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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

CHRISTOPHER D. DAVIS,)	Case No: 68542
)	
Appellant,)	Electronically Filed
)	Feb 28 2017 01:35 p.m.
)	Eighth Judicial District
)	Court Elizabeth A. Brown
Vs.)	Case No. P16-0088
)	Clerk of Supreme Court
)	re: the Beatrice B. Davis
CAROLINE DAVIS,)	Family Heritage Trust, dated
)	July 28, 2000)
Respondent.)	
)	
)	

APPEAL

APPELLANT'S PETITION FOR REHEARING

MICHAEL A. OLSEN
Nevada Bar No. 6076
THOMAS R. GROVER
Nevada Bar No. 12387
GOODSELL & OLSEN, LLP
10155 West Twain, Suite 100
Las Vegas, Nevada 89147
(702) 869-6261

Attorneys for Appellant

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19
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

NRAP 26.1 DISCLOSURE..... iii

TABLE OF AUTHORITIES iv

LEGAL ARGUMENT 1

I. IMPLIED CONSENT IS INSUFFICIENT TO ESTABLISH PERSONAL JURISDICTION UNDER NRS 163.5555.....2

 a. **Asserting Personal Jurisdiction by Implied Consent Has Been Superseded by Analysis of Minimum Contacts**2

 b. **Implied Consent Requires Specific Limitations to Comply with Due Process**6

II. NRS 163.5555 REQUIRES ANALYSIS OF MINIMUM CONTACTS10

 a. **NRS 163.5555 Has a Constitutional Interpretation**10

 b. **Christopher Is Not Subject to Personal Jurisdiction in Nevada**.....12

III. Due Process Requires Proper Service.....16

CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE 21

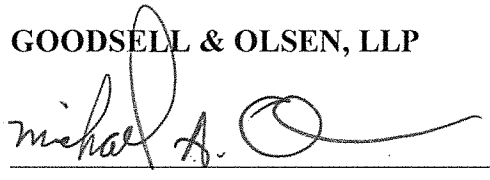
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE 23

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4
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6
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NRAP 26.1 DISCLOSURE

The undersigned counsel of record certifies that the following are persons and entities described in NRAP 26.1(a) and must be disclosed. These representations are made in order that the Judges of this Court may evaluate possible disqualification or recusal:

- 1) Beatrice B. Davis Family Heritage Trust
 - a. Trustees: Alaska Trust Company, Alaska USA Trust Company
 - b. Purported Trustee: Dunham Trust Company
 - c. Trust Protector: Stephen K. Lehnardt
 - d. Purported Investment Trust Adviser: Christopher D. Davis
 - e. Beneficiaries: Christopher D. Davis, Caroline Davis, Winfield Davis, Ace Davis, Tarja Davis
- 2) FHT Holdings, LLC
 - a. Managing Member: Beatrice B. Davis Family Heritage Trust
 - b. Registered Agent: Registered Agent Solutions, Inc.
 - c. Officer: Christopher D. Davis

GOODSELL & OLSEN, LLP


Michael A. Olsen, Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 6076
Thomas R. Grover, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 12387

GOODSELL & OLSEN, LLP
Attorneys for Appellant

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TABLE OF AUTHORITIES

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U.S. CONST. amend. XIV, § 1 1

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Burnham v. Superior Court of California, 274 U.S. 352, 617–18, 47 S. Ct. 632 (1990) ... 4

C.H.A. Venture v. G.C. Wallace Consulting Engineers, Inc., 106 Nev. 381, 384, 794, P.2d 707, 709 (1990)..... 17

Fulbright & Jaworski LLP v. Eighth Judicial District Court, 131 Nev. Adv. Op. 5, 342 P.3d 997, 1001 (2015)..... 5, 13, 17

Gladjie v. Darwish, 113 Cal. App. 4th 1331, 1343–44 (2003)..... 8

Hallwood Realty Partners, L.P. v. Gotham Partners, L.P., 104 F. Supp. 2d 279, 281–82 (S.D.N.Y. 2000)..... 3, 4

Hess v. Pawloski, 47 S. Ct. 632, 274 U.S. 352, 356 (1927) 7, 8, 9, 10

In re Beatrice B. Davis Family Heritage Trust, 133 Nev. Adv. Op. 4 (2017) 5, 8, 9, 19

In re Estate of Black, 132 Nev. Adv. Op. 7, 367 P.3d 416, 418 (2016) 18

In re Estate of Kordon, 137 P.3d 16, 18 (Wash. 2006)..... 18

International Shoe v. State of Washington, 326 U.S. 310, 316, 66 S. Ct. 154, 158 (1945) 5

Leven v. Frey, 123 Nev. 399, 405, 168 P.3d 712, 716 (2007)..... 12

Pennoyer v. Neff, 95 U.S. 714, 24 L. Ed. 565 (1878) 3

Shaffer v. Heitner, 97 S. Ct. 2569, 2585, 433 U.S. 186, 215 (1977)..... 13

State v. Castaneda, 126 Nev. Adv. Op. 45, 245 P.3d 550, 552 12

1 United States v. Jin Fuey Moy, 36 S. Ct. 658, 241 U.S. 394, 401 (1916)..... 12

2 Viega GmbH v. Eighth Judicial District Court, 130 Nev. Adv. Op. 40, 328 P.3d 1152,

3 1156 (2014)..... 13

4 World-Wide Volkswagen Corp. v. Woodson, 444 U.S. 286, 292 (U.S. 1980)..... 18

5 Young v. Nevada Title Co., 103 Nev. 436, 442, 744 P.2d 902 (1987)..... 17

6 **Statutes**

7 NRS 111.1031..... 10

8 NRS 14.065(1)..... 1

9 NRS 14.065(2)..... 18

10 NRS 143.110..... 9

11 NRS 153.041..... 9

12 NRS 155.010..... 9, 17

13 NRS 163.5555..... passim

14 NRS 163.5557..... 8

15 **Rules**

16 NRAP 40(a)(2)..... 1

17 NRAP 40(c)(2)(A)–(B)..... 1

18 NRCP 4..... 2, 16

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LEGAL ARGUMENT

A petition for rehearing “shall state briefly and with particularity the points of law or fact that the petitioner believes the court has overlooked or misapprehended and shall contain such argument in support of the petition as the petitioner desires to present.”¹ Thus, a petition for rehearing allows for redress “[w]hen the court has overlooked or misapprehended a material fact in the record or a material question of law in the case” or “[w]hen the court has overlooked, misapplied or failed to consider a statute, procedural rule, regulation or decision directly controlling a dispositive issue in the case.”²

Appellant Christopher Davis (“Christopher”) seeks rehearing of the Court’s Opinion dated January 26, 2017 (hereafter “January 2017 Opinion”) to preserve the protections of due process afforded by the Fourteenth Amendment.³ Part of the Fourteenth Amendment due process protection serves to prevent an individual from being hailed into distant courts absent minimum contacts with the forum. Neither the challenged district court orders nor the January 2017 Opinion have conducted any analysis to

¹ NRAP 40(a)(2).

² NRAP 40(c)(2)(A)–(B).

³ U.S. CONST. amend. XIV, § 1 (“[N]or shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law”); NRS 14.065(1) (“A court of this state may exercise jurisdiction over a party to a civil action on any basis **not inconsistent with . . . the Constitution of the United States.**” (emphasis added)).

1 demonstrate that sufficient minimum contacts exist to permit Nevada courts
2 to exercise personal jurisdiction over Christopher.

3 Another aspect of due process is the requirement of personal service
4 of process rather than mere notice. Service of process is the action required
5 for a court to assert personal jurisdiction. It is distinct and separate from the
6 consideration of whether personal jurisdiction is proper. Pursuant to the law
7 as it stood prior to the January 2017 Opinion, service of process in an estate
8 matter required a citation (the equivalent of the summons required in a
9 general civil matter), but otherwise service of process pursuant to NRCP 4
10 applied to either type of matter.

11
12 **I. IMPLIED CONSENT IS INSUFFICIENT TO ESTABLISH PERSONAL
13 JURISDICTION UNDER NRS 163.5555**

14 **a. Asserting Personal Jurisdiction by Implied Consent Has
15 Been Superseded by Analysis of Minimum Contacts**

16 Personal jurisdiction over Christopher has been affirmed improperly
17 based on the inapplicable implied consent doctrine, which has been
18 superseded by minimum contacts analysis.⁴ Reliance on implied consent is a
19 misapplication of law. The implied consent doctrine allowed personal
20 jurisdiction to extend to nonresidents in an era when the precedent of the US

⁴ See Appellant's Opening Brief, at 21:5–20; Appellant's Supplemental Opening Brief, at 18:14–19:4; 30:4–5 (raising the controlling law of minimum contacts and arguing that automatic application of *in personam* jurisdiction would violate due process).

1 Supreme Court in Pennoyer would have limited a court's ability to exercise
2 jurisdiction over a nonresident, even one who had taken specific actions
3 within the forum.⁵

4 In response, the Supreme Court began to proffer several new theories.
5 It developed first the notion of implied consent. If a defendant
6 conducted certain activities in the forum state, he or she was found
7 impliedly to have consented to the jurisdiction of the courts of that
8 state. This approach began to address situations not covered by the
9 older territorial view, as it permitted a state court to exercise personal
10 jurisdiction over a defendant who had not been served in the state, but
11 who nonetheless had conducted significant activities there.

12 Nevertheless, **the implied consent theory ultimately proved**
13 **unsatisfactory**. As a legal fiction, it provided **no rigorous way to**
14 **create principled constitutional limitations on jurisdiction**. The
15 doctrine therefore continued to evolve.⁶

16 Thus, although implied consent was developed as an explanation for
17 circumstances when personal jurisdiction should arise, it was superseded and
18 replaced by the test of "minimum contacts" that seeks to ensure "traditional
19 notions of fair play and substantial justice" are met when personal
20 jurisdiction is exercised. Minimum contacts analysis more adequately
addresses the "Fourteenth Amendment's restrictions on the sovereign
powers of the states in a federal system" and the "view of the Fourteenth

⁵ See Pennoyer v. Neff, 95 U.S. 714, 24 L. Ed. 565 (1878).

⁶ Hallwood Realty Partners, L.P. v. Gotham Partners, L.P., 104 F. Supp. 2d 279, 281–82 (S.D.N.Y. 2000) (emphasis added).

1 Amendment as protecting a defendant's liberty interest in not being forced to
2 litigate in a forum with which he has no ties."⁷

3 The Supreme Court of the United States has confirmed that the theory
4 of implied consent has given way to minimum contacts. The Court—after
5 detailing the historical development leading to application of the implied
6 consent doctrine to allow assertion of personal jurisdiction by virtue of
7 statutory enactment—explained:

8 We initially upheld these laws under the Due Process Clause on
9 grounds that they complied with Pennoyer's rigid requirement of either
10 "consent," . . . or "presence," As many observed, however, the
11 consent and presence were purely fictional. . . . Our opinion in
12 International Shoe **cast those fictions aside**, and made explicit the
13 underlying basis of these decisions: due process does not necessarily
14 require the States to adhere to the unbending territorial limits on
15 jurisdiction set forth in Pennoyer. The validity of assertion of
16 jurisdiction over a nonconsenting defendant who is not present in the
17 forum **depends upon whether "the quality and nature of [his]**
18 **activity" in relation to the forum . . . renders such jurisdiction**
19 **consistent with "traditional notions of fair play and substantial**
20 **justice.**"⁸

16 Implied consent based on a legislative enactment does not present an
17 alternative method of establishing personal jurisdiction over a nonresident.

18 Implementation of the minimum contacts test through International Shoe and

⁷ Id., at 282.

⁸ Burnham v. Superior Court of California, 274 U.S. 352, 617–18, 47 S. Ct. 632 (1990)
(emphasis added) (citations omitted).

1 its progeny cast aside the fiction of implied consent.⁹ Accordingly, personal
2 jurisdiction obtained over a nonresident not served with process in the state
3 must be based on the nonresident's minimum contacts with the forum.¹⁰

4 The January 2017 Opinion, after reciting the first line of NRS
5 163.5555, held that "Based on a plain reading of NRS 163.5555, we
6 conclude that by accepting a position as an ITA for a trust with a situs in
7 Nevada, the ITA impliedly consents to personal jurisdiction in Nevada."¹¹

8 This ruling fails to consider minimum contacts as required under
9 International Shoe. Because minimum contacts has superseded the doctrine
10 of personal jurisdiction by implied consent, NRS 163.5555 must be deemed
11 to violate due process if it mandates personal jurisdiction as a matter of
12 implied consent with no minimum contacts analysis.

13
14 Due process requires a minimum contacts analysis proving that a
15 court has personal jurisdiction over a nonresident under traditional notions

16
17 ⁹ See International Shoe v. State of Washington, 326 U.S. 310, 316, 66 S. Ct. 154, 158
(1945).

18 ¹⁰ See also Fulbright & Jaworski LLP v. Eighth Judicial District Court, 131 Nev. Adv.
19 Op. 5, 342 P.3d 997, 1001 (2015) ("Under the Fourteenth Amendment's Due Process
20 Clause, a **nonresident** defendant **must have sufficient 'minimum contacts'** with the
forum state so that subjecting the defendant to the state's jurisdiction will not 'offend
traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice.'"(emphasis added)).

¹¹ In re Beatrice B. Davis Family Heritage Trust, 133 Nev. Adv. Op. 4 (2017). Citation to
only line one of NRS 163.5555 demonstrates that a material question of law has been
overlooked and misapprehended. See Appellant's Supplemental Opening Brief, at 15:20–
16:24; Appellant's Reply Brief, at 13:6–11 (explaining how line two of NRS 163.5555
allowed the statute to have a constitutional interpretation).

1 of fair play and substantial justice. If the plain reading ascribed to NRS
2 163.5555 in the January 2017 Opinion is its only interpretation, that statute
3 is rendered unconstitutional.

4 **b. Implied Consent Requires Specific Limitations to Comply**
5 **with Due Process**

6 Even assuming that the implied consent doctrine could be used to
7 assert personal jurisdiction—ignoring the constitutional protections of
8 minimum contacts analysis—it requires more than a statute deeming a
9 nonresident to have consented to personal jurisdiction.

10 Hess v. Pawloski was a seminal case finding implied consent before
11 that theory of personal jurisdiction was superseded by minimum contacts.
12 Hess determined whether a statute allowing a secretary of state to receive
13 service of process on behalf of a nonresident contravened the due process
14 clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. The Court carefully reviewed the
15 language of the statute before determining that personal jurisdiction was
16 appropriate.

17
18 Motor vehicles are dangerous machines, and, even when skillfully and
19 carefully operated, their use is attended by serious dangers to persons
20 and property. In the public interest, the state may make and enforce
regulations reasonable [sic] calculated to promote care on the part of
all, residents and nonresidents alike, who use its highways. The
measure in question operates to require a nonresident to answer for his
conduct in the state where arise causes of action alleged against him,
as well as to provide for a claimant a convenient method by which he
may sue to enforce his rights. Under the statute, the implied consent is

1 limited to proceedings growing out of accidents or collisions on a
2 highway in which the nonresident may be involved. It is required that
3 he shall actually receive and receipt for notice of the service and a
4 copy of the process.¹²

5 Thus, in Hess the Court found personal jurisdiction to arise from
6 implied consent in relation to a legislative enactment. However, the Court
7 did not simply allow the Massachusetts legislature to dispense of the due
8 process right protected by the doctrine of personal jurisdiction. Rather, the
9 Court analyzed the statute to ensure that it was consistent with due process
10 in that it required a significant relationship or interaction with the state.

11 The Massachusetts statute was only applicable to a nonresident's
12 specific conduct within the state, namely proceedings growing out of
13 accidents or collisions. Thus, a nonresident would have to actually travel
14 within the state and be involved in a traffic accident to fall within the ambit
15 of the statute. Furthermore, the statute provided a special procedure that was
16 sufficient to ensure that service of process was made in a fair and just way.

17 In the present matter, Christopher has been deemed to have given his
18 implied consent to personal jurisdiction in the State of Nevada by virtue of
19 the first line of NRS 163.5555. Implied consent was never explicitly argued
20 by any party prior to issuance of the January 2017 Opinion, which fails to

¹² Hess v. Pawloski, 47 S. Ct. 632, 274 U.S. 352, 356 (1927) (emphasis added).

1 identify any limitations in the statute that would have allowed it to conform
2 with due process under the old implied consent doctrine outlined in Hess. In
3 other words there has been no analysis of Christopher’s actual actions within
4 the state.

5 As recited above, the January 2017 Opinion, after reciting the first
6 line of NRS 163.5555 simply states that “Based on a plain reading of NRS
7 163.5555, we conclude that by accepting a position as an ITA for a trust
8 with a situs in Nevada, the ITA impliedly consents to personal jurisdiction in
9 Nevada.”¹³ There is no analysis of limitations within the statute that would
10 have allowed it to conform to due process as required under Hess. Indeed,
11 the reliance on only the first sentence of NRS 163.5555 indicates tacit
12 approval of virtually no limitation at all. Apparently, a trust protector or trust
13 adviser need only accept an appointment to serve a trust subject to the laws
14 of Nevada to be subjected to personal jurisdiction.¹⁴ Although a trust adviser
15 can be given relatively broad power over decisions on management of
16 investment funds in trust, he does not have the power held by a trustee, who
17 holds legal title to trust property.¹⁵

18
19
20 ¹³ In re Beatrice B. Davis Family Heritage Trust, 133 Nev. Adv. Op. 4 (2017).

¹⁴ See NRS 163.5555, sentence one.

¹⁵ Compare NRS 163.5557 with Gladjie v. Darwish, 113 Cal. App. 4th 1331, 1343–44 (2003) (“Legal title to property owned by a trust is held by the trustee, and common law viewed the trustee as the owner of the trust’s property.”).

1 This broad application of the language of NRS 163.5555 is
2 inconsistent with the limited reading given to statutes allowed under the old
3 implied consent doctrine as seen in Hess. Hess found exercise of personal
4 jurisdiction appropriate only after finding that the statute in question only
5 implied consent to personal jurisdiction for very specific and narrow conduct
6 that by the terms of the statute had to occur within the jurisdiction.
7 Furthermore, the statute laid out precise regulations regarding service of
8 process to ensure that every nonresident subjected to personal jurisdiction
9 thereby would have his due process rights protected.

10
11 NRS 163.5555, as interpreted, has no additional protections to ensure
12 that service of process would conform to due process—indeed it has been
13 approved with less than normal service of process.¹⁶ Thus, this Court’s
14 interpretation of NRS 163.5555 only requires that a trust adviser accept a
15 position with a trust whose situs is deemed to be Nevada regardless of how
16 limited his powers might be or how those powers are actually exercised. A
17 trust adviser is not a trustee, who holds legal title to trust assets. And the
18 settlor of a trust determines its situs. The first sentence of NRS 163.5555 has
19 been read to give personal jurisdiction over a trust adviser in Nevada even if
20

¹⁶ In re Beatrice B. Davis Family Heritage Trust, 133 Nev. Adv. Op. 4, n.3 (2017).
Compare NRS 155.010; NRS 153.041; NRS 143.110.

1 he has taken no action of any sort in the state. Even under Hess, this
2 interpretation of the statute does not satisfy due process and is a
3 misapplication of law. Accordingly, the statute as interpreted is
4 unconstitutional.

5 **II. NRS 163.5555 REQUIRES ANALYSIS OF MINIMUM CONTACTS**

6 **a. NRS 163.5555 Has a Constitutional Interpretation**

7 Focusing exclusively on line one of NRS 163.5555 to find personal
8 jurisdiction renders the statute unconstitutional on its face and ignores the
9 legislature's intent in drafting the second sentence of the statute, requiring a
10 minimum contacts analysis.¹⁷ But the statute can be read in its entirety in a
11 manner that is consistent with due process under the Fourteenth
12 Amendment. Indeed, given Nevada's efforts to attract businesses and estate
13 planning, it seems unlikely that the legislature ever intended a limitless
14 application of personal jurisdiction when it enacted NRS 163.5555, as such
15 would chill estate planning in the state.¹⁸ The full text of NRS 163.5555
16 indicates that the statute was framed so that minimum contacts analysis
17 would apply.
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¹⁷ Appellant's Opening Brief, at 21:5–20; Appellant's Supplemental Opening Brief, at 15:20–16:24; 18:14–19:4; 30:4–5; Appellant's Reply Brief, at 13:6–11.

¹⁸ See, e.g., NRS 111.1031 (enacting a 365 year wait-and-see approach to the rule against perpetuities, which permits dynasty trusts).

1 **NRS 163.5555 Trust protector and trust adviser: Submission to**
2 **jurisdiction of courts of this State.** If a person accepts an
3 appointment to serve as a trust protector or a trust adviser of a trust
4 subject to the laws of this State, the person submits to the jurisdiction
5 of the courts of this State, regardless of any term to the contrary in an
6 agreement or instrument. A trust protector or a trust adviser may be
7 made a party to an action or proceeding **arising out of a decision or**
8 **action of the trust protector or trust adviser.**¹⁹

9 Appellant respectfully submits that NRS 163.5555 only requires a
10 trust adviser or protector to submit to the Court's *in rem* authority over a
11 trust whose situs is Nevada. The first line of NRS 163.5555 inhibits a trust
12 adviser or protector's ability to prevent a Nevada court from assuming
13 jurisdiction of a Nevada trust. This is, of course, different than causing a
14 trust protector or adviser to become a "party" to an action or appear
15 personally and take action, hence the second provision of the statute.

16 NRS 163.5555 provides that a trust protector or adviser may be made
17 a party to an action ONLY based on decisions and actions taken by him.
18 This Court's interpretation of NRS 163.5555, based solely on line one of the
19 statute, renders the second sentence superfluous as it no longer has any
20 meaning or significance, which flies directly in the face of prior precedent of

¹⁹ NRS 163.5555 (emphasis added).

1 this Court.²⁰ A “statute should be construed, if fairly possible, so as to avoid
2 not only the conclusion that it is unconstitutional, but also grave doubts on
3 that score.”²¹

4 Isolating the first line of NRS 163.5555 to exercise personal
5 jurisdiction over Christopher and make him a party based on implied consent
6 violates his due process right not to be forced into court in a state where he
7 has no minimum contacts.

8 The Court’s interpretation of NRS 163.5555 should reconcile all
9 language of the statute and prefer a constitutional interpretation over one that
10 is not. NRS 163.5555 specifies that a trust protector or adviser can be made
11 a party to litigation—i.e. be subjected to personal jurisdiction—based on his
12 decisions or actions, not mere acceptance to act.

13
14 **b. Christopher Is Not Subject to Personal Jurisdiction in
15 Nevada**

16 The constitutional interpretation of NRS 163.5555, requiring analysis
17 of minimum contacts, shows that Christopher is not subject to personal
18 jurisdiction in Nevada.

19
20 ²⁰ Leven v. Frey, 123 Nev. 399, 405, 168 P.3d 712, 716 (2007) (“[S]tatutory
interpretation should not render any part of a statute meaningless, and a statute’s
language ‘should not be read to produce absurd or unreasonable results.’”).

²¹ United States v. Jin Fuey Moy, 36 S. Ct. 658, 241 U.S. 394, 401 (1916); see also State
v. Castaneda, 126 Nev. Adv. Op. 45, 245 P.3d 550, 552 (“[W]e adhere to the precedent
that ‘every reasonable construction must be resorted to, in order to save a statute from
unconstitutionality.’”).

1 “When a nonresident defendant challenges personal jurisdiction, the
2 plaintiff bears the burden of showing that jurisdiction exists.”²² To fulfill this
3 burden, the party asking the court to assert personal jurisdiction must make
4 “a prima facie showing with competent evidence of essential facts that, if
5 true, would support jurisdiction.”²³ Thus, the party asking the court to assert
6 personal jurisdiction over a nonresident must demonstrate that the
7 nonresident has “sufficient ‘minimum contacts’ with the forum state so that
8 subjecting the defendant to the state’s jurisdiction will not ‘offend traditional
9 notions of fair play and substantial justice.’”²⁴

10 Accordingly, where certain sufficient minimum contacts to a forum
11 state exist, a non resident may be subjected to personal jurisdiction there.

12 But we have rejected the argument that, if a State's law can properly be
13 applied to a dispute, its courts necessarily have jurisdiction over the
14 parties to that dispute. [The State] does not acquire . . . jurisdiction by
15 being the “center of gravity” of the controversy, or the most convenient
16 location for litigation. The issue is personal jurisdiction, not choice of
17 law.²⁵

18 Using legal tools to designate the applicable law does not automatically
19 establish sufficient minimum contacts with a forum whose law has been

20 ²² Fulbright & Jaworski, LLP v. Eighth Judicial District Court, 131 Nev. Adv. Op. 5, 342 P.3d 997, 1001 (2015).

²³ Viega GmbH v. Eighth Judicial District Court, 130 Nev. Adv. Op. 40, 328 P.3d 1152, 1156 (2014) (citations omitted).

²⁴ Id. (citing Arbella Mut. Ins. Co. v. Eighth Judicial District Court, 122 Nev. 509, 512, 134 P.3d 710, 712 (2006)).

²⁵ Shaffer v. Heitner, 97 S. Ct. 2569, 2585, 433 U.S. 186, 215 (1977) (citation omitted).

1 chosen. Any nonresident being hailed into the courts of the forum must have
2 sufficient minimum contacts to comply with the requirements of due
3 process.

4 The original decision by the district court to exercise personal
5 jurisdiction over Christopher provided no substantive evaluation of any
6 competent evidence. Indeed, the district court was quite opaque in its ruling:

7 I appreciate this argument that it's all invalid [referring to the transfer
8 of Trust Situs] and so Mr. Davis can't be sued, but my problem with
9 that is he's been acting here, I have to assume because stuff has been
10 going on, apparently giving instruction to Dunham and I just think that
11 means he's consented to the jurisdiction of this Court.²⁶

12 Despite the burden on Caroline to provide competent evidence that the
13 Court has personal jurisdiction over Christopher, no specific competent
14 evidence was identified. The district court relied on assumptions, not
15 evidence. The district court did nothing to identify sufficient minimum
16 contacts had been shown in either of the challenged orders, which simply
17 asserted personal jurisdiction was based on the choice of law provision of
18 the trust and the state of organization of a non-party limited liability
19 company.²⁷
20

²⁶ APPELL000425-426 (emphasis added).

²⁷ APPELL000435-439; RAPP53-61.

1 Furthermore, the minimum contacts suggested by Caroline are
2 insufficient to establish personal jurisdiction over Christopher. Although
3 Caroline has pointed to several “actions” that she ascribes to Christopher,
4 the ultimate basis for her argument that Christopher has sufficient minimum
5 contacts relies on choice of law determinations.²⁸ She argues sufficient
6 minimum contacts arise because the FHT situs was designated as Nevada
7 and FHT Holdings, LLC, is a Nevada limited liability company for which
8 Christopher is sole manager.²⁹

9 The designation of situs for FHT and formation of FHT Holdings,
10 LLC represent a decision regarding the law that should govern those entities.
11 Choosing Nevada law to govern those entities does not automatically
12 establish sufficient minimum contacts over any individual working with the
13 entities.
14

15 Caroline has attempted to bolster the lack of sufficient minimum
16 contacts by depicting an extensive list of duties she ascribes to Christopher.
17 However, the only tie these duties have to the jurisdiction is the choice of
18 law decision, which cannot alone serve as a basis for sufficient minimum
19 contacts. Caroline thus continues casting about to discover some action to
20

²⁸ Respondent’s Answering Brief, at 22:4–23:21.

²⁹ *Id.*, at 21:6-13; 23:6-10.

1 establish minimum contacts. “As manager of FHT Holdings [a non-party],
2 Christopher has **presumably** filed **federal** tax returns on behalf of said
3 entity.”³⁰ Again, the only possible relevance a **federal** tax return would have
4 to Nevada is an entity’s decision to be governed by the laws of Nevada,
5 which is a choice of law issue. It is not an issue of personal jurisdiction.

6 It is the trustee’s duty (not Christopher’s) “to prepare or to arrange for
7 the preparation of the tax returns of the trust.”³¹ Sufficient minimum contacts
8 have not been shown, and the burden of proving that sufficient minimum
9 contacts existed has not been met. Accordingly, the Court cannot exercise
10 personal jurisdiction over Christopher without violating his due process.

11 III. Due Process Requires Proper Service

12 Service of process continues to be a vital aspect of due process, but
13 has not been fully accounted for in the January 2017 Opinion.³² Service of
14 process is the procedural mechanism used by a court to exercise personal
15 jurisdiction over an individual, make the individual a party to an action, and
16 require that the individual appear or take other action.³³ Moreover, “notice is
17 not a substitute for service of process. Personal service or a legally provided
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³⁰ *Id.*, at pg. 22:13-14 (emphasis added).

³¹ APPELL000135.

³² Appellant’s Opening Brief, at 13:27–28; Appellant’s Reply Brief, 14:7–15:2.

³³ See NRCP 4.

1 substitute must still occur in order to obtain jurisdiction over a party.³⁴

2 Personal jurisdiction must be obtained to exercise authority over an
3 individual by entering a judgment or ordering the individual to take or
4 abstain from action.³⁵

5 NRS 155.010 requires actual notice of certain probate matters to be
6 sent to each “interested person” to make him aware of actions that could
7 potentially affect his rights. Such notice does not give the court jurisdiction
8 over such an individual. Rather, it requires notice of the Court’s actions in
9 regard to trust and estate assets. As shown by In re Estate of Black and
10 C.H.A. Venture, NRS Titles 12 and 13 require service of process with a
11 citation to make an individual a party to a Title 12 or 13 proceeding and
12 compel him to submit to court orders.

13
14 The party arguing for the exercise of personal jurisdiction “must
15 satisfy the requirements of Nevada’s long-arm statute and show that
16 jurisdiction does not offend principles of due process.”³⁶

17 Nevada’s long-arm statute indicates that service of process must be
18 used to properly exercise personal jurisdiction.³⁷ To find in personam
19

20 ³⁴ C.H.A. Venture v. G.C. Wallace Consulting Engineers, Inc., 106 Nev. 381, 384, 794,
P.2d 707, 709 (1990).

³⁵ See Young v. Nevada Title Co., 103 Nev. 436, 442, 744 P.2d 902 (1987).

³⁶ Fulbright & Jaworski, LLP v. Eighth Judicial District Court, 131 Nev. Adv. Op. 5, 342
P.3d 997, 1001 (2015).

1 jurisdiction based on NRS 163.5555 where there has been no personal
2 service would be clearly unconstitutional.³⁸

3 This Court recently held:

4 A citation in a will contest is equivalent to a civil summons in other
5 civil matters. See In re Estate of Kordon, 137 P.3d 16, 18 (Wash.
6 2006). As **defective service of process deprives a court of personal**
7 **jurisdiction**, see Gassett v. Snappy Car Rental, 111 Nev. 1416, 1419,
8 906 P.2d 258, 261 (1995), superseded by rule on other grounds as
9 stated in Fritz Hansen A/S v. Eighth Judicial Dist Court, 116 Nev. 650,
10 654-56, 6 P.3d 982, 984-85 (2000), **so too does a failure to issue**
11 **citations** in a will contest, see In re Estate of Kordon, 137 P.3d at 18
12 (holding that a "failure to issue a citation deprives the court of personal
13 jurisdiction over the party denied process"); see also 95 C.J.S. Wills §
14 578 (2011) ("A court acquires personal jurisdiction over an adverse
15 party to a will contest by issuance of a citation. A will contestant's
16 failure to issue a citation on the decedent's personal representative
17 deprives the court of personal jurisdiction over the personal
18 representative.")³⁹

19 The Court's recent decision in In re Estate of Black based its
20 reasoning on In re Estate of Kordon, which correctly recited the proposition
that a "citation is the process designated by the statute in probate
proceedings for bringing adverse parties into court. It is the counterpart of
the summons in ordinary civil proceedings."⁴⁰ Thus, personal jurisdiction is

19 ³⁷ See NRS 14.065(2).

20 ³⁸ World-Wide Volkswagen Corp. v. Woodson, 444 U.S. 286, 292 (U.S. 1980).

³⁹ In re Estate of Black, 132 Nev. Adv. Op. 7, 367 P.3d 416, 418 (2016) (emphasis added).

⁴⁰ In re Estate of Kordon, 137 P.3d 16, 18 (Wash. 2006).

1 only properly exercised pursuant to NRCP 4, NRS 14.065, and In re Estate
2 of Black after personal service of process, which in an estate matter requires
3 a citation.

4 The January 2017 Opinion appears to create a disparity in the
5 requirements needed to fulfill due process. Footnote three states:
6 “Christopher also argues Caroline’s mailed notice under NRS 155.010 did
7 not comport with due process. We disagree and conclude Christopher was
8 properly served.”⁴¹

9 The January 2017 Opinion contradicts the distinction, upheld by this
10 Court, between service of process and notice of proceedings. To obtain
11 jurisdiction over Christopher, he must first be served with process. This due
12 process protection, observed in probate court by issuing a citation, goes
13 beyond simply notifying an interested person that the Court is exercising *in*
14 *rem* jurisdiction over assets that may affect the interested person. Service of
15 process is how the Court asserts its authority over a nonresident. Because
16 service of process was never made on Christopher, due process has not been
17 met.
18 met.

19 ///

20 ///

⁴¹ In re Beatrice B. Davis Family Heritage Trust, 133 Nev. Adv. Op. 4, n.3 (2017).

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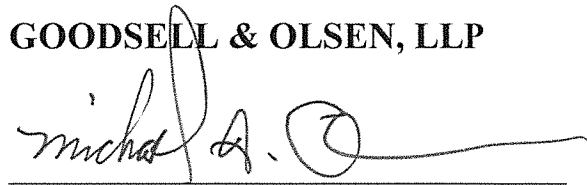
CONCLUSION

Personal jurisdiction forms an important part of due process under the Fourteenth Amendment. Although implied consent permitted the assertion of personal jurisdiction in the past, application of minimum contacts analysis to ensure that traditional notions of fair play and substantial justice are kept must be made to exercise personal jurisdiction. The lack of minimum contacts in this matter, and the failure to provide sufficient service of process, provides grounds for a rehearing. This matter should be reheard to address these Constitutional concerns, which are overlooked by the January 2017 Opinion.

DATED this 27th day of February 2017.

Respectfully Submitted,

GOODSELL & OLSEN, LLP



Michael A. Olsen, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 6076
Thomas R. Grover, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 12387
Attorneys for Appellant

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CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

1. I hereby certify that this petition for rehearing complies with the formatting requirements of NRAP 32(a)(4), the typeface requirements of NRAP 32(a)(5) and the type style requirements of NRAP 32(a)(6) because:

It has been prepared in a proportionally spaced typeface using Microsoft Word 2010 in font-size 14 of Times New Roman; or

It has been prepared in a monospaced typeface using Microsoft Word 2010 with 10 1/2 characters per inch of Courier New.

2. I further certify that this brief complies with the page- or type-volume limitations of NRAP 40 because, excluding the parts of the brief exempted by NRAP 32(a)(7)(c), it is either:

Proportionately spaced, has a typeface of 14 points or more, and contains less than 4,667 words; or

Monospaced, has 10.5 or fewer characters per inch, and contains 7,000 words or 65 0 lines of text; or

Does not exceed 10 pages.

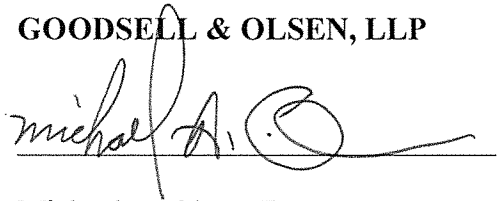
3. Further, I hereby certify that I have read this petition for rehearing, and to the best of my knowledge, and belief, it is not frivolous or interposed for any improper purpose. I further certify that this petition complies with all applicable Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure, in particular NRAP

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40, which requires every assertion in the petition regarding matters in the record to be supported by a reference to the page and volume number, if any, of the transcript or appendix where the matter relied on is to be found. I understand that I may be subject to sanctions in the event that the accompanying petition is not in conformity with the requirements of the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure.

Respectfully Submitted,

GOODSELL & OLSEN, LLP



Michael A. Olsen, Esq.

Nevada Bar No. 6076
Thomas R. Grover, Esq.
Nevada Bar No. 12387

GOODSELL & OLSEN, LLP
Attorneys for Appellant

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I am an employee of THE ABRAMS LAW FIRM, LLC, and on the 6th day of May, 2016, service of a copy of the foregoing *APPELLANT'S REPLY BRIEF* was sent via first class mail, postage prepaid and addressed as follows:

Cheryl Davis
5403 West 134 Terrace, Unit 1525
Overland Park, KS 66209

Tarja Davis
3005 North Beverly Glen Circle
Las Angeles, California 90077

And
514 West 26th Street, #3E
Kansas City, Missouri 64108

Winfield B. Davis
Skyline Terrace Apts.
930 Figueroa Terr. Apt. 529
Los Angeles, California 90012-3072

Ace Davis
c/o Winfield B. Davis
Skyline Terrace Apts.
930 Figueroa Terr. Apt. 529
Los Angeles, California 90012-3072

Christopher D. Davis
3005 North Beverly Glen Circle
Los Angeles, California 90077

And
514 West 26th Street, #3E
Kansas City, Missouri 64108
Registered Agent Solutions, Inc.
Registered Agent for FHT Holdings, LLC, a Nevada Limited Liability
Company
4625 West Nevso Drive, Suite 2
Las Vegas, Nevada 89103

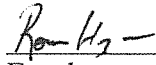
JONATHAN W. BARLOW, ESQ.
CLEAR COUNSEL LAW GROUP
50 Stephanie Street, Suite 101
Henderson, Nevada 89012
Jonathan@clearcounsel.com

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Attorneys for Stephen K. Lenhardt
Mark Solomon, Esq.
Joshua Hood, Esq.
SOLOMON DWIGGINS & FREER, LTD.
9060 W. Cheyenne Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89129
Attorney for Petitioner Caroline Davis

DUNHAM TRUST COMPANY
SHANNA CORESSAL, CTFA
c/o Charlene Renwick, Esq.
Lee, Hernandez, Landrum & Garofalo
7575 Vegas Drive, #150
Las Vegas, Nevada 89128

Honorable Judge Sturman
Dept. 26, Eighth Judicial Dist. Court
Regional Justice Center
200 Lewis Ave.
Las Vegas, NV 89101



Employee of Goodsell & Olsen, LLP