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# IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

ROBERT SCOTLUND VAILE, *Petitioner*,

VS.

THE EIGHTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF CLARK, AND THE HONORABLE CHERYL B. MOSS, DISTRICT JUDGE, FAMILY COURT DIVISION,

Respondent,

CISILIE A. PORSBOLL fka, CISILIE A. VAILE,

Real Party in Interest.

Supreme Court Case Nos: 55446

53678/53798

District Court Case No: 98-D230385

PROPER PERSON RECEIVED/ENTERED NOV 2010 TRACIE K. LINDEMAN CLERK OF SUPREME COURT



DEC 27 2011



# REQUEST FOR JUDICIAL NOTICE

Relative to the cases noted above, Plaintiff hereby requests that this Court take judicial notice of the decision issued by the Superior Court of California for the County of Sonoma on September 27, 2010, entitled *Order on Notice of Registration of Out-of-State Support Order and Request for Hearing Regarding Earnings Assignment*, attached hereto as Exhibit 1.



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#### **OVERVIEW OF CALIFORNIA DECISION**

In 2002, this Court issued a decision in this case holding that subject matter jurisdiction could not be exercised by Nevada courts unless a Nevada statute allowed it. Finding that no Nevada statute allowed the family court to exercise jurisdiction, and because neither party had resided in or had meaningful contacts with the State, this Court determined that the Nevada courts had neither jurisdiction of the subject matter nor personal jurisdiction over the parties. In 2008, a Las Vegas family court determined, contrary to this Court's decision, that it could exercise subject matter in the case and personal jurisdiction over the non-resident parties, and that jurisdiction had existed since 1998, both before and after this Court's 2002 decision. The lower court also decided that it was authorized to institute a retroactive child support order against the non-resident Plaintiff Mr. Vaile, in favor of the non-resident Defendant Ms. Porsboll, going back 10 years, but that the family court lacked prospective jurisdiction in the matter. A number of appeals followed.

Because the Nevada family court decided that it could not prospectively alter its retroactive decision in this case, Plaintiff was forced to domesticate the Nevada judgment in California and request modification based on Plaintiff's oldest child's emancipation in 2009. Under California's implementation of UIFSA, if the court from which a child support order originates rejects ongoing jurisdiction, then the California court may modify the order.

Instead of modifying the Nevada order, the California court surveyed federal and state law searching for any legal basis under which the Nevada family court could have exercised jurisdiction over the matter. Consistent with this Court's 2002 decision, the California court independently determined that the Nevada family court's exercise of jurisdiction was not supported by federal or state law. As such, the California court held that the Nevada order cannot be enforced by the California courts.

The California court's decision is perfectly consistent with this Court's 2002 mandate that the exercise of jurisdiction by Nevada courts must be based on statute. But importantly, the California court's determination is a clear demonstration of the burden placed on the interstate judicial system when a court (like the Nevada family court here) attempts to exercise jurisdiction over parties who have never lived in the state, and when state statute does not support the exercise. Plaintiff requests the Court to recognize this decision, and take its findings into account in the adjudication of the matters pending here.

Respectfully submitted this 6th day of November, 2010.

Robert Scotlund Vaile

PO Box 727

Kenwood, CA 95452

(707) 833-2350

Petitioner in Proper Person

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I am the Petitioner in this action, and that on the 7<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2010, I served a true and correct copy of the foregoing *Request for Judicial Notice* by placing the document in:

\_\_\_\_ U.S. Mail, first class postage prepaid; or

\_\_\_ National courier (Fedex or UPS) with expedited delivery prepaid,

and addressed as follows:

Honorable Cheryl B. Moss Eighth Judicial District Court Family Division 601 North Pecos Road Las Vegas, NV 89101-2408 Respondent

Marshal S. Willick Willick Law Group 3591 E. Bonanza Road, Suite 200 Las Vegas, NV 89110-2101 Attorneys for Real Party in Interest

Robert Scotlund Vaile

PO Box 727

Kenwood, CA 95452

(707) 833-2350

Petitioner in Proper Person

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# Exhibit 1

LED COMMISSIONER LOUISE BAYLES-FIGHTMASTER 1 COMMISSIONER OF THE SUPERIOR COURT Civil and Family Law Courthouse SEP 27 2010 2 3055 Cleveland Avenue Santa Rosa, CA 95403 3 Telephone: (707) 521-6732 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA COUNTY OF SONOMA REBY CERTIF PIPHAT THE WITHIN INSTRU MENT IS A FULL, TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF THE ORIGINAL ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE. 5 6 OCT 2 1-2010 ATTEST: 7 SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SONOMA Case No. SFL-49802 10 Petitioner: ROBERT SCOTLUND VAILE Order on Notice of Registration of Out-11 of-State Support Order and Request for Hearing Regarding Earnings 12 Respondent: CISILIE A. PORSBOLL Assianment 13 14 This matter was initially heard by this Court on March 1, 2010 in Department 23, 15 before the Honorable Judge Cerena Wong on ROBERT SCOTLUND VAILE's (hereafter 16 Husband) Notice of Registration of Out-of-State Support Order and Request for Hearing 17 Regarding Earnings Assignment filed on February 9, 2010. Present at the hearing were 18 Petitioner, and JEANNE MISKEL, Chief Child Support Attorney on behalf of the Sonoma 19 County Department of Child Support Services (hereafter DCSS). CISILIE A. PORSBOLL 20 (hereafter Wife) was not present. 21 The matter was discussed with the court and continued to Department 20 on 22 March 16, 2010 at 8:30 before Commissioner Louise Bayles-Fightmaster, the assigned 23 Title IV-D Commissioner for Sonoma County as this matter was currently being handled 24 by the Clark County Nevada IV-D child support agency. 25 Procedural History: ١. 26 The parties were divorced in Clark County Nevada on August 21, 1998. Their 27 Decree of Divorce included an agreement that provided a precise formula for calculating 28

child support.

In November 2007 Wife asked the Nevada District Court to establish the child support arrears that had accrued pursuant to the parties' agreement and to establish a sum certain for child support, i.e. modify the agreement that was set forth in the parties' Decree of Divorce. Neither party nor the children resided in Nevada at the time of this proceeding. The Nevada Court issued its ruling on October 9, 2008, enforcing the parties' informal agreement for \$1,300 per month. This sum was previously paid by Husband pursuant to this informal agreement until April 2000. Payments resumed later when a wage assignment was issued.

The Nevada Court set the arrears pursuant to this informal agreement and Nevada State Law

Petitioner has appealed this order and that action is still pending in Nevada with the Nevada Supreme Court.

Petitioner then, in February of this year, sought to register the 2008 Nevada order in Sonoma County, and to modify it based on the fact that one of the parties' children had emancipated. He also requested a stay of the wage assignment.

Petitioner contends that the Nevada Court was without jurisdiction to enter the orders it made on October 9, 2008, outlined above.

After reviewing the voluminous pleadings, declarations, and other documents, listening to oral argument and reviewing the law regarding interstate child support jurisdiction and enforcement, the Court makes the following findings and orders:

## II. Relevant Law:

The overarching applicable law in the case is found in the Uniform Interstate Family Support Act (UIFSA) (Family Code § 4900, et seq.) and the Federal Full Faith and Credit for Child Support Orders Act (FFCCSOA). When there are interstate ties, or a pre-existing out-of-state order, California can exercise jurisdiction to establish, enforce, or modify support orders only if consistent with UIFSA and FFCCSOA. Stone v. Davis (2007) 148 Cal.App. 4<sup>th</sup> 596, 600; Marriage of Crosby and Grooms (2004) 116 Cal.App. 4<sup>th</sup> 201, 206; de Leon v. Jenkins (2006) 143 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 118, 124; Hogoboom & King, California

The FFCCSOA, as set forth in 28 USC §1738B, states, in part:

- "...(c) Requirements of child support orders. A child support order made by a court of a State is made consistently with this section if
  - (1) a court that makes the order, pursuant to the laws of the State in which the court is located and subsections (e), (f), and (g) 1
    - (A) has subject matter jurisdiction to hear the matter and enter such an order; and
  - (B) has personal jurisdiction over the contestants; and(2) reasonable notice and opportunity to be heard is given to the contestants.
  - (d) Continuing jurisdiction. —A court of a State that has made a child support order consistently with this section has continuing, exclusive jurisdiction over the order if the State is the child's State or the residence of any individual contestant unless the court of another State, acting in accordance with subsections (e) and (f), has made a modification of the order."

## III. Analysis and Conclusion:

When the Nevada District Court assumed jurisdiction over the issues of child support in 2008 it, perhaps, did so because it had issued the original divorce decree in 1998. Nevada's assumption of jurisdiction over the child support issues must comply with the UIFSA and FFCCSOA law, but it does not.

Nevada did not have continuing exclusive jurisdiction under the FFCCSOA because neither the children nor the parents resided in Nevada at the time of the proceeding.

FFCCSOA provides that a State that made a child support order may exercise continuing jurisdiction over the child support order "if the State is the child's State or the residence

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Subsections (e), (f) and (g) are not relevant to the issues presented in this case.

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of any individual contestant." 28 USC §1738B(d). Since Nevada was no one's residence at the time of the October 2008 order this order does not comply with the FFCCSOA and cannot be enforced by the California courts.

In addition, Nevada does not have continuing exclusive jurisdiction under UIFSA either. Under UIFSA (see NRS 130.205(1)2; see also California Family Code § 4909(a)3), a State has continuing and exclusive jurisdiction to modify its child support order if the order is the controlling order and (1) either of the parents or children reside in Nevada at the time of the request for modification or (2) the parties consent in a record or in open court that the tribunal of this State may continue to exercise jurisdiction to modify its order. Because none of the parents or the children resided in Nevada, and Husband did not consent to continuing exclusive jurisdiction in Nevada, Nevada does not have continuing exclusive jurisdiction over child support under UIFSA, and, therefore, its 2008 child support order is unenforceable by a California court.

(a) At the time of the filing of a request for modification, the State is the residence of the obligor, the oblige who is a natural person of the child for whose benefit the support order is issued; or

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> NRS 130.205(1) states:

<sup>&</sup>quot;1. A tribunal of this State that has issued a child-support order consistent with the law of this State has and shall exercise continuing and exclusive jurisdiction to modify its child-support order if the order is the controlling order and:

<sup>(</sup>b) Even if this State is not the residence of the obligor, the oblige who is a natural person or the child for whose benefit the support order is issued, the parties consent in a record or in open court that the tribunal of this State may continue to exercise jurisdiction to modify its order."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> California Family Code § 4909(a) states:

<sup>&</sup>quot;A tribunal of this state issuing a support order consistent with the law of this state has continuing, exclusive jurisdiction over a child support order:

<sup>(1)</sup> As long as this state remains the residence of the obligor, the individual oblige, or the child for whose benefit the support order was issued; or

<sup>(2)</sup> Until all of the parties who are individuals have filed written consents with the tribunal of this state for a tribunal of another state to modify the order and assume continuing, exclusive jurisdiction."

In conclusion, this Court will not grant either request made by Husband as it does not have jurisdiction in this matter, as set forth above. Husband's remedies are elsewhere. Husband's Notice of Registration of Out-of-State Support Order is vacated and his Request for a stay of the Earnings Assignment order is denied.

Dated: September 27, 2010

LOUISE BAYLES-FIGHTMASTER
Commissioner of the Superior Court

#### PROOF OF SERVICE BY MAIL

I certify that I am an employee of the Superior Court of California, County of Sonoma, and that my business address is 3055 Cleveland Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95403; that I am not a party to this cause; that I am over the age of 18 years; that I am readily familiar with this office's practice for collection and processing of correspondence for mailing with the United States Postal Service; and that on the date shown below I placed a true copy of the foregoing attached papers in an envelope, sealed and addressed as shown below, for collection and mailing at Santa Rosa, California, first class, postage fully prepaid, following ordinary business practices.

Date: September 27, 2010

JOSÉ OCTAVIO GUILLÉN COURT EXPCUTIVE OFFICER

Deputy Clerk

--ADDRESSEES--

SONOMA COUNTY DCSS 1755 COPPERHILL PKWY SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

VAILE, ROBERT SCOTLUND PO BOX 727 KENWOOD, CA 95452