FILED

Electronically
12-22-2011:10:34:56 AM
Craig Franden
Clerk of the Court
Transaction # 2662337

Document Code: \$2515

2 H

3

5

6

7

8

9

11 12

13

15

16

14

17 18

19

21

22

20

23 24

25 26

27

28

Hoy & Hoy, P.C.

Michael D. Hoy (NV Bar 2723) Michael S. Kimmel (NV Bar 9081) 4741 Caughlin Parkway, Suite Four Reno, Nevada 89519 775.786.8000 (voice) 775.786.7426 (fax)

Attorneys for: Mark B. Steppan

Electronically Filed Jan 12 2012 02:30 p.m. Tracie K. Lindeman Clerk of Supreme Court

In the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada In and for the County of Washoe

JOHN ILIESCU, JR.; SONNIA SANTEE ILIESCU; John Iliescu, Jr. and Sonnia Santee Iliescu, as trustees of the JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MARK B. STEPPAN,

Defendant.

And Consolidated Action and Related Thirdparty Claims.

Case No. CV07-00341

(Consolidated with Case No. CV07-01021)

Dept. No. 10

Notice of Appeal

Notice is hereby given that Mark B. Steppan ("Steppan"), defendant above named, hereby appeals to the Supreme Court of the Nevada from the Order Granting Third Party Defendant John Schleining's Motion to Dismiss (the final order dismissing claims between parties in the action) entered in this action on the November 22, 2011, the Order Granting Defendants Iliescus' Motion to Dismiss entered in this action on October 25, 2011, and the Order Granting Third-Party Defendant Hale Lane's Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu entered in this action on September 1, 2011.

Privacy Certification

Undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing documents does not contain any social security numbers.

December 22, 2011.

Hoy & Hoy, PC

/s/ Michael S. Kimmel

Michael D. Hoy (NV Bar 2723) Michael S. Kimmel (NV Bar 9081) 4741 Caughlin Parkway, Suite Four Reno, Nevada 89519 775.786.8000 (voice) 775.786.7426 (fax)

Attorneys for: Mark B. Steppan

Certificate of Service

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I hereby certify that I am an employee of Hoy & Hoy, PC, and that on the 22nd day of December, 2011, I electronically filed a true and correct copy of the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court by using the ECF system, which served the following parties electronically:

DAVID R. GRUNDY

GREGORY F. WILSON

THOMAS J. HALL

DATED this 22nd day of December, 2011.

/s/ Kelly Anderson
An employee of Hoy & Hoy

FILED

Electronically 12-22-2011:10:36:14 AM Craig Franden Clerk of the Court Transaction # 2662346

Document Code: 1310

2

3

4

5

7

8

9

11 12

13

14 15

17

16

18

19

20 21

22

23

2425

26 27

28

Hoy & Hoy, P.C. Michael D. Hoy (NV Bar 2723)

Michael S. Kimmel (NV Bar 9081) 4741 Caughlin Parkway, Suite Four Reno, Nevada 89519 775.786.8000 (voice) 775.786.7426 (fax)

Attorneys for: Mark B. Steppan

In the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada In and for the County of Washoe

JOHN ILIESCU, JR.; SONNIA SANTEE ILIESCU; John Iliescu, Jr. and Sonnia Santee Iliescu, as trustees of the JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MARK B. STEPPAN,

Defendant.

And Consolidated Action and Related Third-party Claims.

Case No. CV07-00341

(Consolidated with Case No. CV07-01021)

Dept. No. 10

Case Appeal Statement

1. Name of appellant filing this case appeal statement: Mark B. Steppan

2. Identify the judge issuing the decision, judgment, or order appealed from:

Honorable Steven P. Elliot

3. Identify each appellant and the name and address, of counsel for each appellant:

Mark B. Steppan, Appellant

Michael D. Hoy (NV Bar 2723) Michael S. Kimmel (NV Bar 9081) 4741 Caughlin Parkway, Suite Four Reno, Nevada 89519 775.786.8000 (voice) 775.786.7426 (fax)

_	_						
1		4. Identify each respondent and the name and address of appellate counsel, if known, for each respondent (if the name of a respondent's appellate counsel is unknown, indicate as					
2	2	much and provide the name and address of that respondent's trial counsel):					
3	3	Appellate counsel is unknown. The names and addresses of respondents' trial counsel is					
4	1	as follows:					
5	5		as Hall, Esq.	David R. Grundy Lemons, Grundy & Eisenberg	Gregory F. Wilson Wilson & Quint LLP		
6	5	305 S. Arlington Ave. P.O. Box 3948		6005 Plumas St., Third Floor	417 West Plumb In.		
7		Reno, NV 89505		Reno, NV 89519	Reno, NV 89509		
8	3	775.348.7011 (voice) 775.786.6868 (voice 775.348.7211(fax) 775.786.9716 (fax)		, , ,	775.786.7600 (voice) 775.786.7764 (fax)		
9		Attorn	ney for Iliescu	Attorney for Holland & Hart and Hale Lane Peek	Attorney for John Schleining		
10		_					
1′	1	5. 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					
12	2	permission to appear under SCR 42 (attach a copy of any district court order granting such permission):					
13	3		A 11 -44 11 -4 - J 1 1		T 1-		
14	4		All attorneys listed herein are licensed to practice law in Nevada.				
15		6.	Indicate whether appella or retained counsel in the	nt was represented by appointed e district court:	Retained		
17		7.	Indicate whether appella or retained counsel on ap	nt is represented by appointed ppeal:	Retained		
18	8	8.	Indicate whether appella	nt was granted leave to proceed in	1		
19	9	Forma pauperis, and the date of entry of the district court Order granting such leave: Not Applicable					
20	0	0		1. 1. 1. 1. 1.			
2	1	9. Indicate the date the proceedings commenced in the district court (e.g., date complaint, indictment, information, or petition					
22	2		was filed):				
23	3		Application for Release	of Mechanic's Lien CV07-0031	02/14/2007		
24	4		Complaint to Foreclose l	Mechanic's Lien CV07-01021	05/04/2007		
25	5	10.	Provide a brief description	on of the nature of the action and	result in the district court,		
26	6	including the type of judgment or order being appealed and the relief granted by the district court:					
27	7		The action came before t	the district court on an Annlicatio	n for Release of Mechanic's		
28	8	The action came before the district court on an Application for Release of Mechanic's Lien, which matter was consolidated with appellant's Complaint to Foreclose Mechanic's Lien. - 2 -					

3

5

6

7

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

For four years, the District Judge in Department Six managed this litigation in a series of hearings and pretrial conferences. In order to avoid the expense of unnecessary discovery, the District Judge specifically phased discovery to meet the threshold issues first, and reserving discovery for a later date. The District Judge ordered the filing of specific dispositive motions to narrow certain issues and he actively managed the progression of the case. Under that management, the parties exchanged witness lists, more than 10,000 pages of documents, written discovery requests and responses, and spent ten days in depositions. The District Judge also conducted a multi-day settlement conference which resulted in a tentative settlement agreement in March of 2010.

Unfortunately, the tentative settlement did not become a final settlement due to the demands of Dr. Iliescu. The District Judge in Department Six, who presided over case management and the settlement conference, became frustrated and recused himself from hearing the trial on the merits. Upon transfer to a different department, the newly assigned District Judge granted motions to dismiss based upon the purported failure to file an NRCP 16.1 early case conference report. These orders provide the basis for this appeal.

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

Not Applicable

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

No

13. If this is a civil case, indicate whether this appeal involves the possibility of settlement:

Yes

Privacy Certification

Undersigned hereby certifies that the foregoing document does not contain any social security numbers.

December 22, 2011.

Hoy & Hoy, PC

<u>/s/ Michael S. Kimmel</u>

Michael D. Hoy (NV Bar 2723) Michael S. Kimmel (NV Bar 9081) 4741 Caughlin Parkway, Suite Four Reno, Nevada 89519 775.786.8000 (voice) 775.786.7426 (fax)

Attorneys for: Mark B. Steppan

26

27 28

Certificate of Service

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I hereby certify that I am an employee of Hoy & Hoy, PC, and that on the 22nd day of December, 2011, I electronically filed a true and correct copy of the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court by using the ECF system, which served the following parties electronically:

DAVID R. GRUNDY

GREGORY F. WILSON

THOMAS J. HALL

DATED this 22nd day of December, 2011.

/s/ Kelly Anderson
An employee of Hoy & Hoy

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF WASHOE

Case History - CV07-00341

Case Description: JOHN ILIESCU ETAL VS. MARK STEPPAN (D10)

Case Number: CV07-00341 Case Type: LIENS - Initially Filed On: 2/14/2007

Parties					
Party Type & Name	Party Status				
JUDG - BRENT ADAMS - D6	Party ended on: 8/10/2011 12:00:00AM				
JUDG - JANET J. BERRY - D1	Party ended on: 8/18/2011 12:00:00AM				
JUDG - STEVEN P. ELLIOTT - D10	Active				
DATY - Stephen R. Harris, Esq 1463	Active				
DATY - Judith A. Otto, Esq 3326	Active				
3DEF - KAREN D. DENNISON - @3257	Active				
3DEF - HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON HOWARD - @56874	Active				
3DEF - HOLLAND & HART, LLP - @1158588	Active				
3DEF - CONSOLIDATED PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT INC. (NV CORP.) - @139819	Active				
3DEF - JERRY M. SNYDER - @612312	Active				
3DEF - JOHN SCHLEINING - @1135932	Active				
3DEF - DECAL OREGON INC @1135933	Active				
3DEF - R. CRAIG HOWARD - @313806	Active				
APPL - JOHN ILIESCU, JR @8244	Active				
APPL - SONNIA ILIESCU - @77375	Active				
ATTY - Stephen C. Mollath, Esq 922	Active				
ATTY - Gregory Francis Wilson, Esq 2517	Active				
ATTY - Sallie B. Armstrong, Esq 1243	Party ended on: 8/29/2011 12:00:00AM				
ATTY - Michael D. Hoy, Esq 2723	Active				
ATTY - Jerry M. Snyder, Esq 6830	Party ended on: 8/3/2007 12:00:00AM				
ATTY - Thomas J. Hall, Esq 675	Active				
ATTY - David R. Grundy, Esq 864	Active				
ATTY - Gayle A. Kern, Esq 1620	Party ended on: 6/23/2011 12:00:00AM				
ATTY - Matthew F. Quint, Esq 10962	Active				
RESP - MARK B. STEPPAN - @1117886	Active				
TRSE - TRUSTEE OF THE JOHN ILIESCU, JR. & SONNIA ILLIESCU - @132341	Active				
Disposed Hearings					

Department: D6 -- Event: MOTION ... -- Scheduled Date & Time: 3/16/2007 at 13:30:00

Extra Event Text: FOR RELEASE OF MECHANIC'S LIEN

Event Disposition: D844 - 3/8/2007

Department: D6 -- Event: MOTION ... -- Scheduled Date & Time: 4/17/2007 at 09:00:00

Extra Event Text: FOR RELEASE OF MECHANIC'S LIEN

Event Disposition: D844 - 4/12/2007

Department: D6 -- Event: MOTION ... -- Scheduled Date & Time: 5/3/2007 at 13:30:00

Extra Event Text: FOR RELEASE OF MECHANIC'S LIEN

Event Disposition: D355 - 5/3/2007

4 Department: D6 -- Event: PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE -- Scheduled Date & Time: 2/22/2008 at 13:30:00

Extra Event Text: STEVEN MOLLATH, ESQ. 786-3011

Event Disposition: D475 - 2/22/2008

5 Department: D6 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 2/26/2008 at 10:35:00

Extra Event Text: MOTION TO ENLARGE THE TIME FOR SERVICE

Event Disposition: S200 - 2/29/2008

6 Department: D6 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 3/25/2008 at 16:10:00

Extra Event Text: EX PARTE MOTIO TO ENLARGE TIME FOR SERVICE EX PARTE MOTIO TO SERVE BY PUBLICATION AND DECLARATION OF SALLIE B. ARI

Event Disposition: S200 - 3/27/2008

7 Department: D6 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 5/27/2009 at 10:25:00

Extra Event Text: APPLICANTS/DEFENDANTS MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT

Event Disposition: S200 - 6/22/2009

8 Department: D6 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 5/28/2009 at 11:40:00

Extra Event Text: DEFT'S MOTIONFOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT ON MARK B STEPPAN'S CLAIM FOR FORECLOSURE OF MECHANICS LIEN AND OTHER

Event Disposition: S200 - 6/22/2009

9 Department: D6 -- Event: SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE -- Scheduled Date & Time: 1/14/2010 at 09:00:00

Extra Event Text: P - STEPHEN MOLLATH - 786-3011

Event Disposition: D870 - 12/10/2009

10 Department: D6 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 3/9/2010 at 16:25:00

Extra Event Text: MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS ATTORNEY OF RECORD

Event Disposition: S200 - 3/18/2010

Department: D6 -- Event: SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE -- Scheduled Date & Time: 3/18/2010 at 09:00:00

Extra Event Text: P - STEPHEN MOLLATH - 786-3011

Event Disposition: D480 - 3/31/2010

12 Department: D6 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 1/28/2011 at 14:35:00

Extra Event Text: MOTION TO ADJUDICATE ATTORNEY'S LIEN (NO PAPER ORDER PROVIDED)

Event Disposition: S200 - 3/29/2011

13 Department: D6 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 1/28/2011 at 08:59:00

Extra Event Text: MOTION AND APPLICATION TO WITHDRAW (NO PAPER ORDER PROVIDED)

Event Disposition: S200 - 3/28/2011

14 Department: D6 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 5/26/2011 at 15:02:00

Extra Event Text: REQUEST FOR SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE

Event Disposition: S200 - 6/21/2011

15 Department: D6 -- Event: CONFERENCE CALL -- Scheduled Date & Time: 7/15/2011 at 11:30:00

Extra Event Text: STEVE MOLLATH Event Disposition: D475 - 7/15/2011

16 Department: D10 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 8/29/2011 at 10:50:00

Extra Event Text: THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT (NO PAPER ORDER PROVIDED)

Event Disposition: S200 - 9/1/2011

17 Department: D10 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 9/22/2011 at 13:15:00

Extra Event Text: MOTION TO DISMISS Event Disposition: S200 - 10/25/2011

18 Department: D10 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 9/22/2011 at 13:15:00

Extra Event Text: MOTION TO AMEND THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT AGAINST DEFT HALE LANE

Event Disposition: S200 - 10/19/2011

19 Department: D6 -- Event: TRIAL - NON JURY -- Scheduled Date & Time: 10/3/2011 at 09:00:00

Extra Event Text: NO 1, BENCH, 10 DAYS Event Disposition: D845 - 8/10/2011

20 Department: D10 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 10/6/2011 at 16:20:00

Extra Event Text: MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION -

Event Disposition: S200 - 10/19/2011

21 Department: D10 -- Event: STATUS CONFERENCE -- Scheduled Date & Time: 10/13/2011 at 11:15:00

Extra Event Text: TRIAL SET FOR 11/14/11 Event Disposition: D845 - 10/13/2011

22 Department: D10 -- Event: TRIAL - JURY -- Scheduled Date & Time: 11/14/2011 at 08:30:00

Extra Event Text: 5-DAY JURY TRIAL (#2 SET)

Event Disposition: D845 - 10/5/2011

23 Department: D10 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 11/16/2011 at 16:55:00

Extra Event Text: MOTION

Event Disposition: S200 - 11/22/2011

24 Department: D10 -- Event: Request for Submission -- Scheduled Date & Time: 12/2/2011 at 15:25:00

Extra Event Text: MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION

Event Disposition: S200 - 12/21/2011

Department: D10 -- Event: PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE -- Scheduled Date & Time: 12/15/2011 at 13:30:00

Extra Event Text: 4-DAY NON-JURY TRIAL SET FOR 2/21/12

Event Disposition: D845 - 12/15/2011

Actions

Filing Date - Docket Code & Description

1 2/14/2007 - \$3850 - \$Request for Release of Lien

No additional text exists for this entry.

2 2/14/2007 - 1030 - Affidavit in Support...

Additional Text: DECLARATION OF JOHN ILIESCU IN SUPPORT OF APPLICATION FOR RELEASE MECHANIC'S LIEN

3 2/14/2007 - COV - **Civil Cover Sheet

No additional text exists for this entry.

4 2/14/2007 - PAYRC - **Payment Receipted

Additional Text: A Payment of -\$95.00 was made on receipt DCDC174766.

5 3/6/2007 - 1040 - Affidavit of Mailing

No additional text exists for this entry.

6 3/9/2007 - 1250 - Application for Setting

Additional Text: APPLICATION FOR RELEASE OF MECHANIC'S LIEN 4/1/7/07 AT 9:00 AM

7 4/17/2007 - 1250 - Application for Setting

Additional Text: APPLICATION FOR RELEASE OF MECHANIC'S LIEN 5/3/07 AT 1:30 P.M.

```
8
       5/3/2007 - 3880 - Response...
           Additional Text: RESPONSE TO APPLICATION FOR RELEASE OF MECHANIC'S LIEN
       5/4/2007 - 3370 - Order ...
9
           Additional Text: after 5/3/07 hearing
10
       5/11/2007 - 2540 - Notice of Entry of Ord
           No additional text exists for this entry.
11
       6/29/2007 - 4185 - Transcript ...
           Additional Text: MOTION FOR RELEASE OF MECHANIC'S LIEN - MAY 3, 2007
      7/30/2007 - 3880 - Response...
12
           Additional Text: SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO APPLICATION FOR RELEASE OF MECHANIC'S LIEN
      7/30/2007 - 2605 - Notice to Set
13
           No additional text exists for this entry.
       8/3/2007 - 4075 - Substitution of Counsel
14
            Additional Text: SALLIE B. ARMSTRONGHALE LANE PEEK DENISON AND HOWARD FOR APPLICANTS IN PLACE OF HALE LANE
           PEEK DENISON AND HOWARD
      8/6/2007 - 1120 - Amended ...
15
           Additional Text: NOTICE TO SET
16
      8/7/2007 - 1040 - Affidavit of Mailing
           No additional text exists for this entry.
17
      8/13/2007 - 2610 - Notice ...
            Additional Text: OF ASSOCIATION OF COUNSEL
           STEPHEN C. MOLLATH, OF PREZANT & MOLLATH ASSOCIATED WITH DOWNEY BRAND LLP FOR PLAINTIFFS
      9/6/2007 - 3015 - Ord Granting Consolidation
18
           Additional Text: STIPULATION TO CONSOLIDATE PROCEEDINGS; ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION
      9/24/2007 - 4050 - Stipulation ...
19
           Additional Text: STIPULATION TO CONSOLIDATE PROCEEDINGS; ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION
20
       9/27/2007 - 1130 - Answer ...
           Additional Text: ANSWER AND THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT (ILIESCU DEFENDANTS)
      9/27/2007 - 4090 - ** Summons Issued
21
           Additional Text: (7)
22
       10/24/2007 - A120 - Exemption from Arbitration
           Additional Text: FORECLOSE MECANICS LIEN
23
      11/6/2007 - 3696 - Pre-Trial Order
           No additional text exists for this entry.
      11/15/2007 - 2605 - Notice to Set
24
           No additional text exists for this entry.
25
       11/15/2007 - 2605 - Notice to Set
           Additional Text: NOTICE TO SET MANDATORY PRETRIAL CONFERENCE
```

26 12/5/2007 - 1250 - Application for Setting Additional Text: STEPHEN MOLLATH, ESQ. 786-3011 GAYLE KERN, ESQ. - 324-5930 12/6/2007 - 1040 - Affidavit of Mailing 27 No additional text exists for this entry. 28 12/6/2007 - 4085 - Summons Filed Additional Text: THIRD PARTY SUMMONS - CONSOLIDATED PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT INC. DUSTIN E. GRATE 11-27-07 29 12/10/2007 - 1005 - Acceptance of Service Additional Text: ACCEPTANCE OF SERVICE OF THIRD PARTY SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT 30 12/18/2007 - \$1560 - \$Def 1st Appearance - CV Additional Text: JOHN SHLEINING 12/18/2007 - \$DEFT - \$Addl Def/Answer - Prty/Appear 31 Additional Text: DECAL OREGON 32 12/18/2007 - 2520 - Notice of Appearance No additional text exists for this entry. 12/18/2007 - PAYRC - **Payment Receipted 33 Additional Text: A Payment of -\$124.00 was made on receipt DCDC190628. 1/24/2008 - 1520 - Declaration 34 Additional Text: DECALARTION OF SALLIE B. ARMSTRONG IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO ENLARGE TIME FOR SERVICE 35 1/24/2008 - 2490 - Motion ... Additional Text: MOTION TO ENLARGE THE TIME FOR SERVICE 1/29/2008 - 1005 - Acceptance of Service 36 No additional text exists for this entry. 2/12/2008 - 2529 - Notice of Early Case Conferenc 37 No additional text exists for this entry. 38 2/12/2008 - 2610 - Notice ... Additional Text: NOTICE OF PRETRIAL CONFERENCE 2/20/2008 - 1120 - Amended ... 39 Additional Text: AMENDED NOTICE OF EARLY CASE CONFERENCE 40 2/22/2008 - \$1560 - \$Def 1st Appearance - CV Additional Text: CONSOLIDATED PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT 41 2/22/2008 - 1140 - Answer to Amended Complaint Additional Text: CONSOLIDATED PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT 2/22/2008 - PAYRC - **Payment Receipted 42 Additional Text: A Payment of -\$94.00 was made on receipt DCDC194226. 43 2/25/2008 - 3860 - Request for Submission

Additional Text: DOCUMENT TITLE: MOTION TO ENLARGE THE TIME FOR SERVICE PARTY SUBMITTING: SALLIE B ARMSTRONG, ESQ DATE SUBMITTED: 02/26/08 SUBMITTED BY: DJ DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE: 44 2/26/2008 - 1040 - Affidavit of Mailing No additional text exists for this entry. 2/29/2008 - 3370 - Order ... 45 Additional Text: GRANTING MOTION TO ENLARGE TIME FOR SERVICE 2/29/2008 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet 46 Additional Text: order 3/6/2008 - 4250 - Verification of ... 47 Additional Text: VERIFICATION TO ANSWER 48 3/7/2008 - 4050 - Stipulation ... Additional Text: STIPULATION TO STAY PROCEEDINGS AGAINST DEFT HALE LANE AND TO DISMISS CLAIMS AGAINST DEFTS DENNISON HOWARD AND SNYDER WITHOUT PREJUDICE - Transaction 154047 - Approved By: ASMITH: 03-07-2008:09:49:51 49 3/25/2008 - 1520 - Declaration Additional Text: DECLARATION OF SALLIE B. ARMSTRONG IN SUPPORT OF EX-PARTE MOTION TO ENLARGE TIME FOR SERVICE AND EX PARTE MOTION TO SERVE BY PUBLICATION 3/25/2008 - 1670 - Ex-Parte Mtn... 50 Additional Text: APPLICANTS / THIRD PARTY PLAINTIFF'S EX PARTE MOTION TO ENLARGE TIME FOR SERVICE AND EX PARTE MOITON TO SERVE BY PULBICATION 51 3/25/2008 - 3860 - Request for Submission Additional Text: DOCUMENT TITLE: EX PARTE MOTIO TO ENLARGE TIME FOR SERVICE EX PARTE MOTIO TO SERVE BY PUBLICATION AND DECLARATION OF SALLIE B. ARMSTRONG IN SUPPORT PARTY SUBMITTING: SALLIE ARMSTRONG DATE SUBMITTED: 3/25/08 SUBMITTED BY: JA DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE: 52 3/27/2008 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet Additional Text: order 53 3/27/2008 - 3370 - Order ... Additional Text: granting Iliescu's motion to allow service by publication 54 4/4/2008 - 2540 - Notice of Entry of Ord No additional text exists for this entry. 4/16/2008 - 4185 - Transcript ... 55 Additional Text: PRE-TRIAL CONFERENCE 2/22/2008 56 4/17/2008 - 2490 - Motion ... Additional Text: APPLICANTS/DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT ON MARK B. STEPPAN'S CLAIM FOR FORECLOSURE ON MECHANIC'S LIEN 57 4/30/2008 - 1067 - Affidavit of Service No additional text exists for this entry. 5/13/2008 - 3715 - Proof of Publication 58 No additional text exists for this entry.

Additional Text: PUBLISHED IN THE OREGONIAN ON 04/23/08, 04/30/08, 0507/08 & 05/14/08

5/20/2008 - 3715 - Proof of Publication

59

60 5/20/2008 - 1067 - Affidavit of Service

Additional Text: CALVIN BATY JR WAS SERVED AT TWO ADDRESSES 04/15/08 BY CERTIFIED MAIL

61 7/29/2008 - 2582 - Notice of Taking Deposition

Additional Text: NOTICE OF TAKING DEPOSITION OF RICHARD K. "DICK" JOHNSON - Transaction 301581 - Approved By: TPRINCE: 07-29-2008:14:03:40

62 8/7/2008 - 4055 - Subpoena

Additional Text: SUBPOEN AND SUBPOENA DUCES TECUM - Transaction 314227 - Approved By: TPRINCE: 08-07-2008:11:06:58

63 8/19/2008 - 2610 - Notice ...

Additional Text: NOTICE OF TAKING DEPOSITION

64 10/8/2008 - 2582 - Notice of Taking Deposition

No additional text exists for this entry.

65 10/17/2008 - 4065 - Subpoena Duces Tecum

No additional text exists for this entry.

66 10/17/2008 - 4055 - Subpoena

No additional text exists for this entry.

67 2/3/2009 - 2645 - Opposition to Mtn ...

Additional Text: MARK B. STEPPAN'S OPPOSITION TO MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND CROSS-MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT - Transaction 579452 - Approved By: MPURDY: 02-03-2009:17:36:17

68 3/31/2009 - 3795 - Reply...

Additional Text: PLAINTIFF'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT AND OPPOSITION TO DEFENDANT'S CROSS-MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT

69 5/22/2009 - 3790 - Reply to/in Opposition

Additional Text: MARK B STEPPAN'S REPLY TO OPPOSITION TO CROSS-MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT - Transaction 789096 - Approved By: ASMITH: 05-22-2009:14:26:05

70 5/27/2009 - 3860 - Request for Submission

Additional Text: DOCUMENT TITLE: APPLICANTS/DEFENDANTS MOTION FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT PARTY SUBMITTING: STEPHEN MOLLATH, ESQ

DATE SUBMITTED: 05/27/09

SUBMITTED BY: JN

DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE:

71 5/28/2009 - 3860 - Request for Submission

Additional Text: DEFT'S MOTIONFOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT ON MARK B STEPPAN'S CLAIM FOR FORECLOSURE OF MECHANICS LIEN AND OTHER RELATED MOTIONS - Transaction 797949 - Approved By: ASMITH: 05-28-2009:11:28:42 DOCUMENT TITLE: DEFT'S MOTIONFOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT ON MARK B STEPPAN'S CLAIM FOR FORECLOSURE OF MECHANICS LIEN AND OTHER RELATED MOTIONS

PARTY SUBMITTING: GAYLE KERN, ESQ

DATE SUBMITTED: 05/28/09

SUBMITTED BY: JN

DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE:

72 6/22/2009 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet

Additional Text: order

73 6/22/2009 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet

Additional Text: order

74 6/22/2009 - 3370 - Order ...

Additional Text: DENYING MTN FOR PARTIAL SUMMARY JUDGMENT & GRANTING CROSS MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT - Transaction 850528 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 06-22-2009:11:17:15

75 7/1/2009 - 3870 - Request

Additional Text: ILIESCU'S REQUEST FOR STATUS CONFERENCE

76 7/20/2009 - 2540 - Notice of Entry of Ord Additional Text: Transaction 908862 - Approved By: ASMITH: 07-20-2009:15:01:50 7/24/2009 - 2605 - Notice to Set 77 Additional Text: 08-06-09 @ 9:30 - Transaction 923383 - Approved By: AZION: 07-24-2009:15:46:21 78 8/6/2009 - 1250 - Application for Setting Additional Text: sett conf - 1/14/2010 79 9/2/2009 - \$1131 - \$Answer - Business Court Additional Text: JOHN SCHLEINING 9/2/2009 - \$4180 - \$Third Party Complaint 80 Additional Text: JOHN SCHLEINING 9/2/2009 - 1165 - Answer Third Party Complaint 81 Additional Text: JOHN SCHLEINING'S ANSWER TO THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT, CROSS-CLAIM AND THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT JOHN SCHLEINING 82 9/2/2009 - PAYRC - **Payment Receipted Additional Text: A Payment of -\$1,588.00 was made on receipt DCDC247123. 9/2/2009 - 4090 - ** Summons Issued 83 Additional Text: ISSUED FOR SERVICE OF THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT 84 9/14/2009 - 1005 - Acceptance of Service Additional Text: ACCEPTANCE OF SERVICE OF SUMMONS ON THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT - R. CRAIG HOWARD obo HOLLAND & HART, LLP - 09/14/09 - Transaction 1039146 - Approved By: MPURDY: 09-14-2009:15:37:56 85 10/7/2009 - \$DEFT - \$Addl Def/Answer - Prty/Appear Additional Text: JERRY M. SNYDER 10/7/2009 - \$DEFT - \$Addl Def/Answer - Prty/Appear 86 Additional Text: R.CRAIG HOWARD 10/7/2009 - \$DEFT - \$Addl Def/Answer - Prty/Appear 87 Additional Text: KAREN D. DENNISON 88 10/7/2009 - \$1560 - \$Def 1st Appearance - CV Additional Text: HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON & HOWARD 89 10/7/2009 - 1165 - Answer Third Party Complaint Additional Text: HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON & HOWARD, KAREN D. DENNISON, R. CRAIG HOWARD & JERRY M. SNYDER 90 10/7/2009 - 1155 - Answer to Cross Claim Additional Text: CROSS-DEFT HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON & HOWARD & R. CRAIG HOWARD 91 10/7/2009 - 1165 - Answer Third Party Complaint Additional Text: ANSWER OF HOLLAND & HART LLP TO THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT OF JOHN SCHLEINING 92 10/7/2009 - \$1560 - \$Def 1st Appearance - CV

93

Additional Text: HOLLAND & HART LLP

Additional Text: A Payment of -\$516.00 was made on receipt DCDC250844.

10/9/2009 - PAYRC - **Payment Receipted

94 12/10/2009 - 3980 - Stip and Order... Additional Text: TO CONTINUE SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE - Transaction 1201831 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 12-10-2009:16:33:07 12/10/2009 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 95 Additional Text: Transaction 1201833 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 12-10-2009:16:33:56 96 1/20/2010 - 2582 - Notice of Taking Deposition No additional text exists for this entry. 97 1/20/2010 - 2582 - Notice of Taking Deposition No additional text exists for this entry. 98 1/20/2010 - 2582 - Notice of Taking Deposition No additional text exists for this entry. 99 1/20/2010 - 2582 - Notice of Taking Deposition No additional text exists for this entry. 100 1/20/2010 - 2582 - Notice of Taking Deposition No additional text exists for this entry. 2/12/2010 - 2490 - Motion ... 101 Additional Text: MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS ATTORNEY OF RECORD 102 3/9/2010 - 3860 - Request for Submission Additional Text: DOCUMENT TITLE: MOTION TO WITHDRAW AS ATTORNEY OF RECORD PARTY SUBMITTING: JUDITH A. OTTO, ESQ. DATE SUBMITTED: 03/09/10 SUBMITTED BY: JYOST DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE: 3/18/2010 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet 103 Additional Text: ORDER 104 3/18/2010 - 3060 - Ord Granting Mtn ... Additional Text: TO WITHDRAW - JUDITH OTTO - Transaction 1383487 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 03-18-2010:14:44:16 105 3/18/2010 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 1383555 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 03-18-2010:14:53:09 5/14/2010 - 2570 - Notice of Lien 106 Additional Text: NOTICE OF ATTORNEY'S LIEN 107 5/14/2010 - 2490 - Motion ... Additional Text: VERIFIED MOTION AND APPLICATION TO WITHDRAW 8/12/2010 - 2605 - Notice to Set 108 Additional Text: NOTICE TO SET TRIAL - Transaction 1656111 - Approved By: APOMA: 08-13-2010:08:39:19 109 8/13/2010 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 1656421 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-13-2010:08:40:42 8/31/2010 - 1250 - Application for Setting 110 Additional Text: TRIAL - 10/3/11

```
11/18/2010 - 1120 - Amended ...
111
            Additional Text: AMENDED NOTICE OF ATTORNEY'S LIEN
      1/4/2011 - 1670 - Ex-Parte Mtn...
112
            Additional Text: EX PARTE MOTION TO FILE EXHIBIT UNDER SEAL (IN CAMERA)
113
      1/7/2011 - 1675 - Ex-Parte Ord...
            Additional Text: ALLOWING EXHIBIT TO BE FILED UNDER SEAL - Transaction 1952190 - Approved By: NOREVIEW:
           01-07-2011:11:31:27
      1/7/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
114
           Additional Text: Transaction 1952199 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 01-07-2011:11:34:09
115
      1/11/2011 - 2015 - Mtn for Attorney's Lien
           No additional text exists for this entry.
116
      1/27/2011 - 3860 - Request for Submission
           Additional Text: DOCUMENT TITLE: MOTION AND APPLICATION TO WITHDRAW (NO PAPER ORDER PROVIDED)
            PARTY SUBMITTING: STEPHEN C. MOLLATH, ESQ.
           DATE SUBMITTED: 1/27/11
            SUBMITTED BY: MCHOLICO
            DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE:
      1/28/2011 - 3860 - Request for Submission
117
            Additional Text: DOCUMENT TITLE: MOTION TO ADJUDICATE ATTORNEY'S LIEN (NO PAPER ORDER PROVIDED)
           PARTY SUBMITTING: STEPHEN MOLLATH
           DATE SUBMITTED: 1/28/11
            SUBMITTED BY: YLLOYD
            DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE:
      1/28/2011 - 3720 - Proof of Service
118
           No additional text exists for this entry.
      1/28/2011 - 3720 - Proof of Service
119
           No additional text exists for this entry.
120
      3/28/2011 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet
           Additional Text: ORDER
121
      3/28/2011 - 3060 - Ord Granting Mtn ...
            Additional Text: TO WITHDRAW - STEPHEN C. MOLLATH, ESQ. - Transaction 2119226 - Approved By: NOREVIEW:
           03-28-2011:11:32:21
      3/28/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
122
            Additional Text: Transaction 2119279 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 03-28-2011:11:40:08
123
      3/29/2011 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet
           Additional Text: ORDER
124
      3/29/2011 - 1880 - Judgment
           Additional Text: JOHN ILIESCU, JR. & SONIA ILIESCU - Transaction 2124933 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 03-29-2011:16:31:49
      3/29/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
125
           Additional Text: Transaction 2124949 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 03-29-2011:16:34:11
126
      3/30/2011 - $2200 - $Mtn for Summary Judgment
            No additional text exists for this entry.
127
      3/30/2011 - PAYRC - **Payment Receipted
            Additional Text: A Payment of -$200.00 was made on receipt DCDC308618.
```

```
128
      4/4/2011 - 2535 - Notice of Entry of Judgment
            No additional text exists for this entry.
129
      4/4/2011 - 2540 - Notice of Entry of Ord
            No additional text exists for this entry.
130
      5/20/2011 - 1610 - Disclosure of Expert Witness
            Additional Text: MARK B. STEPPAN'S DISCLOSURE OF EXPERT WITNESS - Transaction 2239105 - Approved By: MCHOLICO:
           05-20-2011:11:23:41
131
      5/20/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
           Additional Text: Transaction 2239172 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 05-20-2011:11:30:59
132
      5/26/2011 - 3860 - Request for Submission
            Additional Text: DOCUMENT TITLE: REQUEST FOR SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE
           PARTY SUBMITTING: JOHN ILIESCU, JR.
           DATE SUBMITTED: 05/26/2011
            SUBMITTED BY: MRYTTING
           DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE:
133
      5/26/2011 - 3870 - Request
           Additional Text: FOR SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE
      6/21/2011 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet
134
           Additional Text: order
135
      6/21/2011 - 3105 - Ord Granting ...
            Additional Text: REQUEST FOR SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE - Transaction 2299680 - Approved By: NOREVIEW:
           06-21-2011:10:04:43
      6/21/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
136
           Additional Text: Transaction 2299686 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 06-21-2011:10:06:17
      6/23/2011 - 4075 - Substitution of Counsel
137
            Additional Text: MICHAEL D. HOY, ESQ. / MARK B. STEPPAN - Transaction 2307502 - Approved By: MCHOLICO:
            06-23-2011:16:45:12
      6/23/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
138
            Additional Text: Transaction 2307553 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 06-23-2011:16:48:06
      6/24/2011 - 2645 - Opposition to Mtn ...
139
            Additional Text: LIMITED OPPOSITION TO THIRD-PARTY DEFT HALE LANE'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT REGARDING
            THIRD PARTY CLAIMS BY JOHN LLIESCU - Transaction 2308736 - Approved By: ASMITH: 06-24-2011:11:44:54
      6/24/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
140
            Additional Text: Transaction 2308772 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 06-24-2011:11:46:18
      6/24/2011 - 1360 - Certificate of Service
141
            Additional Text: Transaction 2309833 - Approved By: AZION: 06-24-2011:16:27:21
142
      6/24/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
            Additional Text: Transaction 2309882 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 06-24-2011:16:29:59
143
      7/13/2011 - 3935 - Settlement Conference Statemnt
            Additional Text: SUPPLEMENTAL SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE STATEMENT - Transaction 2342866 - Approved By: SSTINCHF:
           07-13-2011:13:20:34
      7/13/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
144
            Additional Text: Transaction 2342910 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 07-13-2011:13:23:43
```

7/15/2011 - 2520 - Notice of Appearance 145 Additional Text: THOMAS HALL ESQ - JOHN ILIESCU, JR, SONNIA SANTEE ILIESCU, JOHN ILIESCU JR, JOHN ILIESCU JR AND SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST - Transaction 2349478 - Approved By: AZION: 07-15-2011:15:05:04 146 7/15/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2349520 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 07-15-2011:15:06:43 7/18/2011 - 4185 - Transcript ... 147 Additional Text: Transaction 2351371 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 07-18-2011:11:27:44 148 7/18/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2351381 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 07-18-2011:11:29:21 149 7/22/2011 - 4105 - Supplemental ... Additional Text: SUPPLEMENT TO THIRD PARTY DEFENDANT HALE LANE'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT REGARDING THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS BY JOHN ILIESCU - Transaction 2363192 - Approved By: MCHOLICO: 07-22-2011:14:45:45 7/22/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 150 Additional Text: Transaction 2363209 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 07-22-2011:14:48:07 151 7/26/2011 - 3910 - Satisfaction of Judgment No additional text exists for this entry. 8/1/2011 - 2610 - Notice ... 152 Additional Text: NOTICE OF VACATING OF RECORDS DEPOSITION - Transaction 2380875 - Approved By: MCHOLICO: 08-01-2011:16:38:30 8/1/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 153 Additional Text: Transaction 2380912 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-01-2011:16:41:22 154 8/9/2011 - 2280 - Mtn to Continue Additional Text: MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE - Transaction 2397461 - Approved By: AZION: 08-09-2011:16:15:40 155 8/9/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2397498 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-09-2011:16:18:04 8/10/2011 - 3085 - Ord Granting Recusal 156 Additional Text: OF RECUSAL AND FOR RANDOM REASSIGNMENT - Transaction 2399127 - Approved By: NOREVIEW : 08-10-2011:10:44:01 157 8/10/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2399162 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-10-2011:10:47:19 158 8/10/2011 - 2540 - Notice of Entry of Ord Additional Text: Transaction 2400089 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-10-2011:14:12:57 8/10/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 159 Additional Text: Transaction 2400102 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-10-2011:14:15:16 8/15/2011 - 1325 - ** Case Reopened 160 No additional text exists for this entry. 161 8/15/2011 - 1312 - Case Assignment Notification Additional Text: Transaction 2407894 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-15-2011:13:29:18 162 8/15/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2407896 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-15-2011:13:30:31

8/16/2011 - \$2200 - \$Mtn for Summary Judgment 163 No additional text exists for this entry. 164 8/16/2011 - 2200 - Mtn for Summary Judgment Additional Text: DEFENDANT HALE LANE'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT REGARDING CROSS-CLAIMS AND THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS BY JOHN SCHLEINING 165 8/16/2011 - PAYRC - **Payment Receipted Additional Text: A Payment of -\$200.00 was made on receipt DCDC325429. 166 8/16/2011 - 1360 - Certificate of Service Additional Text: Transaction 2411579 - Approved By: AZION: 08-16-2011:16:18:01 167 8/16/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2411725 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-16-2011:16:24:42 168 8/17/2011 - 3370 - Order ... Additional Text: OF RECUSAL - Transaction 2414837 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-17-2011:16:13:16 169 8/17/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2414871 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-17-2011:16:17:59 170 8/18/2011 - 1312 - Case Assignment Notification Additional Text: Transaction 2416312 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-18-2011:11:09:58 171 8/18/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2416318 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-18-2011:11:11:14 172 8/18/2011 - 2645 - Opposition to Mtn ... Additional Text: OPPOSITION AND RESPONSE TO THIRD PARTY DEFT HALE LANE'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT RE:THIRD PARTY CLAIMS BY JOHN ILIESCU - Transaction 2417195 - Approved By: AZION: 08-18-2011:14:56:57 8/18/2011 - 2490 - Motion ... 173 Additional Text: MOTION TO AMEND THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT AGAINST DEFT HALE LANE - Transaction 2417216 - Approved By: AZION: 08-18-2011:15:05:00 174 8/18/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2417219 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-18-2011:15:00:07 8/18/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 175 Additional Text: Transaction 2417237 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-18-2011:15:06:30 176 8/23/2011 - 2605 - Notice to Set Additional Text: Transaction 2423873 - Approved By: MCHOLICO: 08-23-2011:09:27:06 177 8/23/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2423922 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-23-2011:09:29:38 8/24/2011 - 2645 - Opposition to Mtn ... 178 Additional Text: OPPOSITION TO MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE - Transaction 2427873 - Approved By: MCHOLICO: 08-24-2011:11:32:38 179 8/24/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2427911 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-24-2011:11:34:26

PARTY CLAIMS BY JOHN ILIESCU - Transaction 2435606 - Approved By: AZION : 08-29-2011:08:58:09

Additional Text: THIRD PARTY DEFT HALE LANE'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT RE: THIRD

180

8/29/2011 - 3795 - Reply...

8/29/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 181 Additional Text: Transaction 2435649 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-29-2011:09:00:24 8/29/2011 - 1650 - Errata... 182 Additional Text: ERRATA TO THIRD PARTY DEFT HALE LANE'S REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT RE:THIRD PARTY CLAIMS BY JOHN ILIESCU - Transaction 2436076 - Approved By: AZION: 08-29-2011:10:43:14 183 8/29/2011 - 3860 - Request for Submission Additional Text: THIRD PARTY DEFENDANTS' MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT (NO PAPER ORDER PROVIDED) -Transaction 2436087 - Approved By: MCHOLICO: 08-29-2011:10:28:38 PARTY SUBMITTING: CHRISTOPHER RUSBY, ESQ. DATE SUBMITTED: 8/29/11 SUBMITTED BY: MCHOLICO DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE: 184 8/29/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2436109 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-29-2011:10:31:15 185 8/29/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2436205 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-29-2011:10:45:44 8/29/2011 - 4075 - Substitution of Counsel 186 Additional Text: THOMAS HALL ESQ SUBS OUT SALLIE ARMSTRONG, ESQ - Transaction 2436442 - Approved By: AZION: 08-29-2011:12:21:17 8/29/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 187 Additional Text: Transaction 2436520 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-29-2011:12:23:40 8/29/2011 - 2645 - Opposition to Mtn ... 188 Additional Text: OPPOSITION TO SUPPLEMENT TO THIRD PARTY DEFT HALE LANE'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT RE: THIRD PARTY CLAIMS BY JOHN ILIESCU - Transaction 2437236 - Approved By: AZION: 08-29-2011:15:07:03 8/29/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 189 Additional Text: Transaction 2437282 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-29-2011:15:09:42 190 8/31/2011 - 1610 - Disclosure of Expert Witness Additional Text: DEFT ILIESCUS' DISCLOSURE OF EXPERT WITNESS - Transaction 2442158 - Approved By: AZION: 08-31-2011:10:46:49 191 8/31/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2442340 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 08-31-2011:10:49:26 192 9/1/2011 - 3095 - Ord Grant Summary Judgment Additional Text: THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANT HALE LANE'S MOTION REGARDING THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS BY JOHN ILIESCU -Transaction 2444422 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-01-2011:08:30:23 9/1/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 193 Additional Text: Transaction 2444424 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-01-2011:08:31:45 194 9/1/2011 - 2540 - Notice of Entry of Ord Additional Text: Transaction 2445663 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-01-2011:13:52:03 9/1/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 195 Additional Text: Transaction 2445665 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-01-2011:13:53:14 9/1/2011 - 1950 - Memorandum of Costs 196 Additional Text: MEMORANDUM OF COSTS - Transaction 2445671 - Approved By: LMATHEUS: 09-01-2011:14:00:57

197

9/1/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service

Additional Text: Transaction 2445708 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-01-2011:14:02:40

```
9/1/2011 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet
198
            No additional text exists for this entry.
      9/3/2011 - 2315 - Mtn to Dismiss ...
199
            Additional Text: MOTION TO DISMISS - Transaction 2449949 - Approved By: AZION: 09-06-2011:08:06:39
200
      9/6/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
            Additional Text: Transaction 2450079 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-06-2011:08:08:18
201
      9/6/2011 - JF - **First Day Jury Fees Deposit
            No additional text exists for this entry.
      9/6/2011 - 1580 - Demand for Jury
202
            No additional text exists for this entry.
203
      9/6/2011 - 2645 - Opposition to Mtn ...
            Additional Text: THIRD PARTY DEFT HALE LANE'S OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO AMEND THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT BY JOHN
            AND SONNIA ILIESCU - Transaction 2450897 - Approved By: AZION: 09-06-2011:11:54:28
204
      9/6/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
            Additional Text: Transaction 2450900 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-06-2011:11:55:39
205
      9/8/2011 - 1250E - Application for Setting eFile
            Additional Text: STATUS CONF 10/13/11; 5-DAY JURY TRIAL 11/14/11 - Transaction 2457955 - Approved By: NOREVIEW:
            09-08-2011:19:11:02
      9/8/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
206
            Additional Text: Transaction 2457958 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-08-2011:19:12:24
207
      9/14/2011 - 2280 - Mtn to Continue
            Additional Text: Transaction 2469552 - Approved By: AZION: 09-14-2011:16:04:35
208
      9/14/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
            Additional Text: Transaction 2469574 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-14-2011:16:06:45
      9/15/2011 - 2490 - Motion ...
209
            Additional Text: ILIESCUS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - Transaction 2472758 - Approved By:
            AZION: 09-16-2011:08:15:37
210
      9/16/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
            Additional Text: Transaction 2472951 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-16-2011:08:16:54
211
      9/16/2011 - 2645 - Opposition to Mtn ...
            Additional Text: MARK STEPPAN'S OPPOSITION TO ILIESCU'S MOTION TO DISMISS - Transaction 2474551 - Approved By: AZION
            : 09-16-2011:13:55:03
      9/16/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service
212
            Additional Text: Transaction 2474599 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-16-2011:13:57:01
213
      9/22/2011 - 3795 - Reply...
            Additional Text: REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO AMEND THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT - Transaction 2486348 - Approved By:
            AZION: 09-22-2011:13:09:27
      9/22/2011 - 3860 - Request for Submission
214
            Additional Text: MOTION TO AMEND THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT AGAINST DEFT HALE LANE - Transaction 2486354 - Approved By:
            AZION: 09-22-2011:13:10:16
            DOCUMENT TITLE: MOTION TO AMEND THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT AGAINST DEFT HALE LANE
            PARTY SUBMITTING: THOMAS HALL ESQ
            DATE SUBMITTED: 09-22-11
            SUBMITTED BY: AZION
            DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE:
```

215 9/22/2011 - 3795 - Reply... Additional Text: REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO DISMISS - Transaction 2486363 - Approved By: MCHOLICO: 09-22-2011:12:45:19 9/22/2011 - 3860 - Request for Submission 216 Additional Text: MOTION TO DISMISS - Transaction 2486364 - Approved By: AZION: 09-22-2011:13:10:40 DOCUMENT TITLE: MOTION TO DISMISS PARTY SUBMITTING: THOMAS HALL ESQ DATE SUBMITTED: 09-22-11 SUBMITTED BY: AZION DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE: 9/22/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 217 Additional Text: Transaction 2486375 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-22-2011:12:46:43 218 9/22/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2486504 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-22-2011:13:12:22 219 9/22/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2486506 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-22-2011:13:12:53 220 9/22/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2486508 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 09-22-2011:13:13:14 221 10/3/2011 - 2645 - Opposition to Mtn ... Additional Text: THIRD PARTY DEFT HALE LANE'S OPPOSITION TO JOHN AND SONNIA ILIESCUS MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - Transaction 2506987 - Approved By: ASMITH: 10-03-2011:15:41:32 222 10/3/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2507102 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-03-2011:15:46:25 10/3/2011 - 4050 - Stipulation ... 223 Additional Text: STIPULATION TO VACATE AND RESET TRIAL - Transaction 2507121 - Approved By: ASMITH: 10-03-2011:16:03:31 224 10/3/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2507226 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-03-2011:16:07:19 225 10/5/2011 - 3020 - Ord Granting Continuance Additional Text: ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION TO VACATE AND RESET TRIAL - Transaction 2511994 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-05-2011:11:05:06 10/5/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 226 Additional Text: Transaction 2512011 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-05-2011:11:08:19 10/6/2011 - 2540 - Notice of Entry of Ord 227 Additional Text: Transaction 2514251 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-06-2011:09:30:59 228 10/6/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2514258 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-06-2011:09:32:22 10/6/2011 - 3795 - Reply... 229 Additional Text: ILIECUS' REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - Transaction 2516462 - Approved By: AZION: 10-06-2011:15:48:11 230 10/6/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2516493 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-06-2011:15:51:23 231 10/6/2011 - 3860 - Request for Submission

Additional Text: MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - Transaction 2516526 - Approved By: AZION : 10-06-2011:16:00:10 DOCUMENT TITLE: MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION -PARTY SUBMITTING: THOMAS HALL ESQ DATE SUBMITTED: 10-06-11 SUBMITTED BY: AZION DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE: 232 10/6/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2516578 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-06-2011:16:01:56 233 10/19/2011 - 2842 - Ord Denying Motion Additional Text: ILIESCUS' MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - Transaction 2542290 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-19-2011:16:19:19 234 10/19/2011 - 2842 - Ord Denying Motion Additional Text: TO AMEND THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT AGAINST DEFENDANT HALE - Transaction 2542290 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-19-2011:16:19:19 10/19/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 235 Additional Text: Transaction 2542336 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-19-2011:16:24:56 236 10/19/2011 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet No additional text exists for this entry. 237 10/19/2011 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet No additional text exists for this entry. 238 10/21/2011 - \$2160 - \$Mtn Partial Sum Judgment Additional Text: MARK STEPPAN - Transaction 2547762 - Approved By: AZION: 10-24-2011:08:14:20 239 10/24/2011 - PAYRC - **Payment Receipted Additional Text: A Payment of \$200.00 was made on receipt DCDC333928. 10/24/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 240 Additional Text: Transaction 2547886 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-24-2011:08:17:11 10/25/2011 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet 241 No additional text exists for this entry. 242 10/25/2011 - 3060 - Ord Granting Mtn ... Additional Text: DEFENDANTS ILIESCUS' MOTION TO DISMISS - Transaction 2554042 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-25-2011:17:19:22 10/25/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 243 Additional Text: Transaction 2554045 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-25-2011:17:20:45 10/27/2011 - 2540 - Notice of Entry of Ord 244 Additional Text: Transaction 2558720 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-27-2011:14:55:45 245 10/27/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2558754 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 10-27-2011:15:01:35 246 11/1/2011 - 1950 - Memorandum of Costs Additional Text: Transaction 2564418 - Approved By: AZION: 11-01-2011:15:08:27 247 11/1/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2564430 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-01-2011:15:10:38

248 11/2/2011 - 2490 - Motion ... Additional Text: MOTION TO DISMISS THIRD PARTY PLTF ILIESUC'S THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT AGAINST THIRD PARTY DEFT JOHN SCHLEINING - Transaction 2566863 - Approved By: AZION: 11-02-2011:15:13:15 249 11/2/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2566892 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-02-2011:15:14:44 250 11/3/2011 - 2490 - Motion ... Additional Text: MOTION TO RELEASE MECHANIC'S LIENS - Transaction 2569776 - Approved By: AZION: 11-03-2011:16:19:43 251 11/3/2011 - 2490 - Motion ... Additional Text: MOTION TO CANCEL AND EXPUNGE NOTICE OF LIS PENDENS - Transaction 2569787 - Approved By: AZION: 11-03-2011:16:21:29 252 11/3/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2569824 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-03-2011:16:23:32 11/3/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 253 Additional Text: Transaction 2569846 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-03-2011:16:25:52 254 11/7/2011 - 2430 - Mtn to Retax Costs Additional Text: Transaction 2575434 - Approved By: AZION: 11-07-2011:15:51:56 255 11/7/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2575484 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-07-2011:15:55:19 256 11/8/2011 - 2490 - Motion Additional Text: MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - Transaction 2578958 - Approved By: AZION : 11-08-2011:16:26:45 257 11/8/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2579063 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-08-2011:16:29:13 258 11/14/2011 - 2010 - Mtn for Attorney's Fee Additional Text: Transaction 2587882 - Approved By: AZION: 11-14-2011:16:06:33 259 11/14/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2588055 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-14-2011:16:16:05 260 11/16/2011 - 3880 - Response... Additional Text: RESPONSE TO MOTION TO DISMISS THIRD PARTY PLTF ILIESCU'S THIRD PARTY COMPLAINT AGAINST THIRD PARTY DEFT JOHN SCHLEINING - Transaction 2593931 - Approved By: AZION: 11-16-2011:15:10:15 261 11/16/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2594006 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-16-2011:15:13:09 11/16/2011 - 3860 - Request for Submission 262 Additional Text: MOTION - Transaction 2594699 - Approved By: AZION: 11-16-2011:16:47:37 DOCUMENT TITLE: MOTION PARTY SUBMITTING: GREGORY WILSON ESQ DATE SUBMITTED: 11-16-11 SUBMITTED BY: AZION DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE: 263 11/16/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2594853 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-16-2011:16:52:03 264 11/21/2011 - 2645 - Opposition to Mtn ... Additional Text: ILIESCUS' OPPOSITION TO STEPPAN'S MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION -Transaction 2602644 - Approved By: AZION: 11-21-2011:15:50:18

265 11/21/2011 - 2645 - Opposition to Mtn ... Additional Text: OPPOSITION TO MOTION TO RETAX COSTS - Transaction 2602692 - Approved By: MCHOLICO: 11-21-2011:15:38:18 11/21/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 266 Additional Text: Transaction 2602768 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-21-2011:15:40:00 267 11/21/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2602799 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-21-2011:15:52:39 268 11/22/2011 - 3060 - Ord Granting Mtn ... Additional Text: THIRD PARTY DEFENDANT JOHN SCHLEINING'S MOTION TO DISMISS - Transaction 2605633 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-22-2011:16:15:50 269 11/22/2011 - 3980 - Stip and Order... Additional Text: Transaction 2605633 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-22-2011:16:15:50 270 11/22/2011 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet No additional text exists for this entry. 271 11/22/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2605678 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-22-2011:16:22:23 272 11/22/2011 - 2540 - Notice of Entry of Ord Additional Text: Transaction 2606048 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-22-2011:17:13:55 11/22/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 273 Additional Text: Transaction 2606050 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-22-2011:17:15:07 274 11/28/2011 - 1950 - Memorandum of Costs Additional Text: Transaction 2611746 - Approved By: AZION: 11-28-2011:16:35:51 11/28/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 275 Additional Text: Transaction 2611800 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 11-28-2011:16:42:39 276 12/1/2011 - 3795 - Reply... Additional Text: REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION - Transaction 2621540 -Approved By: MCHOLICO: 12-02-2011:10:38:18 12/2/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 277 Additional Text: Transaction 2622262 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 12-02-2011:10:41:57 278 12/2/2011 - 3795 - Reply... Additional Text: REPLY IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO RETAX COSTS - Transaction 2622822 - Approved By: ASMITH: 12-02-2011:15:00:31 12/2/2011 - 3860 - Request for Submission 279 Additional Text: Transaction 2623558 - Approved By: SHAMBRIG: 12-02-2011:15:10:04 DOCUMENT TITLE: MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE MOTION FOR RECONSIDERATION PARTY SUBMITTING: MICHAEL HOY DATE SUBMITTED: 12-2-11 SUBMITTED BY: S HAMBRIGHT DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE: 280 12/2/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2623632 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 12-02-2011:15:06:35 281 12/2/2011 - 3860 - Request for Submission

Additional Text: - Transaction 2623645 - Approved By: ASMITH: 12-02-2011:15:54:42 DOCUMENT TITLE: MOTION TO RETAX COSTS PARTY SUBMITTING: MICHAEL HOY, ESQ DATE SUBMITTED: 12-2-11 SUBMITTED BY: A SMITH DATE RECEIVED JUDGE OFFICE: 282 12/2/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2623689 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 12-02-2011:15:18:17 283 12/2/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2623858 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 12-02-2011:15:56:05 284 12/21/2011 - S200 - Request for Submission Complet No additional text exists for this entry. 285 12/22/2011 - \$2515 - \$Notice/Appeal Supreme Court Additional Text: APPELLANT, MARK STEPPAN - Transaction 2662337 - Approved By: LMATHEUS: 12-22-2011:14:22:31 286 12/22/2011 - 1310 - Case Appeal Statement Additional Text: Transaction 2662346 - Approved By: LMATHEUS: 12-22-2011:14:22:47 287 12/22/2011 - PAYRC - **Payment Receipted Additional Text: A Payment of \$34.00 was made on receipt DCDC341181. 288 12/22/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2663306 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 12-22-2011:14:26:16 12/22/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service 289 Additional Text: Transaction 2663312 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 12-22-2011:14:27:30 12/22/2011 - FIE - **Doument Filed in Error 290 Additional Text: 12-30-11 - LMATHEUS 12/22/2011 - FIE - **Doument Filed in Error 291 Additional Text: 12/30/11 - LMATHEUS - NOTICE OF APPEAL NOT FILED TO SUPREME COURT 292 12/22/2011 - SAB - **Supreme Court Appeal Bond No additional text exists for this entry. 293 12/22/2011 - 1360 - Certificate of Service Additional Text: Transaction 2664041 - Approved By: ASMITH: 12-22-2011:16:29:08 294 12/22/2011 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service Additional Text: Transaction 2664248 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 12-22-2011:16:32:17 295 1/3/2012 - FIE - **Doument Filed in Error Additional Text: 1-12-12 - LMATHEUS - NOTICE OF APPEAL NOT FILED WITH THE SUPREME COURT 296 1/3/2012 - FIE - **Doument Filed in Error Additional Text: 1-12-12 - LMATHEUS 297 1/5/2012 - 3995 - Stip & Ord Dismiss W/O Prej Additional Text: OF ALL CLAIMS BY JOHN SCHLEINING AGAINST HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON AND HOWARD, HOLLAN & HART AND R. CRAIG HOWARD - Transaction 2683659 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 01-05-2012:17:40:25 298 1/5/2012 - NEF - Proof of Electronic Service

Additional Text: Transaction 2683668 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 01-05-2012:17:42:08

- 299 1/6/2012 2540 Notice of Entry of Ord
 - Additional Text: Transaction 2685560 Approved By: NOREVIEW: 01-06-2012:13:45:56
- 300 1/6/2012 NEF Proof of Electronic Service
 - Additional Text: Transaction 2685562 Approved By: NOREVIEW: 01-06-2012:13:47:38
- 301 1/12/2012 1350 Certificate of Clerk

Additional Text: CERTIFICATE OF CLERK AND TRANSMITTAL - NOTICE OF APPEAL - Transaction 2696129 - Approved By: NOREVIEW: 01-12-2012:09:52:47

SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT STATE OF NEVADA COUNTY OF WASHOE

Case History - CV07-01021

Case Description: Case Consolidateed into CV07-00341(D6)

Case Number: CV07-01021 Case Type: LIENS - Initially Filed On: 5/4/2007

Parties				
Party Type & Name	Party Status			
JUDG - JANET J. BERRY - D1	Active			
PLTF - MARK B. STEPPAN - @1117886	Active			
PATY - Gayle A. Kern, Esq 1620	Active			
DEFT - JOHN ILIESCU, JR @8244	Active			
DEFT - SONNIA ILIESCU - @77375	Active			
ATTY - Stephen C. Mollath, Esq 922	Active			
TRSE - TRUSTEE OF THE JOHN ILIESCU, JR. & SONNIA ILLIESCU - @132341	Active			
Disposed Hearings				

No Disposed Hearings Exist

Actions

	Filing Date - Docket Code & Description
1	5/4/2007 - 4090 - ** Summons Issued
	Additional Text: (3)
2	5/4/2007 - COV - **Civil Cover Sheet
	No additional text exists for this entry.
3	5/4/2007 - \$1425 - \$Complaint - Civil
	Additional Text: MARK STEPPAN
4	5/4/2007 - PAYRC - **Payment Receipted
	Additional Text: A Payment of -\$141.00 was made on receipt DCDC179130.
5	5/8/2007 - 4250 - Verification of
	Additional Text: ORIGINAL VERIFICATION OF COMPLAINT TO FORECLOSE MECHANIC'S LIEN AND DAMAGES
6	9/6/2007 - 3015 - Ord Granting Consolidation
	Additional Text: STIPULATION TO CONSOLIDATE PROCEEDINGS; ORDER APPROVING STIPULATION
7	9/6/2007 - 1478 - **Consolidated To
	Additional Text: CV07-00341. PLACE ALL FURTHER PLEADINGS IN CV07-00341
8	12/10/2007 - IMG - **Entered/Imaged on Wrong Case
	Additional Text: 12/13/2007 - TWHITE
9	1/23/2008 - 4085 - Summons Filed
	Additional Text: ALFIE FRIESER OF THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, STATE OF NEVADA, AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT ACCEPTED ON THEIR BEHALF FOR DECAL OREGON, INC. 12-3-07

- 10 3/31/2009 FIE **Doument Filed in Error Additional Text: 04/08/09 - MPurdy
- 11 5/22/2009 IMG **Entered/Imaged on Wrong Case

 Additional Text: IMAGED MOVED TO CONSOLIDATED LEAD CASE CV07-00341 05/26/2009 TPRINCE
- 12 1/28/2011 FIE **Doument Filed in Error Additional Text: FIE - YLLOYD

FILED

Electronically 09-01-2011:08:30:02 AM Howard W. Convers Clerk of the Court Transaction # 2444422

Code: 3095 1 2 3 4 5 IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 6 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 7 * * * 8 MARK B. STEPPAN, 9 10 Plaintiff, CV07-00341 Case No: 11 (Consolidated with CV07-01021) 12 VS. 10 Dept. No.: 13 JOHN ILIESCU, JR. and SONNIA ILIESCU, as Trustees of the JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND 14 SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST 15 AGREEMENT; JOHN ILIESCU, individually; DOES I-V, inclusive; and ROE 16 CORPORATIONS VI-X, inclusive, 17 Defendants. 18 19 AND RELATED MATTERS. 20 21 ORDER GRANTING THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANT HALE LANE'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT REGARDING THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS BY JOHN ILIESCU 22 Presently before the Court is a Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party 23 24 25

Claims by John Iliescu, filed by Third-Party Defendants HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON AND HOWARD PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, KAREN D. DENNISON, R. CRAIG HOWARD, and JERRY M. SNYDER (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Defendants") on March 30, 2011. Following, on July 22, 2011, Defendants filed a Supplement to Third-Party Defendant Hale Lane's Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu.

26

27

28

I. <u>Factual & Procedural Background</u>

Thereafter, on August 18, 2011, Third-Party Plaintiffs JOHN ILIESCU, JR. and SONNIA ILIESCU, individually, and as Trustee of the John Iliescu, Jr. and Sonnia Iliescu 1992 Family Trust (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Plaintiffs") filed an Opposition and Response to Third-Party Defendant Hale Lane's Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu. Subsequently, on August 29, 2011, Defendants filed a Reply in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu. Contemporaneously with their Reply, Defendants also filed a Request for Submission, thereby submitting the matter for the Court's consideration. Later that same day, Plaintiffs filed an Opposition to Supplement to Third-Party Defendant Hale Lane's Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu.

This matter comes before the Court as the result of a 2005 property transaction that fell through, involving a parcel of property located in downtown Reno, which Plaintiffs owned and was to be developed by a group of developers headed by Consolidated Pacific Development, Inc. (hereinafter "Developers"). As part of that transaction, Plaintiffs agreed to sell the parcel of property at issue to the Developers, who would then use the property to construct a high-rise condominium project known as Wingfield Tower.

The Developers first contacted Plaintiffs about purchasing the parcel of property in July of 2005, when the Developers contacted Plaintiffs through their broker, Sam Canglia. Following this contact, on July 29, 2005, the Developers and Plaintiffs, acting without the assistance of counsel, executed a form agreement prepared by Dick Johnson in order to facilitate the sale of the property. That contract provided that Developers would purchase the property from Plaintiffs for \$7.5 million, with a \$500,000 non-refundable cash deposit to be paid to Plaintiffs in advance, as well as Plaintiffs receiving a 3,750 square foot penthouse and four parking spaces, valued at \$2.2 million, upon the completion of construction. However, the sale was contingent upon Developers obtaining the necessary entitlement and permits from the City of Reno, with which Plaintiffs were to assist. Furthermore, the Contract afforded Developers 270 days to obtain the requisite

entitlements, while allowing an extension of time at the cost of \$50,000 per 30 days; otherwise, the Developers would forfeit their \$500,000 deposit.

Following the execution of the form contract, the Parties realized that it was inadequate for the magnitude of the deal they were entering into. Consequently, the Parties elected to hire legal counsel to assist in supplementing the contract. As a result, Dick Johnson brought the contract to Ms. Dennison, who then prepared Addendum No. 3, which sought to clarify the contract and its terms. Included in these clarifications was a clause that recognized obtaining the necessary entitlements was a condition precedent to the completion of the sale, and that the Developers would use their "best efforts and reasonable diligence to satisfy all Conditions Precedent." Addendum No. 3 further specified Plaintiffs' interest in completing the sale because of their ability to select the penthouse of their choice. Following, on October 8, 2005, the Parties executed Addendum No. 3.

Thereafter, the Developers sought an architect to help in obtaining the required entitlements. In doing so, the Developers hired Fisher Friedman & Associates, to design the building, prepare the architectural plans, and present the information to the Reno City Council for approval, which it did. Nevertheless, during this process, Plaintiffs signed a conflict waiver permitting Defendants to assist Developers in obtaining the necessary entitlements. Moreover, Plaintiffs actively participated in the application process by submitting an affidavit permitting Developers to submit an application to the City of Reno on Plaintiffs' behalf and by attending all public hearings on the matter. Subsequently, the City acted to approve the project and authorized the necessary entitlements.

Then, some sixteen months following the commencement of the project, Developers defaulted when they were unable to obtain the necessary financing to conclude the sale of the property. As a consequence of this default, Developers were unable to pay Fisher Friedman & Associates for the services rendered. This caused Fisher Friedman & Associates to file a \$1.8 million mechanics lien against the property.

Following the recording of this lien, the Parties approached Defendants to help resolve the issue. In doing so, the Parties executed a second conflict waiver. Defendants

any harm that might occur as a result of the lien. Furthermore, the indemnity agreement also provided that Developers would work to discharge the lien on Plaintiffs' behalf at no expense to Plaintiffs. As a result, acting on Plaintiffs' behalf, Defendants then filed an application for release of the lien. This in turn caused Fisher Friedman & Associates to file a complaint against Plaintiffs in order to foreclose on the lien.

Subsequently, on September 27, 2007, Plaintiffs filed their third-party complaint

then brokered an indemnity agreement between the Parties, whereby Developers,

including Co-Third Party Defendant John Schleining, agreed to indemnify Plaintiffs against

Subsequently, on September 27, 2007, Plaintiffs filed their third-party complaint against Defendants, alleging causes of action for legal malpractice and negligence. Plaintiffs premised their third-party complaint on allegations that Defendants committed legal malpractice by failing to file a Notice of Nonresponsibility pursuant to NRS 108.234. Defendants have now moved for summary judgment on the matter, arguing that Plaintiffs' claims fail as a matter of law, as there is no evidence of causation or that Plaintiffs suffered damages. Moreover, Defendants assert that because Plaintiffs executed two conflict waivers, any claim relating to a conflict of interest must fail. Finally, Defendants assert that the Court should dismiss Plaintiffs' claims for failure to comply with NRCP 16.1.

II. Standard of Review

A court should only grant summary judgment when, based upon the pleadings and discovery on file, no genuine issue of material fact exists for trial and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. NRCP 56(c). A genuine issue of material fact exists when a reasonable jury could return a verdict in favor of the nonmoving party. *Kopicko v. Young*, 114 Nev. 1333, 1336, 971 P.2d 789, 790 (1998). Summary judgment is properly regarded not as a disfavored procedural shortcut, but rather as an integral part of civil procedure as a whole. *Celotex Corp. v. Catrett*, 477 U.S. 317, 327, 106 S.Ct. 2548, 2555 (1986).

In reviewing a motion for summary judgment, the Court must view the evidence, and any reasonable inference drawn there from, in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party. *Lipps v. S. Nev. Paving*, 116 Nev. 497, 498, 998 P.2d 1183, 1184

(2000). However, the nonmoving party may not avoid summary judgment by relying "on the gossamer threads of whimsy, speculation, and conjecture." *Pegasus v. Reno Newspapers, Inc.*, 118 Nev. 706, 713-14, 57 P.3d 82, 87 (2002) (quoting *Collins v. Union Fed. Sav. & Loan*, 99 Nev. 284, 302, 662 P.2d 610, 621 (1983). Rather, the nonmoving party must, by affidavit or otherwise, set forth specific facts demonstrating the existence of a genuine issue for trial. *Pegasus*, 118 Nev. at 713, 57 P.3d at 87.

III. <u>Legal Analysis</u>

As noted above, Defendants presently seek an order from the Court granting summary judgment on Plaintiffs' claims for legal malpractice and negligence. Specifically, Defendants argue that the claims of Plaintiffs fail as a matter of law because Plaintiffs were not eligible to file a Notice of Nonresponsibility as they were "Interested Owners," and thus, no evidence of causation exists. In addition, Defendants assert that even if Plaintiffs were not "Interested Owners," no evidence of damages exists because Plaintiffs received a substantial benefit from the actions of Fisher Friedman & Associates, and because Defendants and Mr. Schleining have reached an agreement releasing the lien without any cost to Plaintiffs. Furthermore, Defendants assert that because Plaintiffs executed two conflict waivers, any claim relating to a conflict of interest must fail. Finally, as an alternative theory, Defendants assert that pursuant to NRCP 16.1(e), the Court should dismiss Plaintiffs' claims as Plaintiffs failed to file a case conference report within 240 days following Defendants' appearance as required by NRCP 16.1(c).

In opposition to Defendants' arguments, Plaintiffs merely assert that Defendants breached the legal duties owed to Plaintiffs by failing to advise Plaintiffs to avoid actively participating in the sale of the property. In addition, Plaintiffs assert that the Court should not dismiss their claims pursuant to NRCP 16.1 because this matter has been ongoing for the past four years and there is still time to hold a case conference report. The Court will address each matter as follows:

27 |

28 | | ///

///

a. Conflict of Interest

As it pertains to Plaintiffs' claims regarding a conflict of interest, Defendants argue that such claims must fail as a matter of law because Plaintiffs suffered no compensable harm as a result of the conflict and because Plaintiffs knowingly executed two conflict waivers in accordance with NRPC 1.7(b), waving the conflict of which Plaintiffs now complain. To this argument, Plaintiffs have not raised any opposition. Accordingly, the Court must find that Defendants' Motion, as it relates to the conflict of interest claims, is meritorious. Accordingly, to the extent Defendants seek summary judgment on this issue, their Motion shall be granted.

b. Legal Malpractice & Negligence

In order to recover under the theories of legal malpractice and negligence, Plaintiffs must demonstrate: (1) the existence of an attorney client relationship; (2) a duty owed to the client by the attorney to use such skill prudence, and diligence as lawyers of ordinary skill and capacity possess in exercising and performing the tasks which they undertake; (3) a breach of that duty; (4) that the lawyer's negligence was the proximate cause of the client's damages; and (5) actual loss or damage resulting from the negligence. *Mainor v. Nault*, 120 Nev. 750, 774, 101 P.3d 308, 324 (2004). Accordingly, where there is no evidence of causation or damages, a claim for legal malpractice or negligence must fail as a matter of law.

In the instant case, Plaintiffs assert that Defendants breached the duty of care owed to Plaintiffs by failing to file a Notice of Nonresponsibility and by failing to advise Plaintiffs not to actively participate in the sale of the property at issue. Plaintiffs further assert that this caused them to suffer damages, in that Defendants' failure permitted Fisher Friedman & Associates to file a lien against Plaintiffs' property and forced Plaintiffs to incur the legal expenses of fighting that lien. In contrast, Defendants assert that when they became involved in the matter, Plaintiffs had already become active participants in the sale of the property, and therefore, there is nothing Defendants could have done to protect Plaintiffs' interests. Accordingly, the proper question before the Court is whether Plaintiffs were

eligible for the protections afforded by a Notice of Nonresponsibility at the time Defendants became involved in the case.

Pursuant to NRS 108.234(2), a "disinterested owner" can avoid a lien from attaching to his property by filing a Notice of Nonresponsibility within three days after learning that improvements are being made to his property. However, in order to qualify as a "disinterested owner" the property owner must be one who: "(a) Does not record a notice of waiver as provided in NRS 108.2405; and (b) Does not personally or through an agent or representative, directly or indirectly, contract for or cause a work of improvement, or any portion thereof, to be constructed, altered or repaired upon the property or an improvement of the owner." NRS 108.234(7).

As applied to the instant matter, this Court must find that Plaintiffs were no longer "disinterested owners" at the time Defendants became involved in the case. This is because the undisputed evidence before the Court demonstrates that Plaintiffs entered into a contract with Developers for improvements to the property even before Defendants became involved in the matter. Plaintiffs negotiated and signed this contract by themselves. Furthermore, that contract contained language that required Plaintiffs to participate actively in the development of the property. Specifically, the language within the original contract made the offer contingent upon obtaining the necessary government approvals, with which Plaintiffs were required to assist. Moreover, the Court will note that as a result of those negotiations, Plaintiffs were to receive some \$7.5 million in payments and a penthouse valued at approximately \$2.2 million. Accordingly, these actions clearly demonstrate that Plaintiffs personally contracted for and were to benefit from the improvements to their property, thus making Plaintiffs "interested owners" before Defendants had any part in the matter.

It was only after Plaintiffs and Developers completed their negotiations that Defendants became involved in the matter in order to "fine tune" the agreement. However, because Plaintiffs had already become "interested owners" at that point in time, there is nothing Defendants could have said or done to avoid the existing contract. *See*

Howard S. Wright Construction Co. v. Superior Court, 106 Cal.App.4th 314, 321, 130 Cal.Rptr.2d 641 (2003); see also Verdi Lumber Co. v. Bartlett, 40 Nev. 317, 161 P. 933, 934-35 (1916). Therefore, the Court must conclude that Defendants' alleged malpractice was not the cause of Plaintiffs' injuries. Furthermore, there is nothing more Plaintiffs could allege to fix this problem. Consequently, the Court believes that the grant of summary judgment in favor of Defendants is appropriate.

c. NRCP 16.1

As a final matter, the Court will turn its attention to those NRCP 16.1 arguments raised by Defendants. Under this rule, once the parties hold their early case conference, the plaintiff must file a case conference report within 30 days thereof. NRCP 16.1(c); see also Moon v. McDonald Carano & Wilson, 245 P.3d 1138, 1139 (Nev. 2010). If the plaintiff fails to make such a filing within 240 days following the defendant's first appearance, upon motion or its own initiative, the Court may dismiss the case without prejudice as to that defendant. NRCP 16.1 (e)(2).

As applied to the instant matter, this Court must find that the claims of Plaintiffs are subject to dismissal pursuant to NRCP 16.1(e)(2). As the Court recognized above, it was on September 27, 2007, that Plaintiffs filed their third-party complaint against Defendants. However, because of a stipulation between the Parties, Defendants did not file their answer until October 7, 2009. Based on this date, Plaintiffs had at the latest, until June 4, 2010, to file their case conference report. Nevertheless, as of August 30, 2011, Plaintiffs have yet to file the required report. Accordingly, more than 690 days have passed since Defendants' appearance without Plaintiffs having filed their case conference report as required by NRCP 16.1(c). Furthermore, Plaintiffs have not offered a single reason for their failure to do so. Instead, Plaintiffs merely assert that this matter has been ongoing for more than four years and that there is still time to file a report following another case conference. In the Court's view, such an argument is unpersuasive and fails to justify Plaintiffs' failure. Given this analysis, the Court is inclined to grant Defendants' Motion.

IV. Conclusion

After reviewing the Parties' arguments, this Court must conclude that the undisputed evidence, when viewed in the light most favorable to Plaintiffs, demonstrates that Defendants' Motion should be granted in its entirety. Accordingly, the Court shall enter the following order:

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu is **GRANTED**.

DATED this _____ day of August 2011.

STEVEŇ P. EĹLIOT District Judge

-9-

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court by using the ECF system which served the following parties electronically:

GREGORY WILSON, ESQ. for JOHN SCHLEINING

THOMAS HALL, ESQ. for TRUSTEE OF THE JOHN ILIESCU, JR. & SONNIA ILLIESCU, JOHN ILIESCU, JR., SONNIA ILIESCU

DAVID GRUNDY, ESQ. for KAREN DENNISON, HOLLAND & HART, LLP, JERRY SNYDER, R. HOWARD, HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON HOWARD

MICHAEL HOY, ESQ. for MARK STEPPAN

DATED this _____ day of August, 2011.

Judicial Assistant

-10-

FILED

Electronically 09-01-2011:01:51:39 PM Howard W. Convers Clerk of the Court Transaction # 2445663

2540

2

3

4

1

David R. Grundy, Esq. SBN 864 LEMONS, GRUNDY & EISENBERG 6005 Plumas Street, Suite 300

Reno. Nevada 89519

Telephone: (775) 786-6868 Facsimile: (775) 786-9716

Attorneys for Third Party Defendants

6

5

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

CONSOLIDATED

Case No.:

Dept. No.:

CV07-00341

10

IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

MARK B. STEPPAN,

Plaintiff.

VS.

JOHN ILIESCU JR. and SONNIA ILIESCU, as Trustees of the JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST AGREEMENT; JOHN ILIESCU, individually; DOES I-V, inclusive; and ROE CORPORATIONS VI-X, inclusive,

Defendants.

JOHN ILIESCU, JR. and SONNIA ILIESCU, as Trustees of the JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND **SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST** AGREEMENT; JOHN ILIESCU, JR., individually: SONNIA ILIESCU, individually,

Third-Party Plaintiffs,

VS.

CONSOLIDATED PACIFIC DEVELOPMENT, INC., a Nevada Corporation; DECAL OREGON, INC., an Oregon Corporation; CALVIN BATY, individually; JOHN SCHLEINING, individually; HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON AND HOWARD PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, a Nevada professional corporation, dba HALE LANE; KAREN D. DENNISON; R. CRAIG HOWARD; JERRY M. SNYDER; and DOES I thru X.

Third-Party Defendants.

LEMONS, GRUNDY & EISENBERG 6005 Plumas St. THIRD FLOOR RENO, NV 89519 (775) 786-6868

1 JOHN SCHLEINING, 2 Cross-Claimant, 3 vs. 4 HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON AND HOWARD 5 PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, a Nevada Professional corporation, dba HALE LANE 6 and DOES XXI - XXX, inclusive, 7 Cross-Defendant. 8 JOHN SCHLEINING, 9 Third-Party Plaintiff, 10 VS. 11 HOLLAND & HART, LLP, a professional 12 corporation, R. CRAIG HOWARD and DOES XXXI - XL, inclusive, 13 Third-Party Defendants. 14 15 **NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER** 16 PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on September 1, 2011 an Order granting Third-Party 17 Defendant Hale Lane's Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John 18 Iliescu was entered. A copy of said Order is attached hereto as Exhibit 1. 19 The undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding document does not contain 20 the social security number of any person. 21 DATED: September 1, 2011. 22 23 BY: David R. Grundy 24 LEMONS, GRUNDY & EISENBERG 6005 Plumas Street, Suite 300 25 Reno, Nevada 89519 Phone No.: (775) 786-6868 26 Attorneys for Third Party Defendants 27

LEMONS, GRUNDY & EISENBERG 6005 PLUMAS ST. THIRD FLOOR RENO, NV 89519 (775) 786-6868

28

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I certify that I am an employee of Lemons, Grundy & Eisenberg and that on September 1, 2011, I e-filed a true and correct copy of the foregoing NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER with the Clerk of the Court through the Court's electronic filing system and notice will be sent electronically by the Court to the following:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

THOMAS HALL, ESQ. for John Iliescu, Jr., Sonnia Iliescu

MICHAEL D. HOY, ESQ. for Mark Steppan

GREGORY WILSON, ESQ. for John Schleining

Stacy Kellison

LEMONS, GRUNDY & EISENBERG 6005 PLUMAS ST. THIRD FLOOR RENO, NV 89519 (775) 786-6868

	EXHIBIT LIST	
EXHIBIT #	DESCRIPTION	# OF PAG
1	Order Granting Third-Party Defendant Hale Lane's Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu	10

LEMONS, GRUNDY & EISENBERG

6005 PLUMAS ST. THIRD FLOOR RENO, NV 89519 (775) 786-6868

EXHIBIT 1

FILED
Electronically
09-01-2011:01:51:39 PM
Howard W. Conyers
Clerk of the Court
Transaction # 2445663

FILED

Electronically 09-01-2011:08:30:02 AM Howard W. Conyers Clerk of the Court Transaction # 2444422

Code: 3095 1 2 3 4 5 IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA 6 IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE 7 * * * 8 MARK B. STEPPAN, 9 10 Plaintiff, CV07-00341 Case No: 11 (Consolidated with CV07-01021) VS. 12 Dept. No.: 10 13 JOHN ILIESCU, JR. and SONNIA ILIESCU, as Trustees of the JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND 14 SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST 15 AGREEMENT; JOHN ILIESCU, individually; DOES I-V, inclusive; and ROE 16 CORPORATIONS VI-X, inclusive, 17 Defendants. 18 19 AND RELATED MATTERS. 20 21 ORDER GRANTING THIRD-PARTY DEFENDANT HALE LANE'S MOTION FOR SUMMARY JUDGMENT REGARDING THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS BY JOHN ILIESCU 22 23

Presently before the Court is a Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu, filed by Third-Party Defendants HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON AND HOWARD PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION, KAREN D. DENNISON, R. CRAIG HOWARD, and JERRY M. SNYDER (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Defendants") on March 30, 2011. Following, on July 22, 2011, Defendants filed a Supplement to Third-Party Defendant Hale Lane's Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu.

24

25

26

27

28

Thereafter, on August 18, 2011, Third-Party Plaintiffs JOHN ILIESCU, JR. and SONNIA ILIESCU, individually, and as Trustee of the John Iliescu, Jr. and Sonnia Iliescu 1992 Family Trust (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Plaintiffs") filed an Opposition and Response to Third-Party Defendant Hale Lane's Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu. Subsequently, on August 29, 2011, Defendants filed a Reply in Support of Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu. Contemporaneously with their Reply, Defendants also filed a Request for Submission, thereby submitting the matter for the Court's consideration. Later that same day, Plaintiffs filed an Opposition to Supplement to Third-Party Defendant Hale Lane's Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu.

I. Factual & Procedural Background

This matter comes before the Court as the result of a 2005 property transaction that fell through, involving a parcel of property located in downtown Reno, which Plaintiffs owned and was to be developed by a group of developers headed by Consolidated Pacific Development, Inc. (hereinafter "Developers"). As part of that transaction, Plaintiffs agreed to sell the parcel of property at issue to the Developers, who would then use the property to construct a high-rise condominium project known as Wingfield Tower.

The Developers first contacted Plaintiffs about purchasing the parcel of property in July of 2005, when the Developers contacted Plaintiffs through their broker, Sam Canglia. Following this contact, on July 29, 2005, the Developers and Plaintiffs, acting without the assistance of counsel, executed a form agreement prepared by Dick Johnson in order to facilitate the sale of the property. That contract provided that Developers would purchase the property from Plaintiffs for \$7.5 million, with a \$500,000 non-refundable cash deposit to be paid to Plaintiffs in advance, as well as Plaintiffs receiving a 3,750 square foot penthouse and four parking spaces, valued at \$2.2 million, upon the completion of construction. However, the sale was contingent upon Developers obtaining the necessary entitlement and permits from the City of Reno, with which Plaintiffs were to assist. Furthermore, the Contract afforded Developers 270 days to obtain the requisite

1

2

4 5

6

7 8

9 10

12

13

11

14 15

16 17

18 19

20

21

22

23 24

25

26 27

28

entitlements, while allowing an extension of time at the cost of \$50,000 per 30 days; otherwise, the Developers would forfeit their \$500,000 deposit. Following the execution of the form contract, the Parties realized that it was

inadequate for the magnitude of the deal they were entering into. Consequently, the Parties elected to hire legal counsel to assist in supplementing the contract. As a result, Dick Johnson brought the contract to Ms. Dennison, who then prepared Addendum No. 3, which sought to clarify the contract and its terms. Included in these clarifications was a clause that recognized obtaining the necessary entitlements was a condition precedent to the completion of the sale, and that the Developers would use their "best efforts and reasonable diligence to satisfy all Conditions Precedent." Addendum No. 3 further specified Plaintiffs' interest in completing the sale because of their ability to select the penthouse of their choice. Following, on October 8, 2005, the Parties executed Addendum No. 3.

Thereafter, the Developers sought an architect to help in obtaining the required entitlements. In doing so, the Developers hired Fisher Friedman & Associates, to design the building, prepare the architectural plans, and present the information to the Reno City Council for approval, which it did. Nevertheless, during this process, Plaintiffs signed a conflict waiver permitting Defendants to assist Developers in obtaining the necessary entitlements. Moreover, Plaintiffs actively participated in the application process by submitting an affidavit permitting Developers to submit an application to the City of Reno on Plaintiffs' behalf and by attending all public hearings on the matter. Subsequently, the City acted to approve the project and authorized the necessary entitlements.

Then, some sixteen months following the commencement of the project, Developers defaulted when they were unable to obtain the necessary financing to conclude the sale of the property. As a consequence of this default, Developers were unable to pay Fisher Friedman & Associates for the services rendered. This caused Fisher Friedman & Associates to file a \$1.8 million mechanics lien against the property.

Following the recording of this lien, the Parties approached Defendants to help resolve the issue. In doing so, the Parties executed a second conflict waiver. Defendants

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

then brokered an indemnity agreement between the Parties, whereby Developers, including Co-Third Party Defendant John Schleining, agreed to indemnify Plaintiffs against any harm that might occur as a result of the lien. Furthermore, the indemnity agreement also provided that Developers would work to discharge the lien on Plaintiffs' behalf at no expense to Plaintiffs. As a result, acting on Plaintiffs' behalf, Defendants then filed an application for release of the lien. This in turn caused Fisher Friedman & Associates to file a complaint against Plaintiffs in order to foreclose on the lien.

Subsequently, on September 27, 2007, Plaintiffs filed their third-party complaint against Defendants, alleging causes of action for legal malpractice and negligence. Plaintiffs premised their third-party complaint on allegations that Defendants committed legal malpractice by failing to file a Notice of Nonresponsibility pursuant to NRS 108.234. Defendants have now moved for summary judgment on the matter, arguing that Plaintiffs' claims fail as a matter of law, as there is no evidence of causation or that Plaintiffs suffered damages. Moreover, Defendants assert that because Plaintiffs executed two conflict waivers, any claim relating to a conflict of interest must fail. Finally, Defendants assert that the Court should dismiss Plaintiffs' claims for failure to comply with NRCP 16.1.

Standard of Review II.

A court should only grant summary judgment when, based upon the pleadings and discovery on file, no genuine issue of material fact exists for trial and the moving party is entitled to judgment as a matter of law. NRCP 56(c). A genuine issue of material fact exists when a reasonable jury could return a verdict in favor of the nonmoving party. Kopicko v. Young, 114 Nev. 1333, 1336, 971 P.2d 789, 790 (1998). Summary judgment is properly regarded not as a disfavored procedural shortcut, but rather as an integral part of civil procedure as a whole. Celotex Corp. v. Catrett, 477 U.S. 317, 327, 106 S.Ct. 2548, 2555 (1986).

In reviewing a motion for summary judgment, the Court must view the evidence, and any reasonable inference drawn there from, in the light most favorable to the nonmoving party. Lipps v. S. Nev. Paving, 116 Nev. 497, 498, 998 P.2d 1183, 1184

(2000). However, the nonmoving party may not avoid summary judgment by relying "on the gossamer threads of whimsy, speculation, and conjecture." *Pegasus v. Reno Newspapers, Inc.*, 118 Nev. 706, 713-14, 57 P.3d 82, 87 (2002) (quoting *Collins v. Union Fed. Sav. & Loan*, 99 Nev. 284, 302, 662 P.2d 610, 621 (1983). Rather, the nonmoving party must, by affidavit or otherwise, set forth specific facts demonstrating the existence of a genuine issue for trial. *Pegasus*, 118 Nev. at 713, 57 P.3d at 87.

III. Legal Analysis

As noted above, Defendants presently seek an order from the Court granting summary judgment on Plaintiffs' claims for legal malpractice and negligence. Specifically, Defendants argue that the claims of Plaintiffs fail as a matter of law because Plaintiffs were not eligible to file a Notice of Nonresponsibility as they were "Interested Owners," and thus, no evidence of causation exists. In addition, Defendants assert that even if Plaintiffs were not "Interested Owners," no evidence of damages exists because Plaintiffs received a substantial benefit from the actions of Fisher Friedman & Associates, and because Defendants and Mr. Schleining have reached an agreement releasing the lien without any cost to Plaintiffs. Furthermore, Defendants assert that because Plaintiffs executed two conflict waivers, any claim relating to a conflict of interest must fail. Finally, as an alternative theory, Defendants assert that pursuant to NRCP 16.1(e), the Court should dismiss Plaintiffs' claims as Plaintiffs failed to file a case conference report within 240 days following Defendants' appearance as required by NRCP 16.1(c).

In opposition to Defendants' arguments, Plaintiffs merely assert that Defendants breached the legal duties owed to Plaintiffs by failing to advise Plaintiffs to avoid actively participating in the sale of the property. In addition, Plaintiffs assert that the Court should not dismiss their claims pursuant to NRCP 16.1 because this matter has been ongoing for the past four years and there is still time to hold a case conference report. The Court will address each matter as follows:

27 || ///

28 || ///

a. Conflict of Interest

As it pertains to Plaintiffs' claims regarding a conflict of interest, Defendants argue that such claims must fail as a matter of law because Plaintiffs suffered no compensable harm as a result of the conflict and because Plaintiffs knowingly executed two conflict waivers in accordance with NRPC 1.7(b), waving the conflict of which Plaintiffs now complain. To this argument, Plaintiffs have not raised any opposition. Accordingly, the Court must find that Defendants' Motion, as it relates to the conflict of interest claims, is meritorious. Accordingly, to the extent Defendants seek summary judgment on this issue, their Motion shall be granted.

b. Legal Malpractice & Negligence

In order to recover under the theories of legal malpractice and negligence, Plaintiffs must demonstrate: (1) the existence of an attorney client relationship; (2) a duty owed to the client by the attorney to use such skill prudence, and diligence as lawyers of ordinary skill and capacity possess in exercising and performing the tasks which they undertake; (3) a breach of that duty; (4) that the lawyer's negligence was the proximate cause of the client's damages; and (5) actual loss or damage resulting from the negligence. *Mainor v. Nault*, 120 Nev. 750, 774, 101 P.3d 308, 324 (2004). Accordingly, where there is no evidence of causation or damages, a claim for legal malpractice or negligence must fail as a matter of law.

In the instant case, Plaintiffs assert that Defendants breached the duty of care owed to Plaintiffs by failing to file a Notice of Nonresponsibility and by failing to advise Plaintiffs not to actively participate in the sale of the property at issue. Plaintiffs further assert that this caused them to suffer damages, in that Defendants' failure permitted Fisher Friedman & Associates to file a lien against Plaintiffs' property and forced Plaintiffs to incur the legal expenses of fighting that lien. In contrast, Defendants assert that when they became involved in the matter, Plaintiffs had already become active participants in the sale of the property, and therefore, there is nothing Defendants could have done to protect Plaintiffs' interests. Accordingly, the proper question before the Court is whether Plaintiffs were

eligible for the protections afforded by a Notice of Nonresponsibility at the time Defendants became involved in the case.

Pursuant to NRS 108.234(2), a "disinterested owner" can avoid a lien from attaching to his property by filing a Notice of Nonresponsibility within three days after learning that improvements are being made to his property. However, in order to qualify as a "disinterested owner" the property owner must be one who: "(a) Does not record a notice of waiver as provided in NRS 108.2405; and (b) Does not personally or through an agent or representative, directly or indirectly, contract for or cause a work of improvement, or any portion thereof, to be constructed, altered or repaired upon the property or an improvement of the owner." NRS 108.234(7).

As applied to the instant matter, this Court must find that Plaintiffs were no longer "disinterested owners" at the time Defendants became involved in the case. This is because the undisputed evidence before the Court demonstrates that Plaintiffs entered into a contract with Developers for improvements to the property even before Defendants became involved in the matter. Plaintiffs negotiated and signed this contract by themselves. Furthermore, that contract contained language that required Plaintiffs to participate actively in the development of the property. Specifically, the language within the original contract made the offer contingent upon obtaining the necessary government approvals, with which Plaintiffs were required to assist. Moreover, the Court will note that as a result of those negotiations, Plaintiffs were to receive some \$7.5 million in payments and a penthouse valued at approximately \$2.2 million. Accordingly, these actions clearly demonstrate that Plaintiffs personally contracted for and were to benefit from the improvements to their property, thus making Plaintiffs "interested owners" before Defendants had any part in the matter.

It was only after Plaintiffs and Developers completed their negotiations that Defendants became involved in the matter in order to "fine tune" the agreement. However, because Plaintiffs had already become "interested owners" at that point in time, there is nothing Defendants could have said or done to avoid the existing contract. See

Howard S. Wright Construction Co. v. Superior Court, 106 Cal.App.4th 314, 321, 130 Cal.Rptr.2d 641 (2003); see also Verdi Lumber Co. v. Bartlett, 40 Nev. 317, 161 P. 933, 934-35 (1916). Therefore, the Court must conclude that Defendants' alleged malpractice was not the cause of Plaintiffs' injuries. Furthermore, there is nothing more Plaintiffs could allege to fix this problem. Consequently, the Court believes that the grant of summary judgment in favor of Defendants is appropriate.

c. NRCP 16.1

As a final matter, the Court will turn its attention to those NRCP 16.1 arguments raised by Defendants. Under this rule, once the parties hold their early case conference, the plaintiff must file a case conference report within 30 days thereof. NRCP 16.1(c); see also Moon v. McDonald Carano & Wilson, 245 P.3d 1138, 1139 (Nev. 2010). If the plaintiff fails to make such a filing within 240 days following the defendant's first appearance, upon motion or its own initiative, the Court may dismiss the case without prejudice as to that defendant. NRCP 16.1 (e)(2).

As applied to the instant matter, this Court must find that the claims of Plaintiffs are subject to dismissal pursuant to NRCP 16.1(e)(2). As the Court recognized above, it was on September 27, 2007, that Plaintiffs filed their third-party complaint against Defendants. However, because of a stipulation between the Parties, Defendants did not file their answer until October 7, 2009. Based on this date, Plaintiffs had at the latest, until June 4, 2010, to file their case conference report. Nevertheless, as of August 30, 2011, Plaintiffs have yet to file the required report. Accordingly, more than 690 days have passed since Defendants' appearance without Plaintiffs having filed their case conference report as required by NRCP 16.1(c). Furthermore, Plaintiffs have not offered a single reason for their failure to do so. Instead, Plaintiffs merely assert that this matter has been ongoing for more than four years and that there is still time to file a report following another case conference. In the Court's view, such an argument is unpersuasive and fails to justify Plaintiffs' failure. Given this analysis, the Court is inclined to grant Defendants' Motion.

28 | ///

IV. Conclusion

After reviewing the Parties' arguments, this Court must conclude that the undisputed evidence, when viewed in the light most favorable to Plaintiffs, demonstrates that Defendants' Motion should be granted in its entirety. Accordingly, the Court shall enter the following order:

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants' Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu is **GRANTED**.

DATED this 3 day of August 2011.

STEVEN P. ELLIOT District Judge

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court by using the ECF system which served the following parties electronically: GREGORY WILSON, ESQ. for JOHN SCHLEINING THOMAS HALL, ESQ. for TRUSTEE OF THE JOHN ILIESCU, JR. & SONNIA ILLIESCU, JOHN ILIESCU, JR., SONNIA ILIESCU DAVID GRUNDY, ESQ. for KAREN DENNISON, HOLLAND & HART, LLP, JERRY SNYDER, R. HOWARD, HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON HOWARD MICHAEL HOY, ESQ. for MARK STEPPAN

DATED this _____ day of August, 2011.

Judicial Assistant

FILED

Electronically 10-25-2011:05:18:51 PM Howard W. Conyers Clerk of the Court Transaction # 2554042

CV07-00341

(Consolidated with CV07-01021)

10

2

1

3

5

7 8

9

10

11

12 13

14

1516

17

18

19

2021

22

23

24

25 26

27 28 IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

* * *

Case No:

Dept. No.:

MARK B. STEPPAN,

Plaintiff,

VS.

JOHN ILIESCU, JR. and SONNIA ILIESCU, as Trustees of the JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST AGREEMENT; JOHN ILIESCU, individually; DOES I-V, inclusive; and ROE CORPORATIONS VI-X, inclusive,

Defendants.

AND RELATED MATTERS.

ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS ILIESCUS' MOTION TO DISMISS

Presently before the Court is a Motion to Dismiss filed by Defendants JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND SONNIA ILIESCU, AS TRUSTEES OF THE JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST AGREEMENT AND JOHN ILIESCU, INDIVIDUALLY (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Defendants"), filed on September 3, 2011. The Motion to Dismiss seeks dismissal of all claims against Defendants by Plaintiff Mark B. Steppan (hereinafter referred to as "Plaintiff"). Plaintiff filed an Opposition to Iliescu's

 Motion to Dismiss on September 16, 2011. Subsequently, Defendants filed a Reply in Support of Motion to Dismiss on September 22, 2011. Contemporaneously with their Reply, Defendants also filed a Request for Submission.

I. <u>Factual and Procedural Background</u>.

This matter comes before the Court as the result of a 2005 property transaction that failed to close. The transaction involved several parcels of real property located in downtown Reno (hereinafter the "Property"), which Defendants owned and were to be sold to or developed by a group of developers headed by Consolidated Pacific Development, Inc. (hereinafter the "Developers").

On July 29, 2005, Defendants entered into a Purchase Agreement (hereinafter the "Agreement") with Developers for the sale of the Property. The parties intended that after purchasing the Property, the Developers would develop the Property into a high-rise condominium project to be known as Wingfield Tower (hereinafter the "Project"). The sale was expressly contingent upon Developers obtaining all the necessary entitlements and permits for the project from the City of Reno (hereinafter the "Governmental Approvals").

Following various modifications to the Agreement by addenda, the Developers sought assistance from an architect to help obtain the Governmental Approvals. Plaintiff, an architect licensed in Nevada, and his California firm, Fisher-Friedman & Associates, were retained by Developers on a time and materials basis to conceptually design the Project, to prepare certain schematic drawings and to present these drawings to the Reno Planning Commission and to the Reno City Council in support of gaining Governmental Approvals for the Project.

The Developers paid some \$430,870.00 to Plaintiff as full compensation for the work done on a time and materials basis. The Developers later signed a more extensive architectural agreement with Plaintiff which included a percentage-based form of compensation for the Project to be built in the future.

At some point during the entitlement phase of the Project, Developers defaulted on the Agreement when they were unable to obtain the necessary financing to conclude the

purchase of the Property. This gave rise to a Notice of Lien filed by Plaintiff on November 7, 2006, in the amount of \$1,783,548.85, which was later amended on May 3, 2007, to reflect an amount claimed of \$1,939,347.51.

Defendants filed an Application for Release of Mechanic's Lien in Case No. CV07-00341 on February 14, 2007. Plaintiff in turn filed a Complaint against Defendants to Foreclose Mechanic's Lien in Case No. CV07-01021 on May 4, 2007, (hereinafter the "Complaint"). The cases were consolidated by Court Order on September 24, 2007. Defendants filed an Answer to the Complaint on September 27, 2007 (hereinafter the "Answer").

The parties held an Early Case Conference on February 21, 2008, followed by an off-the-record Case Management Conference with District Judge Brent Adams the following day. Plaintiff failed to file a Case Conference Report at any time following the Early Case Conference held on February 21, 2008. The parties then filed cross motions for partial summary judgment, and following the Court's grant of partial summary judgment in favor of Plaintiff on June 22, 2009, the parties held a second Early Case Conference on October 13, 2009. Plaintiff failed to file a Case Conference Report at any time following the October 13, 2009 Case Conference. These facts led to the Court's consideration of Defendant's Motion to Dismiss pursuant to NRCP 16.1(e)(2).

II. <u>Legal Analysis</u>.

NRCP 16.1(b)(1) requires the parties to complete an Early Case Conference within 30 days after the filing of an answer by the first answering defendant, unless the case is either in the court annexed arbitration program or in the short trial program. Under certain circumstances, the Early Case Conference may be continued up to 180 days following an appearance by the defendant. *Id.* NRCP 16.1(c) requires the filing of a Case Conference Report by the parties within 30 days after each Case Conference to facilitate discovery among the parties. *Moon v. McDonald Carano & Wilson*, 126 Nev. Adv. Op. 47, 245 P.3d 1138, 1139 (Nev. 2010).

NRCP 16.1(e)(2) provides as follows:

(e) Failure or Refusal to Participate in Pretrial Discovery; Sanctions.

(2) If the plaintiff does not file a case conference report within 240 days after an appearance by a defendant, the case may be dismissed as to that defendant upon motion or on the court's own initiative, without prejudice.

Plaintiff has not filed a Case Conference Report at any time since Defendants filed an Answer on September 27, 2007. A Case Conference Report should have been filed on or before March 22, 2008, or 30 days following the Early Case Conference held on February 21, 2008. In addition, a Case Conference Report should also have been filed on or before November 12, 2009 (within 30 days following the October 13, 2009 Case Conference). More than 1,489 days have passed since Defendants' first appearance in this matter. More than 1,312 days have passed since the initial Case Conference Report was due. More than 712 days have passed since the subsequent Case Conference Report was due. A Case Conference Report has yet to be filed. Thus, as of October 25, 2011, the Plaintiff is exceedingly delinquent with respect to his obligations to file Case Conference Reports under NRCP 16.1(c).

The decision to dismiss an action without prejudice for a plaintiff's failure to comply with the timing requirements of NRCP 16.1(e)(2) remains within the district court's discretion. *Arnold v. Kip*, 123 Nev. 410, 415, 168 P.3d 1050, 1053 (2007). NRCP 16.1(e)(2) was adopted to promote the prosecution of litigation within adequate timelines and the sanctions exist to ensure compliance with the specific deadlines identified in the Rule. *Id*.

In this case, the Court finds that Plaintiff's lengthy delay in filing the required Case Conference Reports, which have never been filed, is excessive and is a gross violation of the requirements of NRCP 16.1. The Court finds that the delay in filing is the responsibility

of Plaintiff and that the Defendants have neither induced nor caused the delay. The Court further finds that nearly four and one-half years have passed since Plaintiff filed his Complaint without resolution, adversely impacting the timely prosecution of the case.

Plaintiff presents, as evidence of good cause for the absence of filing Case Conference Reports, several arguments. Plaintiff first argues that dismissal of his Complaint, without prejudice, is improper, because the case has, for all practical purposes, been conducted as "complex litigation" under NRCP 16.1(f), which states as follows:

(f) Complex Litigation.

In a potentially difficult or protracted action that may involve complex issues, multiple parties, difficult legal questions, or unusual proof problems, the court may, upon motion and for good cause shown, waive any or all of the requirements of this rule. If the court waives all the requirements of this rule, it shall also order a conference pursuant to Rule 16 to be conducted by the court or the discovery commissioner.

The Court finds that while the present case includes several parties, it does not involve complex issues, difficult legal questions or unusual problems of proof. The primary issue in the case between Plaintiff and Defendants centers around an uncomplicated mechanic's lien claim and third party claims of malpractice and indemnification flowing from the underlying mechanic's lien claim. Furthermore, the malpractice and indemnification claims are collateral to the Plaintiff's mechanic's lien case and beyond its focus. No party to the action has filed a motion requesting that the Court waive any requirements of NRCP 16.1, nor has good cause for such waiver been demonstrated. No designation of Complex Litigation has been sought or made. The Court finds that the requirements of NRCP 16.1 are applicable to Plaintiff's case.

Plaintiff also claims that dismissal without prejudice is improper as discovery was stayed by the Court as to the Defendants' claims against third-party defendant Hale Lane. The Court finds this argument to be unpersuasive. The stay only applied to Defendants'

third-party claims against Hale Lane and did not affect discovery between Plaintiff and Defendants in the prosecution of Plaintiff's primary claim. As such, Plaintiff was required to comply with the requirements of NRCP 16.1 at all times during the case, including any stay of the discovery period for the collateral issues between Defendants and Hale Lane.

On September 1, 2011, this Court dismissed Defendants' Third Party Complaint against their former attorneys, Hale Lane, for a significantly less flagrant violation of Rule 16.1. The Court's determination in this Motion to Dismiss is consistent with that ruling, and the Court disagrees with Plaintiff's argument that neither party should be subject to dismissal without prejudice under NRCP 16.1(e)(2).

Plaintiff also seeks to exonerate his noncompliance with NRCP 16.1(c) by claiming that Defendants waived their right to seek dismissal by participating in case management conferences and by otherwise failing to raise the issue prior to the filing of their Motion to Dismiss. Plaintiff's argument is also unpersuasive, as its acceptance by the Court would create a situation where the requirements of NRCP 16.1(c) would be rendered largely meaningless if the Defendants' acquiescent conduct exonerated Plaintiff's compliance with NRCP 16.1. This conclusion is inconsistent with case law interpreting the purpose and application of the rule, and the Plaintiff's obligation to comply therewith. *Arnold v. Kip*, 123 Nev. 410, 415, 168 P.3d 1050, 1053 (2007) (noting that dismissal under NRCP 16.1(e)(2) does not require a defendant to demonstrate prejudice, as such result would largely eviscerate the rule because it would allow plaintiffs to exceed the deadline for filing a case conference report as long as the defendant could not demonstrate prejudice).

Plaintiff finally argues that dismissal of his Complaint, without prejudice, would be unjust as it would effectively bar Plaintiff's claims by virtue of the expired statute of limitations for Plaintiff's claims. NRS 108.233(1)(a). Plaintiff's argument incorporates the premise that dismissal of the claims based upon a violation of NRCP 16.1(e)(2) "elevates technical form over equity and substantive justice." The Court is similarly unpersuaded by Plaintiff's argument. This Court's consideration of a motion to dismiss without prejudice under NRCP 16.1(e)(2) should address factors that promote the purpose of the rule, rather

than factors that focus on the consequences to the plaintiff resulting from his or her failure to comply with the rule. *Arnold v. Kip,* 123 Nev. at 416 ("neither is the district court required to consider the plaintiff's inability to pursue his claim after an NRCP 16.1(e)(2) dismissal because the statute of limitations may expire").

III. Conclusion.

In its Order Granting Third-Party Defendant Hale Lane's Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu dated September 1, 2011, this Court found it appropriate to dismiss Iliescu's Third-Party Complaint against Hale Lane for failure to timely file a Case Conference Report. Here, 1,489 days have passed since Defendants' filing of their Answer and 712 days have passed since Plaintiff was required to file its last Case Conference Report. The Court, as a proper exercise of its discretion, hereby enters the following order:

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's claims is **GRANTED**. Plaintiff's claims are hereby **DISMISSED** WITHOUT PREJUDICE pursuant to NRCP 16.1(e)(2).

DATED this 25 day of October, 2011.

STEVEN P. ELLIOTT District Judge

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court by using the ECF system which served the following parties electronically:

GREGORY WILSON, ESQ. for JOHN SCHLEINING

THOMAS HALL, ESQ. for JOHN ILIESCU, JR. and SONNIA ILIESCU, as Trustees of the JOHN ILIESCU, JR. & SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST AGREEMENT, and JOHN ILIESCU, JR., individually

DAVID GRUNDY, ESQ. for KAREN DENNISON, HOLLAND & HART, LLP, JERRY SNYDER, R. HOWARD, HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON HOWARD

MICHAEL HOY, ESQ. for MARK STEPPAN

DATED this <u>35</u> day of October, 2011.

HEIDI HOWDEN

Judicial Assistant

FILED

Electronically 10-27-2011:02:54:38 PM Howard W. Conyers Clerk of the Court Transaction # 2558720

Code 2540

1

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

Thomas J. Hall, Esq.
Nevada State Bar No. 675
305 South Arlington Avenue
Post Office Box 3948
Reno, Nevada 89505
Telephone: 775-348-7011

Telephone: 775-348-7011 Facsimile: 775-348-7211

Attorney for John Iliescu, Jr. and Sonnia Iliescu and The John Iliescu, Jr. and Sonnia Iliescu 1992 Family Trust

IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

MARK B. STEPPAN,

Case No.: CV07-00341

13 Plaintiff,

Dept. No.: 10

v.

JOHN ILIESCU, JR. and SONNIA Case No.: CV07-01021

ILIESCU, as Trustees of the JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST AGREEMENT; JOHN ILIESCU, individually; DOES I-V, inclusive; and ROE CORPORATIONS VI-X, inclusive,

Dept. No.: 10

Defendants.

AND RELATED CROSS-CLAIMS AND THIRD-PARTY CLAIMS.

NOTICE OF ENTRY OF ORDER

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that on the 25th day of October, 2011, this Court entered its Order Granting Defendants Iliescus' Motion to Dismiss. A copy of said Order is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

2728

THOMAS J. HALL
ATTORNEY AND
COUNSELOR AT LAW
305 SOUTH ARLINGTON
AVENUE
POST OFFICE BOX 3948

RENO, NEVADA 89505 (775) 348-7011

The undersigned does hereby affirm that the preceding document does not contain the social security number of any person.

DATED this 27th day of October, 2011.

LAW OFFICES OF THOMAS J. HALL

Thomas J. Hall, Esq.

Law Offices of Thomas J. Hall 305 South Arlington Avenue

Post Office Box 3948

Reno, Nevada 89505

Telephone: (775)348-7011 Facsimile: (775)348-7211

Attorney for Iliescus

2

3

5

4

6 7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26 27

THOMAS J. HALL

ATTORNEY AND COUNSELOR AT LAW 305 SOUTH ARLINGTON AVENUE POST OFFICE BOX 3948 RENO, NEVADA 89505

(775) 348-7011

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to NRCP 5(b), I hereby certify that I am an employee of the Law Offices of Thomas J. Hall, and that on this date I electronically filed a true and correct copy of the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Court by using the ECF system, which served the following parties electronically:

> David R. Grundy, Esq. 6005 Plumas Street, 3rd Floor Reno, Nevada 89519

Gregory F. Wilson, Esq. Wilson & Quint, LLP 417 West Plumb Lane Reno, Nevada 89509

Michael D. Hoy, Esq. Hoy & Hoy, P.C. 4741 Caughlin Parkway, Suite Four Reno, Nevada 89519

DATED this 27th day of October, 2011.

EXHIBIT LIST

Exhibit 1: Order Granting Defendants Iliescus' Motion to Dismiss.

- -

THOMAS J. HALL
ATTORNEY AND
COUNSELOR AT LAW
305 SOUTH ARLINGTON
AVENUE
POST OFFICE BOX 3948
RENO. NEVADA 89505
(775) 348-7011

FILED

Electronically 10-27-2011:02:54:38 PM Howard W. Conyers Clerk of the Court Transaction # 2558720

EXHIBIT 1

EXHIBIT 1

FILED

Electronically 10-25-2011:05:18:51 PM Howard W. Conyers Clerk of the Court Transaction # 2554042

CV07-00341

(Consolidated with CV07-01021)

10

1 2

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11

12

13 14

15

16

17

18 19

20

22

21

23

25

26

2728

MARK B. STEPPAN,

Plaintiff,

Pidiliuli,

VS.

JOHN ILIESCU, JR. and SONNIA ILIESCU, as Trustees of the JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND

SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST

AGREEMENT; JOHN ILIESCU, individually; DOES I-V, inclusive; and ROE CORPORATIONS VI-X, inclusive,

Defendants.

AND RELATED MATTERS.

ORDER GRANTING DEFENDANTS ILIESCUS' MOTION TO DISMISS

IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

* * *

Case No:

Dept. No.:

Presently before the Court is a Motion to Dismiss filed by Defendants JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND SONNIA ILIESCU, AS TRUSTEES OF THE JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST AGREEMENT AND JOHN ILIESCU, INDIVIDUALLY (hereinafter collectively referred to as "Defendants"), filed on September 3, 2011. The Motion to Dismiss seeks dismissal of all claims against Defendants by Plaintiff Mark B. Steppan (hereinafter referred to as "Plaintiff"). Plaintiff filed an Opposition to Iliescu's

Motion to Dismiss on September 16, 2011. Subsequently, Defendants filed a Reply in Support of Motion to Dismiss on September 22, 2011. Contemporaneously with their Reply, Defendants also filed a Request for Submission.

I. Factual and Procedural Background.

This matter comes before the Court as the result of a 2005 property transaction that failed to close. The transaction involved several parcels of real property located in downtown Reno (hereinafter the "Property"), which Defendants owned and were to be sold to or developed by a group of developers headed by Consolidated Pacific Development, Inc. (hereinafter the "Developers").

On July 29, 2005, Defendants entered into a Purchase Agreement (hereinafter the "Agreement") with Developers for the sale of the Property. The parties intended that after purchasing the Property, the Developers would develop the Property into a high-rise condominium project to be known as Wingfield Tower (hereinafter the "Project"). The sale was expressly contingent upon Developers obtaining all the necessary entitlements and permits for the project from the City of Reno (hereinafter the "Governmental Approvals").

Following various modifications to the Agreement by addenda, the Developers sought assistance from an architect to help obtain the Governmental Approvals. Plaintiff, an architect licensed in Nevada, and his California firm, Fisher-Friedman & Associates, were retained by Developers on a time and materials basis to conceptually design the Project, to prepare certain schematic drawings and to present these drawings to the Reno Planning Commission and to the Reno City Council in support of gaining Governmental Approvals for the Project.

The Developers paid some \$430,870.00 to Plaintiff as full compensation for the work done on a time and materials basis. The Developers later signed a more extensive architectural agreement with Plaintiff which included a percentage-based form of compensation for the Project to be built in the future.

At some point during the entitlement phase of the Project, Developers defaulted on the Agreement when they were unable to obtain the necessary financing to conclude the purchase of the Property. This gave rise to a Notice of Lien filed by Plaintiff on November 7, 2006, in the amount of \$1,783,548.85, which was later amended on May 3, 2007, to reflect an amount claimed of \$1,939,347.51.

Defendants filed an Application for Release of Mechanic's Lien in Case No. CV07-00341 on February 14, 2007. Plaintiff in turn filed a Complaint against Defendants to Foreclose Mechanic's Lien in Case No. CV07-01021 on May 4, 2007, (hereinafter the "Complaint"). The cases were consolidated by Court Order on September 24, 2007. Defendants filed an Answer to the Complaint on September 27, 2007 (hereinafter the "Answer").

The parties held an Early Case Conference on February 21, 2008, followed by an off-the-record Case Management Conference with District Judge Brent Adams the following day. Plaintiff failed to file a Case Conference Report at any time following the Early Case Conference held on February 21, 2008. The parties then filed cross motions for partial summary judgment, and following the Court's grant of partial summary judgment in favor of Plaintiff on June 22, 2009, the parties held a second Early Case Conference on October 13, 2009. Plaintiff failed to file a Case Conference Report at any time following the October 13, 2009 Case Conference. These facts led to the Court's consideration of Defendant's Motion to Dismiss pursuant to NRCP 16.1(e)(2).

II. <u>Legal Analysis</u>.

NRCP 16.1(b)(1) requires the parties to complete an Early Case Conference within 30 days after the filing of an answer by the first answering defendant, unless the case is either in the court annexed arbitration program or in the short trial program. Under certain circumstances, the Early Case Conference may be continued up to 180 days following an appearance by the defendant. *Id.* NRCP 16.1(c) requires the filing of a Case Conference Report by the parties within 30 days after each Case Conference to facilitate discovery among the parties. *Moon v. McDonald Carano & Wilson*, 126 Nev. Adv. Op. 47, 245 P.3d 1138, 1139 (Nev. 2010).

NRCP 16.1(e)(2) provides as follows:

- (e) Failure or Refusal to Participate in Pretrial Discovery; Sanctions.
- (2) If the plaintiff does not file a case conference report within 240 days after an appearance by a defendant, the case may be dismissed as to that defendant upon motion or on the court's own initiative, without prejudice.

Plaintiff has not filed a Case Conference Report at any time since Defendants filed an Answer on September 27, 2007. A Case Conference Report should have been filed on or before March 22, 2008, or 30 days following the Early Case Conference held on February 21, 2008. In addition, a Case Conference Report should also have been filed on or before November 12, 2009 (within 30 days following the October 13, 2009 Case Conference). More than 1,489 days have passed since Defendants' first appearance in this matter. More than 1,312 days have passed since the initial Case Conference Report was due. More than 712 days have passed since the subsequent Case Conference Report was due. A Case Conference Report has yet to be filed. Thus, as of October 25, 2011, the Plaintiff is exceedingly delinquent with respect to his obligations to file Case Conference Reports under NRCP 16.1(c).

The decision to dismiss an action without prejudice for a plaintiff's failure to comply with the timing requirements of NRCP 16.1(e)(2) remains within the district court's discretion. *Arnold v. Kip*, 123 Nev. 410, 415, 168 P.3d 1050, 1053 (2007). NRCP 16.1(e)(2) was adopted to promote the prosecution of litigation within adequate timelines and the sanctions exist to ensure compliance with the specific deadlines identified in the Rule. *Id*.

In this case, the Court finds that Plaintiff's lengthy delay in filing the required Case Conference Reports, which have never been filed, is excessive and is a gross violation of the requirements of NRCP 16.1. The Court finds that the delay in filing is the responsibility

of Plaintiff and that the Defendants have neither induced nor caused the delay. The Court further finds that nearly four and one-half years have passed since Plaintiff filed his Complaint without resolution, adversely impacting the timely prosecution of the case.

Plaintiff presents, as evidence of good cause for the absence of filing Case Conference Reports, several arguments. Plaintiff first argues that dismissal of his Complaint, without prejudice, is improper, because the case has, for all practical purposes, been conducted as "complex litigation" under NRCP 16.1(f), which states as follows:

(f) Complex Litigation.

In a potentially difficult or protracted action that may involve complex issues, multiple parties, difficult legal questions, or unusual proof problems, the court may, upon motion and for good cause shown, waive any or all of the requirements of this rule. If the court waives all the requirements of this rule, it shall also order a conference pursuant to Rule 16 to be conducted by the court or the discovery commissioner.

The Court finds that while the present case includes several parties, it does not involve complex issues, difficult legal questions or unusual problems of proof. The primary issue in the case between Plaintiff and Defendants centers around an uncomplicated mechanic's lien claim and third party claims of malpractice and indemnification flowing from the underlying mechanic's lien claim. Furthermore, the malpractice and indemnification claims are collateral to the Plaintiff's mechanic's lien case and beyond its focus. No party to the action has filed a motion requesting that the Court waive any requirements of NRCP 16.1, nor has good cause for such waiver been demonstrated. No designation of Complex Litigation has been sought or made. The Court finds that the requirements of NRCP 16.1 are applicable to Plaintiff's case.

Plaintiff also claims that dismissal without prejudice is improper as discovery was stayed by the Court as to the Defendants' claims against third-party defendant Hale Lane. The Court finds this argument to be unpersuasive. The stay only applied to Defendants'

 third-party claims against Hale Lane and did not affect discovery between Plaintiff and Defendants in the prosecution of Plaintiff's primary claim. As such, Plaintiff was required to comply with the requirements of NRCP 16.1 at all times during the case, including any stay of the discovery period for the collateral issues between Defendants and Hale Lane.

On September 1, 2011, this Court dismissed Defendants' Third Party Complaint against their former attorneys, Hale Lane, for a significantly less flagrant violation of Rule 16.1. The Court's determination in this Motion to Dismiss is consistent with that ruling, and the Court disagrees with Plaintiff's argument that neither party should be subject to dismissal without prejudice under NRCP 16.1(e)(2).

Plaintiff also seeks to exonerate his noncompliance with NRCP 16.1(c) by claiming that Defendants waived their right to seek dismissal by participating in case management conferences and by otherwise failing to raise the issue prior to the filing of their Motion to Dismiss. Plaintiff's argument is also unpersuasive, as its acceptance by the Court would create a situation where the requirements of NRCP 16.1(c) would be rendered largely meaningless if the Defendants' acquiescent conduct exonerated Plaintiff's compliance with NRCP 16.1. This conclusion is inconsistent with case law interpreting the purpose and application of the rule, and the Plaintiff's obligation to comply therewith. *Arnold v. Kip*, 123 Nev. 410, 415, 168 P.3d 1050, 1053 (2007) (noting that dismissal under NRCP 16.1(e)(2) does not require a defendant to demonstrate prejudice, as such result would largely eviscerate the rule because it would allow plaintiffs to exceed the deadline for filing a case conference report as long as the defendant could not demonstrate prejudice).

Plaintiff finally argues that dismissal of his Complaint, without prejudice, would be unjust as it would effectively bar Plaintiff's claims by virtue of the expired statute of limitations for Plaintiff's claims. NRS 108.233(1)(a). Plaintiff's argument incorporates the premise that dismissal of the claims based upon a violation of NRCP 16.1(e)(2) "elevates technical form over equity and substantive justice." The Court is similarly unpersuaded by Plaintiff's argument. This Court's consideration of a motion to dismiss without prejudice under NRCP 16.1(e)(2) should address factors that promote the purpose of the rule, rather

than factors that focus on the consequences to the plaintiff resulting from his or her failure to comply with the rule. *Arnold v. Kip,* 123 Nev. at 416 ("neither is the district court required to consider the plaintiff's inability to pursue his claim after an NRCP 16.1(e)(2) dismissal because the statute of limitations may expire").

III. Conclusion.

In its Order Granting Third-Party Defendant Hale Lane's Motion for Summary Judgment Regarding Third-Party Claims by John Iliescu dated September 1, 2011, this Court found it appropriate to dismiss Iliescu's Third-Party Complaint against Hale Lane for failure to timely file a Case Conference Report. Here, 1,489 days have passed since Defendants' filing of their Answer and 712 days have passed since Plaintiff was required to file its last Case Conference Report. The Court, as a proper exercise of its discretion, hereby enters the following order:

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Defendants' Motion to Dismiss Plaintiff's claims is **GRANTED**. Plaintiff's claims are hereby **DISMISSED** WITHOUT PREJUDICE pursuant to NRCP 16.1(e)(2).

DATED this 25 day of October, 2011.

STEVEN P. ELLIOTI
District Judge

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court by using the ECF system which served the following parties electronically:

GREGORY WILSON, ESQ. for JOHN SCHLEINING

THOMAS HALL, ESQ. for JOHN ILIESCU, JR. and SONNIA ILIESCU, as Trustees of the JOHN ILIESCU, JR. & SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST AGREEMENT, and JOHN ILIESCU, JR., individually

DAVID GRUNDY, ESQ. for KAREN DENNISON, HOLLAND & HART, LLP, JERRY SNYDER, R. HOWARD, HALE LANE PEEK DENNISON HOWARD

MICHAEL HOY, ESQ. for MARK STEPPAN

DATED this <u>35</u> day of October, 2011.

HEIDI HOWDEN

Judicial Assistant

FILED

Electronically 01-12-2012:09:51:23 AM Joey Orduna Hastings Clerk of the Court Transaction # 2696129

Case No. CV07-00341

Consolidated with

CV07-01021

Dept. No. 10

Code 1350

2

1

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11 12

13

14

15

16

17 18

19

20 21

22

23

25

24

26 27

28

IN THE SECOND JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF WASHOE

JOHN ILIESCU, JR.; SONNIA SANTEE ILIESCU; JOHN ILIESCU, JR, AND SONNIA SANTEE ILIESCU, as trustees of the JOHN ILIESCU, JR. AND SONNIA ILIESCU 1992 FAMILY TRUST,

Plaintiffs,

VS.

MARK B. STEPPAN,

Defendant.

CERTIFICATE OF CLERK AND TRANSMITTAL - NOTICE OF APPEAL

I certify that I am an employee of the Second Judicial District Court of the State of Nevada, County of Washoe; that on the 12th day of January, 2012, I electronically filed the Notice of Appeal in the above entitled matter to the Nevada Supreme Court.

I further certify that the transmitted record is a true and correct copy of the original pleadings on file with the Second Judicial District Court.

Dated this 12th day of January, 2012.

JOEY ORDUNA HASTINGS CLERK OF THE COURT

By <u>/s/Mary Fernandez</u>
Mary Fernandez
Deputy Clerk