of "unfinished frame or receiver." To the contrary, that history illustrates that the State Legislature received comments during the legislative process that AB 286 was vague, and that the definition of "unfinished frame or receiver" was particularly uncertain. Rather than address the issue through comments or revising the text of AB 286, the Nevada Legislature remained silent. Thus, the legislative history does not aid this Court in unearthing the meaning of the vague

⁸ The Defendants have proposed two separate definitions for the Court to "imply" into the statute to define what a Frame or Receiver is. Both definitions differed substantially. Federal Law (27 CFR § 478.11) defines "firearm frame or receiver" as "that part of a firearm which provides housing for the hammer, bolt or breechblock, and firing mechanism, and which is usually threaded at its forward portion to receive the barrel." The Defendants' second proposed definition comes from the Glossary of the Association of Firearm and Toolmark Examiners defining "frame or receiver" as "the finished part which is capable of being assembled with other parts to put together a firearm."

and undefined terms used in AB 286. It is noteworthy that the parties agreed that the legislative history for AB 286 gives this Court no information to determine what the Nevada Legislature meant when adopting and implementing the definition of "unfinished frame or receiver." Tellingly, not even Webster's Dictionary defines a majority of these terms.

Defendants contend that since AB 286 includes a *scienter* element, the statute is not void for vagueness. This Court finds this contention unpersuasive. The criminal acts defined in Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 do not contain a *scienter* element, as they criminalize, among other things, the possession and sale of "unfinished frames and receivers," whatever those things may actually be. And, the person possessing or selling those "unfinished frames and receivers" need not have any particular specific intent. In fact, AB 286 only and very generally employs intent in the definition of "unfinished frame or receiver," stating an "unfinished frame or receiver" is "a blank, a casting or a machined body that is *intended* to be turned into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm." The use of the word "intended" in this definition does not create the *scienter* element defendants claim to exist within Section 3 and Section 3.5 of the bill.

Here, a literal reading of the definitional statute requires that the blank, casting or machined body (all inanimate objects) be intended to be turned into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm. Nowhere in the definitional statute does it indicate who would have to have intended the unfinished frame or receiver to be transformed into a firearm. Is it the manufacturer like Polymer80? It is undisputed that it is their intent not to make a firearm. Is it the seller of a gun kit? They have no intent to make a firearm. The object itself cannot transfer specific intent to the possessor of the item.

Even if this Court were to assume an intent element was specifically meant to apply to any individual purportedly violating Section 3 and 3.5, the statute would still be unconstitutionally vague. For example, if Section 3 criminalized the possession of a blank, casting, or machined body only if the person who possessed such an item (whatever it might actually be) specifically intended to turn it into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm with additional machining, AB 286 would still be unconstitutionally vague.

In this regard, the statute is expressly conjunctive, such that the blank, casting, or machined body must: (i) be intended to be turned into the frame or lower receiver of a firearm with additional

 machining, and (ii) already be formed or machined to the point at which most of the major machining operations have been completed. Yet, none of these terms are defined, nor is there any way to know when "most of the major machining operations have been completed," and then what "additional machining" must still occur and when. Accordingly, any specific intent that can be read into Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 does not salvage the statute, because, even with an intent element, AB 286 still fails to provide adequate notice as to what it specifically criminalizes.

Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 create a new crimes that do not exist under federal law or common law. Consequently, the only notice of what AB 286 criminalizes is provided in the statute itself. However, the law does not provide adequate notice of what it criminalizes, given that the definition of "unfinished frame or receiver" uses a myriad undefined terms. Moreover, the combined use of these undefined terms results in an overall failure to provide a person of ordinary intelligence with fair notice of what is criminalized. As there is no well-established or ordinary meaning to the terms used in AB 286, Section 3 and Section 3.5 are unconstitutionally vague under the Due Process Clause of the Nevada Constitution.

D. SECTIONS 3 AND 3.5 OF AB 286 ARE SO STANDARDLESS THAT IT AUTHORIZES OR ENCOURAGES SERIOUSLY DISCRIMINATORY ENFORCEMENT

This Court now turns to whether AB 286 "is so standardless that it authorizes or encourages seriously discriminatory enforcement." *Scott v. First Jud. Dist. Ct.*, 131 Nev. 1015, 1021 (2015). The Court finds that it is

As explained by the Nevada Supreme Court:

The concern under this prong is the scope of discretion left to law enforcement officials and prosecutors. Our fear is that absent adequate guidelines, a criminal statute may permit a standardless sweep, which would allow the police, prosecutors, and juries to 'pursue their personal predilections.'

Gallegos, 125 Nev. @ 296. (Citation Omitted)

AB 286 fails to establish clear standards that law enforcement can use to determine whether the law is violated. At its most basic, there is no clear standard for law enforcement to use to

determine when an "unfinished frame or receiver" comes into existence. Unlike the federal regulatory process to determine whether a frame or lower receiver is considered a firearm under the Gun Control Act, Nevada has established no authority at all to determine when an "unfinished frame or receiver" actually comes into existence. The most any court can glean from the definition is that it is something less than a firearm and more than a block of raw material. Where on the scale in between both extremes the ill-defined "unfinished frame or receiver" lands is unknown under the law and left to the sole discretion of law enforcement and prosecutors. When does the machining process start? When does the raw material become machined and through what processes? What constitutes a "major machining operation" versus machining itself? Would the "fire-control cavity" be considered a "major machining operation" or is it excluded? What additional machining needs to be completed? It is unclear and undefined under the statute.

Nevadans would face the risk of discriminatory enforcement by police and prosecutors alike as they, in their sole discretion and without guidance, could label almost anything an "unfinished frame or receiver," if it in any way even resembles a firearm's undefined frame or lower receiver. There is no clear statutory language to bridle that discretion or to prevent state actors from pursuing their personal predilections.

Ordinary Nevada citizens are at risk of arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement of Section 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 owing to the vagueness that permeates the text of the law. Therefore, enforcement of AB 286 is standardless to such a degree that it authorizes and/or encourages arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement.

For this additional reason, the Court finds that Sections 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague under the Nevada Constitution's Due Process Clause.

V

ORDER AND JUDGMENT

Based upon all of the foregoing, the Court finds that Section 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague, insofar as the law: (i) fails to provide a person of ordinary intelligence with fair notice of the conduct that is prohibited, and (ii) is so standardless that it authorizes and encourages seriously arbitrary and discriminatory enforcement.

Good cause appearing,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Motion of Polymer80, Inc, for Summary Judgment is GRANTED.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment is DENIED.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that a Declaratory Judgment be entered in favor of Polymer80 and against Defendants; to wit,

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED, DECREED AND DECLARED that Section 3 and Section 3.5 AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague and violate the Due Process Clause of the Nevada State Constitution.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that a Permanent Injunction be entered in favor of Polymer80 and against Defendants; to wit,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the State of Nevada and Defendants, STEPHEN SISOLAK, Governor of Nevada, AARON FORD, Attorney General of Nevada, GEORGE TOGLIATTI, Director of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, MINDY MCKAY, Administrator of the Records, Communications, and Compliance Division of the Nevada Department of Public Safety, and their respective successors, officers, agents, servants, and employees and anyone acting in concert with them, individually and/or collectively, are hereby permanently enjoined from enforcing Section 3 and Section 3.5 of AB 286.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that the security Polymer80 previously posted with this Court pursuant to NRCP 65(c) in the amount of \$20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) be exonerated and released to Polymer80 forthwith.

THIS IS A FINAL JUDGMENT.

DATED this 10th day of December, 2021.

JOHN P. SCHLEGELMILCH,

DISTRICT JUDGE

1	Case No. 21-CV-00690		
2	Dept. No. I		
3	Certificate of Mailing		
4	I hereby certify that I, Andrew C. Nelson, am an employee of the Third Judicial District		
5	Court, and that on this date pursuant to NRCP 5(b), a true copy of the foregoing document was		
6	mailed at Yerington, Nevada addressed to:		
7	Gregory L. Zunino, Esq.		
8	*Emailed: gzunino@ag.nv.gov		
9	Brad M. Johnston, Esq. *Emailed: bjohnston@shjnevada.com		
10 11	James J. McGuire, Esq.		
12	*Emailed: james.mcguire@gmlaw.com		
13	Michael Patrick, Esq. *Emailed: michael.patrick@gmlaw.com		
14	Mark Doerr		
15	*Emailed: mark.doerr@gmlaw.com		
16	Craig A. Newby, Esq. *Emailed: CNewby@ag.nv.gov		
17			
18			
19	DATED: This 10 th day of December, 2021.		
20			
21	<u>Allelson</u> Employee of Hon. John P. Schlegelmilch		
22	Employee of from 1. Semegenmen		
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Case Summary

Aaron D. Ford Attorney General, POLYMER80, INC., STEPHEN SISOLAK, GOVERNOR OF NEVADA, GEORGE TOGLIATTI, DIRECTOR OF THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY, MINDY MCKAY, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE RECORDS, COMMUNICATION, AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION OF THE NEVADA DEP

Case Number: 21-CV-00690 Agency: Third Judicial District Court

Type: Other Civil Matters

Status: Closed

Received Date: 6/22/2021 Status Date: 12/10/2021

Involvements

Primary Involvements

STEPHEN SISOLAK, GOVERNOR OF NEVADA Defendant Ford, Aaron D. Attorney General - AFORD Defendant GEORGE TOGLIATTI, DIRECTOR OF THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY Defendant MINDY MCKAY, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE RECORDS, COMMUNICATION, AND COMPLIANCE DIVISION OF THE NEVADA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY Defendant POLYMER80, INC. Plaintiff

Other Involvements

Doerr, Mark T. Esq. Plaintiff's Attorney

Zunino, Gregory L. Deputy Solicitor General Defendant's

Attorney

McGuire, James J. Esq. Plaintiff's Attorney Johnston, Brad M. Esq. Plaintiff's Attorney

Third Judicial District Court (21-CV-00690) Schlegelmilch, John P. - JPS Dept I - TJDC

2. NRCP ~ RELATED PARTY

Lead/Active: False

3. NRCP ~ RELATED PARTY

Lead/Active: False

4. NRCP ~ RELATED PARTY

Lead/Active: False

5. NRCP ~ RELATED PARTY

Lead/Active: False

Other Civil Matters

1. NRCP 3 ~ COMPLAINT

Lead/Active: True



Page 1 of 3 12/22/2021 9:13:03 AM

Case Status History

6/22/2021 3:33:00 PM | Open 12/10/2021 3:33:00 PM | Closed

Events

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7/14/2021 9:30:00 AM | Evidentiary Hearing | DEPT I 21-CV-00690 | Court Room B
  Andersen, Andrea Deputy Clerk -
  AANDERSEN
  Terhune, Kathy
  Staff - STAFF
  Court Room B - CourtRmB
  Geurts, Patrick Bailiff - X004896
  Schlegelmilch, John P. - JPS (Dept I -
  TJDC)
  Zunino, Gregory L. Deputy Solicitor
  General (Defendant's Attorney)
       obo Defendant
  McGuire, James J. Esq. (Plaintiff's
  Attorney)
       obo Plaintiff
  Doerr, Mark T. Esq. (Plaintiff's Attorney)
       obo Plaintiff
  Johnston, Brad M. Esq. (Plaintiff's
  Attorney)
       obo Plaintiff
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Notes: Court advised counsel the Court has reviewed all pleadings in this matter. Mr. McGuire and Mr. Zunino argued the matter. Court finds the definitions to be vague. Court finds a likelihood of success on the merits. Court finds it is unclear as to what the legislature meant by blank casting or machine body. Court finds clearly, the business may be impacted as the making, selling and offering in Nevada would be a substantial hardship on Plaintiff. Based upon hardship, Court finds plaintiff has a standing as they are unable to conduct business as commonly done in the past. Court finds probably irreparable injury to conduct business. Court finds legislature, in regard to the use of limited definitions from the gun control act were done so purposely to create vagueness in the laws. Court is unconvinced that the Plaintiff's could just start serializing the frames/receivers as defined in the statute. Court ordered Plaintiff pay a security bond of \$20,000.00 within five (5) business days. Plaintiff's may pay bond via cash to the Clerk of the Court. Court entered injunction pursuant to 3.5 AB286 to the enforcement by the State of Nevada. Injunction is not entered pursuant to section three (3) 3 of AB286. Court finds matter does not become effective until 2022. Court noted sections four (4) and five (5) are not an issue as they are not before the Court. Pursuant to sections four (4) and five (5) it is illegal for a Nevadan to own, possess or manufacture without a serial number. Injunction in effect pending final determination. Bench Trial set for November 30, 2021 through December 3, 2021. Discovery opens today and closes November 1, 2021. Court waived early Case Conference disclosures. Initial expert disclosures due August 20, 2021. Rebuttal expert disclosures due September 20, 2021. Motion in Limine or Motion for Summary Judgment due November 8, 2021. Trial statements are to be filed pursuant to TJDCR. No settlement conference. Plaintiff to prepare Order regarding Injunction. Status Conference set for October 25, 2021 @ 1:30 p.m. Parties may appear via Zoom for the October 25, 2021 hearing. Court to issue Scheduling Order.

10/6/2021 1:30:00 PM | Motion Hearing | 21-CV-00690 Dept I | Court Room B

Thomas, Kathy Dep. Clerk - KTHOMAS

Staff - STAFF

Clerk - CLERK

lawclerk1 - LAW1

Rye, Cheri - Bailiff

Schlegelmilch, John P. - JPS (Dept I -

TJDC)

Notes: Hearing on Motion For Stay Pending Appeal. Court heard argument and statements of counsel. Court Denied the motion for stay. A motion for summary judgment may be filed at any time. If there is a motion filed It may be heard fairly soon. Parties may request to appear by zoom at the Status hearing on October 25, 2021.



Case Summary

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Counsel for the Plaintiff will prepare the Order for the hearing today.
10/25/2021 1:30:00 PM | Status Hearing | DEPT I 21-CV-00690 | Court Room B
  Terhune, Kathy
  Staff - STAFF
  Court Room B - CourtRmB
  Tovar, Victoria Deputy Clerk - VTOVAR
  lawclerk1 - LAW1
  Schlegelmilch, John P. - JPS (Dept I -
  TJDC)
  Johnston, Brad M. Esq. (Plaintiff's
  Attorney)
  McGuire, James J. Esq. (Plaintiff's
  Attorney)
  Doerr, Mark T. Esq. (Plaintiff's Attorney)
       via Zoom
  Notes: Kevin Powers and Michael Patrick also appeared via Zoom Kiel Ireland, Esq. appeared on behalf of Attorney
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General's office. Mr. Powers and Mr. McGuire argued matter. Court finds claim of sovereign immunity does not apply and claim of legislative immunity does not apply to statements made outside legitimate legislative function and activity; finds statements made to Nevada public radio were not within sphere of legitimate legislative activity; stated Nevada's discovery statutes were amended to change hugely broad definition of Nevada discovery to less broad standard; finds statements made outside legislative house have not shown they are privileged statements; and finds statements made in public are basically public speech. Court granted protective order for Assemblywoman and quashed subpoena. Court granted motion at this time and finds not particularly relevant to this matter. Mr. Powers to prepare order. Court advised will set up discovery conference. Mr. Ireland addressed discovery concerns. Court ordered counsel meet and confer on discovery issues within next day; advised Mr. Ireland can file opposition to Mr. Johnston's letter to Court by Wednesday, October 27, 2021; and advised counsel to notify Court if unable to reach agreement on matter. Mr. McGuire and Mr. Ireland advised plan to file motions for summary judgment. Court advised counsel to meet and confer on motions and to notify Court of decision. Court ordered trial disclosures due November 5, 2021; ordered motions for summary judgment to double as pre-trial statement memorandums and to include witness lists, trial exhibit lists, and any objections; ordered joint memorandums be filed by November 29, 2021 by 12:00 p.m.; and ordered motions in limine due by November 15, 2021. Court advised counsel to have five (5) sets of exhibits (1 for clerk, 1 for judge, 1 for witness, 1 for opposing counsel, and 1 for themselves) and to have exhibits pre-marked before trial.

11/23/2021 1:30:00 PM | Motion Hearing | 21-CV-00690 | Court Room B

Thomas, Kathy Dep. Clerk - KTHOMAS

Terhune, Kathy

Staff - STAFF

Clerk - CLERK

Rye, Cherie

lawclerk1 - LAW1

Newby, Craig Esq.

Schlegelmilch, John P. - JPS (Dept I - TJDC)

McGuire, James J. Esq. (Plaintiff's Attorney)

Johnston, Brad M. Esq. (Plaintiff's Attorney)

Via Zoom

Notes: Hearing on Motions for Summary Judgment. Court heard argument of Counsel. Court Ordered: The Court finds that Section 3 and 3.5 of AB 286 are unconstitutionally

vague. It fails to provide a person of ordinary intelligence as to what conduct is being prohibited. Section 3 and Section 3.5 AB 286 are unconstitutionally vague and violate the Due process Clause. It fails to allow a citizen notice of law so they can conform their conduct. The plaintiff's motion for Summary Judgment is granted and the Defendant's Motion for Summary Judgment is denied. Declaratory Judgment is entered in favor of Polymer80 and against Defendants. The State of Nevada & the Defendants are permanently enjoined from enforcing Section 3 and Section 3.5 of AB 286.



DISTRICT COURT CIVIL COVER SHEET

FILED

LYON

County, Nevada

Case No.

21-CV-OOL90 (Assigned by Clerk's Office)

Dept I

2021 JUN 22 PM 3: 48

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I. Party Information (provide both hor	me and mailing addresses if different)	TANVA SEC.	
Plaintiff(s) (name/address/phone):		Defendant(s) (name/address/phone): COURT ADMINISTRA	
POLYMER80), INC.	GOV. STEVE SISOLAK, 101 N. CARSON ST., CARSON CITY, NV 89701	
134 LAKES I	BLVD.	A.G. AARON FORD, 100 N. CARSON ST., CARSON CITY, NV 89701	
DAYTON, NV 89403 ((800-517-1243)	Dir. Topilatti and Admin. Mindy McKey, NV Dept. Public Safety. 555 WRIGHT WAY, CARSON CITY, NV 89711	
Attorney (name/address/phone):		Attorney (name/address/phone):	
BRAD M. JOH			
SIMONS HALL JOH	HNSTON PC		
22 STATE ROUTE 208, YERINGTO	N, NV 89447 (775-463-9500)		
II. Nature of Controversy (please se	elect the one most applicable filing type	below)	
Civil Case Filing Types			
Real Property		Torts	
Landlord/Tenant	Negligence	Other Torts	
Unlawful Detainer	Auto	Product Liability	
Other Landlord/Tenant	Premises Liability	Intentional Misconduct	
Title to Property	Other Negligence	Employment Tort	
Judicial Foreclosure	Malpractice	Insurance Tort	
Other Title to Property	Medical/Dental	Other Tort	
Other Real Property	Legal		
Condemnation/Eminent Domain	Accounting		
Other Real Property	Other Malpractice		
Probate	Construction Defect & Cont		
Probate (select case type and estate value)	Construction Defect	Judicial Review	
Summary Administration	Chapter 40	Foreclosure Mediation Case	
General Administration	Other Construction Defect	Petition to Seal Records	
Special Administration	Contract Case	Mental Competency	
Set Aside Surviving Spouse	Uniform Commercial Code	Nevada State Agency Appeal	
Trust/Conservatorship	Building and Construction	Department of Motor Vehicle	
Other Probate	Insurance Carrier	Worker's Compensation	
Estate Value	Commercial Instrument	Other Nevada State Agency	
Greater than \$300,000 \$200,000-\$300,000	Collection of Accounts	Appeal Other	
\$100,001-\$199,999	Employment Contract	Appeal from Lower Court	
\$25,001-\$100,000	Other Contract	Other Judicial Review/Appeal	
\$20,001-\$25,000			
\$2,500 or less			
Civi	l Writ	Other Civil Filing	
Civil Writ		Other Civil Filing	
Writ of Habeas Corpus	Writ of Prohibition	Compromise of Minor's Claim	
Writ of Mandamus	Other Civil Writ	Foreign Judgment	
Writ of Quo Warrant		Other Civil Matters	
Business C	Court filings should be filed using th	ne Business Court civil coversheet.	
June 22, 2021			
		CiCabana of initiating worth of managementative	
Date		Signature of initiating party of representative	

See other side for family-related case filings.