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 Elizabeth A. Brown
 Clerk of Supreme Court

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

VETERANS IN POLITICS
 INTERNATIONAL, INC., and
 STEVE W. SANSON,

Appellants,
 vs.

MARSHAL S. WILLICK, and
 WILLICK LAW GROUP,

Respondents,

SUPREME COURT NO.: 72778

DIST. CT. CASE NO.:
A-17-750171-C (Dept. 18)

MOTION OF THE REPORTERS COMMITTEE FOR FREEDOM OF THE
PRESS AND NEVADA PRESS ASSOCIATION FOR LEAVE TO FILE
AMICI CURIAE BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONERS

(In Support of Neither Party)

Pursuant to Nevada Rule of Appellate Procedure 29, the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press and the Nevada Press Association (collectively, the “*amici*”) respectfully move for leave to file their proposed brief of *amici curiae* in support of neither party, filed herewith.¹

Amici are media organizations that represent the interests of journalists and freedom of the press, as set forth below. *Amici* submit the attached brief to aid the Court for the limited purpose of identifying the correct standard of review to apply when reviewing the grant or denial of a special motion to dismiss under NRS 41.660. *Amici* and their counsel are well-versed in Nevada’s Anti-SLAPP law and its legislative history, and are in a position to inform the Court as to why *de novo* review is the proper standard to review the grant or denial of an Anti-SLAPP motion. *Amici* are particularly concerned about establishing case law that correctly defines the standard of review here because their members benefit significantly from an Anti-SLAPP statute that provides the greatest degree of protection possible.

¹ In accordance with NRAP 29(a), *amici* have attempted to obtain written consent of counsel to the filing of their proposed *amici* brief. Counsel for Appellants have informed *amici* that they consent to the filing of the proposed amicus brief. Counsel for *amici* contacted counsel for Respondents by telephone on February 15, 2018, and informed Respondents’ counsel of *amici*’s intent to file the amicus brief and its substance. Counsel for Respondents informed counsel for *amici* on February 21, 2018 that Respondents would not consent to *amici* filing a brief in this matter.

1 A description of *amici* follows:

2 The Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press is an unincorporated
3 nonprofit association. The Reporters Committee was founded by leading
4 journalists and media lawyers in 1970, when the nation's news media faced an
5 unprecedented wave of government subpoenas forcing reporters to name
6 confidential sources. Today it provides *pro bono* legal representation, *amicus*
7 *curiae* support, and other legal resources to protect First Amendment freedoms and
8 the newsgathering rights of journalists.

9 The Nevada Press Association is the formal trade organization for the
10 newspaper industry in Nevada. It is a voluntary nonprofit association that
11 represents 6 daily and 37 nondaily newspapers in Nevada, as well as 4 online news
12 services.

13 *Amici* also recognize that this motion for leave is technically late. NRAP
14 29(f) provides that “[a]n amicus curiae that does not support either party must file
15 its brief no later than 7 days after the appellant’s opening brief is filed.” The Court
16 may, however, “grant leave for later filing, specifying the time within which an
17 opposing party may answer.” *Id.* Appellants filed their opening brief on August
18 21, 2017. However, *amici* seek leave to file a brief that solely addresses an issue
19 raised for the first time in Respondents’ Answering Brief, which was filed February
20 7, 2018. The need for *amici*’s involvement in this case did not arise prior to

Respondents’ Answering Brief, and so the Court should look at February 7, 2018 as the relevant date in determining whether to allow *amici* to file their proposed amicus brief. Because the proposed amicus brief will assist the Court in determining the applicable standard of review, and because *amici* have requested leave to file it as soon as practicable upon learning of the need for their involvement, the Court should grant *amici* leave to file their proposed amicus brief.

Dated February 22, 2018.

RANDAZZA LEGAL GROUP, PLLC

/s/ Marc J. Randazza

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Nev. R. App. Proc. 25(b) and NEFR 9(f), I hereby certify that on this date I electronically filed the foregoing document with the Clerk of the Nevada Supreme Court by using the NEVADA ELECTRONIC FILING RULES (“Eflex”). Participants in this case who are registered with Eflex as users will be served by the Eflex system as follows:

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Dated: February 22, 2018

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